

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

13/48/1	Nashua South	G	CLM.125
---------	--------------	---	---------

Town/City: Chelmsford

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

Photograph



Address: 45 Princeton Street

Historic Name: Congregational Church Parsonage

Uses: Present: offices

Original: parsonage

Date of Construction: between 1856 and 1875

Source: 1856 and 1875 maps of North Chelmsford

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 1990 replacement windows

1965 Change of use

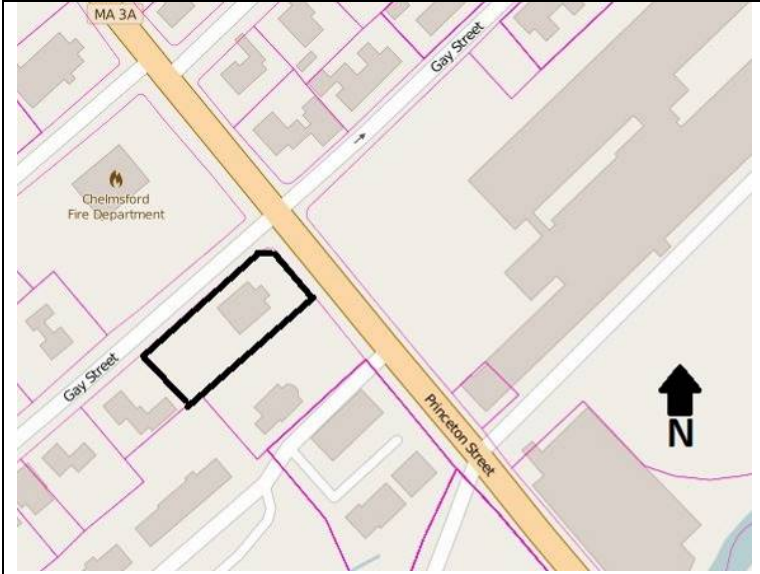
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .35 A

Setting: The building is located at the southwest corner of Princeton and Gay sts., approximately 55' from Princeton St. Paved parking areas are located to the northwest and southwest of the building. The other sides include grassy areas with mature trees. The surrounding area includes 19th and 20th c. residential and industrial 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

45 PRINCETON STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

G

CLM.125

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.

This house is located at the southwest corner of Princeton and Gay streets. It is a ca. 1870 house with Italianate style features, including brackets under the eaves and quoins at each of the corners. The building's hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Pairs of brackets are spaced at wide intervals under the eaves. The exterior walls are clad with wood clapboard with wood trim. The building rests atop a stone foundation. The primary (northeast) façade faces Princeton Street. The façade is divided symmetrically into three bays with the front entrance located in the center. The door features sidelights and the front entrance includes an open, one-story porch with a hipped roof. Fenestration throughout the house consists of replacement, one-over-one double-hung windows. Each of the windows features a molded lintel and simple wood sill. The northwest side of the house extends three bays deep, with the third, rear bay consisting of a two story extension that is slightly offset from the two forward bays. The rear extension is one bay wide, and it appears to have been built contemporaneous with the rest of the house. Minus the quoins, its overall style and materials are consistent with the front portion of the house. A one-story addition is located in the ell at the southeast corner of the house. It's construction likely post-dates the initial construction of the house.

The building is a good example of a mid-nineteenth century residence that retains historic integrity of setting, location, 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.

As noted in the original Inventory Form for the property, created by Jane Drury of the Chelmsford Historical Commission in 1985, the building was constructed ca. 1870 for use as a parsonage for the North Chelmsford Congregational Church (CLM.394). The building remained in use as the parsonage until 1965 when the church moved the parsonage to 17 Princeton Street, next door to the church. That year the building was sold into private hands and was converted in a doctor's office. Currently the building houses a dentist office and a wellness center.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

Chelmsford Public Library. Royal Shawcross Photographs Collection. Available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/chelmsfordpubliclibrary/sets/7215760000139715/>.

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.

Perham, Henry S. *A Sketch of the History of Chelmsford, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia, PA, J.W. Lewis. 1890.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Lowell, MA. 1907 and 1950.

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

Waters, Dr. Wilson. *The History of Chelmsford, Massachusetts*. Lowell, Mass., 1917.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

45 PRINCETON STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

G	CLM.125
---	---------



Undated photograph of 45 Princeton Street. (Chelmsford Public Library.)

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

45 PRINCETON STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

G	CLM.125
---	---------

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 North Chelmsford was determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP by MHC in 1987 for its local level of historical significance. The historic district boundary of Area G roughly includes resources along Middlesex and Princeton streets between Wright Street, Gay Street, and Edwards Avenue. The district is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP at the local level under Criterion A for its association with the industrialization of North Chelmsford in the mid- to late-nineteenth century and under Criterion C for its examples of workers' cottages, modest single-family houses, and elaborate residences owned by local industrialists. Resource CLM.125 retains sufficient historic integrity to contribute to this potential historic district.