

# FORM B – BUILDING

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



MA\_Chelmsford\_ChelmsfordStreet\_280\_IMG\_2984\_CHC\_06

### Sketch Map



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

52/140/18

Billerica

**Town**

Chelmsford

**Place** (*neighborhood or village*)

Neighborhood

**Address**

280 Chelmsford St.

**Historic Name**

Catherine Riley House

**Uses: Present**

Vacant

**Original**

Residence

**Date of Construction**

1909

**Source**

Taxes

**Style/Form**

Four Square

**Architect/Builder**

**Exterior Material:**

Wooden Clapboards

**Foundation**

Stone

**Wall/Trim**

Wood

**Roof**

Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures** none

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*) none

**Condition**

Moved  no  yes Date

**Acreage** 20913 sq.ft.

**Setting** The house is on the edge of a residential neighborhood and on a corner of a busy street.

**Recorded by** Linda V. Prescott

**Organization** Chelmsford Historical Commission

**Date** December 2007

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

According to the Inspector of Buildings records, 280 Chelmsford Street is a building that has not undergone renovations. It is a basic Victorian design called a "Four Square", with a porch along the front of the house. The house has 2 stories, a centered front door, a stone foundation, clapboard siding and a hip roof. The house is in extremely poor condition, the present owner has left it open to the elements, removed the windows, partially gutted the interior, appears to have left holes in the roof and in general has been responsible for demolition by neglect.

### 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.*

In 1896, Henry S. Perham had a large parcel of land surveyed and subdivided to form a development called "The Westlands", the development today is still known as "the Westlands". In 1899, Kate Scullin, a Scottish immigrant who was later to become Katherine Riley, bought Lot #2 for \$1.00 and other considerations. Through the years Katherine Riley would purchase Lots 1, 3 & 4. In 1909 Katherine Riley built 280 Chelmsford Street in the very popular and livable "four square" plan of the late Victorian Era. The 1910 Census notes that Katherine, her husband Frank, an Irish immigrant working as a clerk in a meat store, her father with his own income and a brother, a weaver, all lived in the house. The 1920 Census shows Catherine and Frank Riley living with their daughter Bertha, father-in-law Joseph Scollin, a cotton mill operator and a Mary Degnan, sister-in-law. In 1940, Frank and Katherine Riley sold the house to William Hogan, a single gentleman of Lowell. Between 1940 and 1947, the house passed from one family member to another, always returning to Frank C. Riley until his death in 1950. Katherine Riley died in 1945, both Frank and Katherine Riley are buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Lowell, MA. In August 1947 the house passed to Mary Scollin. Dorothy Scollin, a sister bought the house in 1985, and it did not change hands again until it was purchased by Mark Callahan and Stacey Alcorn in April 2005. For the next 2 years it was apparently used as a rental property until it was purchased by Cuong Bui. In October of 2007, Cuong Bui requested to demolish 280 Chelmsford Street.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Middlesex Registry of Deeds  
Town of Chelmsford Taxes  
Chelmsford GIS Map  
[www.local.live.com](http://www.local.live.com)  
[www.topozone.com](http://www.topozone.com)  
[www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com)  
Pictures by Fred Merriam  
Waters History of Chelmsford  
St. Patrick's Cemetery List

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  
**280 CHELMSFORD ST.**

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Area(s) Form No.

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**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

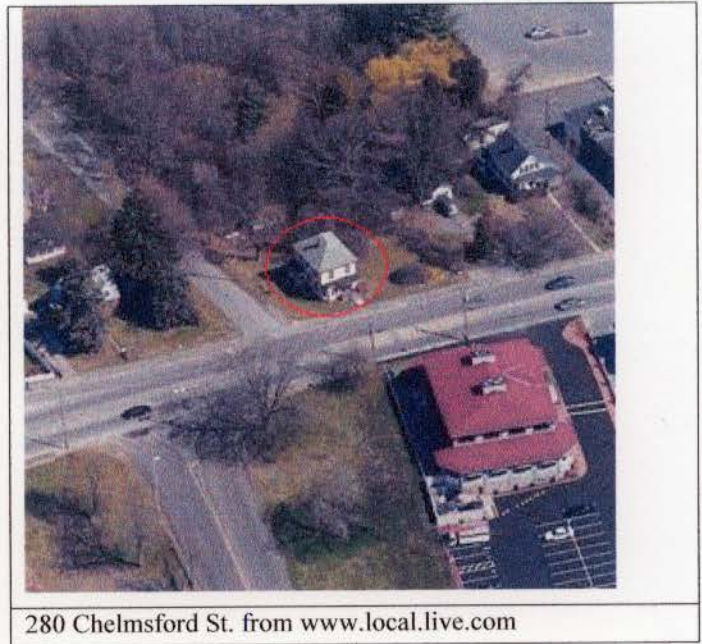
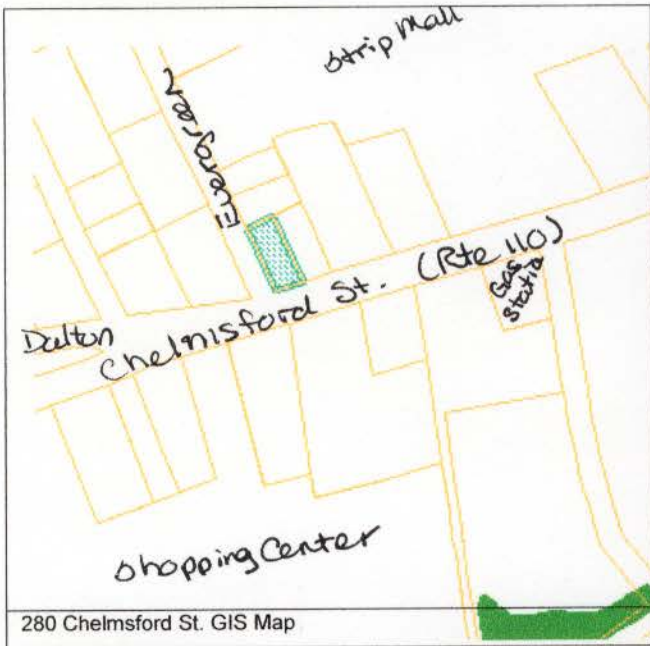
Town Address  
CHELMSFORD 280 CHELMSFORD ST.

