

**FORM B - BUILDING**

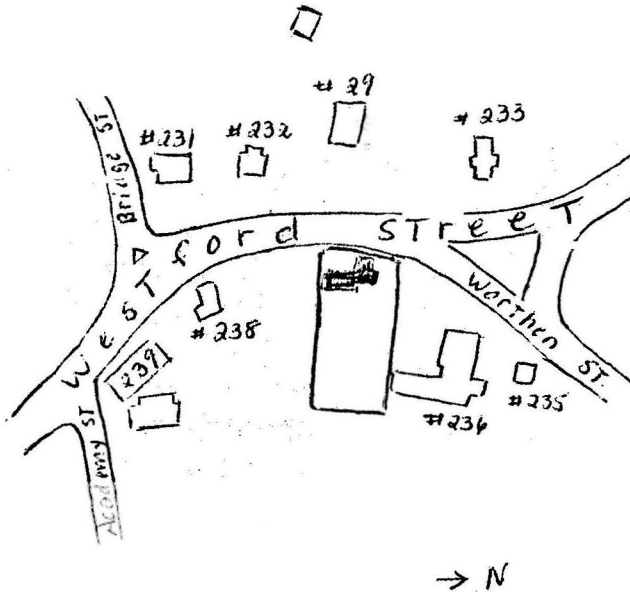
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. Chelmsford Center	Form no. 237
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City Chelmsford  
 Address 15 Westford Street  
 Name Smith House  
 Present use residence  
 Present owner George & Jane Brown  
 Description \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 1881  
 Source Deeds; tax valuation lists  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Architect \_\_\_\_\_

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location, in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Exterior wall fabric clapboard  
 Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other features \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Altered see attached Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
 25,298 sq. ft.  
 One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate frontage 56.47 ft. (plan)  
 Approximate distance of building from street  
ca 23 feet

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE**  
 USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
 MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury  
 Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission  
 Date October 28, 1977

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Lyman S. Gale

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

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	<u>  x  </u>	

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

This residence was built on land purchased from Deacon David Perham, one of Chelmsford's early "housing developers." Since its erection in 1881, the house has undergone little or no modernization. It's first owner, Lyman S. Gale, was at one time a highway surveyor. He sold the house in 1888 to Mrs. Melbourn F. Hutchins (Julia M.) of Westford, and it was rented out for a few months to Charles Vinal of Framingham. After the turn of the century, it was owned by a machinist; in 1921 it was purchased by Frank W. Smith, a Lowell leather worker, and it remained in his family until about 1974. A daughter, Clara Smith, became an invalid, and a hydraulic elevator was installed for her use in what is now (1977) a closet in the kitchen. Maude Weatherbee was hired by the Smiths as a housekeeper and to take care of Clara; in 1947 Clara deeded half of the house to Maude, who survived Clara.

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

Chelmsford Assessors' records; tax/real estate lists

Atlas, 1889

Lowell Weekly Journal: Aug. 17, 1888

Lowell Courier-Citizen: April 5, 1912

Chelmsford Directory: 1898/99, 1915/16, 1922

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds: Plan Bk.M, Plan 76; Plan Bk.122

Plan 160B; Bk.142, pg.222; Bk.1063, pg. 299

Mrs. Margaret Mills

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

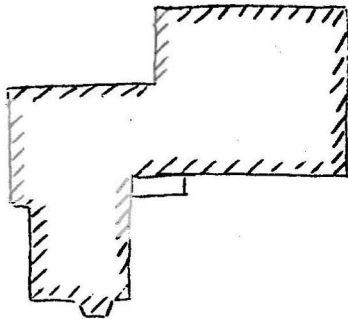
Community: Chelmsford	Form No: 237
Property Name: Smith House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below

