

FORM B – BUILDING

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



MA_Chelmsford_BartlettStreet_15_IMG_0195 CHC_05

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.

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

84/343/2

Billerica

018

Town Chelmsford
Place (neighborhood or village) Chelmsford Center

Address 15 Bartlett St.
Historic Name Bartlett House
Uses: Present residence
Original residence
Date of Construction ca 1792-4 probably
Source deeds

Style/Form

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite blocks
Wall/Trim clapboard, butted
Roof slate; ridge side to side

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
carriage shed/garage; left side & rear of house
see continuation sheet

Major Alterations (with dates)

1860s
~~1834-1850~~ front 3 x 2 addition
see continuation sheet

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1.3 A.

Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization for Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (month/year) Sept. 2007

Setting This property faces the rear of the Adams Library. It is located at the intersection of Adams St. & Bartlett St. To the right is Bartlett Park, which was donated in 1962 by a member of the family to the Chelmsford Land Trust. A paved driveway leads from the road up past the left side of the house to the front of the carriage house/garage. See continuation sheet.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The front addition has 2½ stories; 5 x 2 bays. In 1967 there were 19 rooms in the entire house, including the unoccupied attic rooms. 15 rooms are listed with the Town Assessors' records.

The entire house is covered with clapboards, corner boards on each corner, and paired brackets are located below the eaves.

Considered the prettiest feature in the house is the stairway in the front hall of the main house addition.



HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

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.

The exact date of this dwelling is unknown. Bartlett heirs claim that it was built by Dr. Ichabod Gibson of Lunenburg in 1794; this was assumed by family records, not official records. The local history reported that Dr. Gibson commenced practice in 1792 and that he built and occupied the residence. However, it wasn't until 3/9/1798 that he purchased from Jacob Chamberlain Junr the "8 acres, containing dwelling house now occupied by En. Essac Chamberlain", barn and other out buildings. Isaac Chamberlain was Jacob's son; born in 1755, he became a captain during the Revolutionary War. In 1782 he married Betty Bates, and they had a son Isaac, born 1788. Betty died in 1795.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds: 3/9/1798 Bk. 7, pg. 575

Chelmsford Assessors records: Building Inspector records

Street directories

Harriett M. Bartlett letters: including 12/4/1967 (to Margaret Mills)

Marjorie B. Scoboria: 1972 notes

Mrs. Martha Hamilton: undated

History of Chelmsford, MA by Rev. Wilson Waters, 1917

Chelmsford Eagle: Dec. 15, 1883

Obituary: C.E.A. Bartlett

Chelmsford Newsweekly: Feb. 12, 1987

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
CHELMSFORD

Property Address
15 BARTLETT ST.

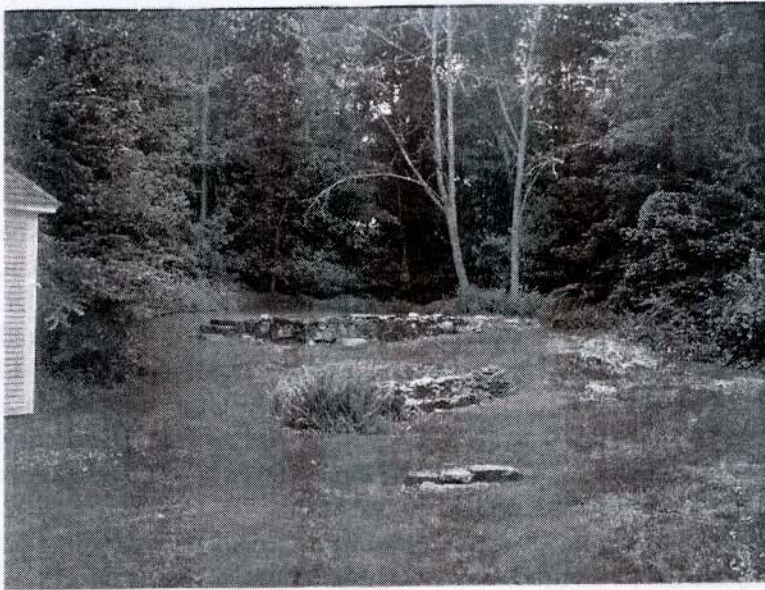
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Area(s) Form No.

June 2007

Setting

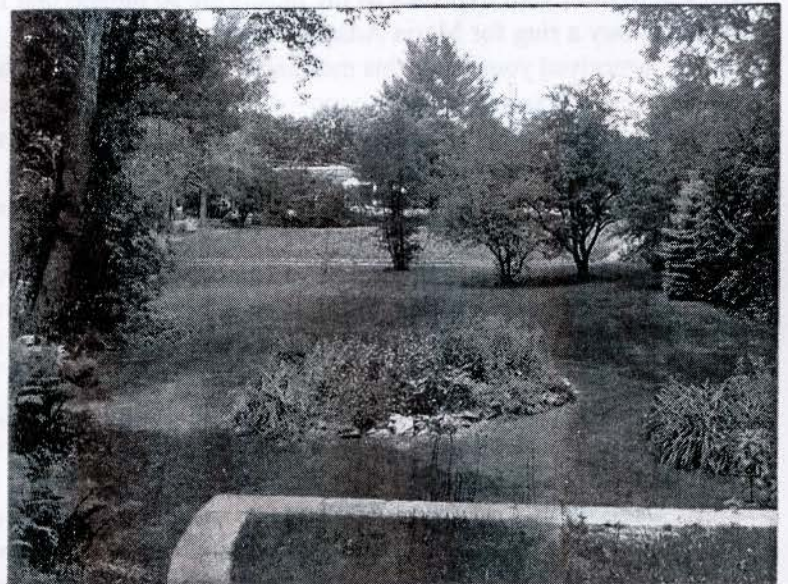
The driveway is bordered on the left by a stone wall. Behind the wall is a high banking covered tall trees and bushes. More large trees and bushes are at the sides and rear of the back lawn, hiding houses on Acton Rd.



*In Back of
The House*



Left of the house



*Bartlett Park in background
Right of the house*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETTown
CHELMSFORDProperty Address
15 BARTLETT ST.MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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Area(s) Form No.

 018**History**

Although apparently in town in 1770 Dr. Ichabod Gibson and his wife Mary probably moved into this house from Lunenburg in 1798. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Gibson also took part in civic affairs. He served 5 years as town moderator, representative 2 years, town clerk 6 years, and as selectman 9 years. Ichabod & Mary had at least one child, Catherine Mary, who held a writing school in the house. Ichabod died of cancer on May 10, 1810. On August 13, 1809 Catherine had married Joel Adams. Joel had graduated from Harvard in 1805, and in 1808 started his practice of law. His office stood between 15 Bartlett St and what later became Jonathan Larcom's house at 15 Adams St. (inv. #201). "He was known as a sagacious counselor and became connected with several financial institutions." In 1843 he purchased what became his homestead at 4 Bartlett St.

Dr. John Call Bartlett was born in Charlestown, Mass., Oct. 5, 1808, and graduated from Bowdoin College, Maine, in 1828. Having decided upon the medical profession, he studied with Dr. Thompson, of Charlestown and attended lectures at Harvard University, graduating in 1831. He then settled in Chelmsford, probably at 15 Bartlett St., where he continued in practice nearly forty-six years. His mother and the mother of Dr. Dalton, another Chelmsford physician, were cousins. These two physicians received their name from Dr. John Call, an eminent physician of Charlestown. Dr. Bartlett entered upon his work with the very best preparatory training. His standard of professional honor was high, and he never neglected a call of duty. Quackery or imposition of any kind gained his decided opposition. However, he had a difficult time starting his practice here, with few patients. Shortly before that time Dr. Bartlett wrote his future wife, Maria Adams. "My business is tolerable. I have three patients and have taken another family from Brother Paul [Dr. Paul Kittredge [20 Chelmsford St.]. I am as well as ever now although I have been obliged to take an emetic in consequence of a slight fall in jumping from my chaise, but do not let this alarm you as I am now in fine health."

In late May 1832 he borrowed \$30 from his father, George. George wrote from Charlestown, "I have not been able to get before this any money since I wrote you, and part of this I have borrowed. I enclose thirty dollars, which you will acknowledge the receipt of by the return mail, that I may feel easy that it reaches you safely, I hope you will be able to find business to meet your expenses as my means are so limited that I find it hard work to get along myself." Perhaps John wanted to buy a ring for Maria Adams, daughter of Joel Adams, who owned the house. On June 9th John's father wrote again, "I received your letter this morning of the 7th instant, with surprise and pleasure. With surprise, as the communication was unexpected to me – and with pleasure, as from your account, your choice has been fixed on a companion for life, who is exactly calculated to render your journey through it, a happy one; and your happiness, and hers, who may be the means of promoting yours, will ever be a matter of the most important concern with your parents. When Miss Adams makes her visit this way, we shall be happy to see her, and to receive her with the deep interest such a dear connection entitles her to."

By early 1834 John, with the help of Isaac Crooker, a housewright, and carpenters, was fixing up the old house. Meanwhile, Maria was visiting family, and he was anxious for her return to Chelmsford. Her mother had "very graciously condescended to say that she had been doing something in way of getting you married..... But I think I never bore a part in a more ridiculous farce." John and Maria were married on Oct 5th 1834.

