

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 12 1979 APR 13 1979
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME *Brick Block*

HISTORIC
The Post Office Block
AND/OR COMMON
The Brick Block (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Main Street and Chatham Bars Road
CITY, TOWN
Chatham
STATE
Massachusetts
VICINITY OF
12th
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
12th
COUNTY
Barnstable
CODE
025
CODE
001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Christopher D. Lally
STREET & NUMBER
496 Harvard Street
CITY, TOWN
Brookline
STATE
Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Barnstable County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Route 6A
CITY, TOWN
Barnstable
STATE
Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #30
DATE
March 1977
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Massachusetts Historical Commission
CITY, TOWN
Boston
STATE
Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

DATA SHEET

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brick Block occupies a prominent corner lot in the commercial center of Chatham. It faces south on Main Street and west on Chatham Bars Road. The L-shaped structure is one of the most visible in Chatham's small downtown because of its size and its brick construction.

It is a 1 and 1/2 story Tudor Revival block distinguished by its inventive brickwork. A deeply projecting slate roof supported on heavy curved brackets dominates the design. This is punctuated by a series of shed dormers and by jerkin headed gables at its corners. The gables are articulated by stickwork and exhibit the most unusual brickwork.

The south and west elevations are lighted by large shop windows with transoms. While most of those on the west retain their multi-pane construction, those on the south have been replaced by large single panes. The windows alternate with recessed doors, also with transoms. The gables and dormers contain regular 6/6 double hung sash which is also found on the rear of the building.

The two main bonding patterns used on the building are English and Flemish. On the south and west elevations headers are raised beneath the windows and around the main corner entrance. On the rear elevations headers are raised in an overall diamond pattern. A row of soldiers three courses above the foundation encircles the entire building. In the gables the bricks are laid in a free form pattern of headers, stretchers, soldiers, diagonals and odd pieces.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

architect: Harvey Baily Alden

builder: Joseph Nickerson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The brick block is significant as a unique and interesting example of masonry construction and as an important local landmark. It was originally commissioned by a group of local businessmen called the Chatham Associates to house their shops on the ground floor with apartments above and it still serves this purpose. Members of the Associates included Benjamin Hyde, Charles Hardy and George Hopkins. Shops included an ice cream parlor, a meat market, and a billiard parlor.

It was designed by Harvey Bailey Alden of Boston and construction was supervised by William Cox. Joseph Nickerson, a Worcester native, was imported to act as master mason on the job. Nickerson, who had competed in national bricklaying competitions, was given a freehand here and the result was a virtuoso example of the bricklayers' art. After completion of the job Nickerson remained in Chatham and his descendants still carry on his craft.

The building derives its historic name from the fact that it originally housed the Chatham Post Office.

Property The Brick Block
State Mass. Working Number 12.12.78.4744

TECHNICAL
Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL
pl
OK 12.12.78
HISTORIAN

Comments attached. Call/Return
an interesting tou de force in brickwork. Looks eligible but some questions
LOCAL LANDMARK of large scale + brick in a small-scale, wood town.
Historically a major commercial center for town.

Only
2-27-79
Accept 4-5-79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
cm
Mac Dougal

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS SCALE, MATERIALS AND
CRAFTSMANSHIP ON THE LOCAL LEVEL. Accept

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF
Accept
Mac Dougal
1/13/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up 85-4-79 Send-back _____
Federal Register Entry _____ Re-submit _____

Entered APR 13 1979



CHATHAM
ICE CREAM & SANDWICH
SHOPPE

Chatham
Brick Block
Clair Baisley 1977
Chatham Historical Commission
Town Hall
Chatham

APR 13 1979

Barnstable Co

DEC 12 1978

Photo #1
Main entrance facing southwest

*Chatham
Brick Block
Clair Baisley
Chatham Hist. Comm*

1 Enlargement
main entrance facing SW.
Chatham Bars ave on left



REMOVAL SALE

Yield One Other Shik
HUNTERS

Chatham
Brick Block
Calir Baisley
Chatham Historical Commission
Town Hall
Chatham

Barnstable Co

Photo #2
South elevation

DEC 12 1978

APR 13 1979

2



Chatham
1977

Chatham
Brick Block
Clair Baisley'

DEC 12 1978

Chatham Historical Commission
Town Hall
Chatham

Barnstable Co.
APR 1 3 1979

Photo#4

Detail of West gable

corner, Chatham
Bans Ave.



