

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

16/31	Reading		362
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Reading

Place: (neighborhood or village)

Photograph



Address: 14 Echo Avenue

Historic Name: George E. Studley House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1913

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Bungalow

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: rubble

Wall/Trim: wood shingle, wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (with dates):

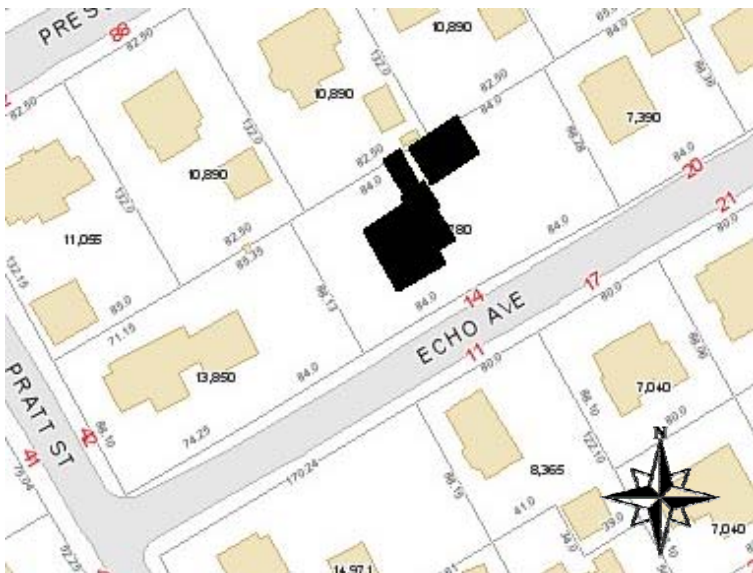
Condition: good

Moved: no | x | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 0.34 acre

Setting: mixed 20th century neighborhood

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Reading Historical Commission

Date (month / year): December 2009

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

READING

14 Echo Avenue

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The house at 14 Echo Avenue is a variation on the Bungalow style, set on a rubble foundation and sheathed in wood shingles with vertical stickwork in the front gable. This design differs from the typical Bungalow design in that the entrance porch is not contained under the main roof but is a separate, off-center, cross-gabled section projecting from the side-gabled main house. Similarly, the house lacks the front shed or gable dormer which is common to the house form. The projecting eaves display a wide overhang. There are no false rafter ends or knee braces but the rakings on the gables are notched. The front porch displays Doric columns resting on a shingled wall. The front door has 5 x 2 upper lights and is flanked by side panels with 2 x 2 upper lights. Windows on the façade consist of two tripartite sets consisting of a central 15/1 window flanked by 9/1 sash. There is a smaller tripartite set in the front gable and individual windows on the lesser elevations. There is a shed-roofed bay window on the west wall from which rises an exterior brick chimney.

To the east of the house is a detached gablefront garage constructed of rusticated concrete block with double doors on the gablefront.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to town water records, this house (originally 4 Echo Avenue) was constructed for George E. Studley. The water was turned on April 28, 1913. The 1915 directory indicates that Studley was a clerk. He lived here with his wife Eleanora but by 1919 had moved from town.

The next owner was T. Frederick Martin who lived here with his wife Isabelle as early as 1919. He worked as an estimator in Boston. The 1920 Census indicates that he was then 74 years old. By 1931 Mrs. L. Mabel Martin, a bookkeeper, was living here with her husband Henry who was a salesman. The couple was still here in 1964. The house was occupied briefly by James and Pauline Jillson in the late 1960s and early 1970s. It has been owned by the Hoyt family since 1974.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Directories, various years.

Reading 350th Book Committee. *At Wood End – Reading, Massachusetts 1644-1994, A Pictorial History*, 1994.

Town of Reading. *List of Persons Twenty Years of Age and Over*. Compiled by the Board of Registrars, Reading, Massachusetts, 1907-1979. (No women listed until 1924).

Town of Reading. *Valuation of Real and Personal Estates*, various dates.

Town of Reading, Water Department Records, 1891-present.

U.S. Census, 1920, 1930.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Community Property Address
READING 14 ECHO AVENUE

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible Eligible **only** in a historic district
 Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

Criteria: **A** **B** **C** **D**

Criteria Considerations: **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G**

Statement of Significance by Lisa Mausolf

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

Constructed in 1913, the house at 14 Echo Avenue is a good example of a variation on the Bungalow style with a mix of wood shingles and rubble, accented by vertical stickwork and notched rakings. The property is potentially eligible for the National Register as an amendment to the 1984 Reading Multiple Resource Area under Criteria A and C, for its associations with the early 20th century development of Reading and as a good example of the Bungalow style.