

FORM B – BUILDING

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



MA_Chelmsford_SchoolStreet_68_IMG_0188_CHC_05

Sketch Map



Recorded by Linda V. Prescott

Organization Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date November 2007

Assessor's Number 47/121/7 USGS Quad Billerica Area(s)
Form Number

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Town Chelmsford

Place (neighborhood or village)
West Chelmsford

Address 68 School Street

Historic Name Issac Bunker House

Uses: Present residence

Original residence

Date of Construction 1866-1870

Source deeds, taxes, census

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material: Vinyl Siding

Foundation dressed stone with cement

Wall/Trim Vinyl

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alterations (with dates)

October 1980, updated wiring

April 1978 Kitchen alterations

June 1988 built an inground pool

June 2000 built a new garage

2003 added a kitchen ell, added a mud room, and renovated existing kitchen into a den.

August 2006 added the front porch

Condition very good

Moved no yes **Date**

Acreage 21,991 sq. ft.

Setting semi rural

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

68 School Street is a very typical Greek Revival House of this area. It is difficult to describe with certainty the exterior components of the original house as it is totally clad in vinyl. The siding appears to follow the original woodwork; the building has raking molding following the roof line with matching returns, and the corner boards have the appearance of fluted columns. The windows are recent 2 pane vinyl replacements along with the exterior doors. The foundation is of dressed granite stones with cement under the main body and a small ell on the south side of the house. In 2003 the house underwent a major renovation and a new single story kitchen ell was added. A new porch was added in 2006. At this time, it is not possible date the house to the exact year, but census and deeds indicate the house was built by Issac Bunker between 1866 and 1870. The Greek Revival Houses were built from 1810 until about 1860.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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.

On October 18, 1866, John Farrar sold a 1+ acre parcel of land to Issac Bunker. The 1870 Federal Census records John Farrar as being a farmer and Issac Bunker as having no occupation. The dates indicate the house was built between 1866 and 1870. In the 1880 Federal Census, Issac Bunker and his wife Diantha had moved Laramie Wyoming where Issac was employed as a house carpenter. On August 17, 1871, Issac Bunker sold a parcel of land with the buildings to Abby Farrar, a widow from Chelmsford. According to Census records, Abby's husband had died within the past year and was buried in the West Chelmsford Cemetery, a parcel of land John Farrar had sold to the town of Chelmsford for a cemetery in 1852. On Nov. 2, 1871, the house passed into the hands of George Wheeler. The 1870 Federal Census records George G. Wheeler, of Nashua, N.H., to be a railroad ticket clerk; the rail road depot was a short walk from the house. The 1875 De Beers Atlas notes that Mrs. George Wheeler owned the house. For a period of time, the house was owned by George Snow, a man very involved with his community. Mr. Snow was the treasurer of the West Methodist Church for 25 years and was part of several town committees. The house then passed into the hands of Justus B. Wilson, an Iron Worker, of Lowell. Janet Agnew purchased the house in February of 1894 and sold the house in 1906 to August Nelson and then to David Peterson, a Swedish Factory Worker who raised 3 children in the house. The house has had 5 more owners including the current owners, Eric and Jane Gardner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

North Middlesex Registry of Deeds
Town of Chelmsford Real Estate Taxes, Building Inspector's Record, GIS and Cemetery Archives
Wilson's History of Chelmsford
Ancestry.com Census Records
Newspaper Archives
Locallive.com
Topozone.com

