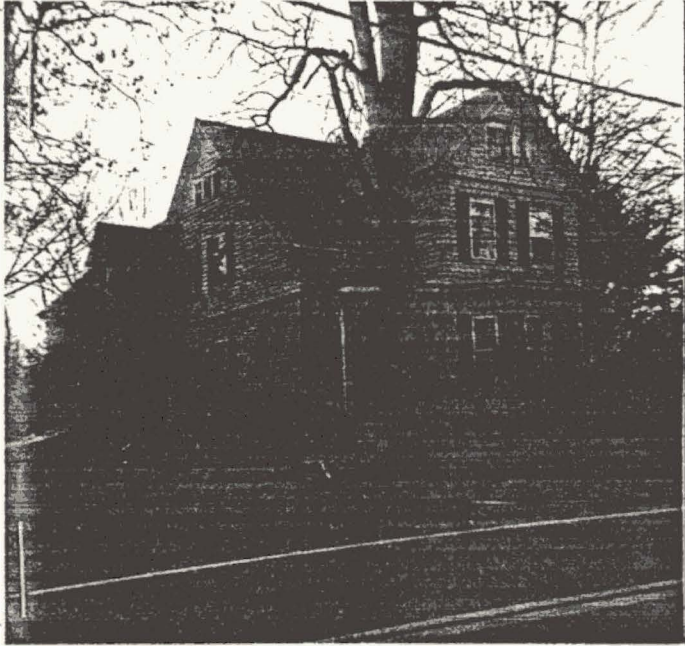


FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.	Form no.
	269

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



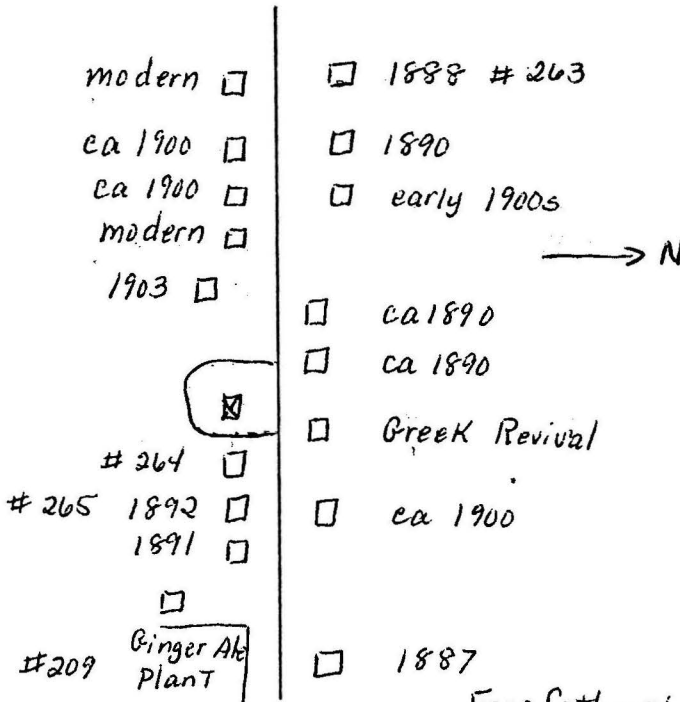
1. Town Chelmsford
Address 52-54 Littleton Rd.
Name Mathias Hutchins
Present use residence - 2 family

Present owner Carl B. Rancourt

3. Description:
Date 1893
Source Lowell Weekly Journal

Style _____
Builder _____
Architect Charles E. Parkhurst
Exterior wall fabric 1st - butted clapb.
2nd - decor. shingled
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features alternating shingles -
2nd story; fish scale shingles -
under gable. Stained glass window.
east side
Altered porch removed Date ca 1960
Moved no Date _____

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



5. Lot size: 14,592 sq. ft.
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 62.8 ft.
Approximate distance of building from street
ca 265 ft.

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

Fore fathers' Cemetery

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury
Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission
Date Feb. 23, 1980

7. Original owner (if known)

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The cellar of 52-54 Littleton Rd. was dug in April 1893 by R.W. Dix; actual construction of the building itself was begun about May 1 of the same year by Charles E. Parkhurst. It was completed and ready for rental by the end of August. Originally the house was identical to the dwelling at 46 Littleton Rd., built a few months earlier. Matthias Hutchins was the owner of both buildings and lived between them, at 50 Littleton Rd. (#264).

Two of the Hutchins four daughters were mentally incompetent, and Mr. Hutchins apparently built and rented the houses to pay for their support. The first of these two daughters died in 1897, but the second, Mary Ella, remained in the hospital for 63 years, until her death in 1951.

The house was rented for several years, beginning about 1912, by the Colpitts, a family of bookkeepers, clerks, etc. who came from Sussex, New Brunswick. They knew George Armstrong in Sussex, and at least three of them worked for him at the Ginger Ale factory (#209) after arriving in Chelmsford.

At about the beginning of World War II the house was converted to a two family dwelling. Following Mary Ella's death, her Estate sold the property out of the Hutchins family in 1952.

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

Middlex North Dist. Deeds: Bk. 184, p. 447(1886); Plan Bk. 82, plan 35B

Middlesex Co. Probate Court: Dockets #23942, 54106

Town Hall: town clerk - death records, 1907 rd. plan; Assessors -revaluation card

Lowell Weekly Journal: 12/23/1892, 4/7/1893, 5/19/1893, 8/25/1893

Chelmsford Directory: 1915/16, 1917/18, 1919, 1922

Mrs. Margaret Mills; Mrs. Carl Rancourt

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

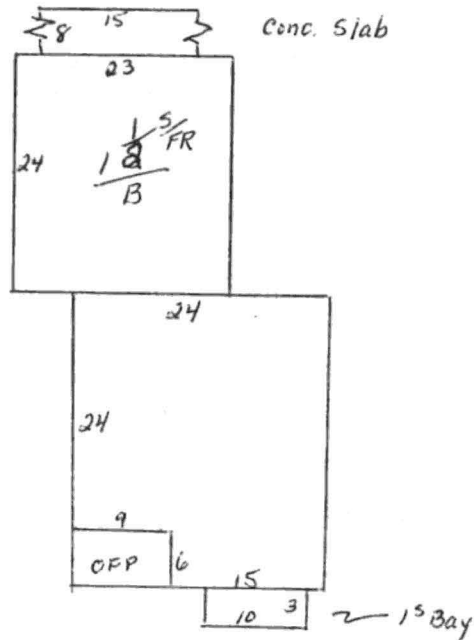
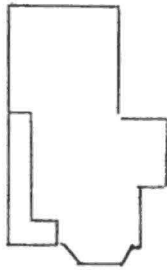
Community: Chelmsford	Form No: 269
Property Name:	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below

3. Alterations

1907 Road Plan
1951 Plan (Bk. 82, Plan 35B)
Scale: 40 ft. = 1 inch

7/8/1971 Revaluation Card



Staple to Inventory form at bottom

52-54 Littleton Road
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Bk. 1891, pg. 491	7/ 3/1969	Walter W. & Anna Wildes to Carl B. & M ^r cia Rancourt, 52 Littleton Rd 14,592 sq. ft. & buildings thereon - Lot 3, Hutchins plan
1419, pg. 151	10/30/1958	Peter Peros, Belmont, to Walter W. Wildes 14,592 sq. ft. & buildings thereon-Lot 3
1200, pg. 239	5/27/1952	Heirs of Mary Ella Hutchins to Peter Peros, Watertown 14,592 sq. ft. & buildings thereon-Lot 3
Middlesex Probate # 300179	1951	Estate of Mary E. Hutchins
Middlesex Probate # 54104	1900	Estate of Matthias Hutchins
184, pg. 447	10/20/1886	Josiah R. Fletcher to Matthias Huchthins \$1800 7/8 acre & buildings thereon

Littleton Road

Lowell Weekly Journal:

July 31, 1891 - Mr. Matthias Hutchins is about to build two good houses upon the eligible vacant lot opposite his homestead on Littleton street.