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**Locational Information**



Topozone excerpt from Billerica USGS quadrangle.

Decimal coordinates as provided by Topozone: 42°36'44" W 71°20'01" N

## 280 Chelmsford Street Deed Summary

Date	Bk/pg.	Names	Description
4/11/2007	19992/265	Callahan to Bui	Mark Callahan and Stacey Alcorn, of 39 Hillcrest Dr. Tyngsborough for \$308,000.00 to Cuong Bui, 239 Church St, Lowell, Lots 1-2-3&4 of Westlands, Plan Bk 11, Plan 49, 1896. Subject to restrictions
8/1/2005	1908/68	Scollin to Callahan	Dorothy Scollin for \$280,000.00 to Mark Callahan and Stacey Alcorn, 39 Hillcrest Dr. Tyngsborough. Lots 1-2-3&4. Same Descrip.
5/28/1985	3047/333	Scollin to Scollin	Mary Scollin for love and affection to Dorothy Scollin, sister, lots 1-2-3&4., with the buildings.
1/29/1984	2691/337	Scollin to Scollin	Mary Scollin of 280 Chelmsford St for love and affection to Mary C. Scollin, self and sister, Dorothy Scollin, with the buildings
8/2/1947	1144/333	Riley to Scollin	Frank C. Riley grant to myself Frank C. Riley and Mary Scollin, Lowell, as joint tennents land and buildings.
6/24/1947	1066/541	Riordan to Riley	Charolette Riordan, unmarried, to Frank C. Riley, Chelmsford, the land and buildings being lots 1-2-3&4 on 1896 Plans, Plan Bk 11, Plan 49. with restrictions.
2/19/1946	1037/105	Riley to Main	Frank C. Riley, unmarried of Chelms, for cons pd, grant to Beverly Main, Lowell, the land and buildings on lots 1-2-3&4. Subject to restrictions
10/10/1940	1037/106	Main to Riley et al.	Beverly Main, unmarried, grant to Frank C. Riley, Chelmsford and Charolette Riordan, Lowell, as joint tennents the land and buildings, with restrictions.
10/8/1940	952/546	Riley to Hogan	Katherine T. Riley, formerly Kate Scollin fo Chelmsford, grant to Wllm A. Hogan, Lowell the land and buildings, Lot 1-2-3+4, with restrictions
10/8/1940	952/517	Hogan to Riley	William A. Hogan, unmarried, Lowell, grant to Frank C. and Catherine T. Riley, husband and wife, Chelmsford, the land and buildings lots 1-2-3+4, with restrictions.
12/7/1920	646/569	Perham to Riley	James C. Perham, Scotia, New York, grant to Katherine T. Riley, wife of Frank C. Riley Chelmsford, the land containing 4999 sq ft. being lot 4, Plan Bk 11. Plan 49, 1896. The real estate devised from will of Estelle Perham, Mother, to David and James Perham. With restrictions, same as above.
2/25/1920	646/570	Perham to Riley	James Perham, Scotia, New York, grant to Kate T. Riley, wife of Frank C. Riley, of Chelmsford, the land containing 5000 sq ft, being all of Lot#3, Plan Bk 11, Plan 49, 1896 with restrictions. Being a portion of real estate left by mother Estelle Perham to David and James.
6/23/1914	602/109	Perham to Riley	Estelle Riley, Chelkmsford, unmarried, grant to Catherine T. Riley, Chelmsford, the land containing 5629 sq ft. being lot #1 in Plan Bk 11, Plan 49, 1896.
10-26-1899	/111	Perham to Scullin	Henry Perham, Chelmsford, grant to Kate Scullin, Lowell, for \$1.00 a lot of land, being Lot 2 in Plan Bk 11, Plan 49, 1896. with restrictions: No building shall be erected less than 10 ft from st., no intoxicating liquors shall be manufactured or sold on premises. Containing 5288 sq ft. No dwelling shall be erected less than \$800.00.

Town Of Chelmsford  
50 Billerica Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824



Chelmsford Historical Commission  
Delay of Demolition  
**Determination of Applicability**

The Chelmsford Historical Commission finds the application for demolition of:

Property: 280 Chelmsford Street, 1909 Victorian "Four Square"  
*Address of property - description, i.e., type of structure*

as presented by: Cuong Bui  
*Owner or contractor*  
280 Chelmsford Street  
Chelmsford, MA 01824  
*Address of owner/contractor*

on: October 4, 2007

to be within the guideline of the Demolition Delay bylaw, Ch. 16, Town of Chelmsford,  
and has notified the Town of Chelmsford Inspector of Buildings of said determination.  
The Inspector of Buildings may issue a permit for demolition.

  
*Signature of Historical Commission Representative*

December 11, 2007  
*date*

Linda V. Prescott  
*Print name of Historical Commission Representative*

cc: Inspector of Buildings  
Town Manager

CHC 2005-1



280 Chelmsford Street

11/3/2006 F. Merriam





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