

Area <u>D</u>	Form no. <u>223</u>
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION *D-11*
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Reading

483 Franklin Street

Name Richard Nichols House

Original Dwelling

Present Dwelling

Property: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner

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

Date c. 1733

Source Will of Richard Nichols, Sr.

Style First Period

Object - n/a

Material or wall fabric Clapboard

Buildings Two-car garage

Alterations (with dates) Ell at

addition on west, addition

east.

Moved No Date

Approx. acreage 1.309 acres

Setting High on embankment, faces south

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Reading Historical Commission

Date November 30, 1980

Date 6/82

UTM: 19/325790/4712180

(Staple additional sheets here)



REVISED

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

This is a good example of houses built before the mid-18th century -- oftencalled "First Period," as they still reflected late medieval, organic, rather than symmetrical, building considerations. It may originally have been 3 bays wide, a half-house, which was later expanded by 2 bays and later a third bay to the east. The small windows, with 6/6 lights, touch the plate on the second story. The door surround is plain; the central chimney is large, and probably organized the interior spaces of the house. The rubble-stone foundation is found in houses of this period.

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

Richard Nichols and his descendants have been a part of Reading history from the first grant of land to John Nichols in 1686/7 until the present. The house was owned and the property farmed by this family until 1893. The two Nichols farmsteads in the Franklin Street area covered over one hundred and forty-three acres, much of which remain thinly settled today, due to the long family ownership and to the Meadow Brook Golf Club, whose links have prevented subdivision.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1765 map Richard Nichols
1830 map yes
1854 map Richard Nichols
1875 map R.B. Nichols (Richard Baxter)
1928 Street List George Partridge

Bishop, Rooftrees, Chapter 26

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: D-223
Property Name: 483 Franklin St.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Richard Nichols house is significant (1) as the center one of the earliest and most extensive homesteads in Reading; (2) for its long connection with the locally prominent Nichols family; (3) for its early date; and (4) as a good example of First-period architecture. 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 6/1/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 7 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
61.	Nichols, James, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
62.	Nichols, Richard, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
63.	Octagon House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
64.	Old Hose House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
65.	Parker, Capt. Nathaniel, Red House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 9/19/84</u> Attest _____
66.	Parker House (52 Salem St.) Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
67.	Parker, Joseph, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
68.	Parker, Samuel, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
69.	Parker, Stillman, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
70.	Parker House (316 Haven St.) Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____

24 # 84002760

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Nichols, Richard, 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

- 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

Witcham, Richard, House (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: _____

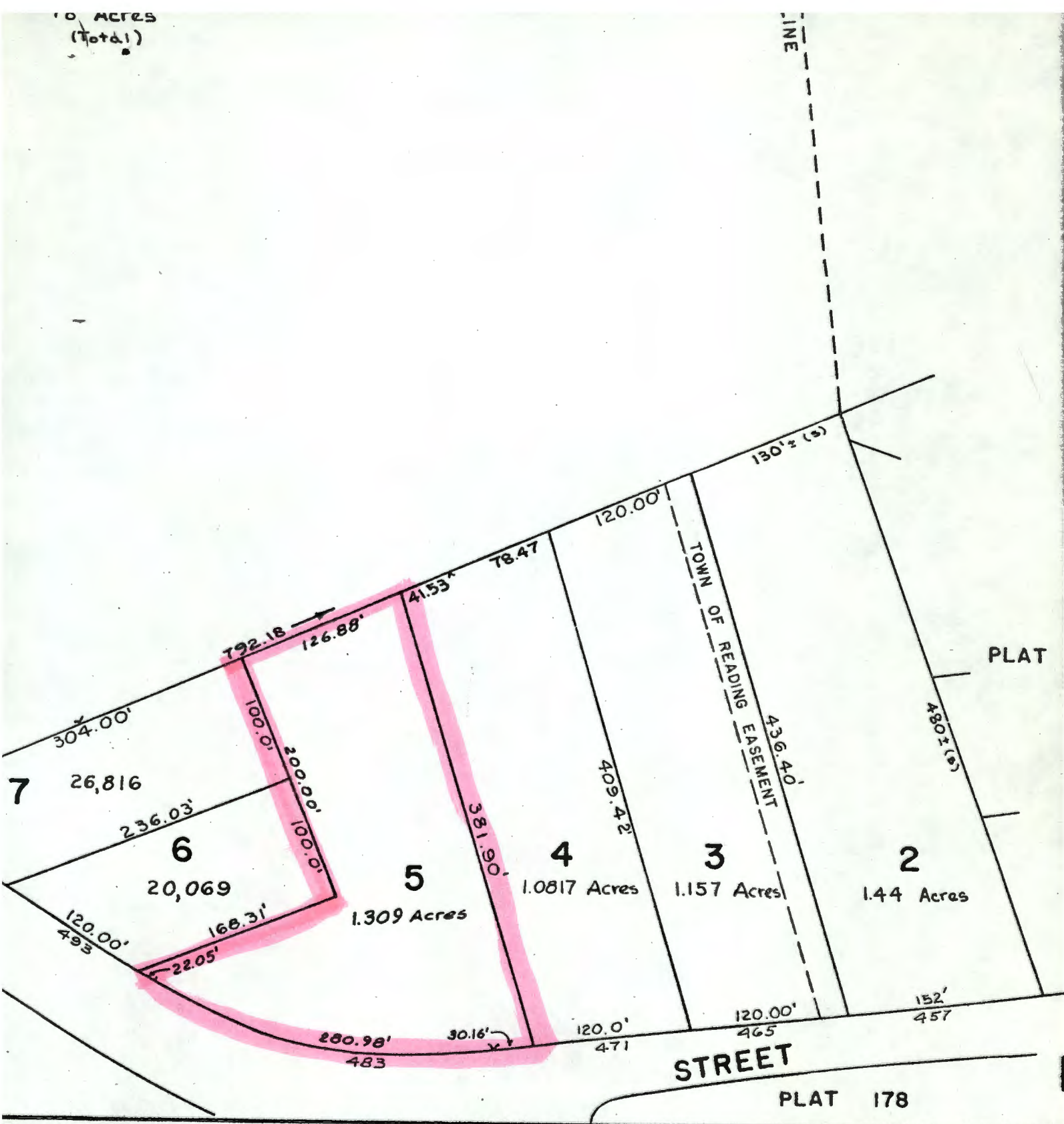


Michael, Richard, Hans
Reading, MA, Ma

483 Franklin St.

D-11

10 ACRES
(Total)



INFORMATION COMPILED FROM RECORD DATA,
FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.

#D-223 483 Franklin St.
Map 176, Lot 05
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