

CHELMSFORD...A Historical Tour

American BICENTENNIAL Edition 1775-1776



"Let The Children Guard
What The Sires Have Won"

INTRODUCTION

Only 33 years after the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, a few hardy pioneers settled along the western frontier in what would be Chelmsford. By November 22, 1654 enough families had arrived to call the first public meeting at William Fletcher's house located near the end of the present Crosby Lane. Six months later (May, 1655) the Town of Chelmsford was incorporated along with the neighboring towns of Billerica and Groton. The Rev. John Fiske of Wenham accepted an invitation to come here with several members of his congregation and, on November 13, 1655, the first church in Chelmsford — now the First Parish Church — was organized. In 1820, the sixth minister, the Rev. Wilkes Allen, published the first "History of Chelmsford" which is reputed to be "the first town history of the dignity of a volume to be printed in this country." The original grant was much larger than the land area included within the present town boundaries but, in 1729, the "West Precinct" became the Town of Westford and, in 1826, the Town of Lowell was made out of East Chelmsford. Middlesex Village was annexed to Lowell in 1874. Chelmsford also gave smaller parcels of land to Tyngsboro, Carlisle, and Littleton.

In the events leading up to American independence, the citizens of Chelmsford were active participants. Chelmsford had its Committee of Correspondence and sent representatives to the Middlesex Convention in Concord in August, 1774. One of these delegates, Jonathan Williams Austin, is credited with writing the famous Middlesex Resolves. When the alarm was sounded on the morning of April 19, 1775, more than 100 Chelmsford men answered the call to arms. One of these minutemen was Benjamin Pierce who later became governor of New Hampshire and whose son, Franklin, was the 14th President of the United States.

Chelmsford has been the home of many other famous men and women. To mention only a few, Elizabeth (Clarke) Hancock, grandmother of John Hancock, was the daughter of our second minister; David Henry Thoreau lived here as a child and Ralph Waldo Emerson taught at the Chelmsford Classical School. America's first professor of physiology, who later served as president of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, was Dr. John Call Dalton after whose family Dalton Road was named. Dr. Willard Parker was a world famous surgeon who reputedly was the first in America to successfully operate on an abscessed appendix. (Incidentally, his great uncle was Lt. Col. Moses Parker for whom the Junior High School has been named.) A famous professor of Anatomy at Harvard and the first curator of the Peabody Museum was a Chelmsford man, Dr. Jeffries Wyman. His father, Dr. Rufus Wyman, gave up his practice here to become the first superintendent of McLean Asylum (now McLean Hospital.)

In the field of education, Chelmsford had the first school for the deaf in which pure oral method was taught and one of the pupils was Mabel Hubbard, who later married Alexander Graham Bell.

Until the beginning of the 20th century, Chelmsford was predominately a farming community. Early industries were operated mainly to meet the needs of the inhabitants. However, there were exceptions. Ezekiel Byam was the first to manufacture lucifer matches in this country at his factory in South Chelmsford. Local quarries supplied "Chelmsford Granite" for the construction of public buildings in Boston, New York, and New Orleans as well as a church in Savannah, Georgia. Lime from Chelmsford quarries was used in building many of the early Lowell mills.

With the incorporation of the Merrimack Manufacturing Company in East Chelmsford in 1822 began the development of one of the great textile manufacturing centers of the world. Also worthy of note are the scythe factory in West Chelmsford (which became a sword factory and later produced files), the foundry, machine shops, and textile mills in North Chelmsford, as well as the Chelmsford Ginger Ale Company in the Center. "Chelmsford Glass", on exhibit at the Barrett-Byam House, was made at the Glass Works in Middlesex Village.

Public transportation before the advent of the railroads was by stagecoach between Boston and Concord, N. H. over the Middlesex Turnpike (Turnpike Road) and the Middlesex Canal that connected Chelmsford (Middlesex Village) with Boston. Canal Street was the tow path.

This historical sketch has necessarily been very brief, but it may engender an interest in examining the many points of historical significance mentioned in this brochure.

George Adams Parkhurst

George Adams Parkhurst
May 27, 1975

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FOREWORD

THIS BROCHURE HAS BEEN PREPARED THROUGH THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE CHELMSFORD REVOLUTIONARY WAR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS COMMISSION, AND THE CHELMSFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION, TO CELEBRATE OUR TOWN'S HISTORIC PAST IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR TOWN MOTTO . . .

"LET THE CHILDREN GUARD WHAT THE SIRENS HAVE WON"

CREDITS

Appreciation is expressed to the many people who contributed their time and knowledge of the town to produce this brochure. To Mr. George A. Parkhurst (Chairman, Revolutionary War Bicentennial Celebrations Commission) for his history of the town, to Mr. Richard O. Lahue, Sr. (Chairman, Historic Sites and Tours) for compiling information on the homes and industries, to Mrs. Leon Bourgeault, Mrs. William H. Drury, Mrs. Donald H. Fogg, Mr. John A. Goodwin, Mrs. Richard O. Lahue, Sr., Miss Janet Lombard, Mr. William R. Murphy, Mrs. Helen R. Poland, Mr. Arnold H. Wilder for their voluminous research efforts, and to Mr. Peter Blechman, Mr. Richard O. Lahue, Jr., Mr. Dana P. Caffelle, Mr. Henry Eriksen, Mrs. John H. Gregg, Mr. David Lewis, Mrs. Gordon F. MacPhail, Mrs. Paul F. McCarthy, Mrs. Edward P. McKeon, Mr. Ronald W. Nelson, Mr. Edward Quinn, Mr. Thomas Shedd, and Miss Bertha Trubey for their behind the scene tasks and to the many others, without whom this publication would not have been possible.

Above all, special thanks go to Mr. Charles J. Marderosian, the motivating force behind this project, for his untiring effort and many hours of work. To Mr. Marderosian go the artistic credits for the cover and the map, as well as the design of the brochure itself.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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HOMES

1. **WRIGHT HOUSE**
200 Acton Road (circa 1842)

Built about 1842 by Benjamin Chamberlain, the grandfather of Mrs. Lester Ball (Adelaide Wright).

2. **DUPEE HOUSE**
246 Acton Road (circa 1850)

This house was built by Eli Parker about 1850. It is the second house to stand on this site.

3. **LYMAN BYAM HOUSE**
305 Acton Road (circa 1830)

Ezekiel Byam, owner of the factory that manufactured the first Lucifer matches in this country, was probably an early owner of this house, and it remained in the Byam family until 1965, after the death of Lyman Byam. It was originally a 1½ story cottage style house, and at one time a cobbler named Davis lived and worked in the cellar.

4. **SOUTH CHELMSFORD STORE**
Corner Acton and Maple Roads (circa 1836)

Daniel W. Bickford was the owner of this general store and also sold grain. The family lived on the second floor. In 1886, the South Chelmsford post office was moved to the store.

It was sold to Henry Emerson in 1905. In 1914, Mr. Paignon purchased three stores in South Chelmsford and one of them was the South Chelmsford Store. Another one became a dwelling and the third a two-family house.

5. **JONATHAN LARCOM HOUSE**
15 Adams Avenue (circa 1850)

Jonathan Larcom, owner of this house, was a carpenter, architect and builder of the present Town Hall.

10. **J. ADAMS BARTLETT HOUSE**
4 Bartlett Street (circa 1678)

Owned and perhaps built by Thomas Clarke, the second minister in town, this house was also owned by Oliver Fletcher, Chelmsford's earliest lawyer, at the time of his death in 1771. A later owner was Joel Adams Bartlett, who in 1894 donated to the town the land for the Adams Library.

