

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

46/140	Reading		378
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town:** Reading

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)

## Photograph



**Address:** 556 Haverhill Street

**Historic Name:**

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** 1934-5

**Source:** water records, valuation records

**Style/Form:** Cape Cod

**Architect/Builder:** Granger H. Carroll, builder

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: stone

Roof: asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): none

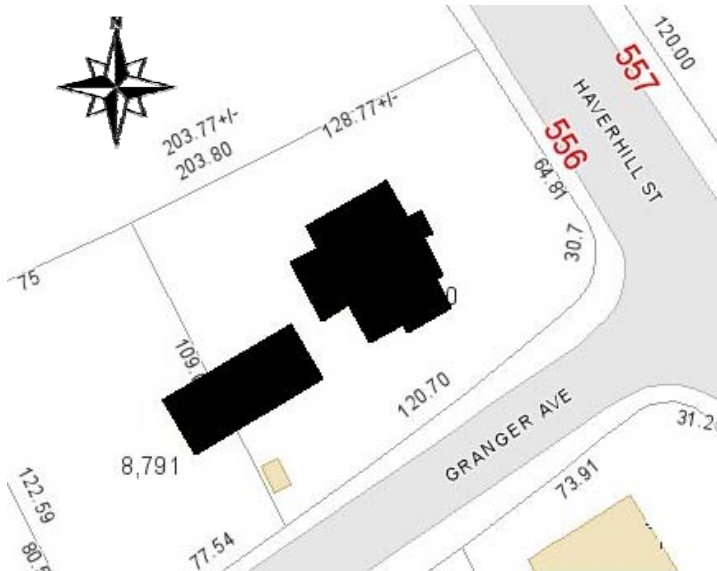
**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no | x | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 0.29 acre

**Setting:** mixed residential along old, heavily traveled road leading to North Reading

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Reading Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): December 2009

**RECEIVED**  
**AUG 20 2010**  
 MASS. HIST. COMM.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

READING

556 Haverhill Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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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.*

Located at the northwest corner of Haverhill Street and Granger Avenue, 556 Haverhill Street is an unusual example of a Cape Cod-style dwelling, constructed of mortared stone with wood shingled end gables and a sun porch attached to the south side. An exterior stone chimney is located on the north gable end. Projecting from the center of the five-bay wide elevation is a gabled entrance porch resting on square posts. The front door is a modern replacement and the windows, including three gable front dormers, contain modern 6/1 sash. Extending behind the main house is a single-story ell.

To the west of the house is a single-story garage/outbuilding constructed of shiplap siding with a garage door facing Granger Avenue.

## 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.*

This house was constructed by Granger Carroll in 1934-5. Town water records indicate that the water line was installed on November 14, 1934. Valuation records as of January 1, 1935 put the value of the property at \$900 although by the end of the year, the value had risen to \$4,700, suggesting completion of the house. The 1937 street listing indicates that Granger Carroll was living at 13 John Street. He was 60 years old and his occupation is listed as carpenter. Granger Avenue was laid out by Carroll in 1937 (Book 6226, Page 156) and he owned and probably built several of the houses on this street as well. It does not appear that Granger Carroll ever lived in the house. Among the other houses Carroll built in Reading is the house at 92 Prescott Street (1924) and 302 Summer Street (1925). He died in 1946 at the age of 69.

By 1940 Paul Carroll, a son, is listed as the owner of the property, although he too was then living at 13 John Street. Paul Carroll began occupying the house with his wife Shirley about 1944. He was then 40 years old and employed as an engineer. At that time the property included a house, shed, garage and henhouse. In 1955 Paul Carroll sold the property to Herbert Towle. Thelma Towle sold it to the present owner, John P. Sullivan, Jr., in 1975.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading 350<sup>th</sup> Book Committee. *At Wood End – Reading, Massachusetts 1644-1994, A Pictorial History*, 1994, p. 81.

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.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Community      Property Address  
READING        556 HAVERHILL STREET

Area(s)      Form No.

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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 1934-5, the house at 556 Haverhill Street is an unusual example of the timeless Cape Cod-style dwelling, conceived in rubble. The house is notable as the work of local builder Granger Carroll. The property is potentially eligible for the National Register for its associations with the early 20<sup>th</sup> century development of Reading and as a good example of a variation on the Cape Cod/Colonial Revival mode.