

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

93-357-15	Billerica		151
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Town Chelmsford
 Place (neighborhood or village) Chelmsford Center

Address 72 High Street
 Historic Name Enos Hanson House
 Uses: Present residence
 Original residence
 Date of Construction 1882
 Source tax records; deed bk 150, pg. 130
 Style/Form Victorian
 Architect/Builder 1st owner was Enos Hanson
 Exterior Material:
 Foundation main house: fieldstones cemented together

Wall/Trim clapboard
 Roof ridge, front to back

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures stable

Major Alterations (with dates) See continuation sheets

Condition
 Moved no yes Date

Acreage 77972 sq. ft.

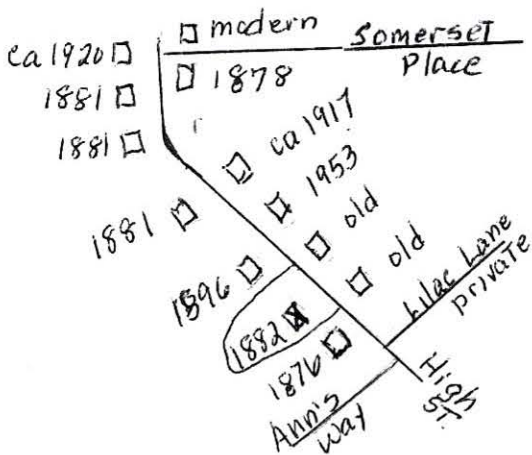
Setting
 It is in a residential with houses on both sides and across the street. Behind the house the land goes down to a garden & lawn, behind which the property is lightly wooded. A paved driveway on the left side of the dwelling leads from the road up to the attached barn.



MA_Chelmsford_HighStreet_72_IMG_3107
 11/24/2006 CHC_2006_2 FSM

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization for Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (month year) June 2006

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

This dwelling at 72 High St. is one of three built for Jasper Elliott and his brother Ephraim and sister Sarah Elliott. 66 High St. was Jasper's house, 72 High St. was Sarah's house; and 84 High St. was Ephraim's house. Originally they had similar architectural designs with similar floor plans. However, the attached barn at 84 High St. was at the right rear of the main house, while the other two houses have the barn attached to the rear. They are of a simple design, commonly found in Chelmsford, with the ridge roof going front to back..

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 January 1882 Jasper Elliott purchased 2 acres of land from Edwin Parkhurst and in April sold it to his sister, Sarah Hanson. One month later, in May the erection of the house was commenced. It and the barn were finished by the next year. Sarah, born in Canada, and her husband, Enos H. Hanson, a New Hampshire native, had resided in Lowell before coming to Chelmsford in 1884. While in Lowell Mr. Hanson worked for the Merrimack Corporation but in Chelmsford he "followed the occupation of farming. He was a quiet man and unpretentious in manner, of simple tastes and correct habits, and industry and integrity were conspicuous traits of his character." Both Enos and Sarah Hanson were faithful members of the Central Baptist Church. "She was a woman of industrious habits, kind-hearted and sympathetic, and an excellent neighbor." However, she died early in 1897. He died three years later, in 1900, while staying at the home of relatives Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kimball, who lived on Westford Street. Frank Kimball had inherited the 72 High Street property from Sarah Hanson, his wife's sister.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds, Bk. 150, pg. 130; Bk. 151, pg. 466 (1882, Elliott to Hanson)
Records of Chelmsford town clerk, assessors
Scrapbook of Stella Perham
Lowell Weekly Journal: Feb. 26, 1897; March 5, 1897; Lowell Sun: Sept. 2, 1980; Mar. 29, 1992
Street directories: Chelmsford & Lowell
Census records: University of Lowell, Special Collections Library
Chelmsford Real Estate/Tax records
Monica Kemt: Apr. 7, May 28, 2006