Oct. 21, 1892 - Mr. Matthias Hutchins has let the contract to Charles E. Parkhurst to build a two-story frame house on Littleton street east of the owner's present residence. It will be of the same general design of the Caverly house on Bridge street. Mr. Hutchins has the taste, disposition, and ability to materially improve his estate, and he has constantly exercised these qualities since he took possession of the premises.

Nov. 4, 1892 - Mr. Matthias Hutchins has decided to build another house west of his present domicile on Littleton street. This is a commendable enterprise.

Dec. 23, 1892 - Littleton street bears off the palm for business activity this month. John Byfield, proprietor of the Beaver Knitting works, has a force preparing the foundation for a boarding house which he intends to build at once. Just beyond, Adams & Dutton are digging the cellar for a two-story house. Matthias Hutchins new house is boarded and shingled, and he is making preparations for a similar structure beyond his present home. The probabilities are that a dwelling will be built on the opposite side of the street another season. F. W. Worthen, as previously announced, has made substantial improvements upon his premises.

April 7, 1893 - R. W. Dix is digging the cellar for Matthias Hutchins' new house on Littleton street. Charles E. Parkhurst, who has the contract for the building, expects to begin work about May 1.

May 19, 1893 - Littleton street is doing its full share of building this season. Charles E. Parkhurst has under way for Matthias Hutchins two well-built houses, one of which is nearly completed, and he expects to put up a cottage house on the Wilson lot just below the machine shop.

July 7, 1893 - Tenants are ready to occupy Mr. Hutchins' new houses on Littleton street as soon as completed. Such handsome, thoroughly-constructed dwellings are in quick demand in this village.

July 14, 1893 - Russell P. Smith expects to occupy this week one of Mr. Hutchins' new houses on Littleton street.

Aug. 25, 1893 - Mr. Matthias Hutchins' nearly-completed new dwelling on Littleton street has been hired by Francis H. Scales of Lowell, who expects to occupy it next month.

Sept. 22, 1893 - F. H. Scales of Lowell, who had taken a lease of Matthias Hutchins' new house on Littleton street, has surrendered the same on account of a change in his business, which will necessitate his residence elsewhere.

June 8, 1894 - E. L. Hartford of Lowell has hired one of Matthias Hutchins' new houses on Littleton street. There are now no vacant tenements on this street, and but few in the village within five minutes' walk of the station.

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Sept. 24, 1897 - E.L. Hartford & family in Littleton street are soon to remove to Lowell that Mr. Hartford may be nearer his work at Richardson's gun shop. Their neighbors greatly regret their departure.

Nov. 12, 1897 - Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Revere, former residents but more recently of Lowell, have returned to the village and are now occupying the house on Littleton street vacated last month by E.L. Hartford.

April 22, 1898 - Mrs. Jennie E. (Hodson), wife of Nathan L. Revere of Chelmsford, died at her home in Littleton street at 1:30 a.m. Thursday, aged 62. She had been afflicted with cancer for more than a year, and for several months had been a great sufferer. She was a native of South Berwick, Me., but had passed nearly 25 years of her life in Lowell, where she had a large circle of acquaintances and warm friends to whom she was endeared by many estimable qualities. Her husband is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and a highly respected citizen of the town. Prayers at the house Sunday at 1 o'clock.

May 20, 1898 - Mr. Nathan Revere intends soon to return to Worcester, his former home.

August 31, 1900 - Matthias Hutchins of Chelmsford died Friday night at his home in Littleton street, at 6:15 o'clock, aged 74 years. He was a native of Carlisle and the son of Deacon Benjamin Hutchins. He had lived in Chelmsford about 20 years, prior to which he was for several years a resident of Lowell, and in company with George Hutchins contracted for watering the streets.

Mr. Hutchins in his prime was an active, sagacious business man, but for the past 3 years both his mental and physical powers had been waning. Besides his widow, he leaves three daughters residing respectively in Carlisle, Boxboro and Worcester.

May 3, 1901 - Mr. Dawson and family, from Lowell, are occupying one of the Hutchins houses on Littleton street.





8/28/2004 F. Merriam