

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

83/336/11	Tyngsboro		093
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Town Chelmsford
Place (neighborhood or village) Chelmsford Center

Address 35 High St.
Historic Name Sewall Parkhurst House

Uses: Present residence
Original residence

Date of Construction ca 1820

Source tax records; probate record

Style/Form Georgian

Architect/Builder 1st owner was Sewall Parkhurst

Exterior Material:

Foundation large, long granite slabs

Wall/Trim aluminum siding

Roof ridge, side gables

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

2 small storage buildings

Major Alterations (with dates)

2006 new 2nd story to porch on left side: a replacement
 See continuation sheet

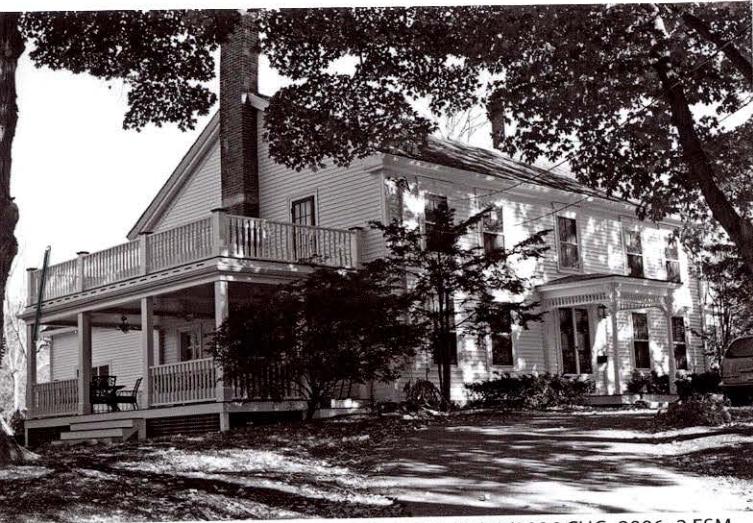
Condition good

Moved no yes **Date**

Acreage 53,426 sq. ft.

Setting

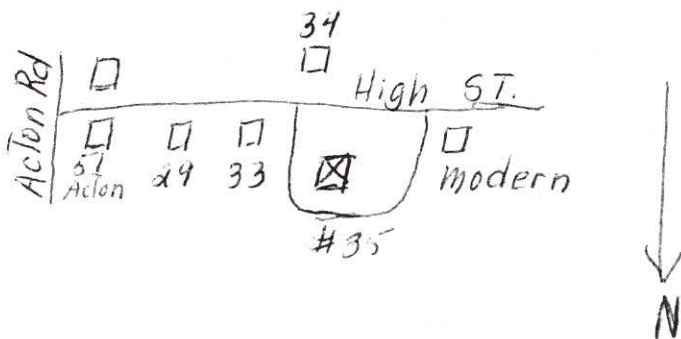
The house stands on a rise overlooking High St. A stone wall runs along the road & near the left side of the property. A paved driveway comes up from the road to the front of the house. A lawn & flowers are on both sides of the house. 2 sheds are located near the rear left side of the lot. The land & garden slope down behind the dwelling to a stone wall.



MA_Chelmsford_HighStreet_35_IMG_2865 10/13/2006 CHC_2006_2 FSM

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) July 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.

Although the house at 35 High St. has undergone several renovations/changes it still retains its original Georgian architecture. It is typical of many other houses in Chelmsford built about the same time. Its foundation is made of giant slabs of granite, which were probably obtained from the granite quarries along the Chelmsford/Westford border. These quarries are still in existence today.

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.

This residence at 35 High Street was built by Sewall Parkhurst about 1820, shortly after his father's death in 1818. By 1824 Chelmsford's earliest real estate/tax records list him owning 2 houses, 1 barn, and 2 other buildings. The 2nd house was probably that of his deceased father, Josiah. A few years later his brother Solomon erected his house just up the street from Sewall's, at 67 High St.

About the time that 35 High St. was erected, Sewall teamed the lime made at the kilns on nearby Robin's Hill. This lime was used in erecting the first mill built in Lowell. Perhaps it was also used here.

In 1828 Sewall married Sarah (Sally) Fletcher of Westford, and they had two children, Charles Henry and Edgar Sewall. Charles Henry became a prominent lawyer in Providence, R.I. Their mother, Sarah, died Aug. 1860, and three years later Sewall married Mary Elizabeth Battles. They had no children but adopted a son, Frank M. Harrison.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Chelmsford tax records; Assessors; records; Building Inspector's records
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds: Bk. 167, pg. 518 (1884)
Josiah Parkhurst will (1818)
Waters History of Chelmsford (1917)
Notebook of Miss Frances Andrews
Lowell Weekly Journal: many, 1880-1900; Lowell Daily Courier: Dec. 21, 23 1900; Lowell Sun: Jan. 21, 1909;
Lowell Courier-Citizen: Feb. 27, 1910, July 17 & 23, 1914
Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities: Richard Nylander
Emma & Bertha Parkhurst, to George Parkhurst: Nov. 3, 1981
Eleanor Parkhurst: July 28, 1980
Chelmsford Vital Records to 1850
Hodgman History of Carlisle
1918 bills from Burton H. Wiggin Company

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

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
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CHELMSFORD

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35 HIGH STREET

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HISTORY

Sewall Parkhurst was a farmer by occupation, to which he was thoroughly devoted. "He was adverse to taking a leading part in public affairs, but at the solicitation of his friends he consented to serve one year as a member of the board of selectmen". He was a member of the North Chelmsford Congregational Church until the organization of the Central Congregational Society, of which he became a deacon. By the spring of 1887 he became quite feeble and confined to his bed. In July of that year, after a long illness of several month's continuance passed away at the ripe age of 86 years, and Chelmsford lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens. His widow, Mary Elizabeth, then left the home on the hill and spent time during winters with her sister in Lowell and summers with her brother in South Chelmsford. She died there in Sept. 1902.