Chatham

Brick Block

Clair Baisley

Chatham Historical Commissin
Town Hall

Chatham

Photo #3

Detail of north (rear) elevation

DEC 12 1978

#3 of 4

BARNSTABLE Co.

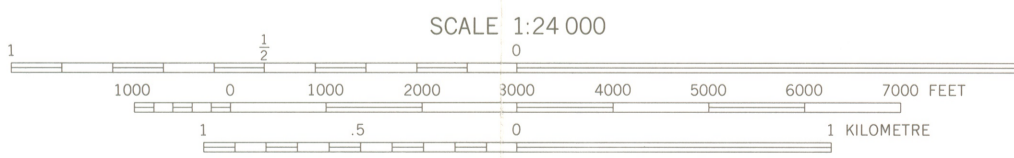
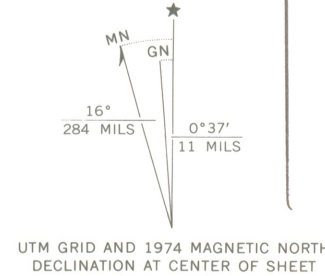
APR 13 1979

detail of rear
wall off Chatham
Barnstable



Brick Block
Main Street
Chatham, Mass.
UTM References
19 420380/461420

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1940. Revised
from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1974
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS 257 (1972) and
270 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 6.7 FEET IN
ATLANTIC OCEAN AND 3.9 FEET IN NANTUCKET SOUND



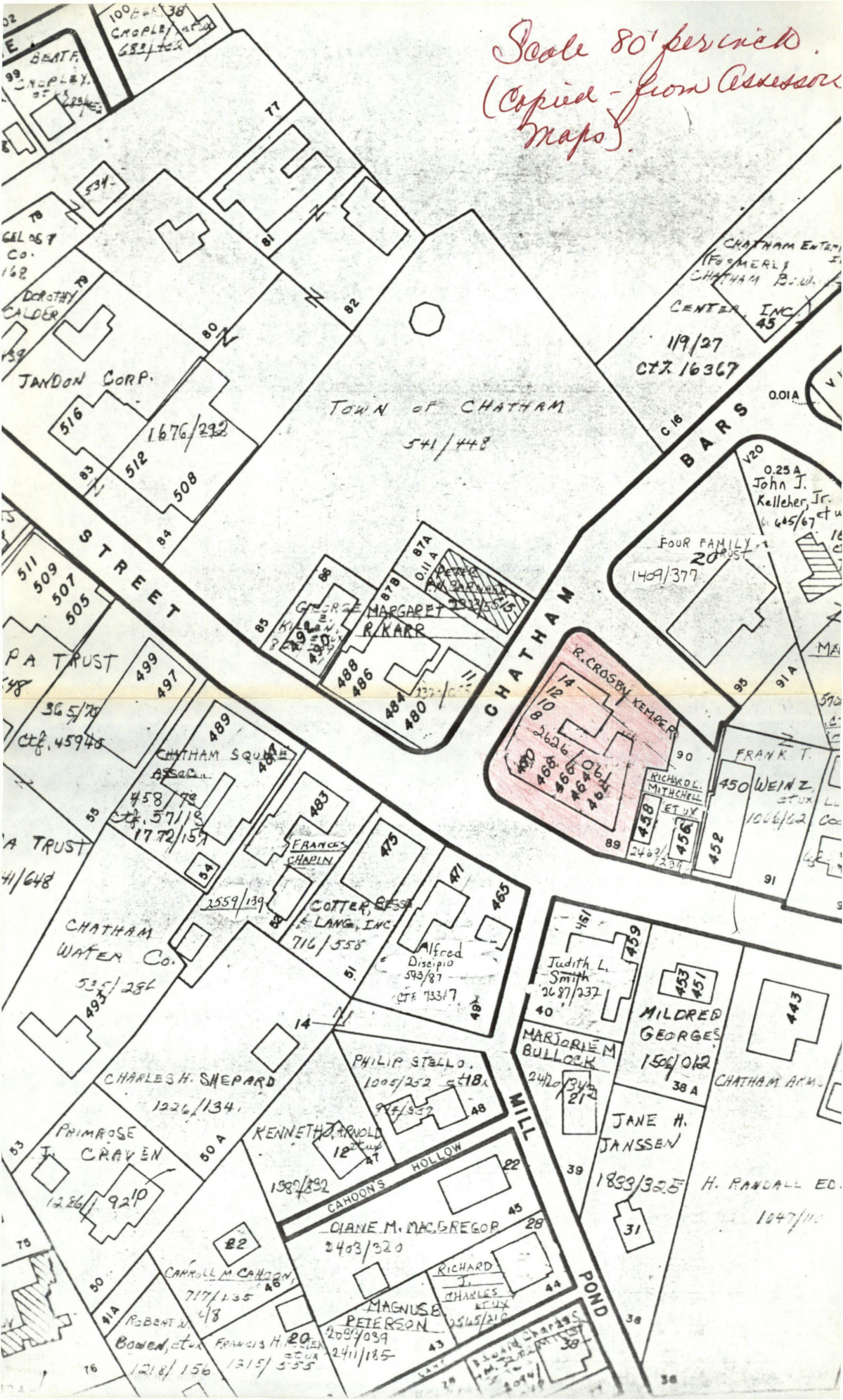
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface ——— Light-duty road, hard or improved surface ———
Secondary highway, hard surface ——— Unimproved road ———
Interstate Route (I) U. S. Route (R) State Route (S)