11. **Dr. JOHN C. BARTLETT HOUSE**
15 Bartlett Street (circa 1698)

Dr. Ichabod Gibson probably built the house about 1698. His son-in-law, Joel Adams, was a prominent citizen of the town, a respected lawyer, and started his law practice in 1808. His son-in-law, Dr. John C. Bartlett, began his 46 year practice of medicine in 1831 and had his office in the south side of the house.

12. **FISKE HOUSE**
1 Billerica Road (circa 1798)

The Fiske House in Central Square was built in 1798 by Simeon Spaulding, Jr., son of the Revolutionary War colonel, Simeon Spaulding. The present house occupies the site of an earlier building, owned and occupied by Major John Minot, when the homestead contained but four acres, including the public square in front of the present house.

In 1784 John Minot deeded about ½ acre, with the buildings thereon, just south of the present house to his son-in-law William Bridge (son of Rev. Ebenezer Bridge) who had married his daughter Rachel.

In that year Minot also sold his own place to Elijah Proctor who sold it the following year to Simeon Spaulding, Jr., who added six acres to the farm and built the dignified Colonial home.

At one time, Thomas Moore, owned the house and conducted a tavern there, known as the Lafayette House. In 1839, Mr. and Mrs. John Minot Fiske came from Boston with their three sons in search of a country place. They intended to buy the old house which had belonged to Rev. Ebenezer Bridge, great grandfather of Mr. Fiske, but Mrs. Fiske took a fancy to the tavern. After purchasing it, they added the fence of delicate proportions. The northeast room contains the bar. It has remained in the Fiske family since that time.

13. **EPISCOPAL PARSONAGE**
6 Billerica Road (1765)

Originally located east of the old Middlesex Turnpike (Turnpike Road) near Billerica Road, this building was moved in 1810. It was purchased, in 1868, from the Reverend and Mrs. Horace W. Morse of the Unitarian Church to be used as a chapel. Emmanuel Chapel was located in two rooms on the first floor and continued in use until the present Episcopal church was consecrated in 1882.

14. **C. GEORGE ARMSTRONG HOUSE**
19 Billerica Road

C. George Armstrong, president of the Chelmsford Ginger Ale Company, bought this house in 1901.

15. **HOLT HOUSE**
32 Billerica Road (Prior to 1831)

This house was once used as a tavern, operated by a man named Parker.

16. **HILDRETH HOUSE**
91 Billerica Road (1874)

This house was built by Benjamin Hildreth who was born in 1826 and died in 1894. He was married to Mary Clogston and they had

4 children, Elmer, Minnie, Velma and Alva. Mr. Hildreth fought in the Civil War. He was a farmer and owner of the land that is now Hildreth Street.

17. **J. S. SPAULDING HOUSE**
109 Billerica Road (Prior to 1800)

Said to be one of the oldest houses in Chelmsford, this building was owned by Jonathan Manning, a housewright, farmer, and by 1812 a tavern keeper, who moved here from Billerica. His son-in-law, Benjamin Chamberlain, later succeeded him there as inn-keeper. For thirty years after the Civil War the house was owned by Jacob Spaulding, whose daughter, Mary S. Lovering, remained there until her death in 1910.

18. **MANNING HOUSE**
110 Billerica Road (1816)

This substantial colonial building was built by Jonathan Manning in 1816 and used as a tavern. The opening of the railroad, in 1835, took away the trade from this, as well as other taverns, and it closed in 1838.

In 1872 the property was bought by the town and became known as the Town Farm.

19. **DADMAN HOUSE**
6 Boston Road (Date Unknown)

Formerly an ell on the J. Adams Bartlett House, this building was moved, in 1846 across Boston Road to its present site.

20. **HEZEKIAH PARKHURST HOUSE**
47 Boston Road (1698)

This small house was made from two buildings joined together. The northeast room was once a shoemaker's shop and the south part was built in 1698. Hezekiah Parkhurst purchased it from Ebenezer Cowdry in 1847.

21. **JACOB MANNING HOUSE**
59 Boston Road (circa 1760)

This house was built about 1760. Jacob and Lucy Manning lived in this house and sold it on March 2, 1803 to Thomas Jones. The A. J. Lamphere family resided in this house for many years.

22. **JOSEPH MANNING HOUSE**
65 Boston Road (circa 1859)

Joseph and Julia Manning built this house in 1859 to be near their daughter Julia who was the wife of Edwin Hinchman Warren. Joseph Manning was a prominent town official.

23. **E. H. WARREN HOUSE**
77 Boston Road (Before 1831)

Built by Ebenezer Cowdry and deeded to Ephraim Warren, this house became the property of Edwin Hinchman Warren in 1846. He was born in Chelmsford in 1824, his family having been among the early settlers in town. He married Julia Manning in 1851. He held many official positions on the board of selectmen, school committee overseers and was town treasurer for 26 years.

24. **ARTHUR M. WARREN HOUSE**
86 Boston Road (1893)

Arthur M. Warren built this house about the time that he married Mabel Parkhurst Emerson in 1893.

25. **JOSEPH E. WARREN HOUSE**
91 Boston Road (1889-1890)

This house was built by Joseph E. Warren, son of Edwin Hinchman Warren, a short time after his marriage to Elizabeth Minot Fiske. They lived in the old Joseph Warren house while this house was under construction.

26. **WARREN HOMESTEAD**
101 Boston Road (1680)

In 1680, this property was deeded by John Blanchard to Thomas Hinchman. He deeded

it to his kinsman Deacon Joseph Warren on December 27, 1699.

It became the original Warren Homestead and remained in the family for many generations. The farm land has remained in the family until the present day.

27. **PUTNAM HOUSE**
118 Boston Road (circa 1766)

This was known as Putnam's Farm for many years and noted for fine cider and vinegar. There was a large cider mill on the premises.

28. **PUTNAM CIDER MILL**
122 Boston Road (Date Unknown)

Now an interesting and unusual private home, this house was originally a cider mill on Putnam's Farm. It was situated on Putnam's Creek and an original earthen dam and stone sluiceways bear witness to the mill's function when it was active in supplying cider and vinegar to the townspeople during the 1800's.

29. **A. COBURN/PARKER HOUSE**
134 Boston Road (1760)

This brick-end house was probably built in 1760 by Jonathan Parker, a trooper in the Revolutionary War. He was called "Trooper Jock" to distinguish him from another Jonathan Parker, a neighbor, who was known as "Hill Jock". A field on the property was said to have been a mustering ground for the troops. This house has four chimneys, two in each of the brick ends, which provide fireplaces in each of the eight rooms.

30. **"HILL JOCK" PARKER HOUSE**
155 Boston Road (circa 1760)

Jonathan Parker, owner of this house, was called "Hill Jock" to distinguish him from his neighbor Jonathan Parker, called "Trooper Jock."

It was later owned by Willard Parker, a prominent physician in New York Academy of

Medicine and one of the founders and president of that association.

31. **SWEETSER HOUSE**
189 Boston Road (Before 1831)

Called Parker Manor at one time, this property was used as a tourist stop for many years.

32. **SHEREBIAH SPAULDING HOUSE**
203 Boston Road (circa 1700)

Land at this location was probably part of the estate of Captain Samuel Adams. John and Daniel Waldo had married, respectively, Rebecca and Susanna Adams, the daughters of Samuel. They sold about 260 acres of this estate to Andrew Spaulding and he deeded it to his son Henry in 1706.

Henry willed it to his son Henry and it stayed in the Spaulding family through Zebulon, Sherebiah, and Sherebiah, Jr.

Sanford Hazen bought the property from the estate of the latter in 1861. The Harvey family purchased it from the estate of his son Frederick Hazen and are the present owners.

33. **WILLIAM BYAM HOUSE**
15 Byam Road (circa 1736)

This is a typical central chimney home of the 1736 period. Located on the south side of Robin Hill, the lovely gardens in a natural woodland setting make this home known especially for the daffodil display in the springtime.