Sewall Parkhurst had sold the property to his adopted son, Farnk Harrison, who gave it back to Mary Elizabeth shortly before Sewall's death. In 1890 she sold it to Sarah & Paul F. Litchfield, who sold his farm in Westford, planning to come here to High St. However, first he made some "marked improvements upon the premises, quite modernizing the venerable mansion." The remodeling progressed rapidly, and by July it was almost ready for occupancy. Born in Carlisle, he and his wife, Sarah, resided in Lowell for many years, where he "manipulated many heavy real estate deals" and became very interested in the establishment of Lowell's first telephone system. About that time his health deteriorated, so he retired for a couple of years to a farm in Westford. There he regained strength and became interested in the cattle business. After moving to Chelmsford, "cattle yards [were] established in Brighton." He became "one of the largest dealers of cattle in that market [which] he was pursuing at the time he was stricken with the illness which terminated his useful and busy life." In 1893 he purchased a hotel in Alburgh Springs, VT, where the medicinal waters had a high reputation. He also had a hotel in Martha's Vineyard. In 1896 the "cattle, numbering about 60, saved from Tuesday's wreck on the Fitchburg railroad near Concord Junction, were placed for sale in the hands of P. F. Litchfield, the well known cattle dealer of this town [Chelmsford], who will dispose of them at Brighton and Waterown." The winter of 1898-99 was spent in Boston, and by the time Paul and Sarah returned to Chelmsford, his medical condition was becoming quite serious. It wasn't until Dec. 23, 1900 that he died of "gangrene of the stomach" aged 67. Paul Litchfield was said to be a "man of affable manners and untiring business activity and was never happier than when engrossed in a multiplicity of pursuits that to many men would have been a care and a responsibility to be avoided." His widow, Sarah Litchfield, remained at 35 High Street with their daughter Grace, who was a teacher first in Chelmsford and then in Chelsea. She stayed there, even after the house was sold. In 1909 an interesting proposal was made to the town to permit Dr. G. M. Randall, M.D. to conduct a sanitarium in the house, but there were remonstrances by 4 of the neighboring men, and a petition signed by all the women on High St. was read, and the Selectmen voted that Dr. Randall be given leave to withdraw. A year later Sarah died at her home here, having been ill during the previous two weeks. Her condition had been thought not at all serious, but her heart failed.

From then until 1921 the property was rented or leased out but owned most of that time by Burton H. Wiggin of Lowell. In 1914 Harry G. Pollard leased from Burton Wiggin the "old Litchfield place, part way up on the road to Robin Hill." During the previous three weeks the dwelling had undergone "extensive changes to make it over into a summer home. A sleeping porch and a sun parlor were added. The large barn was removed, "and the foundation utilized for a sunken garden and tennis court. The place was renamed The Knoll." It is believed that the section at the rear of the house was added at this time for use by their maid. Harry & Leah Pollard and family returned to Lowell for the first of several winters spent there. A great deal more work was done on the house May - Aug. 1918 which was paid for by Harry Pollard, but the work was contracted from the Burton H. Wiggin Company, Contractors and Builders. In 1921 they purchased from Burton Wiggin the residence in which they had been spending their summers. In 1928 they sold it to Willard & Vivian Symmes, but again they leased it two more years for their summer home.

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HISTORY

Willard & Vivian Symmes and their son Alan moved into 35 High Street during the 1930-31 year. The former maid's quarters became a separate apartment by the early 1940s. Willard joined the Merchant Marine and Alan was in the Naval Reserve during W.W.II. After the war Willard became a bond salesman, and Alan worked as a salesman until he left home in the early 1950s. By 1967 Willard had retired, and in Oct. of that year Robert (Bob) & Jeanne Sullivan purchased 35 High St. Jeanne was a self-employed title examiner and Bob was an attorney. They raised eight children here, and four of their sons also became lawyers. By 1998 the children had moved out and Bob & Jeanne realized they no longer needed the large house, and they had built and moved into a new and much smaller house next door. Unfortunately they couldn't enjoy their new house very long: Jeanne died in March 2006 and Bob shortly after.

