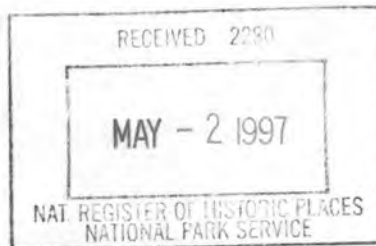


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Pearl Street School

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 75 Pearl Street N/A not for publication

city or town Reading N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 017 zip code 01867

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough

4/23/97

Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

5/30/97

Pearl Street School
Name of Property

Middlesex County, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	1	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Classical Revival

Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof SYNTHETIC/RUBBER

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 7 Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION

The Pearl Street School, built in 1939, is an eclectic combination of the Colonial Revival, Classical Revival and Art Deco styles. The red brick walls, limestone and wooden trim, modillion cornice and 12/12, double-hung windows are Colonial Revival features. The horizontal facade framed by projecting pavilions at either end represents a typical Classical Revival form and the entries and interior tile provide a contrast with Art Deco ornament.

The Pearl Street School is a two-story red brick structure on a raised basement with a flat roof. The building is irregular in plan. It is generally a U-shaped building with a rear (east) ell and a one-story polygonal bay projecting from the south elevation. The brick walls, set on a concrete foundation, are punctured by flat arched masonry openings and are detailed with simple ornament such as a molded brick water table, brick quoins, Art Deco door surrounds and a limestone cornice. At the facade (west) and the north and south elevations the cornice sits on a row of brick modillions and the walls then terminate in a low brick parapet with concrete coping.

The projecting pavilions framing the facade are detailed with brick quoins and blind brick panels, which are framed by a soldier course. Brick keystone arches top the first story windows on the front (west) and side (north and south) elevations. Screens for ventilation ducts also pierce through the brick skin below the first and second story windows on all elevations. The Art Deco surrounds at the side entries are framed by rusticated brick pilasters and the main entrance has a patterned brick surround with simple brick pilasters. Monumental brick pilasters topped by unmolded limestone capitals framing oversized windows announce the two-story space of the auditorium which projects as an ell at the rear of the building. Two exterior red brick chimneys are found at the rear (east) elevation. One rises high above the roof near the north end and a shorter chimney is located toward the south end.

The main entrance is centered on the west elevation, while secondary entries are located at the north and south elevations. Five granite steps framed by brick knee walls lead up to the main entrance. The main entrance doors have been replaced with double metal and glass panel doors with a narrow transom. This opening is surmounted by a Queen Anne wood transom. The north and south (side) entries contain double doors surmounted by a multi-light transom.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 7 Page 2

The windows are original multi-pane, double-hung wood sash. The upper sashes are detailed with brackets at the bottom rail. The typical windows have 12/12 sash, windows at the polygonal bay are 15/15, oversized windows at the auditorium are 20/20 and elongated windows at the stair halls are fixed.

Smaller windows with 6/6 sash flank the main entrance and 6/6 sash windows are also found at the bathrooms and other non-classroom spaces. Basement windows are typically 4/4, each sash has a row of 4 lights. Where areaways are excavated at the rear, basement windows are 6/6 except the windows below the auditorium and below the south polygonal bay, which contain 10/10 sash.

The interior of the building, consisting of 15 original classrooms, an auditorium, storage and administrative offices is organized around the main north/south corridors on the first and second floors. The stair halls are located at either end of the corridors at the north and south entries. The main entrance hall intersects the first floor corridor at the west side. The main vestibule consists of the entrance and a second set of doors, followed by five concrete steps leading up to the first floor level. The first floor contains seven classrooms and the auditorium. On either side of the entrance hall are two sets of offices originally designated for the principal and the nurse. The corridors and stair halls have tile wainscoting with a decorative border at the base and at the top. The second floor contains eight classrooms, a teachers' room, a conference room and supply rooms. The basement was originally unfinished and was finished more recently in order to function as additional classrooms.

The Pearl Street School is set well back from Pearl Street on a large (4.86 acre) lot in a neighborhood of single-family dwellings on moderate-size lots. The lot is generally level with an expansive grass soccer field in front. Three mature trees are located at the edges of the front field. Portions of the site are paved including a driveway that runs from Pearl Street to the south end of the building, the area around the building and a large parking lot and play area located to the south of the building.