The house retains five original windows on the back; many latches; pegged, raised, paneled interior doors; five open fireplaces with two beehive ovens; original pine flooring and walls and some vertical paneling in the keeping room.

Gunstock post construction is a feature of this house with many pegs still visible throughout the attic. A five-sided ridge pole and pit-sawn boards are also to be seen in

the attic. Much of the plaster in the house is original.

This property has been known for many years as the "Billy Byam Farm."

34. **THE BARRETT/BYAM HOMESTEAD**
40 Byam Road (1663)

James Parker, one of the original petitioners for the parcel of land that is now Chelmsford, was the builder of this house and, on April 10, 1663, he conveyed title of a house and 52 acres of land on the south side of Robin's Hill to Thomas Barrett and his son, Thomas, of Braintree.

The house was occupied by Barrett and Byam families for over 100 years each, by Dr. Jonas Marshall, a surgeon during the Revolutionary War and others, including a suspected witch, Martha Barrett Sparks.

Marks on the central chimney give evidence that this was a saltbox design house with a loft over the two front bedrooms. A long room at the rear of the house was divided into a keeping room, borning room and butt'ry. A fireplace in each of the five original rooms provided heat and cooking was done in the two rooms having bake ovens. Soft pine floors and keeping room paneling have been reversed and refinished in recent years. The Chelmsford Historical Society owns and maintains this property. It is open to the public.

40. **MARSHALL HOUSE**
61 Carlisle Street (circa 1753)

This was a famous tavern and stage coach stop on the road to Boston. At the time it was built, it was the only house on the road from the Billerica line to what is now Gorham Street, Lowell, but was then East Chelmsford.

Thomas Marshall was the first Marshall to settle in East Chelmsford. He made his home in this house and it remained in the Marshall fam-

family until 1860. Thomas was the brother of Dr. Jonas Marshall, who resided at the Barrett-Byam Homestead on Byam Road before and during the Revolution.

41. MILL COUNTING HOUSE
Central Square (Date Unknown)

From the earliest days of Chelmsford's history to the Twentieth Century there has been a mill connected with the property. The age of this building is unknown but construction features suggest that it was built during the early 1800's. It is said to have been used as the mill office. In 1877 it was enlarged in preparation for its occupancy as a dwelling for the mill owner, Deacon David Perham.

42. GEORGE H. WILSON BLOCK
Central Square (1884)

This large building in the center of the town was used as a hotel for many years.

43. TOWN HALL - CENTER
Central Square (1879)

In 1879, it was voted to build a Town Hall in the Centre Village at a cost not to exceed \$7,000.

The following year, the sum of \$1,000 was appropriated to furnish it.

44. SCHOOLHOUSE
Westford Street (1802)

In 1718, the Town granted three rods and a half of land at the most easterly corner of the Burying Place for the building of a schoolhouse. The cost for this building was \$100.

In 1802, a new brick schoolhouse took the place of the original structure and cost \$500. The brick for this building was made in East Chelmsford on Brick Kiln Road.

45. MIDDLESEX CANAL TOLLHOUSE
Westford Street (1832)

The Middlesex Canal was in operation between the years 1803 and 1853 and ran from Middlesex Village to Boston.

This is the Tollhouse from Landing #8 at the head of the canal in Middlesex Village which has been moved to the old burying ground near the Unitarian Church and just to the rear of the 1802 Schoolhouse.

Temporarily moved in front of Center Town Hall as an information booth during Bicentennial celebrations.

46. ADAMS HOUSE
25 Chamberlain Road (Prior to 1831)

Isaac Adams built this brick house and is supposed to have mixed the lime for it. He was an ancestor of Amos F. Adams, donor of the Adams Library.

47. PARKHURST'S STORE
2 Chelmsford Street (circa 1862)

An old tavern stood near this spot and was kept by Oliver Barron and later by Joseph Reed. It burned in 1861.

The building now standing on this site was built by Edwin King Parkhurst and was located near where the Town Hall stands.

When the railroad was built, the structure was moved to the present location and operated by Samuel Stevens Parkhurst as a grocery store. A post office was also located on the first floor for many years.

On the second floor was Central Hall, scene of many dances and entertainments and also, during the Civil War, used as a meeting place for women doing work for the Union army.

In 1887, C.W. Sylvander opened his shoemaker's shop on the second floor, and a few years later G. Thomas Parkhurst began his printing office also on the second floor, a business that continued until 1969, a period of about 70 years.

48. DR. PAUL KITTREDGE HOUSE
20 Chelmsford Street (circa 1831)

Dr. Paul Kittredge, son of Dr. Benjamin Kittredge of Tewksbury, was born August 29, 1784 and came to Chelmsford from Littleton in 1831, succeeding to the practice of Dr. John C. Dalton.

He built and occupied this residence and had a family of 14 children, 4 of whom became doctors.

A later owner of the house was Adams Emerson, a commissioned officer in the Civil War. It was later purchased by Ervin Sweetser, Town Treasurer for many years.

49. DR. FRANCIS KITTREDGE/HOWARD HOUSE
21 Chelmsford Street (circa 1840)

This house was built in the Greek Revival style and it is solid and dignified. It was built by Dr. Francis M. Kittredge, whose father lived across the street. In 1848 it was sold to Dr. Levi Howard and in 1895 to his son Dr. Amasa Howard. In 1924 Dr. Leonard Dursthoff bought it. The present owner is Henry Eriksen.

50. A. HODGMAN HOUSE
75 Concord Road (Prior to 1831)
(Information presently unavailable.)

51. CAPTAIN JOSIAH FLETCHER HOUSE
14 Crosby Lane (circa 1790)

Captain Josiah Fletcher was a private in the Revolutionary War and went to Concord on April 19, 1775 at the age of eighteen.

Captain Fletcher built this house around 1790 and occupied it during the remainder of his life.

60. THE PERHAM HOUSE
30 Dalton Road (Early 1700's)

This house dates back to the early 1700's and

remained in the Perham family for a number of generations until it was sold in 1957.

61. L. DRAKE HOUSE
18-20 Dunstable Road (1829)

The Drake family, owners of the foundry, lived in this house. All the fireplaces have been opened up and the house restored to original condition. The fireplaces have ovens with cast iron doors that were made in the Drake foundry.

62. T. J. ADAMS/BUTTERFIELD HOUSE
37 Dunstable Road (1874)

Thomas J. Adams sold this property to John H. Butterfield on April 9, 1874. The Butterfields sold it to the Carriels and they sold it to the Toms family.

The unusual well house at this site can be seen from Tyngsboro Road.

63. SLEEPER HOUSE
47 Dunstable Road (Prior to 1831)

This house was owned by S. S. Sleeper in 1875.

64. BLODGETT HOUSE
100 Dunstable Road (circa 1860)

This property was owned by Frederick Blodgett, a descendant of one of the first settlers in town. At the time that the Blodgett family was in possession of the property, the land extended from Tyngsboro Road through to Groton Road. It was sold out of the family in 1917.

65. JOSELYN HOUSE
116 Dunstable Road (Prior to 1831)

This property remained in the Joselyn family for many years during the 1800's.

