

FORM B – BUILDING

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

20/114	Reading	D	417
--------	---------	---	-----

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

Town: Reading

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 81 Mineral Street

Historic Name: Wilmon B. Chipman House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1930

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Dutch Colonial

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.25 acre

Setting: mixed residential neighborhood

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

81 Mineral Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

417

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 81 Mineral Street is an interesting version of the Dutch Colonial style which found widespread popularity in the 1920s and 1930s. The style is readily identified by the gambrel roof which is oriented with the roof ridge set parallel to the street with long shed dormers on the front and rear slopes. However, this house incorporates several features not seen on most Dutch Colonials including a three bay façade with sidehall entrance. The building is set on a concrete foundation and the exterior is sheathed in wood clapboards with paneled pilasters (added?) at the ends of the building and dormers. The four-panel front door includes an inset lunette. It is sheltered by a gable porch with curved underside, supported by Doric columns with pilasters. Windows display molded surrounds and contain paired sash with four vertical panes in the upper sash and a single sash below. Projecting from the west end of the house is a single-story sunroom.

To the northwest of the house is a single-car garage constructed of rusticated concrete blocks and capped by a hipped roof with a front overhang supported by two Doric columns resting on fieldstone bases.

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 local water records, this house (originally 45 Mineral Street) was constructed in 1930. The original owner was Wilmon B. Chipman, who attended Harvard College and was manager of the advertising order department of the Boston Herald Traveler newspaper. He lived here with his wife Catherine. Wilmon died in 1943; the house was owned by Wilmon Chipman, Jr. until 1974.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Chronicle, Dec. 31, 1943.

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, 1930.

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

Community Property Address
READING 81 MINERAL STREET

Area(s) Form No.

	417
--	-----

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 1930, the house at 81 Mineral Street is a modest but unusual variation on the Dutch Colonial style which found great popularity nationwide in the 1920s and 1930s. In contrast to most Dutch Colonials, the house displays a three bay façade with sidehall entrance. It is notable for its original 4/1 windows and distinctive hip-roofed garage constructed of rusticated concrete blocks with Doric front columns. The property is potentially eligible for the National Register for its associations with the early 20th century development of Reading and as a good example of a variation on the Dutch Colonial style.