In 1836 John & Maria's son, Charles Edwin Adams Bartlett, was born at his grandfather's home, at the Fiske House located at 1 Billerica Rd. (Inv. #25), which was an inn known as the Lafayette Tavern. From then until the 1970s members of the Bartlett family continued their residence in 15 Bartlett St., and the street on which it is located was named for the family. Dr. Bartlett's office was what later became a bathroom on the left side of the original house, immediately behind what later became the new addition. Three granite steps led up to the office and can be seen in the foundation of the house. A large sycamore tree stood beside the driveway, and the chain with which he fastened his horse could still be seen embedded in the tree in 1972. "Dr. Bartlett was very active in town affairs and directed the choir at the Unitarian Church" at 2 Westford St. (inv. #213). He served as the 1st president of the Chelmsford Village Improvement Association, which was organized on Nov. 15, 1875. The Chelmsford Eagle, which became an excellent source of historical information, was published by the V.I.A. in 1876, 1877, and 1883. He held the position of president of the board of trustees of Westford Academy for many years.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
CHELMSFORD

Property Address
15 BARTLETT ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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Area(s) Form No.

018

History

During the Civil War weekly meetings of the Soldiers Aid Society were held in homes including that of Mrs. Dr. John Bartlett. Money was collected for the soldiers and hundreds of articles were made, including blankets, shirts, bandages, mittens, quilts, socks, towels, etc.

Dr. and Mrs. Bartlett had 3 sons, the aforementioned C.E.A. Bartlett, George Henry, born 1838, and Joel Adams Bartlett born 1843. Although of somewhat aristocratic bearing he was one of the kindest of neighbors, and a man universally respected for the uprightness of his life. The esteem in which Dr. John Bartlett was held by his medical associates was expressed in a series of resolutions adopted by the Medical Society" after his death on Jan. 13, 1878, aged seventy-two. Maria died in 1882.



Charles E. A. Bartlett lived at 15 Bartlett Street with his wife, Harriet Maria Cooper, whom he had married Sept. 6, 1862, just a week after he was commissioned and mustered into the Army for 9 months. He was a captain in Company K, 6th Regiment Infantry, and by the end of Sept. he was in Virginia. His command was recruited mainly from Chelmsford, Billerica and Dracut and was stationed at Suffolk, Virginia. He returned to 15 Bartlett St. at the end of his enlistment.

He and Maria had 3 sons born to them: Henry, born Mar. 28, 1864, Charles Edward, born Apr. 19, 1868, and Clay Cooper, born Apr. 26, 1877. Interested in civic matters, Capt. Bartlett in 1894 bore the expense of grading the land around the new Adams Library (inv. #224). By 1898/97 Charles E.A. Bartlett had the positions of treasurer since 1863 the B. & L. Railroad, at Union Station, in Boston.



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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	018
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HISTORY

Captain C. E. A. Bartlett was also president & cashier for the St. Johnsbury & Lake Champlain Railroad and affiliated with other railroads. After 10 weeks of illness, he died of diabetes on April 4, 1900, and a special train of 3 cars brought a large party of railroad men to the homestead.

C.E.A. Bartlett's widow, Harriet, spent the fall and winter of 1900/01 in Boston, and her son Charles E. Bartlett and his wife Carrie Proctor spent that winter at the old homestead, 15 Bartlett Street. Charles' mother, Harriet, died on March 11, 1903, and that fall Charles E. & Carrie moved permanently into his parents' house at 15 Bartlett Street, having leased their home at 22 Bartlett Street house (inv. #149). Charles E. was of the firm of Adams & Co, furniture dealers, located at 176 Central St. in Lowell. He was a member of the Chelmsford Troop F cavalry for many years. He served on a 4 man committee to make immediate steps towards establishing a water district in Chelmsford Center. This was done by an act of the Legislature in 1913.

C. E. A.'s brother, Clay, lived with them at 15 Bartlett St. until about 1905, when he, Clay, moved to Canada and then to Richmond, VA, but he and his wife, Ethel, returned to 15 Bartlett St. after his mother died Aug. 21, 1938 at age 69.

Charles E. remained in the house until his own death of a heart attack in Nov. 1945. Clay was employed in whole-sale hardware firm of Baldwin & Robbins of Boston. He died during the mid 1950s Ethel stayed here with "companions" until moving to a nursing home at age 89.



Probably
Ethel Bartlett



1938 Hurricane - elm Tree

In 1970 James & Gertrude Sweeney moved into rooms in the 2nd story and acted as caretakers until 1975, when the Hamiltons purchased the property and moved in with their two children, Kenneth & Kathryn. John was the curator at the Museum of Our Natural Heritage in Lexington, and his wife, Martha, was an interior decorator. His father, Kenneth, resided with them for about 15 years. The house was sold to the present owners in 1999.

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Area(s) Form No.

018

June 2007



Left side of house



Front doorway



Typical granite block foundation
under bay window

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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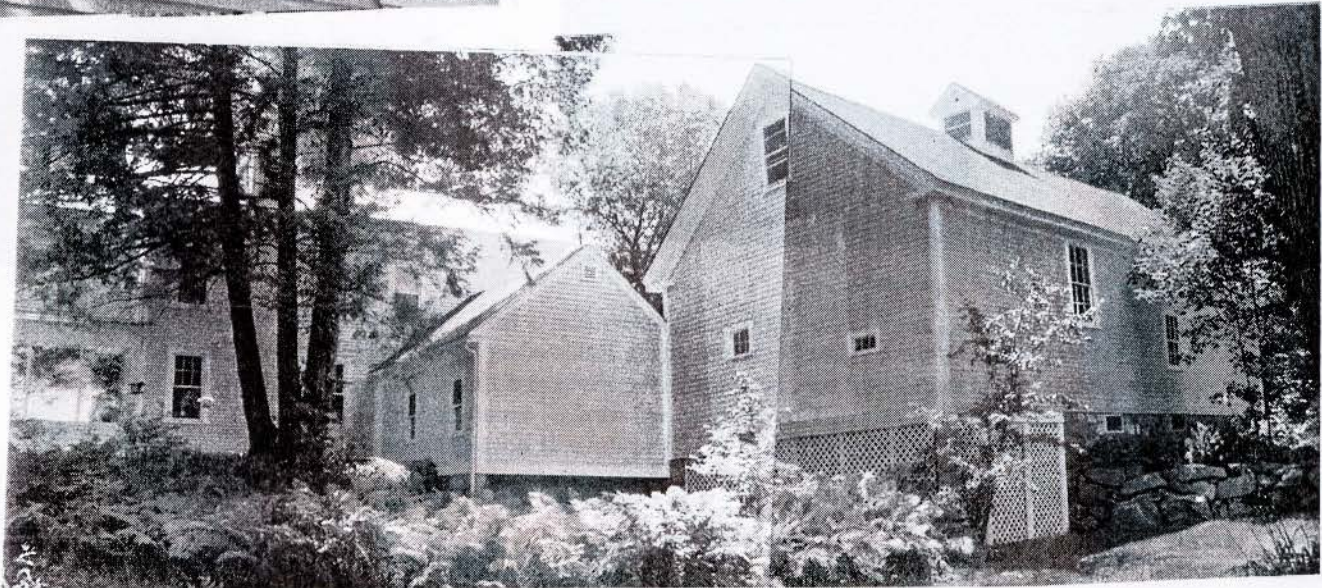
June 2007

Area(s) Form No.
018



Right Side

Right side rear



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

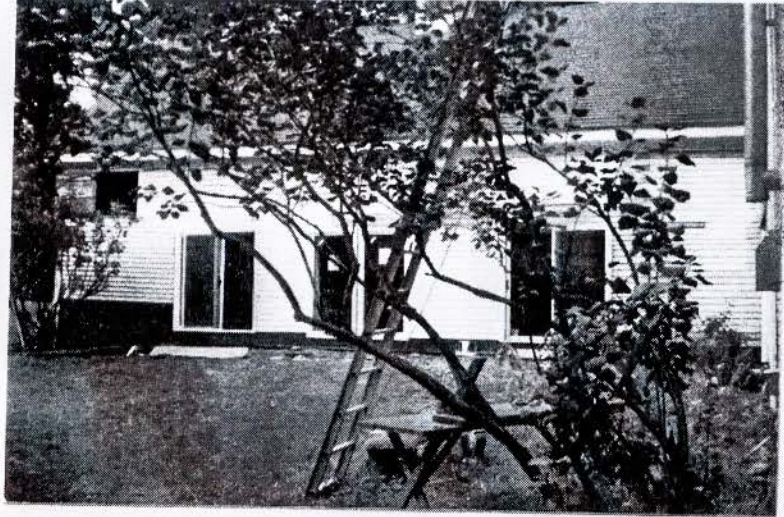
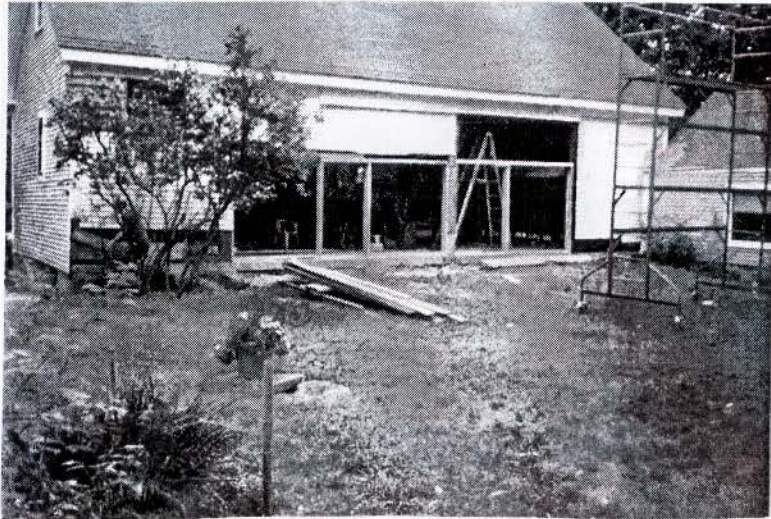
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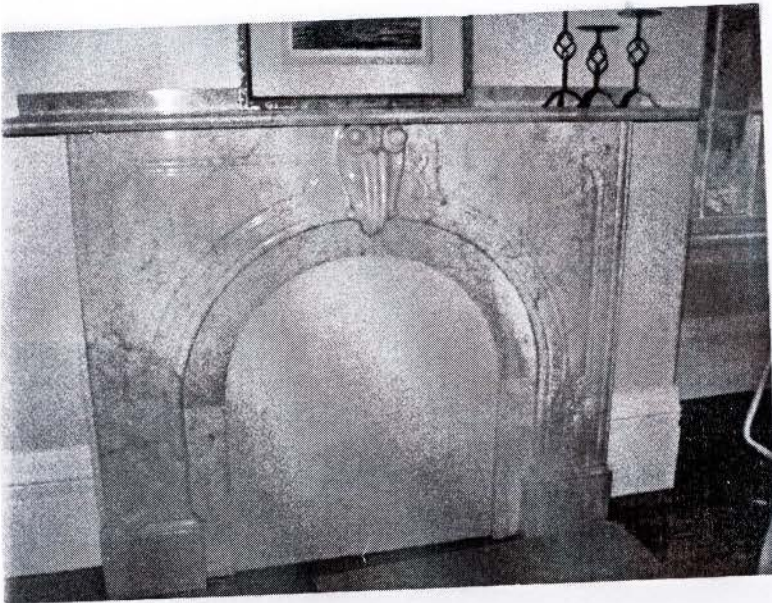
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Area(s) Form No.
 018

