

FORM B - BUILDING

Area B	Form no. 31
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Reading

38 Salem Street

Name Washington Damon House

Original dwelling

Present dwelling

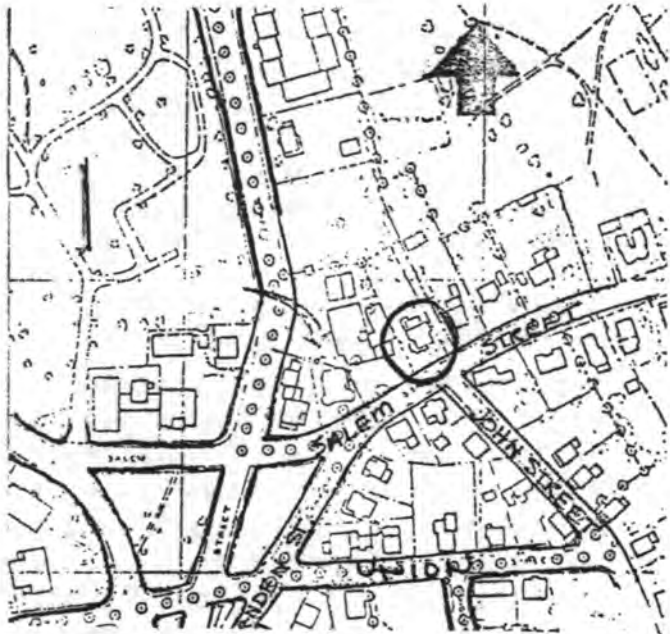
Ownership:  Private individual  
Private organization

Public

Original owner Washington P. Damon



Location in relation to main cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



NOTATION:

Date 1839 Deeds and mortgages; maps

Source of 1830 and 1854

Style Greek Revival

Architect n/a

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) Extended to north, fenestration on east, Colonial Revival balustrade and Palladian window, all probably 1906

Moved no Date

Approx. acreage 13,125 sq. ft.

Setting Faces south on ancient road on top of slope.

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates  
Organization Reading Historical Commission  
Date November 10, 1980

Date 6/82

UTM: 19/327400/4710140

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This house, although now in poor condition, was **once** remodeled into a high-style residence featuring a wealth of classical detail. It was built, gable end to the street, in a relatively simple Greek Revival style. The side-gable wings appear to be of that period, based on their granite foundations and the fact that they bear original decorations, such as Greek keys serving the capitals of their doorway pilasters. The corner pilasters date from the early period, as well as the wide cornice, which continues across the front gable to form a pediment; that is faced with flushboards. (con't)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history ( and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Washington P. Damon was a member of the large clan of Parkers descended from Amos Parker, and part of the Damon family that owned large tracts of land. He was a cabinet maker, but apparently did not prosper, as his property was continuously subject to mortgages. In 1855 he was running a boarding house with family members and cabinet workers living there. After the death of Damon, Galen Parker (a cousin)--the mortgage holder--was assessed for the property in 1900.

Joseph Temple was responsible for the extensive remodeling in the Colonial Revival style in 1906. He was an originator and partner in the necktie manufacturing firm of Damon, Temple Co. -- later the J.S. Temple Co., which operated to the mid 1950's. Joseph was the son of Calvin Temple, who lived across the street at 43 Salem Street where Joseph had been born.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1854 map W. P. Damon (Washington P.)  
1875 map W. P. Damon  
1889 map W. P. Damon  
1894 Directory

Reading Chronicle, Sept. 1. 1906  
Deeds, property of Reading Antiquarian Society.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: B-31
Property Name: 38 Salem St.	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Extensive remodeling in the Colonial Revival style in 1906 seems to have been responsible for the addition of the one-story veranda that wraps around the front part of the house. This has a wide cornice to match that of the earlier house, and beautifully detailed fluted, Ionic columns. A pedimented portico juts out from the west side of the veranda. Within the veranda at the southeast corner of the main block is a bay-like entrance enclosure. The enclosure probably dates to the remodeling, although it does bear the same doorway and window architraves with corner blocks seen on the front of the original house. Another Colonial Revival element from 1906 is the Palladian design window in the tympanum of the front gable end.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) for its role in Reading's cabinet-making trade; (2) for its connection with the locally important Parker and Daron families, and with necktie manufacturer Joseph Temple; and (3) for its ebullient Colonial-Revival remodeling. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, and meets Criteria A, B, and C of the National Register.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 6/18/84  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 9

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |                               |                                     |                   |                              |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 31. Damon, Joseph, House      | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 32. Damon, Washington, House  | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 33. Dewey Place               | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 34. Durgin House              | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 35. Eaton-Prescott House      | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 36. Elliott, Luther, House    | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 37. Hall, Stephen, House      | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 38. Hartshorn, Timothy, House | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 39. Hartwell House            | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |
| 40. Highland School           | Entered in the<br>National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/19/84 |
|                               |                                     | Attest            | _____                        |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Damon, Washington, House (Reading MRA)  
Middlesex County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. JUN 4 1984  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85  
Date Due: 7-5-84 / 7-19-84  
Action:  ACCEPT 7-19-84  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance *(in one paragraph)*

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

Duron, Washington, House (Reading M.H.)  
Middlesex County  
MASSACHUSETTS

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



James J. Washington, House  
Reading MA, Ma

A-5

B-31  
38 Salem

CHARLES ST.  
258.68

MAIN ST.

