

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

92/337/4	Westford		CLM.349
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Town/City: Chelmsford

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Chelmsford

Photograph



Address: 50 Hunt Road

Historic Name: Byam Family House

Uses: Present: multiple-family dwelling

Original: single-family dwelling

Date of Construction: pre-1890

Source: historic photograph

Style/Form: no style

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding/vinyl

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Three, late 20th century pole barns

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 1990 replacement siding and windows

Rear and side additions

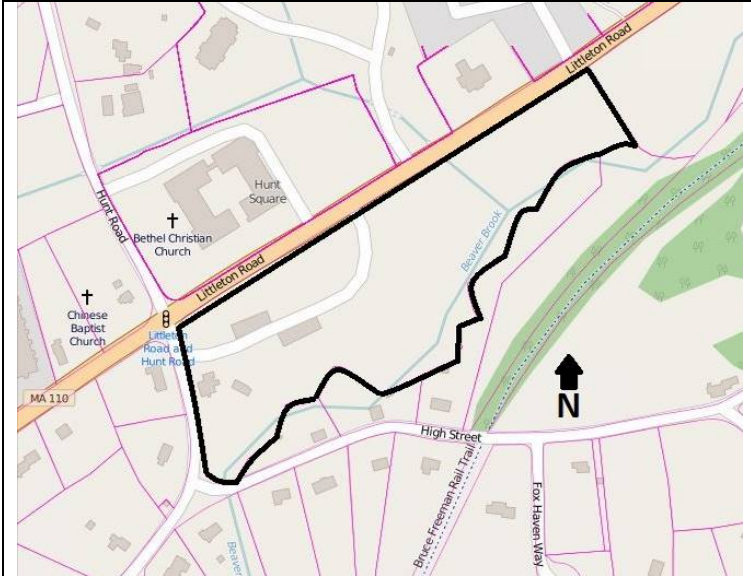
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 11.2 A

Setting: The property is at the SE corner of Hunt and Littleton rds. The house is approximately 15' E of Hunt Rd. The lot is used for excavating machinery and materials storage. A U-shaped drive surrounds the house. Flat grassy areas are on the west half of the lot. The surrounding area includes single and multiple unit residential development.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Jennifer Burden, Gray & Pape, Inc.

Organization: Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2016

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

50 HUNT ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

CLM.349

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.

The house is approximately 45' wide and 30' deep and is 2.5-stories tall. The house has a stone foundation, walls clad in replacement vinyl siding with vinyl trim, and has an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. Two internal brick chimneys are located near the gable ends of the building. Fenestration throughout the house consists of replacement, one-over-one, double-hung windows. The primary (south) façade does not directly face Hunt Road and is five symmetrical bays wide. Single windows are located in the outer bays of both stories and the center bay of the second story of the façade. The main entry is in the center bay of the first story. The entry features a replacement door and sidelights and is sheltered by a one-bay porch hood composed of replacement materials. The west wall is two bays deep with single windows in each bay and a smaller window in the half story. Additions to the building are located on the rear (north) and east walls. A 1.5-story cross gable addition encompasses the east half of the rear wall and extends east beyond the house. The addition has a gabled dormer on the east slope of the roof. A one-story enclosed porch is on the west half of the rear wall. A one-story, one-bay addition is on the second story of the north bay on the east wall. An exterior staircase leads from the drive to the main entry of this addition.

The house is an altered example of mid- to late nineteenth century residence that retains historic integrity of location and association.

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.

Previous researchers have assumed that the house dates to the mid-17th century, which is highly unlikely, but a close interior examination by an architectural historian with expertise on construction practices from this period might provide additional clues on the history of this building. A historical photograph of the building from ca. 1890 shows that the house was extant by this date. A copy of the photograph is included in *Images of America: Chelmsford Revisited* (page 95), and is held in private collection.

Deed research was able to trace the ownership history of the property to 1875 when the property was in the Byam family. Available historic maps to 1856 show that the property was under Byam family ownership at that date as well. The deed research discovered in 1875 Relief Byam (1802-1891) then sold two parcels to Mary Byam for \$10,000. Relief was married to Henry Byam (born ca. 1788). The 1855 Massachusetts State Census lists the Byams living in Chelmsford with other branches of the Byam family living nearby. At this date Henry was a farmer. By 1875 Relief was listed as a widow and in 1880 she was residing in Chelmsford at 40 Byam Road with son Charles, his wife Mary, and their two teenaged daughters, Ida and Gertrude. Charles was also a farmer. It is not certain if Mary, Charles's wife, is the same Mary Byam who received the property in 1875 from Relief. By 1910 George Byam, a Civil War veteran, had assumed ownership of the property. George was the last of nine generations of Byam family members to live in the house. That year George sold the property to Thomas Hartley. In 1915 Thomas sold approximately four acres of the parcel to Daniel F. Hartley; at this date Thomas resided in Providence, RI, and therefore, may have not ever lived on the site. The 1917 city directory lists Daniel Hartley living near Littleton Road and working as a trainman; Thomas is not listed. In 1921 Daniel Hartley sold the property to three parties: Christos Kachikas, Stefanos Emanouil, and Antonios Garafeles. In 1953 Stefanos and wife Theodora Emanouil assumed full ownership of the property. By 1966 the property included 11.21 acres as it does currently. After a number of further transfers, the property remains in the Emanouil family.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Beers, F.W. *County Atlas of Middlesex, Massachusetts*. J.B. Beers & Co., New York. 1875.

Genealogical research, including U.S. and Massachusetts census records; birth, marriage, and death records; and city directory records from ancestry.com.

Merriam, Fred. *Images of America: Chelmsford Revisited*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston South Carolina. 2014.

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds. www.lowelldeeds.com.



Rear of 50 Hunt Road, facing south. May 2016.