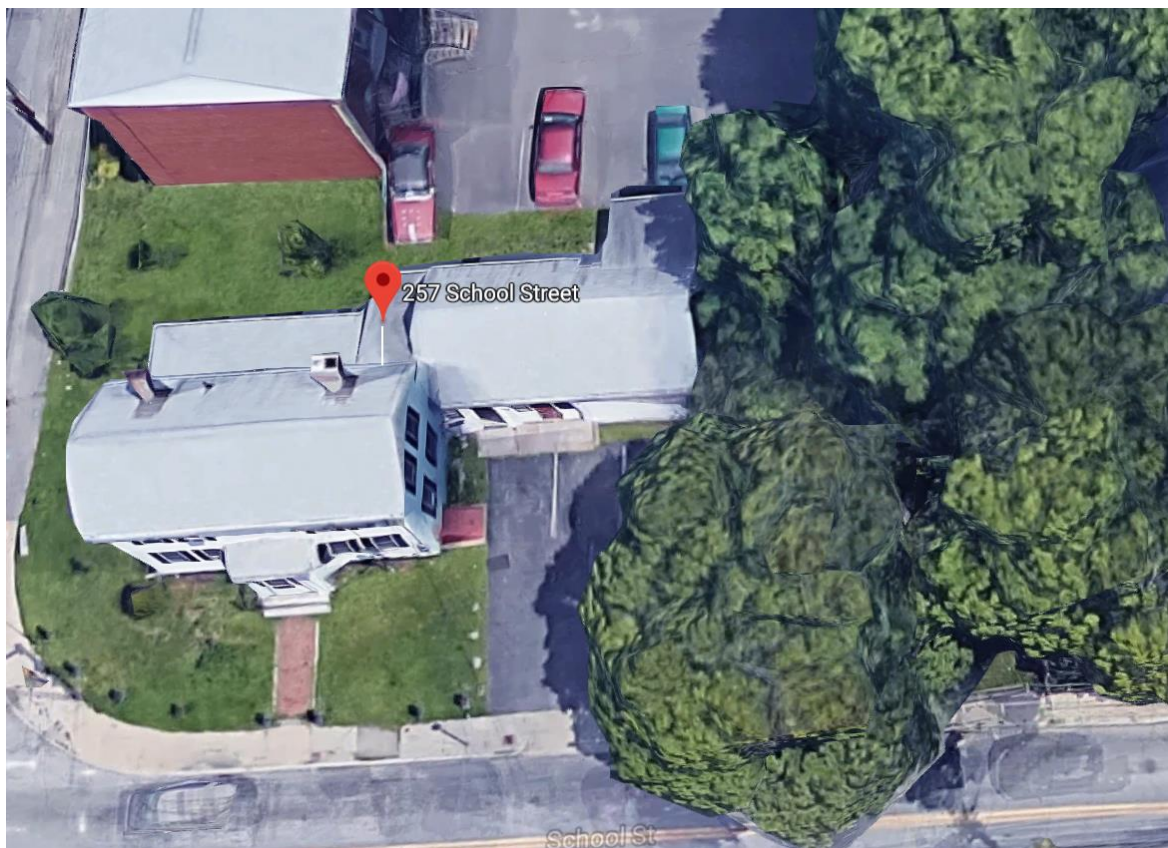
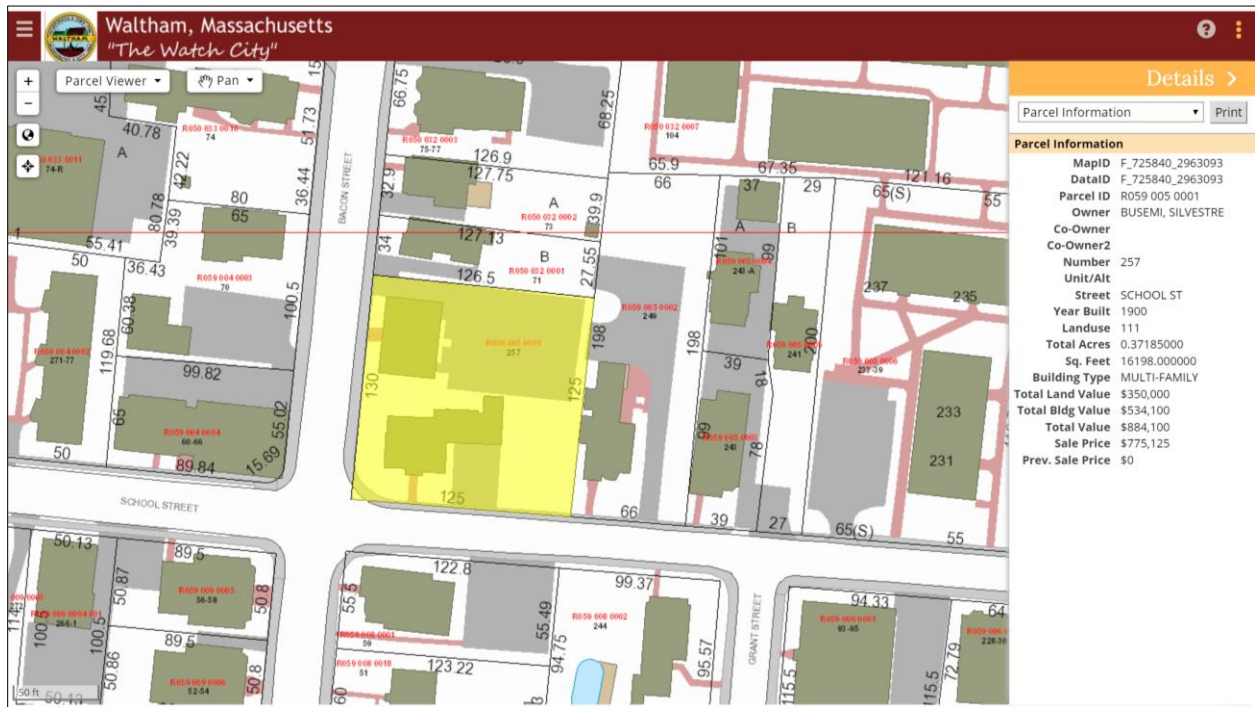
