

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

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| 13/21/16 | Nashua South | | CLM.342 |
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Town/City: Chelmsford

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

Photograph



Address: 1-13 Groton Road

Historic Name: William L. Draper Carriage Shop

Uses: Present: multiple-family dwelling

Original: carriage shop

Date of Construction: between 1856 and 1875

Source: 1856 and 1875 maps of Chelmsford

Style/Form: altered beyond recognition

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding/brick veneer

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 1930 store and garage additions

Ca. 2000 replacement siding and windows, deck addition

Ca. 2000 change of use to condominiums

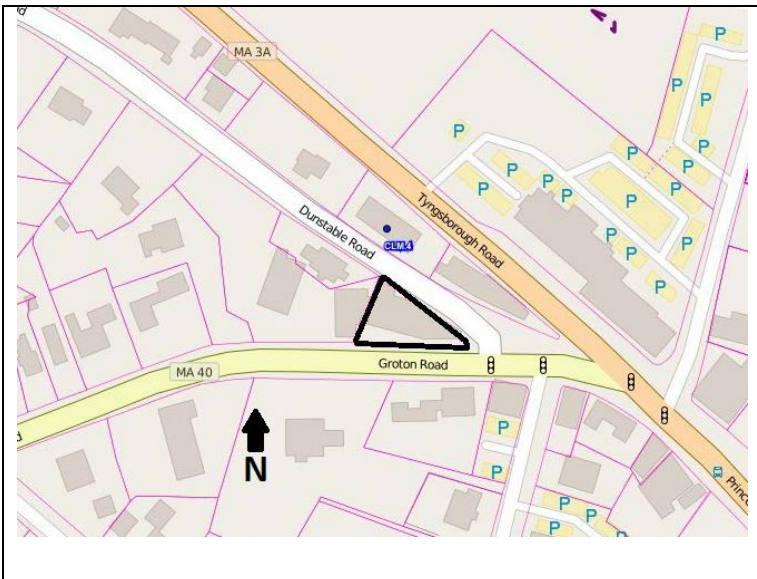
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: less than 1 acre

Setting: The building is located at the corner of Groton and Dunstable roads. The building encompasses most of the parcel with sidewalks along the north and south sides. The surrounding area includes nineteenth century commercial development.

Locus Map



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

Organization: Chelmsford Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2016

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

1-13 GROTON 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 building has a stone foundation, walls clad in replacement vinyl siding with vinyl and brick trim, and a multiple gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The building was constructed in two phases with the main portion constructed in 1870 and the store and garage additions built ca. 1930. The original portion of the building measures approximately 95' long and 25' wide. Windows throughout the building are replacement one-over-one, double-hung and casement windows. Doors throughout the building are also replacements. The primary (south) façade is divided into 13 bays on the first story with entry doors in six of the bays leading to separate condominium units. A one-story, hipped roof porch with wood column supports spans the width of the façade. The façade features two large dormers with three bays of replacement windows each. These dormers, along with one other on the north wall, appear to be additions as they are not present on a ca. 1910 photograph of the building (see below). The south wall includes a two-story wood deck that was constructed ca. 2000. The deck has a flat roof and is four bays wide.

The ca. 1930 store addition is located at the east of the building. The two-story addition has a flat roof and clad in replacement vinyl siding with brick trim. The main entry is located on the east wall and features a replacement door and sidelights topped with a broken pediment. A fixed casement window is located above the entry on the second story. The ca. 1930 garage addition is located at the west end of the north wall. The garage has been converted into commercial space through the installation of an entry door and bay window.

The resource is an altered example a mid-nineteenth building. It 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 does not appear on the 1856 map of North Chelmsford, but is present on the 1875 map. The building, therefore, was constructed between these dates. The 1875 map lists the building as the W.L. Draper Carriage Shop. The 1865 Lowell City Directory lists William Lester Draper (born in England in 1836, died February 2, 1908) as a carriage maker in that city, but the 1870 US Population Census lists Draper living in Chelmsford and working as a carriage maker. William and his wife Jane Draper (Jane was also born ca. 1836 in England) purchased the property in 1874 from Jacob Drake, but immediately sold it to Samuel L. Wright (1830-1883), a trader according to the 1880 census. Although Draper did not own the property, according to later city directory research, it appears he operated the carriage shop at this location until his death in 1908. Also, the 1907 Sanborn map shows the first story of the rear half of the building then functioned as a blacksmith, the front half of the first story was a wheelwright shop, and the second story was used for painting. Samuel Wright retained ownership of the building until 1878 when he sold it to Virgil C. Gilman. The 1889 map of North Chelmsford lists Gilman as the owner, but he sold it that year to William E. Ellison. Ellison then sold the property in 1906 to Joseph Carpentier. A ca. 1910 photograph of the building (see below) shows at this date the building housed a drug store on the first story and a painting business specializing in automobile, carriage, and sign painting above. The photograph and the 1912 Chelmsford City Directory shows the business was owned by Helmer Linstad. According to the 1900 census, Linstad (born 1876) and his brother Ole (born 1873) immigrated to the US from Norway and both were employed as carriage painters. By 1927, Linstad was working as a sign painter out of his home on Middlesex Road. In 1911 Carpentier sold the property to Arnold A. Byam, who in turn sold it just over one year later to Alice A. Lemarinel (sometimes spelled Marinel). The 1916 Lowell City Directory lists Marinel as the proprietor of a variety store and an ice cream dealer here at the intersection of Dunstable and Middlesex (Groton) roads. In 1920 she sold the property to Gertrude Shepherd. The 1920 census lists Gertrude (ca. 1878-1947) living in on Groton Road with husband George (born ca. 1876) and their three young children. The 1921 city directory lists George as operating a variety store and living at this address. The property

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remained in the Shepherd family until Gertrude's death in 1947. At this date George and son John George Shepherd sold the property to John and Harriet Buchanan.

After 1950 the remaining sections of the building were converted into apartment units and currently the building is divided into condominium units. Since 1953 the property has been transferred nine additional times.

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Photograph of the building taken during Joseph Carpentier's period of ownership (1906-1911). (Chelmsford Public Library – Royal Shawcross Photographs Collection.)



Ca. 1910 photograph showing the building at 1 Groton Road on the left. (Chelmsford Historical Commission.)