

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

13/39/5	Tyngsboro		143
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Town Chelmsford

Place (neighborhood or village)

North Chelmsford

Address 7 Washington Street

Historic Name Alonzo Davis House

Uses: Present 2 unit condominium; owned by 1 family in 2006

Original 1 family residence

Date of Construction 1854

Source tax records  
 deed: Bk. 13, pg. 482, 11/08/1853

Style/Form

Architect/Builder perhaps Alonzo Davis, 1st owner, who was a carpenter

Exterior Material:

Foundation cut granite blocks: main house & ell

Wall/Trim asbestos shingle

Roof ridge, gables to side

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage, fair condition

Major Alterations (with dates)

by 1874 ell on right side was added if not original  
 1984 converted to 2 condominiums with interior many changes

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date

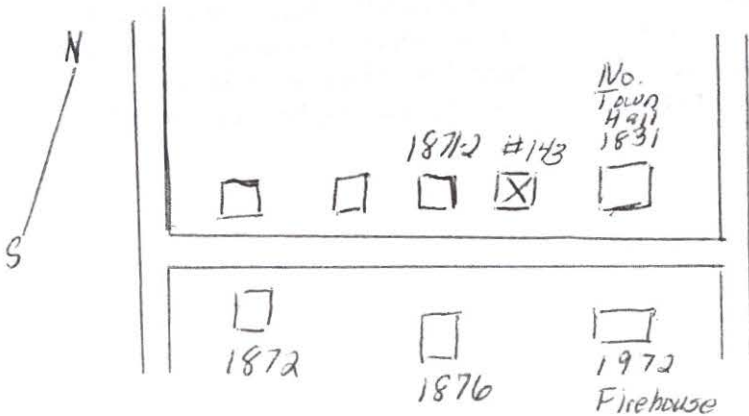
Acreage 12.745 sq. ft.

Setting A cement leads up to the 2 granite steps to the front porch of the main house. Left of the house is a paved driveway (see continuation sheet)



## Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization for Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (month year) December 2006

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

Main house: 2 ½ stories; 36 long x 25 feet wide; 5 x 2 bays; no corner posts visible (if any, are covered by siding);

A dormer extends out from the middle of the rear roof; ridge roof parallel to street

Ell: 1½ stories; 29 feet long x 14 feet wide; ridge roof parallel to street; 1984 diamond shaped window under the gable

A tall, narrow chimney serves a fireplace between its two rooms

### 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.*

The residence at 5-7 Washington St. in North Chelmsford was built in 1854 as a 1 family home, perhaps by Alonzo A. Davis, who was a carpenter. He came here from Tyngsboro, having purchased the house lot for \$25. His wife Jane came from Westford. They had 3 children born in Chelmsford: Eddie Alonzo, born in 1858; Elmer Ellsworth, born in 1862; and Lewis Wilder, born in 1866. Alonzo enlisted in the Army on Aug. 30, 1862 and served as a private in Co. K, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Infantry. He was mustered out on June 3, 1863. He served as selectman in Chelmsford in 1859 and again in 1866. In Nov. 1869 he sold the property to Samuel T. Wright., and apparently moved out of town.

Originally coming from Westford, Samuel Wright owned several other buildings in North Chelmsford, but he and his wife Hannah lived here. They had a daughter, Clara Alicia, born in Chelmsford about 6 months before they purchased 7 Washington St. Samuel worked as a trader & general storekeeper, and was a real estate broker. He served as selectman from 1868 through 1873. He was the "1<sup>st</sup> treasurer of the North Chelmsford Library Association, when it organized Jan. 19, 1872. Samuel was also one of the original subscribers to the North Chelmsford Library Fund." Following his death by 1883, his widow, Hannah, continued to reside here until her own death shortly after the turn of the century. On October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1901 their daughter, Clara, married Frederick Salmon, who was then residing in Lowell, where he worked as a clerk. Two years later Clara developed pneumonia and died in 8 days, in Nov. 1903. Following Clara's death, Frederick Salmon and Mrs. Estelle Marden resided at 7 Washington St. About 1913/14 Frederick Salmon moved to Lowell and in 1915 sold the property to Estelle Marden. She remained here until 1920/21, when she too left Chelmsford and the house was sold.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds: 11/08/1853; Bk. 13, pg. 482

Assessors' records; town clerk's records; building inspector records

List of persons Liable to Enrollment: May 1, 1865

Register of Voters: 1877-1883

Waters, History of Chelmsford, 1914: pg. 374, 381, 587, 765, 829

Lowell Daily Courier: Oct. 31, 1903

Lowell Sun: 3/16/2006, obituary of John Wesley Trubey

Sewall Bowers: Jan. 14, 1984

Marden Plan: Feb. 3, 1914; Plan Bk. 31, plan 23

Vital Records to 1950 Chelmsford

Mrs. Lillian (Trubey) Dowd & Mrs. Joanna (Dowd) Monahan: several conversations & genealogical information

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  
CHELMSFORD

Property Address  
7 WASHINGTON ST.