CHATHAM, MASS.
N4137.5—W6952.5 (7.5)
1974
AMS 7067 III NW—SERIES W814

RECEIVED
DEC 12 1978
NATIONAL REGISTER
APR 13 1979

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Scale 80' per inch.
(Copied - from Assessor's maps)





I, CHRISTOPHER D. LALLY

of 496 Harvard Street, Brookline, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

do hereby certify, for One Hundred and Sixty Thousand (\$160,000.00) and consideration paid grant to

R. CROSBY KEMPER of 88 Watchhill Way, Chatham,.

Barnstable County, Massachusetts 02633

with quitclaim covenants

the land in Chatham, Barnstable County, Massachusetts, together with the building thereon, bounded and described as follows:

- Southwesterly by Main Street, by two lines measuring fifteen (15) feet and one hundred fifteen (115) feet respectively, and by the arc of a curve at Chatham Bars Avenue, all as shown on a plan hereinafter mentioned;
- Northwesterly by Chatham Bars Avenue, by the arc of a curve at Main Street, by the Southerly line of Chatham Bars Avenue about one hundred ten feet (110) feet, and by the arc of the curve at "Proposed Court." as shown on said plan;
- Northeasterly by the Southerly line of "Proposed Court" as shown on said plan, by the arc of the curve at Chatham Bars Avenue, and by the Southerly line of said "Proposed Court" ninety-one and 7/10 (91.7) feet; and
- Southeasterly forty-six and 2/10 (46.2) feet, and Southwesterly fifteen (15) feet and Southeasterly, again seventy-five (75) feet, all by land now or formerly of John M. Cowan, and now or formerly of Elizabeth M. Gibson.

Excluding from the above premises any portion which may have been deeded to, or taken by eminent domain proceedings, or otherwise by the Town of Chatham for sidewalks or public ways.

The granted premises are shown and delineated as that Lot entitled "P. O. Building Chatham Associates Area 15150" on the plan entitled "Plan of Land owned by Chatham Associates et al, Chatham, Mass." dated May 1923, drawn by C. E. Hudson, Civil Engineer and recorded with Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 10, Page 137.

Together with an easement for ingress and egress over that portion of "Proposed Court", now being used as a driveway or roadway appurtenant to the granted premises.