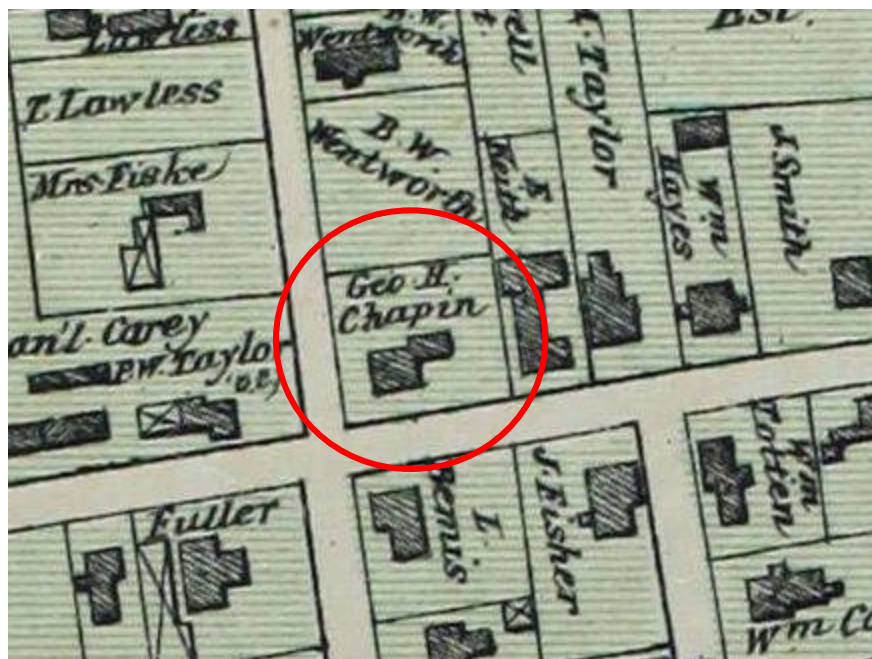


