

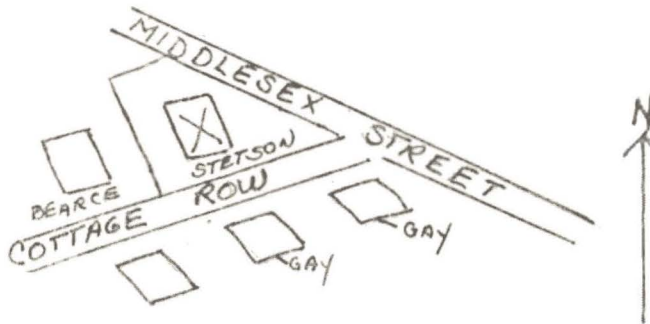
**FORM B - BUILDING**

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	109



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



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

1. Town Chelmsford

Address 1 Cottage Row

Name Stetson House

Present use residence

Present owner George R. Welch, Jr.

3. Description

Date 1836

Source Chelmsford Tax/Valuation record

Style Georgian

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric aluminum siding

Outbuildings (describe) garage

Other features see attached

Altered aluminum siding Date 1970

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

7760 sq. ft.  
One acre or less

Approximate distance of building from street  
ca 15 feet

6. Recorded by Dorothy A. Morris

Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission

Date January 16, 1981

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Zenas Stetson  
 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian
Commerce	_____	Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation
Communication	_____	Political	_____	
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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

Little is known about the first owner of this house, Zenas Stetson, a foundry worker from Lowell, who purchased the land from Lincoln Drake, an iron founder from Easton, Massachusetts in 1835. He built the house for a family residence sometime during 1836 for his wife, Martha, and his sons, Zenas T. and George G. Stetson. Records indicate that George G. Stetson enlisted in the army during the Civil War and fought at Andersonville. He returned to Chelmsford to work as a machinist at a spinning mill in North Chelmsford and married a local girl, Nancy J. Durant. Zenas T. Stetson remained single all his life. He was a laborer and flagman at the Main Street railroad crossing. George G. Stetson became owner of the house upon the deaths of his parents and brother, who had boarded with him and his wife. Ownership of the property by the Stetson family ended with the sale of it by George G. Stetson in 1918 to Albert and Emma Stopherd of Chelmsford. Nothing is known about the Stopherds. In 1943 George R. and Mary A. Welch purchased the house from the estate of the Stopherds. George Welch was employed for over twenty five years with the Bentley Wool Company of North Chelmsford and for over twenty five more years as assistant manager of The Yorick Club in Lowell. He died in July, 1980. He had sold the property at one Cottage Row to his son, George R. Welch, Jr., in 1962 but continued to reside there. The house today is the residence of George R. Welch, Jr. and his wife, Marilyn.

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

1875, 1878, & 1889 maps  
 Chelmsford valuation/tax lists; Chelmsford Directory; Chelmsford Town Clerk's records; Chelmsford Building Inspector's Record  
 Waters, HISTORY OF CHELMSFORD, 1917  
 Beers, Atlas, 1875  
 Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds  
 Bk. 592, pg. 196, George G. Stetson to Albert Stopherd 1918  
 Bk. 995, pg. 512, Albert Stopherd to George R. Welch 1943  
 Bk. 1546, pg. 409, George R. Welch to George R. Welch, Jr. 1962  
 Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds  
 Bk. 355, pg. 308, Lincoln Drake to Zenas Stetson 1835