1988



Rear LEFT Section



LEFT ROOM



2007
1ST floor
Front
addition

RIGHT ROOM

I believe the mantelpiece in Roberta Lane's lecture [which this resembles] is from the Taylor-Barry House in Kennebunk, ME and was installed in that house sometime in the 1860s when its interior was re-modeled. The arched-opening (or tombstone shape) was very common in the 1850s and 1860s, and typical of the Italianate style, which usually employed rounded-arched door and window openings, and large brackets and cornices (influenced by villas in the Italian countryside). These mantels were often purchased from catalogs.

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Area(s) Form No.

June 2007

018

Carriage House/Garage
Unattached To House



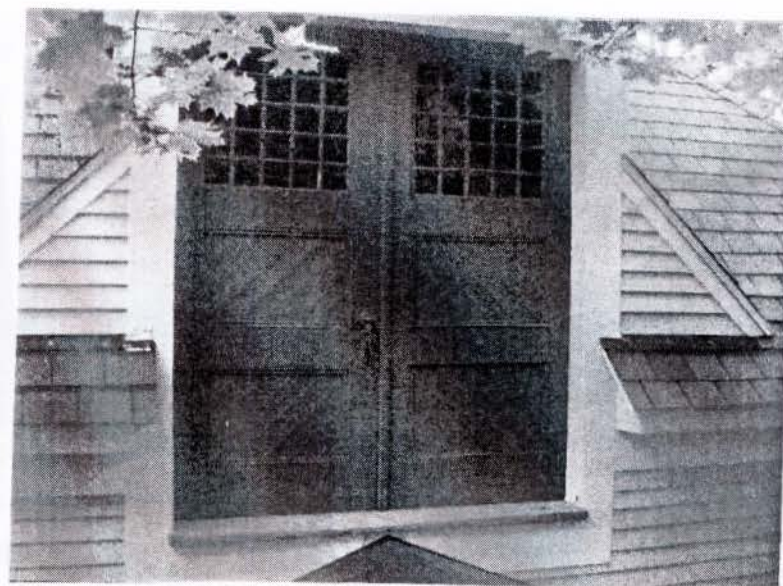
Front



Front



Rear



Left side

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

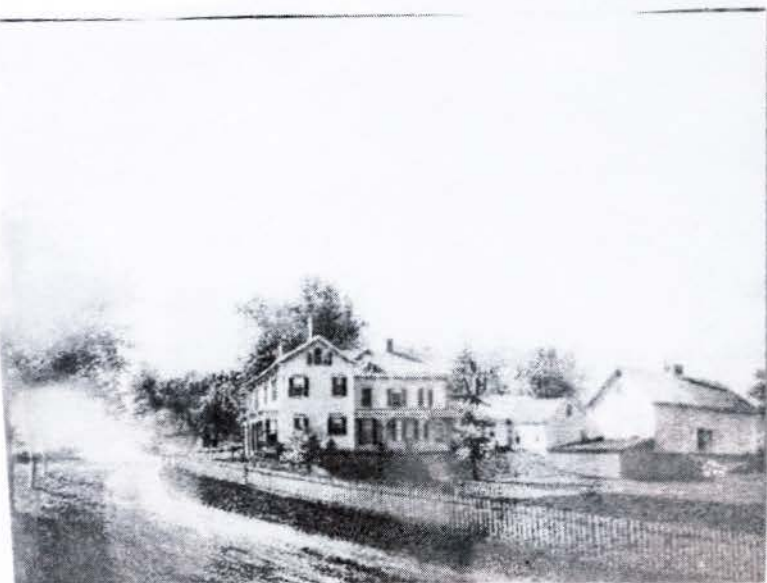
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CHELMSFORD

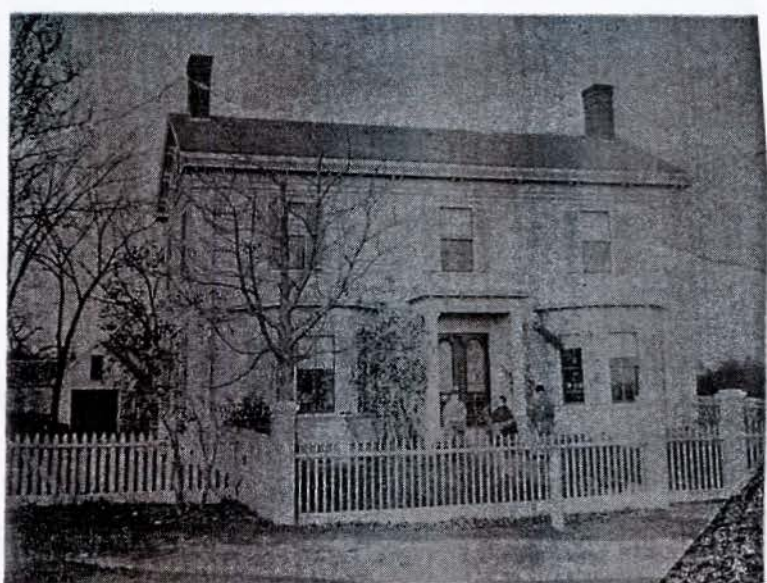
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Area(s) Form No.
 018

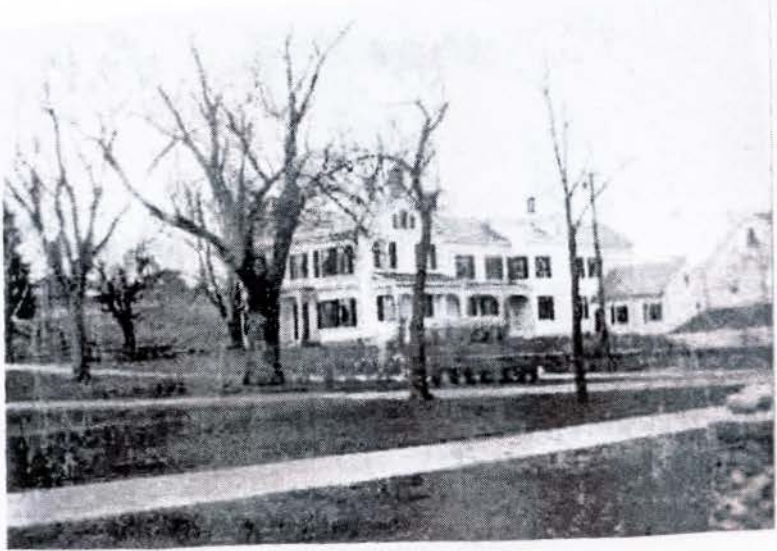
ALTERATIONS



1872 painting by Gilman
Full front porch, no bay windows



Before 1926



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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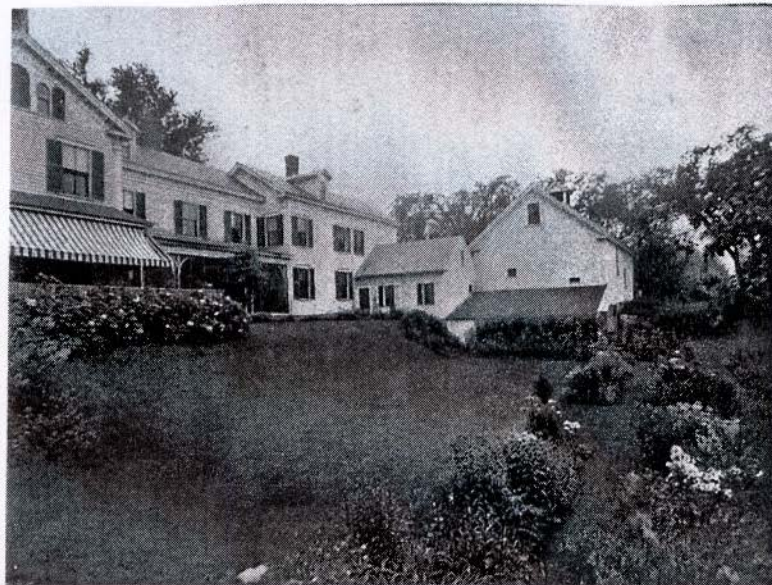
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CHELMSFORD

Property Address
15 BARTLETT ST.