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

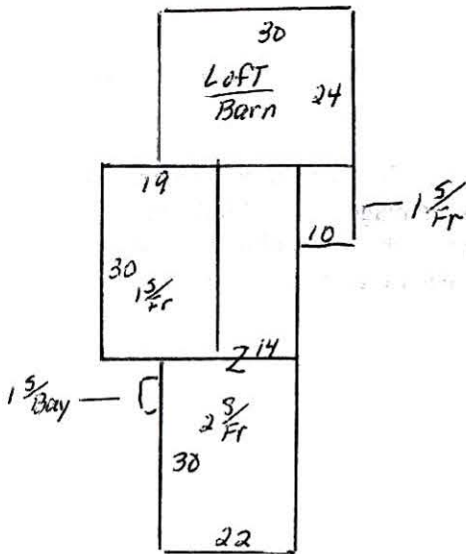
INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
CHELMSFORD

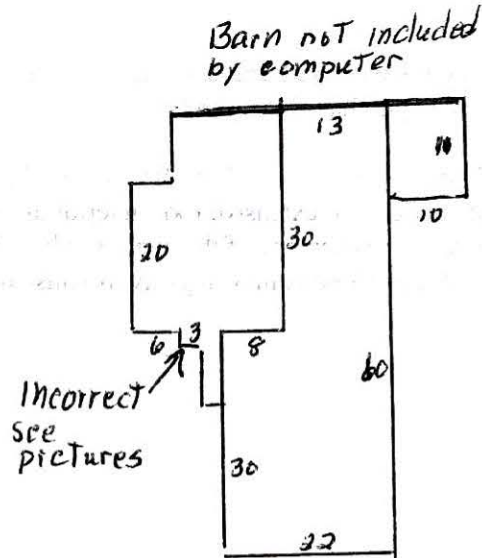
Property Address
72 HIGH STREET

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

Area(s) Form No.



May 1971



Dec. 2005

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town **CHELMSFORD** Property Address **72 HIGH STREET**

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
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151

HISTORY

In 1901 John N. Whitcomb purchased the property at 72 High Street, coming here from Littleton. He and his wife lived here for about 15 years. In 1916 they moved to Gorham St. in East Chelmsford and sold 72 High Street to Herbert E. and Amy Davis of Lowell. The Davis family did reside in this house, although Herbert worked as a dentist in Lowell. The property remained under Davis ownership for 7 years. The owners between 1923 and 1930 were Frank & Amy Parker. Frank also worked in Lowell, but as a machinist. William B. & Annie Northrup lived elsewhere in Chelmsford before purchasing the residence in 1930. He was a superintendent of New England Tel. & Tel. Company in Boston but retired after moving to 72 High St.

Fenner Peckam, an electrical engineer, and his wife Barbara, and later Blanche and Malcolm Weeks, a salesman, were owners and residents until the current owners purchased the property in 1968.

As a result of a hard thunder storm on Sept. 1, 1980, a two alarm fire occurred at 72 High St. "The barn, which was used for storage," was struck by lightning and "underwent extensive roof, interior and smoke damage." On March 19, 1992 the barn was again saved from burning completely. When one of the owners called the fire in, she was told that all units were out fighting brush fires. She responded that they should hurry anyway, because the flames were coming through the roof.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

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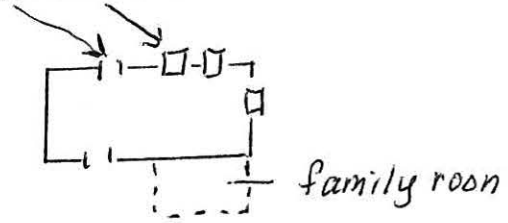
72 HIGH ST.

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Alterations

before 1971 1 story addition to woodshed/ell at right rear, probably in 1958 - 68 period, to become part of the kitchen.
present owners: use it as an eating area.