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

Area(s) Form No.

## History

John & Barbara Bridgford and their family were the next owners to reside here for any length of time, from 1924 to 1937. John's occupation was first listed as a caretaker but later as an engineer. Their family included Isabelle, who was a clerk, John W. a wool sorter, and Thomas a blacksmith. One of the boys was nicknamed "Tug" and was a ball player of some renown, but perhaps only locally.

In 1938 Clarence and Katherine Trubey purchased the dwelling at 5-7 Washington Street and for 38 years were in charge of the Trubey Nursing Home here. Katherine was a nurse. For several years Clarence's retired father, Arthur, resided with them, his wife having died the previous November (16<sup>th</sup>, 1942). He died in 1954, aged 86.

Clarence & Katherine's children, Clarence, Jr. ("Buddy"), John W., Alton, Donald, and Lillian also lived here with them. Their daughter Katherine never lived here, having married Clark Gray in 1938. Clarence, Sr. had been in the service during World War I, and during World War II all four boys served did also. John enlisted in the Navy and became a fire control man aboard the "Destroyer USS Hall, which was 1 of 3 destroyers that escorted the Battleship Iowa, carrying President Roosevelt to the Teheran Conference. .... The Hall assisted with the occupation of the Marshall, Marianas and Mindoro Islands, and in the liberation of the Philippines..... The ship participated in the occupation of Iwo Jima and Okinawa."

Alton was also in the Navy, having enlisted in July 1942, and was in Italy at one point. Donald enlisted in the Navy in February 1944 and served on a PT boat. However, "Buddy" enlisted in the Army Air Corps the day after Pearl Harbor and by October 1943 was a co-pilot of heavy bombers over Germany. On January 5, 1944 his plane, "Little Girls", was shot down over France, and he did not survive. Following their retirement in 1958 Clarence & Katherine retired but remained at 5-7 Washington St. She died in 1971, aged 83, and he in 1973, aged 78. The following year the property was sold out of the Trubey family.

Since 1984 it has been a two unit condominium. In 2006 the owner lives downstairs and her sister is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor with her children.



Pictured at a Mother's Day gathering at the home of Mrs. Clarence Trubey 7 Washington St. (L-R) Mrs. Barbara Mueller holding daughter Cynthia, Mrs. Katherine Gray, Mrs. Katherine Trubey, & Mrs. Lillian Roberts, holding daughters Donna & Sandra. Katherine Trubey is the mother of Katherine Gray, who is mother of Lillian Roberts & Barbara Mueller.

May 1964

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Town  
CHELMSFORD

Property Address  
5-7 WASHINGTON ST

Area(s) Form No.

	143
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## Setting:

leading to a fence crossing from the rear corner of the house to a line of trees at the lot line. The fence turns at right angle to the rear of the lot. It then follows the rear lot line to the No. Town Hall lot, & then turns again at right angle along the lot line a few yards before turning and crossing over to the front right corner of the ell on the house. A small garage or shed is located at the rear left corner of the lot. inside the fence.

## Alterations:

before 1875	ell on right side: may be part of original house
before 1875	1 small addition: rear of house between main house & ell has a granite foundation & a cistern is inside
1875-1914	front porch added
1875-1914	small addition to the right rear of ell has 2 cement steps leading to it
1965-1970	above addition removed
1965-1970	small entry way added: near left rear corner
before 1984	dormer added to rear roof of main house
1984	conversion to 2 family condominium: <u>many</u> interior changes Davies: architect exterior front door of ell closed off 2 granite steps leading up to door removed new diamond shaped stained glass window at end of ell 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor left rear: exit added to main house: open "porch" & stairs leading down. window changed: rear of main house