Area(s) Form No.

	018
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undated - post 1926



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Area(s) Form No.
 018

ALTERATIONS

Dr. John Call Bartlett, June 15, 1834, to Maria Juliet Adams

The house stands here yet pretty much as it has done since April, but tomorrow they will begin upon the inside, and I hope they will soon get it done.

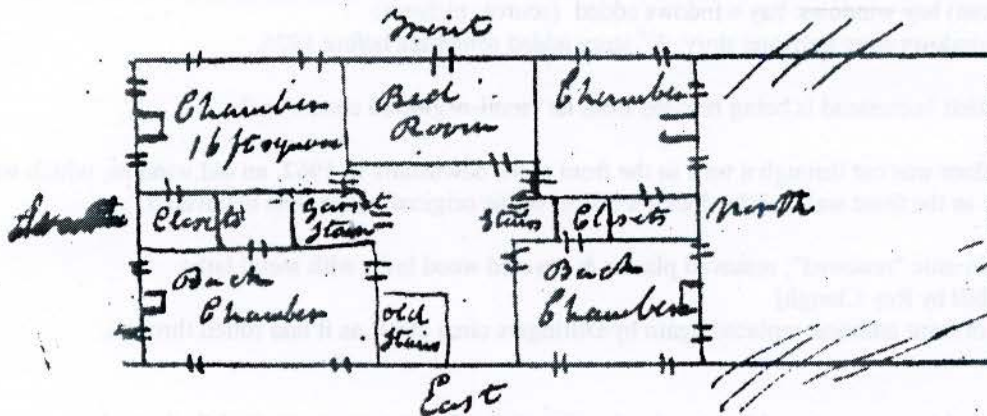
Dr. John Call Bartlett, June 22, 1834, to Maria Juliet Adams

Original owned by Historical Society, June 2007

Chelmsford, June 22^d 1834

Dearest Friend,

The past week has been a busy one with us, as the carpenters have taken hold of the inside of our house with spirit. They have torn down and built up again until I think you would not know the place. Almost the whole of the second story has been torn out and the rooms are now partitioned off, and your Father and myself are lathing them. But you will wish to know a little more particularly what alterations are making and I give you the following rough draught of the old hall.



You will perhaps be disappointed when I say that the old stairs will remain as they were. If so you must attribute all the blame to me as your Mother tried very hard to have them brought forward, but the expense made your Father very dull, as your Mother told him you would have ten fits if it was not done but I relieved him greatly by telling him I thought you would care but little about it. The expense would have been from 50 to 70 dollars, and I think we should have had no back stairs, but now we shall have a pair from the kitchen. There will be, as you see by the plan a pair of stairs from the north entry to accommodate that part of the house. The garret is also to be divided into four good chambers which will give us five, with those on the second floor. But, I fear you will know but little more about it from what I have said and I will not run the risk of making it worse by saying any more.

Dr. John Call Bartlett, June 27th, 1834, to Maria Juliet Adams [started on Friday]
Original owned by Historical Society, June 2007

Friday

The house goes on well and Crooker thinks he shall get through with his part of the work in about a month.

Sunday

You wish to know where my study is to be. I shall take down the old south chamber, which has a good closet where the old garret stairs were, and it will be an excellent room for this purpose. You need not fear that this arrangement will deprive you of much closet room as there will be enough and to spare. The rooms in the garret or rather I should say, the third story are all partitioned off and partly lathed. They are decidedly the pleasantest chambers in the house. Indeed they will be somewhat like those in the Walkers house in Charlestown, and there will be a row of closets on each side of the space between them. I have become very industrious since you left home, am up every morning at ½ after four o'clock and at work putting on laths. I have finished all of the second story which can be done at present, and as I said before am now at work on the third.

As for my health you need have no fears, my love, for I was never better, and indeed I have no time to feel otherwise than well, for except the time which takes me to visit my patients, I do not leave my work until sun down.

I wish you had seen your Father when I told him what you said in your letter about the old stairs. His whole head laughed, but he said not a word. You know very well how he looks when he is pleased.

1834 – 1850 front 3 x 2 bay section added [source: Harriett Bartlett]
However, it is suspected that it was done by C.E.A. Bartlett after his return from the Civil War, & when his children were being born. It might have been done in 1867.

“Built 1867”: sign on exterior left wall of old section, in location of present glass door.

undated bet. 1872 – 1926

main (front) bay windows: bay windows added (source: pictures)
1st bay windows were only one story; 2nd story added sometime before 1926.

Dec. 15, 1883: C.E.A. Bartlett homestead is being rescued from its “semi-neglected condition.”

1962 When a door was cut through a wall in the front room downstairs in 1962, an old window, which was evidently in the front wall [of the doctor's office] in the original house, was uncovered.”

Feb. 10, 1950 skylight in attic “renewed”; removed plaster & covered wood laths with metal laths
[source: bill by Roy Clough]
skylight in front addition replaced again by Dillingers circa 2001, as it had rotted through.

May 6, 1970

Two 6 x 4 chimneys removed from main, front, roof. 2 other chimneys repaired & cleaned

undated 1976 – 1999

small 1 story shed with slanted roof: removed from front of barn by Hamiltons
second skylight added by Hamiltons, at the top of the attic stairs (in the original “middle” structure).

June 14, 1988

Building Permit application #266
alteration to enclose part of existing porch; building to be used for: kitchen end
foundation: cement footing, granite above 12x4'x32'; roof: slanted as is; covering: as is
barn with loft attached at rear left: demolished
many changes to interior of old part, plus new windows
barn changes
removal of small, 1 story shed from front of barn

May 20, 1998: privy 2 holer had been removed (1 holer had been before 1972)

undated but later:

chimney in basement, under kitchen: two legs originally went up to 2nd floor, where they joined.
1 removed earlier after it collapsed
2nd removed when Mrs. Hamilton was talking to J. Drury, May 20, 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

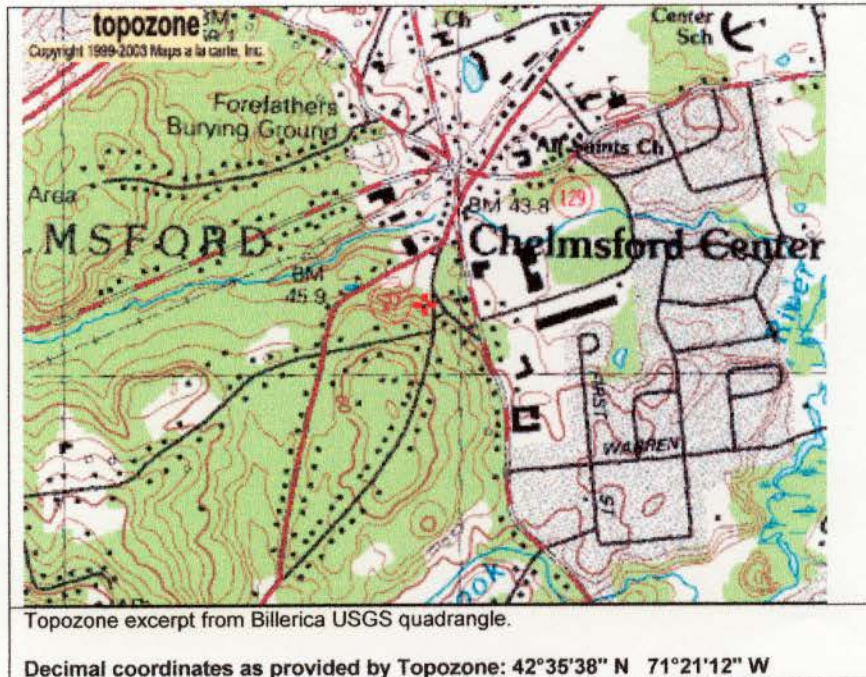
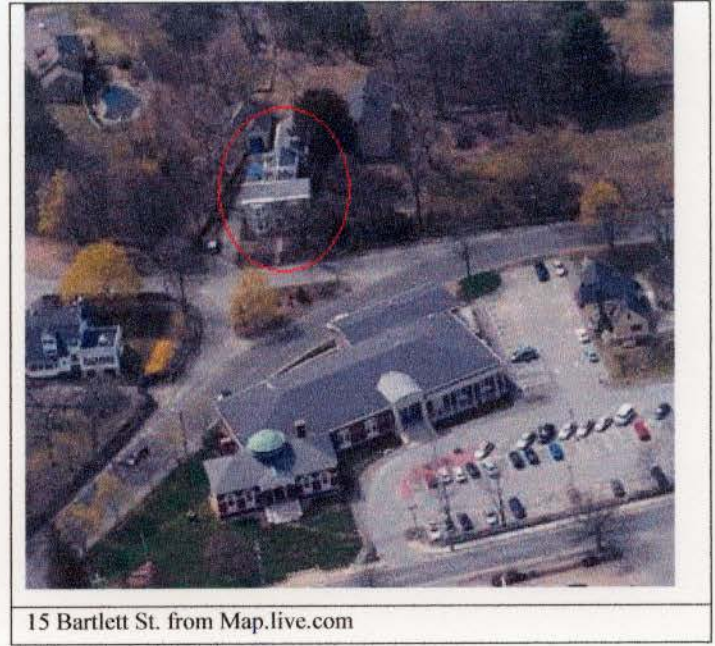
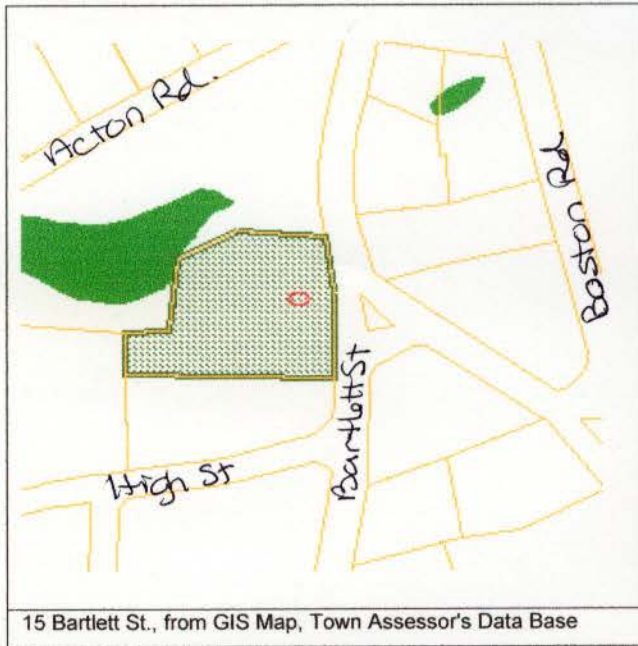
TOWN PROPERTY ADDRESS
CHELMSFORD 15 BARTLETT ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	018
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Locational Information



