

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	7

2.



1. Town North Reading

Address 18 Peabody Street

Name L. D. Batchelder School

Present use _____

Present owner Dr. Helen Zimmerman

3. Description:

Date 1858

Source N. R. Assessor's Records

Style Greek Revival

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric wood clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) barn, greenhouse

Other features _____

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 3/4 acre

One acre or less Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 209'

Approximate distance of building from street

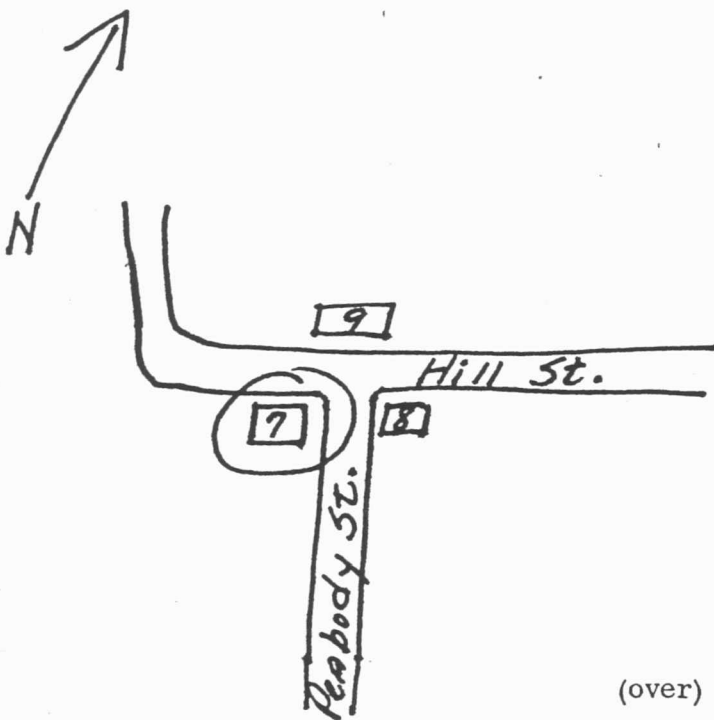
10'

6. Recorded by Marguerite Church

Organization Historical Commission

Date June 1978

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) James Peabody
Original use dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____)

8. Themes (check as many as applicable) _____)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	<u>x</u>	Education	<u>x</u>	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	<u>x</u>		
Community development	<u>x</u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Although it is one of many Greek Revival homes in the area, it has interior features the others do not. We suspect it was built by Josiah Ross of Danvers rather than one of our native carpenters, Ebenezer Damon or Warren A. Campbell, who are known to have built other Greek Revivals in Town.

James Peabody, cordwainer, owned a large apple orchard off Peabody Street. Leland D. Batchelder, a descendant of the old Reading family and for whom the Batchelder School was named, purchased the home in 1883. Batchelder served on the School Committee for 25 years; his wife, Mary (Putnam) Batchelder, a descendant of Rev. Daniel Putnam, first minister of Reading's North Parish, was a teacher in the elementary school system; daughter, Elizabeth Batchelder, lately deceased, succeeded him on the School Committee and in ownership of the home, served 40 years as Flint Library Trustee and taught school for over 50 years - 48 of them at Reading High School.

The present owner, Dr. Helen Zimmerman, taught school for 37 years - 30 of them at Reading High School.

B.O.B.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Mddlsx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
N. R. Assessor's Records
N. R. Town Reports
Interviews - Dr. Helen Zimmerman