The architecture reflects the period and the program under which the Pearl Street School was built. It is efficient and spare, inexpensive and practical, historical in overall form but exhibiting modern details. The Colonial Revival and Classical Revival vocabularies that were used evoke both patriotic and democratic principles that were part of the New Deal rhetoric.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 7 Page 3

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are currently recorded on the school property, however, sites may be present. One site is recorded in the general area (within one mile). The property also exhibits locational criteria (drainage, slope, proximity to wetlands) which are favorable for many types of Native American sites and subsistence related activities. Land surfaces at the school are well drained, nearly level and within 1,000 ft. of Cedar Swamp/Bear Meadow Brook wetlands. These wetlands lie within the North Shore drainage area which generally extends to the south and southeast of the southern portion of Reading. The northern portion of Reading lies within the Ipswich River drainage which generally drains to the northeast. Given the above information, the size of the nominated property (4.8 acres) and historic landuse of the area, a moderate to high potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric resources. It is unknown, at present, to what extent construction of the Parker House/Poor Farm and the Pearl Street School has impacted potential resources in the area.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of historic archaeological resources on the property. Structural remains may survive from the 1818 Parker House which was acquired by the town in 1848 and designated on maps as the Town Asylum in 1854 and Town Farm by 1875. That structure was razed in 1939 for construction of the Pearl Street School. Related outbuildings and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should survive from the Parker House and Town Farm landuse of the property. Unmarked burials may also be present from Town Farm use of the property.

(end)

Pearl Street School
Name of Property

Middlesex County, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1939 - 1946

Significant Dates

1939

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sidebottom, George H., architect

Frankini Construction Company, builder

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Pearl Street School
Name of Property

Middlesex County, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.9 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	327610	4710620		3.		
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2.			4.			
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	

 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie Donovan, Historic Preservation Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC
organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April, 1997
street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone (617) 727-8470
city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Reading Senior Living Limited Partnership
street & number 75 Pearl Street telephone (617) 944-9200
city or town Reading state MA zip code 01867

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 8 Page 1

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pearl Street School is significant 1) for its role in the development of Reading's education system; and 2) as Reading's only example of a structure funded through the Public Works Administration. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling and meets Criterion A of the National Register on the local level.

The Pearl Street School was built in 1939 on the grounds of the former town almshouse, or Poor Farm. This was a 2-1/2 story wood frame house with two interior chimneys and was built by Samuel Parker shortly after 1818 on land obtained from his father, Daniel Parker, Jr., who lived at 99 Pearl Street. The town acquired the house for an almshouse sometime prior to 1848. The building is designated the Town Asylum on the 1854 map of Reading and on the 1875 and 1889 maps it is called the Town Farm. The house, set back approximately 15 - 20 feet from the street, was T-shaped in plan. There were also two stables located south of the house set further back from the road. In the 1930s, the house became the headquarters of the Department of Public Welfare and the federal relief agencies. As late as 1938, it was improved by the town, but in 1939 the building was razed to make way for the Pearl Street School. The Pearl Street School was built behind (east of) the location of the farmhouse and barns, and the house was not demolished until after the school was built. A soccer field and driveway now occupy the location of the earlier structures.

A school building was first planned for this site in 1930, but in 1933 the project was defeated at town meeting. Finally, with federal assistance, the project could proceed. The Pearl Street School was the first new elementary school built in Reading in 50 years. A Public Works Administration grant of \$88,136 was obtained for 45% of the estimated cost of construction and equipment. The Town of Reading funded the remaining \$110,000 and the building was completed within the appropriation. One of over 34,000 projects built nationwide under this program, the school is apparently the only structure in town that is built with Public Works Administration funds. A Works Progress Administration project supplemented the school budget by funding the cost of a new sewer to the school from Salem Street along Harrison and Pearl Streets.

