

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

97/328/8

**Town** Chelmsford

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

## Photograph



**Address** 60 School Street

**Historic Name** John Peel House

**Uses: Present** single-family hose

**Original** single-family house

**Date of Construction** 1909

**Source** deeds, tax records

**Style/Form** bungalow

**Architect/Builder**

**Exterior Material:**

**Foundation** granite stone

**Wall/Trim** vinyl siding/vinyl

**Roof** asphalt

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures**  
Detached garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*)

Ca. 1990 replacement door, siding and window

Ca. 1990 porch enclosure

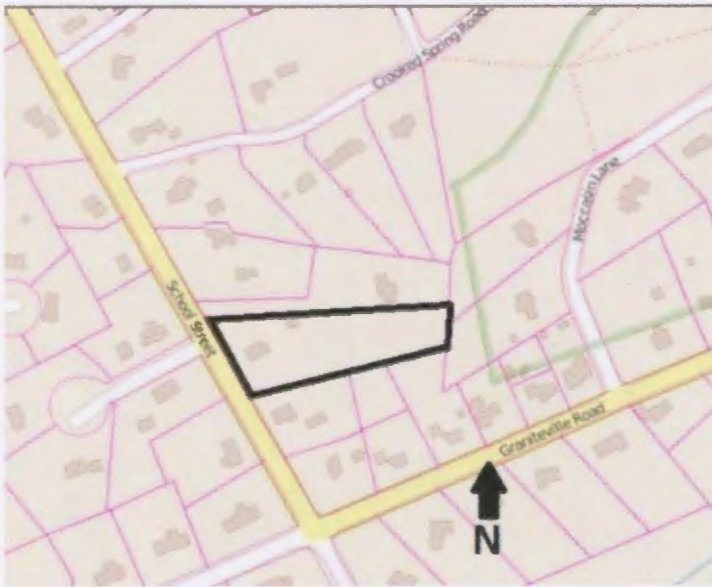
**Condition** Fair

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

**Acreage** 1.75A

**Setting** The house is located approximately 45' northeast of School St. An asphalt drive north of the house leads to the garage and a large paved parking area. The rear of the lot is fenced and is being used for storage. The overall lot is flat and grassy with a few mature trees. The surrounding area includes 19th and 20th c. residential development.

## LOCUS MAP



**Recorded by** Linda V. Prescott

**Organization** Chelmsford Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*) September 2024

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CHELMSFORD

60 SCHOOL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

CLM.412

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 replacement vinyl siding with vinyl trim and an asphalt-shingled hipped roof. An internal brick chimney is located along the rear slope of the roof. Most of the fenestration on the first story consists of single, replacement, one-over-one, double-hung windows. A hipped roof dormer is centrally located on the primary (southwest) façade. The dormer includes two, historic, six-over-one, double-hung windows. Some of the window openings feature decorative shutters. The primary façade is six bays wide with windows in five of the bays and the main entry with a replacement door and decorative shutters in the third bay from the south. A short set of brick steps leads to the entry. The foundation across the façade and one-bay deep on the northwest and southeast walls is covered with vertical siding. This placement suggests this area may have originally been a porch that has since been enclosed. The northwest and southeast walls are four bays deep. A bay window addition is located on the southeast wall.

The detached garage is clad in replacement vinyl siding with vinyl trim and has a front gable asphalt-shingled roof. Older wood and plywood doors are within each of the garage bays.

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.*

Deed research traced the ownership of the property to 1908 when William Peel granted it to John Peel. The Peel family owned other parcels in this section of West Chelmsford. In 1921 John Peel sold the property to Arthur and Loretta Hooper, who immediately transferred the property to Charles Gagnon. One month later Gagnon sold it to John Valentine. These quick succession of transfers suggests the house may have been constructed during this period. The 1925 city directory lists Valentine as the postmaster for North Chelmsford and was not living at this address. In 1931 Valentine sold the property to Anna I and Fred R Whitehead. The 1937 city directory lists the couple residing on School Street with Fred employed as a foreman (no industry is provided). Anna sold the property in 1958 to Douglas and Deborah MacElroy. They retained the property until 1962, selling it to current owners Donald and June Bourget, who have now owned the property for over 50 years.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

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).

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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60 SCHOOL STREET

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Garage, facing northeast. November 2015.

60 School Street  
Deed Summary

DATE	BK/PG	NAMES	DESCRIPTION
Jul 10 1958	1407/319	Whitehead to MacElroy	Anna I Whitehead of Chelmsford, widowed to Douglas L. and Deborah C. MacElroy, husband and wife, tenants by the entirety, both of Chelmsford a parcel of land with the buildings situated in West Chelmsford and described as: Beginning at the <b>Northwesterly</b> corner of the premises on the road leading from West Chelmsford to Chelmsford Centre at land now or formerly of William J. Peel at a stone bound; thence running <b>Southerly</b> along road 228 ft., to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Sarah Gumb; thence <b>Easterly</b> along Gumb land, 424 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Dunn Heirs; thence <b>Northerly</b> along Dunn Heirs land 93.5 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of William J. Peel; thence <b>Westerly</b> along Peel land 540 feet to the point of the beginning. Containing 1.7 acres.

