

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	217 228

1. Town Chelmsford

Address 142 School Street

Name District #7 School house

Present use residence

Present owner John Graham

3. Description:

Date 1877

Source Chelmsford Town Clerk Records

Style _____

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard - butted

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features _____

Altered yes Date unknown

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

37,162 sq. ft.

Approximate frontage 148.9 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

ca 80 feet to 100 feet

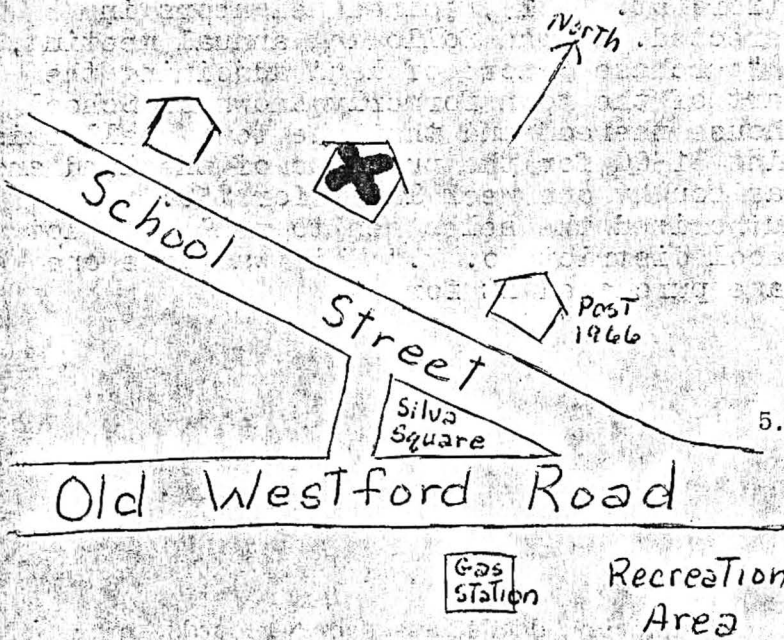
6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission

Date January 29, 1976

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 5 - 10A

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. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Town of Chelmsford

Original use school

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residence since 1900

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

In 1800 there was a school house located on the lot east of the present lot, facing Old Westford Rd. It was on the lot on the west side of Isaiah Spaulding's house at 263 Old Westford Rd. (#33). In 1838, the town voted to divide school district No. 7; however, in 1870 it was voted to unite districts #7 & #10 and to build a new 2 story house 32 x 46 feet. The old District No. 7 building was probably closed at this time.

Six years later at the annual town meeting held March 6, 1876 Benjamin J. Spaulding, who lived at 219 Westford St. (#31), joined neighbors in requesting that a new building be erected. At the following annual meeting, held March 5, 1877 it was voted to "purchase $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land adjoining the present school house lot in that part of the town formerly known as School district no. 7 and build a school house thereon and that the town shall raise and appropriate the sum not exceeding \$1500 for the purchase of the land and erection of the house." The land was bought one week later for \$50.

On March 27, 1899 the town authorized the selectmen to sell "the lot and buildings thereon in former school district No. 7." This was done one year later, when Catherine M. Savage purchased it for \$1.

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

Town Clerk's records: B.18, p.277; B.21, p.205; B.21, pg.436; B.21, pg.460;
B.22, p.7; B.24, p.10

Waters, History of Chelmsford (1917)

Map of 1831

Walling's Map of 1856

Beer's Atlas of 1875

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds:

B.123, p.34 Isaiah Spaulding to Town of Chelmsford, 1877

B.317, p.348 Town of Chelmsford to Catherine M. Savage, 1900

142 School St.

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

North: Book 2134, pg. 457	12/05/1974	John H. Graham from Evelyn Henry
North: Book 1890, pg. 218	6/27/1969	Willard G. & Evelyn M. Henry from Robert M. Hicks Inc.
North: Book 1129, pg. 593	12/10/1949	Willard G. & Evelyn M. Henry from Edward G. Parent & Lillian Parent
North: Book 1096, pg. 382	7/19/1948	Edward & Lillian Parent from Dorothy P. O'Connell
North: Book 1066, pg. 98	4/19/1947	Dorothy P. O'Connell from Eleanor & John & Katherine Savage (The grantors derive their title as heirs at law of James Savage.) 1/2 acre
North: Book 666, pg. 559	9/5/1922	James J. Catherine M. Savage from Catherine M. Savage Partick (x) Savage

#7 Schoolhouse
142 School Street

1831 Map: yes, on Westford St.

1856 Map: yes

1875 Beers Atlas: yes, on Westford St.

Waters, History of Chelmsford:

pg. 560

"In the year 1800 the Town supported twelve schools at an expense of six hundred dollars. They were located as follows:

At the middle of the Town, now District 1. At the North School house, now District 2. Near Ebenezer Parker's, South Chelmsford, now District 3. At Mill Row, now District 4. At Squadron by Capt. Benj. Fletcher's, now District 5. At Concord River Neck, now District 6. At Schoolhouse by Simon Stevens's, now District 7. At Newfield, now North Chelmsford, District 8. At Grate Neck, now Lowell. At Samuel Marshall's, also Lowell, corner Parker and Powell Streets. At Schoolhouse by Joseph Adams' and at schoolhouse by Benj. Chamberlain's.

