

FORM B – BUILDING

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

27/185	Reading		389
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Reading

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 50 Locust Street

Historic Name: James and Josephine Cutcliffe House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1914

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Bungalow

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood shingle

Roof: gable roof

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

50 Locust 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.

The house at 50 Locust Street is a simple 1½-story, side-gabled bungalow type dwelling dating to 1914. The front porch is contained under an extension of the front roof slope with no break in slope and a shed dormer containing three small windows rising above the porch. The overhanging eaves display decorative beams under the gables with exposed rafter tails on the lateral eaves. The three-bay porch is supported by Doric columns with a spindle balustrade. Under the porch the center entrance contains a glass-and-vertical panel door that is flanked by partial sidelights set into the adjacent walls. Windows primarily contain double-hung 6/1 sash and are flanked by blinds. There is a shed-roofed bay window and rear entry porch on the east side.

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 the town water records, this house (originally 30 Locust Street) was constructed for Josephine Cutcliffe and the water was turned on May 11, 1914. On November 13, 1914, the *Chronicle* reported the construction of four new homes on Locust Street, including that of the Cutcliffe family, and reported that this "is a growing section" of town. The 1917 directory lists James Cutcliffe, a Boston linotype operator, as living at 30 Locust Street with his wife Josephine. Josephine's 1951 obituary states that she was born in Sweden and that the couple had five sons and two daughters. The property remained in the Cutcliffe family until 1989 when it was sold to Ronald Bond.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Chronicle, November 13, 1914; May 31, 1951.

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
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Community Property Address
READING 50 LOCUST 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 1914, the house at 50 Locust Street is a good example of a side-gabled Bungalow with a mix of wood shingles and rubble and a front porch contained under an extension of the front roof slope. As is typical, the overhanging eaves display decorative beams under the gables with exposed rafter tails on the lateral eaves. 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.