

FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.	Form no.
	258

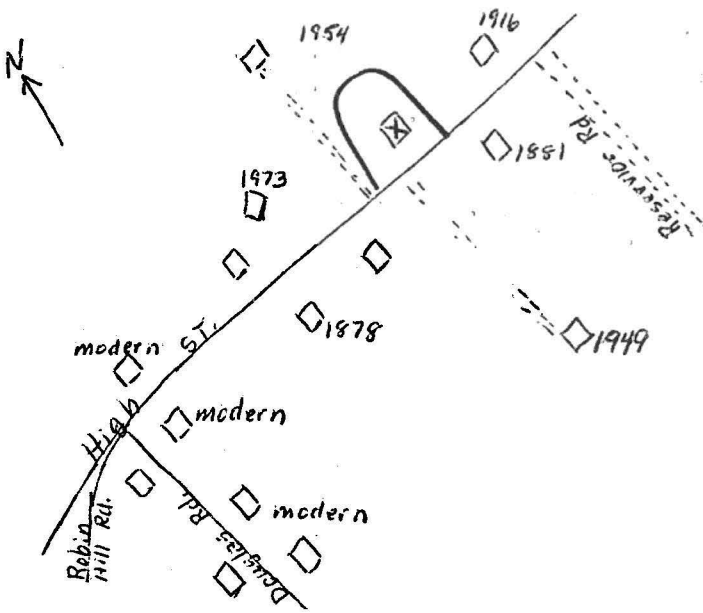
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston



1. Town Chelmsford
 Address 85 High Street
 Name A.B. Woodworth House
 Present use single family dwelling
 Present owner Richard C. Miller

3. Description:
 Date 1883
 Source tax/real estate valuation list
 Style _____
 Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric aluminum siding
 Outbuildings (describe) 3 stories barn at rear
 Other features many decorative window panes - apparently original

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



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

Altered very little see attached Date _____
 Moved no Date _____
 5. Lot size
 One acre or less Over one acre 1.39
 Approximate frontage 311.02 ft.
 Approximate distance of building from street
ca 70 ft.
 6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury
 Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission
 Date Dec. 13, 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Artemas B. & Lucia M. Woodworth

Original use dwelling

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	<u> x </u>	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u> x </u>				

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

In June 1883 Lucia & Artemas Woodworth of Lowell purchased a portion of the Solomon Parkhurst farm (#94), on which was built their house & barn that same year. Mr. Woodworth had a "saw & planing mill" (A.L. Brooks & Co.) in North Chelmsford. In 1887 the chimney of the house was slightly damaged by lightning. The bolt tore off a few shingles from the roof and passed into the house & down behind a mirror without breaking the glass. The following Aug. lightning struck and thoroughly splintered for a distance of 15 ft. the fence in front of the house. In 1897 the Woodworths sold the house and moved back to Lowell. Between 1905-1919 the property was owned by Nettie & Robert Barbour. Mr. Barbour conducted a dye business (Eclipse Chemical Manufacturing Co.), and the laboratory shop & shed were located in the barn back of the house. Indelible inks and aniline dyes were made, with a business of \$30,000 or more per year. The raw materials came from Germany, and as a result of World War I he went out of business, the ingredients no longer being available. In 1919 the Barbours sold the house and 2 years later left Chelmsford. In 1925 it was purchased by Luther & Mary Faulkner; their daughter Sally studied photography and converted part of the barn into a portrait studio. There was a beautiful garden near the house - its location was sold off in the 1940s for a house site (89 High St.); the present owners filled in a pool, which once contained a fountain and beside which stood willow trees.

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

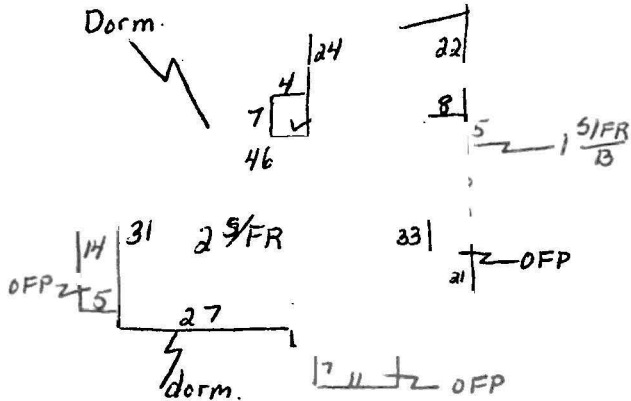
Middlesex N. Dist. Red. Deeds: Bk. 165, pg. 238 (1883); Plan Bk. 66, plan 76
Waters, History of Chelmsford, 1917
Mrs. Margaret Mills; Miss Eleanor Parkhurst
Chelmsford Directory: 1905, 1911/12, 1915/16, 1919, 1922
Lowell Weekly Journal: July 8, 1887; Aug. 24, 1888
Chelmsford Assessors' office records; tax lists; photo aerial map
Chelmsford Newsweekly: May 20, 1954
1875 Beers Atlas; 1889 Atlas

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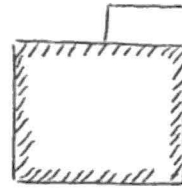
Community: Chelmsford	Form No: 258
Property Name: A.B. Woodworth House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below