15 Bartlett Street
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Probate Docket #	3/08/1960	Estate of Henry Bartlett to Harriet M. Bartlett
Bk. 423, pg. 277	8/24/1908	Charles E. Bartlett, Chelmsford, & Clay C. Bartlett, Richmond, Va., to Henry Bartlett, Cambridge \$1 & other valuable considerations 13,610 sq. ft. & buildings: northerly side of road leading to Acton & westerly side of Bartlett St.
Probate Docket #15077	12/09/1882 Will	Estate of Maria J. Bartlett to Charles E. A. Bartlett, son "homestead on which I now live"
Probate Docket #540	1878 Administration	Estate of John C. Bartlett to Maria J. Bartlett, widow
Probate Docket #26166	1864 & 76 Administration	Estate of Joel Adams to Mrs. Maria J. Bartlett, only surviving heir, widow of son-in-law
Bk. 8, pg. 354	1/24/1814 Mortgage	Joel Adams to Mary Gibson, widow \$600 8 acres with dwelling house, barn & other buildings
Probate Docket #9100	1810 Will	Estate of Ichabod Gibson, physician, to Mary Gibson, wife "all my messuages & tenements"
Bk. 7, pg. 575	3/9/1798	Jacob Chamberlain Jun ^r , blacksmith, to Ichabod Gibson, physician \$800 8 acres, "containing dwelling house now occupied by En. Issac Chamberlain, barn & other out buildings

Letters of George Bartlett (Charlestown) to his son, Dr. John C. Bartlett (Chelmsford)
Originals owned by Chelmsford Historical Society, 2007

Sept. 8, 1831

I am in treaty with a man for a horse & chaise for you, which I shall doubtless procure.

Sept. 12, 1831

I now write to tell you that if you prefer a Sulkey to your Chaise, M^r Lynde has a very good one at seventy dollars, and he will take back the Chaise, if it be returned uninjured, and return ten dollars with the Sulkey – so that the Sulkey will cost seventy. It is a very light one and Strong, and will not fatigue a horse half so much as a Chaise. He will also exchange the collar & give one to [] the horse if you will return the one you have. You need not say anything to any one about the cost of these articles, as the Chaise particularly I think a very cheap one.

Friday morning 13th – I have just been up to the Canal, and find your things have not yet gone up. I have not been able to see Mr Kittell, but I understand a boat is expected to go up today..... You had better not send a team for them till you have first ascertained they have arrived in Chelmsford.

If you conclude it better to make the exchange of the Chaise you must do it directly. In which case you must start by daylight, so as to return immediately. It will take [] hours to get the Sulkey ready here. Be careful of your horse.

Your affectionate parent
Geo. Bartlett

Nov. 21st, 1831

We have now got established at Mrs. Richards'.....your Aunt Betsey also
Expect John there for Thanksgiving

Dec. 10, 1831

We want to know how you found your patient [after returning home from Charlestown]

Jan. 16, 1832

I am glad to hear you have three patients out of four
Death of your cousin, John C. Bartlett, apoplexy 2 months ago at the General Hospital

May 26, 1832

I have not been able to get before this any money since I wrote you, and part of this I have borrowed. I enclose thirty dollars, which you will acknowledge the receipt of by the return mail, that I may feel easy that it reaches you safely, I hope you will be able to find business to meet your expenses as my means are so limited that I find it hard work to get along myself.

June 9, 1832

I received your letter this morning of the 7th instant, with surprise and pleasure. With surprise, as the communication was unexpected to me – and with pleasure, as from your account, your choice has been fixed on a companion for life, who is exactly calculated to render your journey through it, a happy one; and your happiness, and hers, who may be the means of promoting yours, will ever be a matter of the most important concern with your parents. When Miss Adams makes her visit this way, we shall be happy to see her, and to receive her with the deep interest such a dear connection entitles her to.

July 27, 1832

John to come to visit.....

Aug. 18, 1832

As we have heard nothing from you since you left us, we conclude that you and Miss Adams reached home in safety.

March 6, 1833

Had you resided in the North of Europe, we should have heard from you oftener than we have done from Chelmsford. Not a word since you were in Town many months since. If you had nothing else to say, you might let us know whether you were in the land of the living.

April 16, 1833

Long letter concerning the possibility of there being an opening for a doctor in Lexington and to buy a house there...

Dr. John Call Bartlett to Maria Juliet Adams

1832

1st letter: Chelmsford, July 8, 1832

He has just returned from Charlestown (his father's home), from taking Maria, his future wife, there
His sister: Mrs. Walker: he hopes Maria will spend a week with her before coming home [JBD – she
does]

Church:

The universalists have coined only one new story about me, since I left, and when I came home I
heard of nothing else. It appears that I was talking a few days ago with Mr. C. Abott of Mr. Allen's last
sermon and in the course of my remarks upon it, said there was neither head nor tail to it, and one of the
universalists coming in at the time heard the observation, and took the liberty to 'app'ted it to
universalism, and before I got home it had spread in every direction, and I should not be surprised if Mr.
Whittemore should degrade it by a place in the trumpet. [JBD – Trumpet a newsletter or paper
apparently]

July 13, 1832

Dr. Toothaker has met with a great deal of trouble, the poor man's horses and new sulkey being laid
under an embargo, by an attachment, so that he cannot hobble off as he has done, to see his numerous
patients. The old gentleman had just worked himself into a furious passion, when Cap^t Pitts made his
appearance at the house and finding the ladies engaged in washing, emptied out all the wash water they
had, and attacked the tubs. It is expected every day that the old man will be so reduced as to make it
necessary for him and his family to live for a time upon his "roots and []bs"....

July 18, 1832

Brother Charles – "the same old bachelor, I had described him to be"
Hopes Maria will return ca last of Aug.

July 20, 1832

Plans for coming home

July 24, 1832

He wants to know when to come

Sept. 14, 1832

Maria has been absent [in Lunenburgh] for 3 days; he has "the blues."

We had today two tedious sermons about nothing from Mr Lawrence, and I allowed my thoughts to
stray to Lunenburg rather more oftener than to the preacher

I presume we will have warm work here next week, as the society are to act upon Mr. Allen's request
for a dismissal. I understand he will stay for four hundred dollars, but he has probably gone too far now,
to recede.

The universalists sent him a copy of the Trumpet, containing the remarks upon what he said with
regard to their meeting, which he returned unopen'd, and then went to your father's office to read it.
Charles asked him how he liked it, and he said, he thought it a silly thing.

Sept. 24, 1832

Mr. Allen's request to be dismissed from the society, was acted upon today and granted unanimously.
His connection with the society is to cease on the third Sunday in October, and I am more inclined now,
than ever, to believe, that we shall be in a much more prosperous condition, in consequence of his going.
The society voted to give him \$500 to be paid in three years.

Sept. 30, 1832

Albert Spaulding is dead, and to be buried this afternoon, under the escort of the rifle company.

Dr. Dalton has been called in to see Mrs. Pitts in consultation with Dr. Kittredge, [] the management of his mother in law, and Dr. Toothaker has got a new horse, so much for Chelmsford doctors.

You ask if Mr. Allen will leave town, immediately after he is dismissed? That is, I believe, his intention, and the old gentleman appears very happy at the thoughts of being delivered from his tormentors. He will not probably preach for us again until he preaches his farewell sermon, which will take place, three weeks from today.

