

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

20/289	Reading		444
--------	---------	--	-----

**Town:** Reading

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

## Photograph



**Address:** 72 Vine Street

**Historic Name:** Albert Webber House

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** 1921

**Source:** water department records

**Style/Form:** Craftsman

**Architect/Builder:** Albert Webber, carpenter?

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete block

Wall/Trim: wood shingle

Roof: asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
none

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

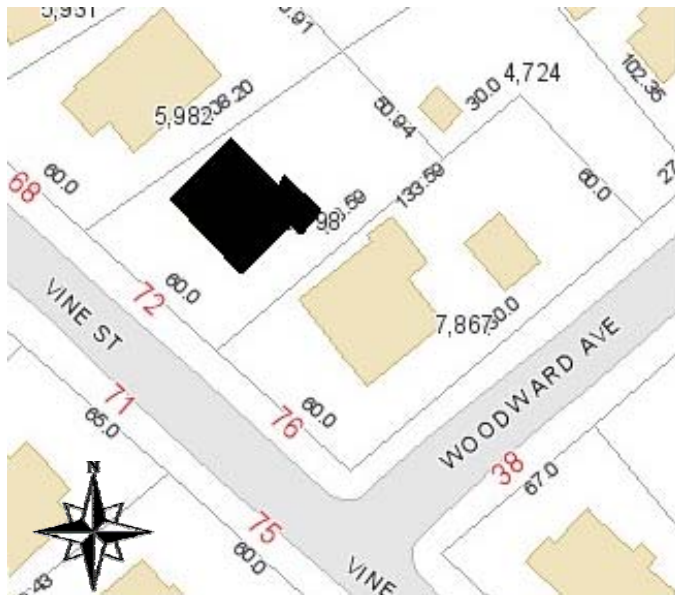
**Condition:** good

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

**Acreage:** 0.13 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

72 Vine Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

444

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 72 Vine Street is a modest example of the Craftsman style consisting of a 1½-story, side-gabled section with a two-story section set at right angles to the east. The house is set on a foundation of rusticated concrete blocks and is sheathed in wood shingles. The gables have projecting eaves with exposed rafter tails on the lateral eaves. The offcenter entrance is marked by a wooden pergola supported by attenuated posts. The front door retains a wooden door with 4 x 2-lights over vertical panels. Windows contain 6/1 sash and include a tripartite set on one side of the entry and a rectangular bay with set of three on the other.

## 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 36 Vine Street) was constructed for (and possibly by) Albert Webber in 1921. The land was lot 12 of the Wedgemere Park subdivision laid out by Henry R. Johnson in 1911. The water was turned on November 19, 1921.

A house carpenter by trade, Webber was born in Canada and immigrated to this country in 1885, at the age of twenty. He lived in the house with his wife Effie into the 1940s. About 1950 Walter and Jeannette O'Connell moved here from Arlington. The house was later occupied by their daughter Carol and her husband Richard Ogden. Richard Ogden served on the Finance Committee and as Selectman in the late 1970s.

Pearl Eastman conveyed the property to the Church of the Open Bible who sold it in 1985.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Directories, various years.

Reading 350<sup>th</sup> 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 Records, 1891-present.

U.S. Census, 1900-1930.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Community      Property Address  
READING        72 VINE STREET

Area(s)      Form No.

	444
--	-----

## 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 1921, the house at 72 Vine Street is of interest as an unusual, modest variation on the Craftsman house, combining a 2 ½-story, side-gabled form with the contrasting wood shingles and rubble, jigsawn braces and exposed rafter tails that are common to the style. 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 20<sup>th</sup> century development of Reading and as a good example of the Craftsman style.