28  
1.19 ACRES

89721 Acres to dash line

17

26 20,230

25 12,880

24 13,845

23 8825

PLAT 76

22

20

17a

17b

19a

19

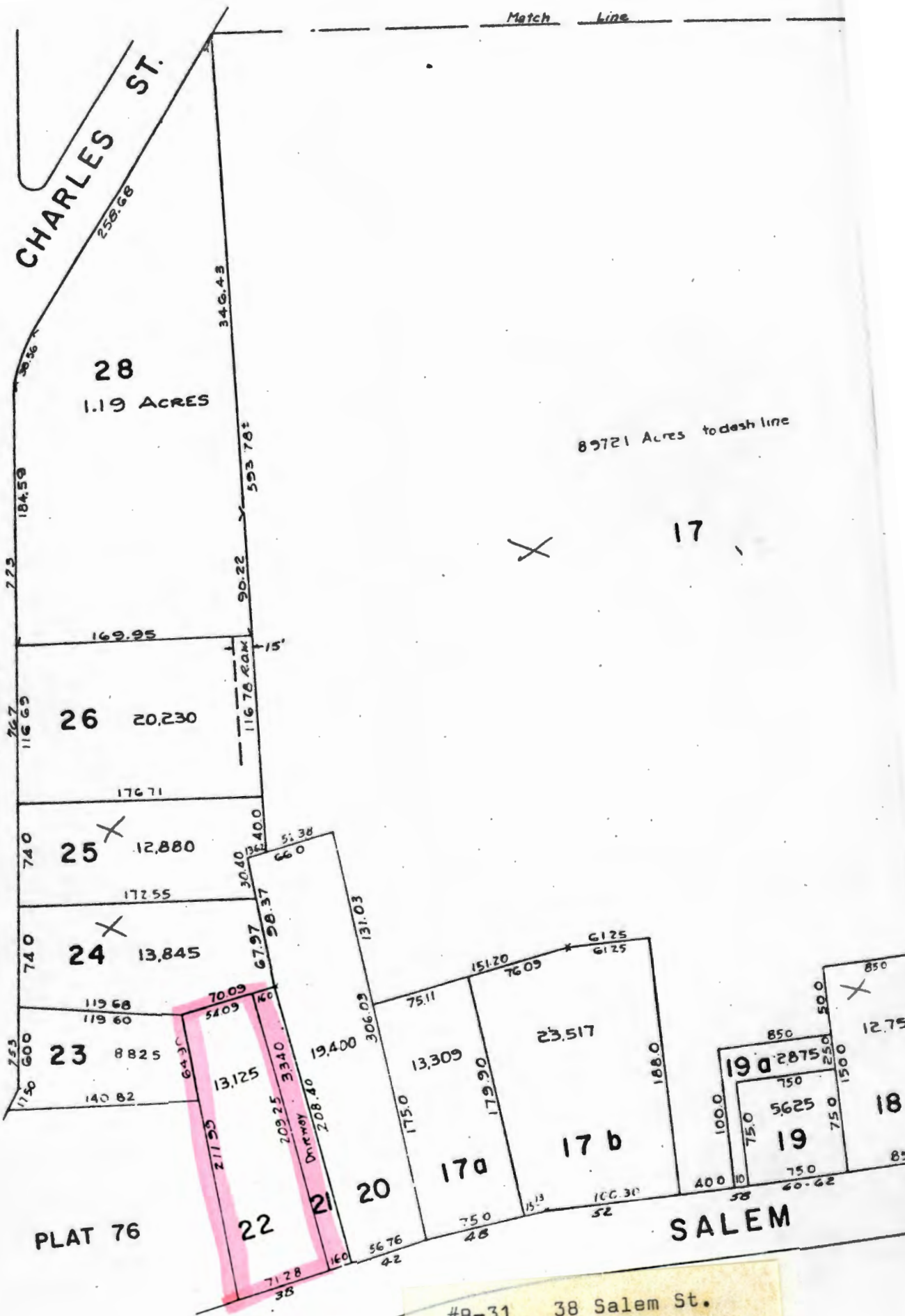
18

SALEM

JOHN ST.

PLAT 76

#B-31 38 Salem St.  
Map 87, Lot 22  
1983 Assessors Map  
1" = 100'



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: \_\_\_\_\_ 64000290