

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

Town Chelmsford

Place Chelmsford Center

Address 79 High Street

Historic Name Jed Luce House

Uses: Present residence

Original residence

Date of Construction 1916

Source Lowell Courier-Citizen

Style/Form

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material: wood

Foundation main house, mortared fieldstone

Siding/Trim clapboard

Roof ridge roof, left to right, asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

barn behind the house

garage right rear of the house

Major Alterations (with dates)

1975; family room added to left side of house.

2000; new kitchen and baths

earlier unknown date rear right side addition

Condition fair

Moved no yes **Date**

Acreage 1.52

Setting Paved drive leads on the right side of house from street to garage. A low mortared field stone retaining wall is between the house and drive. The drive slopes gently down. The barn is abt. 30 ft. from the rear of the house. The left of the house is wooded with a low stone wall following the lot line. In general, the whole lot has major overgrowth.

Photograph

(3" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.



MA_Chelmsford_79HighStreet_10-12-2007_IMG_0199

see attached map

Recorded by Linda V. Prescott and Jane B. Drury

Organization Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date May 2013

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD 79 HIGH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

--	--

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

This residence at 79 High Street is surrounded by mostly older houses, and its architecture is quite different from the older Victorian buildings. The one and a half story, 28' by 26' saltbox with the long side of the roof on the front of the house, sits very well on the lot slanting to the rear of the property. About 56' from the street. Mortared stone retaining walls creates a pleasant and functional landscape. The building is clad in wood clapboards and unless otherwise noted, has 8/8 replacement windows with flat trim and molded hoods. The foundation of the original house is mortared fieldstone. All roof surfaces are covered in asphalt shingles. The house has 2 brick chimneys: one on the main house, just below and in front of the roof ridge and just above the east side of the dormer. The second chimney is on the outside wall of the 1975 addition.

The roof on the front of the house, southeast side, extends over a 25' by 7' front porch with 3 arches across the front and a single arch on each side supported by 4 square wooden columns with a simple molded cap. The front of the house under the porch roof is the front door and two 8/8 windows west of the front door. In the center of the roof is a pair of shuttered windows with a shed style dormer.

The east side of the house has a pair of connected shuttered windows in the peak. The first floor, starting from the street end, is a 8/8 window, an oriel style, hip roofed, single lattice work window, a recent 1/1 kitchen window and a door onto a wooden landing and 6 stairs to the ground. The cellar wall is exposed and has a pair of rectangular windows divided into 3 sections. Directly off the northeast corner of the house is a 4' by 8' single story addition with the asphalt covered, shallow gable end at a right angle to the ridge of the main house. The addition has a small window on the east door landing and another 8/8 on the north side. The addition has an exposed cellar with a full story door in the north wall.

The back of the house, north side, has 2 evenly spaced windows on the first floor and a shed roof single window dormer in the east end of the center of the roof.

On the west side of the house, attached to the northwest wall, is the 1975, 24' by 20' single story addition with a gabled roof, an end exterior end chimney and poured concrete foundation. On the north side of the addition in the middle of the wall is a single pane picture window. On the south side are 3 small connected windows centrally located just under the eaves.

The west side of the main house has a single window on the first floor and a pair of connected windows on the second floor with a small 3/3 window just north of the windows.

On the back of the property is 600 sq. ft. 2 story barn. The barn has a gambrel roof, the gable trim is rows of alternating square and scallop shaped shingles. In the peak of the east and west side is a door with a rectangular window in the top 1/4 of the door. The door appears to slide open. The first floor on both ends, have the original 2/2 window with the same trim as the main house. The south side of the barn has a wide door located in the east corner, that appears to slide to the side with a ramp leading to the door. The rear of the building has a door in the west end of the first floor and a small 9 pane window in the east end of the first floor. All windows and doors have the same trim as the main house.

Immediately beside and behind the east side of the house is a 216 sq. ft. single story garage. It has a shallow pitched asphalt roof, poured concrete floor and a single garage door. The peak has clapboards. the building is severely overgrown and cannot be accessed for documentation.

At this time, the house appears to be in fair condition. The ridgepole is straight, corners are square, and in general the clapboards are in good condition. The front gable roof is in a poor state. There is evidence of water damage from the south dormer roof; paint peeling down the west side of the house. Otherwise the paint and siding appears to be in good condition. In the 1975 addition has evidence of insect damage. In 2002, a new kitchen was installed with bathroom updates. Therefore, at that time, the house had to meet building codes. The house is surrounded with heavy over growth and shows lack of recent care.