70. **SWETT/SHELDON HOUSE**
14 Edwards Avenue (1846)
George Gray built this house in 1846 for Charles Swett who was ill at his home in Middlesex Village. The house was built leaving a large rock in the cellar which would have been removed had Mr. Swett known about it at the time.
71. **HUTCHINS HOUSE**
79 Elm Street (circa 1823)
Once believed to have been built in the 1790's by the Hutchins family, architectural experts now suggest that this house was built about the time of Oliver Hutchins' marriage in 1823. He sold it in 1855 to John B. Melvin, a "trader". There have been very few architectural changes made to the house since it was built.
75. **JOHN BETTY/CHARLES ROBBINS HOUSE**
50 Garrison Road (1664)
Owned by Dr. John Betty at one time, this house was used as a noon house. This is the place where people attending church services at the First Baptist Church could eat lunch between the morning and afternoon services. At that time, the territory served by the Church in South Chelmsford extended for about a hundred square miles.
This house, which is one of earliest gambrel roof types, was occupied by many well known persons in the history of the town: John Tucker, Andrew Betty, Dr. John Betty, B. O. and C. O. Robbins.
76. **ADAMS/HEYWOOD GARRISON HOUSE**
105 Garrison Road (1690)
Lt. Thomas Adams, who died in 1688, was the owner of this land. In 1683, he conveyed the land to his son, Pelatiah, and sometime between 1683 and 1690, the house was built. During the Indian Wars, this house was used as quarters for soldiers.
- In 1702, Pelatiah deeded the property to his two sons. They added the lean-to at this time and the house assumed a "salt box" design. Both brothers lived in this house and each had equal sized living quarters.
In 1728, Benjamin Heywood of Billerica acquired the property from the Adams family. Mr. Heywood was a cooper.
The Old Chelmsford Garrison House Association now owns and operates this property which has been authentically restored and is open to the public. This building is listed in the National Register of Historic Landmarks.
77. **MIDDLESEX TURNPIKE TOLLHOUSE**
47 Golden Cove Road (circa 1810)
This was a tollhouse on the old Middlesex Turnpike. The Turnpike was chartered on June 15, 1805 and opened five years later. A direct route from Boston to Tyngsboro, Nashua and the north, it went through Cambridge, Bedford, Billerica and Chelmsford.
The charter was repealed in 1841 and it became a free road in 1846. The tollhouse is still standing where Turnpike Road crosses Billerica Road.
78. **FROST/CARLTON/DYER HOUSE**
114 Gorham Street (Prior to 1753)
This was an old stagecoach stop and tavern. The Frost family lived in this house and Thomas Marshall married Hannah Frost there on February 22, 1753. Early deeds indicate that the Frost family owned the brick yard on Brick Kiln Road.
79. **HOWARD HOUSE**
6 Groton Road (Mid 1700's)
This is one of the oldest buildings in North Chelmsford. It was part of the old Adams House Hotel in the 1700's and was moved to the present location. Henry Howard lived here in the 1920's and was a carpenter.
85. **SEWALL PARKHURST HOUSE**
35 High Street (circa 1790)
This house was built by Josiah Parkhurst, father of Sewall Parkhurst, shortly before 1800.
86. **1/2 SEWALL PARKHURST BARN**
45 High Street (Date Unknown)
Half of the large barn on the Sewall Parkhurst property, this building was moved to the present location in 1912 and remodelled into a house.
87. **1/2 SEWALL PARKHURST BARN**
49 High Street (Date Unknown)
Another half of the large barn on the Sewall Parkhurst property, this building was also moved in 1912 and remodelled into a house.
88. **SOLOMON PARKHURST HOUSE**
67 High Street (circa 1835)
This house is said to have been built about 1835 by Solomon Parkhurst (1804 - 1890), brother of Sewall, who lived in their father's home at 35 High Street.
89. **SOLOMON PARKHURST BARN**
71 High Street (Date Unknown)
(Information presently unavailable.)
90. **JOHN BYAM HOUSE**
161 High Street (circa 1815)
This house was built by Simeon Byam, great uncle of John Byam. It stands on the estate of Isaac Byam, grandson of George Byam who came to Chelmsford in 1656 with Reverend John Fiske.
91. **GEORGE BYAM HOUSE**
50 Hunt Road (1656)
This was the original Byam Homestead at the corner of Hunt Road and Littleton Road. George Byam lived here after coming from Wenham with the Reverend Fiske in 1656.
92. **HUNT HOUSE**
93 Hunt Road (1800-1820)
Samuel C. Hunt lived in this house which was constructed between 1800 and 1820. He was a senior warden in St. Anne's parish, as All Saints was known until 1888.
The owners of this house have a picture showing the Hunt family and dated 1830.
93. **E. PARKER HOUSE**
150 Hunt Road (1774)
Eli Parker and Mary Hunt bought this house under a marriage contract.
94. **N. C. BEAN HOUSE**
176 Hunt Road (Prior to 1831)
The front section of this house is quite primitive and one of the doors on the second floor has a heart cut-out similar to that in the Heywood Garrison House.
The Johnson family has lived in this house for four generations.
99. **OLD NORTH ROW SCHOOLHOUSE**
District No. 2
3 Locke Road (1870)
A report of a Schoolhouse Building Committee for District No. 2, dated March 1, 1871 states that the structure was built and furnished for \$1,971.
Property at the corner of Locke and Davis Roads was deeded from Asa and Elbridge G. Spaulding to the town on June 2, 1875.
On December 12, 1927, the town voted to sell it to Frank J. Garvey.
Miss Frances Andrews said, in her history, that this house was built about 1928 from the old schoolhouse. Markings from the old school desks can still be found on the sub-flooring.

- 100. THE BRICK HOUSE**
189 Main Street (1820)
Built by Elias Messenger, a brick mason, for his brother George who was an employee of Deacon Farwell, this house has a fireplace in every room including a dutch oven in the kitchen.
- 101. J. C. BUTTERFIELD HOUSE**
193 Main Street (circa 1827)
This house was built by one of the children of Deacon Farwell.
- 102. J. H. PERRY HOUSE**
197 Main Street (circa 1830)
This house was built by one of the children of Deacon Farwell.
- 103. C. ROBY HOUSE**
203 Main Street (1831)
Apparently, Deacon Farwell was the original owner of this house. When his children married, they built houses nearby at 193 and 197 Main Street.
Deacon Farwell erected a factory for the manufacture of scythes. At that time, West Chelmsford became known as "Farwell" or "Scythe Factory Village." The business was later purchased by Sawyer and Roby, who manufactured scythes until the outbreak of the Civil War, during which time they produced swords and sabers.
Christopher Roby must have occupied this house at that time.
- 104. FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE IN EAST CHELMSFORD**
5 Manning Road (Early 1800's)
Property for the first schoolhouse in East Chelmsford was left by the Manning estate to be used for school purposes. The building was originally located on Riverneck Road and later moved to the present location.
- Charlotte Cushman, a former stage actress, was born in this house.
- 105. THE MANNING HOUSE**
9 Manning Road (1752)
This was the home of William Manning, inventor of the original corn-cake square that he made on the premises. He became rich because of this invention.
- 106. ROBERT PIERCE HOUSE**
21 Manning Road (1753)
This was, at one time, one of the largest dairy farms in Chelmsford.
- 108. BYAM BLACKSMITH SHOP**
5 Maple Road (circa 1832)
The blacksmith shop was constructed in 1835. When this land was purchased, it was with the provision that a blacksmith shop be built and operating within three years.
- 109. MARCUS BYAM HOUSE**
11 Maple Road (circa 1825)
This house was constructed in 1832 and raised from one-and-a-half to a two-story house at the close of the Civil War.
- 110. SOLOMON BYAM/CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE**
19 Maple Road (circa 1704)
Solomon Edwin Byam married Hannah Adams, aunt of Amos F. Adams who was the donor of the Adams Library. She was born in the old brick Adams house on Chamberlain Road.
Solomon Byam was the first station agent in the south section being followed by his son Frank and his grandson Lyman, who remained until the station closed in 1921.
At one time, this house was used as a tavern or half-way house. It was, for many years, a large dairy farm.
- Phineas Chamberlain, another occupant of this house, was a blacksmith.
The deep fireplaces in this house have the bake ovens at the center back instead of the side as they are more frequently seen. There are many fine original hinges and latches on the cupboards and doors.
- 111. EDMANDS HOUSE**
22 Marshall Street (1756)
The Edmands brothers were the original owners of this farm. They were the developers of the first sugar beet.
The Marshall brothers bought the farm and added to it in 1856. It was later owned by the Heaney family and purchased by the Sears family in 1922.
- 112. TAVERN/BURNHAM HOTEL**
8 Middlesex Street (Before 1831)
In order for this building to be used as a tavern, it was necessary to move it back from the street a certain number of feet to comply with the rules regarding the distance from a church.
- 113. ADAMS/PICKEN HOUSE**
14 Middlesex Street (circa 1709)
This house is pictured on a map dated 1709. It was originally a 1-1/2 story house but, when it was purchased by the mill, the roof was raised and it became 2-1/2 stories high.
- 114. HALL HOUSE**
35 Middlesex Street (circa 1835)
Benjamin Blood, a miller, bought the land in February 1835 for \$60. He sold the land and buildings in 1851 to Caleb Blood, a machinist.
This building was once used as a post office, John Hall being the Postmaster. At that time, there was a small stoop attached to the building and the Adams Furniture Company of Lowell placed a bench with their name
- on it. This is where the townspeople could wait for their mail or for transportation to Lowell. By the turn of the century, trolley cars ran from North Chelmsford to Lowell.
- 115. T. J. PINKHAM HOUSE**
8 Mill Road (1700's)
An early owner of this house was Deacon John Spaulding, born in 1762 and died in 1835. He was a private and a drummer in the Revolutionary War from 1778 to 1780. Thomas J. Pinkham bought the property in 1856. He came from Northwood, New Hampshire and in 1875 he sold the property and moved to Lynn.
- 116. SOUTH ROW SCHOOL**
District No. 4
Mill Road (1870)
This schoolhouse was built in 1870 on land bought from T. J. Pinkham; the total cost, including furnishings, was \$2,149.26. It replaced the older brick schoolhouse which until recently stood on the opposite side of Mill Road.
At the present time the building is the headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post No. 5990.
- 117. RAILROAD STATION**
37 Mill Road (Date Unknown)
This was the first railroad station in the town. In 1889 it was sold for \$50 and moved at a cost of \$150 to its present site. It is now used as a dwelling.
- 118. ADAMS/RUSSELL HOUSE**
101 Mill Road (circa 1816)
This house was built by Joseph Adams, a great, great grandson of Capt. Samuel Adams. Samuel had built the first sawmill in town,

