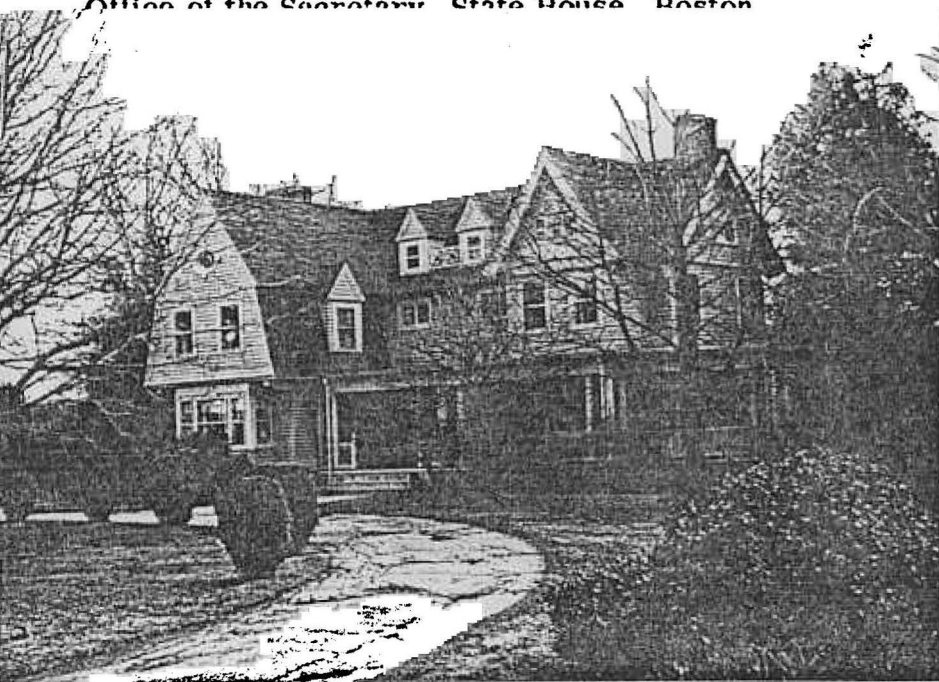


FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	276



town Chelmsford

address 69 Park Road

name Alexander Park House

present use 1 family residence

present owner F. Bailey Laughlin, Jr.

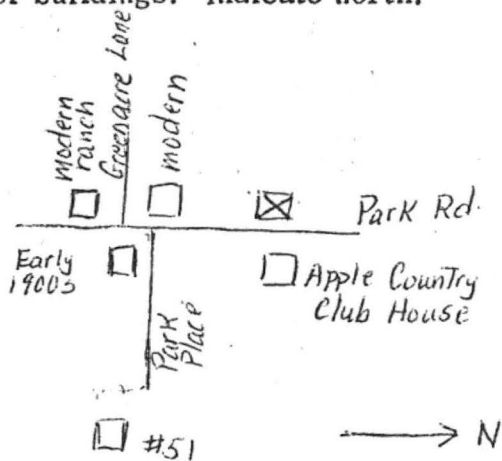
description _____

date 1898

source Lowell Weekly Journal

style Queen Anne

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



Architect Edwin R. Clark

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features beautiful interior
woodwork

Altered Much of porch around all is removed Date ?

Moved no Date

5. Lot size

One acre or less _____ Over one acre 1.75

Approximate frontage 234.73 feet

Approximate distance of building from street
ca 160 feet

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Jane B. Drury

Organization Chelmsford Hist. Commission

Date March 30, 1983

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Alexander J. Park

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal		Conservation		Recreation
Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education		Religion
Architectural		Exploration/ settlement		Science/ Invention
The Arts		Industry		Social/ humanitarian
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation
Communication		Political		
Community development				

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

Alexander J. Park had this house built because "he felt a beautiful house was an education for his children. Built by day labor, the work was often ripped out if Alec didn't like it - it had to be perfect. It has been said today (1983) that the house is the nicest in town; that there isn't another in Chelmsford that compares with it. When it was erected in 1898, Mr. Park had it piped for gas, even though gas mains weren't laid on Park Road until about 1970! Built into the house was an ice box which opened out on to the porch, so that the ice man wouldn't have to enter the building. It has since been removed. In the front hall is a gorgeous stairway leading to the second floor. Woodwork in the parlor is golden oak, the diningroom quartered oak, the library cherry, the bedroom over the library cherry (now painted over), the master bedroom birdseye maple, and the butler's pantry in quartered oak.

Mr. Park ran his father's greenhouses next door until his death at age 40 years. His widow tried to keep them running after his death, but it was too much for her, and the greenhouses and three houses were sold at auction in 1908.

