

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

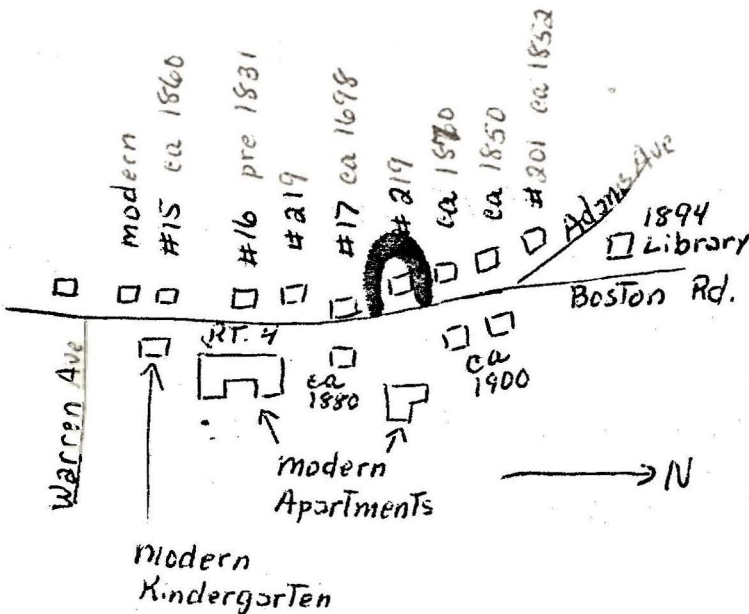
In Area no.	Form no.
	219

1 Town Chelmsford
 Address 41 Boston Road
 Name Henry Parkhurst House
 Present use residence
 Present owner Robert W. Jones

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
 Staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

3. Description
 Date ca 1830
 Source see attached sheet
 Style _____

4 Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric butted clapboard
 Outbuildings (describe) barn of house
 Other features center chimney; 5x2 bays; enclosed pedimented porch in front of main entrance.

Altered see attached Date _____
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size
 One acre or less 1/2 A. Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 112 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street 23 feet

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury
 Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission
 Date September 2, 1976

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

7. Original owner (if known) Henry Parkhurst (b. 1777)

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal		Conservation		Recreation
Agricultural		Education		Religion
Architectural		Exploration/ settlement		Science/ invention
The Arts		Industry		Social/ humanitarian
Commerce	<u>x</u>	Military		Transportation
Communication		Political		
Community development				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

For almost 50 years this small house at 41 Boston Rd. was owned by members of the Parkhurst family, a family which has been prominent in Chelmsford affairs almost since its founding.

It was built about 1830 by Henry Parkhurst, a cordwainer and brother of the builders of 16 Parkhurst Rd. (#50). Henry was about 53 years old when the house was built, and in 1836 he sold it to Josiah King Parkhurst, his 3rd cousin once removed.

Josiah King Parkhurst was a wheelwright and probably lived there until his death in 1877. At that time Josiah's son, Edwin King Parkhurst, sold the house out of the family. He had bought it two years earlier from his father. Edwin King had earlier built and owned the store at 2 Chelmsford St. (#205) and was active in town affairs.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records early maps, etc.)

- 1831 map; 1856 map; 1875 Beers Atlas; 1889 Atlas
- Chelmsford Valuation Lists - 1827, 1828, 1834
- Waters, "History of Chelmsford"
- Chelmsford Directory, 1915
- Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds:
 - Bk. 13, pg. 92: Henry Parkhurst to Isaac Crooker, mortgage
 - Bk. 14, pg. 100: Henry Parkhurst to Josiah K. Parkhurst
 - Plan Bk. M, Plan 102

Date - ca 1830

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds:

B. 13, pg. 92 5/17/1832 Mortgage

Henry Parkhurst to Isaac Crooker

$\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & new dwelling house & wood-house

B. 14. pg.100 3/1/1836

Henry Parkhurst to Josiah K. Parkhurst

$\frac{1}{2}$ acre land with new dwelling house thereon

1831 map - house shown

Chelmsford Valuation Lists:

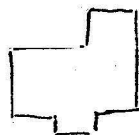
1828 Henry Parkhurst

poll tax only

1834 Henry Parkhurst

1 house & land \$150

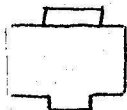
Altered:



1976



1916 Plan Book M,
Plan 102



889 Atlas



1875 Beers Atlas

This would seem to indicate that the rear ell was added sometime between 1889 and 1916 (and since shortened), and that the front entrance was added sometime between 1875 and 1889.

