

FORM B – BUILDING

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

15/59	Reading		425
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Reading

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 19 Perkins Avenue
Historic Name: George H. Clough House

Uses: Present: residential
 Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1913

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Craftsman Colonial

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick
 Wall/Trim: weatherboard
 Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
 garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

1972 – convert porch to family room

Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.60 acre

Setting: mixed 20th century residential 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

19 Perkins Avenue

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.

Constructed in 1913, the house at 19 Perkins Avenue is a two-story, hipped roof dwelling displaying the influence of the Craftsman style. Residences of this type were generally symmetrical but here the main house block is three bays wide with a single-story sunroom wing to the south and a two-story, offset wing to the north, fronted by a single-story, enclosed porch. Craftsman elements include the low-hipped roof with hipped dormer on the façade, exposed rafter tails under the roof overhangs and the understated Classically-inspired entrance porch consisting of a pergola supported by Tuscan columns. The house is sheathed in wide clapboards and rests on a brick foundation. Windows include tripartite sets with 8/1 and 4/1 sash as well as individual 8/1 and 6/1 units lighting the sunroom. To the north of the house is a detached garage.

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.

Perkins Avenue was laid out on what had been the Alfred Perkins Estate in 1911. Reading water records indicate that the original owner of this house (originally 8 Perkins Avenue) was George H. Clough and that the water was turned on July 29, 1913. On December 19, 1913 the *Chronicle* reported that George Clough and family were moving from 60 Lowell Street to this newly completed house on the west side of Perkins. The 1930 Census indicates that Clough was then 53 years old and was employed as the manager of a holding company. He lived here with his wife Grace (Parker), mother Zetta and two Irish servants.

George Hatch Clough moved to Reading in 1891 and became a prominent local resident. He was associated for many years with the Russell Company of Boston and was president of the company at the time of his death in 1948. Clough served as a director in the National Shawmut Bank of Boston, Boston Manufacturers Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Co., Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., United Mutual Fire Insurance Co. and several other companies. He was also active in town affairs and served as the first chairman of the Board of Public Works, which he founded.

By 1950 the house was owned by Harry Hutchins, a manufacturer who moved to Reading from Somerville and lived here with Sadie and Elva. After Harry's death, the two women continued to live here into the 1960s. The property was acquired by Dr. David and Patricia Fitzpatrick prior to 1973.

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U.S. Census, 1920-1930.