Oct. 10, 1832

If I am at liberty, I shall show my new whiskers in Lunenburg, sometime on Sunday next, (and the universalists have preaching here then) on Monday at the farthest, and if am not visible by that time you may conclude I am not coming at all, and if you take the stage on Tuesday, I will be at Adams Tavern, and meet you with a horse and chaise.

I have raised quite a decent pair of whiskers, during your absence, and begin to be quite adorned with them, as I have no doubt you will be. I feel somewhat in jeopardy however, as your Mother threatens every time she sees me to burn them off, and says I will not wear them to Lunenburg, and I must say I begin to fear I shall not, for the simple reason, that I almost despair of going.

Jim Pitts is so mad at his wife, that he has told Dr. Kittredge, not to visit her any more, as he says, "she can go to the devil" before he will be paying a Doctor's bill while she refuses to do as her Physicians orders her. I was called in consultation yesterday, with Dr. K. at the church house, [] the overseers have become quite angry with him for some of his proceedings, and, between ourselves, I do not believe he will be the physician for the paupers much longer.

1834

June 8, 1834

You must not forget that you are not well, and endeavour to do more than your strength will bear.

Suppose you have already heard of the sudden death of Dr. Dalton's little boy Edward. he died of the croup on the day I returned and was buried here, yesterday after an illness of only two days. The family are in a good deal of distress although I think they appear resigned. We are all well here, indeed it is rather hard times as I am just now without any patients except the old standby.but as luck would have it I received three new calls about an hour after my return, which I suppose croup....

The letter which I enclose, I wish you would have the goodness to give to Mrs Walker, although it may be interesting to you to read it. It is from my brother Nathaniel and has been a source of great pleasure. You may tell Mrs. Walker, that I have answered it, and have requested him to enclose to me a letter from Mother, which I think he will do as he seems disposed to return, like the prodigal son, to his duty.

June 15, 1834

Will you have the goodness to tell Mrs. Walker, that it is my particular request that she not write to Mother and also to make the same request of others to whom she may shew the letter, as until I have received an answer from him, as he might probably would feel hurt if he supposed I had betrayed the confidence which he had placed in me, and they should remember that it [] in betrayal of his confidence in me when I sent them his letter and I fear he might be induced to withhold any further communication, and it is never well by too much haste, to expose ourselves to any risk of losing what we are sure of obtaining if we can have patience.

I have one request, my dear love that you write to your Mother pretty soon. I fear you will think hardly worth while and yet I believe it will really be very gratifying to her to receive a letter from you. You know my dear friend, I have always said I believed she loved you and I feel more convinced than ever that what she has said and done, which has given you so much uneasiness, was the effect of morbid irritability of mind. It is but a few days since she was at my room, and in speaking of your ill health, she did it with so much feeling (and evidentially without affection) that I could not but think had you seen her you would have felt as I felt, for she wept like an infant, and the moment after she heard I had received your letter she set off post haste to hear what you said of your health and how you were enjoying yourself. Emmeline has told her what Dr Dalton said about the necessity of your leaving home if you wished to get

well, and it has made her very thoughtful, and anxious to understand what he meant. Emma says she would thank you to send your messages to her through some other channel than me, as I teased her a little about her health etc.

The house stands here yet pretty much as it has done since April, but tomorrow they will begin upon the inside, and I hope they will soon get it done.

Chelmsford, June 22^d 1834

Dearest Friend,

It is with impatience that I wait for the arrival of my regular time for writing to you, and with still greater solicitude do I watch the arrival of the mail which I think bears your letters to me. Your last was a source of much pleasure as it contained the tidings of your good health, and I sincerely trust I shall hear no other account. The past week has been a busy one with us, as the carpenters have taken hold of the inside of our house with spirit. They have torn down and built up again until I think you would not know the place. Almost the whole of the second story has been torn out and the rooms are now partitioned off, and your Father and myself are lathing them. But you will wish to know a little more particularly what alterations are making and I give you the following rough draught of the old hall.

diagram

You will perhaps be disappointed when I say that the old stairs will remain as they were. If so you must attribute all the blame to me as your Mother tried very hard to have them brought forward, but the expense made your Father very dull, as your Mother told him you would have ten fits if it was not done but I relieved him greatly by telling him I thought you would care but little about it. The expense would have been from 50 to 70 dollars, and I think we should have had no back stairs, but now we shall have a pair from the kitchen. There will be, as you see by the plan a pair of stairs from the north entry to accommodate that part of the house. The garret is also to be divided into four good chambers which will give us five, with those on the second floor. But, I fear you will know but little more about it from what I have said and I will not run the risk of making it worse by saying any more.

I have received a present a few days since, which gave me much pleasure, not so much from its value as from the kind feelings which led to it and from the delicate manner in which it was given. Last Thursday I noticed Miss E. Warren and Major Manning very busy, riding over town and was at a great loss to discover what their urgent business was, when towards night, they called upon me and presented me with \$35 which they had collected to remunerate me for the trouble I have had in conducting the singing in church. I believe, dearest, you well know that in taking upon me this charge I had not the most distant idea of any reward, and I think you will believe me when I say that "it was entirely unexpected." I think I can say so with more truth than some else did upon another occasion.

I have had a conversation with your Mother upon the all important topic, and have asked the question for which she was waiting so particularly, and she very graciously condescended to say that she had been doing something already in the way of getting you ready to be married before. But I think I never bore a part in a more ridiculous farce. But my dear girl I have had a conversation with her upon a more serious subject, and I trust that what I said to her has made a deep impression upon her mind. She was telling me how much she had suffered from the fear that you would loose your health, and that she had avoided letting you see how sick she thought you to be. I spoke plainly to her and told her that the course she had taken had given the impression that she did not care whether you were sick or not, and that this feeling had made you very unhappy. What the effect will be, I know not, but she told Emma, afterwards, that I had told her some things which she would never forget. One thing is certain, she has been much more friendly to me since. I do not know my love, whether you will approve of the course I took but I can truly say that I had your happiness at heart, and that to promote that happiness, I would willingly run any risks which might be necessary.

I do begin to feel a little impatient, dearest, for your return home, for I am exceedingly lonesome without you. The evenings drag away, and although thinking of you is a great comfort to me, yet is not like seeing you daily as I have so long been accustomed to do. I trust your next letter will at least hint at the time of your return, for I shall be tempted to come after you soon if it does not.

My business is tolerable. I have three patients and have taken another family from Brother Paul [Dr. Paul Kittredge [20 Chelmsford St.]. I am as well as ever now although I have been obliged to take an emetic in consequence of a slight fall in jumping from my chaise, but do not let this alarm you as I am now in fine health.

I shall be looking for another letter from Nath^l the first of next week and shall feel rather uneasy if I do not get one, but I do not fear but I shall get answer. And now dearest I must draw to a close. Write me soon, a long letter and tell me when you will come home, and believe me your affectionate friend

John C. Bartlett

Chelmsford June 27th 1834

Dear Maria,

I have just received your kind letter and as I am too much fatigued to go out this evening, I shall spend a few moments before bedtime, in commencing one to you. You feared that your sabbath meditations would tire me, but dearest you are mistaken, and I can truly say that I feel myself very much obliged to you for them. You may have forgotten an expression which you made to me once that you sometimes almost doubted the goodness of God but, my love, very often I have thought of it and (forgive me dearest for saying so) with sorrow, for I could not believe that any one who had seriously reflected upon the events of his past lives could avoid seeing the mercy and wisdom of God, and if there is any article of my creed which I deem it sacrilege to doubt, it is the constant, unwavering goodness and mercy of our heavenly Father, and I think the undoubting confidence which I have in this goodness has done more than anything else to make my life happy, for in the darkest events of his providance I believe I have truly felt (for some years at least) that it was better that his will should be done, than mine. You have often heard me speak of the book of Psalms as my favorite portion of the Bible, and it is so because the only doctrine it inculcates, (and which I hold to be the only one necessary) is the uniform goodness of God, and the necess of gratitude on our part for all his love. With regard to a public profession of religion, I dislike it. It is too much like an endeavour to convince the world that you have done something better than they and the only evidence of any change in my feelings which I should be willing to make public would be in my conduct, if any such change was requisite, but the profession of such a change ought to be made only to our Maker in the secrecy of our own hearts. In what I have just said, I do not however allude to the observance of rites, for you already know my sentiments upon those points. But I shall weary you if I speak more upon this subject, and when I begin I never know where to stop, for there is no time which more dwells upon my mind nor contributes more to my happiness than this, and I have said more upon it than I should have done had I not wished you to know fully my religious sentiments, for next to my maker, I would always have my heart open to your inspection.

The house goes well and Crooker [carpenter] thinks he shall get through with his part of the work in about a month.....

Saturday Eve: I wrote this far last evening, and upon reading it over had almost concluded not to send it as I fear you will think it almost too much of sermonizing to come from a lover. But dearest, it harmonises with my feelings at this moment, and therefore you will forgive me for not destroying it. I feel rather sad and melancholy this evening, as I have just left the chamber of death. Mr. Gideon Whittemore died this afternoon quite suddenly, and rather unexpectedly to me, so soon although he has been sick for sometime and was apparently getting better, and you know my love that such scenes are very trying to the feelings of a physician. Mr. Cyrus Baldwin's death you have probably [illegible] noticed in the papers. He was sick but four or five hours. John Allen is to be buried at Andover tomorrow morning. He died on Thursday.....