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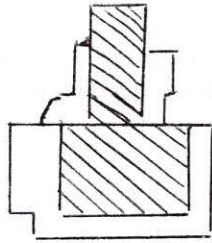
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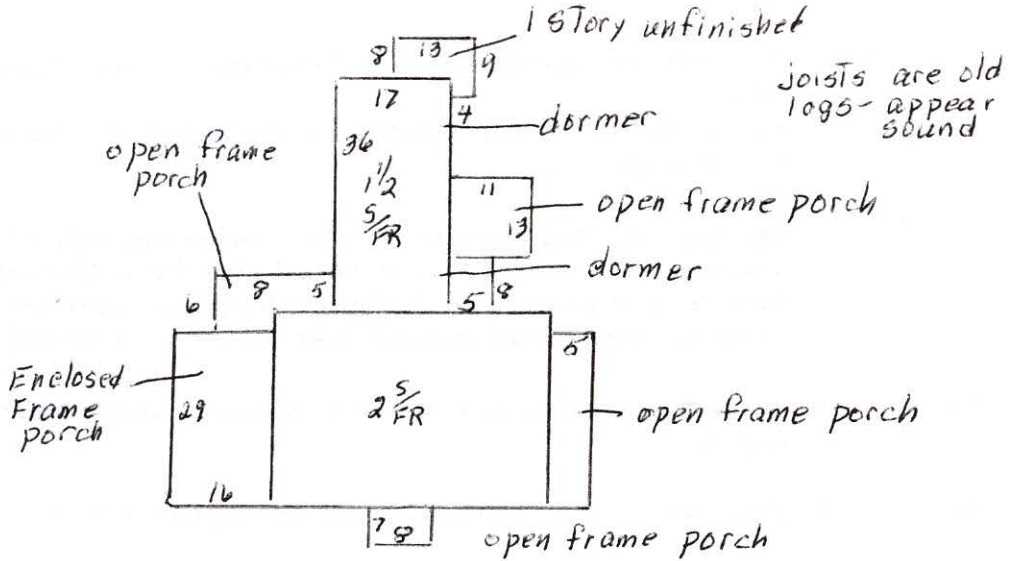
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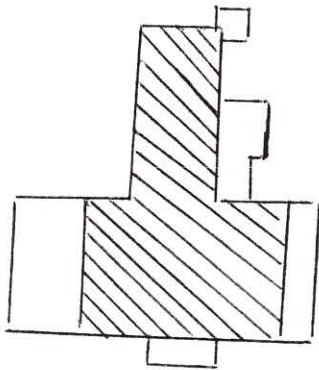
ALTERATIONS



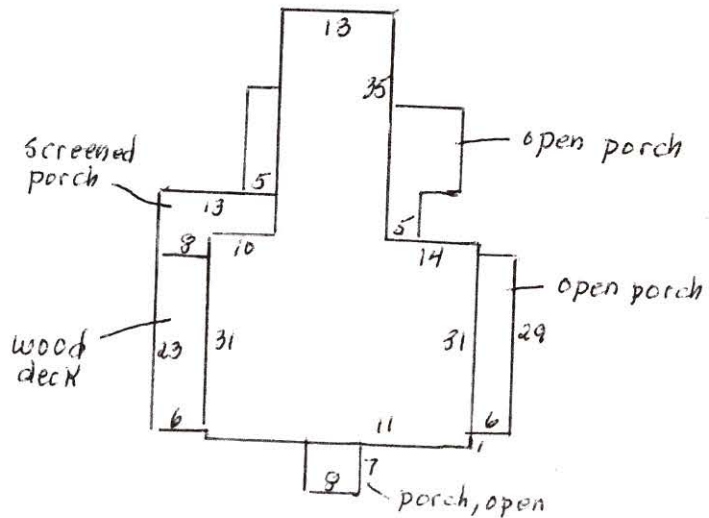
Smith & Brooks
Civil engineers
May 10, 1921



Assessors' record
May 10, 1971



Brooks, Jordan & Graves
Civil Eng'rs
Dec 10, 1965



Assessors' records
June 11, 2006

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ALTERATIONS

- May 1890 P.F. Litchfield is making some marked improvements upon his premises, quite modernizing the venerable mansion.
- June 1890 The remodelling of P. F. Litchfield's house on High street is proceeding rapidly, and it will soon be ready for occupancy.
- July 17, 1914 During the past three weeks the spacious house has undergone extensive changes to make it over to a summer home. A sleeping porch & sun parlor have been added, and renovations made within. ...The large barn will be removed and the foundation utilized for a sunken garden & tennis court. About this time the rear section may have been put on for the maid's quarters.
- May 25, 1918 French doors installed; work on dormer, side piazza screens; building piazza & screens made; repairs in kitchen
- July 13, 1918 piazza floor; 1st story: partition torn out; chimney built & fireplace
- Feb. 2005 vinyl siding installed; new roofing to two porch roofs & one 500 sq. ft roof at the rear
- July 2006 new deck on left side; same "footprint as previous sunporch.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

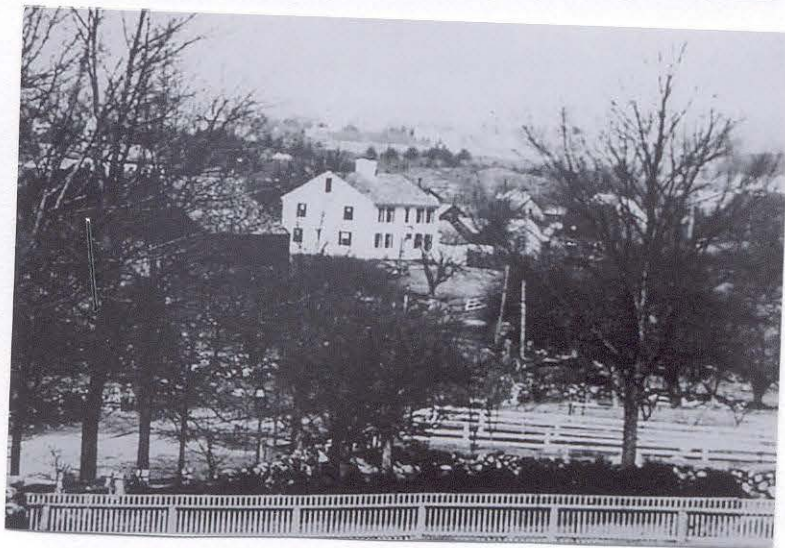
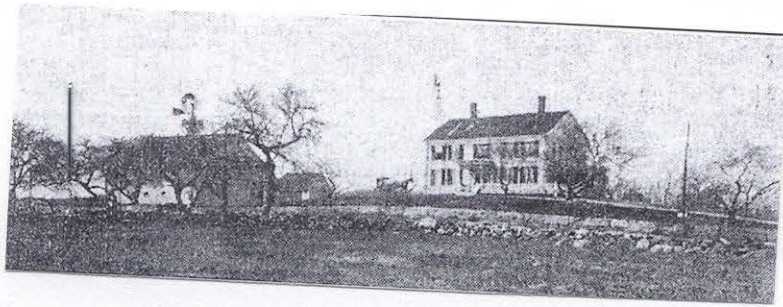
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*unknown dates
but lower picture ea 1900*