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

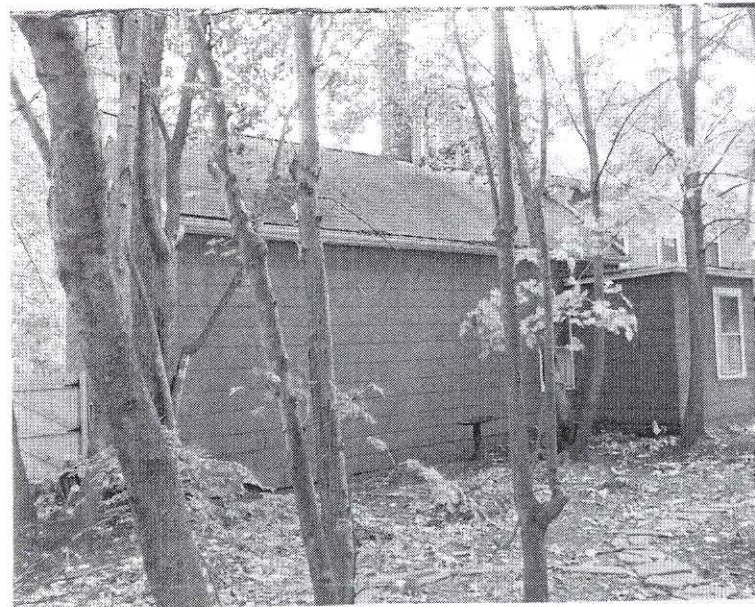
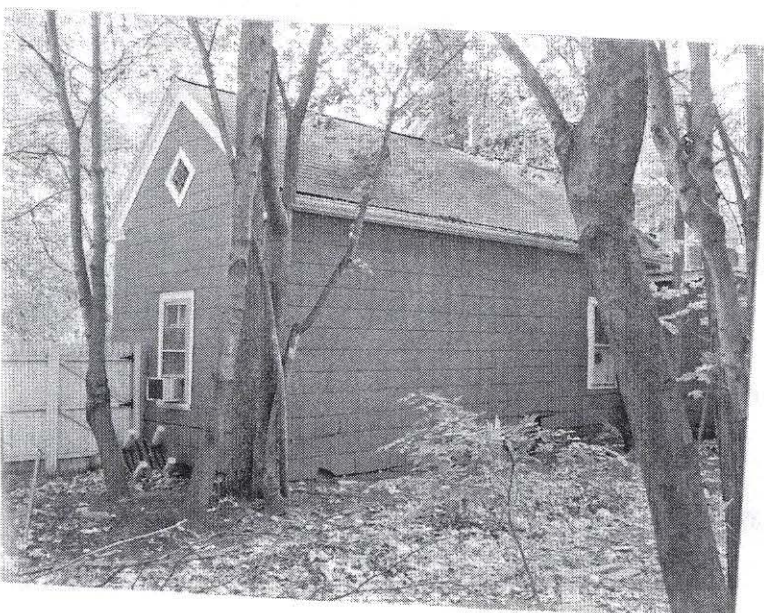
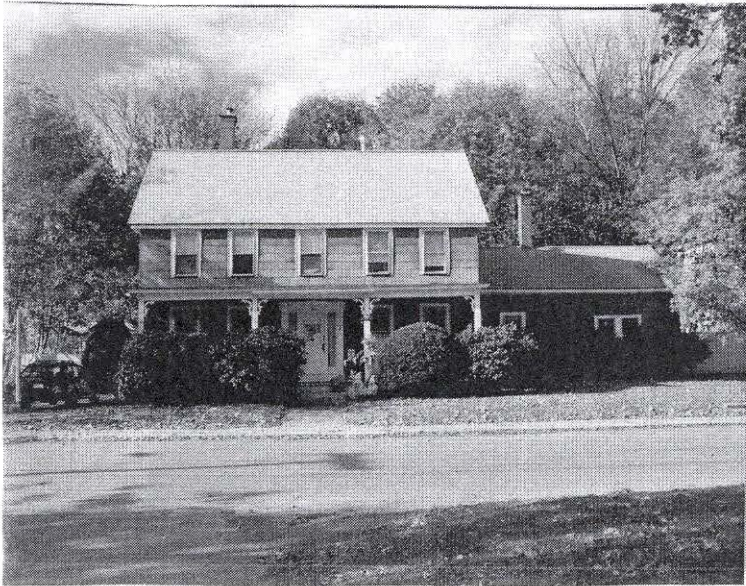
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Town  
CHELMSFORD 5-7 WASHINGTON ST.

Area(s) Form No.