Sunday You will think my love that I am writing you a queer detached letter, and sure enough it is so. I was called away last evening and obliged to leave my letter half finished and before I had said half what I wished to.

You wish to know where my study is to be. I shall take down the old south chamber, which has a good closet where the old garret stairs were, and it will be an excellent room for this purpose. You need not fear that this arrangement will deprive you of much closet room as there will be enough and to spare. The rooms in the garret or rather I should say, the third story are all partitioned off and partly lathed. They are decidedly the pleasantest chambers in the house. Indeed they will be somewhat like those in the Walkers house in Charlestown, and there will be a row of closets on each side of the space between them.

I have become very industrious since you left home, am up every morning at ½ after four o'clock and at work putting on laths. I have finished all of the second story which can be done at present, and as I said before am now at work on the third.

As for my health you need have no fears, my love, for I was never better, and indeed I have no time to feel otherwise than well, for except the time which takes me to visit my patients, I do not leave my work until sun down.

I wish you had seen your Father when I told him what you said in your letter about the old stairs. His whole head laughed, but he said not a word. You know very well how he looks when he is pleased.

I shall begin to scold, as hard as a lover can do if I do not hear when you mean to come back. Oh Maria I am so impatient to see you, that the time seems to me an age and I almost believe you love to tantalize me a little by telling me in each letter that you shall appoint the time for your return when you write again, but I do hope, my dearest friend, that your next will do what your last two have promised, viz tell me when I may expect you home. I have written in such detached pieces, that I am afraid you will scold me for it when you write but, dearest, although it is an odd sort of letter, I know you will believe when I say that my heart still is yours and yours only. Write me as usual, and believe me your sincere and affectionate Friend.

J.C.B.

Waters, pg. 804:

"Dr. John C. Bartlett was born in Charlestown, Mass., Oct. 5, 1808, and graduated from Bowdoin College, Maine, in 1828. Having decided upon the medical profession, he studied with Dr. Thompson, of Charlestown, and attended lectures at Harvard University, graduating in 1831. He soon after settled in Chelmsford, where he continued in practice nearly forty-six years. His mother and the mother of Dr. Dalton were cousins. These two physicians received their name from Dr. John Call, an eminent physician of Charlestown. Dr. Bartlett entered upon his work with the very best preparatory training. His standard of professional honor was high, and he never neglected a call of duty. Quackery or imposition of any kind gained his decided opposition.

Although of a somewhat aristocratic bearing, he was one of the kindest of neighbors, and a man universally respected for the uprightness of his life. He possessed fine musical tastes, and was for many years chorister of the Unitarian Society.

He was active in the cause of temperance and interested in education.

He held the position of president of the board of trustees of Westford Academy for many years. He died Jan. 13, 1877, aged seventy-two. The esteem in which he was held by his medical associates was expressed in a series of resolutions adopted by the Medical Society."

Waters, pg. 686:

"The Proprietors of the Chelmsford Centre Meeting House (Eli F. Webster, Amos Carleton, John C. Bartlett, and their associates), were incorporated in 1843."

Waters, pg. 726:

"Dr. John Call Bartlett, born Oct. 5, 1808, died Jan. 13, 1878. Maria J., his wife, born March 15, 1810, died Dec. 9, 1882."

Waters, pg. 802:

"Dr. Ichabod Gibson, from Lunenburg, commenced practice in 1792. He built and occupied what is now the residence of Charles E. Bartlett. He died May 10, 1810."

Waters, pg. 682:

At the time of the ordination of Rev. Wilkes Allen in Nov, 1803, "another committee consisting of Capt. Josiah Fletcher, Wm. Adams, Esq., Capt. John Butterfield, Ichabod Gibson and Capt. Jonas Pierce was chosen to cause provision to be made for that event, and to prop and secure the meeting house."

Waters, pg. 733:

Forefathers' Burying Ground: "Doctor Ichabod Gibson, May 10, 1810. Age 43 years."

Waters, pg. 762:

Civil list: 1800 through 1809, Ichabod Gibson selectman or moderator.

Waters, pg. 807:

"Joel Adams, A.M., was a son of Timothy Adams, of this Town. His birth-place was later known as the Sheehan place, in District 5. He graduated from Harvard College in 1805, and began the practice of law in 1808. His residence was that now occupied by his great-grandson, C.E. Bartlett. His office stood between his house and what was later Jonathan Larcom's (15 Adams St.). He was known as a sagacious counselor and was president of the Prescott Bank, and was connected with other financial institutions. Later in life he relinquished the practice of his profession and again took up his residence at his old home in Chelmsford."

Waters, pg. 492:

"On November 25, 1825, in Chelmsford town meeting, a committee consisting of Joel Adams, Caleb Abbott, Nathaniel Howard, Samuel Stevens, and Benjamin Chamberlain, reported favorable on a petition of Kirk Boott and others for a new town, the ~~Sate~~ State and County taxes to be paid jointly by both towns, according to their present valuation, and all debts due from the Town, excepting the principal debt due on the poor farm be paid as above."

Waters, pg. 395:

Fiske House: "In 1818 Simeon Spaulding re-purchased the place and kept it until 1830, when he sold it to Mathias Spaulding. Within three years it was owned by William Fletcher, John Foster, and Joel Adams, whose grandson, Captain C.E.A. Bartlett was born there. In five years the house had another owner, Thomas Moors, and it became a tavern, known as Lafayette House."

Waters, pg. 561:

"In 1825, the Town appointed as a committee to examine the schools in Chelmsford: Rev. Wilkes Allen, Joel Adams, John D. Dalton, M.D., John O. Green, M.D., Rev. Theodore Edson and Rev. John Parkhurst."

Waters, Pg. 569:

"Josiah Gardner Abbott was born in what is known as the Wynn House (6 North Rd.) opposite the Common, where, later, Deacon Otis Adams lived. His father kept a store in the village - Chelmsford Centre. He graduated at Harvard in 1832, and taught in the Fitchburg Academy. He studied law with Joel Adams, who had his office in Chelmsford; and with Nathaniel Wright of Lowell."

Waters, pg. 689:

Description of the meeting house: "Below the pulpit sat the deacons. About 1830, these were Joel Adams, Noah Spalding (who always sat in the middle), and Owen Emerson."

Waters, pg. 722:

"Joel Adams, son of Timothy and Joanna (Keyes) Adams, and a descendant of Henry Adams, who came from Devonshire, England; born in Chelmsford, Nov. 1783, graduated from H.U. in 1805, died Nov. 21, 1864."

Bartletts

pg. 598

Chelmsford Water District

[1911] A fire district was favored by some, and Charles E. Bartlett, C. George Armstrong, Herbert E. Ellis, Josiah E. Marshall and William B. Northrop were appointed to make further investigation.....The same committee, with the substitution of Harry L. Parkhurst and Edwin R. Clark in place of the last two, was to make immediate steps towards establishing a water district. This was done by an act of the Legislature in 1913.

Charles E A

370 Chelmsford Veterans Association, org. Apr. 21, 1891 - deceased comrades in 1915:
Charles E. A. Bartlett age 63, died April 4, 1900

379 Bartlett, Charles Edwin Adams. Commissioned, Aug. 30, 1862. Mustered in, Aug. 31, 1862, for 9 months. Captain, Co. K, 6th Regt. Inf. Mustered out, June 3, 1863. Age 26. Married. Born, Chelmsford, son of Dr. J. C. and Maria (Adams) Bartlett.

395 Fiske House

Captain C. E. A. Bartlett was born there, when his grandfather, Joel Adams, was an owner.

585 Adams Library

site given by Mr. J. Adams Bartlett & Capt. E.A. Bartlett bore expense of grading it

John Call Dr.

pg. 459 V.I.A. 1876, 1877, 1883 published Chelmsford Eagle

Organized Nov. 15, 1875. 1st president: Dr. J. C. Bartlett

464 About 1850 Chelmsford Farmers & Mechanics Association formed; cattle shows etc.
1852 Dr. J. C. Bartlett president

pg. 686 Proprietors of Chelmsford Meeting House incorporated 1843.

John C. Bartlett a proprietor then

pg. 804 Dr. John Call Bartlett as born in Charlestown, Mass., Oct. 5, 1808, and graduated from Bowdoin College, Maine, in 1828. Having decided upon the medical profession, he studied with Dr. Thompson, of Charlestown, and attended lectures at Harvard University, graduating in 1831. He soon after settled in Chelmsford, where he continued in practice nearly forty-six years. His mother and the mother of Dr. Dalton were cousins. These two physicians received their name from Dr. John Call, an eminent physician of Charlestown. Dr. Bartlett entered upon his work with the very best preparatory training. His standard of professional honor was high, and he never neglected a call of duty. Quackery or imposition of any kind gained his decided opposition.

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He held the position of president of the board of trustees of Westford Academy for many years. He died Jan. 13, 1877, aged seventy-two. The esteem in which he was held by his medical associates was expressed in a series of resolutions adopted by the Medical Society.