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Address

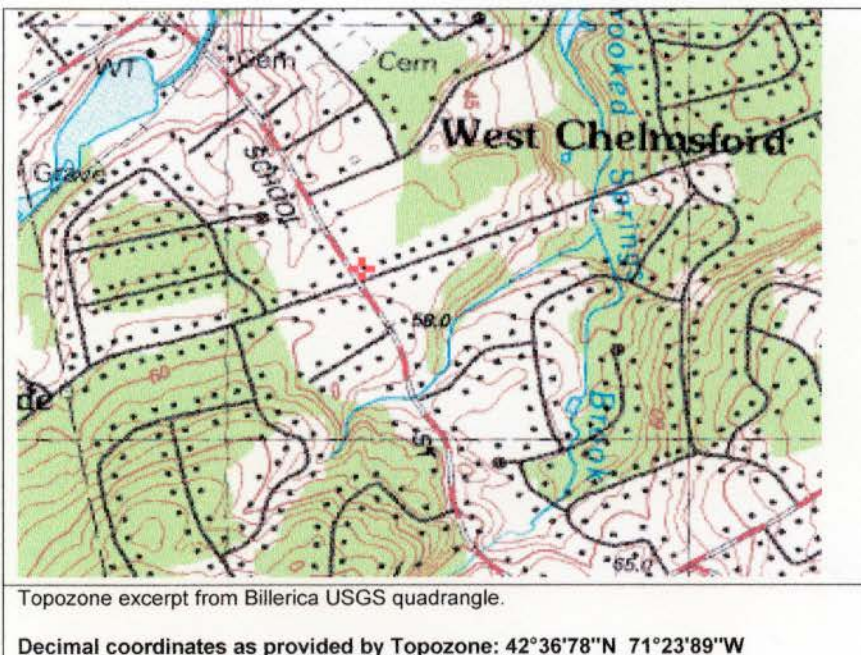
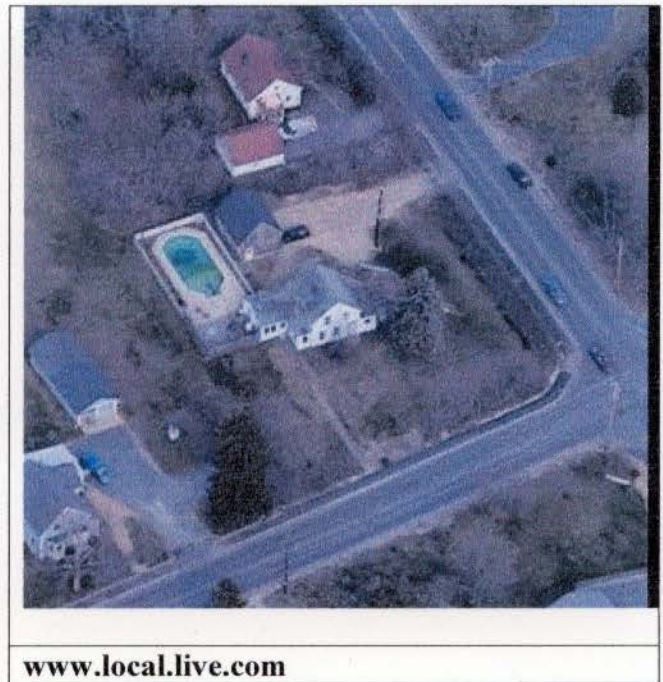
CHELMSFORD 68 SCHOOL STREET

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

Area(s) Form No.

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Locational Information



68 School Street
Deed Summary

- Bk 1101, pg. 248 Aug. 22, 2000 Florence Horton Estate to Eric and Jane Gardner
Cons. Pd. \$1.00 for Lot C on 1952 plan , Plan Bk 82,
Plan 8. Lot contains 3,300 sq. ft. and is part of 68
School St., Bk 8453, pg 6. Being part of the same
premises conveyed by deed Bk 1169, pg. 501
Middlesex Probate # 535753.
Doc # 44629
- Bk 8453, pg. 6 Feb. 28, 1997 Katherine Harris (Pepperell), Ruthanne Leeds (Townsend), Barabara
Beach(San Lorenzo, CA) Patricia Bennet (Essex
County), Susan Yarrid Sibulkin (Hamilton, MA) to
Eric and Jane Gardner for cons. Pd. \$124,5000.00.
Doc. # 9418
- Bk 3779, pg. 16 Oct. 24, 1986 James and Ruth Walker to Margaret Walker
and Katherine Harris, Barbara Beach, Patricia Bennet,
Ruthanne Leeds and Susan Yarrid, for \$1.00. Land
and buildings in West Chelms.
Doc. # 70100
- Bk 1215, pg. 179 Jan. 17, 1953 Pasquale John and Dorothy E, Catalano of Chelms to James and Ruth
Walker of Lawrence, MA. Land in West Chelms and
the buldings.
Doc. # 501
- Bk 1096, pg. 534 July 19, 1948 Alvin and Dorothy Snell, Chelmsford to Pasquale J. and Dorothy E.
Catalano, Carlisle. Land in West Chelmsford and the
buildings.
Doc. # 639
- Bk 1036, pg. 149 Jan. 17, 1946 David Peterson, unmarried of Chelmsford to Alvin and Dorothy
Snell, Chelmsford the land and buildings in West
Chelmsford.
Doc. # 398
- Bk 599, pg 515 Mar. 19, 1919 August P. Nelson, Chelmsford, to David G. Peterson, married of
Westford, land and the buildings in West Chelmsford.
- Bk 393, pg. 232 July 26, 1906 Janet Agnew, unmarried of Westford to August P. Nelson of
Chelmsford for \$1.00, the land in West Chelmsford
with the buildings. Deed mentions the next deed is
registered in the Southn Registry of Deeds, probably is
a mistake.
- Bk 251, pg. 580 Feb 13, 1894 Justus B. amd Emma J. Wilson, of Bridgeport, Conn. to Janet Agnew
of Westford for \$900.00 for the land and the buildings
in West Chelmsford. No mention of a book and page.

