

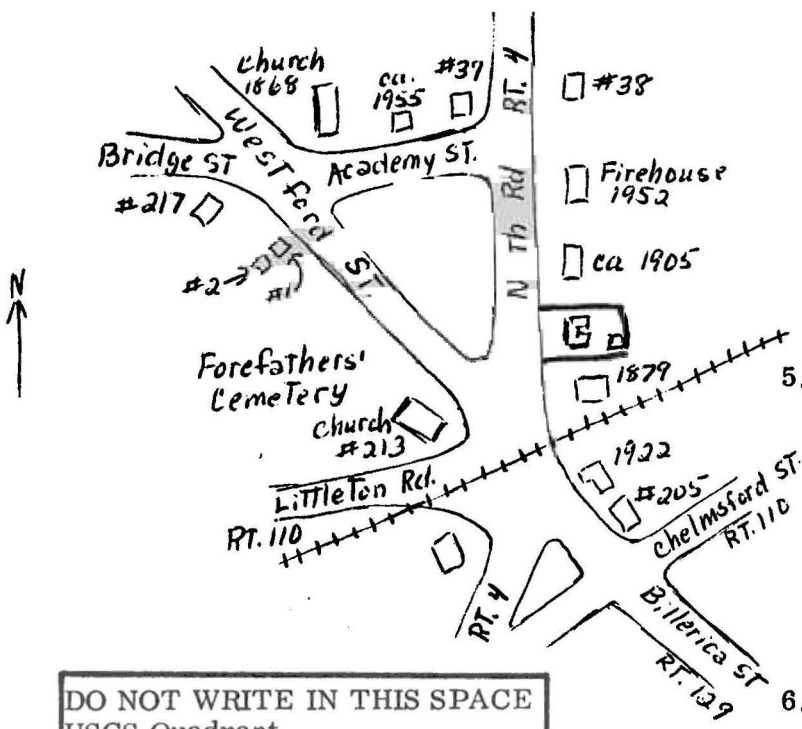
FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.	Form no.
	36

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

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number #2 - 16

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



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

1. Town Chelmsford  
Address 1 - 3 North Road  
Name Richardson/Davis House  
Present use residence

Present owner Edward G. Krasnecki

3. Description  
Date before 1848 - see attached sheet  
Source deeds

Style double cottage

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric butted clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) shop, garage

Other features old latches on doors,  
2 beehive ovens

Altered see attached sheet Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size  
One acre or less x Over one acre  
10,786 sq. ft.  
Approximate frontage 80 feet

Approximate distance of building from street  
ca 12 feet

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury  
Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission  
Date February 9, 1975

7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

See enclosed sheet

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

1831 map

1875 Beers Atlas

"Chelmsford Vital Statistics to 1850"

Lowell Courier-Citizen - several dates

Assessors' records: 1824, 1828, 1834, 1837, 1848

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds:

Bk. 8, pg. 302; Bk. 14, pg. 530; Bk. 16, pg. 101; Bk. 16, pg. 420,  
Bk. 14, pg. 94.

Date: Built before 1848

The dates that this house and the house at 11 North Road (#38) were built are not known. The "double cottage house" at 1-3 North Road is specifically mentioned in a mortgage deed of 1848 (Book 16, page 421), and the house at 11 North Road is mentioned in a deed of 1846 (Book 16, page 101). Earlier deeds for these properties (1840 sale of both properties, and an 1836 \$1000 mortgage on 11 North Road) mention only "buildings" and a blacksmith shop, the latter being at the rear of 1-3 North Road.

In 1811 and 1813 Stephen Pierce, 3rd (later Jr.) bought the land for the two properties from William B. Fletcher and the estate of Samuel Pitts for a total of \$353.81. No buildings were mentioned. Assessors' records seem to indicate that one of the two houses and the blacksmith shop were standing by 1824 and that the second house was built after 1836. Construction of the two houses suggests that 1-3 North Road is the older; however, 11 North Road contains cornerposts, arched chimney base, and wide floor boards (removed ca 1925).

In 1840 the 1-3 North Road property sold for \$260, in 1848 for \$900, and in 1864 for \$900, which suggests that the house was built between 1840 and 1848 by Joseph Reed. If so, the house at 11 North Road would be the older one, perhaps built following the second marriage of Stephen Pierce in 1831.