History of Chelmsford by Rev. Wilson Waters

pg. 309 Records of Chelmsford Men in the Revolution

Chamberlin, Isaac, Chelmsford. Private, Capt. John Nutting's Co. of Minute-Men, Col. William Prescott's Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, from Pepperell; service, 6 days; also, Capt. Nutting's Co., Col. Prescott's (10th) Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 25, 1775; service, 3 mos., 8 days; also, company return dated Cambridge, Oct. 2, 1775; also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Cambridge, Jan. 1, 1776

pg. 496 Town records 1789

To paid to Barthw. Richardson when Mr. Isaac Chamberlain's and Mr. Wm. Fletcher's cattel was taken £ 0: 11:9:0

pg. 681 Religious Organizations

1796. To Isaac Chamberlain for iron and labour he did in fixing waits on the meetinghouse bell 2: 0:0:0

and for making a fraim to set the crising bason in 0:16:0:0

pg. 727 Forefathers

Ichabut Chamerlin, son of Capt. Isaac and Mrs. Sarah Chamberlin, April 4, 1807.

Age 3 mos.

pg. 762 1800, 1803-09. Selectmen included: Ichabod Gibson

1802, 1806, 1807. Moderator: Ichabod Gibson

1803-08 Clerk: Ichabod Gibson

1807-08 Representative: Ichabod Gibson & William Adams

pg. 802 Dr. Ichabod Gibson, from Lunenburg, commenced practice in 1792. built and occupied what is now the residence of Charles E. Bartlett. He died May 10, 1810

pg. 733 Mary Gibson, widow of Doct. I. Gibson, died Nov. 27, 1853. Age 90 yrs.

J C Mrs. Maria +

pg. 369 Civil War: Soldiers' Aid Society

In 1862 weekly meetings were held in homes including Mrs. Dr. Bartlett collected money and made hundreds of articles for the soldiers: blankets, shirts, bandages mittens, quilts, socks, towels etc.

pg. 726 Forefathers

Dr. John Call Bartlett, born Oct. 5, 1808; died Jan. 13, 1878

Maria J. his wife, born March 15, 1810; died Dec. 9, 1882

Charles E.A. Bartlett, born Sept. 5, 1836; died April 4, 1900; Capt. Co. K, 6th Reg.

Mass. Vols.

Harriet M., his wife, March 11, 1903

Lowell Weekly Journal
April 13, 1900

"An adjourned meeting of the Veterans' Association was held at the Town Hall, Thursday, with an attendance of 12 members..... on motion of Comrade Ripley, voted to chose a committee of three to draft resolutions upon the death of Captain C.E.A. Bartlett, and Comrades George A. Parkhurst, R.S. Ripley and D.R. Fowle were appointed. Following is the testimonial prepared by the committee:

Whereas, the Chelmsford Veterans' Association is again called to mourn the loss of a comrade in the death of Captain C.E.A. Bartlett, who passed to the higher life Wednesday, April 4, after a long and painful illness borne with courage and fortitude.

Therefore, we would place on record an expression of our heartfelt sympathy for the family of our departed associate in the great loss they have sustained. We would bear testimony to his uprightness as a man and his high standing and marked efficiency in his varied business relations. And as his associates in events long matters of history we recognize in his departure the message for us not long a like summons be delayed. The adjutant is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this testimonial to the family of the deceased."

Original in the possession of
George A. Parkhurst,
7 Overlook Drive, Aug. 1973

LOOKING BACK

ONE IN A HISTORICAL SERIES

Harriett M. Bartlett, 1898 - 1987

Harriet Maria Bartlett, who died on February 2 at the age of 89, was not only a pioneer in the field of medical social work but was also for many years a summer resident of Chelmsford and donor to the Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust of the attractive 3½ acre property at the corner of Acton Road and Bartlett Street now known as Bartlett Park and an additional tract, the Bartlett Woodlot, off Acton Road, high above the old Mill Pond.

Miss Bartlett was born in Lowell but as a child moved with her family to Cambridge where she lived the rest of her life on Memorial Drive. She graduated from Vassar College in 1918, attended the London School of Economics (1919-20) and received a master's degree from the University of Chicago.

From 1921-45, Miss Bartlett worked as a caseworker, a supervisor and educational consultant in the Social Service department of Massachusetts General Hospital. During that period she also studied and taught social work in New York, St. Louis, Los Angeles and other cities, returning to the University of Chicago for further study as well.

In 1943, she became associated with the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington where she coordinated a program of emergency training courses for police officers in the handling of juvenile delinquents. Four years later she was appointed associate professor of social economy at the Simmons College School of Social Work; she later became the director of medical social work there, and through her writings, which included six books and many articles written for professional journals and conferences, she became known as the leading authority on medical social work which had become her specialized field at a time when social work was a new profession as distinguished from "social economy" which gave it birth and was related to the "friendly visiting" of the poor by Mary E. Richmond, another pioneer of the period. Social workers were first called "friendly visitors" and only later did their efforts become professionalized and the broad field of endeavor developed and divided later into such specialties as medical social work, psychiatric social work, work with children, etc. One of Miss Bartlett's greatest concerns was always the nurturing of this profession in every way she could.

Recognition came to her in many ways, including two honorary degrees. She was a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Council on Social Work Education, and was also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She was a member of the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Cambridge and a member of the College Club and the Women's City Club of Boston.

For many years, Miss Bartlett and her parents spent their summers in Chelmsford, in what is known now as the Bartlett Woodlot. When there was no further use for the building there, Miss Bartlett gave it to the Old Chelmsford Garrison House Association to become the Bartlett Educational Building where many craft exhibits have been held along with occasional exhibitions of watercolors by her and her parents—all talented amateurs who exhibited in some of the Boston shows.

Miss Bartlett came of a distinguished local family and inherited the property from the Adams ancestor. Her great grandfather, Dr. John Call Bartlett, came from Charlestown in 1832 to practice his profession. He married Maria Adams (from



BARTLETT PARK SIGN REDEDICATION: Miss Harriett Bartlett (center) came to Chelmsford three years ago for the dedication of a new sign for the park she gave 25 years ago to the Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust in memory of her family. With her (L) is Martha Hamilton, member of the Trust's Board of Directors and occupant with her family, of the former Bartlett homestead; and Suzanne Reade, president of the Trust. Miss Bartlett died on February 2 in Cambridge, where she had lived for many years, renowned as a teacher, writer and practitioner in medical social work. (Photo by Ray Irwin)

whom Harriett received her middle name), daughter of Joel Adams. Their home was the present Hamilton family's home at 15 Bartlett Street; there her grandfather, Captain C.E.A. Bartlett lived and his sons, Charles E., Clay C., and Henry (her father) grew up. Henry Bartlett owned the Bartlett Park acreage for more than 14 years, when it was merely pasture.

In 1961, the Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust was formed, with the late Martin K. Bovey playing a leadership role. Bartlett Park was the first gift received by the Trust. According to Miss Bartlett's wish and through the efforts of Mr. Bovey and others, it has become a place of beauty for all who pass by. It contains more than 200 plantings of trees, shrubs and wildflowers, all carefully labelled, so that would-be landscapers may see these plantings in a natural setting before deciding to use some like them around their own homes. The Park and the Woodlot were given as memorials to Miss Bartlett's family who had loved the land and kept it as open space for more than a hundred years.

For the last few years, Miss Bartlett did not visit Chelmsford as she used to, driving the familiar car with an envied very low-numbered registration plate. She did come, despite failing health, on May 16, 1984, however, when a new sign was dedicated at the park on the 25th anniversary of her first gift and of the forming of the Land Trust. On that occasion, which was her last visit, she was welcomed by members of the Trust who honored her at an informal luncheon. She continued as long as she was able in various ways to contribute to the work of the Trust and to the Garrison House Association of which she was an honorary life member.

F.P.

The Gibson-Bartlett House

(These notes compiled in 1940 by William Northrop and revised in 1967 by M. Mills)

The Gibson-Bartlett House stands on Bartlett Street (#15) near the corner of High Street, Chelmsford Center, and across from Adams Avenue from the George Hall entrance to the Adams Library.

Dr. Ichabod Gibson, b. _____ 1767, d May 10, 1810, in Chelmsford and is buried in the Forefathers Cemetery. He came to Chelmsford from Lunenburg, Mass., and began the practice of medicine in 1792 and built the Gibson-Bartlett house and lived there.

He was moderator at Town meetings in 1801-2-5-6-7. Selectman 1800-1-3-4-5-6-7-8-9. Representative with William Adams 1807, 1808. Town Clerk 1805-6-7-8.

At the ordination of Rev. Wilkes Allen, Nov. 16, 1803, he was a member of the Committee "to cause provision to be made for that event and to prop and secure the meeting house." His widow, Mary, died Nov. 27, 1853, age 90 years.

In the account book of Oliver Fletcher Esq., 1766 to 1771 who lived nearby at the Clarke-Bartlett House, Mary Gibson is named as a witness to a payment made by him.

A. William Gibson of Chelmsford enlisted in the Continental Army for 9 mos from his arrival at Fishkill, age 20 years, stature 5'6", arrived at Fishkill June 26, 1778. He was doubtless a son of Dr. Ichabod Gibson.

In Chelmsford Historical Society is a framed copy of Washington's resignation made by a pupil (Fiske) of a daughter of Ichabod Gibson who conducted a writing school in the house. The copy treated for permanence was donated to the Historical Society by Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. P. Fiske in 1935.



15 Bartlett Street

1872 Painting by Gilman

Windmill up the hill from 15 Bartlett Street
Courtesy of Chelmsford Historical Society





15 Bartlett Street

c. 1900



15 Bartlett Street

11/3/1925



15 Bartlett Street

1972 G. A. Parkhurst



15 Bartlett Street

10/13/2007 F. Merriam