1956

Oct 27 1931	808/244	Valentine to Whitehead	Fred MacElroy died John B. Valentine, Commissioner appointed by a decree of the Probate Court to Fred R. and Anna I. Whitehead, both of Lowell, a parcel of land with the buildings situated in West Chelmsford and described as: Beginning at the <b>Northwesterly</b> corner of the premises on the road leading from West Chelmsford to Chelmsford Centre at land now or formerly of William J. Peel at a stone bound; thence running <b>Southerly</b> along road 228 ft., to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Sarah Gumb; thence <b>Easterly</b> along Gumb land, 424 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Dunn Heirs; thence <b>Northerly</b> along Dunn Heirs land 93.5 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of William J. Peel; thence <b>Westerly</b> along Peel land 540 feet to the point of the beginning. Containing 1.7 acres.
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Charles Gagnon deceased, estate probated

60 School Street  
Deed Summary

Jul 13 1921	645/74	Hooper to Gagnnon	Arthur E and Loretta J. Hooper, wife , both of Chelmsford, tenants by the entirety to Charles Gagnon of Lowell, a parcel of land with the buildings situated in West Chelmsford and described as: Beginning at the <b>Northwesterly</b> corner of the premises on the road leading from West Chelmsford to Chelmsford Centre at land of William J. Peel at a stone bound; thence running <b>Southerly</b> along road 228 ft., to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Sarah Gumb; thence <b>Easterly</b> along Gumb land, 424 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Dunn Heirs; thence <b>Northerly</b> along Dunn Heirs land 93.5 feet to a stone bound at land of William J. Peel; thence <b>Westerly</b> along Peel land 540 feet to the point of the beginning. Containing 3 acres.
May 12 1921	643/539	Peel to Hooper	John Peel, unmarried, of Chelmsford to Arthur E. and Loretta Hooper of Chelmsford, as tenants by the entirety, a parcel of land with the buildings situated in West Chelmsford and described as: Beginning at the <b>Northwesterly</b> corner of the premises on the road leading from West Chelmsford to Chelmsford Centre at land of William J. Peel at a stone bound; thence running <b>Southerly</b> along road 228 ft., to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Sarah Gumb; thence <b>Easterly</b> along Gumb land, 424 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Dunn Heirs; thence <b>Northerly</b> along Dunn Heirs land 93.5 feet to a stone bound at land of William J. Peel; thence <b>Westerly</b> along Peel land 540 feet to the point of the beginning. Containing 3 acres.

Deed Summary

Apr 30 1908 419/546

Peel to Peel

William J. Peel of Chelmsford to John Peel of the same place a parcel of land with the buildings situated in West Chelmsford and described as: Beginning at the **Northwesterly** corner of the premises on the road leading from West Chelmsford to Chelmsford Centre at land of William J. Peel at a stone bound; thence running **Southerly** along road 228 ft., to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Sarah Gumb; thence **Easterly** along Gumb land, 424 feet to a stone bound at land now or formerly of Dunn Heirs; thence **Northerly** along Dunn Heirs land 93.5 feet to a stone bound at land of William J. Peel; thence **Westerly** along Peel land 540 feet to the point of the beginning. Containing 2 acres. Eliza A. Peel, wife of William J. Peel.

60 School Street  
Tax Summary

YEAR	DIST/P REC	PG/LN	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	DESCRIPTION	VALUE	PROPERTY	SIZE/ ACRES	VALUE
1923	8	61/6	Hooper	Arthur E.					
1922	Lowell	167/17	Gagnon	Charles	Camp	\$ 25.00	Peel Improved Land	3	\$550.00
1921	9	108/14	Gagnon	Charles	Camp set to Charles Gagnon, Lowell per Arthur Hooper	\$ 25.00	Peel Improved Land	3	\$550.00
1920	9	140/44	Peel	John	Ex Poll Old Age	\$ 1.00			
					Camp	\$ 25.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$375.00
1919	7	140/21	Peel	John	Ex Poll Tax Old Age	\$ 1.00			
					Camp	\$ 25.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1916	7	135/7	Peel	John	Ex Poll Tax Old Age	\$ 1.00			
					Camp building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1914	7	127/39	Peel	John	Camp building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1913	7	114/41	Peel	John	Camp building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1912	7	109/24	Peel	William J.	Dwelling	\$ 750.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
					Barn & Shed	\$ 100.00			
					Hen House	\$ 25.00			
1911	7	109/28	Peel	John	Building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$175.00
		110/11	Peel	William J.	Dwelling	\$ 750.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
		110/15	Peel	John	Building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1910	7	-/25	Peel	WILLIAM j.	Dwelling	\$ 750.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
					Barn & Shed	\$ 100.00			
					Hen House	\$ 25.00			
		-/29	Peel	John	Building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
1909	7	123/26	Peel	John	Building	\$ 15.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
		123/29	Peel	William J.	Dwelling	\$ 750.00	Home Improved Land	2	\$275.00
					Barn & Shed	\$ 100.00			
					Hen House	\$ 25.00			
1908	3/3	-/27	Peel	John	Poll Tax	\$ 2.00			

60 School Street  
Tax Summary

-/30 Peel William J. Dwelling \$ 500.00 Home Improved Land 4 \$550.00

1/2 of land set to John  
Peel

1907 7/3 -/27 Peel William J