1972, April porch added: on left side of shed/ell next to new family room, at location of old porch & made larger
family room added: pitched roof, asphalt shingles: 18 ft/ high: 14' x 30'; wood
former door to kitchen opened up: 2 windows made into doors
builder: Dick Anderson

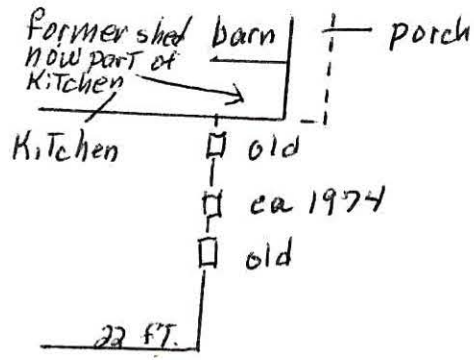


1974 ca new bay window on right side of ell

1980, Sept. 1 fire in rear ell (barn used for storage); lightning strike; extensive roof, interior & smoke damage; \$15,000 to repair
builder: Ralph House, Construction Corporation

1985 addition for storage: 20' x 14'; 1 story; roof slanted, fiber glass covered; concrete posts on ground. Is on left side of barn, which is at rear and 90 degrees to barn
barn repaired

1992, March 19 fire mostly in rear barn, flames came through roof
screened porch added: rear of right side of ell & right side of barn
roof line of the shed was changed so the porch could be added on.
The barn roofline did not need changing.



72 High Street
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Bk. 1838, pg. 382	April 4, 1968	Malcolm E. & Blanche D. Weeks to Alan T. & Monica W. Kent 1 A. & 126.40 rods & buildings thereon 1875 plan – northwest portion. Lot 4 same: 1952 Peckham deed, bk. 1201, pg. 404
Bk. 1201, pg. 404	Aug. 1, 1952	Fenner H. & Barbara A. Peckham, Putnam Heights, CT, to Malcolm E. & Blanche D. Weeks, Melrose 1 A. & 126.40 rods & buildings thereon 1875 plan – northwest portion, Lot 4 same: 1950 Lindsay deed, bk. 1157, pg. 222 [2 nd lot] & 1945 Northrup deed, bk. 1019, pg. 495
Bk. 1019, pg. 495	Feb. 1945	William B. & Annie B. Northrup to Fenner H. & Barbara A. Peckham 2 A. & buildings thereon restriction: Jasper Elliott deed same: 1930 Parker deed, bk. 793, pg. 145
Bk. 793, pg. 145	Aug. 8, 1930	Frank L. & Amy L. Parker to William B. & Annie Northrup 2 A. & buildings thereon restriction: Jasper Elliott deed same: 1923 Davis deed, bk. 697, pg. 99
Bk. 697, pg. 99	Dec. 26, 1923	Herbert E. & Amy B. Davis, husband & wife; Edward P. Davis, unmarried, to Frank L. & Amy L. Parker, husband & wife 2 A. & buildings thereon: on south side rd past Jasper Elliott's house subject: restrictions same: 1916 Whitcomb deed, bk. 555, pg. 261 1920 David deed, bk. 637, pg. 365
Bk. 637, pg. 365	Oct. 4, 1920	Harold A. Davis, unmarried, Lake Co., Indiana, to Edward P. Davis, N.Y., NY ½ part: 2 A. & buildings thereon: on south side rd past Jasper Elliott's house subject: restrictions in Jasper Elliott deed same: 1916 Whitcomb deed, bk. 555, pg. 261
Bk. 560, pg. 131	July 28, 1916	Herbert E. & Amy B. Davis, Lowell, to Edward P. Davis, N.Y., NY ½ part: 2 A. & buildings thereon: on south side rd past Jasper Elliott's house subject: restrictions in J. Elliott 1882 deed, bk. 151, pg. 466 same: 1916 Whitcomb deed, bk. 555, 261

