

FORM B - BUILDING

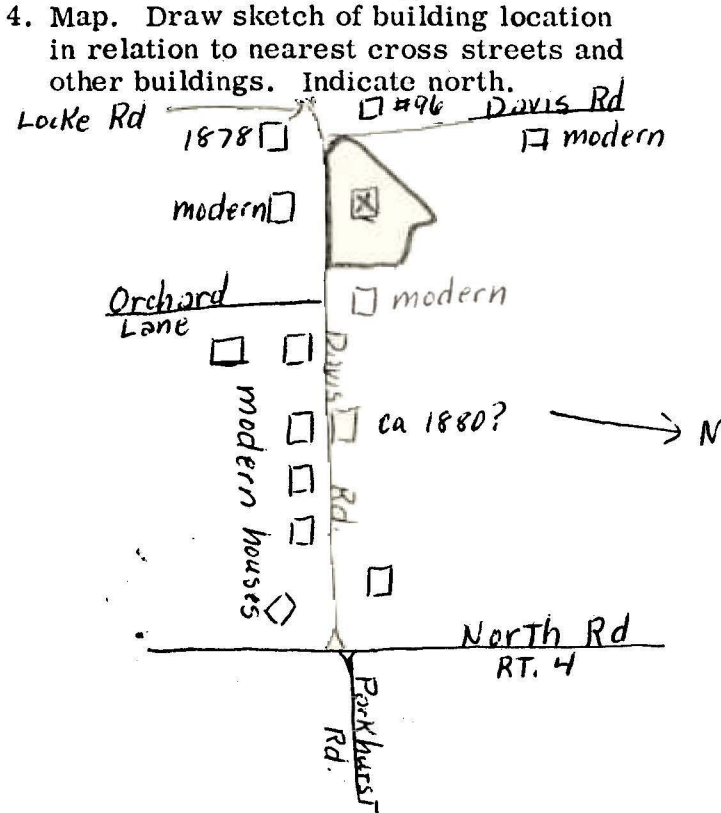
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	99



1. Town Chelmsford
 Address 21 Davis Road
 Name John Spalding House
 Present use residence - single
family
 Present owner James Lowrey

3. Description:
 Date ca 1820
 Source deeds, tax lists, Waters "Hist
 Style Federal
 Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric siding
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features _____



Altered see attached Date _____
 Moved no Date _____
 5 Lot size: house lot: 104,000 sq.
 adj. lot: 2.49 acres
 One acre or less _____ Over one acre x
 Approximate frontage 396 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street
ca 28 feet

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

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury
 Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission
 Date December 22, 1978

7. Original owner (if known) John Spalding (b. 1786; d. 1830)

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

John Spalding bought the land in Dec. 1816, two years after his marriage to Lydia Ditson of Dracut. He built the house & barn soon after this. In Feb., 18-- (probably 1821 or 1822) he was almost killed and his sight nearly destroyed by the accidental explosion of powder, when he was blasting rocks at Gen. Leach's foundry in North Chelmsford.

Following John Spalding's premature death in 1830 of a fever, his widow Lydia and daughter Emeline apparently carried on the work at the farm. Emeline later married Perley Perham, then a milkman, who for 30 years (until 1889) was engaged in the butchering & dressed beef business in Lowell under the name of Hall & Perham. Mr. Perham was always interested in town affairs and for 2 terms represented the district in the legislature.

In 1878 Perley P. Perham built and moved into a new house across the street; the old house was rented until 1894, when it was sold to Edgar Barclay, a builder and carpenter. However, a later owner, William E. Adams, returned the land to agriculture, when he raised fruit. In 1978 the property is simply a residence.

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

Chelmsford tax/real estate valuation lists

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds:

Bk. 8, p. 530(1816); Bk. 253, p. 4(1894)

"The Spalding Memorial," by Charles Warren Spalding, 1896

"History of Chelmsford" by Rev. Wilson Waters, 1917

Lowell Courier-Citizen, Sept. 15, 1910

Transactions of Chelmsford 1st Parish Church, microfilm #868443

"Chelmsford Vital Statistics to 1850"