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| Bk 231, pg 566 | Apr. 1, 1892 | Justus B. Wilson of Lowell to Geo. F. Snow of Chelmsford for \$550- for the land and buildings. |
| Bk 83, pg.73 | Nov. 2, 1871 | Abby Farrar, Chelms, to Geo. G. Wheeler, Nashua, lot of land with buildings. Deed starts at Northwesterly corner of property, runs along Furlong land now schoolhouse ... the size of the lot increases. Found this deed using DeBeers 1875 Atlas, Wheeler is listed as owner of house. |
| Bk 83, pg. 41 | Aug. 17, 1871 | Issac Bunker to Abby Farrar, widow, lot of land with the buildings. |
| Bk 57, pg. 348 | Oct. 18, 1866 | John Farrar to Issac R. Bunker, Chelmsford, paid \$100.00 for the land of about one acre and three rods. No mention of a house. |

Town Of Chelmsford
50 Billerica Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824



Chelmsford Historical Commission
Delay of Demolition
Determination of Applicability

The Chelmsford Historical Commission finds the application for demolition of:

Property: 68 School Street, 1866-1870 Greek Revival Residence
Address of property - description, i.e., type of structure

as presented by: Eric Gardner
Owner

68 School Street
Address of owner/contractor

on : Sept. 13, 2007
date

to be within the guideline of the Demolition Delay bylaw, Ch. 16, Town of Chelmsford,
and has notified the Town of Chelmsford Inspector of Buildings of said determination.
The Inspector of Buildings may issue a permit for demolition.

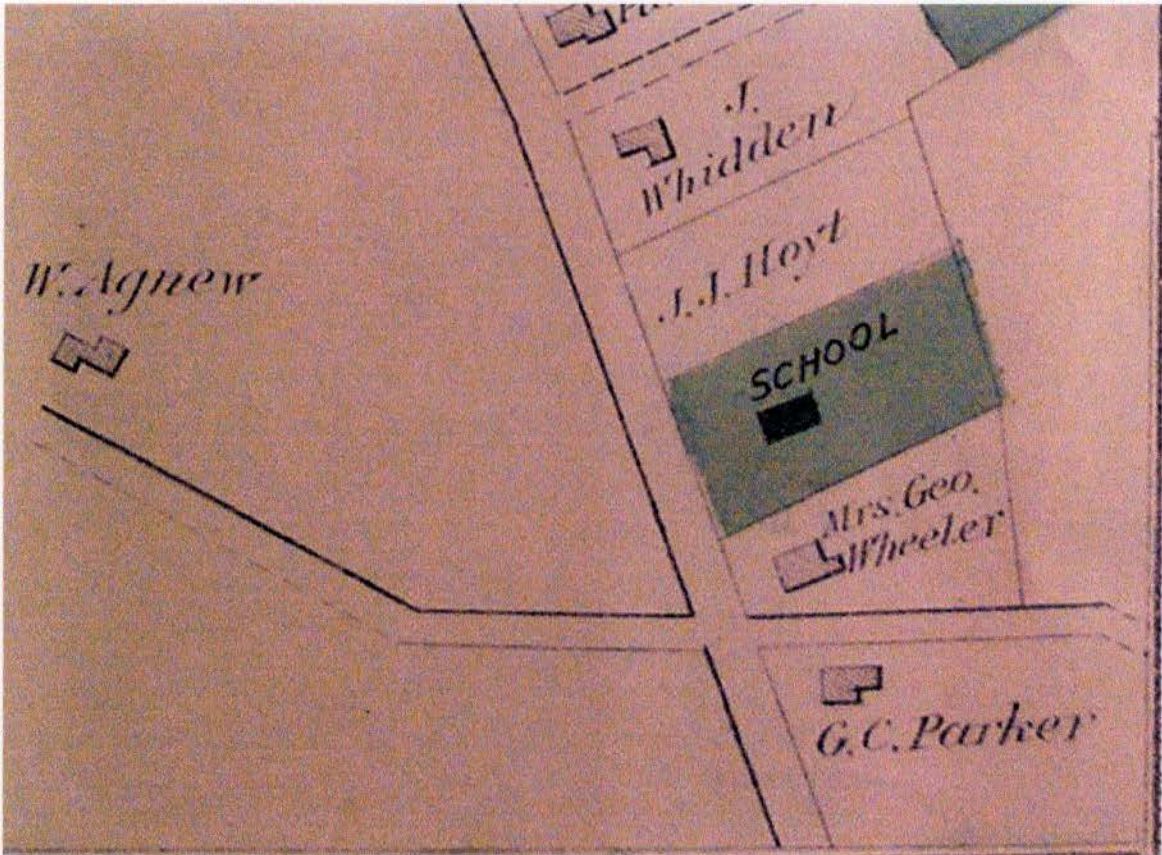
Linda V. Prescott
Signature of Historical Commission Representative

