

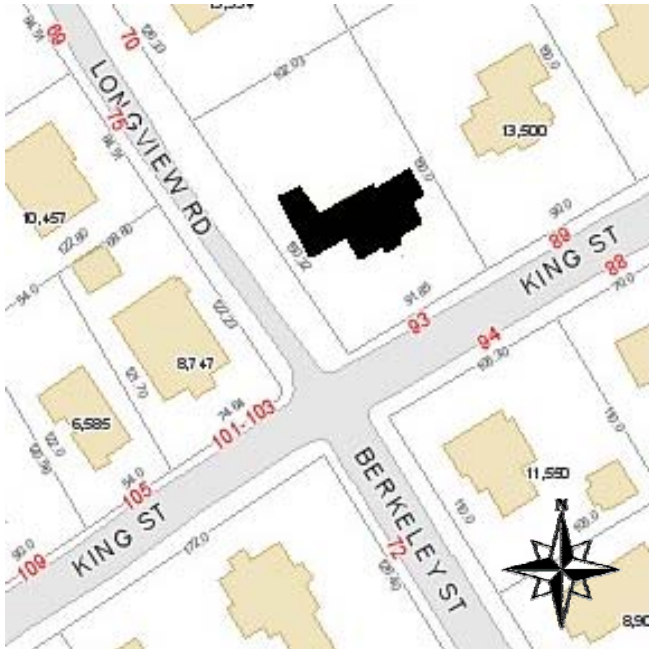
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf
Organization: Reading Historical Commission
Date (month / year): December 2009

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

15/266	Reading		387
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Town: Reading

Place: (neighborhood or village)

Address: 93 King Street

Historic Name: Arthur S. Nesmith House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1936

Source: water department records

Style/Form: Cape Cod

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete block

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (with dates):

Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.33 acre

Setting: 20th century residential neighborhood

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

READING

93 King Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

387

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 93 King Street is a highly-detailed version of the early 20th century Cape Cod house. In this case, the 1½-story, side-gabled structure is clapboarded and has a 1½-story garage wing offset to the northwest. Centered on the five-bay façade is a projecting gabled vestibule which is in turn fronted by a semi-circular archway with latticed sides. The six-panel front door is flanked by tall shutters and capped by transom lights. On either side of the entrance porch are two 6/6 double-hung windows with molded surrounds and wooden blinds. The front slope of the gable roof has twin gable dormers and an offcenter brick chimney rises from the ridge. The garage wing has a single vertical board garage door set into a rounded surround. Adjacent is an arched doorway and 6/6 window with a 6/6 dormer upstairs.

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.

This house was constructed for Arthur S. Nesmith in 1936. The land was Lot B on a Plan of Lots surveyed for Harold V. Palmer in Feb. 1929 (Book 5335, Page 188). Arthur and Jennie Nesmith moved here from 36 Hanscom Avenue. He was then employed as the treasurer of an equity company. Nesmith was a CPA and also owned a Pontiac Dealership for many years. The couple had two sons, Elwyn and Allen. Arthur Nesmith died Sept. 24, 1981.

The property was sold by Elwyn and Marie Nesmith to Charles and Gretchen Latowsky in 1978. The Latowskys continued to own the property until 2002.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Chronicle, Sept. 25, 1981.

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 93 KING STREET

Area(s) Form No.

	387
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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 1936, the house at 93 King Street is a highly-detailed, early 20th century version of the timeless Cape Cod-style dwelling with attached garage wing. The house displays a five-bay façade with a semi-circular archway marking the transomed entrance and gable dormers. 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 Cape Cod/Colonial Revival mode.