

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

35/92/10	Westford		057
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town Chelmsford

Place (neighborhood or village) West Chelmsford



231 Main Street

Name Dawson Pollard House

Present residence

Original residence

Construction 1837

tax records; research by Frederick Burne

Form Georgian

Architect/Builder 1<sup>st</sup> owner: Dawson Pollard.  
 He was a carpenter.

Material:

Foundation long granite blocks: main house & ell  
 concrete under modern addition

Wall/Trim butted clapboards

Roof gable; asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

1½ story garage was formerly a barn: left of house; gable toward front, butted clapboards, & cornerboards similar to house  
 Fair condition

Major Alterations (with dates) see continuation sheet

Condition very good

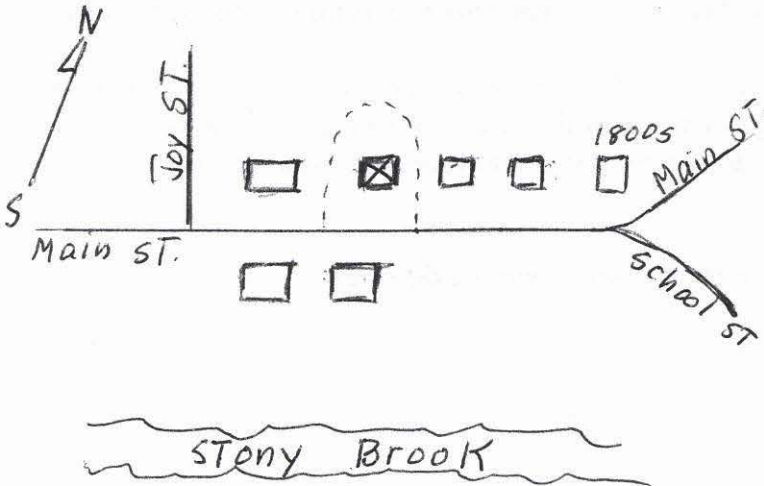
Moved  no  yes Date

Acreage 34845 sq. ft.

Setting residential but on busy street

## 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) January 2004

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This Georgian style house at 231 Main Street is typical of others of the same period in Chelmsford.

### 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.*

The first owner of the dwelling at 231 Main Street was Dawson Pollard, who was born in Rindge, NH but was living in Westford during the summer of 1837, when the house was still unfinished. He was a carpenter by trade and may have had a large part in the construction of the house. He and his wife Julia Ann had at least two children born here. Charles Dawson, who was born in 1847 but died the following year. A daughter, Hattie Emeline, was born in 1843. In 1860 Dawson Pollard is listed as being one of the undertakers in Chelmsford. He died in 1895 at age 85, when he was Chelmsford's oldest inhabitant. He had been a resident of the village for 63 consecutive years and "enjoyed the love and respect of every one."

His daughter, Hattie, married William H. Reed, a traveling salesman in 1864. However, she died eleven years later, so her father, Dawson Pollard, willed the property in 1895 to his grandson, Royal C. Reed. Royal lived in the house with his father until 1905. Royal worked as a bookkeeper in Lowell, and he moved at that time to Lowell, and his father moved to Philadelphia, where his job was based.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet* ***Improve info here***

Obituary of Dawson Pollard, Mar. 9, 1895  
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds, Bk. 14, pg. 114  
Building Inspector records; Town Clerk's records  
Tax records; Assessors' records  
Vital Records of Chelmsford Massachusetts to the End of 1849  
Frederick Burne  
James Pearson  
Street directories  
New England Business Directory, 1860, Nashua Library  
Charles Miller  
Lowell Sun, Sept. 21, 1991

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  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town  
CHELMSFORD

Property Address  
231 MAIN ST.

Area(s) Form No.

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## History

The house was then sold and rented to Eric Carlson, a stone cutter at the nearby granite quarry. According to a neighbor who was then a very young boy, Fred Burne, the house became "pretty ramshackled". In the fall of 1921 George King, a carpenter, and his wife, Ellen, purchased the house and probably were the owners who fixed up the house. In 1926 the Kings moved to New York State and sold the property to Anthony & Eline/Ellen Miller, who apparently had been renting the house. Anthony Miller was an auto mechanic and later a comber until his death in 1950. Ellen remained in the house, until marrying Wilbur McCrady and moved to Lowell. However, they soon returned to 231 Main St. After Mr. McCrady died, Ellen shared the house with various people, including a painter and his wife, and elderly LPN, and her son Charles Miller, a shovel operator, and his wife Barbara.

