

FORM B – BUILDING

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

15/42	Reading		357
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Reading

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 8 Copeland Avenue

Historic Name: Alfred & Grace Maggi House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1927

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Dutch Colonial

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: brick

Roof: slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.29 acre

Setting: mixed 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

8 Copeland 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.

The house at 8 Copeland Avenue is a good example of the Dutch Colonial style which found great popularity nationwide in the 1920s and 1930s. As is seen in this brick version which is notable for retaining its slate roof, the two-story structure displays gambrel ends with long shed dormers spanning the front and rear roof slopes. Exterior brick chimneys are centered on each of the gambrel ends. Centered on the three-bay façade is a pedimented entrance porch supported by Doric columns. The main entrance is flanked by partial sidelights and on either side of the entrance porch is a set of three 6/1 windows. The second floor façade windows also have multiple panes of glass in the upper sash and a single light sash below – a set of three 4/1 windows at the center and a 6/1 on either end of the dormer. Projecting from the south end of the house is a single-story, flat-roofed sunroom. To the northeast of the house is a brick garage capped by a gable, slate roof with two overhead garage doors facing the street.

The use of brick on Dutch Colonial houses is somewhat less typical – clapboards or wood shingles were the dominant exterior cladding. Another interesting example of a brick Dutch Colonial dwelling in Reading is visible at 98 Howard Street.

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 water department records, this house (originally 4 Copeland Avenue) was constructed for Grace H. Maggi; the water was turned on Nov. 29, 1927. At the time of the 1930 Census, the house was occupied by Alfred Maggi, age 55, and his wife Grace. He was employed as a civil engineer. Before moving to Reading, the couple had lived in Chelsea. The couple was still living here in 1938.

By 1941 the house was occupied by Arthur and Jeannette Lenfest. He worked in advertising. The couple remained here until about 1956. The next owners were June and Richard Gale who owned and occupied the house until 1970 when it was sold to the present owners.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

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 8 COPELAND AVENUE

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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 1927, the house at 8 Copeland Avenue is a good example of the Dutch Colonial style which found great popularity nationwide in the 1920s and 1930s. In this case, the house is notable for its use of brick for the exterior and the slate roof as well as for its matching garage. 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.