

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

35/142/11	Westford		CLM.375
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**Town/City:** Chelmsford

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

## Photograph



**Address:** 238 Main Street

**Historic Name:** Elmer and Florence Trull House

**Uses:** Present: single-family dwelling

Original: single-family dwelling

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1920

**Source:** deed research, architectural features of the house

**Style/Form:** no style

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood siding/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Detached garage

### Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Ca. 2000 some replacement windows

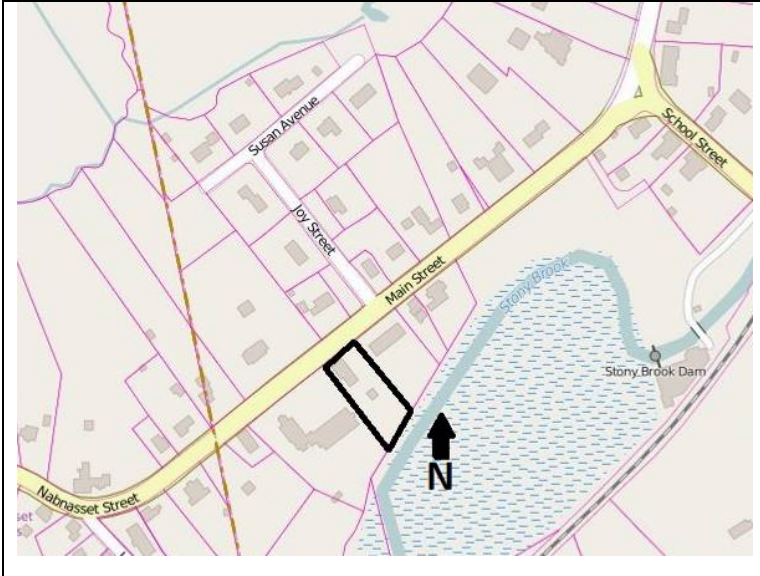
**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** .45 A

**Setting:** The building is located approximately 25' southeast of Main St. An asphalt drive to the east leads to the garage. The parcel is flat and grassy with some mature trees and landscaping against the house. The surrounding area includes 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> c. residential development. The W. Chelmsford Methodist Church is to the west.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** Chelmsford Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): June 2016

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

238 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

CLM.375

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

The 1.5-story house has a stone foundation, walls clad in painted wood shingles with wood trim, and an asphalt-shingled hipped roof. An internal brick chimney is located along the rear slope of the roof. Windows throughout the building are a combination of historic, wood, two-over-one, double-hung; replacement, one-over-one, double-hung; and casement windows. The primary (northwest) façade is three bays wide. The first story includes a paired window in the north bay and a triple window in the south bay. The central bay features four granite steps leading to the main entry that has replacement entry and storm doors. The half story features a substantial, hipped roof dormer with two single windows in the center flanked by square casement windows. Smaller hipped roof dormers are located on the northeast and southwest walls; these dormers each feature two single windows. The southwest wall is four bays deep with a paired window in the north bay, a small diamond-patterned casement in the next bay to the south, and two single windows in the remaining bays. The northeast wall is three bays deep with a single window in the north bay, a paired window in the center bay, and a bay window with a hipped roof in the south bay. A one-story flat roof addition is located at the rear of the house and also features a rear porch.

A former barn that has been converted into a garage is located to the southeast of the house. The building is clad in wood shingles and has a front gable roof. A garage door has been installed in the center of the northwest wall. A hay loft door is visible above the garage door.

The building is an altered example of an early twentieth century residence that retains historic integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

No building appears on the 1856 map of Chelmsford, but one is present on the 1875 map of the area; however, given the plan and architectural features of this house, the building appears to have been constructed in the early twentieth century. Deed research traced the ownership history of the property to 1879 when Hannah S. Lilley sold it to Francis Corrigan. The 1875 map also lists Lilley as the owner of that house. The 1870 US Population Census lists H.S. Lilley (born ca. 1814 in New Hampshire) living in Chelmsford and renting space to several people in her house, including Andrew and Adriana Danforth; John Moore, who once owned the store building at 235 Main; Joseph Abilla; William, Adelaide, and Leocade Parkhurst; and Lewis Langley. Abilla and Langley were then employed in the scythe factory. In 1879 Lilley sold the property to Francis Corrigan. Corrigan does not appear in census lists for the area and is not listed in the 1896 or 1899 city directories. The 1889 map of West Chelmsford lists Mrs. Carrigan (or Corrigan) as the owner of the property, but she was not found in directories either. In 1899 Corrigan sold the property to George Grey. Grey was not discovered in the 1900 census or in city directories during his ownership period; therefore, no further information was discovered about him. In 1906 he sold the property to Alpheus Trull (born ca. 1849). Trull does not appear in Chelmsford city directories, but the 1914 Lowell directory lists him living in that city and working as a barber. In 1916 he granted the property to his son Elmer. The 1920 census lists Elmer (1887-1945) living on Main Street with wife Florence (born ca. 1890), and two young sons John and Kenneth. Therefore, Elmer Trull may have had the house constructed shortly after he assumed ownership of the property. At this date Elmer was an inspector for the telephone company. After Elmer died, Florence sold the property three years later in 1948 to Irving and Margaret Kirkpatrick. In 1953 the Kirkpatricks gifted the property to the West Chelmsford United Methodist Church located to the west of the house. The Church used this property as a parsonage until 1978, selling it back into private hands.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Beers, F.W. *County Atlas of Middlesex, Massachusetts*. J.B. Beers & Co., New York. 1875.

Genealogical research, including U.S. and Massachusetts census records; birth, marriage, and death records; and city directory records from ancestry.com.

Geo. H. Walker & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Geo. H. Walker & Co., Boston, MA. 1889.

Merriam, Fred. *Images of America: North and West Chelmsford*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina. 2016.

Middlesex North Registry of Deeds. [www.lowelldeeds.com](http://www.lowelldeeds.com).

Walling, Henry F. *Map of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Smith & Bumstead, Boston, MA. 1856.



Garage, facing southeast. November 2015.

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**National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form**

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible       Eligible **only** in a historic district
- Contributing to a potential historic district       Potential historic district

Criteria:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**

Criteria Considerations:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**     **E**     **F**     **G**

Statement of Significance

The area of West Chelmsford is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as a locally significant historic district under Criterion A for the development of this area around the Roby Manufacturing Company and Chelmsford Woolen Mills as well as under Criterion C for its intact examples of mid-nineteenth through early twentieth century residential architecture. The boundary of the proposed district would include resources built during the period of significance along Main Street from approximately Loiselle Lane in the north to the Westford Town Line, as well as resources along School Street between Main Street and Graniteville Road. This building at 238 Main Street would be a contributing resource to that district as an example of residential architecture constructed during its period of significance that retains some historic integrity.