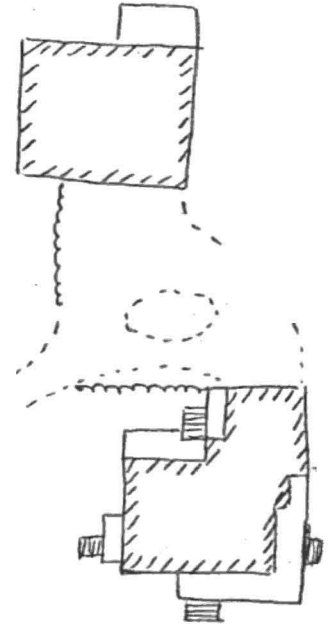
3. Altered



5/7/1971 Revaluation
Card



June 1954
Plan B.84, plan 181



April 1926
Sept. 1941
Plan B.66, plan

1961
kitchen remodelled
aluminum siding installed

1925-1950 period probably
beautiful natural wood (interior) painted over white

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

85 High Street

1484, pg. 276	8/ 5/1960	Union National Bank, trustee, Lowell to Richard C. & Margaret M. Miller, Bedford \$28,500 1.39 acres & buildings thereon - Lot A1 (1954 plan) reserving: 1. use & maintenance of septic tank on Lot A-2 2. 1883 water rightd
1274, pg. 544	10/19/1954 title confirm- ation	Elmer R. Hill, Topsham, Maine, to Union National Bank, Lowell 8.59 acres & buildings thereon Lot A (1926 plan)
1243, pg. 399	10/23/1953	Elmer R. Hill, trustee, Topsham, Maine to Union National Bank, Lowell 8.59 acres & buildings thereon - Lot A (1926 plan)
Book 1118, pg. 91	6/24/1949	Donald A. Dunsford to Elmer R. Hill 8.59 acres & buildings thereon Lot A (1926 plan)
1012, pg. 213	8/23/1944	Luther W. & Mary M. Faulkner to Donald A. Dunsford 8.59 acres & buildings thereon - Lot A (1926 plan)
Bk. 728, pg. 102	9/ 3/1925	William & Rena B. Livingston to Luther W. & Mary M. Faulkner, Wilton, N.H. to 2 lots: 1. 10 acres & buildings thereon - north side High St. 2. 2 acres pasture land - south side Framingham & Lowell R.R. reserving - water rights
612, pg. 408	9/19/1919	Nettie Olin Barbour to William & Rena B. Livingston, Lowell 2 lots: 1. 10 acres & buildings thereon @ north side of High St., except portion deeded to Commonwealth in 1919. 2. 2 acres pasture land - south side Framingham & Lowell R.R.
Bk. 378, pg. 137	6/ 2/1905	Alice Poore, unmarried, to Nettie Olin Barbour 10 acres & buildings thereon - north side of High St. reservation - water rights

Bk. 344, pg. 308	6/10/1902	Middlesex Institution for Savings to Alice Poore, daughter of George Poore 6 acres & buildings thereon - north side of High St. reservation - water rights
Bk. 314, pg. 481	11/28/1899 Possession	Charles Dow, Newton, to Middlesex Institution for Savings
Bk. 302, pg. 57	10/18/1898 Mortgage	Charles Dow, Newton, to Middlesex Institution for Savings \$5500 6 acres & buildings thereon - north side of High Street
Bk. 302, pg. 50	10/18/1898	Fred H. Litchfield, unmarried, Boston, to Charles F. Dow, Newton \$10,000 6 acres & buildings thereon - north side of High Street reservation - water rights in Parkhurst deed
Bk. 302, pg. 49	10/18/1898 Correction deed	Paul F. Litchfield to Fred H. Litchfield, Boston premises described in Bk. 299, pg. 226, subject to 1883 Parkhurst water rights
Bk. 299, pg. 226	6/28/1898	Paul F. Litchfield to Fred H. Litchfield, Boston 8 acres - north side of High St. reservation - water rights
Bk. 292, pg. 485	10/ 1/1897	Lucia M. Woodworth to Paul F. Litchfield 8 acres - north side of High St. subject to - 1883 Parkhurst water rights
Bk. 165, pg. 238	6/30/1883	Solomon Parkhurst to Lucia M. Woodworth, Lowell \$1100 8 acres - north side of High St.

Lowell Weekly Journal

July 8, 1887 - Last Sunday afternoon the chimney of Mr. A.B. Woodworth's house on High street was struck and slightly damaged. The bolt tore off a few shingles from the roof and passed into the house and down behind a mirror without breaking the glass. Some of the family felt the shock, but were not otherwise injured.

Aug. 24, 1888 - In a figurative sense lightning cannot be charged with being "on the fence", it is too decisive in its methods for that. ~~But~~ Infirmity of purpose is not one of its weaknesses. But in the shower Friday noon it was literally on the fence against Mr. A.B. Woodworth's premises on High street. The palings and other wood work were pretty thoroughly splintered for a distance of 15 feet. Last summer a bolt struck the chimney.

85 High Street

Lowell Weekly Journal

Nov. 5, 1897 - Mr. A.B. Woodworth has sold his valuable estate on High street to P.F. Litchfield and next spring expects to remove to Lowell.

April 1, 1898 - Mr. & Mrs. A.B. Woodworth have removed to Lowell.

July 1, 1898 - William F. Hills, cashier of the Trader's National bank of Lowell, and family are at the "Woodworth" house in High street for the summer.

Mar. 14, 1902 - It is hoped that the estate in High street, formerly owned by A.B. Woodworth, will be sold and occupied this season. It is a spot "beautiful for situation" and should no longer remain unoccupied.

June 27, 1902 - Repairs are being made upon the "Woodworth" buildings in High street by the recent purchaser, George W. Poore, who is now with his family at the seashore. They will return in Augustt

June 13, 1902 - The property in High street, best known as the "Woodworth" estate, has been sold to Mr. George W. Poore of West Medford, who will occupy it at once. It will be very gratifying to the residents of the street to have this fine mansion tenanted once more.



