

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

84/341/12	Lowell		CLM.326
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**Town/City:** Chelmsford

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

## Photograph



**Address:** 24 Boston Road

**Historic Name:** James and Mary Hardy House

**Uses:** Present: residential condominiums

Original: single-family residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1892

**Source:** 1889 map of Chelmsford, deed research

**Style/Form:** Four Square

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Carriage House

### Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 1998 rear addition

Ca. 2000 replacement siding, windows, and porch materials

Conversion of carriage house to residential unit

Conversion of house to multiple residential units

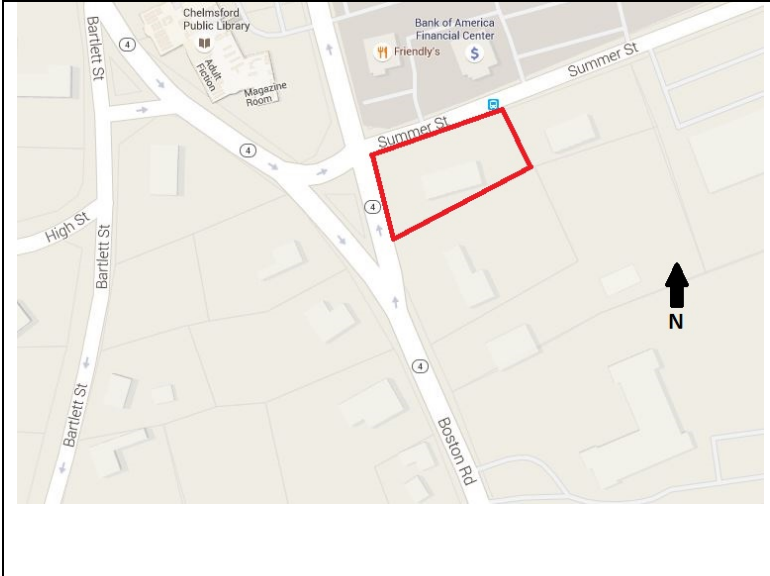
**Condition:** Fair

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** .54 A

**Setting:** The house is located at the SE corner of Boston Rd. and Summer St, approximately 50' east of Boston Rd. The parcel has a driveway from both streets. The lot is flat with several mature trees. The surrounding area includes 19<sup>th</sup> c. residential and 20<sup>th</sup> c. commercial developments with a large, modern shopping plaza across Summer St.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** Chelmsford Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): June 2016

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

24 BOSTON ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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 2.5-story house has a stone foundation, walls clad in replacement vinyl siding with wood trim, and an asphalt-shingled pyramidal roof. A side gable dormer is located on the south slope of the roof and features a triple set of windows. Fenestration throughout the house consists of replacement, six-over-six, double-hung windows with false muntins. The three-bay, symmetrical, primary (west) façade includes single windows in each bay except for the main entry located in the center bay of the first story. A one-bay porch with pediment roof shelters the entry. The porch features turned, wood columns and wood brackets at the corners as well as a replacement, wood railing. The primary façade also has a one-bay, front gable, wall dormer centrally located on the half-story. Scrolled, wooden brackets are visible at the corners of the house and the wall dormer.

The north wall is three bays deep with single windows in the east and west bays of both stories and an entry door in the center bay of the first story. This entry is accessible via a modern, wood deck. The south wall is two bays deep with single windows on the second story. The first story includes an oriel in the west bay and a paired window in the east bay. The oriel features a hipped roof, narrow four-over-four window with false muntins, and wood cornerboards topped with scrolled brackets. A wood staircase leading to a second story deck on the rear of the house is also on the south wall.

A one-story, with basement, addition was constructed at the rear of the house ca. 1998 when the house was converted into three condominium units. The addition has a concrete foundation, five single windows, and two garage spaces.

A two-story, with basement, carriage house is located northeast of the house and is now connected to the house via the rear addition. The building has a front gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, a dentil-moulded friezeboard, and an internal, brick chimney at the rear of the ridge line. The primary (west) façade includes the main entry in the north bay and a replacement casement window in the south bay of the first story and single windows in the two bays of the second story. A one-story, shed roof addition is located on the south wall and features two, single windows on the west wall.

The house is an altered example of a late-nineteenth century dwelling. The resource retains historic integrity of location, feeling, and association.

## 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 1856 map of Chelmsford shows a building at this location owned by E.H. Marshall. The 1850 U.S. Population Census lists an E.H. Marshall living in Chelmsford near families also shown on the 1856 map. At this date, Marshall (born ca. 1820) worked as a blacksmith. Eben H. Marshall was in business with Nathaniel Dadmun, another blacksmith. The 1875 map of Chelmsford shows that Marshall owned three parcels on the east side of Boston Road between Beaver Brook and Warren Avenue. Two of the parcels included houses, this lot and the one at Warren Avenue that also included the blacksmith shop.

The 1889 map of Chelmsford, however, shows that E.R. Marshall owned the parcel, but the building was no longer extant. E.R. Marshall was Eden R. Marshall, son of Eben H. By 1890 J. Adams Bartlett owned this parcel and in April of that year a survey was completed of the land. In May 1890, Bartlett sold the property to George S. Fenderson (1850-1909). In 1894 Fenderson sold the parcel to Mary Hardy (the deed notes she was married to James Hardy, but he is not listed as a grantee on the deed). The quick sales between 1890 and 1894 suggest that Fenderson built the house during his short period of ownership.

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James Monroe (1822-1900) and Mary Bancroft (1824-1910) Hardy are listed in the 1900 Census as living in Chelmsford with adult daughter Mary, who was a school teacher; James was retired by this date. Although the street name is not provided on the census record, their neighbors included Harry Parkhurst and Eben Marshall, who are shown on the 1889 map on Boston Road. In 1904 Mary Hardy sold the property to Charles and Ella Greenleaf. The 1910 Census lists the family living on South Street (former name of Boston Road) with Charles (ca. 1838-1913) not employed, Ella (born ca. 1856), and two hired hands – Hattie Chamberlain (born ca. 1838) a housekeeper, and Aleanna Sibera (born ca. 1888 in Norway) a servant.

When Charles died in 1913, Ella sold the property to Mabelle and Edwin Farrington. The 1920 Census lists Edwin (1869-1941) and Mabelle (1876-1955) living on South Street with four children born between 1902 and 1914. Edwin was then working as a dentist. The 1940 Chelmsford City Directory shows that two of Edwin's sons, Charles and Linwood, also become dentists. The property was last in the Farrington family when in 1963, the estate of Maroe Farrington (daughter-in-law of Edwin and Mabelle) sold it. In 1998 David Cormier purchased the property and converted the house and carriage house into three condominium units.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Beers, F.W. *County Atlas of Middlesex, Massachusetts*. New York: J.B. Beers & Co. 1875. Available from the Chelmsford Historical Commission map collection

Genealogical data from ancestry.com including U.S. and Massachusetts Population Schedules, Massachusetts City Directories, and Massachusetts Birth, Death, and Marriage Records

Geo. H. Walker & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Geo. H. Walker & Co., Boston, MA. 1889.

Middlesex County Deed Records

Parkhurst, Eleanor. *History of Chelmsford 1910 – 1970*. Edited by Fred Merriam. Chelmsford: Chelmsford Historical Commission. 2011.

Walling, Henry. *Map of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Boston: Smith & Bumstead 1856. Available from the Chelmsford Historical Commission map collection.



Carriage house, facing east. November 2015.