The Public Works Administration was a federal program that provided almost \$6 billion during the 1930s to construct various public works projects including public buildings. Authorized under the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933, the PWA was headed by Secretary of the

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Interior, Harold L. Ickes. Ickes and the PWA, which was supposed to create jobs for the unemployed and stimulate an economic recovery, were criticized for the slow and arduous process of project selection and funding. Because of its deliberate pace, the PWA failed to provide the much-needed quick boost to the economy. Projects that were funded through the PWA typically received 30 percent federal funds which were matched with 70 percent local funds. Half of the schools and most of the municipal water and sewage systems built during the 1930s were funded in part through the PWA.

The Pearl Street School, Reading's first fire-resistant elementary school, originally contained 15 classrooms and an auditorium which made it possible to consolidate the elementary students from three schools at one facility. A total of 413 students were transferred from three wooden elementary schools, which were closed (Union Street School, Center School, and the Channel House, used for special students). Upon opening, the Pearl Street School still had one spare classroom, intended for future growth. In addition to fireproof construction, the new school boasted new facilities such as: "sound-proof ceilings in rooms and corridors; automatically controlled lighting by means of photo-electric cells; . . . internal telephone system; and adequate visual education equipment. Both rooms and auditorium are equipped with loud speakers which are connected to a central public address cabinet in the principal's office. This equipment can also be used to convey speeches from the platform of the auditorium."

The public address system was immediately put to use to reach the overflow crowd at the school's dedication held in January 1940. The perceived role of the structure in enhancing public education was mentioned in the speeches. There was an emphasis on the need to educate children in preparation for the future. The former Superintendent was quoted in the local paper claiming, "This building is of little value in itself. It is valuable only as it facilitates the accomplishment of the ideal education." It was also reported that the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, Walter F. Downey, ". . . urged the listeners to hold fast to the American principle that the public school is the foundation of our democratic form of government." In the Town's Annual Reports, the School Committee mentioned not only the need for modern facilities, but also the rapidly expanding population of school aged children.

The Union Street School (1887), which housed children in grades 1-3, was demolished soon after the Pearl Street School opened. Built in 1867 to provide the town's first separate high school classrooms and some grammar school rooms, the Center School was so named in 1906 when the

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts

high school students were moved out to the new High School on Sanborn Street and the Center School was used entirely as a grammar school. Demolished in 1957, the Center School never served as a school building after the students transferred to the new Pearl Street School in 1939. With the construction of the Pearl Street School, students in the 5th & 6th grades at the Highland School were distributed between the Pearl Street School and the Highland School, and both schools then housed grades 1 through 6. With this change, it was decided to split the school day at the Pearl Street and Highland Schools into two sessions so that the children could walk home for lunch at midday and return refreshed for the afternoon session. Previously, the Highland School had only one session per day, while the other elementary schools already had two sessions, a schedule that had been increasing in popularity among public school systems. It is assumed that it had been too far for some students to walk home for a midday break when the 5th and 6th graders from the east side of town all attended the Highland School. A second change instituted that year in the fifth and sixth grades was to change from departmental teaching, to a system where the children in one classroom were taught primarily by one teacher. Under the former system, one teacher taught 100 to 150 children each day. With the new system, one teacher would teach thirty or thirty five students and could become more familiar with each child's needs. It should also be noted that the Channel House, which closed when the Pearl Street School opened, had served special students, which it is assumed meant special needs students, who were at least partially integrated into the general school population when they were moved to the Pearl Street School, rather than being isolated in a separate building that was not located near the other elementary schools.

Other elementary schools in Reading at the time were the Chestnut Hill School (built 1854, originally on Walnut Street and moved in 1883 to 55 Hopkins Street, closed 1949), Prospect Street School (built 1887, closed 1977) and Lowell Street School (built 1911, closed 1976). Of these, only the Chestnut Hill School remains and is used by a theater company. The Highland School originally contained grades 4-8, but grades 7 & 8 were moved to the new Walter S. Parker Junior High School when it was completed in 1927. The Highland School (1897) was extensively renovated in 1957 following a fire. It closed in 1981 and was subsequently converted to the town library. The School Committee report for 1938 indicated that if the grade school population continued to increase, another new elementary school would be needed soon in the west district to replace the Prospect Street and Chestnut Hills Schools. However, it was suggested that a new high school was probably a more urgent priority. As it worked out, a new elementary school was built first (Joshua Eaton School, 1949).