One of the last two named was, undoubtedly, in Carlisle, where the schoolhouse now stands, north of Great Brook, and the other in Lowell."

Schoolhouse, District #7
142 School Street

Town of Chelmsford Records:

Vol. 21, pg. 460 Annual Town Meeting, March 6, 1876

"Took up Article 8th. The following motion was offered and referred to a committee consisting of Henry S. Perham, E.H. Warren, Geo. O. Byam with instructions to report thereon at the next meeting - Motion that the town purchase of Isaiah Spaulding one fourth of an acre of land adjoining the present School-house lot in that part of the town formerly known as school district No. 7 and build a School house thereon; and that the sum of \$1500 be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for the purchase of the land and the erection of the house."

Vol. 21, pg. 456 Warrant for Annual Town Meeting, March 6, 1876

"Article 8th. At the request of Benjamin J. Spaulding and others to see if the town will vote to build a School house in former School district No. 7, Select a location for the land and make the necessary appropriations for the purchase of the land, and erection of the house, or act in relation thereto."

School House Lot #7

North: Book 123, Page 34

Spaulding to Town of Chelmsford

March 15, 1877

"I, Isaiah Spaulding, of Chelmsford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, in consideration of \$50.00 to me paid by the Town of Chelmsford, in said County and Commonwealth

Certain tract of land situate in the Westerly part of said Chelmsford on the Northerly side of the road leading from West Chelmsford (so called) to Chelmsford Centre, containing 1/2 acre be the same more or less, and thus bounded and described viz:

Beginning at the Southeast corner of the premises, at a stone boundary at said road and on the Westerly side of the present school house lot in former School District No Seven and thence running Southerly on other land of said ~~Sax~~ Spaulding 146 feet and 8 inches to a stone boundary;

Thence Westerly on my other land 148 1/2 feet to a stone boundary:

Thence Southerly on my other land 146 feet and 8 inches to a stone boundary at said road;

Thence Easterly on said road 148 1/2 feet to the point of beginning

I, Elizabeth A. Spaulding, wife of said Isaiah Spaulding, do hereby release unto said grantee

March 15, 1877 Signed
April 7, 1877 Recorded

142 School Street
School House #7

Report of Superintendent of Schools for the year 1897-8:

1870-71

"Schools No. 7 (near West, now closed) and No. 5 (Byam's) were discontinued, and at a subsequent meeting schools No. 2 (North Row) and No. 4 (South Row) were placed on the same list. These schools, after remaining 'out in the cold' a short time only, were kindly restored to the fold...

1874-5

Whether consolidation of portions of former districts No. 2 and No. 7 cannot be advantageously effected, making the number of schools one less thereby adding to the length and efficiency of all, is worthy of the careful consideration of the present School Committee and of all friends of education in town. This might require an annual appropriation of a small sum of money, to be expended under the direction of the committee, for the purpose of carrying children remote from school.."

School House Lot #7

North: Book 317, Page 348

Town of Chelmsford to Savage

March 6, 1900

"We, Joseph E. Warren, Arthur H. Sheldon, William H. Shedd, Joseph A. Parkhurst, and Walter R. Winning, Selectmen of Chelmsford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, in consideration of \$1.00 paid by Catherine M. Savage of said Chelmsford,

A certain tract of land, with the building thereon situate in the Westerly part of said Chelmsford, and on the Northerly side of the road leading from West Chelmsford, (so-called) to Chelmsford Centre, containing 1/2 acre, be the same more or less, and thus bounded and described:

Beginning at the Southeast corner of the premises at a stone bound at said road at land formerly of Isaiah Spaulding;

Thence Northerly 146 feet and 8 inches to a stone boundary,;

Thence Westerly 148 1/2 feet to a stone boundary;

Thence Southerly 146 feet and 8 inches to a stone boundary at said road;

Thence Easterly on said road 148 1/2 feet to the point of beginning, intending by this deed to convey all land now fenced in, and formerly occupied as a lot for Schoolhouse in former District No. 7.

Being the same lot of land conveyed to the Town of Chelmsford by deed of Isaiah Spaulding dated March 15 AD 1877, and recorded with Middlesex North District of Deeds, Book 123, Page 34 Selectmen, being duly authorized by vote of the inhabitants of Chelmsford at a legally called meeting for that purpose, held March 27, AD 1899, to sell and convey the above described property, a certified copy of said vote, being attached hereto

March 6, 1900 Signed

March 10, 1900 Recorded



8/22/2005 F. Merriam



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