41 Boston Road

North Book 2139, pg. 39	1/ 2/1975	Antoinette R. Jones to Robert W. & Edith F. Jones \$18,000.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & buildings
North: Book 1423, pg. 305	12/ 5/1958	Eva C. Fisk (Eva McMaster) to herself & husband Lewis J. Fiske $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & buildings
North: Book 1045, pg. 390	6/11/1946	Elizabeth E. Emerson, Methuen, to Frank E. & Eva C. McMaster $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & buildings
North: Book 533, pg. 518	2/25/1915	Estate Serlina G. Richardson to Elizabeth E. Emerson, Methuen \$1,500.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre ;and & buildings
North: Book 175, pg. 553	7/29/1885	Almira Stearns to Alvah H. Richardson, Carlisle \$1,775.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land and buildings
North: Book 162, pg. 301	9/15/1883	Elmira H. Smith, Lowell, to Almira Stearns \$1,300.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land and buildings
North: Book 162, pg. 300	9/15/1883	Charles Stearns, Boston, to his mother, Almira Stearns $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land and buildings
North: Book 125, pg. 286	8/16/1877	Edwin K. Parkhurst to Charles Stearns, Lowell $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land and buildings
North: Book 112, pg. 144	8/24/1875	Josiah K. Parkhurst to Edwin K. Parkhurst \$800 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land and buildings
North: Book 14, pg. 100 South: Book 359, pg. 481	3/ 1/1836	Henry Parkhurst, wheelwright, to Josiah K. Parkhurst, wheelwright \$700.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & new dwelling thereon same land bought from Joseph Warren
North: Book 13, pg. 92 South: Book 317, pg. 121	5/17/1832	Henry Parkhurst, wheelwright, to Isaac Crooker, house carpenter \$300.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre land & new dwelling house and wood-house.

Edwin King Parkhurst

Waters, "History of Chelmsford"

pg. 594 Village Clock

A Company or Association was formed January 27, 1877, with Moses C. Wilson, president, E. K. Parkhurst, vice president, Henry S. Perham, secretary, and Joseph Reed, treasurer.

pg. 588 The Chelmsford Monument Association

Mr. Charles Dalton of Boston, having suggested the idea of erecting a monument to the memory of the Revolutionary patriots of Chelmsford, the following gentlemen met at the house of Deacon Otis Adams, on the evening of Friday, March 25, 1859, to discuss the subject: Capt. Josiah Fletcher, Otis Adams, Dr. J. C. Bartlett, Gardner Fletcher, William Fletcher, E. K. Parkhurst, J. Richardson Fletcher, C. H. Dalton, E. H. Warren.

pg. 402 Storekeepers

1862 E. K. Parkhurst

pg. 459 The V. I. A.

On Monday evening, November 15, 1875, in the Town Hall was organized the Village Improvement Association, with J. A. Bartlett, chairman, and H. S. Perham, secretary. E. K. Parkhurst and Dr. J. C. Bartlett addressed the meeting and committees were appointed. On November 22nd, a constitution was adopted. The purpose of the organization was the general improvement and lighting of the Centre Village streets and public squares, and to promote the general interests of the community. The first officers were: President, Dr. J. C. Bartlett; Vice President, E. K. Parkhurst.....

pg. 832 To Mr. E. K. Parkhurst more than to any other person, is due the credit of initiating the movement which resulted in the organization of the V. I. A. in Chelmsford Centre. This is a pioneer association of the kind in Massachusetts, the Laurel Hill association at Stockbridge being the only one previously organized, in 1853. In Chelmsford the V. I. A. improved the public squares, laid out sidewalks and planted shade trees, instituted street lights and otherwise aided the welfare of the Village. Twenty-three lamps were first placed on the streets; in ten years they had increased to forty-three. For twenty years the Association met the expense of maintaining these, and raised altogether about \$6,000. An annual field day and picnics and other social features have marked the life of the V. I. A.