All design features, date of construction, close proximity to a rail station and the nonresident builder indicates this could be a "Kit House". If so, it will be the 3rd Kit House identified in Chelmsford

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

According to a newspaper report of Jan. 13, 1916, "J. C. Luce of Lowell, who last fall purchased a lot of land containing about 15 acres on the northerly side of High Street, planned to erect a residence thereon in the spring." By June the foundations were being put in. However, although the Luce Family owned the property at 79 High St. until 1952, they lived in Lowell.

By 1927, Guy, a policeman, and Catherine Hazeltine were living in the house. By 1930/1931 Charles V. and his Wife Irene had joined Guy and Catherine in the house. Charles soon died. In 1943, Guy was working as a comber, and Catherine a housewife. Their son Charles was in the army and their daughter Amy was a sales lady. Son Guy became a maintenance mechanic. In 1952, William F. and Mary Perry from Lowell purchased the property, ending the life of the dwelling as a rental. William Perry worked as a salesman. They has at least 3 children, William Frederick, Moira Anne and John G. Perry. Mary died at the age of 69 in 1991 of pneumonia, she also suffered from a malignant brain tumor. Her husband William put the house in a trust until it was sold in 1997 to Jon E. Coleman.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD 79 HIGH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

--	--

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lowell Courier-Citizen: Jan. 13, 1916, June 1, 1916

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds

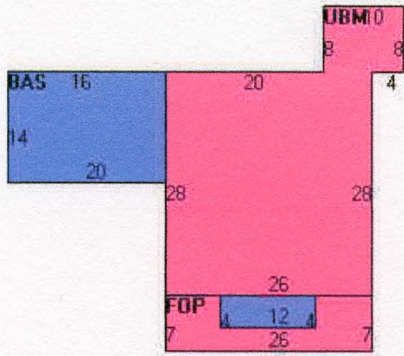
Chelmsford Street Directories

Town of Chelmsford: Building Inspector Records, Vital Records, Assessor's Data Base, GIS map

Chelmsford News Weekly, Dec. 21, 1978 picture

Betsy Coleman: telephone and emails

Ancestry.com: Census and Vital Statistics



Subarea Summary

Code	Description	Gross Area	Living Area
BAS	First Floor	1088	1088
FHS	Half Story, Finished	776	466
FOP	Porch, Open, Finished	182	0
UBM	Basement, Unfinished	808	0

Town of Chelmsford

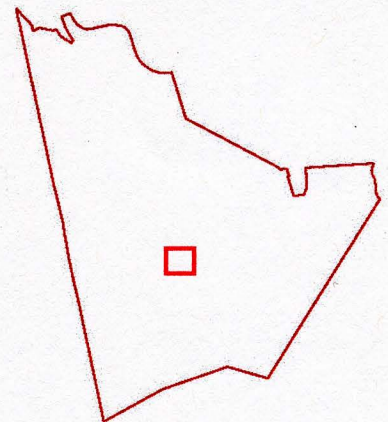


Property ID 93-336-12
Address 79 HIGH ST
Owner COLEMAN JON E &
Co-Owner BETSY SHANLEY COLEMAN



Map For Reference Only
Not a Legal Document

Because of different update schedules, current property assessments may not reflect recent changes to property boundaries. Check with the Board of Assessors to confirm boundaries uses at the time of assessment.



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
CHELMSFORD

Property Address
79 HIGH STREET

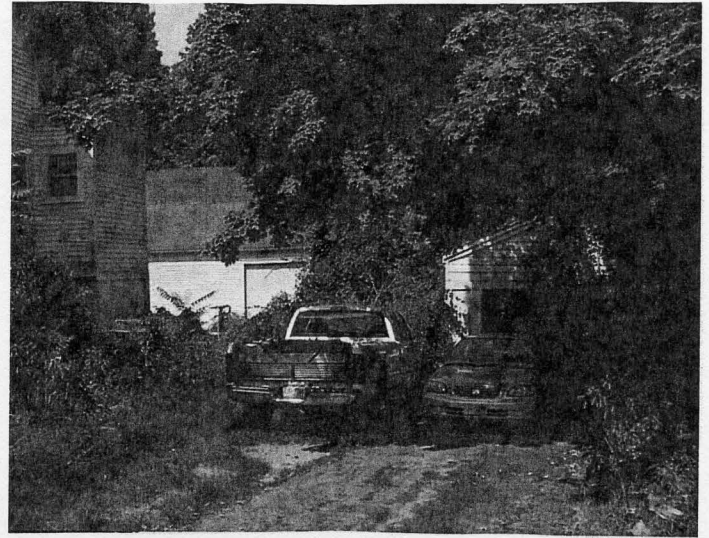
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Aug 29, 2007

