

Area	Form no.
A	24

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION C-34
 201 Washington Street Boston MA 02108



Reading

1177 Main Street

Common Name House at

Original dwelling

Present dwelling

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner John B. Nichols

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1853

Source map 1854

Style Greek Revival-Italianate

Architect --

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings garage

Major alterations (with dates) 1-1/2

story rear extension; dormer and exterior chimney added

Moved no Date

Approx. acreage 38,965 sq. ft.

Setting on a hill, facing west

(oriented to early 19th-century

turnpike); granite fence posts

hold wooden rails



Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Reading Historical Commission

Date November 30, 1980

Date 2/16/84

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

This 1-1/2 story, gable-end house is transitional in style from the Greek Revival to the Italianate style. The gables do not return, but have mitered ends, and the cornice is very broad, being made of lapped boards on both gable-ends and sides. Full-length Italianate windows capped by shallow pediments grace the first floor, while paired colonettes support the full-width porch.

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

The Nicholises, a very early Reading family, were farmers. A glance at the map of 1875 shows the northern part of town as having nine separate Nichols houses. This house was one of them; it was built near one of the Nicholises' old homesteads. Its builder, John Brooks Nichols, was the brother of Parker Nichols, whose house stands at 1243 Main Street (form no. A-23 in the Reading Historical and Architectural Inventory). John's farming activities seem to have been limited primarily to the delivery of milk. He married Carolyn Young in 1853, and probably built this house at that time.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1830 map - no
1854 map - John B. Nichols (John Brooks)
1875 map - J.B. Nichols (John Brooks)
Eaton, History of Reading, Massachusetts

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: A-24
Property Name: --	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This house is significant (1) as an example of how the younger sons of old Reading families built up-to-date houses in the vicinity of their ancestral homesteads; (2) for its connection with the important early-Reading Nichols family; and (3) as a good example of transitional Greek Revival-Italianate styling. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling, 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 6/11/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 6 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
51. House at 206 West Street	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
52. House at 242 Summer Avenue	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
53. House at 322 Haven Street	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
54. House at 483 Summer Avenue	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
55. House at 1177 Main Street	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
56. Lewis House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
57. Manning, Charles, House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
58. Manning, Jacob, House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
59. Masonic Block	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
60. Nichols, Daniel, Homestead	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

House at 1177 Main Street (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
Entered in the National Register RETURN
REJECT
Federal Agency:

- 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

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

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

House at 1177 Main Street (Reading M.R.A.)
 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: _____



Reading MA, Ma



A-24

A-34A

House at 1177 Main St

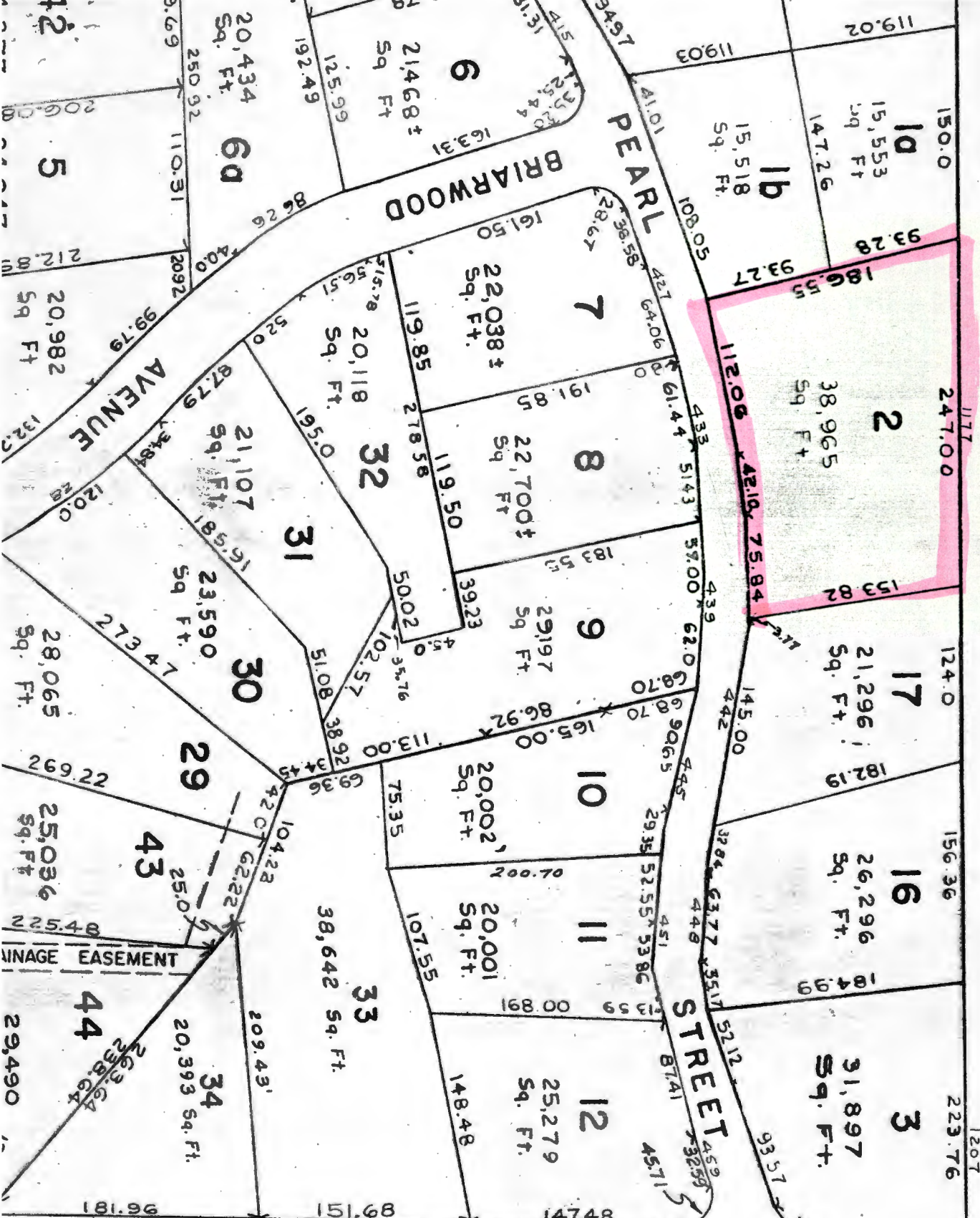
READING, MASSACHUSETTS

181

MAIN

STREET

PLAT 195



1177
247.00

2

38,965
Sq. Ft.

112.06
421.75.84

124.0

17

21,296
Sq. Ft.

145.00

156.36

16

26,296
Sq. Ft.

378.4
637.7
351.7
521.2

223.76

3

31,897
Sq. Ft.

935.7
77.92

999.4
203.4

3a

5805
Sq. Ft.

83.53
46.5
36.47

#A -24 1177 Main St.
Map 182, Lot 02
1983 Assessors Map
= 100'
241.00'

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: _____ 64000290