Together, also, with an easement, appurtenant to the granted premises, to maintain and repair the cesspools and lines servicing the granted premises and located on said land of Chatham Associates Trust shown as "Proposed Court" on said plan, subject to the provision that the grantee, in the event of excavation shall restore the land to its then condition, the said cesspools and lines not to be altered, added to, or enlarged beyond their present dimensions.

Said premises are conveyed together with the benefit of the easements set forth in the deed from the Trustees of Chatham Associates Trust to Gershom D. Hall, dtd June 18, 1952 and recorded in Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Book 814, Page 326.

For my title, see deed recorded in Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Book 2514, Page 028.

CHAT



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

March 9, 1979

Charles Herrington, Chief
National Register
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
440 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20243

Attn: Margaret Orelup

Dear Mr. Herrington:

As we discussed on the phone, the Brick Block is one of the most important commercial structures in Chatham. In a town characterized by small scale, wood frame buildings, it is remarkable not only for its brick construction, but for its size. It has been used for commercial purposes since it was erected, and, as I noted, one function it originally housed was the post office.

In answer to your questions regarding the Castle in Waltham, Schwartz Hall (#8) is contemporary with the main U-shaped section and is designed in the same style. It is not connected because it originally served as a dormitory; it now contains lab and classroom space. The small building below it is connected by a stone arch and originally served as Dr. John Hall Smith's office and lab; it is now used for storage. A statement of architectural significance is enclosed on a continuation sheet.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
National Register Coordinator
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/ts
enclosure

*copy placed
in file
4-5-79
mo*

SECRET
1979

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

[Handwritten signature]

SECRET

[Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the page, including words like 'COMMISSION', 'HISTORICAL', 'MASSACHUSETTS', 'OFFICE', 'COMM']

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	
DATE REC'D	MAR 14 1979
_____	INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)
_____	INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT
_____	TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)
DATE ACTION TAKEN	_____
INITIALS	_____

COMMISSION
HISTORICAL
MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF
COMM

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 13 1979

Name

Location

Brick Block

Chatham
Barnstable County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul G. Tsongas
Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Gerry E. Studts

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR

Byers/bjr

4/16/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

① use ^{ok} of building. Commissioned by merchants
but originally a post office?
↓
mixed use

*
② alterations checked, but none are mentioned in #7?

③ no ^{ok} historic statement of significance (to justify
commerce) → was a major commercial center in town

called 3-1-79 Candy Jenkins

NATIONAL REGISTER 'ER DA' 'A SHEE'

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Brick Block
 2 OTHER NAMES: The Post Office Block
 3 date of entry: APR 13 1979
 4 county code: 1

5 LOCATION street & number: Main St. and Chatham Bars Rd.
 city / town: Chatham
 vicinity of: _____
 state: MA
 county: Barnstable
 6 NPS REGION: NE

7 OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name)
 8 ADMINISTRATOR: _____

9 EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL
 10 FUNDED? YES NO
 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 12
 12 SOURCE of NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form? _____

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____ NO
 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____ NO
 15 ACREAGE: _____
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION
 excellent good fair
 deteriorated ruins unexposed unexcavated
 altered unaltered reconstructed excavated
 original site moved unknown

17 features:
 INTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRONS: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 19 ADAPTIVE USE YES NO
 20 SAVED? YES
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 AGRICULTURE-3 ARCHITECTURE-4 ART-5
 COMMERCE-6 COMMUNICATIONS-7 CONSERVATION-8 ECONOMICS-9 EDUCATION-10
 ENGINEERING-11 ENTERTAINMENT-26 EXPLORATION-12 HEALTH-27 INDUSTRY-13 INVENTION-14
 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 LAW-16 LITERATURE-17 MILITARY-18 MUSIC-19 PHILOSOPHY-20
 POLITICS / GOVT.-21 RELIGION-22 SCIENCE-23 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30 TRANSPORTATION-25
 RECREATION-28 SETTLEMENT-29 URBAN PLANNING-31 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

22 CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

functions
 WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:
 CURRENTLY:
 23 dates of initial construction:
 major alterations:
 historic events:
 24 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

26 architectural style(s):
 27 architect:
 28 master builder:
 29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer:
 31 interior decorator:
 32 artist:
 33 artisan:
 34 builder/contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP