

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

35/92/2	Westford		CLM.369
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town/City:** Chelmsford

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): West Chelmsford

## Photograph



**Address:** 217 Main Street

**Historic Name:** Anthony and Rita Anderson House

**Uses:** Present: single-family dwelling

Original: single-family dwelling

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1955

**Source:** deed and city directory research

**Style/Form:** Ranch

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: wood siding/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Ca. 2005 large garage

### Major Alterations (*with dates*):

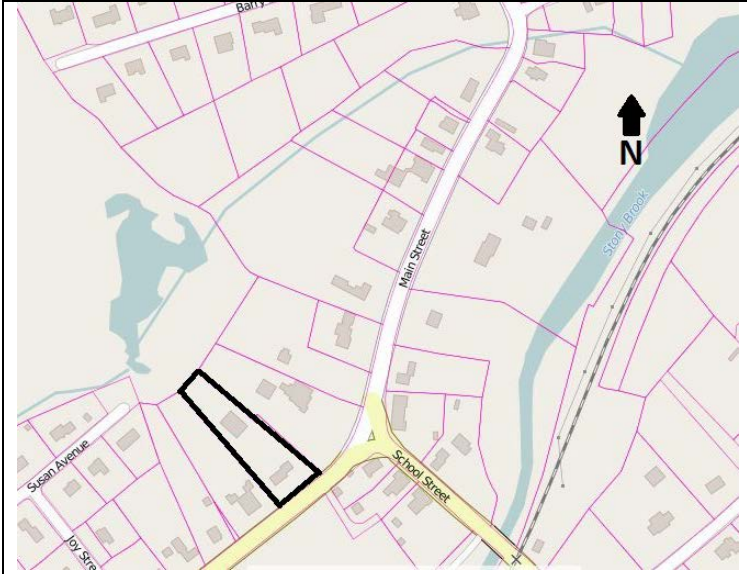
**Condition:** Good

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

**Acreage:** 1 acre

**Setting:** The house is located approximately 50' northwest of Main St. An asphalt drive leads to the attached garage, and a gravel drive behind the house leads to the large garage. The lot includes mature trees along the perimeter. A low stone retaining wall is at the west driveway corner. The area includes 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> c. 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

217 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

CLM.369

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 one-story Ranch type house has a concrete foundation, walls clad in wood siding with wood trim, and an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. An internal brick chimney is located on the rear slope of the house near the ridgeline. Windows throughout the building appear to be a combination of historic two-over-two double-hung and casement windows. The primary (southeast) façade is four bays wide. The west bay features a large casement window flanked by double-hung windows. The two east bays feature single windows. The easternmost window, however, sits higher than those on the façade; this placement suggests this room may be a bathroom. The main entry is centrally located on the façade and has a solid entry door with a storm door. The wood paneled surround is sheltered by an aluminum hood. A three-bay, enclosed breezeway connects the east end of the house to the single car garage. The breezeway features a central entry flanked by single windows. The garage has a wood and glass panel door, is clad in wood clapboard, and has a front gable roof.

The house is a good example of the Ranch type and retains all historic integrity.

## 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.*

Deed research traced the ownership history to 1952 when Florence Ellinwood, then widowed, sold the property to Anthony and Rita Anderson. This address does not appear in city directories until 1955 when the Andersons are at this location and it was noted the previous year they resided at 212 Main Street; therefore, the house was constructed ca. 1955. Rita Anderson served as postmaster for several years, assuming the position of her father, Frank Bickford. The post office was located at 212 Main Street were the Bickfords, and then the Andersons resided. After Rita's and Anthony's deaths in ca. 1969 and 1970, the property was sold to Franklyn and Linnea Fader. The property remains under Linnea Fader's ownership.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds. [www.lowelldeeds.com](http://www.lowelldeeds.com).