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 4

The 1906 High School by Adden & Parker closed in 1954, served as a community center starting in 1957 and was converted to condominiums in 1988. Other elementary schools built after the Pearl Street School include the Joshua Eaton School (1949), which housed grades 1-6 and is still occupied today, the Birch Meadow School (1957), the Alice M. Barrows Elementary School (1964), and the J. Warren Killam School (1969), Reading's largest elementary school. Reading Memorial High School (1954) was expanded to accommodate 2,000 students in 1971. The Arthur W. Coolidge Junior High (1961) switched to a middle school in 1984 for grades 6, 7 & 8.

Declining enrollment in the late 1970s and the 1980s led to the closing of the Pearl Street School in June 1984, but the school committee held on to the building in the event of a need to accommodate future expansion. Space in the building was then leased to various tenants including a senior center. In 1989, the care and custody of the building was transferred to the Board of Selectmen. It was sold in 1995 and has recently been rehabilitated for assisted living.

Reading is a suburban community with a population of 23,000 and a land area of approximately 10 square miles, one third of which is town owned. It has evolved from an agricultural community in the 18th century, which had an expanding industrial economy by the 19th century, and it is primarily a single-family residential community today. The most densely developed areas are the center of town and the southern corridor, which also contain most of the commercial development. Pearl Street, one of the town's early roads, runs north from Salem Street and appears on the 18th century maps.

George H. Sidebottom, a Reading resident, designed the Pearl Street School. The contractor for the school was the Frankini Construction Company. Sidebottom started work as an independent architect in 1903. He opened an office in Boston beginning around 1914 and for a period in the 1920s and 1930s he shared an office with William Sidebottom, presumably a relative, but not his father. It is possible that George Sidebottom was influenced by his relative, who was a partner in the firm of Prescott & Sidebottom from 1895 until about 1919. Howard B. Prescott was the architect for the Boston Wharf Company from 1917 until 1939. George Sidebottom was noted for his designs of municipal school buildings but he obtained a variety of commissions in Reading including the Church of the Good Shepherd (1925) on Woburn Street, the Municipal Light Department building (1939) on Haven Street, the Joshua Eaton School (1949) on Summer Avenue, and the former town garage (now demolished). He also worked with Adden and Parker on the Town Hall (1918). His design for the Joshua Eaton School was judged the winning

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 5

design in the category of elementary schools by the Architectural Forum from among 3,800 schools that had received federal funding that year. During his career, Sidebottom designed schools in several other Massachusetts towns. American Architect published an early commission by Sidebottom, a modest house for H.P. Russell, Esq. in Lexington (1915). Sidebottom lived in Reading until his death in 1964, but moved his office out of Boston around 1942. His profession was still listed as an architect (rather than retired) in the Reading street listing until the mid-1950s when he was in his mid-seventies.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Reading are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area may contain information which can further document the nature and variability of prehistoric settlement in the North Shore area and the importance of inland sites within that coastal drainage. Prehistoric sites in the area may also contain information indicating the relationship of sites in this area to important regional core areas in the Boston locale to the south or the northeast coastal area of Plum Island Sound. Wetland drainage patterns have often been used in archaeological settlement studies to explain settlement models for Native people. The Pearl Street School lies near the border of two drainage, the North Shore with a focus to the south towards Boston and the Ipswich River drainage which drains northeasterly to Plum Island Sound. Information may be present at sites in the area indicating to what extent one or the other of the drainages were important and for which reasons.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to document 19th century agricultural landuse of the property and the changes which occurred as it was transformed to mid 19th century institutional use and later 20th century public education. Archaeological survey and testing can locate the remains of earlier structures on the property. This information can document the layout of the 1818 Parker farmstead and changes which occurred as the Parker House was transformed to a Town Asylum/Poor Farm. This type of research can identify which structures and occupational related features were used exclusively during the Parker and Town Farm occupation or, the extent of adaptative reuse and which were used continuously by both. Detailed analysis of occupational related features can provide information on the social, cultural and economic characteristics of the occupants of the property possibly indicating to what extent institutional life in a town setting was different similar to residential civilian life. The study of occupational related features combined with an analysis of structural remains and documentary sources can provide us

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 8, 9 Page 6, 1

with information on early 19th century agriculture in Reading with insights into crops which were produced, technologies used and the extent to which the farm's occupants focused on subsistence or market economies. This analysis can also provide as with information on the activities of the Town Farm's occupants beyond simple residency. The possibility that unmarked burials exist on the property also indicates the potential for information relating to the health of the Farm's occupants ultimately indicating causes of death.

