

Area	Form no.
B	65



Reading

256-274 Haven Street

Name Rombouras et

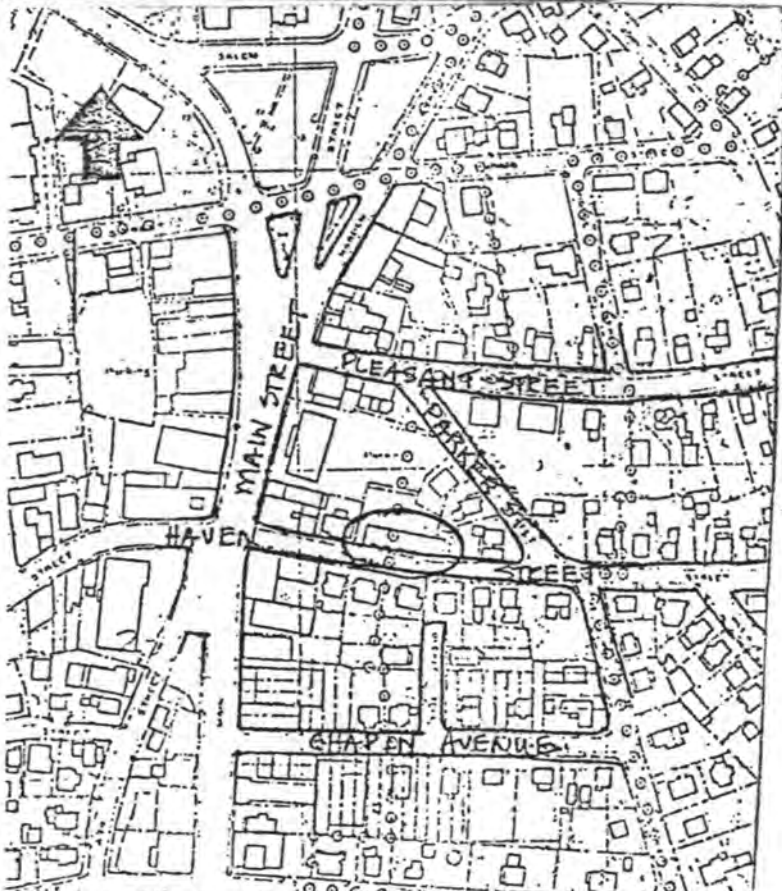
Original dwelling

Present dwelling

Property: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Edwin Manning



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1886

Source Wadlin, Concerning the Past

Style Italianate

Architect --

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings --

Major alterations (with dates)

various doorway alterations

Moved no Date

Approx. acreage 12,826 sq. ft.

Setting the row faces south,

close to street

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Reading Historical Commission

Date November 30, 1980

Date 2/16/84

URN: 19/327280/4709820

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

Row housing was not at all common in Reading, possibly because people came to the town specifically seeking the freestanding, suburban-type house. These row houses, although built in 1886, suggest the earlier Italianate style, with their strong vertical lines and two-story, gable-roofed bays. Flat caps over the windows are another Italianate feature.

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

These row houses were built by Edwin Manning in 1886, on part of what had been Sylvester Harnden's large millyard. The Harnden Furniture Company was begun in 1828, and by the 1860's, it was producing more than 2,500 refrigerators a year. The millyard, located on the east side of Main Street, was bisected by a small lane, over which a bridge-like structure was erected, to link specialized production units. In 1889, this lane was still in existence; it was sometimes called Howard Place. Later, it became the eastern part of Haven Street.

Edwin Manning also had a cabinetmaking business in 19th-century Reading. In 1878, he moved it from the depot area to the old Harnden millyard, which he apparently had purchased. He started making improvements immediately, and a description of the business appeared in the September 7, 1878, Chronicle. However, in May of 1879, the Chronicle refers to a mortgagee's auction concerning the property, and a notice of insolvency followed within the month. Only a few weeks thereafter, though, the Chronicle reported that Manning had started a steam jobbing mill. The 1882 business directory locates him on Main Street, and lists him as a furniture maker.

Manning's occupation apparently changed in 1884, when the entire millyard was leveled by fire. The business directories of 1889 and 1890 list him as a builder. This reference may be at least partially due to Manning's construction of these row houses on part of his former millyard. Manning must have continued in this occupation: in 1898, he moved his house from the corner of Main and Haven Streets down to Salem Street (form no. B-34 on the Historical and Architectural Inventory, Reading, Massachusetts), and built a business block in its stead.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1889 map - Mrs. E.H. Manning (Mrs. Edwin H. Manning, or Mrs. Frances Manning)

Eaton, Memorial Volume

Eaton, History of Reading, Massachusetts

Wadlin, Concerning the Past

1906 map - L.G. Howard (Luther G.)