3. Description - Altered  
1889 Atlas:



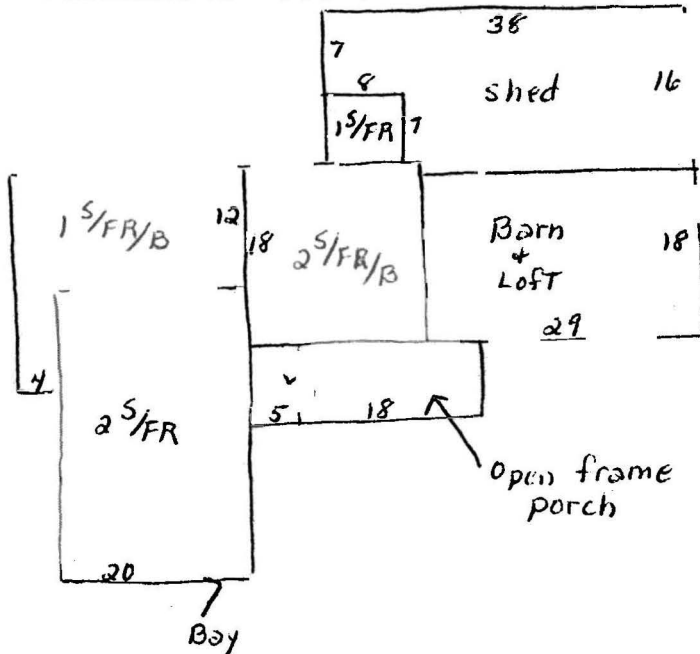
1912 Plan:  
Scale: 1 inch = 40 ft.



Date unknown:

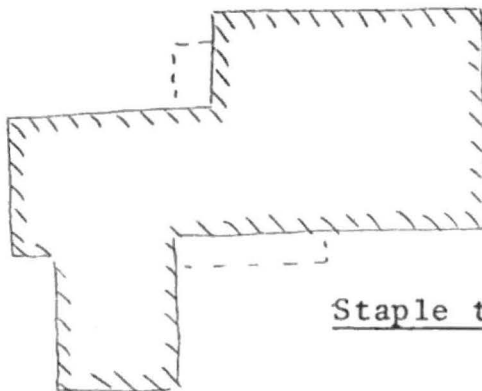
2nd floor over front porch on ell - converted to sleeping porch, then to a kitchen when ell became an apartment and was rented out.

Chelmsford Assessors' Records, Feb. 1972:



house: 2 S/FR  
single family  
garage-barn  
25298 sq. ft.  
stone foundation  
3/4 basement, concrete floor  
clapboard walls  
gable roof, asphalt shingles  
wood joists  
no. rooms: 1st-5, 2nd-3  
no modernization, in fair  
condition

Plan Book 122, Plan 160B, August 17, 1976:  
Scale: 1 inch = 30 ft.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom

15 - 17 Westford Street

Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Compiled by  
J. Drury 12/8/1974

Book 1063, pg. 299  
April 8, 1947

Clara J. Smith to herself & Maude L. Wetherbee  
Buildings thereon

Book 817, pg. 222  
August 18, 1932

Elsie P. Thompson to Clara J. Smith  
Buildings thereon

Book 803, pg. 118  
June 10, 1931

Clara J. Smith to Elsie P. Thompson  
Buildings thereon

Book 747, pg. 99  
March 10, 1927

Frank W. Smith to Clara J. Smith  
Buildings thereon

Book 645, pg. 83  
June 15, 1921

Ulysses J. & Eugenie M. Lupien to Frank W.  
Buildings thereon

Book 621, pg. 120  
February 3, 1920

Fred Chandler to Ulysses J. & Eugenie M. Lupien  
Buildings thereon

Book 399, pg. 269  
January 7, 1907

Frances H. & Burt W. Chandler to  
Fred Chandler  
Buildings thereon

Book 348, pg. 251  
September 25, 1902

Helen F. Moreton to Warren Chandler  
Buildings thereon

Book 237, pg. 402  
October 6, 1892

Julia M. Hutchins to Helen F. Moreton  
Buildings thereon \$3200

Book 196, pg. 359  
May 21, 1888

Lyman S. Gale to Julia M. Hutchins, Westford  
Buildings thereon \$2800

Book 142, pg. 222  
October 21, 1880

David Perham to Lyman S. Gale  
Land \$ 575





15 Westford Street

9/6/2006 F. Merriam





15 Westford Street

9/6/2004 F. Merriam