Alterations

Pictures taken Spring/Summer 2006 by John Dowd



E11 -  
end of REAR

E11  
REAR main house

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD 7 WASHINGTON ST.

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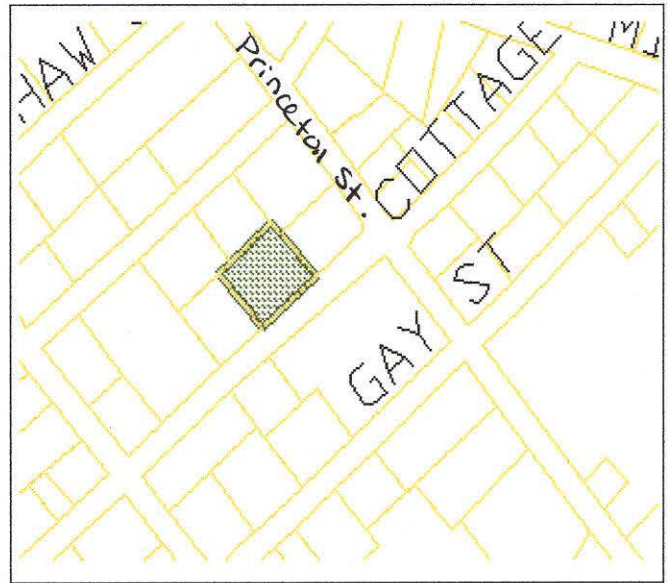
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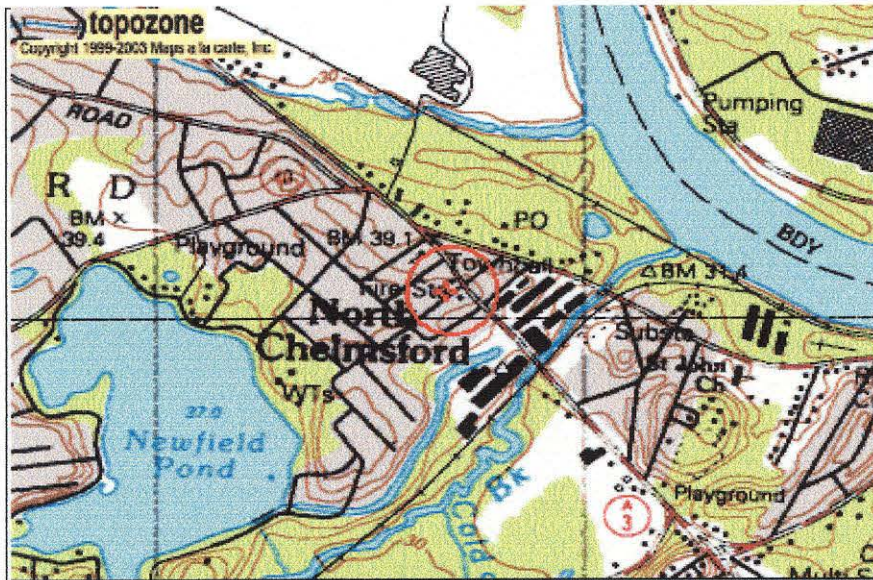
## Locational Information



7 Washington Street from locallive.com



7 Washington Street from Assessor's map



Topozone excerpt from Lowell USGS quadrangle.

Decimal coordinates as provided by Topozone: 42°38'14"N 71°22'56" W



**FOUR GENERATIONS---**Baby Gerald Mark Trubey, 5 weeks old, held by proud father, Donald E. Trubey, age 27, seated with Arthur W. Trubey, baby's great grandfather, while grandfather, Clarence A. Trubey, age 59, stands in rear to compose this interesting photo.

# Separated by war, united at last

Brothers honored,  
60 years after  
one died in WWII

By JENNIFER AMY  
MYERS  
Sun Staff

CHELMSFORD — John Trubey's last wish was simple. He wanted to be as close as possible to the older brother he idolized and lost in the hostile skies over France more than 60 years ago.

"All Uncle John wanted was to be cremated and have his ashes buried next to the memorial to his brother,"

Please see **BROTHERS/6**



Clarence Trubey, top, died over France. His brother John wanted his ashes buried near Clarence's memorial.



Elsie Kapetanakis of Nashua places flowers on the graves of her uncles, John and Clarence Trubey, in Riverside Cemetery in North Chelmsford yesterday.

