

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION F-8
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Reading

456 Haverhill Street

Name Pratt HouseOriginal DwellingPresent Dwelling

Property: ☒ Private individual
Private organization

Public

Original owner Samuel Pratt

Description:

Date c. 1809

Source Roof trees, Genealogical history
Federal

Style

Architect n/aExterior wall fabric ClapboardsOutbuildings Barn, summer house

Major alterations (with dates)

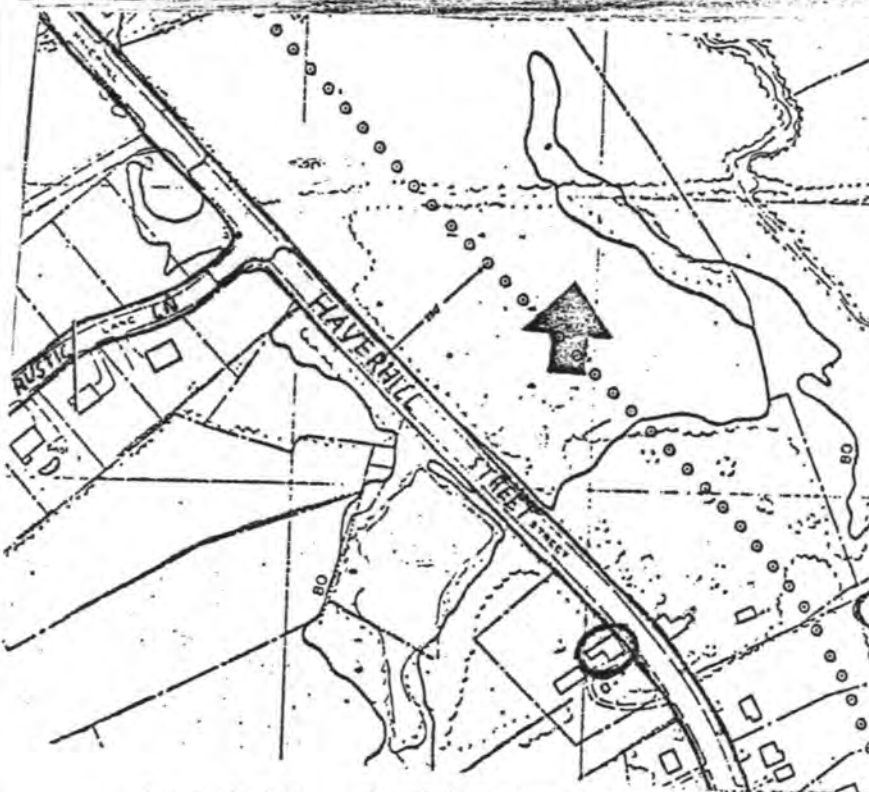
Sash replaced (c. 1870)Moved no DateApprox. acreage 1.027 acres

Setting Faces south perpendicular
to road; well in yard across from
house.

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

REVISED

UTM: 19/328240/4712320

Date 6/82 (Staple additional sheets here)

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

This is a good example of the vernacular Georgian-Federal building tradition in Reading. It is a severe structure, only one room deep; it has a tall narrow door with simple surround and a high entablature. A thin molded cornice piece does not extend to the wide cornerboards. Small second-floor windows are set well below the plate.

An extension, or ell of 2 stories has a shed roof, sometimes called "English Gable", commonly seen in Reading.

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

This house was one of a group of Pratt family houses which gave the name "Pratt Row" to the area in the 19th century. Samuel Pratt, who owned this house before 1809 was a blacksmith, as was his son, Joseph L. Pratt, who owned the property in 1835. Joseph began the manufacture of shoes in 1834. He was one of the first men in town to use a stitching machine for this purpose. He is said to have sometimes paid his workers in groceries instead of cash. He later dealt in lamps and glassware. He served as selectman in 1863-5; 1874 and 1882-96.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1830 map (Benjamin S. and Hannah (Weston) Pratt)
1854 map Hannah Pratt
1875 map J. L. Pratt (Joseph)
Bishop, Rooftrees, Chapter 46

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: A-2
Property Name: 456 Haverhill St.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) for its role in the mode of development formed in this area by the Pratt family; (2) for its connection with Joseph Pratt, an innovative shoemaker; and (3) as a good example of vernacular Georgian-Federal 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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 6/14/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 849

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Reading Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Pratt 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
Entered in the
National Register
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: _____



Pratt House
Reading MRT, Ma

456 Haverhill St.

F-8a

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290