257 School Street

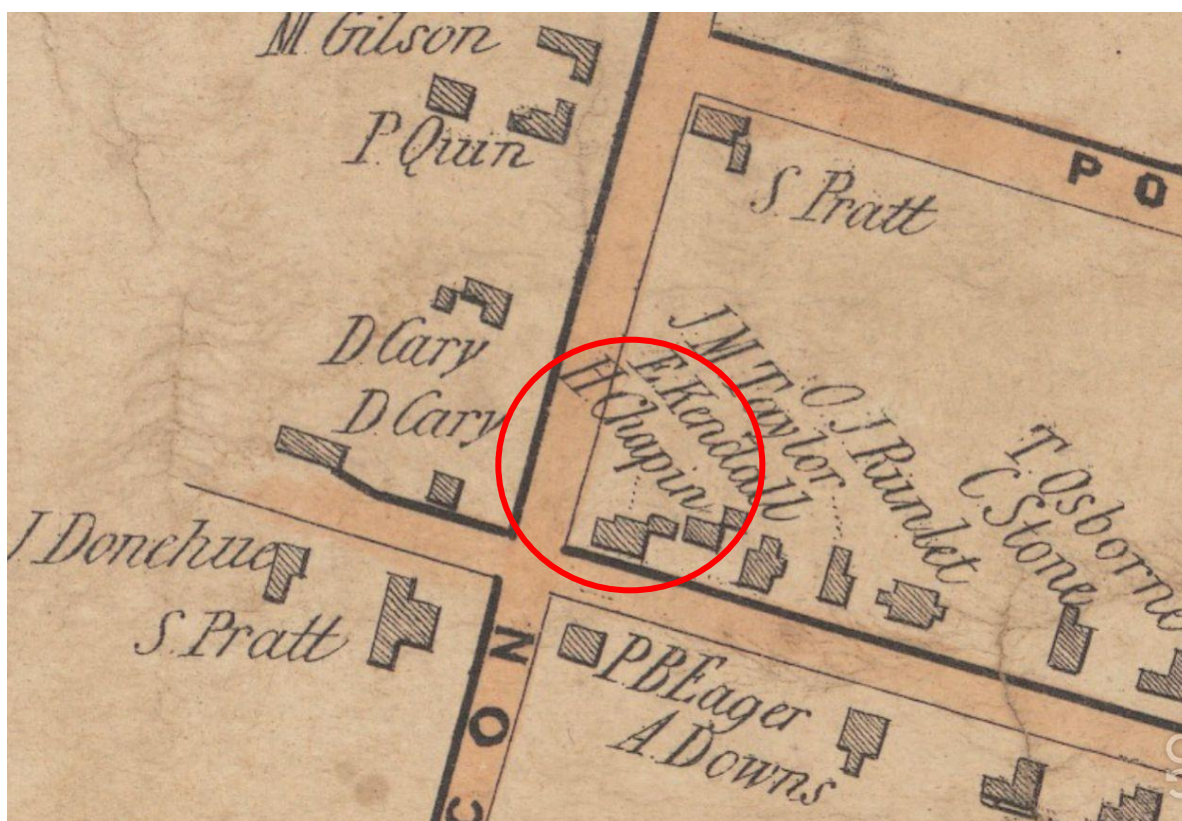




1900 map



1875 map



1854 map

Timeline

- 1824 Harvey Chapin moved from Vermont to Waltham (obit of son, Nahum)
- 1824 Marriage, Prentiss Sherman of Charlestown to Sally Carver of Wayland
- 1830 Census, Harvey Chapen [sic], next to John Clark (Beaver Street, Lexington Street)
- 1836 Marriage, Amos Corey & Maria Garfield [Waltham VRs to 1850]
- 1837 Deed, Zacheus Farwell to Amos Corey [MLR 370/367] no mention of buildings
- 1840 Census, Amos Corey listed next to Samuel Pratt & Daniel Carey of Bacon St. (see 1854 map)
Census, Harvey Chapin, listed between Leonard Lawrence & Jonas Clark (Beaver St.)
- 1840 Petition, Lewis Sanger heads an antislavery petition by Waltham citizens to the Massachusetts legislature
- 1841 Newspaper, January 8, 1841, Amos Corey ad listing dwelling house, barn & out buildings & 1 acre of land for sale or to let, corner Bacon and North [sic] Street
- 1841 Deed, May 6, 1841, Amos Corey to Lewis Sanger, hat manufacturer, 1 1/8 acre at corner of Bacon and North [sic] Streets with buildings thereon [MLR 404/304]
- 1841 Marriage, Nahum Chapin of Charlestown, son of Harvey Chapin, and Lucy Farwell of Waltham, daughter of Zacheus Farwell
- 1844 Deed, Lewis Sanger to Isaac Carver of Wayland [MLR 448/422]
- 1847 Death, Isaac Carver of Wayland; probate shows real estate in Wayland & Waltham
- 1850 Probate estate account. Rent of Prentiss Sherman [husband of Sarah Sherman, daughter of Isaac Carver]
- 1850 Quitclaim deed, Joseph R. Winch [Isaac Carver heir] to Sarah [m.n. Carver] Sherman, wife of Prentiss Sherman [MLR 587/55]
- 1850 Census, Prentice Sherman, cordwainer, RE value = \$1,700