and Joseph was the last Adams to run the mill. Joseph was a private in Capt. John Ford's company which reinforced the Northern Army in 1777.

119. **BENJAMIN ADAMS HOUSE**
171 Mill Road (circa 1770)
Built by Benjamin Adams on the Adams land grant. This house was used as the town farm after the first town farm burned in 1871.
120. **HOULE HOUSE**
3 Mission Road (circa 1810)
This house was built by Isaac Chamberlain, a blacksmith and a soldier in the Revolutionary War.
125. **RICHARDSON/DAVIS HOUSE**
1 North Road (circa 1840)
Samuel Pitts was the owner of this land which was bought by Stephen Pierce, who had a blacksmith shop in the rear.
Joseph Reed, owner of Reed's Tavern, owned this house at one time. Mary Elizabeth Richardson bought the house in 1867, and descendants of the Richardson family still reside there.
126. **WINN/EMERSON HOUSE**
6 North Road (circa 1804)
William Benjamin Fletcher may have been the builder of this house in which he lived. Deacon Otis Adams lived here at a later date. A town Selectman, he held many public offices and was instrumental in erecting the Revolutionary War monument. He was the author of the Town Motto "Let the Children Guard what the Sires have Won" and was the owner of the property when it became the first school for the deaf in 1866.

127. **J. P. EMERSON HOUSE**
11 North Road (1835)
This house was built by Stephen Pierce, a blacksmith, who later sold the property to H. P. Dutton, a butcher, in 1840.
Another owner of the property, J. P. Emerson was in the freight business and later entered into the dairy business.
128. **WILLIAM FLETCHER HOUSE**
33 North Road (circa 1817)
William Fletcher built this house for his son, William Fletcher, Jr.
129. **SIMEON SPAULDING HOUSE**
75 North Road (circa 1728)
Colonel Simeon Spaulding, whose son built the Fiske House, was the builder of this house. He was a representative to the General Court and was chosen to represent the town in the Provincial Congress.
He marched to Concord on April 19, 1775, but resigned his commission as Colonel in 1778, due to advanced age. He was a selectman in the town and held many other offices.
His granddaughter was married to Dr. John C. Dalton and they lived in this house. Dalton Road is named for the doctor.
During the 1800's this house was used as a "syndicate farm", a place for rest and relaxation, by telephone company employees. At that time, Dalton Road was called Syndicate Road.
130. **CAPTAIN JOHN BUTTERFIELD HOUSE**
96 North Road (circa 1729)
Captain John Butterfield, an early owner of this house, was a member of the Snow-Shoe Company of Chelmsford in 1724 when these companies ranged the woods as scouting parties in pursuit of threatening Indians.

131. **DUTTON/UPHAM HOUSE**
112 North Road (mid 1800's)
This house was built in the 1800's on the site of an old house that had been raised for James Dutton on September 12, 1750.
Some of the timbers from the old house were used in the building of this structure.
132. **OWEN EMERSON HOUSE**
140 North Road (Prior to 1831)
An early owner of this house was Captain John Butterfield, who helped subdue Shay's Rebellion and who was the grandson of the owner of the house at 96 North Road. His heir was Louisa Butterfield, wife of Owen Emerson, Jr., who, as a young man, learned the shoemaking trade.
133. **GEORGE SPAULDING HOUSE**
147 North Road (1696-98)
This house was built by A. Spaulding and remained in the Spaulding family until 1911.
134. **J. REED HOUSE**
156 North Road (circa 1860)
The Reed House was built by Owen Emerson for his daughter Emily at the time of her marriage to Charles Reed in about the year 1855.
Mark Reed, a descendant of this family, was the author of the play "Petticoat Fever".
135. **LEONARD SPAULDING HOUSE**
167 North Road (Prior to 1831)
Leonard Spaulding, born January 2, 1849, was the youngest child of Jacob and Mary Ann Spaulding. When he married Hannah E. Bicknell of Westford, they settled on this farm where they had a fine fruit orchard and many farm animals.

136. **STEVENS HOUSE**
190 North Road (Prior to 1800)
In 1800, this house was sold by Benjamin Parkhurst to Joel Parkhurst. The Stevens family became owners in 1846 and it remained in the family until 1905.
137. **STAPLES HOUSE**
212 North Road (1750-1850)
The front part of this house was built about 1750 and the rear section was added in 1850. Henry Spaulding III was an early owner of this house. He died in 1825. The house remained in the Spaulding family until 1873 when it was sold to William Staples. James McLarney purchased it in 1900.
145. **I. SPAULDING HOUSE**
263 Old Westford Road (1700's)
An early owner of this house was Henry Spaulding II, born in 1753 and married to Mary Fletcher in 1774. They deeded the house to Isaiah Spaulding who deeded it to Isaiah B. Spaulding, who, in turn, sold it to the Savage family. This was later the Roberts Farm.
146. **ROBERT FLETCHER HOUSE**
304 Old Westford Road (Prior to 1831)
This house was known as the Fletcher Farm or the Chamberlain Farm in former days.
150. **BARRET/WRIGHT/PARK HOUSE**
12 Park Place (Prior to 1831)
This house was owned by Joel Barrett Wright in 1856. He was town selectman in 1830 and died in 1867. His estate was sold to Benjamin M. Clogston, it was then sold to the Park family in 1873 and has remained in this family to date.

151. SAM MARTIN HOUSE
145 Park Road (circa 1790)

This was once a tavern and a relay station for the Pony Express.