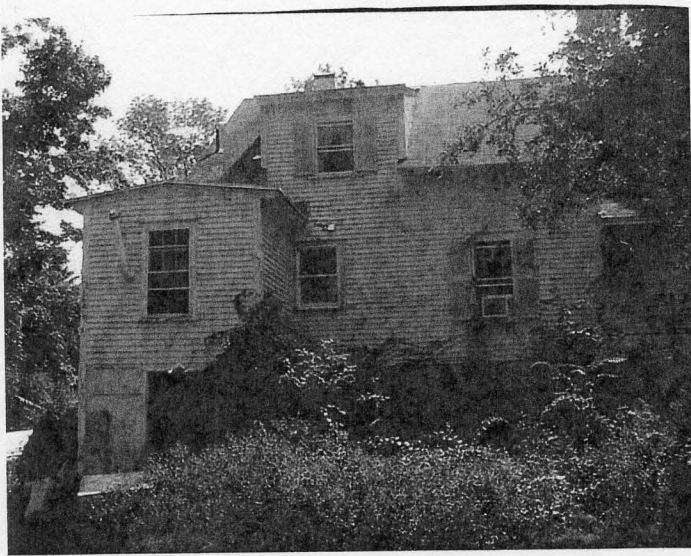
Area(s) Form No.
 315



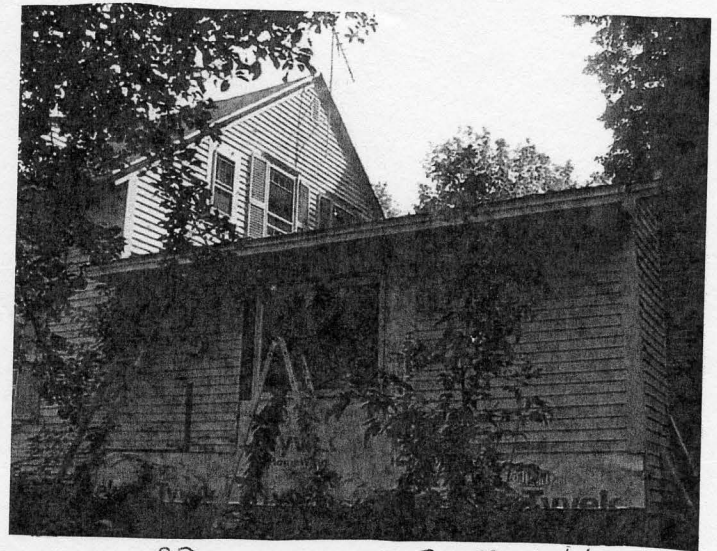
Right side



Right of house; Barn; Garage

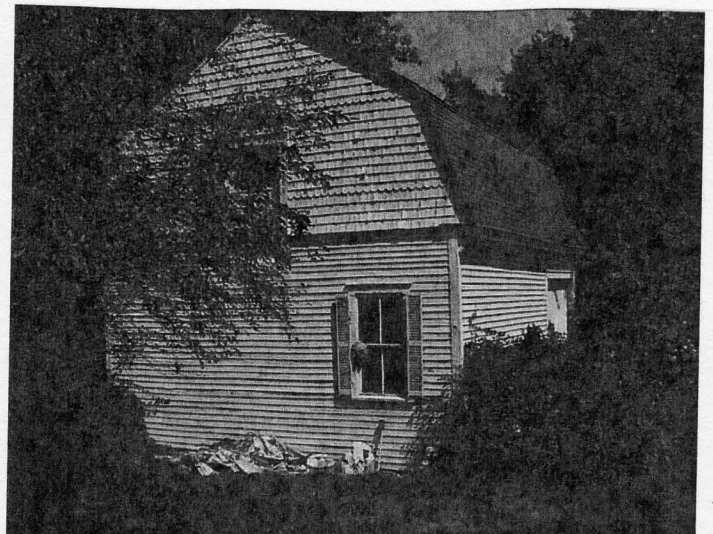


Right Rear Side



Left rear - 1975 Addition

Barn



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town Address

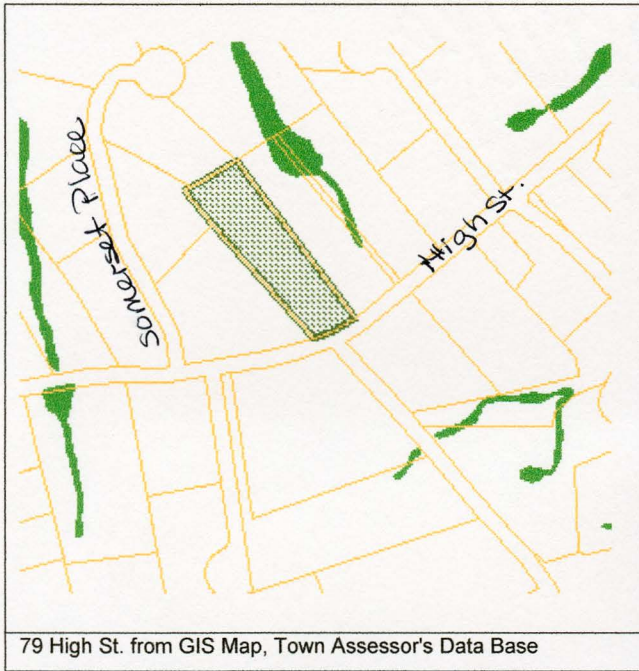