1 Cottage Row

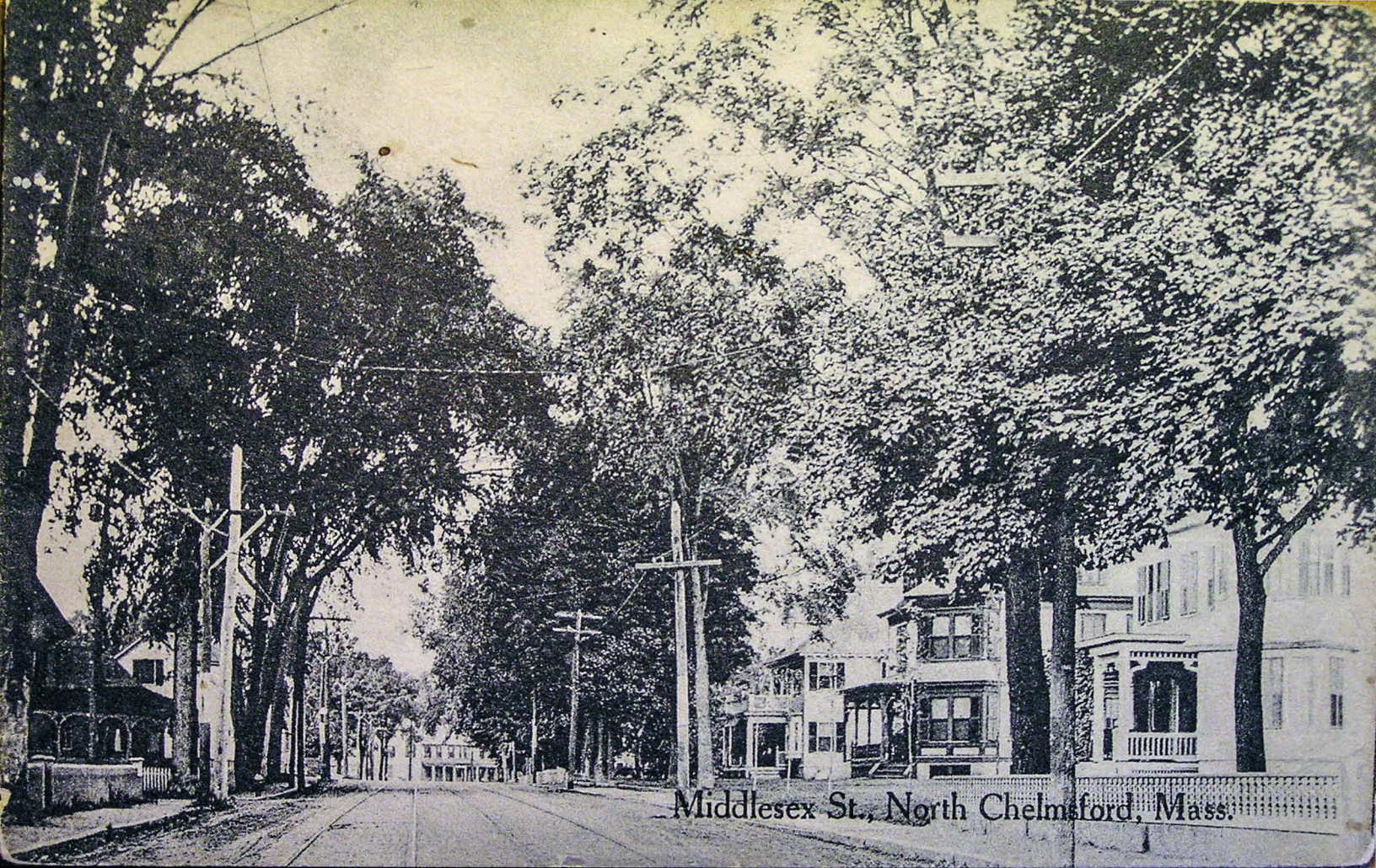
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

1546, pg. 409	2/12/1962 .	George R. Welch to George R. Welch, Jr. 7,760 square feet & buildings thereon
995, pg. 512	8/19/1943	Albert Stopherd to George R. Welch & Mary A. Welch 7,760 square feet & buildings thereon
Bk. 592, pg. 196	10/3/1918	George G. Stetson to Albert Stopherd & Emma Stopherd 28 1/2 rods & buildings thereon Acquired by George G. Stetson as only heir-at-law of his father, Zenas Stetson and of his brother, Zenas T. Stetson Zenas Stetson d. 12/24/1847 Zenas T. Stetson d. 6/12/1918

Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds

355, pg. 308	9/1/1836	Lincoln Drake to Zenas Stetson 28 1/2 rods land
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Middlesex St., North Chelmsford, Mass.

1 Cottage Row on extreme left

Postcard Coutesy of Paul Pettazoni





8/7/2004 F. Merriam





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