

(Attach photo here)

206

FORM B - BUILDING SURVEY

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

1. Is this building historically significant to:
Town Commonwealth Nation

Building has historical connection with the following themes: (see also reverse side)

- Scholar Commerce/industry
- Agriculture Science/invention
- Art/Sculpture Travel/communication
- Education Military Affairs
- Government Religion/philosophy
- Literature Indians
- Music Other

Development of town/city

Architectural reason for inventorying:

2. Town Chelmsford

Street address 20 Chelmsford St.

Name Kittredge/Sweetser House

Use: original & present dwelling-office

Present owner Bradford Emerson

Open to public

Date ca 1831 Style Federal-Georgian

Source of date Waters - "History of Chelmsford"

Architect

OR part of Area #

3. CONDITION Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added converted To offices in 1950's

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material granite

WALL COVER: Wood clapboard Brick Stone Other

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork

CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate

STORIES: 1 2 1/2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed plus 2 extensions on rear

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 enclosed-added To right side PORTICO Balcony

FACADE: Gable end: Front side Ornament painted date (1821)-believed incorrect.

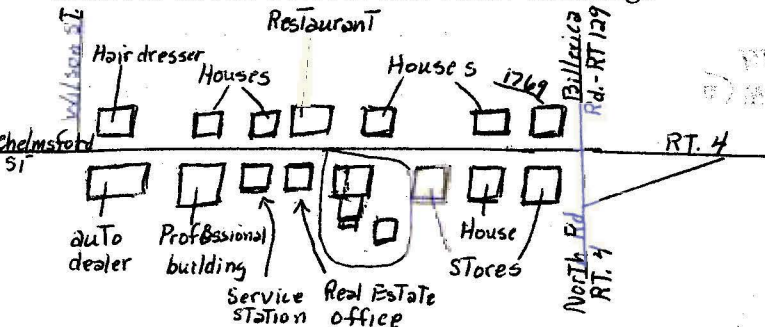
Entrance: Side Front Center Side Details: Simple pilaster on each side
single door with side vertical windows (4 panes)
5 Bay x 2 Bay + gable window (6 panes over 1)

Windows: Spacing: Regular Irregular Identical Varied 1 Large, modern window = 1 Bay on 1st Floor

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards

5. Indicate location of building in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings

6. Footage of structure from street 21
Property has 116.2 feet frontage on street



Recorder Jane Drury
For Chelmsford Historical Commission

Photo # 3-21 Date 9/17/72

SEE REVERSE SIDE

RELATION OF SURROUNDING TO STRUCTURE

- 1. Outbuildings Barn - used for garage & Apartment
- 2. Landscape Features: Agriculture Open Wooded Garden: Formal/Informal
 Predominant features parking lot, shrubbery
 Landscape architect _____
- 3. Neighboring Structures
 Style: Colonial Federal Greek Revival Gothic Revival Italian Villa Lombard Rom.
 Venetian Gothic Mansard Richardsonian Modern
 Use: Residential Commercial Religious Conditions: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

The house was built by Dr. Paul Kittredge, one of a famous family of doctors. He succeeded to the practice of Dr. Dalton, coming to Chelmsford from Littleton in 1831. He had an extensive practice and was often called, especially in cases of surgery, far beyond the usual circle of his practice. Himself the son of a doctor, he had 14 children, 4 of whom also became physicians.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

Waters: History of Chelmsford 1917

RESTRICTIONS _____

Original Owner: Dr. Paul Kittredge
Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____,