1890, 1900 valuation books

1889, 1890 business directories

Chronicle, Sept. 7, 1878; May 3, 1879; June 7, 1879

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: B-65
Property Name: --	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) as one of Reading's few examples of row housing; (2) for its connection with prominent local furniture maker and builder Edwin Manning; and (3) as a largely intact example of vernacular Italianate 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 6/4/84
date entered

Continuation sheet Item number Page 8 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
71. Parker, Joseph, House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
72. Parker, William, House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
73. Pierce House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
74. Pierce Organ Pipe Factory	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
75. Pratt House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
76. Pratt, Stillman, House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
77. Reading Municipal Building	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
78. Reading Municipal Light and Power Station	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
79. Roberts House	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
80. Rowhouses at 256-274 Haven Street	Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melrose Byers 7-19-84</u> Attest _____

Ref # 84002.817

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Rowhouses at 256-274 Haven 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: _____

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

Entered in the _____
National Register _____
REJECT _____

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

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: _____



Rowhouses at 256-274 Haven St.

Reaching MPA MA

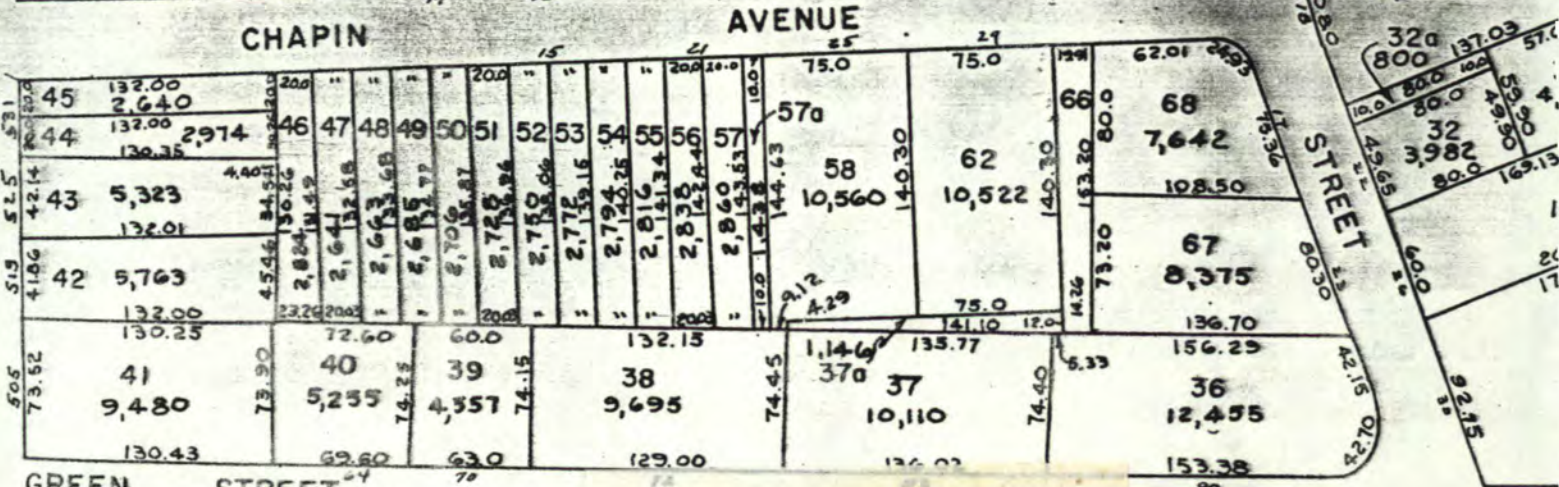
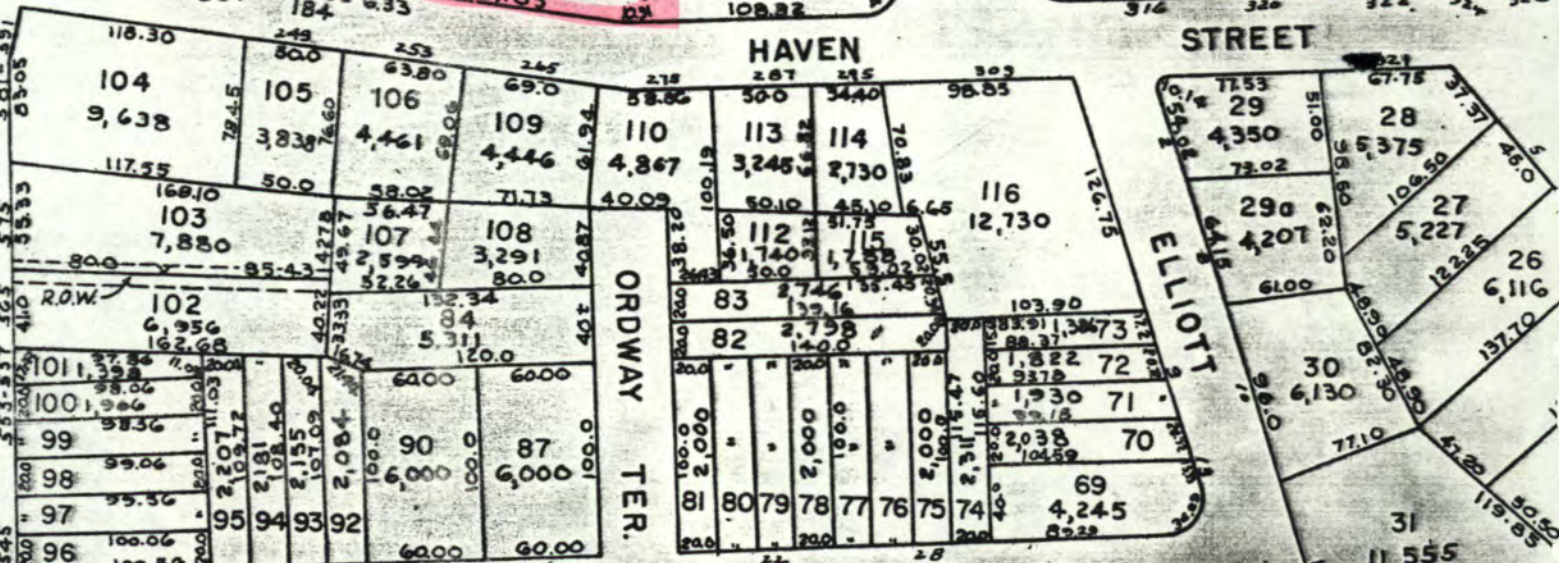
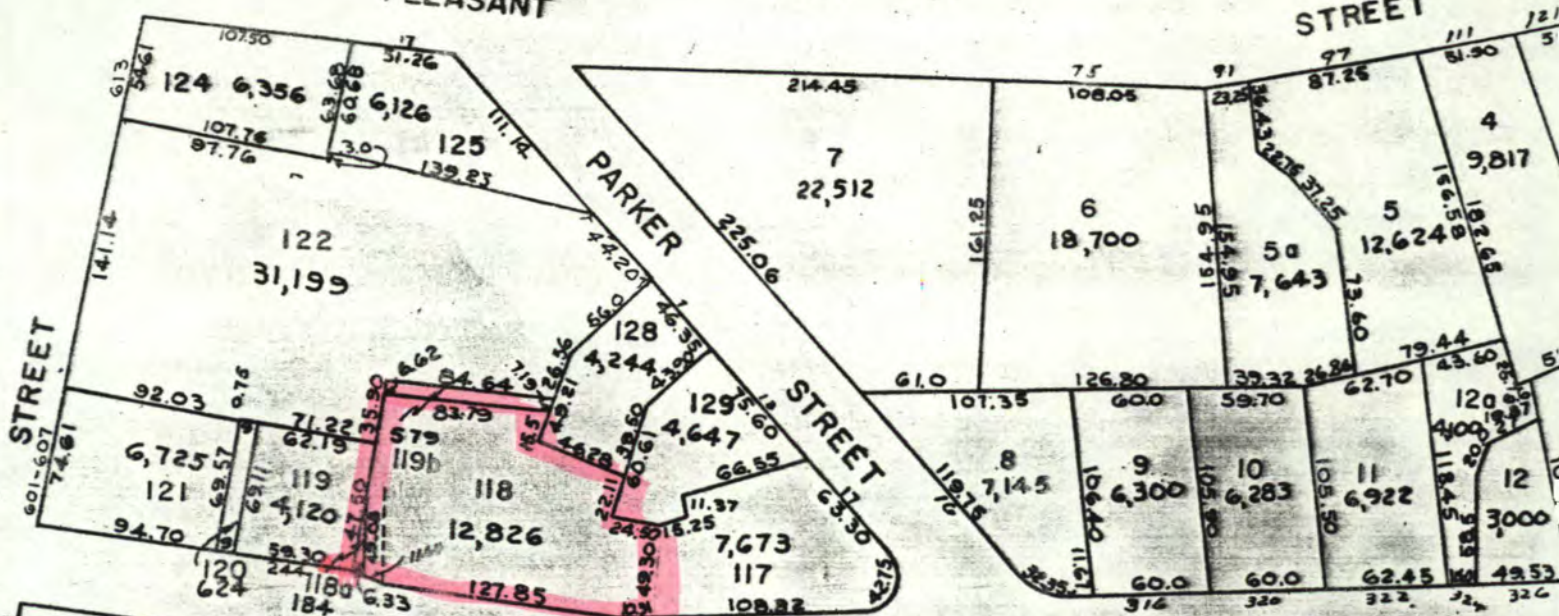
G-29 A

B-65
256-274 Haven St.

PLEASANT

PLAT 76

STREET



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: _____ 64000290