Lowell Suburban Directory, Chelmsford 1922

Beers Atlas, 1875; County Business Notices; Maps of 1831, 1856

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

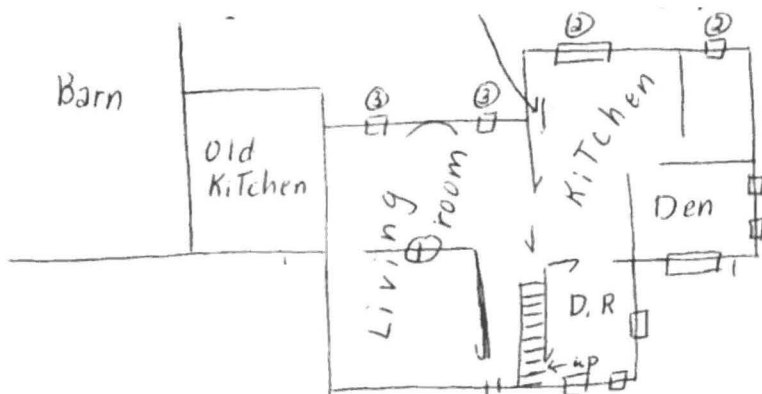
Community: Chelmsford	Form No: 99
Property Name: John Spalding House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

3. Altered

Before Merrill ownership:
addition on right rear (northeast) side - may have been added
by Willie Adams (ca 1920), when he first moved in.

1961 - 1973) - second floor changes



- 1) removed by Merrill 1958
- 2) put in by Merrill 1953
- 3) put in by Merrill 1958

1953

washroom(bath) installed - right rear corner (was part of the kitchen
builder - George Pickard
kitchen - maple panelling installed
windows installed in rear wall - 1 large in kitchen,
1 small in washroom

ca 1958-59

rear terrace built by Merrill himself

1958

living room partition (1) removed
rear wall of living room - fireplace (chimney) & bay
windows (1 each side of fireplace) put in
builder - Warren Lahue

1974 or 1975

garage addition - rear of carriage shed, left of large barn,
attached.

21 Davis Road
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

North: Book 2074, pg. 704	7/ 9/1973	Elmer F. & Dorothy M. Burns to James A. & Jeanne R. Lowrey 104,000 sq. ft. land & buildings 2,49 acres land adjoining - Lot B Cullen Plan
North: Book 1530, pg. 570	9/29/1961	Winslow E. & Ruth A. Merrill to Elmer F. & Dorothy M. Burns 104,000 sq. ft. land & buildings 2.49 acres land adjoining - Lot B Cullen Plan
North: Book 1223, pg. 563	5/21/1953	George A. & Adeline L. Whittier to Winslow E. & Ruth A. Merrill 104,000 sq. ft. land & buildings
North: Book 1141, pg. 140	5/25/1950	William E. Adams to George A. & Adeline L. Whittier, Lynn, Mass. 104,000 sq. ft. land & buildings
North: Book 823, pg. 494	3/30/1933	Adelbert B. Adams, Albany, N.Y. to William E. Adams $\frac{1}{2}$ interest - 7 acres land & buildings thereon $\frac{1}{2}$ interest - 12.33 acres land Lots 3 & 4 Pease Plan $\frac{1}{2}$ interest - 5 acres land $\frac{1}{2}$ interest - 33 acres & 24 sq. rods and buildings thereon
North: Book 631, pg. 238	7/ 1/1920	Frank E. Putnam to William E. & Adelbert B. Adams 7 acres land & buildings well restriction 12.33 acres land Lots 3 & 4 Pease Plan 5 acres land 33 acres & 24 sq. rods land & buildings thereon
North: Book 355, pg. 184	3/14/1903	Perley P. Perham to Frank E. Putnam, Lowell 7 acres land & buildings thereon well restriction
North: Book 336, pg. 404	9/21/1901	Edgar P. Barclay, Lowell, to Perley P. Perham 7 acres land & buildings thereon well restriction

North: Book 253, pg.	4	3/23/1894	Emeline A. & Perley P. Perham to Edgar P. Barclay \$4300 7 acres land & buildings thereon well restriction
North: Book 8, pg. 530			
South: Book 218, pg. 504		12/ 2/1816	Elijah Richardson, yeoman, to John Spalding 2 ^d \$350 land

1953-1961



Lowell Courier-Citizen

Sept. 15, 1910 - Without formal observance of the event, Perley P. Perham, a resident of Chelmsford since young manhood, passed today the 87th anniversary of his birth.