(end)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Pearl Street School
Reading (Middlesex County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 10 Page 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point on the easterly sideline of Pearl Street, said point being that formed by the intersection with said sideline of the common boundary line between Lots 9 and 10 as shown on Reading Board of Assessors Plat 105 as revised January 1, 1987;

Thence easterly 117.79 feet more or less to a point;

Thence easterly 302.85 feet more or less to a point at the intersection of Lots 5, 10, and 32 as shown on said Plat;

Thence northerly 477.98 feet more or less to a point at the intersection of Lots 10 and 13 as shown on said Plat;

Thence westerly 465.80 feet more or less to a point at the intersection of Lots 10 and 11 as shown on said Plat with easterly sideline of said Pearl Street;

Thence southerly along said sideline 230.89 feet more or less to a point;

Thence southerly along said sideline 196.53 feet more or less to a point;

Thence southerly along said sideline 43.94 feet more or less to the point of beginning;

Intending to describe all of Lot 10 as shown on said Plat, containing 4.8395 acres more or less and commonly known as the Pearl Street School property.

The parcel contains 4.8395 acres and is located in the U.S.G.S. quadrangle entitled Reading, Massachusetts.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Pearl Street School.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Pearl Street School
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/02/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/13/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/29/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/16/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97000496

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 5/30/97 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



4 10 '96

Pearl Street School

75 Pearl Street

Reading, MA

Photo by Leslie Donovan

Oct. 4, 1996

Negative held by Leslie Donovan

Photo No. 9306-21

View looking Northwest at South elevation



Pearl Street School
75 Pearl Street
Reading, MA
Photo by: Leslie Donovan
Oct. 4, 1996
Negative held by Leslie Donovan
Photo No. 9306-2/
View looking Northwest showing south and east
elevations, including auditorium wing.



