

FORM F - STRUCTURE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ^{XXXII 19}
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>D</u>	Form no. <u>206</u>
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1. Town Reading
Address Auburn and Beacon Streets
Name Reading Standpipe
Present use Water Reservoir
Present owner Town of Reading

3. Type of structure (check one)

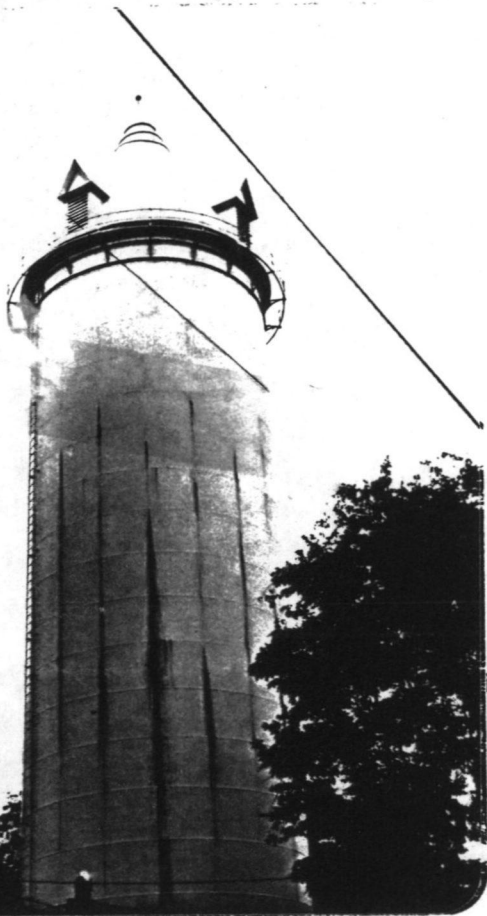
bridge	_____	pound	_____
canal	_____	powder house	_____
dam	_____	street	_____
fort	_____	tower	_____
gate	_____	tunnel	_____
kiln	_____	wall	_____
lighthouse	_____	windmill	_____
other	<u>Water Standpipe</u>		

5. Description

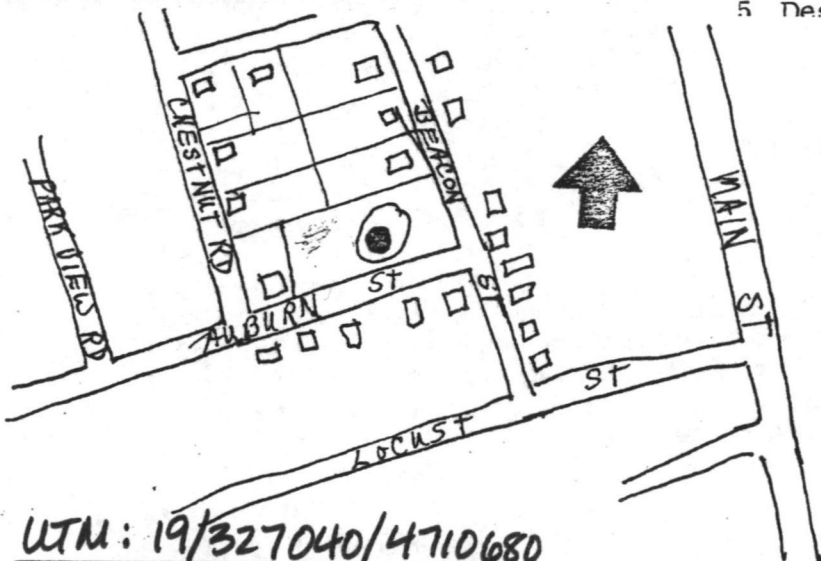
1890-91
Owner Reading Board of Public Works
Construction material Boiler plate Wrought iron/steel
Dimensions 138' high x 30' diameter
Location On hilltop in residential area.
Condition Good

6. Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates
Organization Reading Historical Comm.
Date November 11, 1980

Date 6/82



Location in buildings, indicate



UTM: 19/327040/4710680

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

Acreage: approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre (over)

7. Original owner (if known) Town of Reading
Original use Water Reservoir
Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Historical significance.

Due to the chronic shortage of water for firefighting purposes, as well as the increased demand for water by a growing population, the town of Reading undertook in 1883 to provide a public water system. In 1885 a private corporation, the Reading Water Company, was chartered to provide this service. Study committees constituted by the town, however, recommended that the town take over this responsibility, and the issue was settled by the General Court in favor of the town in 1889. A Board of Water Commissioners composed of Lewis Bancroft, George Abbott, and Edward Nichols was elected.

The water system of 20.5 miles of pipes, 111 hydrants, a steam-powered pumping station, and the standpipe were constructed in 1890-91 at a total cost of \$185,331.75. Water was from wells above the Lobs Pound mill dam. In 1894, it was found necessary to remove the mill dam from the Ipswich River, and Reading purchased the ancient mill rights of Lob's Pound mill to assure its water supply.

Aside from its importance to the town, which had been devastated by fires with some frequency, the standpipe today has considerable significance as a visual landmark, standing on a hill, visible from many points and resembling a medieval tower in its design.

9. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

Eaton, Memorial Volume, p. 337, photo
The Reading Board of Public Works
1891/2 Town Report, p. 97 (for the year ending, Feb. 1, 1892)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: D-206
Property Name: Reading Standpipe	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Reading Standpipe is significant (1) as part of the town's first water system (1890-91) ; (2) for its commanding presence as a visual landmark on the Reading skyline; and (3) for its Medieval-tower-like design. It retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and meets Criteria A and C of the National Register.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Reading Standpipe (Reading MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. JUN 4 1984

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 7/5/84 - 7/19/84

Action: ACCEPT

RETURN 7-19-84

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

Reading Stamps
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

9. Major Bibliographical References

X **10. Geographical Data**

✓ Acreage of nominated property _____ *Please provide acreage.*
Quadrangle name _____
UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *W. Byers* Date 7/19/84 Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 6/4/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State MASSACHUSETTS

Conn Paul Douglas 8/19/84

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Review

1. Ace Art Company

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

2. Common Historic District

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

3. Harnden-Browne House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

Review

4. Haverhill Street Milestone

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

5. Kemp Place

Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper

Attest

Melvin Byers 7/19/84

6. Kemp Barn

Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper

Attest

Melvin Byers 7/19/84

7. Nichols, Jerry, Tavern

Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper

Attest

Melvin Byers 7/19/84

Review

8. Reading Standpipe

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

Review

9. Smith Shoe Shop

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

Review

10. Woburn Street Historic District

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

Attest

Paul Douglas 2-1-85

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Reading Standpipe (Reading MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

Working No. 6-4-84
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.4.86
Date Due: 2-2-85
Action: ACCEPT 2-7-85
 RETURN
 REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria Accept Acc
Reviewer Wm. [unclear]
Discipline A.H.
Date 2-9-85
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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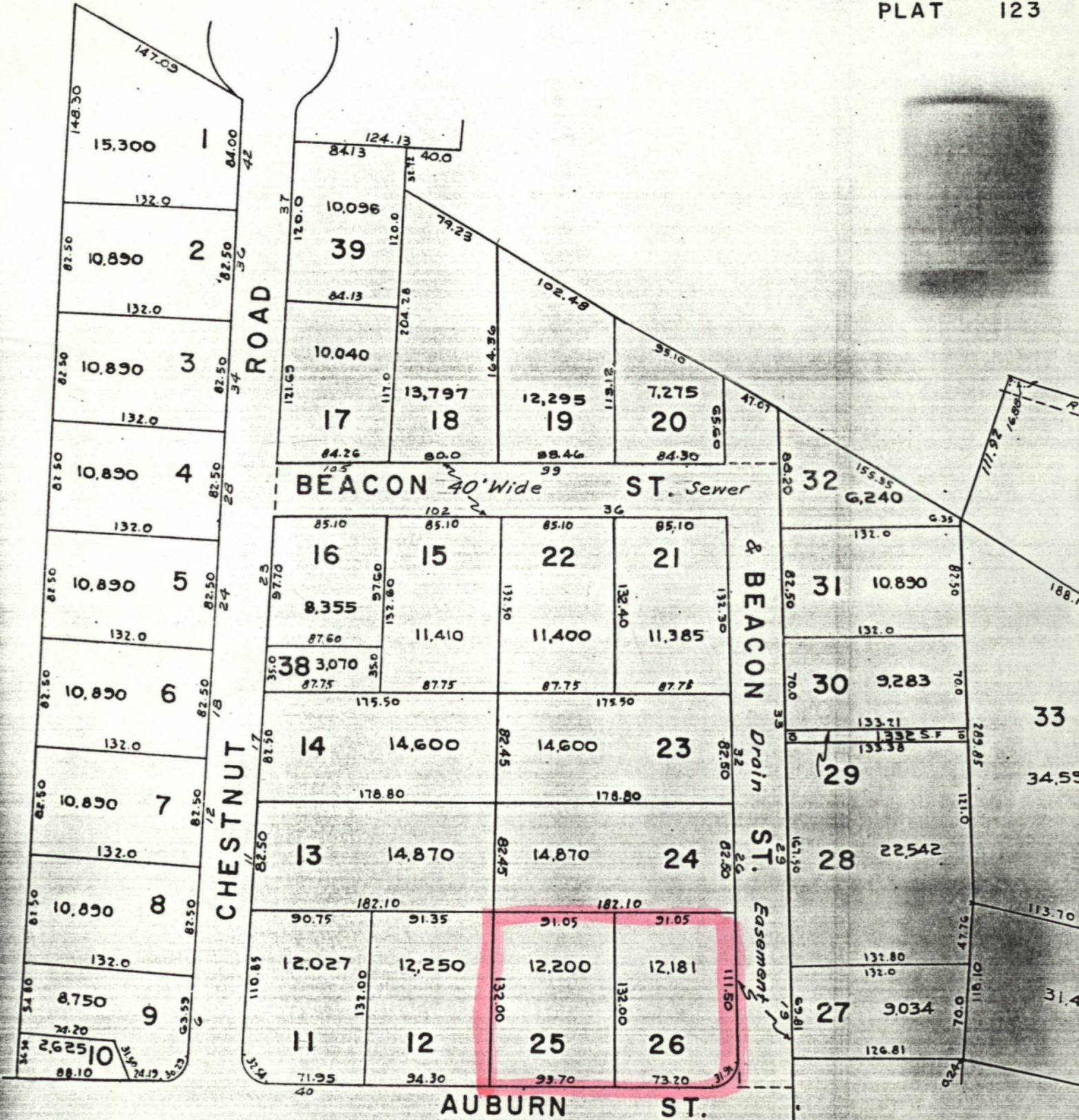


Reading Standard Pipe

Reading MPT Ma

Auburn St.

Water Stand Pipe ~~XXXX~~ 19A



#D-206 Auburn & Beacon Sts.
 Map 114, Lot 25-26
 1983 Assessors map
 1" = 100'

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290