

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

2644

Lowell

**Town/City:** Chelmsford

**Place:** *North Chelmsford*

**Address:** 89 Dunstable Road

**Historic Name:** Thomas Kerrigan House

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** 1895

**Source:** taxes

**Style/Form:**

**Architect/Builder:**

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation:

Wall/Trim: Vinyl

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** shed

**Major Alterations** Open porch at front door?

Ell attached to east side of house in 1996

Enclosed porch?

Deck on rear of house 1996, updated 2010

**Condition:** good

**Moved:**  no  yes **Date:**

**Acreage:** .28 acres

**Setting:** One of 3 cottages located near Vinal Square on the county road connecting North Chelmsford with Dunstable. It is in a mixed housing neighborhood with most houses built in the later half of the 1800's. A stream runs down one side and back of the property into a wetland behind the house.

**Recorded by:** Linda V. Prescott

**Organization:** Chelmsford Historical commission

**Date (month / year):** April 2021



MA\_Chelmsford\_89\_DunstableRoad\_IMG\_9189\_CHC\_2021

## Locus Map

*See Continuation Sheet*

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TOWN

ADDRESS

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

89 Dunstable Road sits on the left of a group of three houses close to the street. A small drive way leads from the street along the West elevation. The house has been added onto in the rear at a later date. The original footprint was 19'x40' and 15'x26' one and a half story "L" shape. There is a front porch on the South elevation anchored on the left by a bay window and a square column on the right. The roof is architectural shingles. The one and a half story gables are average pitch. The siding has been covered with vinyl and the soffits have been covered with aluminum. There are a few original brackets that have been left exposed at the corners. The South elevation has an entry door to the East on the first floor under the porch. The upper floor has a pair of double hung windows. The rear wing has a modern bay window. The East elevation has a diamond shaped window on the South side and a small double mulled double hung window and a single double hung window on the first floor. The upper floor has a single double hung window at the gable. The West elevation has a double mulled double hung window and a single double hung on the first floor. The house sits on a field stone foundation. Out building is aa all plywood Reed's Ferry Shed probably from the 1990's.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*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 the 1800's, North Chelmsford became a "booming" community due t it's numerous, mostly wool mills and granite quarries. There was a tremendous need for worker housing and that is where and when Mrs. John (Amelia) Marinel saw an opportunity. Like so many, Mr. and Mrs. John Marinel were immigrants arriving here in 1870 or 1873 as newlyweds from England (1). Over several years, Mrs. Marinel purchased several plots of land and built housing. She built her own home and three cottages on what was called the Sleeper and the Joselyn Lots (2). During the years 1884-5, Mrs. Marinel built "3 cottages" near her own home on the main Road to Dunstable (3). It appears she rented the 2 family cottage until 1919 when her "heirs" sold them (4).

This house was sold to Thomas J. and Ellen Kerrigan (5). Both Kerrigans were born in 1893. John was born in Dublin Ireland and arrived in New York on September 9, 1915 ready to live the American dream, to own a piece of land and his own house (6). On August 3, 1919, Thomas married American born Ellen O'Sullivan of Lowell (7). In December 1916, Thomas applied for citizenship (8) and on June 5, 1917 filed for the draft (9). His World War I draft application indicates he was single at the time and worked for the Moore Wool Mill in North Chelmsford. After the war on August 3, 1919, he married Ellen O'Sullivan of Lowell and on November 8, 1919, Ellen and Thomas bought the house from the Marinel family (10). The Kerrigans raised their 5 children in the house (11). Newspapers indicate the Kerrigans volunteered and Thomas was an active member of the American Legion. Ellen passed in 1947 and Thomas died in 1954 (13). The family sold the house to William and Peggy Swanton.

William Swanton with his British born wife, a war bride, bought the house in 1954 (14). On February 4, 1946, the Lowell Sun published an article about William's reunion with his wife Peggy and 5-month-old daughter (15). They lived there with their young family until 1962 when it was sold to R. Lincoln O'Brien and then in 1983 to the present owners.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1. U.S. Passenger and Immigrant List, 1870, Ancestry.com
2. Ancestry.com
3. Middlesex North Registry of Deeds
4. Middlesex North Registry of Deeds
5. Middlesex North Registry of Deeds
6. Ancestry.com

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7. Boston Archdiocese Roman Catholic Sacramental Records, Ancestry.com
  8. Naturalization Records. Ancestry.com
  9. World War I Draft Records, Ancestry.com
  10. Middlesex North Registry of Deeds
  11. Lowell Sun, Newspaperarchive.com
  12. Lowell Sun, Feb. 6, 1946, Newspaperarchive.com
  13. Find a Grave, Ancestry .com
  14. Middlesex North Registry of Deeds
  15. Lowell Sun, Newspaperarchive.com

Fred Merriam, Photographer  
Will Arvidson, Architect  
Linda Prescott, Historian