152. J.R. PARKHURST HOUSE
16 Parkhurst Road (1804)

This house was built by Andrew and John Parkhurst on land from the original Parkhurst grant. It was once called "Owl's Nest" because of the numerous owls nesting there. J. Roland Parkhurst lived in this house in the early 1900's.

153. CHAMBERLAIN/DUTTON HOUSE
143 Pine Hill Road (circa 1700)

An early house on this site was built by Samuel Chamberlain. About 1760, the present house, built by Jacob Chamberlain, was constructed around the old chimney, using beams of the former dwelling and situated upon the old foundation. It was sold to the Dutton family in 1801 and remained in that family until 1974. Charles Parlee, the present owner, is in the process of restoring the property.

154. JOHN SHED PLACE
217 Pine Hill Road (Prior to 1800)

This building is one of the last remaining examples in Chelmsford of the early cape style house. In 1801, Col. Ebenezer Bridge, officer in the Revolutionary Army and son of the Rev. Ebenezer Bridge, sold it to John Shed, a cooper. He sold the house in 1831 soon after his wife died, and for many years after that the property was known as "the Shed Place".

155. CHAMBERLAIN/BYAM HOUSE
249 Pine Hill Road (1830)

This house was deeded from Israel Putnam to Johanna Sheehan in 1876 and it has remained in the Sheehan family since that time.

156. MINOT/ADAMS HOUSE
309 Pine Hill Road (1756)

(Information presently unavailable)

157. TOWN HALL – NORTH
31 Princeton Street (1852)

In 1852, it was voted to build a Town House in North Chelmsford, "not to exceed the cost of the present Town House". The following year, the thanks of the town were tendered to Hon. Benjamin Adams and Thomas J. Adams for their "liberal, free, and generous gift" of land for the building. The building cost \$1,847.66.

In 1853, the November Town Meeting and election were held at the North Village as was the annual March meeting the next year. Annual meetings were held alternately at the Centre and North villages for a number of years.

158. BATEMAN HOUSE
4 Proctor Road (1779)

John Bateman built this brick-end house in 1779. His daughter, Charlotte, married Ezekiel Byam, the match manufacturer, in 1818. Following their marriage, they moved into the house and Mr. Bateman moved to Concord.

For many years, this has been the site of the well-known Waite Farm.

159. THOMAS PROCTOR HOUSE
43 Proctor Road (circa 1780)

Robert Proctor had seven sons and owned practically of the south side of Robins Hill which was the original Parker grant of land.

This house was built by one of his sons in about the year 1780.

It was the birthplace of Thomas Parker Proctor, who became a lawyer in Boston.

160. PROCTOR/ARTEMAS PARKER HOUSE
47 Proctor Road (circa 1770)

Artemas Parker was an expert in the lime industry and burned the last kiln of lime in Chelmsford around 1830.

165. MANSFIELD HOUSE
75 Robin Hill Road (1752)

This house was built by a Revolutionary War soldier, Samuel Parkhurst, following his return from the war. The house remained in the Parkhurst-Mansfield family for five generations.

166. FISKE HOUSE
111 Robin Hill Road (1798)

Benjamin Minot Fiske was born in Charlestown in 1826 and came to Chelmsford as a boy. His family lived in the historic Fiske House in the Centre. Several years after his marriage to the oldest daughter of Rev. John Parkhurst, he purchased and moved to this farm in South Chelmsford which contained 40 acres of land. Upon receiving an appointment as inspector in the Custom House at Boston, he moved to Somerville, returning to Chelmsford in 1896, five years before his death.

Later occupants of this dwelling were Daniel Bickford, who kept the store in South Chelmsford, and Warren Wright, a town assessor for many years.

167. PENNIMAN HOUSE
118 Robin Hill Road (Date Unknown)

(Information presently unavailable)

168. REVEREND JOHN PARKHURST HOUSE
147 Robin Hill Road (1823)

After tearing down an existing house on this lot, Reverend John Parkhurst built this one. He was minister of the Baptist Church in South Chelmsford from 1821 to 1845 and

he then went to the Baptist Church in the Centre from 1847 to 1868.

169. SPAULDING HOUSE
187 Robin Hill Road (circa 1875)

Isaiah Spaulding lived in this house which, at an earlier date, had been occupied by Joseph Spaulding, Deacon Ephraim Spaulding and others.

170. ELI PACKARD PARKER HOUSE
195 Robin Hill Road (1833-1836)

This house was built by Eli Packard Parker, son of Packard Parker who lived on Hunt Road. Eli Packard Parker was born in 1812 and died in 1898 at the age of 86. He was a carpenter and builder.

The middle part of the house is the oldest. It was built in 1833 and was attached to the shed. The addition on the left hand side was built in 1840 and has a cellar under it. The right hand side was added later and it has no cellar.

175. SCHOOLHOUSE NUMBER 7
142 School Street (1877)

At a town meeting on March 5, 1877, it was voted to purchase land, from Isaiah Spaulding for a schoolhouse to cost no more than \$1500. Ten days later the deed was passed. In 1899 the town sold the property to Patrick and Catherine Savage and it became a private dwelling. There have been several owners since that time.

176. GEORGE SPAULDING HOUSE
55 Spaulding Road (circa 1775-1780)

Joseph Spaulding is said to have built this house just before and after his service in the Revolutionary War. He fired the first shot at the Battle of Bunker Hill against orders and was severely reprimanded by General Putnam. The house remained in the Spaulding family until 1918.

180. ALONZO DAVIS HOUSE
7 Washington Street (About 1860)

Alonzo Davis purchased this land from Benjamin and Thomas J. Adams in 1853 and built the house a few years later. The house is being restored by the present owners. They have uncovered eight fireplaces, one in the kitchen for cooking and baking. All the beams are notched and wooden-peged.

181. MEETING HOUSE (FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITARIAN SOCIETY)
Chelmsford Centre (1842)

The first, and for many years, the only church in town, the early history of this church is closely connected with that of the town. The first meeting house was built in 1659 or 1660 and stood for more than 50 years.

This is the fourth church to stand on this site and it was constructed in 1842. The town built the brick basement of the building and it was used for town meetings and public activities until the Town Hall was built in 1879.

182. SHEPARD HOUSE
4 Westford Street (circa 1840)

(Information presently unavailable)

183. HEZEKIAH PACKARD HOUSE
16 Westford Street (1794)

This was the home of Hezekiah Packard, who was born on December 6, 1761, and enlisted in the Militia in North Bridgewater as a fifer at the age of thirteen. He came to Chelmsford and was ordained as minister of the Unitarian Church on October 16, 1793. He was the founder of the Social Library in 1794.

Rev. Wilkes Allen, sixth minister of the Unitarian Church, lived in this house while writing the History of Chelmsford in 1820.

184. MANSFIELD/EMERSON HOUSE
41 Westford Street (circa 1790)

Jonathan Perham, who died in 1827, was an early owner of this house. His heirs sold the property and, in 1867, Rufus Emerson was the owner. His descendants were Arthur, Frank and Susan Emerson. Arthur, a well-known photographer in the town, collaborated with Clarence Weed in publishing a book "Our Trees, How to Know Them" in 1908. This book contains many fine pictures of Chelmsford trees. Susan Emerson was a teacher and active in literary circles.

The house was sold out of the family in 1942.

185. D.C. PERHAM HOUSE
77 Westford Street (1730)

This house was built in 1730, around a chimney dating to 1690.

186. BENJAMIN SPAULDING HOUSE
219 Westford Street (circa 1690)

This house was built about 1690 by Joseph Spaulding and presumably expanded by his descendant, Deacon Ephraim Spaulding, in pre-Revolutionary times. It remained in the Spaulding family until 1884.

187. SPAULDING/REED HOUSE
243 Westford Street (circa 1700)

This house was built on land owned by Edward Spaulding, one of the early settlers of the town. This apparently belonged to the original Edward Spaulding estate.

