

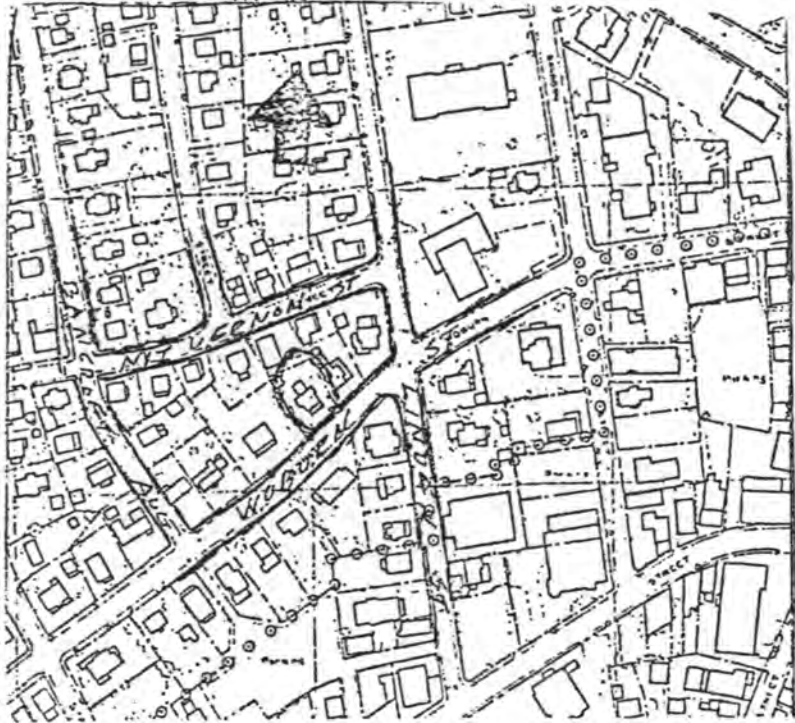
Area	Form no.
C	177

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION XVI-5  
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Reading  
 57 Woburn Street  
 Name -- Home at  
 Original dwelling  
 Present dwelling  
 Property:  Private individual  
           Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
           Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Alfred W. Danforth

location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features.



Date 1887  
 Source Chronicle  
 Style Queen Anne  
 Architect Horace G. Wadlin  
 Exterior wall fabric clapboards, shingles  
 Outbuildings garage  
 Major alterations (with dates) --  
 Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 8,510 sq. ft.

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates  
 Organization Reading Historical Commission  
 Date November 30, 1980

Setting on a flat lot, facing south toward a main street; large elm shades front facade

Date 2/16/84

UTM: 19/327440/4770140

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is one of Reading's more elaborate Queen Anne structures. Of basically the same cruciform plan as its neighbor, 55 Woburn Street, it is enlivened: 1) by its variations of shape, such as the void of the porch, and the rounded gable-window jambs; and 2) by surface detail, such as its patterned shingles, recessed stucco sunburst, elaborate porch railing, paneled spandrels, and unusual brackets. The Queen Anne period introduced a new freedom in architectural massing and ornament; this house takes good advantage of both.

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

Dr. Alfred Danforth was living at 55 Woburn Street when he purchased the lot next door, on which he had this house built in 1887. It was designed by prominent local architect Horace G. Wadlin, and built by Captain A.J. Bancroft.

Danforth owned and operated a drugstore on the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets for many years. He located first in the Bank Building before moving across Pleasant Street to the opposite corner, 1 Harnden Street. After Alfred's death in 1923, his son Percy ran the business through 1956. In that year, it passed to Abraham Berson, who still operates the drugstore under his name.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1889 map - Alfred W. Danforth  
1906 map - Alfred W. Danforth  
1884, 1917 business directories  
Chronicle, May 21, 1887; July 30, 1887; and Dec. 10, 1887.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: C-177
Property Name: --	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This house is significant (1) for its role in the late 19th-century residential development of Woburn Street; (2) for its connection with longtime Reading druggist Alfred Danforth; and (3) as an intact example of an architect-designed Queen Anne-style residence. 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 6/2/84  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5-49

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 41. House at 11 Beech Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 42. House at 16 Mineral Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 43. House at 26 Center Avenue Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 44. House at 42 Salem Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 45. House at 44 Temple Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 46. House at 57 Woburn Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 47. House at 77 Howard Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 48. House at 79-81 Salem Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 49. House at 129 High Street Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 50. House at 199 Summer Avenue Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelton Byrum 7/19/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Ref. # 84002657