Bk. 555, pg. 261	May 24, 1916	John N. Whitcomb to Herbert E. & Amy B. Davis, Lowell 2 A. & buildings thereon: on south side rd past Jasper Elliott's house subject: restrictions in J. Elliott 1882 deed, bk. 151, pg. 466 part of: 1901 Kimball deed, bk. 336, pg. 75
Bk. 336, pg. 75	Oct. 1, 1901	Frank E. Kimball to John N. Whitcomb, Littleton 2 parcels & buildings thereon: 1. 2 A.: on south side of rd. past Jasper Elliott's house same: 1882 Hanson deed, bk. 151, pg. 466 subject: easements & conditions 2. 3 A. & 10 sq. rods: on northerly side of Robbin's Hill same: 1883 McCoy deed, bk. 161, pg. 28 title: will of Sarah J. Hanson
Middlesex Probate Docket #44509	1897 Will	Estate of Sarah J. Hanson
Bk. 151, pg. 466	April 4, 1882	Jasper Elliott to Sarah J. Hanson, Lowell \$600 2 A. land: south side of rd leading past house of said Elliott (on north side of Robbin's Hill reserving: use of well near line of grantor's other land, adjacent to his buildings condition: no drain, stable, or other thing shall be dug, or done by which water is rendered unfit for domestic use. same: 1882 Parkhurst deed, bk. 150, pg. 130
Bk. 150, pg. 130	jan. 10, 1882	Edwin K. Parkhurst to Jasper Elliott

Compiled by J. Drury May 8, 1979
Corrected by J. Drury Dec. 16, 2005

72 High Street

Vital Records

Death Enos Hanson
April 9, 1900
Place: Chelmsford
Sex: male
Color: white
Single, married, widowed
Age: 77 years; 1 month; 5 days
residence: Chelmsford
Occupation: farmer
Place of birth: Maine
Cause of death: senile cerebral atrophy
Place of burial: Lowell
Date of record: April 9, 1900

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings -- owned by Stella Perham, 1977

Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Byam were visited at their home No. 72 High Street on Wednesday night, the 10th anniversary of their marriage, by a host of gentleman friends.....

Newspapers

Lowell Weekly Journal

February 26, 1897 -- Mrs. E. H. Hanson still lingers, although last week it seemed that she could survive but a few hours. She seems to be constantly growing weaker.

March 5, 1897 -- Mrs. Sarah J. (Elliott) wife of Enos H. Hanson of Chelmsford, died at her home on High street Tuesday forenoon about 11 o'clock aged 72 years. She had been in failing health nearly a year, and during the past two weeks her death had been hourly expected. Mrs. Hanson was born in Canada, her parents were American people, having lived there a short time. She was a woman of industrious habits, kind hearted and sympathetic, an excellent neighbor and an earnest Christian believer, being a member of the Baptist church. Besides her husband, to whom she was a most faithful helpmeet, she leaves a sister, Mrs. Wilson Kimball, and two brothers, Ephraim Elliott and Jasper Elliott, all residents of Chelmsford, and a brother, Edmund, living in Minnesota.

March 5, 1897 -- the funeral of the late Mrs. E. H. Hanson took place Sunday afternoon from the family home on High street at 2:30 o'clock, Acting Pastor E. F. Snell of the Baptist church officiating. He paid a warm tribute to Mrs. Hanson's worth as a woman and to her Christian zeal and fidelity..... Buried in the Centre cemetery.