189. SAMUEL DAVIS/RUSSELL HOUSE
10 Worthen Street (circa 1799)

This stately post-colonial residence was built by Samuel Prince about 1799. He

was a merchant in Boston. The house is built with brick ends, two chimneys on either end, and a front door surrounded by full length Ionic pilasters and topped by a graceful fan-shaped "light".

In 1822 Captain Samuel Davis became the owner. He was a private in Captain Jonathan Minot's Company in Cambridge in 1776. He is said to have later commanded a vessel in the coasting trade. In 1831-32 he served as a town selectman.

Captain Davis' heirs sold the property to David Perham, who owned most of the land between there and the lime quarry on Littleton Road. The house was later sold to the Russell family and is still in their possession.

190. DR. S.L. DUTTON HOUSE
14 Worthen Street (circa 1800)

Land for this property was purchased in 1803 by Thomas Jones, a housewright. His heir, Joseph Jones, sold the land to Azariah Proctor, Jr. on January 1, 1808.

Azariah Proctor, a wheelwright, was born in Chelmsford and married Lucy Hodgman in 1806. They built this house in which to bring up their growing family of 12 children.

Azariah Proctor died in 1838 at the age of 57. His widow was left one chamber in the house as her dower. A son, Henry Byam Proctor, and his wife Sarah Elizabeth lived in the house. In 1847 he is listed as an inn-keeper and kept the old tavern which stood where the Parkhurst Store was later located. The tavern burned in 1861.

Dr. Samuel L. Dutton bought the house in 1901. He had been a surgeon during the Civil War.

INDUSTRIES

- I1 First Sawmill (1656)** – At a public meeting of the whole town on “July day ye third”, it was voted that Mr. Samuel Adams establish a sawmill and supply the town with boards at three shillings per hundred. A sawmill and gristmill were maintained at this location for five successive generations of Adams family until 1899. Property now owned and reconstructed by Mr. L. Charlton Greene, Jr.
- I2 Second Sawmill (1669)** – Privilege granted to Thomas Hinchman, William Fletcher, Josiah Richardson, with much the same arrangements as Mr. Adams, except their boards were to be four shillings per hundred. Approximate location.
- I3 First Tannery (1682)** – John Lowell was granted privilege to take bark from trees on common land, and had 8 to 10 vats on Bartlett Street. Approximate location.
- I4 First Fulling Mill (1691)** – For dressing home-spun clothe, established by Lieutenant John Barrett and his son Jonathan. Approximate location.
- I5 First Grist Mill (1695)** – Established by Daniel Waldo, who agreed to be a good miller and “grind the town’s corn well and there mault for half toal” and that he would not “damnifie” the highway or any man’s meadow. Approximate location.
- I6 Brick Factory (1700’s into 1800’s)** – Bricks made from beds of clay on Brick Kiln Road. The clay was not of the purest and best kind; but manufactured to good advantage. Approximate location.
- I7 First Iron Works (1706-1707)** – Set up by Jonathan and John Richardson. They used bog iron, a hydrate oxide of iron which, when removed from bogs, is replaced naturally in about 20 years. Approximate location.
- I8 Middlesex Tavern (1700’s to 1900’s)** – Also known as Clark’s Tavern in colonial days, probably built by Col. Jonas Clark, son of Chelmsford’s second minister, The Rev. Thomas Clarke. Such distinguished guests as Lafayette and John Hancock had spent the night there. Was stopping place for Middlesex Canal travelers. Approximate location.
- I9 Lime Quarry (1736)** – Limestone deposits of excellent quality about two miles long. Five kilns operated by Fletchers and Perhams. Last kiln operated by David Perham closed in 1832. Caves and ruins of kilns may be seen at Lime Quarry Reservation.
- I10 Middlesex Canal (1794)** – Transporting of goods, including granite from Chelmsford, between Concord, New Hampshire and Charlestown, Massachusetts by barges. First section (6 miles) from Concord River Mill Pond to Merrimack River (with aqueduct over Black Brook) completed in 1797. Celebration held at Middlesex Tavern. Canal operation was at its height between the years 1803 and 1836. One of the oldest (1832) toll-houses in the country (now located in the center of town) was used in this operation. Canal was phased out of service in 1853 by the coming of the railroads. Restoration of Canal at corner of Riverneck Road and Canal Street starting soon.
- I11 Chelmsford Glass (1802)** – Manufactory in Middlesex Village, consisted of “2 furnaces, 3 flattening ovens, 2 tempering ovens, 6 ovens for drying wood, cutting, mixing, and pot rooms, a kiln for burning brick, a mill house and sand house”. Used cylinder method for making window glass. Approximate location.
- I12 Granite Quarry (1810)** – Rough blocks of high quality granite was shipped by canal to the prison in Charlestown, where the prisoners hammered out and prepared the blocks for their own place of incarceration. Chelmsford granite is still being used in construction throughout the country. (H.E. Fletcher Company.)
- I13 Powder Mills (1818)** – Established by Moses Hale and the next year by William Tileston and Oliver Whipple on the Concord River the mills operated for almost 40 years. In a single year during the Mexican War, a million barrels of powder were manufactured here. Approximate location.
- I14 Scythe Factory (1820)** – Established by Deacon Farwell, which he and his sons carried on for 20 years or more. It was sold to Christopher Roby and Company in 1853, which shifted to sword making with the outbreak of the Civil War. Purchased later by the Hiscox File Company which made files and machine knives until 1888. Approximate location.
- I15 Chelmsford Foundry (1823)** – Set up by Williams Adams, it was bought by General Leach in 1824 who filled in the breach and reflooded Newfield Pond which became Leach’s Pond and then Crystal Lake. The foundry operated until 1908 under varied management. Approximate location.
- I16 Match Factory (1835)** – Ezekiel Byam bought the patent and made the first sulphur matches in the U.S.A. Approximate location.
- I17 Bent and Bush Hat Factory (1837)** – Located in Middlesex Village produced hats valued at \$32,000, but left town when the Middlesex Canal was driven out of business by the steam train. Approximate location.
- I18 Nashua and Lowell Railroad (1838)** – Chartered in 1836, it constructed 9½ miles of track from Lowell to New Hampshire state line to meet with N&L R.R. In 1880, this company was leased by the Boston & Lowell R.R. for 99 years.
- I19 Stoney Brook Railroad (1848)** – Ran between North Chelmsford and Groton Junction, (later known as Ayer). It was leased by Nashua and Lowell R.R. in 1848 and again in 1852. Boston & Maine R.R. took over the Boston & Lowell R.R. and its leases in 1895.
- I20 Framingham & Lowell Railroad (1872)** – Immediately taken over by the Boston, Clinton & Fitchburg R.R. In 1876, reorganized as the Boston, Clinton, Fitchburg, & New Bedford R.R. In 1883, became part of the Old Colony R.R. In 1893, the New Haven R.R. took over the Old Colony R.R. Presently owned by Penn Central R.R.
- I21 Selesia Mills (late 1800’s)** – In North, largest mill in town, sold in 1912 to the United States Worsted Company for \$3,000,000.
- I22 Byfield Manufacturing Company (1888)** – Founded to make Knitting Machines, it burned in 1893. In 1901, Chelmsford Spring Company rebuilt on the Byfield property and made ginger beer. Owned by C.G. Armstrong, became Chelmsford Ginger Ale, and then purchased by Canada Dry in 1928.

MONUMENTS

M1 Revolutionary War Monument

North Side

"Erected 1859 Let the children guard what the sires have won"

East Side

"Lt. Col. Moses Parker and Capt. Benj Walker wounded at Bunker Hill June 17, 75. Died prisoners in Boston July 4 and Aug. 7, 75. — Lt. Robt Spalding died at Milford Ct. - 76."

