

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

112/425/2

Billerica

CLM.327

**Town/City:** Chelmsford

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): Chelmsford

## Photograph



**Address:** 203 Boston Road

**Historic Name:** Henry Spaulding House

**Uses:** Present: single-family dwelling  
Original: farmstead

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1706

**Source:** *History of Chelmsford* 1917

**Style/Form:** Federal

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding/vinyl

Roof: asphalt shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Detached garage, deck, shed

### Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 1990 replacement siding, door, and windows

Ca. 1980 side porch addition

Early 20<sup>th</sup> c. removal of rear summer kitchen

**Condition:** Fair

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 1.34 A

**Setting:** The house is located approximately 200' south of the Hazen St and Boston Rd intersection. The lot is flat with several mature trees. The Chelmsford Lumber Co. complex is immediately to the west. A low stone retaining wall is along the front to the house. The remaining area includes 20<sup>th</sup> c. residential and commercial developments.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Jennifer Burden, Gray & Pape, Inc.

**Organization:** Chelmsford Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): June 2016

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

203 BOSTON ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

The 2.5-story house has a stone foundation, walls clad in replacement vinyl siding with vinyl trim, and a side gable asphalt-shingled roof. Two internal brick chimneys are located along the ridgeline of the roof. Most of the fenestration in the building consists of replacement six-over-six double-hung windows with false muntins. The window openings have decorative shutters. The primary (north) façade is five symmetrical bays wide and faces away from Boston Road. Single windows are located in the four outer bays of the first and second stories. A single window is also located in the center bay of the second story. The main entry in the center bay of the first story features a replacement door and sidelights with a simple molded surround. The east and west walls are two bays deep with single windows in most of the bays. A three-pane casement window has replaced a historic window opening in the first story south bay of the east wall. A one-story enclosed porch with a shed roof has been added to the west wall. An undated photograph of the house shows it once included a one-story summer kitchen off the rear wall; this building has since been removed. An undated historical photograph of the house is available in *Images of America: Chelmsford*.

While a ca. 1706 construction is assigned to the building, a closer inspection by an architectural historian with expertise in early building construction methods might reveal additional evidence of the likely construction date and subsequent physical evolution of this building.

A detached garage is located to the southwest of the house. The garage is clad in wood siding with wood trim and had a front gable roof. The primary (north) façade includes a pedestrian door in the east bay and a replacement rollway garage door in the west bay. Until ca. 2010 an above-ground pool with a deck was located behind the garage. The pool was removed at this date, but the deck remains. A shed building is located to the rear of the deck. The shed is one bay wide and two bays deep with a front gable roof.

The building is an altered example of an early eighteenth century residence that retains location, feeling, and association.

## 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.*

The property likely was part of Captain Samuel Adams's estate, of which 260 acres was sold to Andrew Spaulding (1653-1713) by John and Daniel Waldo (both husbands of Adams's daughters Rebecca and Susanna). In 1706 Andrew granted the property to his son Henry (1679-1718), who was a tailor; however, research did not discover if the current house was then constructed on site. Henry married Elizabeth Lund in 1703 and the next year had a son, Henry, Jr. (1704-1792). The property remained in the Spaulding family, transferring to Henry, Jr., then Zebulon (1744-1816 and a Lieutenant in the American Revolution), and Sherebiah (sometimes spelled Serabiah). Sherebiah, Jr. (ca. 1810-1860) was the final member of the family to own the property, receiving it in 1855. The Mortality Schedule lists Sherebiah, a farmer, dying in 1860 after a 21-day affliction of lung inflammation. In 1861 Sherebiah's estate was sold at auction. Sanford Hazen (1812-1892), then living in New Hampshire, placed the winning bid of \$754.32 for the property. Deed research also showed that Hazen paid Sherebiah's widow, Lorinna, \$211.35 for her quitclaim to the property.

The 1870 U.S. Population Census lists Hazen living in Chelmsford with wife Sarah (1818-1906, born in New Hampshire) and their six children born between 1841 and 1861. At this date Sanford and eldest son James are listed as farmers. Sanford's real estate was then valued at \$5,000, which was average for the area. Sanford died in February 1892 and is buried in the Forefathers Burial Ground in Chelmsford Center with many other members of his immediate family. His property passed to Sarah, but the next year, Sarah granted the property to sons James (1841-1900) and Frederick (1858-1923). The 1920 census

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record lists Frederick living on Boston Road with sister Nellie (born ca. 1852); both are listed as single. Frederick continued to operate the farm. After his passing in 1923, Frederick's estate was sold in 1925. At this date Claude and Etta Harvey purchased the 124-acre property for \$7,500, which included the dwelling house, barn, and other buildings (the barn and outbuildings are no longer extant). Claude (1894-1977) and Etta (1891-1970) are listed in Chelmsford city directories as living on Boston Road and Claude as a farmer. By the late 1950s Claude was listed as the president of the Harvey Building Supplies and Wrecking Company, Inc. at 201 Boston Road. The Chelmsford Lumber Company is currently located at this address to the west of the house. After Claude passed in 1977, the property was granted to daughter Muriel B. Whealen. Her estate sold the property in 2008.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Chelmsford Historic Society and Garrison House Association. *Images of America: Chelmsford*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina. 1998.

Genealogical research, including U.S. and Massachusetts census records; birth, marriage, and death records; and city directory records from ancestry.com.

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds. [www.lowelldeeds.com](http://www.lowelldeeds.com).

Waters, Wilson. *History of Chelmsford, Massachusetts*. Courier-Citizen Company, Lowell, MA. 1917.



Detached garage,  
facing south.  
November 2015.