CHELMSFORD 79 HIGH ST.

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

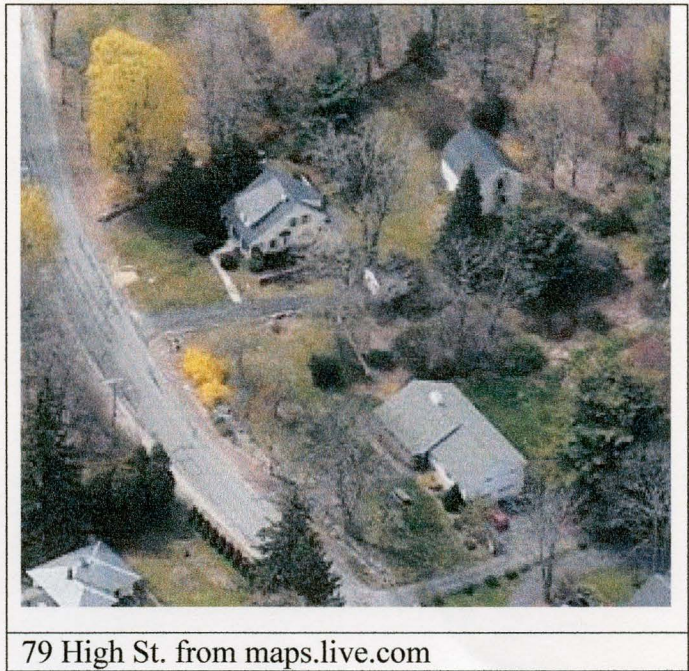
Area(s) Form No.

	315
--	-----

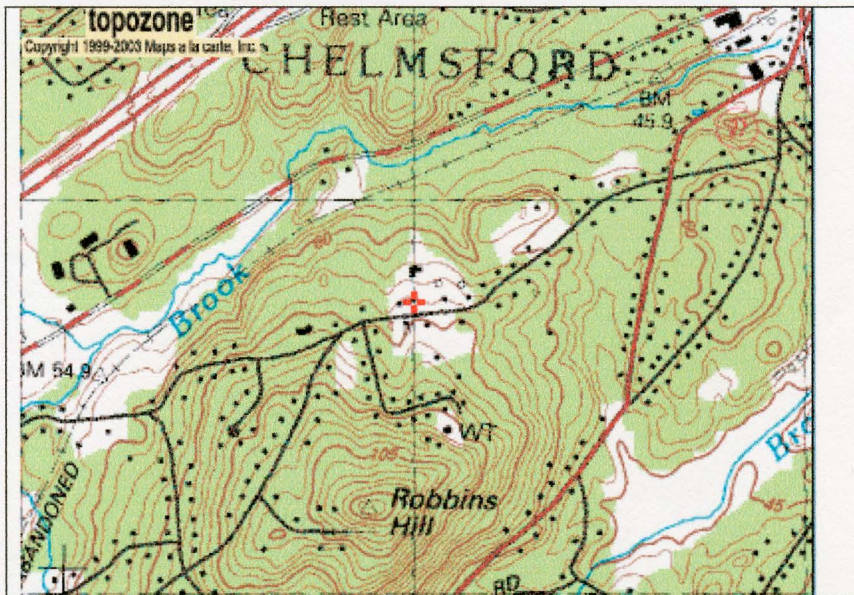
Locational Information



79 High St. from GIS Map, Town Assessor's Data Base



79 High St. from maps.live.com



Topozone excerpt from Billerica USGS quadrangle.

