

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION F-2
294 Washington Street Boston MA 02108

Area	Form no.
A	8



Reading

293 Haverhill Street

Local Name Battell House

Original Dwelling

Present Dwelling

Ownership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization

Public

Original owner Battell

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1806

Source Chronicle

Style Federal

Architect n/a

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings Shed

Major alterations (with dates) Ell to east c. 1825, rear extension, 1950's

Moved no Date

Approx. acreage Six acres

Setting Faces south perpendicular to road on a slight rise.

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Reading Historical Commission

Date November 1980

Date 6-82

UTM: 19/328520/4711550

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Except for its doorway surround, this is a good example of Federal building in Reading, which was conservative and used restrained architectural detail. The small second-floor windows almost touch the plate; the eaves are framed without gable returns. As is often the case with Georgian-Federal houses whose roofs were framed thusly, there is a narrow molded cornice strip on the front elevation only. The doorway surround appears to feature its old fluted pilasters and full-length sidelights; the entablature is of recent date. Differences in the sizes of the interior chimneys and the styles of interior paneling may indicate that the house was originally only three bays long, but more research needs to be done to determine this.

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

This land was once part of the Symonds property and through marriage became under Battell ownership. The obituary of Almina Battell in 1888 states that she was born in the house in 1807.

Charles P. Battell enlisted in Captain Josiah Coburn's locally raised company for Civil War service in 1862. The company returned home in 1863 having lost eleven men. Battell reenlisted for three years, only to be wounded in 1865 at Petersburg, Virginia, with the loss of his left leg.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1830 map yes
1854 map P. P. Battell (Phineas P.) (actually owned by his wife)
1875 map Mrs. Battell
1889 map Mrs. Battell est.

Reading Chronicle, Feb. 4, 1888.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: A-8
Property Name: 293 Haverhill St.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) for its role as an early farm homestead; (2) for its connection with Civil War veteran Charles P. Battell; and (3) as a good example of vernacular Federal architecture. 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 6/1/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Determined Eligible Date/Signature

11. Pratt, Joseph L., House **Substantive Review**
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 2/5/85

Attest

12. Bancroft, Joseph, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7-19-84

Attest

13. Bancroft, Samuel, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7-19-84

Attest

14. Bancroft, Wendell, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7-19-84

Attest

15. Bassett, Edwin, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7-19-84

Attest

16. Batchelder, Alden, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7/19/84

Attest

17. Batchelder, George, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7/19/84

Attest

18. Batchelder House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7/19/84

Attest

19. Batchelder, Nathaniel, House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7/19/84

Attest

20. Battell House Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Wm. W. Byrd 7/19/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Battell 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
Entered in the RETURN
National Register REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ 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 | ☐ 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

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: _____



Battle Hill
Reading MRA, Ma

A-X

29³~~X~~ Naverhill St.

F-24

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290