Pearl Street School
75 School Street
Reading, MA

Photo by Leslie Donovan

Oct. 4, 1996

Negative held by Leslie Donovan

Photo No. 9306-2/

Main entrance, west elevation, with original
transom and Art Deco surround



Pearl Street School
75 Pearl Street
Reading, MA

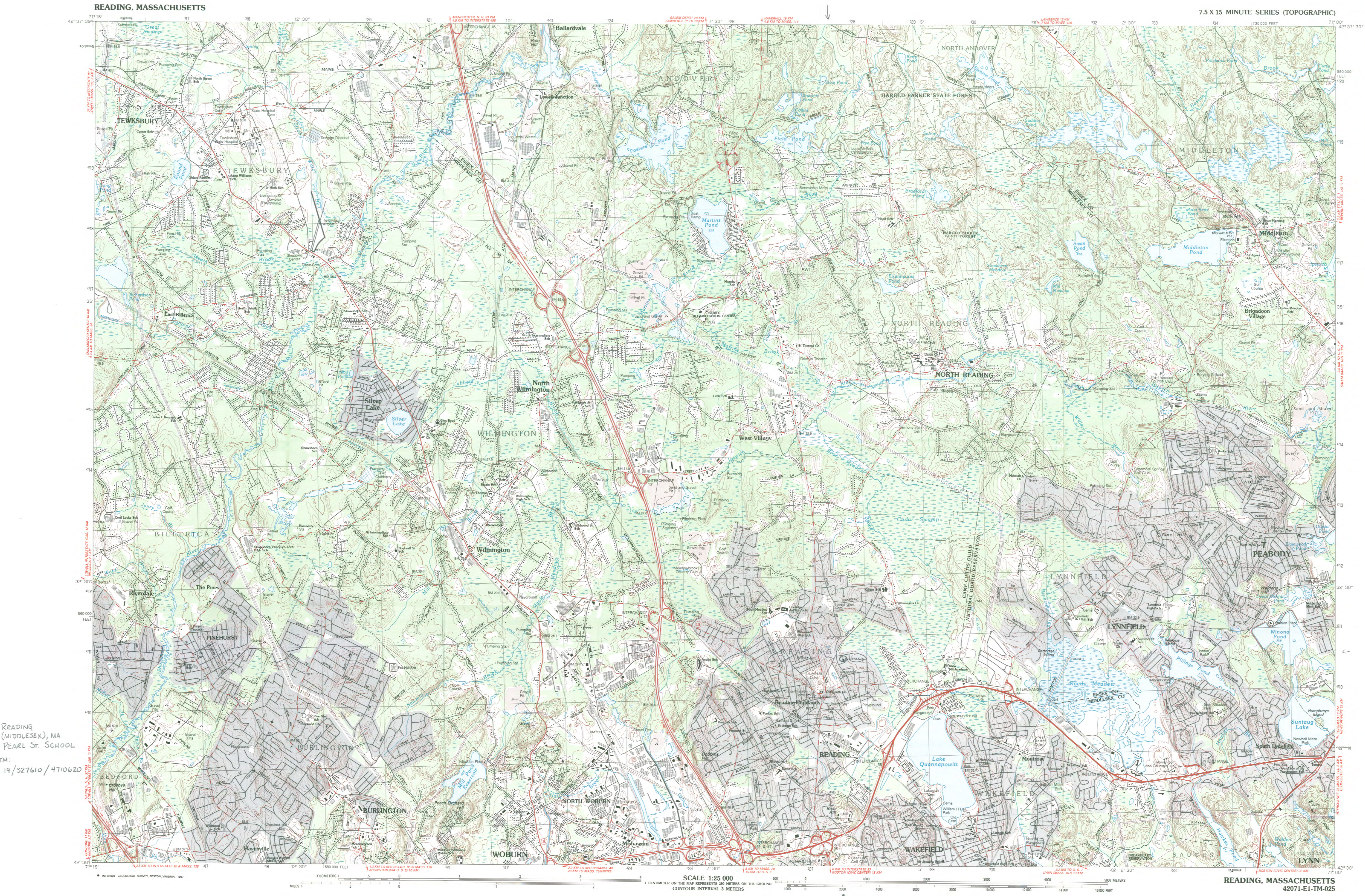
Photo by Leslie Donovan

Oct. 4, 1996

Negative held by Leslie Donovan

Photo No. 9306-2/

View of south entry with original transom
and Art Deco surround.



Reading
MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1987

Supersedes Wilmington 1965 and Reading 1966

1:24,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19

Universal Transverse Mercator

10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5276
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
1 Lowell	2 Lawrence	3 Ipswich
4 Billerica	5 Salem	6 Maynard
7 Boston North	8 Lynn	

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols	
Primary highway, hard surface	.....
Secondary highway, hard surface	.....
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	.....
Unimproved road, trail	.....
Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	.....
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage	.....
Bridge: drawbridge	.....
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	.....
Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	.....
House; barn; church; school; large structure	.....
Boundary	.....
National, with monument	.....
State	.....
County, parish	.....
Civil township, precinct, district	.....
Incorporated city, village, town	.....
National or State reservation; small park	.....
Land grant with monument; found section corner	.....
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	.....
Range, township, section line: location approximate	.....
Fence or field line	.....
Power transmission line, located tower	.....
Dam, dam with lock	.....
Cemetery: grave	.....
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	.....
Windmill; water well; spring	.....
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cross	.....
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	.....
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	.....
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	.....
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	.....
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	.....
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	.....
Swamp; marsh	.....
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled flooding	.....
Woodland; scattered trees	.....
Scrub; mangrove	.....
Orchard; vineyard	.....