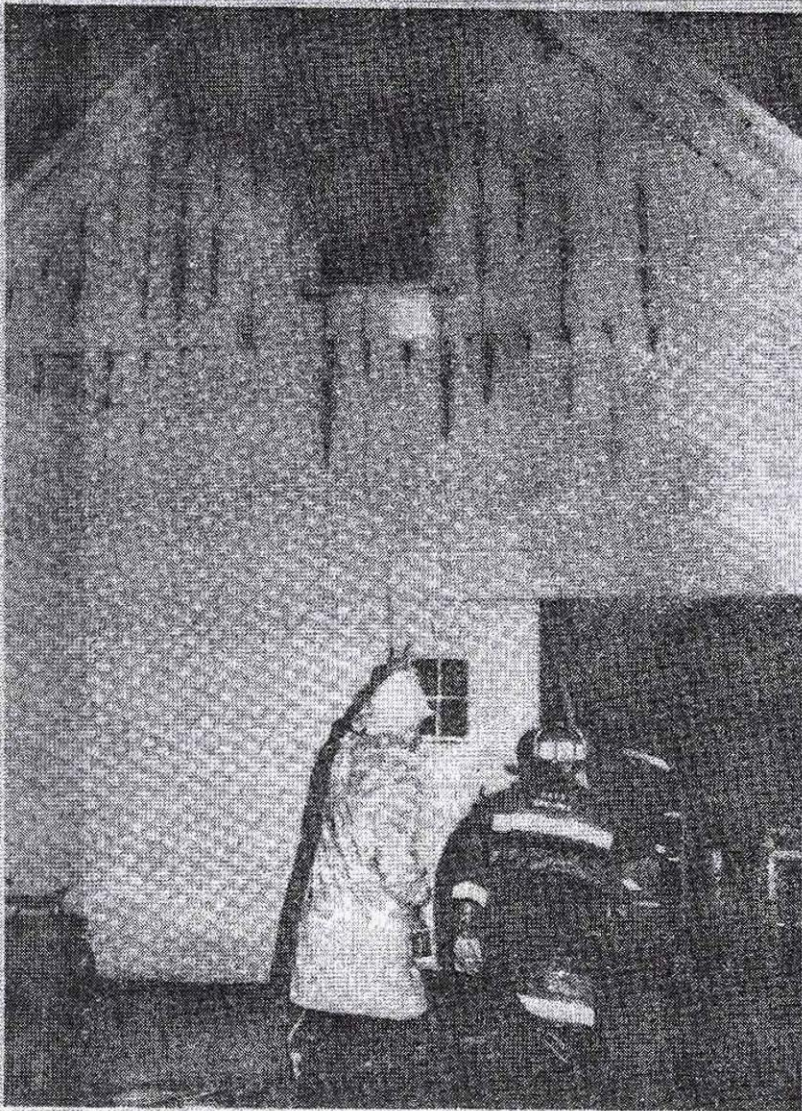
April 13, 1900 -- Enos H. Hanson of Chelmsford died at 3:15 Monday morning at his home in the family of a relative, Mrs. W. W. Kimball in Westford street. His wife passed away three years ago. For a term of years Mr. Hanson was in the employ of the Merrimack corporation, removing to Chelmsford in 1884 and establishing a home in High street, where he followed the occupation of farming. He was quiet and unpretentious in manner, of simple tastes and correct habits, and industry and integrity were conspicuous traits of his character..... In religious belief Mr. Hanson was a Baptist and a member of the local church. His age was about 77 years.....burial was in the Lowell cemetery.

Census records. University of Lowell, Special Collections Library

1870 census of Lowell, microfilm #627, pg. 44

Hanson, Enos H. age 47 years, male, white, works print(?) works, born New Hampshire
Hanson, Sarah J. age 45 years, female, white, keeping house, born New Hampshire

Lowell Sun
Sept. 2, 1980



Lightning strike

Sun Staff photo by David Brow

Chelmsford firefighters battle two-alarm blaze at the home of Dr. Alan

Kent, 72 High St., last night. The fire

was one of several set by lightning at the height of last night's thunderstorm.

Chelmsford firefighters are lauded for outstanding work

My family and I want to commend the men of the Chelmsford Fire Department and thank you all for an outstanding job executed Thursday March 19th, when you responded to a 911 call to a burning barn. Your immediate response and expert, professional handling of the situation was a tremendous comfort to us at a time of personal crisis.

Each man at the site was efficient, professional and more than courteous. They were sensitive not only to our personal needs, but also made every effort to minimize the damage and contain the devastation following the blaze.

This is the second time we owe the survival of our home and belongings to your expertise. We can never say thank you adequately, but please hear our thanks and know it comes from our hearts.

ALAN and MONICA KENT
Chelmsford



High Street #72

11/24/2006 F. Merriam



High Street #72

11/24/2006 F. Merriam