

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Reading

456 Haverhill Street

Name Pratt House

Original Dwelling

Present Dwelling

Property: Private individual
Private organization

Public

Original owner Samuel Pratt

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1809

Source Rooftrees, Genealogical history

Style Federal

Architect n/a

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings Barn, summer house

Major alterations (with dates)

Sash replaced (c. 1870)

Moved NO Date

Approx. acreage 1.027 acres

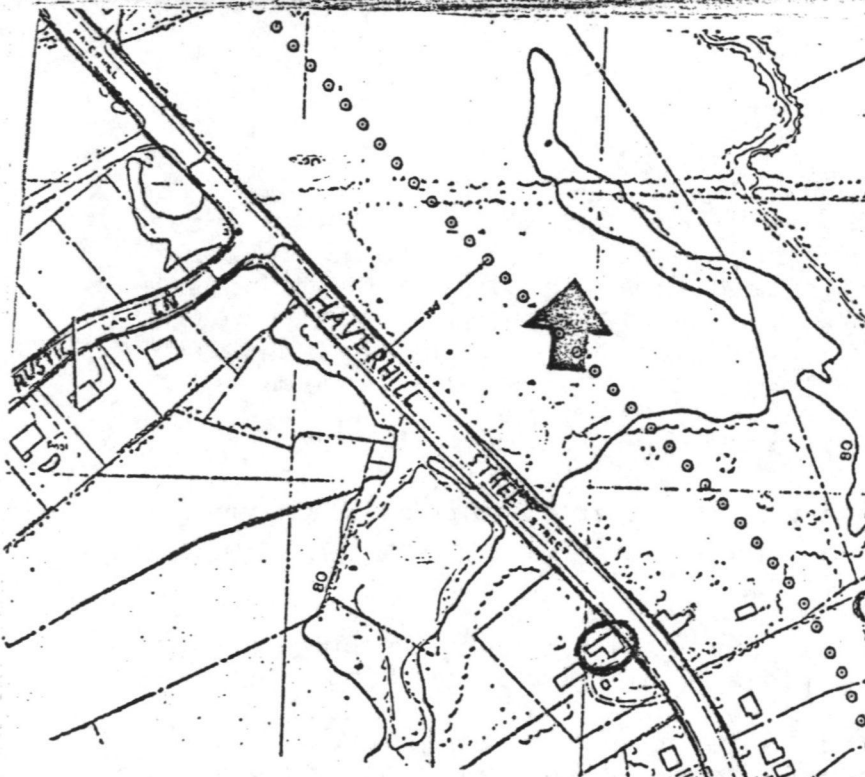
Setting Faces south perpendicular to road; well in yard across from house.

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-3
Property Name: 456 Maverhill 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 Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 6/14/84
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 Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
72. Parker, William, House	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
73. Pierce House	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
74. Pierce Organ Pipe Factory	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
75. Pratt House	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
76. Pratt, Stillman, House	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
77. Reading Municipal Building	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
78. Reading Municipal Light and Power Station	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
79. Roberts House	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 7-19-84 Attest _____
80. Rowhouses at 256-274 Haven Street	Entered in the National Register Keeper <i>for</i>	<i>Melrose Byers</i> 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
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- 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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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

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

Pratt House (Reading M.R.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: _____



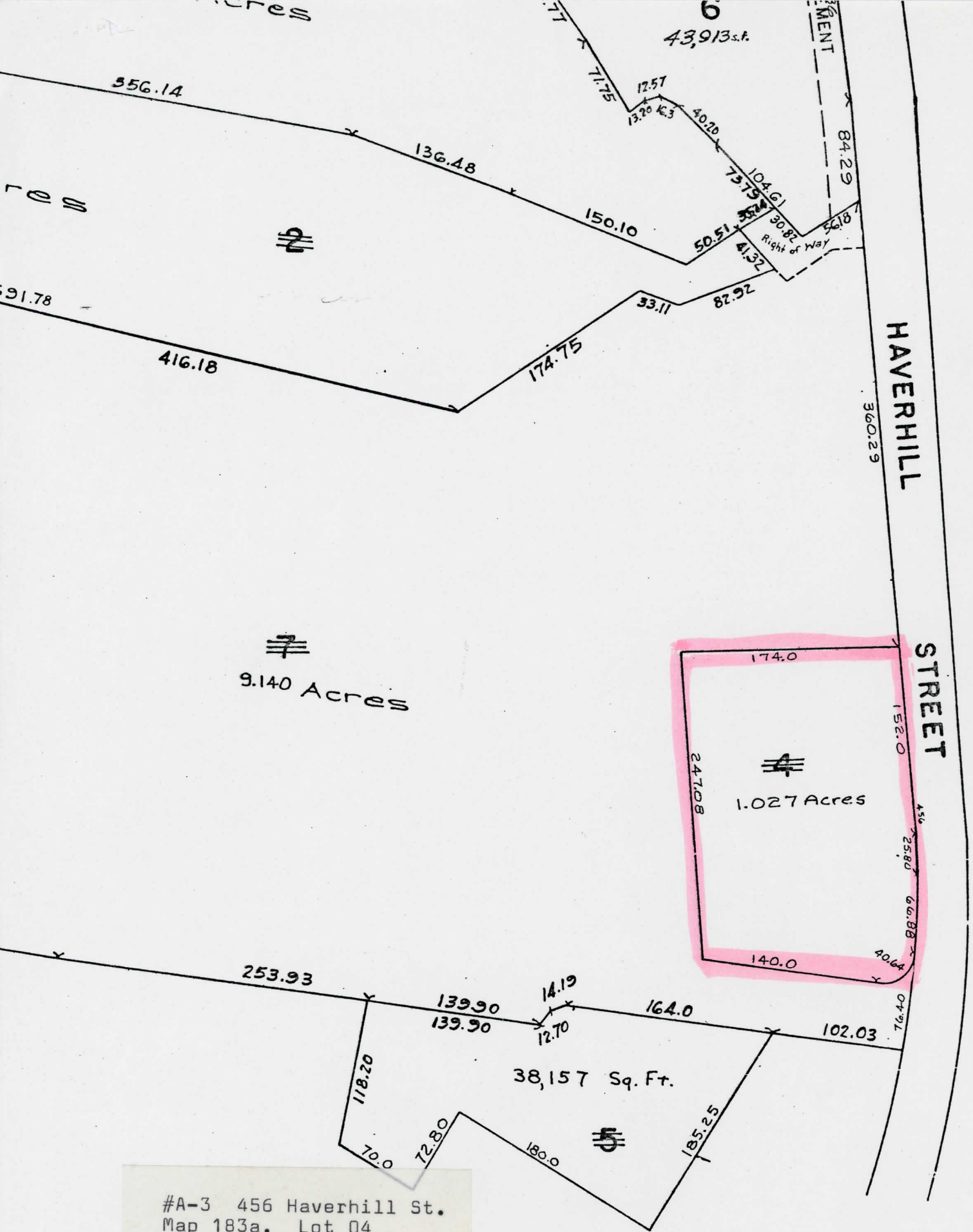
Pratt House

Reading MRT, Ma

456

Haverhill St.

F-8a



#A-3 456 Haverhill St.
 Map 183a, Lot 04
 1983 Assessors Map
 1" = 100' LAT 166

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290