

FORM B - BUILDING

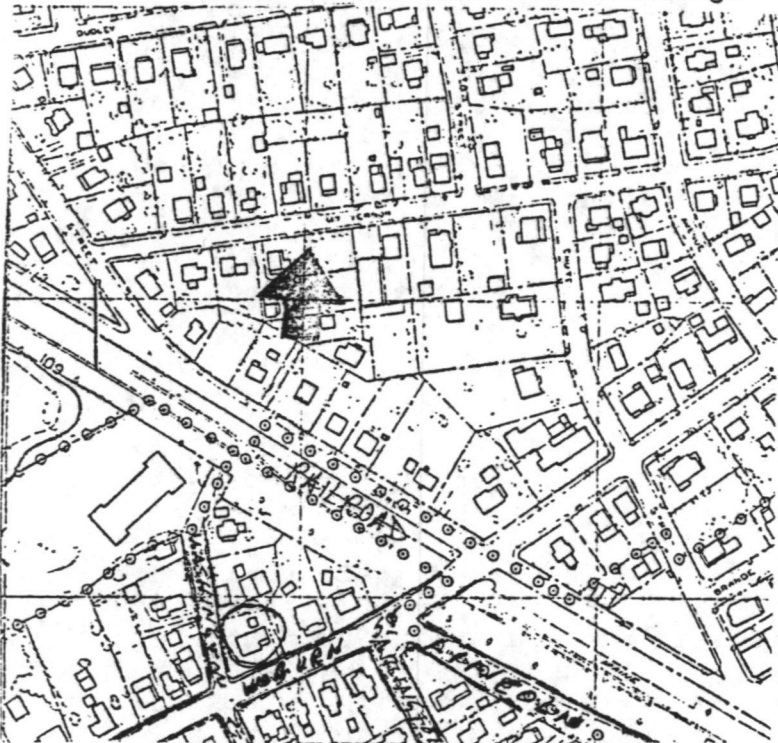
Area <u>C</u>	Form no. <u>118</u>
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Reading
 Address 20 Washington Street
 Historic Name Wendell Bancroft House
 Original Dwelling
 Present Dwelling
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner Wendell Bancroft

location in relation to nearest
cross streets and other buildings



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

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1867-1870
 Source Valuation books
 Style Gothic Revival
 Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Wood clapboard
 Outbuildings Two carpenter shops and one barn, on adjacent lot
 Major alterations (with dates) Roof cresting removed
 Moved no Date _____
 Approx. acreage 8,450 sq. ft.
 Setting Faces west on corner of Washington and Woburn Streets

REVISED

Date 6/82

UTM: 19/326620/4709700

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is one of the few high-style Gothic Revival houses in Reading, which did not seem to embrace this style for its residences, though it was more acceptable for churches. The house inventoried here is a two and one-half story, three-bay rectangular house with a hip-ped roof. The west facade roofline is broken by steeply pitched transverse gables carrying bargeboards with trefoil motif. The south facade dormers have lancet windows. This is the basic house form which grew out of the Greek Revival vernacular practice and was developed in the Italianate period. It continued to be used 'til the 20th century.

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

Wendell Bancroft owned a small house on Washington Street (which is still standing at the rear of the present property), and the old Jaquith house facing Woburn Street (now demolished), in 1860. By 1870, he seems to have built the present house on the same property as the old Jaquith house, but facing Washington Street.

Bancroft was one of Reading's leading businessmen. He helped to found the First National Bank of Reading, which opened in 1891 in the old Bank Building at Main and Pleasant Streets. It moved to the Masonic Block (corner of Main and Haven Streets) when the building opened in 1893. He was also an officer of the Mechanics Savings Bank in the same rooms. He was a builder and contractor, and formed a partnership with Temple, with whom he developed much real property. His warehouse was on Washington Street, and he had a coal and lumber yard on High Street. In 1894 he was a director of the Reading Cooperative Bank and the Savings Bank.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1765 map	Captain Parker (Jaquith house)	(not this house)
1854 map	S. Carter (Jaquith house) (Samuel)	1860 Valuation book
1875 map	W. Bancroft & Shop	1865 Census
Eaton, <u>Memorial Volume</u> , pp. 155 & 237		1870 Valuation book
Wadlin, <u>Concerning the Past</u> , Chapter XXIX		1889 map Wendell Bancroft