*Sewall Parkhurst
d. 1887*



*ea 1920-5
garden in foundation of barn removed
in 1954*

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ALTERATIONS

July 24, 2006



Front



Main house, right side



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ALTERATIONS

July 24, 2006

July 21, 2006



left side ell & main house



main house foundation
Ell foundation is concrete

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Chelmsford 35 High Street

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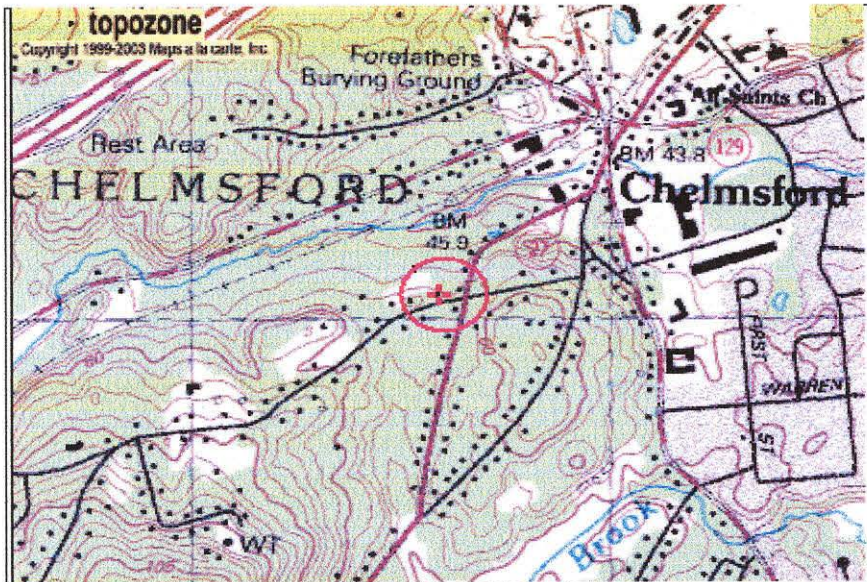
Locational Information



35 High Street viewed from local.live.com



35 High Street, Assessor's Map



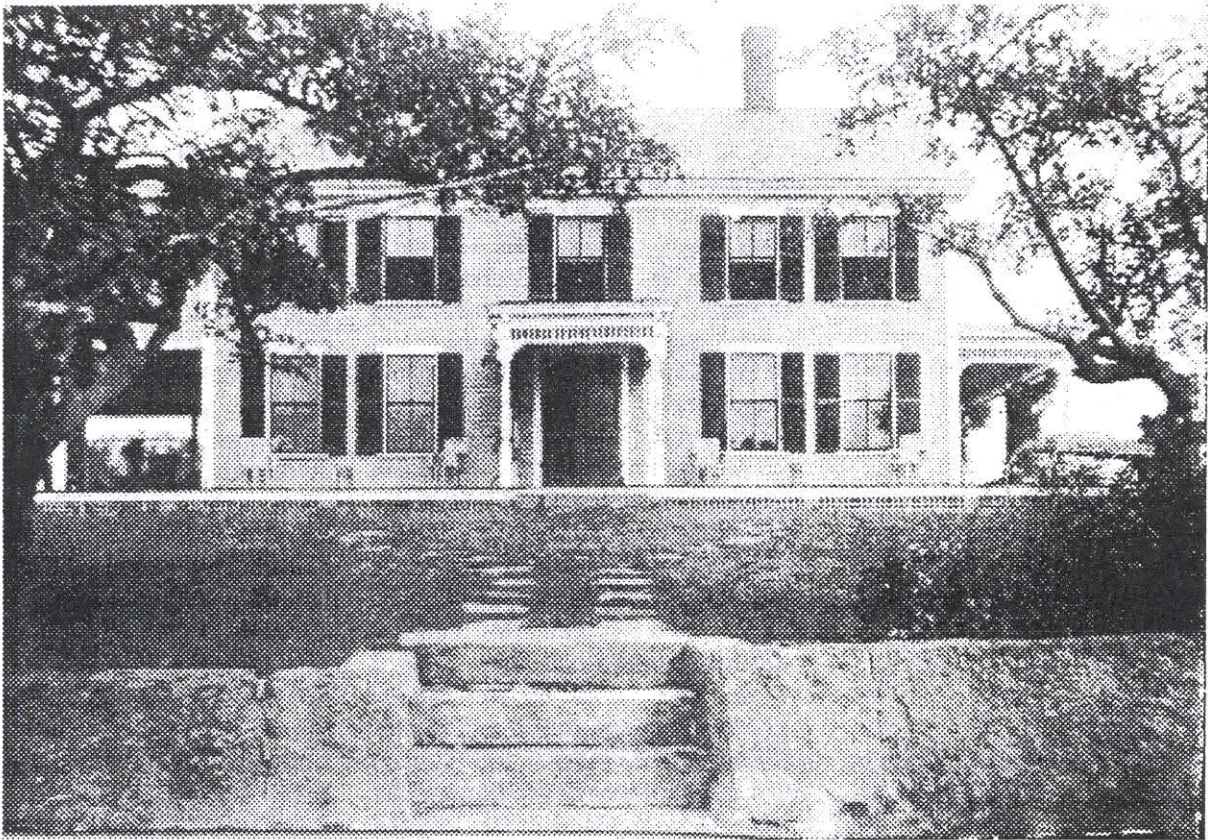
Topozone excerpt from Billerica USGS quadrangle.