SUNBILL BRIDGEFORD





Oren Bentley, 12, of North Conway, N.H., plays "Taps" on trumpet that belonged to his great-uncle, John Trubey.

SUNBILL BRIDGEFORD

## Separated by war, death, brothers united at last

**BROTHERS**/From Page 1

said Trubey's niece, Joan Monahan, of Salem, N.H.

Yesterday morning, his family made it happen with a touching graveside service at Riverside Cemetery. They honored both John Trubey, who died on March 14 in San Bernadino, Calif., at 83, and his brother, Army Air Forces Lt. Clarence Trubey, whose B-17 bomber was shot down off the coast of France on Jan. 5, 1944.

Twenty-year-old Clarence "Buddy" Trubey enlisted on Dec. 8, 1941, the day after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

"Buddy was always there to help us out, a born leader," recalled his sister, Lillian Dowd, 81, of Chelmsford. "I never saw Buddy cross, only when he was trying to fix his car, but that would try the patience of a saint."

At the time of Buddy's death, two of his younger brothers, John and Alton were serving overseas, John in the Naval Reserve as a fire control man aboard a destroyer in the Pacific and Alton in the Navy, an armed guard aboard a ship in Italy.

However, the youngest of North Chelmsford's Trubey brothers, Donald, was still too young to enlist. He joined the Naval Reserve one month after Buddy was reported missing.

"Donald delivered the telegram to my mother bringing the news that Buddy had been shot down and was missing," Dowd said. "He happened to be going through town near where the telegrams came in and the man there handed it to him and told him to bring it to his mother."

Buddy's body was never recovered. Until yesterday, there had been no memorial service.

"All four brothers were very close," Dowd said. "Even after Buddy was gone, they all hoped there was some kind of mistake, that he would be found. They never accepted his death because there was no body."

"I guess there is a little kid in all of us that still hangs on," she added.

Donald Trubey, 80, of Westford, the baby of the Trubey family, attended yesterday's service.

"It brings back a lot of memories, a lot of pride," said the soft-spoken Donald, his

eyes rimmed with pink where tears had collected.

John Trubey was determined to enlist in the Army, as Buddy had, but the Army rejected him because he had club foot. He was ready to head to Canada to join their military, when the Navy accepted him.

He was assigned to the destroyer *USS Hall*, one of three destroyers that escorted the *Battleship Iowa*, carrying President Franklin Roosevelt and other leaders to the Teheran conference. In the Pacific, the *Hall* assisted with the occupation of the Marshall, Marianas and Mindoro islands, the liberation of the Philippines and the occupation of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Monahan and her cousin, Elsie Kapetanakis, of Nashua, the daughter of John's sister, Katherine Trubey who died three years ago, have fond memories of their Uncle John.

They remember the pistachios.

John grew the nuts in his California yard and would send them back to Massachusetts to be enjoyed by family.

"He played music to his trees, setting up a big speaker system in the orchard," Kapetanakis laughed. "And he would come to visit in his own plane that he would fly into Nashua."

John Trubey had one other wish, that someone take care of the trumpet he brought immediately after returning from World War II.

Thirty people surrounded the gravesite, a heavy rain beating against a canopy of umbrellas. As the crowd fell silent, the solemn, haunting sounds of "Taps," played by a sole trumpeter rang through the cemetery in the direction of two framed black-and-white photos of the handsome, uniformed young brothers, American heroes forever frozen in time.

The trumpeter was 12-year-old Oren Bentley, of North Conway, N.H., the great-nephew of John and Buddy Trubey. He has been playing the trumpet for four years. He promises to take good care of one of his great-uncle's most-prized possessions.

His wishes granted, John Trubey can rest in peace, back at home in North Chelmsford.

Jennifer Amy Myers' e-mail address is [jmyers@lowellsun.com](mailto:jmyers@lowellsun.com).