In 1979 Mrs. Eline/Ellen Miller/McCrady sold to James and Mary Pearson, who remained there for the next 13 years. Jim Pearson is an engineer, and is in 2004 the Chelmsford Town Engineer. Mary is an RN. They resided there with their three daughters. The current owners, Andrew and Mary Wilson, purchased the house in 1992. He is a real estate broker and she a business analyst.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town  
CHELMSFORD

Property Address  
231 MAIN STREET

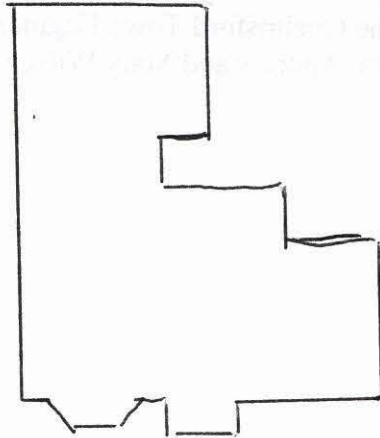
Area(s) Form No.  
 057

**Alterations**

ell at rear removed: ca 1928  
new bay window in kitchen & kitchen remodeled: 1986  
large ell added at back, where there had been one: 1987-8  
porch added: 1988

1875 Beers Atlas

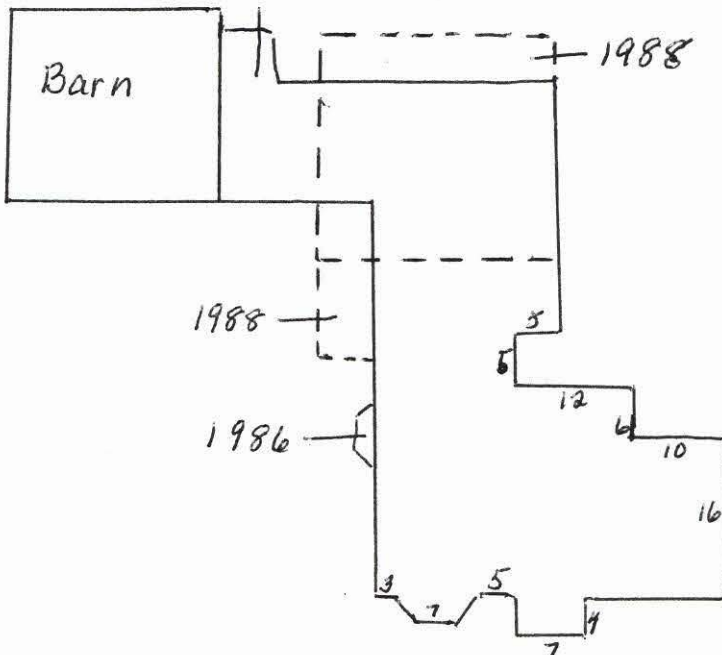
Garage



1979

1979 Photo by Fred Burne

Removed ca 1928



Pre 1928 - 2004

231 Main Street  
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds

Bk. 5871, pg. 024	03/30/1992	James E. & Mary E. Pearson to Andrew J. & Mary E. Wilson, husband & wife, 231 Main St. \$173,750 34,845.6 sq. ft. & buildings – northerly side of Main St. same: to grantor, bk. 2376, pg. 707
Bk. 2378, pg. 707	08/09/1979	Eline W. McCrady to James E. & Mary E. Pearson, 231 Main St. \$49,000 34,845.6 sq. ft. & buildings – northerly side of Main St. same: McCrady deed, bk. 1214, pg. 111
Bk. 1214, pg. 111	10/03/1952	Stella G. Maloney, Lowell, to Wilbur J. & Eline W. McCrady, Lowell 34,845.6 sq. ft. & buildings – northerly side of Main St. same: Eline McCrady deed of even date
Bk. 1214, pg. 110	10/03/1952	Eline W. McCrady (formerly Eline W. Miller), Lowell, to Stella G. Maloney, Lowell 34,845.6 sq. ft. & buildings – northerly side of Main St. same: King deed, bk. 737, pg. 549. see Plan Bk. 48, plan 79
Middlesex Probate	d. 04/28/1950	Estate of Anthony W. Miller
Bk. 737, pg. 549	05.28.1926	George F. & Ellen M. King, husband & wife, Hewlett, NY, to Anthony W. & Eline W. Miller, husband & wife consideration paid 34,845.6 sq. ft. & buildings – northerly side of Main St. portion of: 1921 Ball deed, bk. 652, pg. 315
Bk. 652, pg. 315	10/21/1921	Clara S. Ball, Portland, ME, married, to George F. & Ellen M. King, husband & wife 2 lots: 1. 1¼ A. & buildings northerly side of road from West Chelmsford to North Chelmsford same: Harlow 1835 deed, bk. 362, pg. 47 2. ½ A. land southerly side of road from West Chelmsford to North Chelmsford same: Adams 1842 deed, bk. 421, pg. 245
Bk. 584, pg. 587	03/22/1918	Royal C. Reed, Boston, unmarried, to Clara S. Ball 2 lots: 1. 1¼ A. & buildings northerly side of road from West Chelmsford to North Chelmsford same: Harlow 1835 deed, bk. 362, pg. 47 2. ½ A. land southerly side of road from West Chelmsford to North Chelmsford same: Adams 1842 deed, bk. 421, pg. 245 subject: restrictions 1832 Oilver deed, bk.315, pg. 289 portion: devised to Reed by grandfather
Middlesex Probate Docket #39300	Will 1895	Estate of Dawson Pollard, to Royal C. Reed, grandson

(see over)

No. Bk. 014. pg. 114 11/09/1835  
So. Bk. 362, pg. 047

George Harlow, Westford, yeoman, to  
Dawson Pollard, Westford, yeoman  
\$125

1¼ A. – road leading from West Chelmsford to North Chelmsford

Compiled by J. Drury, November 1984; additions February 2004





231 Main Street.

3/13/2005 F. Merriam





231 Main Street

3/13/2005 F. Merriam