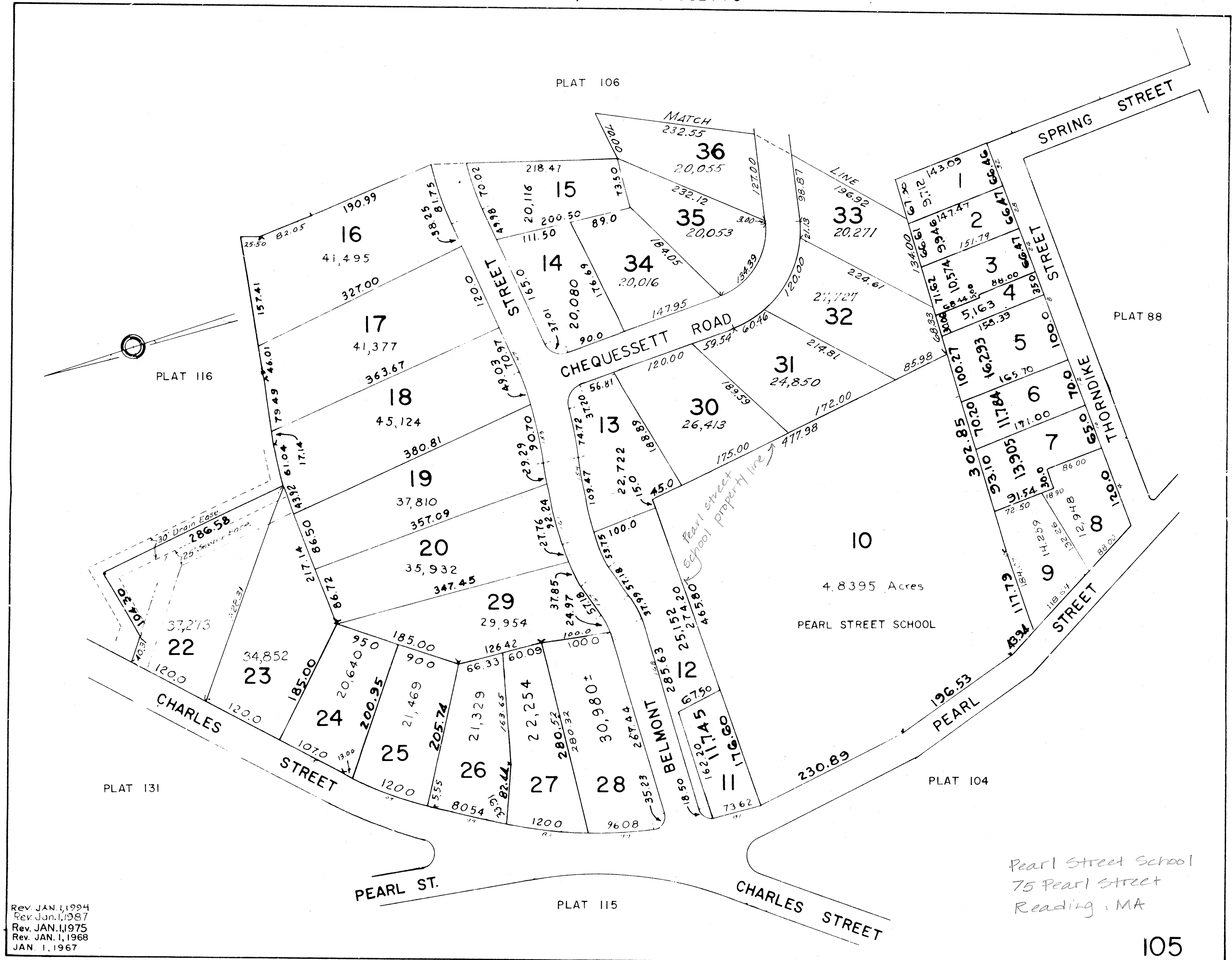
A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

READING
(MIDDLESEX), MA
PEARL ST. SCHOOL

UTM:
19/327610/4710620

READING, MASSACHUSETTS
42071-E1-TM-025
1987

READING, MASSACHUSETTS



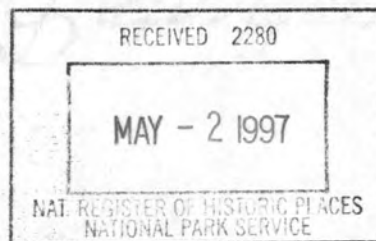


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 23, 1997

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Pearl Street School, 75 Pearl Street, Reading (Middlesex County), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Mr. Edward G. Smethurst, Reading Historical Commission
Mr. Edward Levitt, Reading Senior Living Association
Ms. Sally M. Hoyt, Chair, Reading Board of Selectmen
Ms. Leslie Donovan, Preservation Consultant