#### Historical Significance:

Stephen Pierce was a blacksmith and built his shop at the rear of 1-3 North Road sometime between 1813 and 1824. This shop was replaced about 1922 or 23 by the present two story shop. Stephen married first Abigail Bateman in 1814, who died after bearing four children. He married second in 1831 Mary Corey, and they had at least five children. In 1840 he sold 1-3 North Road property to Joseph Reed, who kept the old tavern at the site of 2 Chelmsford Street (#205) and owned the store then standing between 1-3 North Road and the tavern. It is doubtful that Joseph actually lived in the house. Warren Flint, a machinist, was the next owner. In 1867 Mary Elizabeth Richardson bought the house, and it remained in the Richardson/Davis family until 1973, and descendants of this family are still living there. Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Elijah Richardson who owned the house at 11 North Road, lived in the house for many years. During much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century half of the house has been rented.

This house is unusual in Chelmsford because of its architecture. Early deeds call it a "double cottage"; two complete houses, mirror images of each other, share a common room in the middle of the rear end. There have been very few alterations since it was built.

Alterations - few

1. Probably by Albert H. Davis or Almon Holt, a friend and local builder:  
Bay window & open porch - south side  
Front porch - enclosed, front of house  
Kitchen floors - wide boards replaced with narrow hardwood floors
2. First floor - room between kitchens divided into 2 rooms. Done within the early memory of H.J. Davis (b. 1909) & his sister, M. Brow (b. 1913). They are grandchildren of Albert H. Davis.
3. Privy (north side) removed; last used 1944.



ca 1905

1 - 3 North Road

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Book 2065, pg. 420  
May 17, 1973

Douglas A. Davis, Harold J. Davis,  
Margaret Brow to Edward G. Krasnecki

Middlesex County Probate

Docket #454040  
Jan. 14, 1972

Estate of Harold H. Davis to  
Harold J. Davis (son), Douglas A. Davis  
(son), Margaret L. Brow (daughter)  
10,786 sq. ft.

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Book 1004, pg. 492  
April 13, 1944

Paul P. Davis to  
Harold H. Davis  
10,786 sq. ft.

Middlesex County Probate

Docket #138730  
1939

Estate of Nellie L. Davis to  
Paul P. Davis.  
"Property left as life estate when Nellie  
L. Davis deceased in 1939 premises  
automatically to Paul P. David."

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Book 441, pg. 492      \$ 1  
Oct. 30, 1909

Mary Elizabeth Richardson to  
Leslie Richardson Davis  
4453 sq. ft.

Book 58, pg. 296      \$1100  
Sept. 10, 1867

Albert Corliss to  
Mary Elizabeth Richardson, single  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre

Book 37, pg. 368      \$ 900  
April 1, 1864

Joseph Reed to  
Albert Corliss  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre

Book 17, pg. 532      \$ 200  
Nov. 8, 1851

Warren Flint to Joseph Reed  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre

Book 16, pg. 421      \$ 850  
May 17, 1848      Mortgage

Warren Flint to Joseph Reed  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre

Book 16, pg. 420      \$ 900  
May 17, 1848

Joseph Reed, Esquire to  
Warren Flint, machinist  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  acre

Book 14, pg. 530      \$ 260  
Nov. 30, 1840

Stephen Pierce, blacksmith to  
Joseph Reed, inn keeper       $\frac{1}{4}$  acre

Book 8, pg. 302      \$ 306.31  
April 19, 1813

Est. of Samuel Pitts, Esq<sup>r</sup> to  
Stephen Pierce, Jr., blacksmith  
2 acres & 57 rods mowing & orcharding

April 17 1974

## Howard B. Brow

*... Electro Metals,  
Chelmsford*

CHELMSFORD — Howard B. Brow, 74, of 1 North Rd. died unexpectedly, last evening at St. John's Hospital. He was born in Dunstable March 10, 1900, the son of the late Byron and Clara (Kruckman) Brow, and had made his home in that town until establishing his residence in Chelmsford 30 years ago. For the past 15 years, Mr. Brow had been associated with Electro Metals Company of Chelmsford and at the time of his death was a maintenance man for that concern. Mr. Brow is survived by his wife, the former Margaret Davis; two daughters, Mrs. Ellen K. Cummings of San Diego Calif.; and Mrs. Judith M. Cone of Chelmsford; two sons, Frederic J. Brow of Summerland, Calif. and David H. Brow of Lowell, a photographer at The Lowell Sun; four sisters, Mrs. Frances N. Day of Dunstable, Mrs. Viola M. Farnum of South Yarmouth, Mrs. Hazel L. Gove and Mrs. Beatrice M. Walker, both of Laconia, N.H.; three grand-daughters, Miss Susan Cummings of San Diego, Calif., Miss Elizabeth Brow and Miss Sarah Brow, both of Lowell; two grandsons, Christopher Cone of Chelmsford and Daniel Cummings of San Diego, Calif. He was very active in the affairs of the Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter Day Saints of Billerica and held membership in Tyngsboro Grange, No. 222, P. of H.









WELLSFORD  
TOWN HALL

ENTER

P

1-3 North Road on left

12/27/2004 F. Merriam