South Side

"In honor of the Townsmen of Chelmsford who served their country in the War of the Revolution — This monument is erected by a Grateful Posterity."

West Side

"John Bates died in Army at Cambridge — David Spalding Jr. died in Army at Ticonderoga — Pelatiah Adams killed at Cherry Valley — Noah Foster shot at capture of Burgoyne — Henry Fletcher killed at White Plains."

M2 World War II Monument

"Dedicated to the veterans of the Town of Chelmsford who served so unselfishly to preserve our country's heritage of God given freedom."

Reverse

"Dedicated at the 300th Anniv. of our town May 1955."

M3 School for Deaf Marker

"Harriet B. Rogers, assisted by Mary S. Byam, opened here in 1866 the Chelmsford School. The first in America to successfully teach lip reading and speech to deaf children. In 1867 it was moved to Northampton as the Clarke School for the Deaf."

M4 Revolutionary War Monument

"Here on the 19th of April 1775 the minute guns summoned the men of Chelmsford to the Concord fight - Erected by the Molly Varnum Chapter, D.A.R. AD 1899."

M5 Horse Trough

"Presented by N. M. Thresher 1880"

M6 Town Pound Marker

"Site of Town Pound 1654-1895"

M7 Horse Trough

No inscription

M8 First Town Meeting Marker

"Near this spot First Town Meeting in Chelmsford was held Nov 22 1654"

M9 Col. Simeon Spaulding Marker

"Home of Col. Simeon Spaulding of the Revolution Erected about 1827"

M10 Perham Corner Marker

"Perham Corner"

M11 Armed Services Marker

"Erected by a grateful community in memory of those who served in the armed services." Westlands Improvement Assoc.

M12 Kiwanis Marker

"Kiwanis in Memoriam John B. Gallagher 1916-1960, Veteran World War II."

M13 Armed Services Marker

"To those who answered the challenge against our freedom to live in peace E. Chelmsford Honor Roll W.W. II - Korean Campaign."

M14 Viet Nam Marker

In Memory of

Rudolph Harold Lefebvre Jr. CPL, USMC
Born June 15, 1944 - Died July 18, 1965
Killed in the Province of Qua-Tri, Viet Nam
A memorial from his comrades in armes

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| CPL L.S. Keesler | CPL G. McCarthy |
| CPL R. Clites | CPL J.J. Volker |
| L/CPL J. Arnold | CLP A.A. Malachin |
| CPL G.L. Mason | SGT D.W. Miller |
| SGT C.G. Pagano | SGT L.W. Desmarias |

M15 Lucifer Match Marker

"The first Lucifer match factory in America was established by Ezekiel Byam near this site in 1835"

M16 Horse Trough

"1900"

M17 Garrison House Marker

"Heyward Garrison House 1690"

M18 World War I Monument

North Side

"To the Glory of God and in grateful memory of the Men of Chelmsford who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the world war 1917-1919."

Base - North Side

"The tumult and the shouting dies — The captains and the kings depart — Lord God of Hosts be with us yet — Lest we forget - lest we forget."

East Side

"Lieutenant Egbert F. Tetley commissioned Aug 15, 1917 assigned to Co. L 47th Inf. 4th Div. U.S.A. killed in action at Bazoches France Aug. 10, 1918."

South Side

"Corporal George R. Quessy enlisted Btry B. 2nd F.A. Mass N G transferred Btry F 102nd F.A. 26th Div. U.S.A. Apr 16, 1917 killed in action at Gloveaux France Nov 1, 1918."

West Side

"Wagoner — Alberton W. Vinal enlisted Co. K. 6th Inf. Mass. N. G. Transferred 101 st Eng. Train. 26th Div. U.S.A. Apr. 13, 1917 killed in action at Bouco, France June 19, 1918."

M19 World War I Marker

"This tree, planted by West Chelmsford Grange 344 in memory of CPL George Ralph Quessy Born Dec 4, 1896, Died in the Battle of the Argonne, France, Nov. 1, 1918"

M20 Bicentennial Marker

"Bicentennial Tree Planting" Woodridge Gardeners May 3, 1975

CEMETERIES

- B1 Forefathers' Cemetery** – A few stones of rough surface appear to mark the early graves in this cemetery. The first date to appear on a stone there is the year 1690.
- In this cemetery are the graves of many of the earliest settlers of Chelmsford along with the graves of 45 Revolutionary War soldiers.
- B2 Heart Pond Cemetery** – Land for this cemetery was given to the town in 1774 by Dr. John Betty. In 1776 the wife and two children of Dr. Jonas Marshall died of small-pox and were the first bodies interred there. There are three Revolutionary War soldiers buried in this cemetery, Lt. Samuel Adams, Timothy Adams, and Samuel Brown.
- B3 Riverside Cemetery** – In 1841 a committee of the town was chosen to select a piece of ground for a burying place in the north part of Chelmsford. Land was purchased from Benjamin Blood and Samuel F. Wood. This cemetery was enlarged in 1890.
- B4 West Chelmsford Cemetery** – In 1852, a burying ground for West Chelmsford was bought from John Farrar.
- B5 Pine Ridge Cemetery** – This cemetery was laid out in 1888 on land that was part of the Town Farm. An enlargement was made in 1899.
- B6 St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Cemetery** – In 1894 the Oblate Fathers were granted permission to use a lot in the eastern part of town as a burying ground. This is known as St. Joseph's Cemetery.
- B7 Temple Beth-El** – This cemetery originated in 1916 with the B'rith Abraham Lodge of Lowell, a mutual aid society of the Hebrew faith to provide a suitable burial place for its members.
- B8 Fairview Cemetery** – In July of 1917, 12 acres of land was purchased from George and Estelle Bowers for this cemetery. The walls and gates were built by the W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration)

CHURCHES

- C1 FIRST PARISH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**
Founded in 1655
Central Square
- C2 HISTORIC FIRST BAPTIST**
Founded in 1771
Acton and Maple Roads
- C3 NORTH CHELMSFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
Founded in 1824
17 Princeton Street
- C4 CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**
Founded in 1847
Academy Street
- C5 WEST CHELMSFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Founded in 1848
242 Main Street
- C6 ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**
Founded in 1860
45 Church Street
- C7 ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
Founded in 1867
10 Billerica Road
- C8 EMMANUAL BAPTIST**
Founded in 1876
230 Billerica Road
- C9 CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
Founded in 1876
1 Worthen Street
- C10 TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Founded in 1882
170 Old Westford Road
- C11 ST. MARY'S CHURCH**
Founded in 1931
25 North Road
- C12 JEHOVAH'S WITNESS STUDY**
Founded in 1958
220 North Road
- C13 ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Founded in 1963
242 Boston Road
- C14 CONGREGATION SHALOM**
Founded in 1967
Richardson Road
- C15 MATTHEWS MEMORIAL PRIMITIVE METHODIST**
Founded in 1969
128 Gorham Street
- C16 FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH**
Founded in 1970
5 Mission Road, North Chelmsford
- C17 CHURCH OF CHRIST**
Founded in 1971
205 North Road
- C18 ST. VARTANANTZ CHURCH AND ARMENIAN CULTURAL CENTER**
Founded in 1974
180 Old Westford Road

CHELMSFORD

MASSACHUSETTS - INC. 155

.... A Historical Tour

Prepared By
C. J. Marderosian - 1975

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LEGEND

- HOMES -
1 Through 190 - To Date
- ▲ INDUSTRIES -
I1 Through I22 - Partial Listing
- MONUMENTS -
M1 Through M20 - To Date
- CEMETERIES -
B1 Through B8 - To Date
- * CHURCHES -
C1 Through C18 - To Date
- * Δ - Approximate Locations

Scale: 200 Rods to the inch

Part of
Chelmsford Center
(including Central Square)