Registry of Deeds

20 Chelmsford Street

Middlesex District Registry of Deeds

North: Book 1707, Pg. 455	9/23/1965	Old Chelmsford Garrison House Ass to Bradford O. & Joan H. Emerson 13,226 sq. ft.
Middlesex Probate Docket #388979		Estate of Octavia M. Sweetser (includes declination of the Chelmsford Historical Society)
North: Book 234, Pg. 599	6/ 8/1892	John H. Redman to Ervin W. Sweetser land with buildings thereon \$2500 plus \$1500 mortgage
North: Book 215, Pg. 14	6/11/1890	Estate of Adams Emerson to John H. Redmond land & buildings thereon, part of the homestead premises \$2500
North: Book 759, Pg. 452	2/13/1928	Ervin W. Sweetser Affidavit Jonathan Emerson died intestate leaving property to son Dudley B.; Dudley B. died leaving property to sons Levander and Adams; Levander died intestate, Adams his only heir; Adams Emerson died testate.
North: Book 18, Pg. 381 South: Book 667, Pg. 441	12/19/1853	William Livingston, Lowell, Trader to Jonathan Emerson, Littleton, yeoman \$1400
North: Book 18, Pg. 256 South: Book 656, Pg. 307	7/ 2/1853	Aaron Tuttle, Westford to William Livingston \$1000
North: Book 13, Pg. 464 South:	3/27/1839	Sheriff's Sale $\frac{1}{2}$ acre, dwelling house, shed, stable
North: Book 13 & 15, pg. 120 & 477 South: Book 321 & 477, pg. 81 & 193		MORTGAGE
	1/30/1833	Paul Kittredge, physician, to Aaron Tuttle, Littleton, yeoman buildings thereon \$2000
North: Book 13, Pg. 119 South: Book 320, Pg. 80	1/29/1833	Willard Reed to Paul Kittredge, physician land \$80

Lowell Weekly Courier

June 13, 1890 - The homestead of the late Adams Emerson has been sold by the executors of the will to John H. Redman who has leased the same to Ervin W. Sweetser.

June 27, 1890 - E.W. Sweetser has moved into the Adams Emerson house on Lowell street. He is now conveniently near his place of business.

Nov. 27, 1891 - An accident at the house of Ervin W. Sweetser Saturday evening about 6 o'clock was a close approximation to serious results. Upon her return from Lowell Mrs. Sweetser, thinking that the coal fire which she left in the stove was out, concluded to make a temporary wood fire on the innocent appearing coal; so placing a piece of paper moistened with kerosene on the coal she applied a lighted match, when an explosion took place which was heard all over the village. Brick work in another room was blown out and a chimney thimble in a chamber shared the same treatment. The stove was not moved from its place nor was Mrs. Sweetser injured, except a slight scorching of one hand. The coal fire was not dead but sleeping, and the contact of the lighted lucifer with accumulated gas caused a lively awakening.

Oct. 8, 1909 - Spott, the big friendly St. Bernard owned by Town treasurer E.W. Sweetser, came to an untimely end this morning, being struck by an engine "running wild." When crossing the tracks near the station. He was a friend to all and by all he will be truly missed.

Nov. 6, 1910 - The railroad crossing in the centre of the village was blocked for nearly four hours, Friday evening, by the derailing of a car on the Lowell bound freight, about 8:30. The train, fortunately, was running slowly at the time, intending to stop at the Lowell street crossing, where the electric cars are met. The accident was caused by the drawbar of one of the cars, near the head of the train, pulling out, throwing the car immediately following it partially from the track. Delay in clearing the wreck was found in getting the wrecking crew together at that time of night and then, to get at the wrecked car, the balance of the train had to be pulled onto the sidings at the Centre and at South Chelmsford. Teams and automobiles made use of the Lowell street crossing and Fletcher street to get around the blockade. Had the train been running at a rate of speed sometimes made through the village, there is probability that Town Treasurer Sweetser's back yard would have been piled high with broken cars and miscellaneous freight. It was after midnight before the tracks were cleared. There was but little damage to either the car or roadbed.

Jan. 5, 1913 - The gale that continued unceasingly for 24 hours, beginning about 4 o'clock on Friday, will be long remembered as the night and a day of the "Big Wind." The damage done was extensive, though not particularly expensive in most cases, but while the wind continued there was constant fear that something serious would happen.....A big apple tree in the yard at Town Treasurer Sweetser's house went down during the night and in the early afternoon, a goodly section of a big ash tree in front of Charles E. Bartlett's house crashed across Adams street.....Five lights of glass, coming from an upper and a lower sash, were wrecked at the historic Fiske house in Central Square.....

Feb. 15, 1914 - A forty gallon hot water boiler, attached to the range in the kitchen at E.W. Sweetser's, burst Saturday forenoon, flooding the room with water, but fortunately doing no other damage. A frozen pipe, between the boiler and the supply tank in the barn, was the cause of the trouble.



Adams and Lucy Ann Emerson at home at 20 Chelmsford Street



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New Homes

Built in 1871

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8/8/2004 F. Merriam



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NEW FRAMES

FRAMING





12/28/2004 F. Merriam