

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
C	96

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION N-28  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x5" or 3x5", black & white)  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

Town Reading

Address 483 Summer Avenue

Historic Name Howe St

Use: Original dwelling

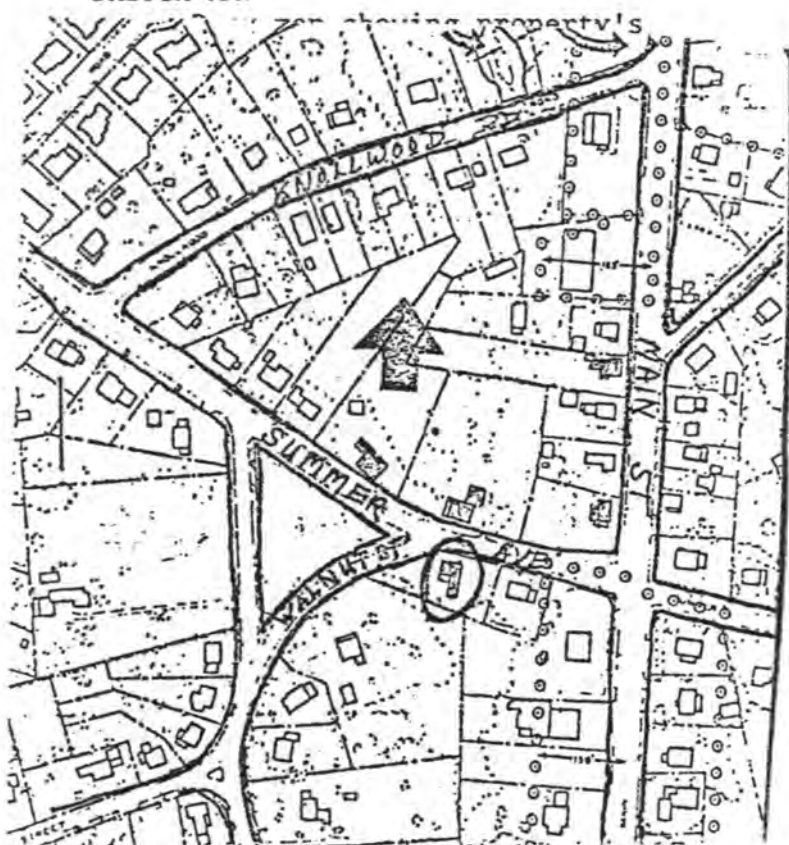
Present dwelling

Ownership:  Private individual  
Private organization \_\_\_\_\_

Public \_\_\_\_\_

Original owner John Adden?

SKETCH MAP



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1830-1835

Source map of 1830, deeds

Style Federal

Architect --

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings --

Major alterations (with dates) ells and dormers added in the 19th century

Moved probably not Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 13,718 sq. ft.

Setting faces north on bend of an old road, where it intersects

several other old roads

UTM: 19/327000/4708400

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Reading Historical Commission

Date November 30, 1980

Date 2/16/84

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Although it was constructed after 1830, this house was built in the Federal style, with a tall, narrow doorway surround consisting of pilasters with capitals supporting a full entablature with projecting cornice. This one and one-half story, five-bay house form was deeply ingrained in Reading building practices, and it persisted -- with the addition of a Greek Revival doorway surround -- through the 1830's, '40s, and '50s. The foundation of the chimney within the cellar is quite unusual, consisting of three parallel brick walls that are topped by a layer of very large timbers laid at right angles to the walls. The timbers support the brick chimney mass. This relatively "modern" treatment is the chief (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)

This house is not on the 1830 map, but the nearby Main Street home of major shoe manufacturer John Adden is shown. In 1835, Samuel S. Porter purchased about one-quarter of an acre with buildings from a "John Allen," believed to be an error for "John Adden." Porter also bought one-fifth of an acre in 1836 from Loea Parker, with the stipulation that a barn on the property would be removed by Parker. Porter sold his accumulated property in 1849 to Jonathan Heselton, a cabinetmaker. Heselton's name apparently was misspelled with unusual frequency. The 1850 valuation book uses the name of Jonathan Haselton. The 1854 map bears the name "J. Hardton." And a 1856 map spells the name, "Hesselton." However, the valuation books after 1850 all agree that the name is Heselton.