Lowell Courier-Citizen

January 9, 1912 - The home of A. Howard Richardson on the Boston Road was for a time seriously threatened with destruction by fire this afternoon. A chimney fire, discovered about noon and thought to have been put out, was the cause of a second fire about 3 o'clock, sparks from a defective flue having started a blaze in a blind attic. Flames were breaking through the roof when assistance arrives, and with the high wind that was blowing, it seemed as if it would be impossible to save the house. Holes were cut in the roof and entrance gained to the attic from the inside, and after a half hour's liberal application of water and chemicals, the fire was under control. Mrs. Richardson, who, with Miss Helen Bartlett, occupied the house, were cared for at the home of a neighbor, N.H.B. Wardwell. The loss, caused principally by water and tearing away the roof, was covered by insurance.

January 16, 1912 - Owing to the sudden illness of Mrs. N.H.B. Wardwell, ^{-35 Boston} Mrs. A.H. Richardson, who has, since the damaging of her house by fire last week, been staying at her home, has gone to the home of Miss Celia Richardson to remain until the repairs on the house are complete. Miss Helen Bartlett will visit her brother in Billerica for a time.

Chelmsford Directory

1898-99

Richardson, Alvah H. farmer, house South near Adams.

1915-16

Richardson, Serlina G., widow Alvah H., died Nov. 12, 1914

Lowell Courier-Citizen

November 12, 1914 - The death of Mrs. Selina G. Richardson, widow of A. Howard Richardson, occurred today at her home in the Boston road, aged 87 years, 6 months and 22 days. Up to last September, when she fell and fractured her hip, Mrs. Richardson had been remarkably active for her years. The shock from this accident at her age was the cause of death. Mrs. Richardson was born in Carlisle, the daughter of Tilly and Polly Lane Green. With the exception of a short time spent in Carlisle, she had, since her marriage, made her home in Chelmsford. Prayers will be held at the home on Saturday at 1 p.m., with funeral services at the cemetery chapel in Carlisle at 2:30.

Sept. 22, 1914 - Mrs. Selina Richardson, widow of A. Howard Richardson, met with an unfortunate accident on Monday at her home on the Boston road; falling and fracturing her right hip. Mrs. Richardson's advanced age - 88 years - makes such a mishap especially serious.

owell Courier-Citizen

March 1, 1915 Mr. & Mrs. Burt Emerson are occupying their newly acquired home, the A.H. Richardson property in the Boston road.

May 24, 1915 Burt Emerson, who has been confined to his home in the Boston road for the past ten days with an attack of blood poisoning affecting both feet, is making favorable progress toward recovery.

June 13, 1915 - Mr. & Mrs. Burt Emerson are to spend the next 10 days in a camp on the bank of the Merrimack river in Tyngsboro. Although somewhat incapacitated still, Mr. Emerson is steadily recovering from a recent attack of blood poisoning.

Aug. 5, 1915 - Word was received by friends here, today, of the sudden death this morning of Miss Helen Bartlett at the home of her sister, Mrs. F.S. Beane, at Locke's Mills, Me. Miss Bartlett suffered a shock of paralysis on Sunday, from which she failed to rally. For several years, Miss Bartlett was a resident of Chelmsford at the home of the late Mrs. A. Howard Richardson, to whom she had given a conscientious and never failing care. She had recently returned to her home in Maine. During her stay here she made many friends, to whom the news of her death will come as a distinct shock. She is survived by two brothers and two sisters.

Jan. 16, 1916 - Trusting that his absence from town has been the finder's reason for delay in not returning to him his post pocketbook, Burt Emerson announces his return to his home in the Boston road and his readiness to reward the finder.





8/7/2004 F. Merriam