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

House at 57 Woburn 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  
 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

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"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

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 37 Adams Street (Reading M.A.)  
 Address Copy  
 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: \_\_\_\_\_

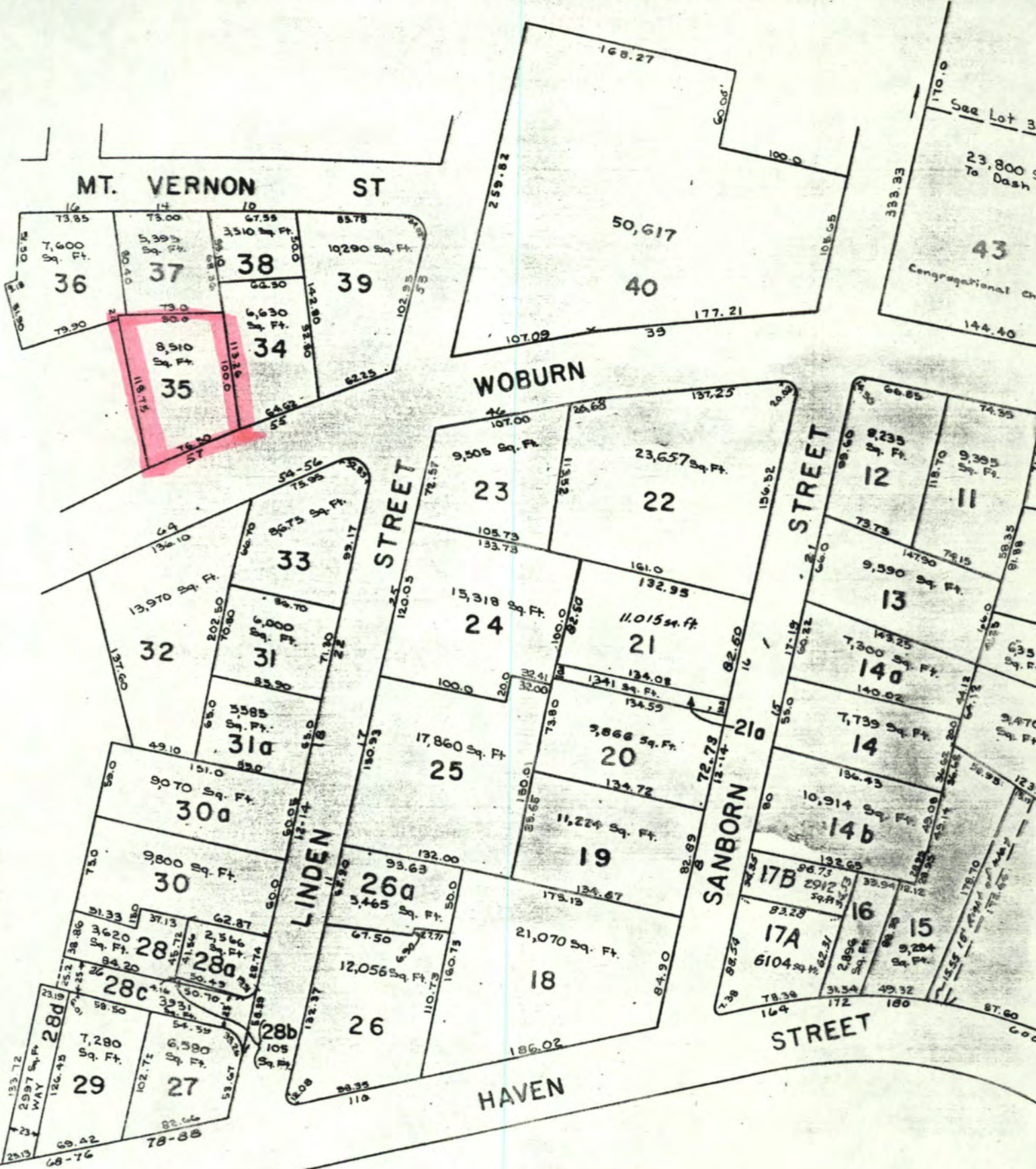


Reading, M.B.A. Ma

has at

57 Waburn St.

XVI 5A



#C-177 57 Woburn St. PLAT 54  
 Map 64, Lot 35  
 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