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

Lowell Weekly Journal: Oct. 28, 1898
Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds Bk. 427, pg. 375 (1908)
Mrs. Charlotte (Park) Dewolf

69 Park Road

1431, pg. 585	3/16/1959	Clifford M. Babson, Jr. & Arline S. Babson, F. Bailey Laughlin, Jr. & Janet F. Laughlin land & buildings - west side Park Rd. subject: restrictions of record
1033, pg. 229	11/16/1945	Donald A. & Rosetta E. Dunsford to Clifford M. Babson, Jr. & Arline S. Babson land & buildings - west side of Park Rd. subject: restriction in Dupee deed
936, pg. 590	10/24/1939	James H. Scanlon, Clinton, to Donald A. & Rosetta E. Dunsford land & buildings - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee
813, pg. 583	6/03/1932	Lowell Co-operative Bank, Lowell, to James H. Scanlon, Clinton Land & buildings - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee subject: restriction in Dupee deed
812, pg. 47	4/14/1932 fireclosure	Lowell Cooperative Bank, Lowell, to Lowell Co-operative Bank, Lowell \$4800 premises - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee subject: restriction in Dupee deed
775, pg. 407	4/12/1929 mortgage	Doris S. Coxon to Lowell Co-operative Bank, Lowell \$6500 land & buildings - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee subject: restriction in Dupee deed
Bk. 775, pg. 407	4/08/1929	William E. Belleville to Doris S. Coxon land & buildings - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee subject: restriction in Dupee deed
619, pg. 209	1/23/1920	Augustus F. Waite, Beverly, to William E. Belleville land & buildings - west side road past house of Edmund F. Dupee subject: restriction in Dupee deed
427, pg. 375	12/03/1908	Est. Alexander J. Park to Augustus F. Waite, Dunbarton, N.H. 3 parcels land & buildings - on road past house of Edmund F. Dupee 1. 6 acres & greenhouses & other small buildings 2. land & dwelling house of Alexander J. Park, deceased 3. land & small dwelling house - on east side of road subject: to lease to Rebecca F. Park

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Bk. 286, pg. 47

4/24/1897

Edmund F. Dupee & William Z. Dupee to
Alexander J. Park

\$1

land - west side of road past house of
Edmund F. Dupee

subject: restrictions

Compiled by J.B. Drury

1983

Lowell Weekly Journal:

Oct. 28, 1898 - Alexander J. Park is building a house for his own occupancy near the Park greenhouses at the south village. Chas. E Parkhurst has the contract.

Conversation with Charlotte DeWolf (Mrs. Gordon), May 29, 1981:

"It is the nicest house in town; there isn't another house in town that compares with it..

- front hall: gorgeous staircase
- parlor: done in golden oak
- diningroom: done in quartered oak
- library: done in cherry
- bedroom over library: cherry, since painted over
- master bedroom: birdseye maple
- butler's pantry: quartered oak

When the house was built, an ice box was built in - opened out on to the porch, so the ice man didn't have to come into the house.

When Alexander Park built the house (ca 1900, sold at auction ca 1906), he had it piped for gas, but the gas main didn't arrive on Park Road until ca 1970!

Architect: Edwin R. Clark

Built by day labor, often work was ripped out if Alec didn't like it - it had to be perfect.

Alexander: built house because "he felt a beautiful house was an education for his children."

Alexander died on the day he was 40.

He had been running his father's (John N. Park) greenhouses; Alexander's widow tried to keep them running after he died, but it was too much for her, and the 3 houses and the greenhouses were sold at auction (she kept life lease on 78 Park.)

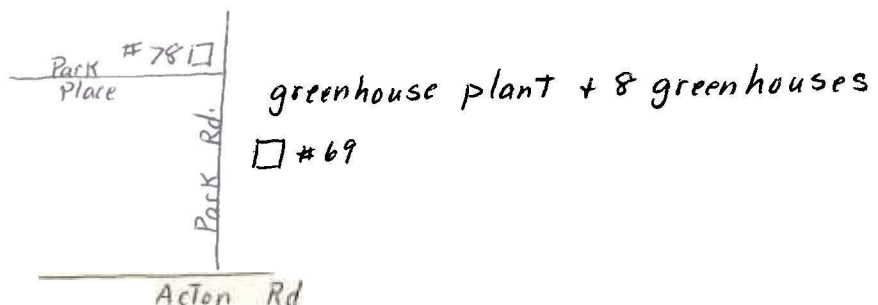
Alexander was cousin to Fred, Charlotte's father:

John Nesmith Park was brother of Andrew Horatio Park

John had son Alexander J., who built 69 Park Rd.

John owned 8 long greenhouses & market garden, located just beyond 69 Park Rd, on same side, now site of modern houses. Was a big tall chimney with greenhouses

John lived at 78 Park Rd. & may have built it. He bought the land from Andrew Horatio, part of the old farm. Always been a 2-family house: John lived downstairs; Alexander lived upstairs until he built 69 Park Rd. John's widow had life lease.



Andrew Horatio Park, brother of John Nesmith Park:
lived at 12 Park Place, after 50 Billerica Rd.
was blind; went to Perkins School
had 2 sons, Fred (father of Charlotte) & Andrew Heady
Andrew Heady was named for a deaf, dum & blind
friend of Andrew Horatio at Perkins School.
Andrew Heady lived at 71 Elm St.

After Alexander's death, his widow sold at auction 69 Park, 78 Park,
96 Park & the greenhouse area. The first time the auction was
to be held, no one came. The second time there was just one
bidder, and it all went for only \$6000! Fred Reid now lives
at 96 Park Rd.

69 Park Rd. house:

Had a laundry in the cellar: quite a luxury in those days.

Porch used to go all the way around the ell part of the house,
where the hall & parlor are

