

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

35/92/6	Westford		CLM.371
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Town/City: Chelmsford

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

Photograph



Address: 229 Main Street

Historic Name: Archibald and Ruth Cooke House

Uses: Present: single-family dwelling

Original: single-family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1922

Source: Deed research

Style/Form: no style

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Detached garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 2000 replacement windows

Ca. 2000 rear addition

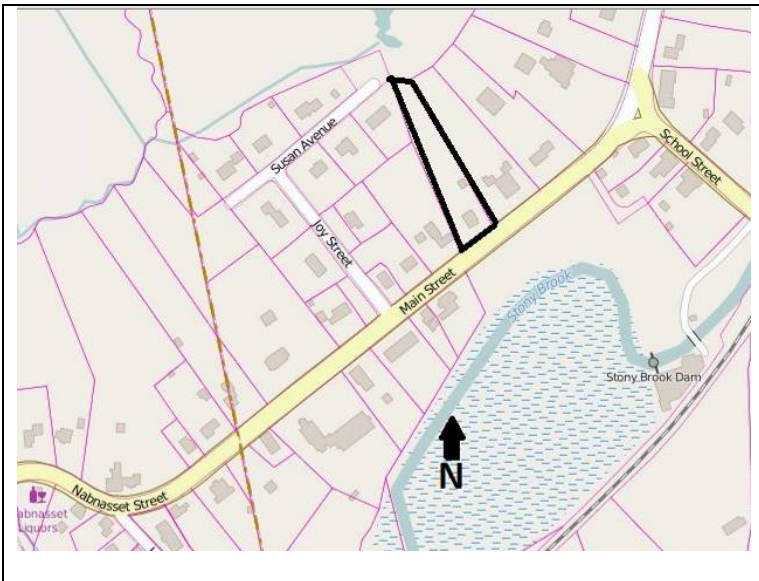
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .66 A

Setting: The house is located approximately 30' northwest of Main St. An asphalt drive on the east of the building leads to the garage and a parking area behind the house. The flat grassy lot includes mature trees along the perimeter. A picket fence is along the front of the parcel. The surrounding area includes 19th and 20th 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

229 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

CLM.371

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 two-story building has a stone foundation, walls clad in wood clapboard with wood trim and an asphalt-shingled front gable roof with gable returns. An internal brick chimney is located along the ridgeline of the roof. Most windows throughout the building appear to be replacement, one-over-one, double-hung windows. One, small, leaded glass window is located on the first story of the southwest wall. The primary (southeast) façade is three bays wide. The second story includes two single windows and the half story features a semicircular fanlight below the gable peak. The first story includes single windows in the two north bays and the main entry in the south bay. A one-story, full-width porch spans the front of the house. The porch has a hipped roof supported by Doric piers and its railing is clad in wood clapboard. The northeast wall is two bays deep with small single windows on the second story. The south bay of the first story includes paired windows and the north bay features an oriel window. The southwest wall features a centrally located side gable wall dormer with gable returns and two single windows. A one-story addition is located at the rear of the building.

The detached garage is located to the north of the house. The single-car garage has a brick foundation, is clad in wood clapboard, and has a front gable roof with exposed rafter tails and a center cupola.

The building is an altered example of an early twentieth century residence that retains historic integrity of location, setting, feeling, 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.

The property was originally part of the lot owned by William H. and Martha J. Brown, whose house stands to the east at 225 Main Street (CLM.370). After the Martha Brown's death in 1910, her estate sold the property to James Reid. The 1910 US Population Census lists Reid (1845-1919, born in Scotland) then living on School Street with wife Margaret (1852-1936, born in Scotland), and children George and Margaret, who were born in Massachusetts. James was then a superintendent at a quarry and George was a blacksmith at a quarry. In 1921 Reid's heirs sold a portion of the lot to Archibald Cooke (1894-1964). Presumably it was Cooke who had the house built after the transaction. The 1925 city directory lists Cooke, then married to Ruth, living on Main Street and employed as a mason. In the 1931 city directory he was listed as a mason as well as the town fire engineer. After Archibald's death, the property transferred to Ruth. After her death her estate sold the property in 1970, ending the 49-year ownership period of the Cooke family. Since that date the property has been sold two additional times.

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.

Geo. H. Walker & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Geo. H. Walker & Co., Boston, MA. 1889.

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

229 MAIN STREET

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Garage, facing north. November 2015.

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible Eligible **only** in a historic district
- Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

Criteria: **A** **B** **C** **D**

Criteria Considerations: **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G**

Statement of Significance

The area of West Chelmsford is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as a locally significant historic district under Criterion A for the development of this area around the Roby Manufacturing Company and Chelmsford Woolen Mills as well as under Criterion C for its intact examples of mid-nineteenth through early twentieth century residential architecture. The boundary of the proposed district would include resources built during the period of significance along Main Street from approximately Loiselle Lane in the north to the Westford Town Line, as well as resources along School Street between Main Street and Graniteville Road. This building at 229 Main Street would be a contributing resource to that district as an example of residential architecture constructed during its period of significance that retains some historic integrity.