

FORM B – BUILDING

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

21/88	Reading	D	361
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Reading

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 22 Dudley Street

Historic Name: Pearl & Mildred Burgess House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1921

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Craftsman Colonial

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation:

Wall/Trim: stucco, wood

Roof: tile, metal

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
historic garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

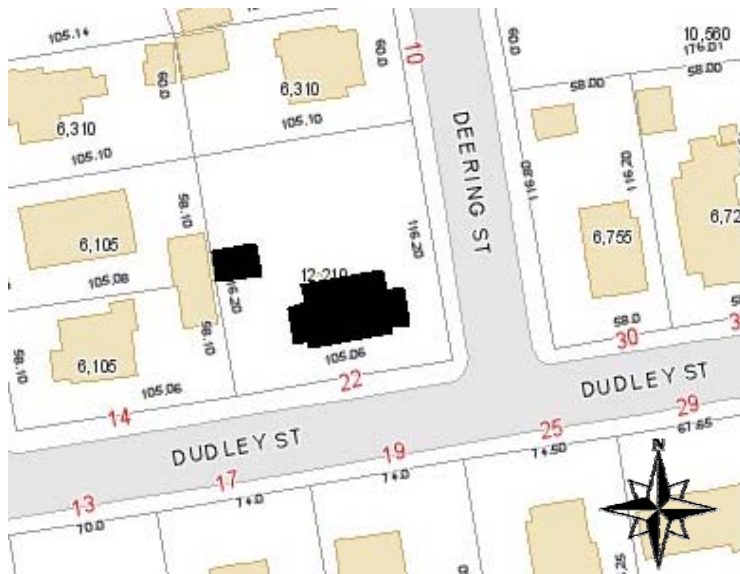
Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.28 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

22 Dudley Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

361

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.

An interesting variation on the Craftsman Colonial mode, 22 Dudley Street is a two-story stuccoed dwelling with a box-like plan, capped by a hip roof sheathed in a distinctive metal tile that reflects the occupation of the original owner. Centered on the three-bay façade is a shallow gabled porch with broken pediment, supported by pairs of square posts. The roof of the entrance is covered in the same material as the main roof. The six-panel front door is capped by a semi-circular fanlight. On either side of the entrance is a pair of 6/1 windows while the upstairs of the façade is punctuated by three individual 6/1 windows. All of the front windows have wooden shutters with cutout designs. On either side of the main house block is a single-story porch. That on the west side is a sunroom now enclosed by casement windows. Offset to the northwest of the house is a detached, single-car garage which is also stuccoed with the same green metal/tile hip roof.

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 6 Dudley Street) was constructed for Pearl Martin Burgess, a native of Reading. The water was turned on May 17, 1921. Pearl Burgess was a sheet metal roofing contractor and lived here with his wife Mildred and son, J. Hamilton Burgess. The family was still here in 1936 but by 1938 the house was vacant. Pearl M. Burgess died May 22, 1946, at which time he was living in Somerville.

By 1941 the house was owned by Robert F. Perry, the principal of the junior high school, and his wife Katherine. Later owners included Robert and Elaine Sullivan.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass. (Plan Book 178, Page 46 – 1909)

Reading Chronicle, May 24, 1946 [obituary of Pearl Burgess].

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.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

READING

22 Dudley Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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

Community Property Address
READING 22 DUDLEY STREET

Area(s) Form No.

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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 1921 for metal roofing contractor Pearl Burgess, the house at 22 Dudley Street is a unique example of a Craftsman Colonial residence displaying a boxy plan, stuccoed exterior, Colonial entrance porch and overhanging hip roof which are characteristic of the style. Of special interest is the unique metal/tile which covers both the main house and accompanying period garage. 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 20th century development of Reading and as a good example of the Craftsman style.