Decimal coordinates as provided by Topozone: 42°35'32" N 71°21'25" W

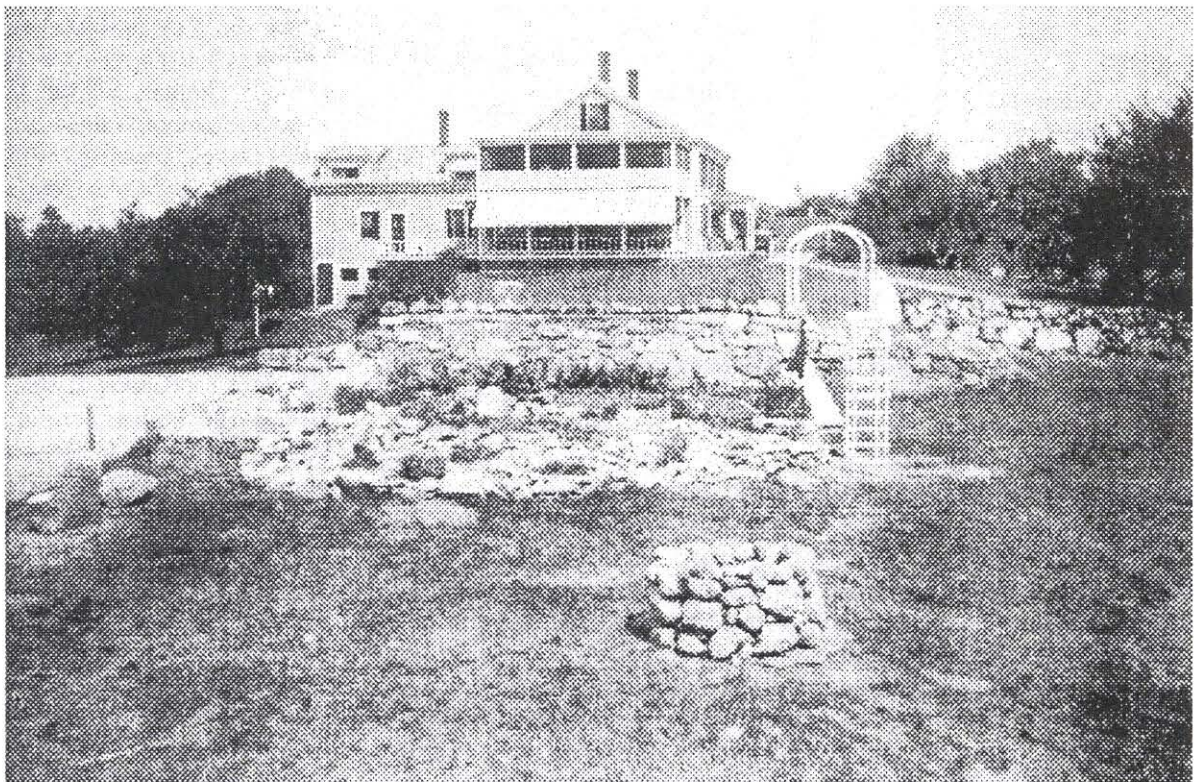
35 High Street
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

July 28, 1998	Robert P. & Jeanne S. Sullivan to Jeffrey C. Olson & Wendy A. Kli x husband & wife. 35 High St. \$315,000 53,426 sq. ft.: north side of High St. lot 2 on 1997 Howe Plan 8293C, filed with Cert. #15841	
Reg. Bk. 82, pg. 83 Certificate #15841	Oct. 25, 1967	Robert P. & Jeanne S. Sullivan, owners. 35 High St. same: 1921 plan 8293-A; portion filed with Certificate #1718 From Transfer Cert. #10439 excepted: Lot 1: Plan filed with Cert. #1718
Reg. Bk. 55, pg. 81 Transfer Cert. #10439	Nov. 25, 1957	Vivian & Willard Symmes, owners same: part of land on plan 8293-A filed with Cert. #1718, has been subdivided, & plan 8293-B has been filed with Cert. #14771
Reg. Bk. 21, pg. 5 Transfer Cert. #3603	Apr. 13, 1928	Vivian Symmes, Lowell, married to Willard Symmes, owner From: original Certificate #1718, reg. 1921
Reg. Bk. 11, pg. 251 Original Cert. # 8293	July 20, 1921	Harry G. Pollard, 96 Mansur St., Lowell, married to Leah P. Pollard, owner subject: mortgage 1915 Wiggin plan: 1921 Smith & Brooks to be drawn
Bk. 643, pg. 136	April 20, 1921	Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell, to Harry G. Pollard 3.56 A. & buildings: north side High St. subject: \$4000 mortgage same: portion of 1911 Barnes deed, Bk. 475, pg. 373
Bk. 475, pg. 373	Sept. 30, 1911	Arthur B. Barnes, Lowell, unmarried, to Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell land & buildings: north side High St. same: 1921 Paignon foreclosure deed
Bk. 475, pg. 370	Sept. 30, 1911 Foreclosure deed	Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell, to Arthur B. Barnes, Lowell \$1500 foreclosure of mortgage by Marie Louise Paignon to Wiggin land & buildings: north side High St
Bk. 449, pg. 264	Apr. 26, 1910 Mortgage	Marie Louise Paignon to Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell \$3700 land & buildings: north side High St subject: \$3000 mortgage to Central Savings Bank same: Wiggin deed of even date
Bk. 449, pg. 260	Apr. 26, 1910	Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell, to Marie Louise Paignon land & buildings: north side High St same: 1908 Fowler deed, Bk. 428, pg. 190
Bk. 428, pg. 190	Dec. 9, 1908	Edmond R. & Charlotte E. Fowler, Lowell, to Burton H. Wiggin, Lowell land & buildings: north side High St same: 1906 Litchfield deed, Bk. 389, pg. 435

