

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

35/142/6	Westford		CLM.399
----------	----------	--	---------

Town/City: Chelmsford

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

Photograph



Address: 3 School Street

Historic Name: Chelmsford Company Housing

Uses: Present: single-family dwelling

Original: multiple-family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1850

Source: 1831 and 1856 maps of Chelmsford; tax records

Style/Form: no style

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding/vinyl

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Unknown date: wall dormer and porch roof additions

Ca. 2000 replacement siding, windows, and door

Ca. 2000 chimney addition

Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .3 A

Setting: The house is located approximately 20' southwest of School St near its intersection with Main St. The building is on a slight rise and a set of steps leads from the road to the house. The lot is flat and grassy with few plantings. The surrounding area includes 19th and 20th c. residential, industrial, and commercial developments.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Jennifer Burden, Gray & Pape, Inc.

Organization: Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2016

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

3 SCHOOL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

CLM.399

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 house has a stone foundation, walls clad in replacement vinyl siding with vinyl trim, and an asphalt shingled side gable roof. A brick internal chimney is located along the ridgeline near the south gable. An external concrete block chimney has been added to the north gable end. Windows throughout the house are replacement, six-over-six, double-hung windows with false muntins. Windows on the first story feature decorative shutters. The primary (northeast) façade is symmetrically five bays wide with windows in the four outer bays of the first story. The main entry, which has a replacement door and sidelights, is in the center bay and is sheltered by a one-bay front gable porch supported by wood columns. A wall dormer is located above the doorway; the dormer has two windows without shutters. The main massing of the building is two bays deep with windows in each bay of the first and half stories. The building extends further to the rear; this section is one-story and narrower than the main mass of the building.

The building is an altered example of a mid-nineteenth century residence 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 building is not on the 1831 map of Chelmsford, but it is present on the 1856 map of the area. Records indicate this and surrounding dwellings were part of the Chelmsford Company mill property and were listed in tax records for the company as early as 1853. The 1875 map of West Chelmsford lists this and surrounding properties as owned by T.H. Tyler, who also owned the Chelmsford Woolen Mills at this date. By 1889 the mill site had changed owners and so had the mill dwellings to the H. Heerey & Company. It is not possible to know who lived here during the mills operation since these records do not exist.

Deed research to this particular house was inconclusive and it was not discovered when it was first sold into private residential ownership. In 1970 Fred Mark (born 1938) purchased the property and in 1999 he transferred ownership to Steven Mark.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

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.

Hales, John G. *Plan of the Town of Chelmsford in the County of Middlesex*. Surveyed in 1831 by John G. Hales.

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.

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 3 School Street would be a contributing resource to that district as an example of residential architecture constructed for mill workers during its period of significance that retains some historic integrity.