89 Dunstable Road  
Taxes

YEAR	DIST	PG	LINE	NAMES	DESCRIPTION	
1882	8	9	36	Burnham, Chas F , Westford	set to John Marinel 1 Barn (R.S. Burnham) \$100- Joselyn Imp Land 5.5A	
1893	8	40	41	Mrs. John Marinel	Dwelling 1800- Home Imp Land 5A 500- 300-	Barn
1895	8	41	36	Mrs. John Marinel	Dwelling 1800- Home Imp Land 5A 600- <b>Dwellings (new)1000-</b> Barn 300-	<b>3</b> 1
1896	8	37	34	Mrs. John Marinel	Blacksmith Shop & Shed 100- Dwelling 1800- Home Imp Land 5A 600- <b>Dwellings (near own)2200-</b> Stone Shed Imp Land 1/2A 100- 2 Dwellings (stone sheds) 1000- unfinished (4 ten) 600- Barn 300-	<b>3</b> 1 1
1897	8	39	12	Mrs. John Marinel	Blacksmith Shop & Shed 100- Dwelling 1800- Home Imp Land 5A 600- <b>Dwellings (near own)2200-</b> Stone Shed Imp Land 1/2A 100- 2 Dwellings (stone sheds) 1000- unfinished (4 ten) 600- Barn 300-	<b>3</b> 1 1
1901	8	54	17	Mrs. John Marinel	Blacksmith Shop & Shed 100- Dwelling \$1800- Home Imp Land 5A 700- <b>Dwellings near own \$2300-</b> Coburn Land 3/8A 300- Dwelling Coburn 700- Stone Shed Land 1/2A 200- 4 ten dwelling nr Stone sheds 2000- Wotton Imp Land 17,000sq' 200- Barn 300- Barn Coburn 200- Blacksmith Shop and shed 100-	<b>3</b>
1919	8	113	39	Marinel, George & Lillian	see Maria Djunning Dist 8 see Mrs. John Marinel (Hemlow) property & Muller, John & Chars. Dist 8 Dwelling (Hemlow) \$1150- Home Imp L .75A Shed \$100- 6600 sq.'	
1919	8	114	3	Marinel, John Mrs. Heirs and Devises	<b>Set to Thomas J and Ellen Kerrigan Dist 8 Cottage 11,000 sq.'</b> Set to Thomas J. and Eliz Leman Dist 8 Cottage 1089 sq.' Set to Lillian M. Marinel Dist 8 Dwelling #2 \$1000- Home Imp L 7500sq.' \$200- Dwelling #3 \$900- Dwelling Coburn #1 \$2100- Coburn Imp L #1 8164sq' \$350- Dwelling Coburn #2 \$2100- " " " #2 " "	

89 Dunstable Road  
Resident Lists

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	YEAR	PG	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	OCCUPATION	NOTES	AGE
2							
3	1921	274	Kerrigan	Thomas J	mill oper		
4				(Ellen M)			
5	1925	220	"	Thomas J	mill oper		
6				(Ellen M)			
7	1930-31		"	Ellen M.	at home		36
8	1932	163	"	Thomas J	wool sorter		
9				(Ellen)			
10				Thomas J	wool sorter		38
11	1938-39		"	Thomas	woolorter		45
12				Ellen M.	at home		45
13	1939-40		"	Thomas J	woolorter		46
14				Ellen M.	housewife		45
15	1940-41		"	Thomas J	wool sorter		48
16				Ellen M.	housewife		48
17				Ellen M.	maid		20
18				Maragret	secretary		21
19	1941-42		"	Thomas J	wool sorter		48
20				Ellen M.	housewife		48
21				Ellen M.	maid		20
22				Margaret M	secretary		21
23	1943		"	Thomas J	woolorter		49
24				Ellen M.	housewife		48
25				Ellen M.	housework		21
26				Margaret M	secretary		22
27	1944		"	Thomas J	wool sorter		50
28				Ellen M.	housewife		50
29				Ellen M.	housework		21
30				Margaret M	secretary		23
31	1945		"	Thomas J	wool sorter		51
32				Ellen M.	housewife		51
33				Ellen M.	housework		22
34				Margaret M	secretary		24
35	1946		"	Thomas J	wool sorter		51
36				Ellen M.	housewife		52
37				Margaret M	secretary		25
38	1947		"	Thomas J	woolorter		53
39				Thomas J, Jr	millworker		20
40				Ellen M.	housewife		53
41	1948		"	Thomas J	woolorter		54
42				Thomas j, Jr	millworker		21
43				Ellen M.	wife, no entry		
44	1949		"	Thomas J	woolorter		55
45				Thomas J, Jr	millworker		22
46	1950		"	Thomas J	woolorter		56
47				Thomas j, Jr	millworker		23
48				Mary E	housekeeper		20
49	1951		"	Thomas J. Jr	woolorter	8 Maple rRd	24
50				Thomas J, Sr.	woolorter	89 Dunstable Rd	57
51	1952		"	Thomas J, Sr.	woolorter		58
52	1953		"	Thomas J, Sr.	wool sorter		59
53	1954		"	Thomas J, Sr.		no entry	
54	1955-56		Swanton	William R.	R.R. Worker	89 Dunsstable Rd	30
55				Peggy	housemaid		30
56	1957			William R.	railroad worker		31
57				Peggy	housewife		31
58	1958			William R.	R.R. Worker		32
59				Peggy	housewife		32
60							
61							
62	1959		Swanton	Peggy	housewife		12/24/1925

89 Dunstable Road  
Resident Lists

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
63				William	laboror		11/18/1987
64				William R.	R.R.		10/17/1925
65	1960			William			
66				William R.			
67				Peggy			
68	1961			William			
69				William R.			
70				Peggy			
71	1963		Johnson	Charles O.	quarry	from 10 Leedsburg St.	1901
72					at home	from 10 Leedsburg St.	1908
73	1966			Mary E.	housewife		1918
74				R. Lincoln	Attorney	from Lowell	1923
75	1967	126		Mary E.	housewife		1918
76				R. Lincoln	Attorney		1923

# 89 Dunstable



**MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY  
NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT**

Town of Chelmsford, MA makes no claims and no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the validity or accuracy of the GIS data presented on this map.

Geometry updated 01/01/2018  
Data updated 11/18/2018





89 Dunstable Road, 2 April 2021, both by Fred Merriam