Bk. 389, pg. 435	Apr. 25, 1906	Sarah E. Litchfield, widow, to Charlotte E. & Edmond R. Fowler, Lowell land & buildings: north side High St agreed: grantor have 2 weeks to vacate without paying any rent same: 1895 Parkhurst deed, Bk. 262, pg. 421
Bk. 262, pg. 421	March 15, 1890	Mary E. Parkhurst to Sarah E. Litchfield, wife of Paul F. Litchfield land & buildings: north side High St same: 1887 Harrison deed, Bk. 187, pg. 99
Bk. 187, pg. 99	March 14, 1887	Frank M. Harrison, unmarried, to Mary Elizabeth Parkhurst, wife of Sewall Parkhurst 1. land on Acton & Robbins Rd. same: 1884 Parkhurst deed, Bk. 167, pg. 518 2. land & buildings: opposite side of road from lot #1 same: 1884 Parkhurst deed, Bk. 167, pg. 518 subject: 2 mortgages: \$2300 by James Tower & Samuel Farson
Bk. 167, pg. 518	June 19, 1884	Sewall Parkhurst to Frank M. Harrison \$4500 2 lots, 1 with buildings: 30 acres more or less
Will	Dec. 12, 1818	Estate of Josiah Parkhurst



"The Knoll" located "part way up the road to Robin hill" as it appeared sometime after the sleeping porch and sun parlor on the left were added in 1914. Visible in the photograph below is the foundation of the large barn which was removed around 1914 to provide space for a sunken garden and tennis court. The current address of the property, also known as the "Old Litchfield Place," is 35 High Street, Chelmsford, Mass.



35 High Street, Chelmsford

Will of Josiah Parkhurst

Land Court

...I give, bequeath and devise onto my well beloved wife, Rachel Parkhurst, the use, improvement, rent and income of all my estate, both real and personal, wherever the same may be situated until the time when my son Sewell Parkhurst (if living) will be 21 years of age...

Dec. 12, 1877

Chelmsford Eagle:

Mr. Sewall Parkhurst teamed the lime (which was made at the kilns on Robin's Hill) which was used in building the first mill that was built in Lowell.

April 29, 1887

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. Sewall Parkhurst, one of our oldest citizens, reached the ripe age of 86 years Monday, April 25. Mr. Parkhurst, though confined to his bed & quite feeble, was able to receive his friends' kind wishes & hearty congratulations. The first to greet him with words of cheer & comfort was his only living brother, Solomon Parkhurst, who, although he passed his 82nd birthday, is still hale & hearty.

July 8, 1887

Lowell Weekly Journal

After a long illness of several months' continuance, Mr. Sewall Parkhurst, one of Chelmsford's oldest and most respected citizens, passed away at 1 o'clock Wednesday morning at the ripe age of 86 years. He was born April 25, 1901, and was the fifth of a family of 11 children of whom but two are now living, one brother, Solomon Parkhurst, 83 years of age, and a sister, Mrs. Martha Buttrick, now absent in Europe. Of the six brothers five saw more than fourscore years and died of old age rather than organic disease, while an accident terminated the life of the sixth while in his seventieth year. Deceased was a farmer by occupation and always lived on the old homestead, which has been in the family possession more than 150 years. Thoroughly devoted to his occupation and of simple tastes and unobtrusive ways, he was ad-

verse to taking a leading part in public affairs, but at the solicitation of his friends he consented to serve a year as a member of the board of selectmen. He was a member of the Orthodox Church, first, of the Second Congregational Society at the North Village and subsequently one of the corporate members of the Central Congregational Society, of which he was a deacon at the time of his decease. He was twice married; his first wife, Sarah Fletcher of Westford, died in 1860, and in 1863 he was united to Miss. M. Elizabeth Battles, who survives him and whose ministrations with the devoted attention of an adopted son, Frank M. Harrison, have done much to assuage the pains of disease. Mr. Parkhurst has two children by his first marriage, one of who, Charles H., Lawyer of Providence, R.I., is living, but has himself been an invalid more than a year. The long illness of the deceased was borne with great patience and Christian resignation. The funeral services will be held at his late residence Friday afternoon 3 o'clock.

Chelmsford Vital Stat. 1850

Waters, History of Chelmsford

Sewall Parkhurst:

m. (1st) Sarah Fletcher (Sally of Westford), Feb. 7, 1828.;

She d. Aug. 10, 1860.

M. (2nd) Mary Elizabeth Battles, 1863;

She d. 1902.

Notes on the Parkhurst Family

Sewall Parkhurst was a member of the seventh generation of his family descending from the first Chelmsford ancestor, George, who was born in England about 1590 and came to Watertown.

One of George's 7 children was Joseph, who was living in Chelmsford from 1656 to 1667. He married Mary (Rebecca) Read of Chelmsford in Concord on June 26, 1656, and he had a share of the New Field (an addition to the original grant of the town) allotted to him in 1666-7. They had 5 children, of whom Ebenezer was the youngest. His birthdate is unknown. He married Mary -- and they had 6 children of whom Jonathan, born

1701 and died 1737, was the fourth.

