

FORM B - BUILDING

Area
CForm no.
159MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION *H-26*
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

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



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

Date 6/82

(Staple additional sheets here)

Reading (#12)

Address 176 Summer AvenueHistoric Name Dewey PlaceOriginal dwellingPresent dwellingOwnership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner John Mansfield

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1853Source Concerning the Past, ChronicleStyle Greek Revival/ItalianateArchitect n/aExterior wall fabric Aluminum sidingOutbuildings None

Major alterations (with dates) South
addition and west porch, east ell,
entrance shifted to west

Moved no Date _____Approx. acreage 1.479 acres

Setting Faces west set back from
street; wide lots on each side

UTM: 19/326030/4709720

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

The symbol of an "important" Italianate house for Reading residents seems to have been the lantern (or cupola), here affixed to a three-bay, gable-end form. Its corner pilasters were made popular in the Greek Revival era which preceeded the Italianate. The wide frieze is another holdover from the earlier style.

The present porch entrance is of late 19th-century or early 20th-century origin; perhaps the original entrance was on the south facade.

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

John Mansfield, the partner of Robert "Father" Kemp, bought this land in 1853, and sold now - 186 Summer Avenue to his partner. Both men built houses soon afterward. Their company sold boots and shoes in Boston. Frank Palmer, who seems to have owned it next, was a superintendent of the Merchants Exchange in Boston. Francis O. Dewey, who owned other property in the area and lived here in 1865, was one of the largest dealers in glass lantern globes in New England; they were also sold abroad. His business was located in Boston, and--like his two upper-class predecessors in the house--commuted via the Boston & Maine Railroad. Dewey's son, Edgar, married Lizzie Kemp, daughter of "Father" Kemp.

This area of Summer Avenue was home to Reading's most affluent businessmen.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1854 map J. Mansfield (John)
- 1875 map F. O. Dewey (Francis Osmond)
- 1889 map F. O. Dewey " "
- 1865 census
- Eaton, Genealogical History, p. 557
- Wadlin, Concerning the Past, Chapter XCIII

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: C-159
Property Name: 176 Summer Ave.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Dewey Place is significant (1) as a product of the 19th century real estate boom on the West Side, and as the home of a railroad commuter; (2) for its connection with shoe manufacturer John Mansfield and his partner Robert ("Father") Kemp, and with glass globe dealer Francis O. Dewey; and (3) as a largely intact example of Greek Revival-Italianate architecture in Reading. It retains integrity of location, design, and setting, 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 6/8/84

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
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

32. Damon, Washington, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

33. Dewey Place

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

34. Durgin House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

35. Eaton-Prescott House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

36. Elliott, Luther, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

37. Hall, Stephen, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

38. Hartshorn, Timothy, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

39. Hartwell House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

40. Highland School

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 7/19/84

Attest

Ref. # 84002567

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Dewey Place (Reading MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

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

Entered in the
National Register

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: _____

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ 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

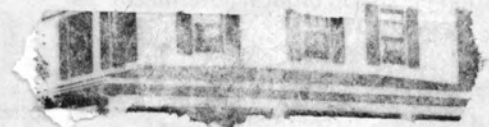
Specific dates _____

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

Dewey Place (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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



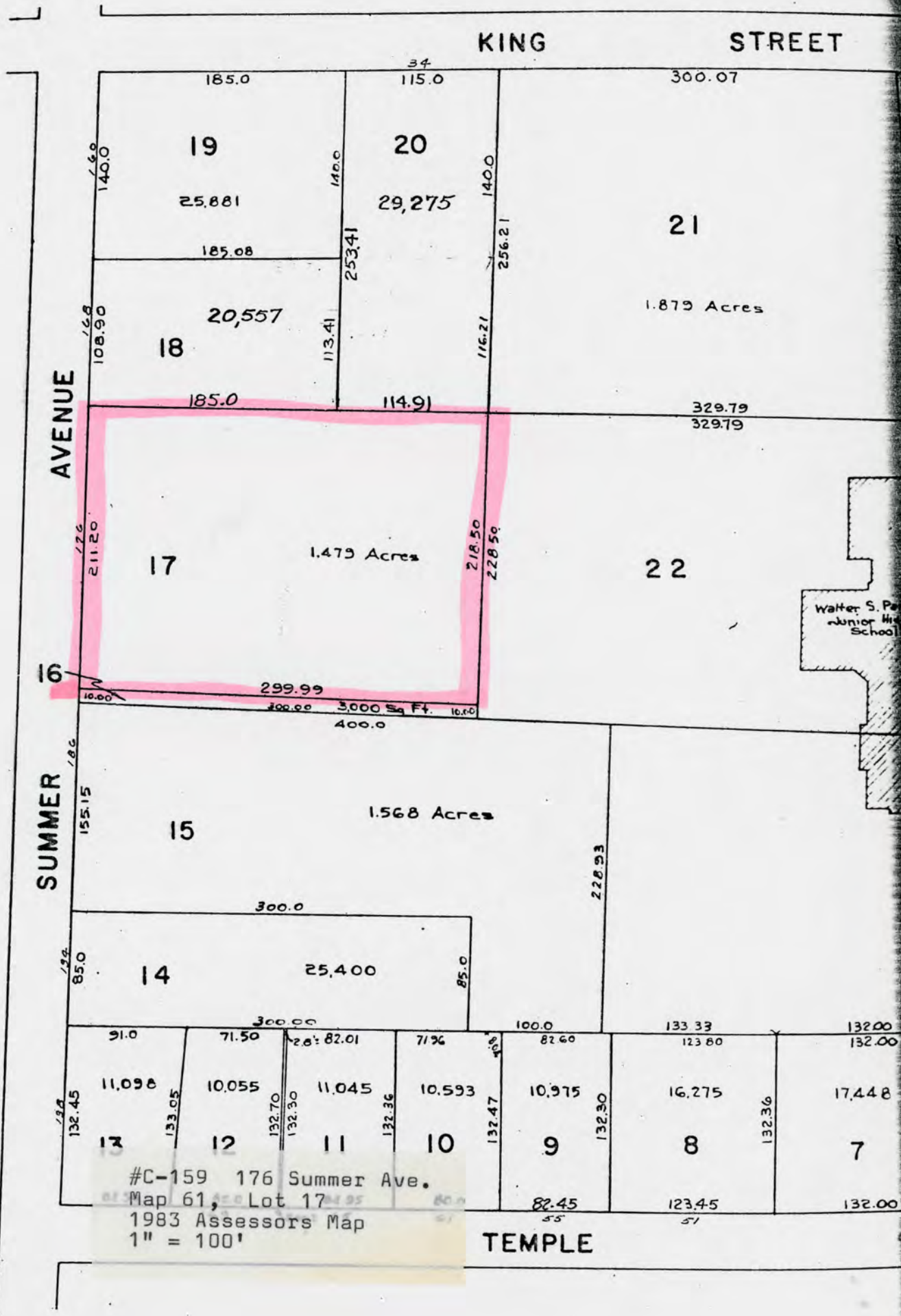
Henry Place

Reading RR. Va



176 Summer Ave

H-26A



#C-159 176 Summer Ave.
Map 61, Lot 17
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