

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

35/92/20	Westford		CLM.374
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Town/City: Chelmsford

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

Photograph



Address: 235 Main Street
Historic Name: Marcus Winship Store
Uses: Present: garage
Original: commercial
Date of Construction: ca. 1870
Source: Deed research
Style/Form: no style
Architect/Builder: unknown
Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone
Wall/Trim: wood siding/wood
Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Changes of use
Ca. 1920 and 1990 remodeling of façade

Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .11 A

Setting: The building is located approximately 40' northwest of Main St at its intersection with Joy St. An asphalt drive leads from the street to the garage door opening. The very small lot is flat and grassy. A granite curb is along its west side. 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

235 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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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 1.5-story building has a stone foundation, walls clad in wood siding with wood trim, and an asphalt-shingled front gable roof. No chimneys are present on the building. Fenestration throughout the building consists of historic, wood, double-hung windows. The primary (southeast) façade is two bays wide with a replacement garage door in the west bay and a two-over-two window in the east bay of the first story. A six-over-six window is located below the gable peak of the half story. The west wall is five bays deep with a single six-over-six window in the north bay, a non-historic wood door in the next bay to the south, two, single, 12-over-12 windows in the following bays, and a historic wood door in the southernmost bay.

The building is an altered example of a mid-nineteenth century commercial building that retains historic integrity of location and setting.

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 1856 map of Chelmsford shows a school in this approximate location; however, this building does not appear to be a school building. In 1870 Edward Farley, who owned the property to the west, granted this small parcel to John Moore. One month later Moore granted the property to Marcus Winship. The 1875 map of West Chelmsford shows a building with this footprint at this location as a store owned by Winship. The 1880 US Population Census lists Winship (ca. 1850-1912) living in Chelmsford with mother Mary, sister Lizzie, wife Clara, and daughter Florence. At this date he was listed as a grocer. In 1886 Winship purchased the store and post office at 212 Main at the corner of School Street. The 1889 map shows him operating both stores in West Chelmsford. After Winship's death in 1912, the property passed to his daughters Florence Ellinwood and Edla Brown. In 1914 they granted the property to Florence's husband Lorin. Shortly after Lorin took ownership of the building he opened it as Historical Hall, which was a local museum and meeting place for civic functions. From 1920 through 1930, he also provided space in the building for the West Chelmsford Volunteer Fire Department; Ellinwood was an active member of the Fire Department. In 1930 Ellinwood granted the property to the Town of Chelmsford. The 1940 city directory lists Fire Department Company No. 3 on Main Street. In 2000 the Town relinquished ownership of the property to current owner Michael D. Ledwith.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

Chelmsford Historical Society. Photograph collection.

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.

Merriam, Fred. *Images of America: North and West Chelmsford*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina. 2016.

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

Walling, Henry F. *Map of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Smith & Bumstead, Boston, MA. 1856.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

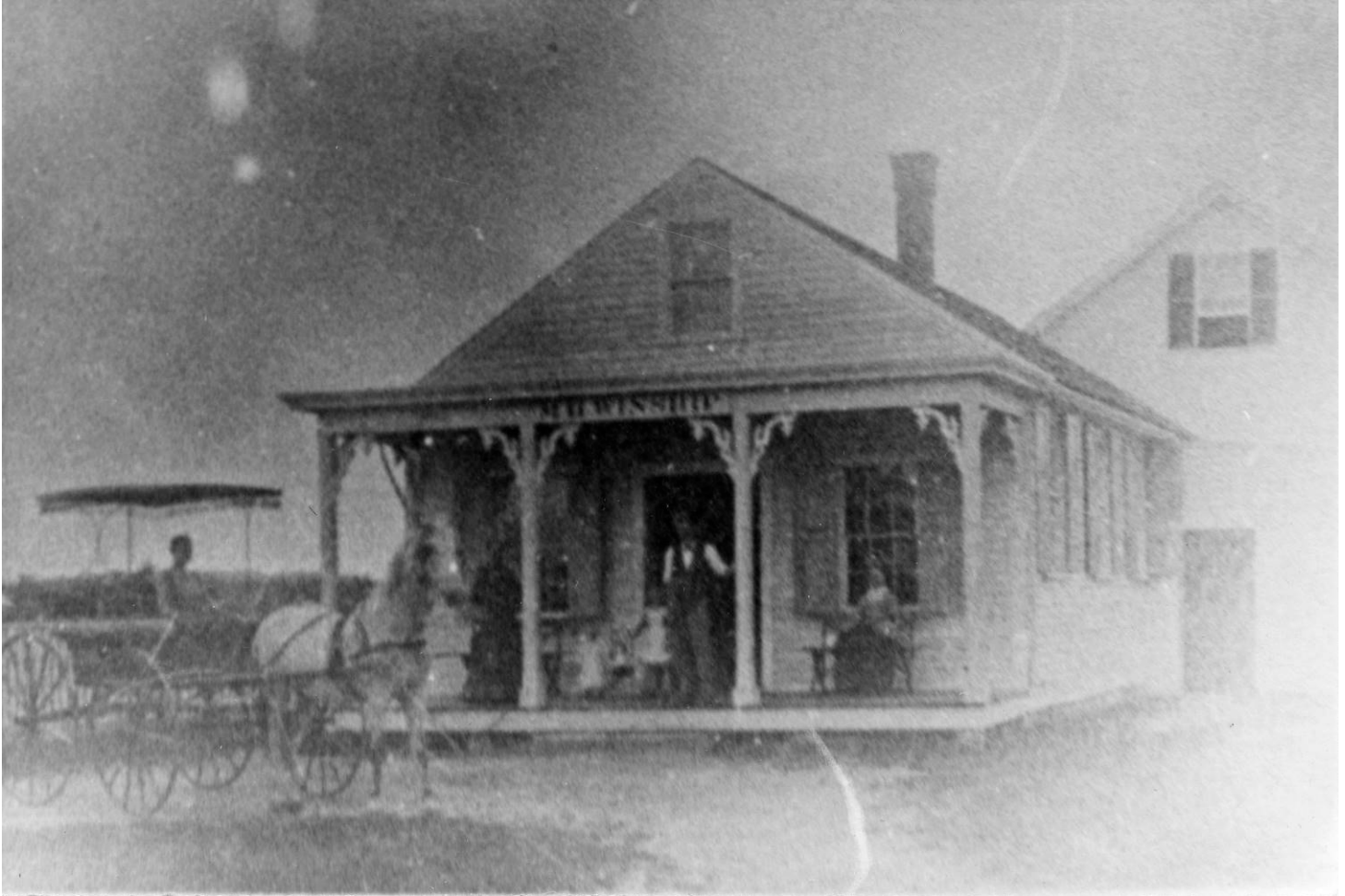
CHELMSFORD

235 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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Photograph dating between 1870 and 1886 of the building at 235 Main Street when it was in operation as the Winship Store. (Chelmsford Historical Society.)

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Undated photograph of the 1921 Ford Chemical Car No. 3 that was housed at 235 Main Street while in use as a firehouse. (Chelmsford Historical Society.)



West Chelmsford Fire Station.

Photograph from the 1955 Tercentennial special edition of the Newsweekly of 235 Main Street, during its time as the West Chelmsford Fire Station. (Chelmsford Historical Society.)

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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 235 Main Street would be a contributing resource to that district as an example of commercial architecture constructed during its period of significance that retains some historic integrity.