Jonathan married Hannah Richardson in 1724. Their 7 children were all born in Chelmsford. The second of these was Josiah, born in 1728, who married Elizabeth King of Littleton in 1758. They had 4 children: Samuel, (born 1759, died 1849) was the oldest, and Josiah, born 1763, died 1818, was the second child. (Samuel was the father of the Rev.. John Parkhurst; he himself went to the Concord Fight when a young man and a sword belonging to him is in the museum of the Chelmsford Historical Society.) Deacon Josiah, Jr., married Rachel Stevens of Carlisle in 1792 and they had 11 children.

Their fifth child was Sewall, born April 25, 1801; died Aug. 6, 1887. Sewall married (1) Sarah Fletcher of Westford, 1828, and they had 2 children: Charles Henry, (1831-1889) and Edgar Sewall, (1834-1868). He married (2) Mary Elizabeth Battles of Chelmsford in 1863. They had no children. She died Sept. 2, 1902.

The sixth child of Deacon Josiah, Jr. and Rachel was Solomon (1804-1890) who married Lucina Mehitable Adams in 1832. One of their children was George Adams P., whose son was Winthrop whose son is the present George A.; another was Solomon "also, whose son was George Thomas, whose daughter is Eleanor. Solomon Waldo married Martha Jones Dutton, connected with the Jones and Barrett families of Concord.

Descendants of Samuel P. lived at what is now #75 Robin Hill Road and that house was supposedly built by Samuel himself. The present #67 High Street was the home of Solomon P. and all of his children except George T. were born there. George Thomas was born in the "new" house built by his father at #78 High. Sewall lived at #35 High, and at one time the tradition is that these 3 Parkhursts -- of some of the descendants-- occupied the only 3 houses on High Street and owned all the land in between.

The original Parkhurst house in Chelmsford was on or near the site of the Blechman house now, #16 Parkhurst Rd.

The house at #75 Robin Hill Road is said to have been built by Josiah and

Two Centuries of History

deeded in 1785 to his oldest son, Samuel, referred to above. The Solomon Parkhurst house, #67 High Street, is said to have been built in or about 1835. The Sewall Parkhurst house, #35 High Street is said to have been build by his father, Josiah, shortly before 1800. (This from Tercentenary edition, Chelmsford Newsweekly, from other sources). The tradition about the 3 brothers or 3 Parkhurst men on High Street is from a poem written by one of the Parkhurst woman which I cannot locate at this time but will do so later.)

(no date)

Notebook of Miss Frances Andrews:
Pg. 82 - Mary Elizabeth Parkhurst: born Dorchester Feb. 18, 1819, moved to Newmarket, N.H., then Lowell, then S. Chelmsford. Married Sewall Parkhurst 1863, lived on Robin's Hill. He died 1887. She then left home on the hill and spent her time winters with her sister Mr. Bertram Harrison, Lowell and summers with her brother's family in S. Chelmsford.

Pg. 81 - Mrs. M. Elizabeth Parkhurst d. in So. Chelmsford Sept. 28, 1902 was widow of Sewall Parkhurst and was 80 years old.

May 2, 1890

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Paul F. Litchfield of Westford, having sold his farm in that town to Deputy Sheriff Stiles of Lowell, Intends in a few weeks to occupy the property of the last Sewall Parkhurst.

May 16, 1890

Lowell Weekly Journal:

P.F. Litchfield is making some marked improvements upon his premises, quite modernizing the venerable mansion.

June 27, 1890

Lowell Weekly Journal:

The remodelling of P.F. Litchfield's house on High Street is proceeding rapidly, and it will soon be ready for occupancy.

Sept. 11, 1891

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Paul F. Litchfield of this village has lately

exchanged his paper mill property in Haverhill, N.H., for one of the finest residences with orange grove in Palalka, Florida, on the St. John's river.

Oct. 30, 1891

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. Paul F. Litchfield and family will soon leave for Florida to pass the winter upon an estate, with orange grove, recently purchased by Mr. Litchfield.

April 8, 1892

Lowell Weekly Journal:

The house of P.F. Litchfield is open again, the family have returned from their winter sojourn in Florida.

July 28, 1893

Lowell Weekly Journal:

P.F. Litchfield has bought the hotel property at the celebrated Alburgh Springs in Vermont. The medicinal waters have a high reputation and it is Mr. Litchfield's purpose another season to advertise the Springs quite extensively.

March 26, 1895

Lowell Daily Courier:

Paul Litchfield has exchanged three houses on Acton and High streets for property in the southern part of the state.

June 21, 1895

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. Litchfield & family leave this week for their summer home at Martha's Vineyard, where Mr. Litchfield has a hotel.

Sept. 13, 1895

Lowell Weekly Journal:

P. Litchfield and family have returned from their summer home at Cottage City.

July 17, 1896

Lowell Weekly Journal:

The cattle, numbering about 60, saved from Tuesday's wreck on the Fitchburg railroad near Concord Junction, have been placed for sale in the hands of P.F. Litchfield the well known cattle dealer of this town, who will dispose of them at Brighton ad Watertown.

Dec. 23, 1898

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. & Mrs. Paul F. Litchfield will spend the winter in Boston.

March 24, 1899

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. & Mrs. P.F. Litchfield have returned from their winter's stay in Boston.

June 15, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. P.F. Litchfield's condition is quite serious and he seems to be losing strength.

June 29, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

There is no marked variation in the condition of Mr. P.F. Litchfield.

August 3, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. Litchfield continues quite feeble.