11.13.07
date

Linda V. Prescott
Print name of Historical Commission Representative

cc: Inspector of Buildings
Town Manager

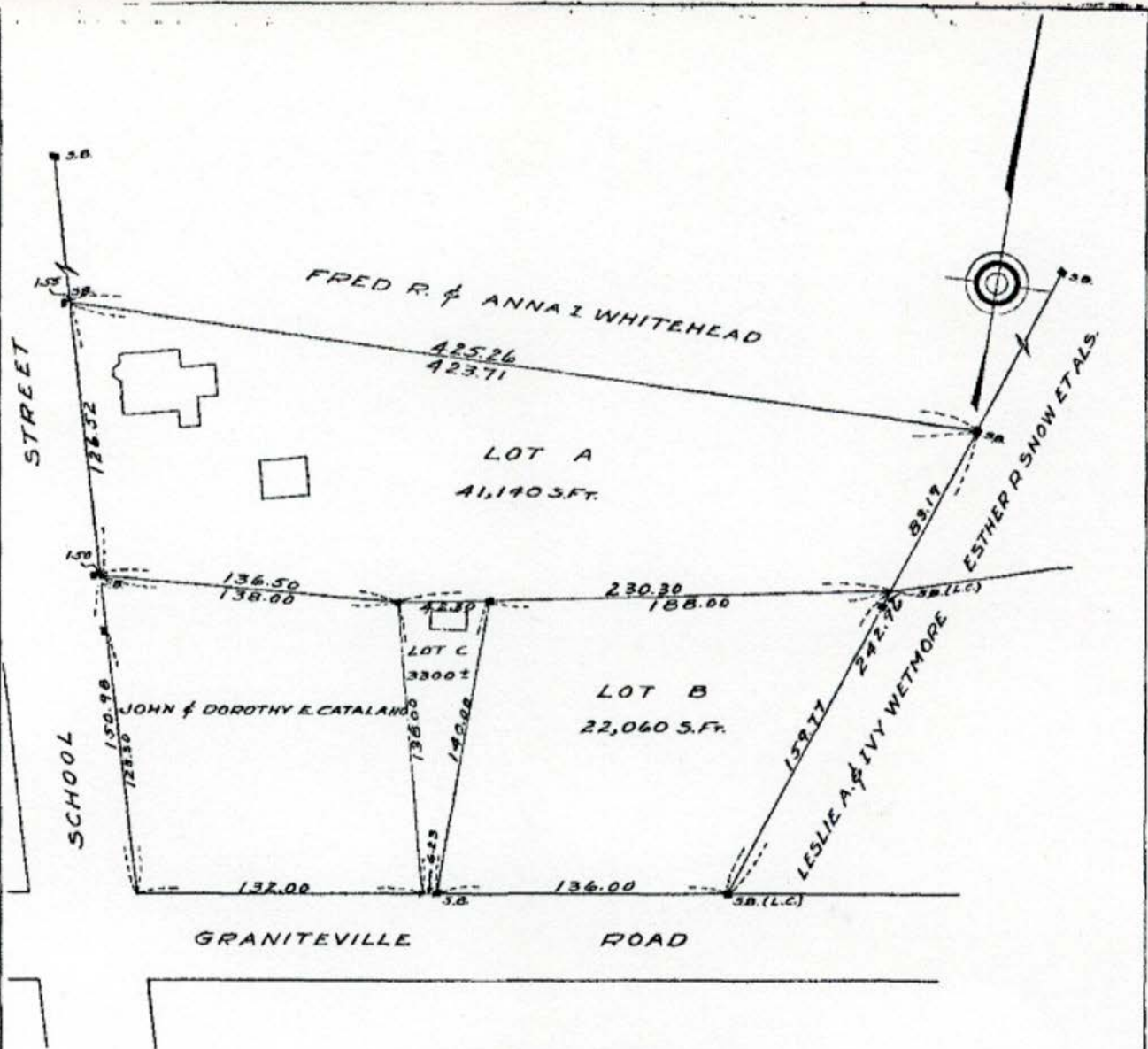
CHC 2005-1



1875 west chelmsford, de beers map



1856 west chelmsford school and graniteville



SUBDIVISION PLAN OF
LAND IN CHELMSFORD, MASS.

BELONGING TO

CLIFFORD H. & FLORENCE M. HORTON

SURVEYED JUNE, 1952

BY

J.C. & W.T. MONAHAN

CIVIL ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS

SCALE 1" = 40 FT.

Lowell, Mass. *June 27, 1952*
Received and entered with Middlesex
North District in office of Deeds
Book of Plans 32 a 8

Richard L. Monahan
Register.