This house is situated at a node of settlement, near the major north-south road -- now Main Street -- at its junction with Summer Avenue, Walnut Street, and Hopkins Street.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- 1854 map - J. Hardton (an error for Jonathan Heselton)
- 1856 map - J. Hesselton (an error for Jonathan Heselton)
- 1875 map - J. Heselton (Jonathan)
- 1889 map - J. Heselton (Jonathan)
- 1855 census
- 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890 valuation books
- Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 348, p. 172; Book 361, p. 460; Book 558, p. 451

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:  Reading	Form No:  C-96
Property Name:	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (con't.)

reason given for the moving theory. However, the present foundation of the house features granite, which is consonant with the age of the house. It is more likely that the chimney foundation was rebuilt at some point in the house's history.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) for its role in the node of development at the junction of four major roads; (2) for its connection with longtime Reading cabinetmaker Jonathan Heselton; and (3) as an intact example of Federal vernacular architecture in Reading. It retains integrity of location, general 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 649

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

House at 483 Summer Avenue (Reading MRA)  
Middlesex County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 6/4/84  
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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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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

House at 183 Summer Avenue (Reading M.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

18

House at

~~3-95~~

C-96

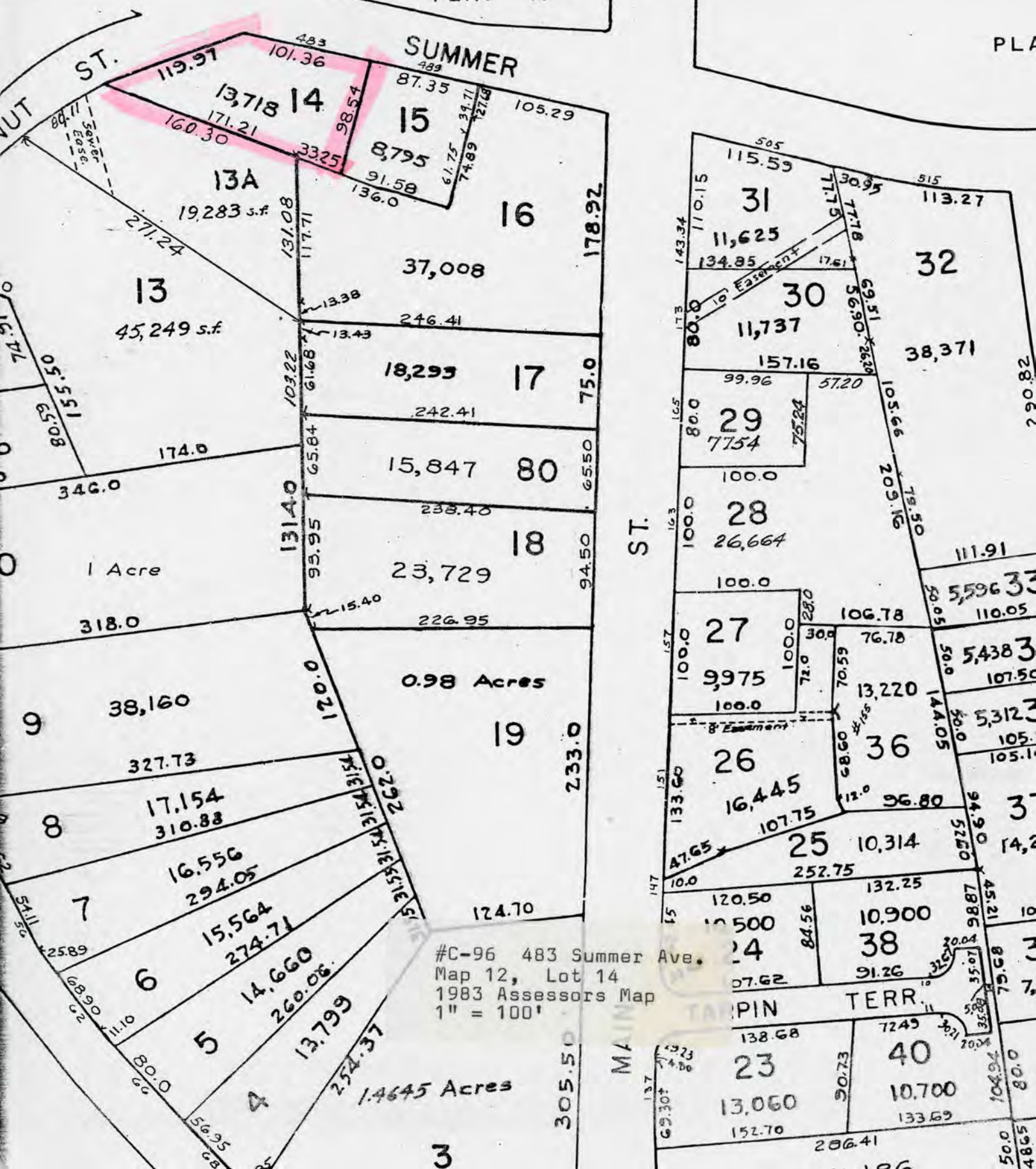
484

Summer Ave

N-28A

READING, MASSACHUSETTS

PLAT 19



#C-96 483 Summer Ave.  
 Map 12, Lot 14  
 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