Sept. 7, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Mr. Paul F. Litchfield's condition is practically unchanged for the past two weeks.

Dec. 7, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

The condition of Mr. Paul F. Litchfield has not improved since last reported and apparently he is growing weaker.

Dec. 10, 1900

Lowell Daily Courier:

Since reporting Mr. Litchfield's condition early in the week, the symptoms are much more unfavorable.

Dec. 21, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

There has been no marked change in the condition of Mr. Paul Litchfield during the past two weeks.

Dec. 23, 1900

Town Clerk's records - Death Notice:

Paul F. Litchfield
cause: gangrene of the stomach
residence: Chelmsford

35 High Street, Chelmsford

occupation: real estate dealer
died: Chelmsford, Dec. 23, 1900
age: 67 years
born: Carlisle
father: Roland, born Carlisle
mother: Rebecca (Simonds), born Alexandria, N.H.

Dec. 28, 1900

Lowell Weekly Journal:

After a painful and lingering illness of several month's duration Paul F. Litchfield of Chelmsford died at his home in High Street Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, aged about 67 years. Mr. Litchfield was born in Carlisle and was a grandson of Rev. Paul Litchfield, a prominent clergyman in the early history of that town.

In his early business career deceased was for a number of years a member of the firm of Litchfield and Edwards produce commission merchants of Lowell. Later he purchased and occupied a large farm in the northerly part of Westford. About 12 years ago he removed with his family to Chelmsford having bought the Sewall Parkhurst homestead in High Street. During his residence in this town he was engaged in various enterprises of considerable magnitude. He was a man of affable manners and untiring business activity and was never happier than when engrossed in a multiplicity of pursuits that to many men would have been a car and are responsibility to be avoided.

Besides his widow Mr. Litchfield is survived by six children, two sons and four daughters; of the former one resides in Maynard; the other is ill with typhoid fever in a Boston hospital. One daughter, Mr. Geo. E. Goode, is a resident of Westford; the others of Chelmsford, Mr. George B. Alexander, and Misses Elizabeth and Grace Litchfield, the latter being a teacher in the Centre School.

June 21, 1901

Lowell Weekly Journal:

The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Litchfield, daughter of the late Paul F. Litchfield, to

Lieut. E.H. Keys of Westford, took place from the bride's home, High Street, Chelmsford Centre, Saturday afternoon...After a carriage drive through the mountains, Mr. & Mrs. Keys will reside in North Chelmsford where Mr. Keys has erected a handsome house and will be at home to friends after Sept. 15th. No cards.

January 21, 1909

Lowell Sun

Chelmsford. A public hearing upon petition of G.M. Randall, M.D. for permission to conduct a sanitarium at the Littlefield place, so-called, on High Street was held in the lower town hall last evening and met with most emphatic remonstrance, Selectman J.J. Dunn presided.

Dr. Randall's petition to the board was read by Selectman D.F. Small and was supplemented by a letter in further explanation of his plans. Remonstrance was offered by E.R. Clarks, A.H. Smith, R.B. Barbour and H.A. Knowlton.

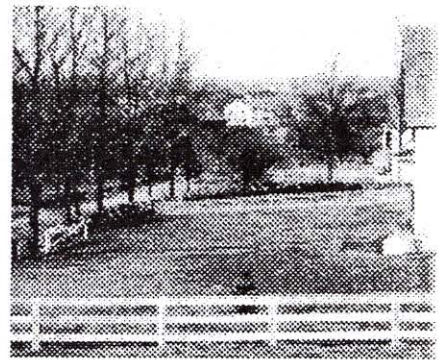
A petition in protest, signed by women of High street, representing every home there, was read and the unanimous vote of the meeting was that the petition not be granted.

The selectmen met at the close of the meeting and voted that Dr. Randall be given leave to withdraw. Dr. Randall did not appear at the meeting nor did he send a representative.

Feb. 27, 1910

Lowell Courier-Citizen:

Mrs. Sarah E. Litchfield, wife of the late Paul F. Litchfield, died Sunday morning at her home on High Street. Mrs. Litchfield had been ill the past two weeks, but her condition had not been considered at all dangerous. The immediate cause of death was heart failure. She is survived by two sons, William F., of Maynard, and Fred H., of Boston; also three daughters, Mr. George B. Alexander and Miss Grace C. Litchfield of Chelmsford and Mrs. George W. Goode of Westford. A notice of the funeral appears in another column.



View of 35 High Street from Robin Hill before the sleeping porch and sun parlor were added. Note the large center chimney, later changed to two side chimneys. The barn is just visible on the left.

July 17, 1914

Lowell Courier-Citizen:

Mr. Harry G. Pollard has leased from Burton H. Wiggin what has been familiarly known as the old Litchfield place in Chelmsford, part way up on the road to Robin Hill. The spacious house is 150 years old, and during the past three weeks has undergone extensive changes to make it over into a summer home. A sleeping porch and a sun parlor have been added, and renovations made within. Mr. & Mrs. Pollard will spend the remainder of the summer there with their family and will develop the grounds most attractively. The large barn will be removed and the foundation utilized for a sunken garden and tennis court. The place has been renamed The Knoll.

Nov. 25, 1914

Lowell Courier-Citizen

Mr. & Mrs. Harry G. Pollard have closed their pleasant home, "The Knoll," in High Street, and returned to Lowell for the winter months.

Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities

Richard Nylander:

Wallpaper from 35 High Street

2nd floor ceiling

bottom layer - ca 1840-1850

top layer - ca 1850-1860

1st floor ceiling - early 20th century





35 High Street

Oct 1972 George A. Parkhurst