MOTHERS' DAY: Pictured above is a Mothers' Day gathering at the home of Mrs. Clarence Trubey, 7 Washington St., North section. (L-R) Mrs. Barbara Mueller holding daughter Cynthia, Mrs. Katherine Gray, Mrs. Katherine Trubey, and Mrs. Lillian Roberts, holding daughters Donna and Sandra. Mrs. Katherine Trubey is the oldest (great-grandmother) mother of Katherine Gray, who is mother of Lillian Roberts and Barbara Mueller. (Photo by Jim Grant)

*Newsweekly 5/14/1964*



5-7 Washington Street  
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Bk. 7617, pg. 264	24/08/1995	Robert J.& Mary F. Kalil to Laura A. Lee, 20 Wright St. \$132,000 Condo. units A & B, 7 Washington St. subject: units for residential purposes only same: 1991 Kalil deed, Bk. 5542, pg. 175
Bk. 5542, pg. 175	31/05/1991	Robert J. Kalil, Trustee of Robert J. Kalil Realty Trust, 12 Chapel Hill Drive, Nashua to Robert J. & Mary F. Kalil, 12 Chapel Hill Drive, Nashua Condo. units A & B, 7 Washington St. subject: units for residential purposes only same: 1991 Kalil deed, Bk. 5473, pg. 126
Bk. 5473, pg. 126	19/03/1991 corrective deed	Robert J. & Mary F. Kalil, 12 Chapel Hill Drive, Nashua, to Robert J. Kalil, Trustee of Robert J. Kalil Revocable Trust Condo units A & B subject: units for residential purposes only
Bk. 5020, pg. 296	15/09/1989	Robert J. & Mary F Kalil, 12 Chapel Hill Drive, Nashua, to Robert J. Kalil, Trustee of Robert J. Revocable Trust 7 Washington St.: Unit A subject: unit for residential purposes only same: Bk. 4351, pg. 96
Bk. 4351, pg. 96	15/12.1987	Paul T. Frawley, Trustee of Kamist Trust, 9 Clarissa Rd., to Robert J. & Mary F. Kalil, 12 Chapel Hill Drive, Nashua \$113,500 7 Washington St.: Unit A subject: unit for residential purposes only same: 1984 Kalil deed, Bk. 2780, pg. 218
Bk. 2780, pg. 230	08/05/1984	Robert J. & Mary F. Kalil, & Paul T. Frawley, Trustee of Kamist Trust to Paul T. Frawley, Trustee of Kamist Trust \$1.00 7 Washington St.: Unit B subject: unit for residential purposes only
Bk. 2780, pg. 218	08/05/1984	Robert J. & Mary F. Kalil, & Paul T. Frawley, Trustee of Kamist Trust to Paul T. Frawley, Trustee of Kamist Trust \$1.00 7 Washington St.: Unit A subject: unit for residential purposes only

7 Washington Street

Bk. 2153, pg. 600	6/17/1975	Robert P. & D. Lorraine Lambert to Vincent R. & Carol A. Lambert, 7 Washington St. \$1 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 2111, pg. 496	5/23/1974	Estate of Clarence A. Trubey to Robert P. & D. Lorraine Lambert, 91 Main Street \$26,500 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 920, pg. 418	9/26/1938	John H. Valentine to Clarence A. & Katherine M. Trubey 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 917, pg. 335	8/11/1938	Isabell Straight, Providence, R.I., to John H. Valentine, Lowell 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 893, pg. 552	2/26/1937	Barbara A. Bridgeford to Isabell Straight, Providence, R.I., daughter
Bk. 711, pg. 181	9/10/1924	James S. Turner to John B. & Barbara A. Bridgeford 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 711, pg. 179	7/12/1924	Estate of George C. Moore, Sr. to James A. Turner \$12,000 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 633, pg. 397	9/10/1924	Estelle E. Marden to George C. Moore 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Bk. 543, pg. 31	9/03/1915	Frederick G. Salmon, Lowell, to Estelle E. Marden 12,745 s.f. & buildings - Lot #2, 1914 Marden Plan
Middlesex Probate Docket #63297	1903	Estate of Clara A. Wright Salmon to Frederick G. Salmon, husband
Bk. 359, pg. 397	10/17/1903	Harry C. Wright, Lowell, to Clara A. Salmon, Chelmsford 2 lots & buildings: 1. north side Washington St., bounding Town-House 2. south side Washington St., bounding School-House
Middlesex Probate Dicket #16172	1883 Administration	Estate of Samuel T. Wright to Harry C. Wright & Clara A. Wright Salmon
Bk. 72, pg. 410	11/20/1869	Alonzo A. Davis, carpenter, to Samuel T. Wright, yeoman \$3000 land & buildings 1. Washington St, beside town-house lot 2. Washington St. beside school-house lot

Bk. 13, pg. 482

11/08/1853

Benjamin & Thomas J. Adams, yeomen, to  
Alonzo D. Davis, Tyngsborough, carpenter  
\$25  
land south of town-house lot



5-7 Washington Street

3/31/2007 F. Merriam