He was born at Wilton, N.H. For nearly 30 years he was engaged in the butchering and dressed beef business conducted at Lowell under the name of Hall & Perham. In 1889 the business was purchased by sons of the partners, the present Hall, Perham & Co.

Mr. Perham has always been interested in the affairs of the town and for two terms represented this district in the legislature. For many years he was closely identified with the affairs of the Middlesex North Agricultural society, and last fall, when the annual event took place in Chelmsford, was able to attend.

With the exception of failing eye-sight, he retains his faculties to an unusual degree for his years, and his general health is good.

He is a director of the Wamesit National bank and a member of the board of investors of the Merrimack River savings bank. For more than 50 years he has been a constant attendant at the Unitarian church, being absent only when prevented by physical disability.

Mr. Perham was united in marriage on Oct. 5, 1847, to Miss Emiline A. Spaulding who will, on the 13th of next month, celebrate the 88th anniversary of her birth. Five children were born to them, four of whom are now living - Mrs. Louise E. Fowle, Mrs. Julia A. Hall and J. Waldo Perham of Chelmsford and Charles P. Perham of Lowell.

Picture

Jan. 23, 1911 - Mr. Perley P. Perham, who suffered a slight shock at his home, a week ago last Friday, has gradually failed since then and is now regarded as very seriously ill.

Jan. 27, 1911 - Reports of a more comfortable day were received tonight from the bedside of Perley P. Perham.

Feb. 1, 1911 - But little change is noted in the condition of Perley P. Perham, he remaining about the same for the past week.

Feb. 22, 1911 - There has been no particular change, during the past week, in the condition of Perley P. Perham.

Mar. 7, 1911 - Perley P. Perham, who has been critically ill for several weeks has failed gradually within the past ten days.

Mar. 16, 1911 - Perley P. Perham, one of Chelmsford's best known residents, died this morning after a prolonged illness. Mr. Perham suffered a shock several weeks ago and since that time gradually grew worse until death came at an early hour this morning. Deceased was 87 years old.

Mr. Perham was born in Wilton, N.H., and came to Chelmsford when a young man. He started in the beef business as a member of the firm of Hall & Perham of Lowell and later this firm was taken over by the sons of the owners.

Deceased always took an active part in the town's business and on two occasions represented the district in the house of representatives. He was a member of the Unitarian church and of the Unitarian society and was closely associated with the Middlesex North Agricultural Society. He was a director of the Wamesit National bank and a member of the board of investors of the Merrimack Savings bank.

He was married on Oct. 5, 1847, to Emmeline A. Spaulding and of this union five children were born, four now living. Mrs. Perham, who survives her husband, is one year his senior. Besides his wife he leaves his daughters, Mrs. Louise E. Fowle and Mrs. Julia A. Hall of Chelmsford, and his sons, J. Waldo

of Chelmsford and Charles P. Perham of Lowell. There are also eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. A half-brother, ^Uemuel W. Perham, lives in Wilton, N.H.

The funeral services will be held at the Unitarian church at 2:30 P.M. Sunday, following prayers at 1 o'clock at the home.

May 15, 1911- Mrs. Perley P. Perham has closed her house in the north part of the village and will make her home with her daughters, Mrs. W.R. Fowle and Mrs. W.S. Hall in Billerica street.

July 4, 1911 - The death of Mrs. Emmeline A. (Spaulding) Perham, widow of the late Perley P. Perham, occurred very suddenly this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W.R. Fowle in Billerica street. Mrs. Perham was prostrated on Monday by the extreme heat, a shock of apoplexy resulting. She was born in Chelmsford, October 13, 1823 the daughter of John and Lydia Spaulding. On Oct. 5, 1847 she was united in marriage to Perley P. Perham and they always made Chelmsford their home. His death occurred in March of the present year. Five children were born to them, four of whom are now living, Charles P. Perham of Lowell, J. Waldo Perham of Chelmsford, Mrs. Louise E. Fowle and Mrs. Julia A. Hall of Chelmsford. Since the death of her husband she has made her home with her daughters in Billerica street.

Nov. 10, 1911 - The residence and farm property of the late Perley P. Perham has been purchased by Pliny C. Bliss, who several months ago disposed of his place on Centre street. The property consists of an attractive residence, commodious barn and about 16 acres of improved land, upon a part of which are 40 apple trees.



21 Davis Road

7/10/2005 F. Merriam