Decimal coordinates as provided by Topozone: 42°35'23" N 71°21'51" W

79 High Street

Lowell Courier-Citizen

Jan. 13, 1916 – J. C. Luce of Lowell, who last fall purchased of Justin L. Moore [incorrect, it was from Daniel Atwood – note by J.B. Drury], a lot of land containing about 15 acres on the northerly side of High street, adjoining the property of R. B. Barbour, plans to erect a residence thereon in the spring.

June 1, 1916 – Foundations for a house in High street, to be erected for J. C. Luce of Lowell are being put on a lot next to the property of R.B. Barbour.

Street Directories

2007

Coleman, Betsy Shanley 79 High St. 1962

2000

Coleman, Betsy Shanley 79 High St. 1962
 Coleman, Jon E. 79 High St. 1961

1990

Perry, Mary J. 79 High St. 1921 housewife
 Perry, William F. 79 High St. 1919 retired

1980

Perry, John G. 79 High St. 1956 student
 Perry, Mary J. 79 High St. 1921 housewife
 Perry, Moira Anne 79 High St. 1952 teacher
 Perry, William F. 79 High St. 1919 retail market
 Perry, William Frederick 79 High St. 1949 student

1970

Perry, Mary J. 79 High St. same 1921 housewife
 Perry, William F. 79 High St. same 1919 salesman

1960, 1959

Perry, Mary J. 79 High St. same 12/22/21 housewife
 Perry, William F. 79 High St. same 10/26/19 salesman

1958

Hazeltine, Charles 84 High St. same 36 superintendent
 Hazeltine, Constance C. 84 High St. same 36 housewife
 Perry, Mary J. 79 High St. same 36 housewife
 Perry, William F. 79 High St. same 38 salesman

1950

Hazeltine, Guy E. 79 High St. same 55 maintenance mech.
 Hazeltine, Catherine 79 High St. same 54 housewife

1948

Hazeltine, Guy E. 79 High St. same 53 maintenance mech.
 Hazeltine, Catherine 79 High St. same 52 housewife

1944

Hazeltine, Guy E. 79 High St. same 49 maintenance mech.
 Hazeltine, Catherine 79 High St. same 48 housewife
 Hazeltine, Charles 79 High St. same 22 Army
 Hazeltine, Claire M. 79 High St. same 20 saleslady

1943

Hazeltine, Guy E.	79 High St.	same	48	comber
Hazeltine, Catherine	79 High St.	same	47	housewife
Hazeltine, Charles	79 High St.	same	21	Army

1937/38

Hazeltine, Guy E. (Mary C.) – slsman, h High
 Hazeltine, Irene (wid Chas V) – r Guy E Hazeltine

1930/31

Hazeltine, Guy E. (Catherine M.) – com trav, h High
 Hazeltine, Chas V (Irene) – tower man B & M RR, h. Billerica rd

1927

Hazeltine, Guy E. (Catherine M.) – police, h High
 Hazeltine, Chas V (Irene) – tower man B & M RR, h. South

1925/26

Hazeltine, Guy E. (Catherine M.) – not listed
 Hazeltine, Chas V (Irene) – towerman (L), h. Boston rd. at Central sq.

housewife	1951	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
retired	1919	79 High St	Perry, William F
student	1950	79 High St	Perry, John C
housewife	1951	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
teacher	1952	79 High St	Perry, Mary Ann
school teacher	1919	79 High St	Perry, William F
student	1950	79 High St	Perry, William F
housewife	1951	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
retired	1919	79 High St	Perry, William F
housewife	1951	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
retired	1919	79 High St	Perry, William F
housewife	1951	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
retired	1919	79 High St	Perry, William F
superintendent	50	84 High St	Hazeltine, Charles
housewife	50	84 High St	Hazeltine, Constant C
housewife	50	79 High St	Perry, Mary J
retired	38	79 High St	Perry, William F
mainenance mech	55	79 High St	Hazeltine, Guy E
housewife	54	79 High St	Hazeltine, Catherine
mainenance mech	53	79 High St	Hazeltine, Guy E
housewife	52	79 High St	Hazeltine, Catherine
mainenance mech	49	79 High St	Hazeltine, Guy E
housewife	48	79 High St	Hazeltine, Catherine
Army	33	79 High St	Hazeltine, Charles
retired	30	79 High St	Hazeltine, Chas V

NEWSWEEKLY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1978



WM. F. PERRY, JR. HOME, 79 High Street (Photo by Regina Linsley)













79