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: C-119
Property Name: 20 Washington St.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

This property is significant (1) for its connection with prominent local businessman Wendell Bancroft; and (2) as one of Reading's few Gothic Revival residences. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and meets Criteria 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 2 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Determined Eligible Date/Signature

Result

- 11. Pratt, Joseph L., House **Substantive Review** Keeper *Kevin M. Brugel 2/5/75*
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION Attest _____
- 12. Bancroft, Joseph, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7-19-84*
National Register Attest _____
- 13. Bancroft, Samuel, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7-19-84*
National Register Attest _____
- 14. Bancroft, Wendell, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7-19-84*
National Register Attest _____
- 15. Bassett, Edwin, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7-19-84*
National Register Attest _____
- 16. Batchelder, Alden, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7/19/84*
National Register Attest _____
- 17. Batchelder, George, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7/19/84*
National Register Attest _____
- 18. Batchelder House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7/19/84*
National Register Attest _____
- 19. Batchelder, Nathaniel, House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7/19/84*
National Register Attest _____
- 20. Battell House Entered in the Keeper *Delores Byers 7/19/84*
National Register Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Bancroft, Wendell, 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: _____

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

Entered in the _____
National Register _____

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

Banoroff, Wendell, 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: _____



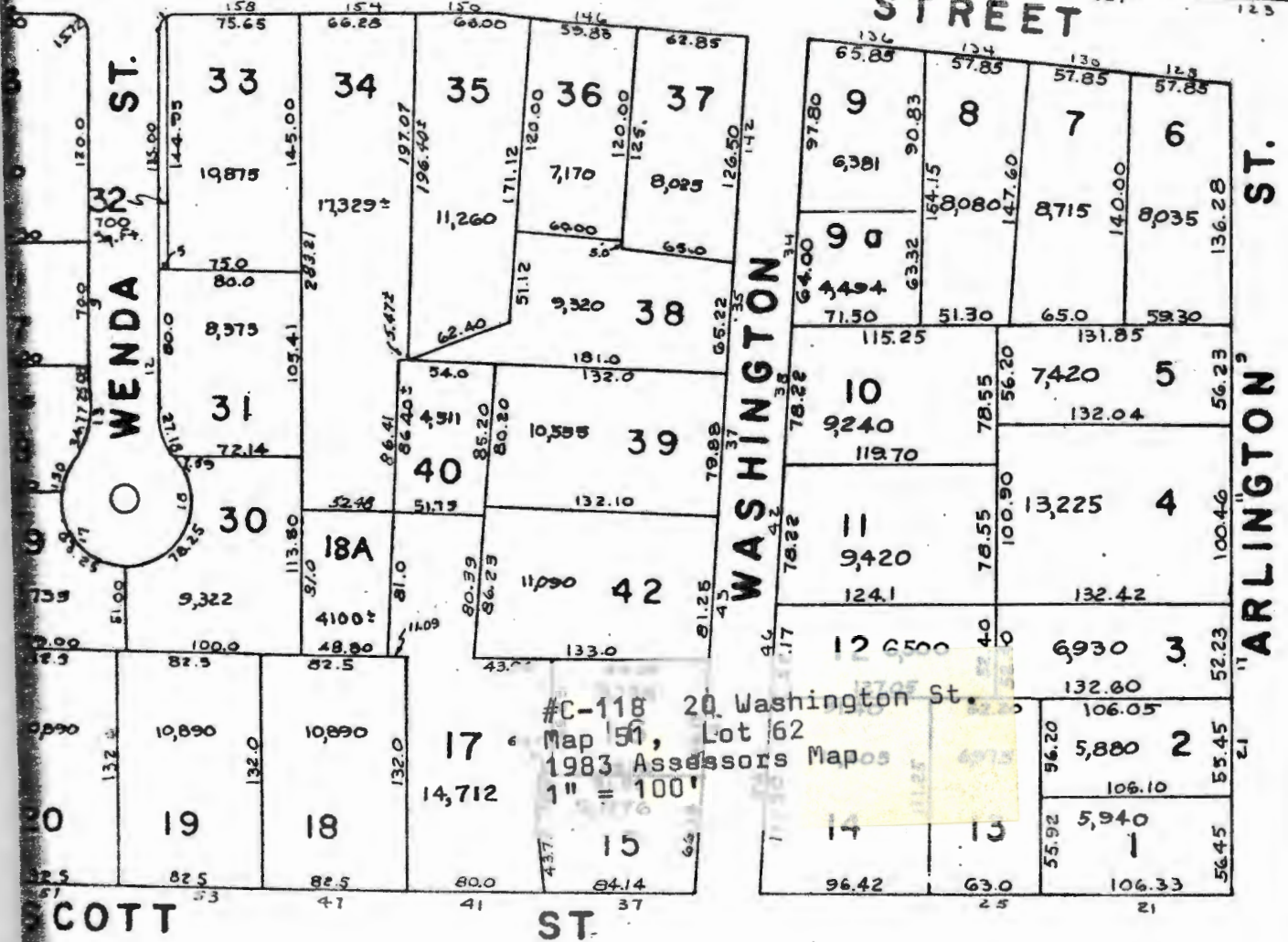
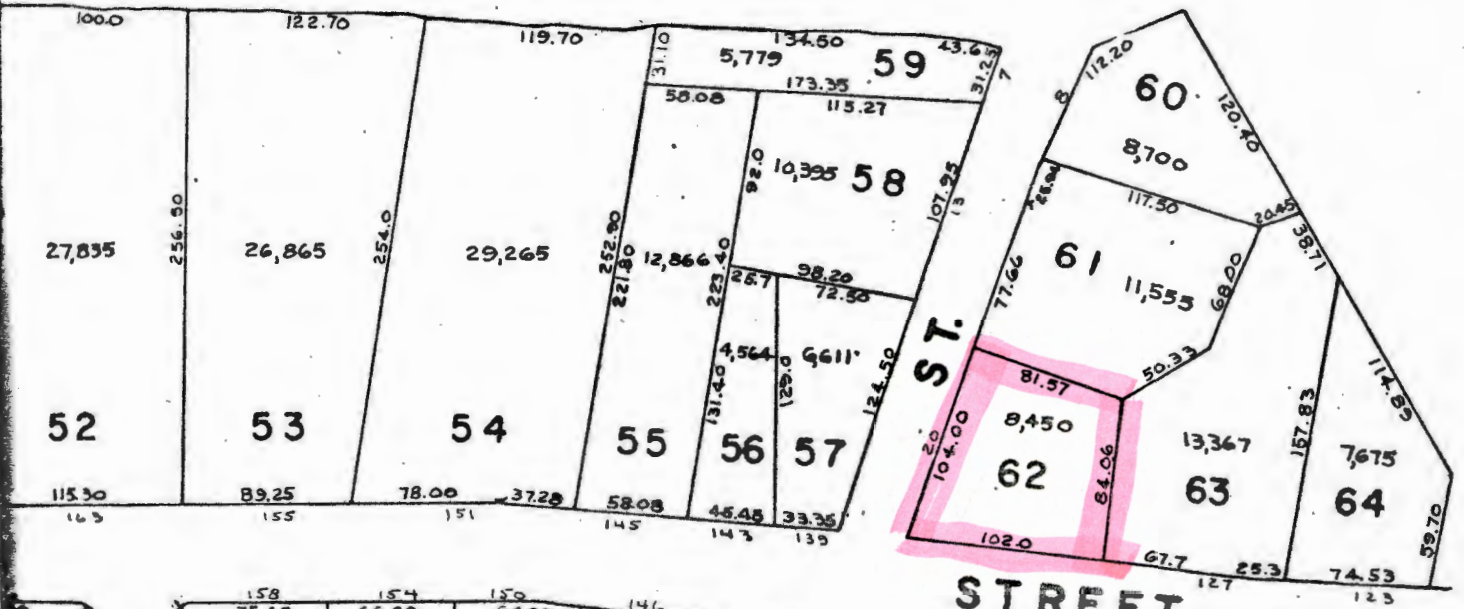
Bancroft, Wendell, House

Reading, MPA, Ma

C-118

20 Washington

K-11



#C-118 20 Washington St.
 Map 51, Lot 62
 1983 Assessors Maps
 1" = 100'

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290