- 1850 Manufactures Census, Prentiss Sherman, Boots & Shoes, 43 employees producing 35,000 pairs/year
- 1854 Deed, Prentiss Sherman to Harvey Chapin [MLR 677/270]
- 1855 Death, Harvey Chapin
- 1860 Marriage, George H. Chapin, shoemaker, son of Harvey Chapin, and Mary Caughey, daughter of James Caughey
- 1865 Census, George H. Chapin, milkman
- 1869 Directory, George H. Chapin, painter, 173 School St. [renumbered to 257]
- 1880 Manufactures Census, George H. Chapin, Painting, 5 employees
- 1890 Directory, George H. Chapin, painter, 9 Prospect, h. 257 School
- 1900 Census, George H. Chapin, house painter; Frank Chapin, jewel inspector, watch factory
- 1904 Death, George H. Chapin, house painter, 257 School St.
- 1920 Census, Mary H., Frank W. Chapin, watchmaker, watch factory, 257 School St.
- 1930 Directory, Frank W. Chapin, W W Co., house 257 School St.
- 1931 Death, Mary H. (Caughey) Chapin
- 1939 Directory, Frank W. Chapin, 257 School St.
- 1941 Death, Frank W. Chapin
- 1941 Deed, Leslie M. Chapin (adm., estate of Mary H. Chapin & Frank W. Chapin) to Mary S. Joyce [MLR 6538/279]
- 1943 Directory, Mary S. Joyce, widow of Joseph, telephone operator, 257 School St.
- 1952 Directory, Mrs. Mary Joyce, telephone operator, NET&T, 257 School St.
- 1952 Deed, Mary S. Joyce to Parkman S. Darte [MLR 7937/435]
- 1955 Deed, Parkman S. Darte to Marion T Butler (Edwin C. Butler) [MLR 8534/301]
- 1960 Directory, Edwin C. Butler, upholsterer, 257 School St., ho. do.
- 1964 Directory, Edwin C. Butler, upholsterer, rear 127 S. Main St. & 257 School St.

- 2006 Death, Edwin C. Butler
2006 Death Certificate, Edwin C. Butler, proprietor, upholstery business, 18 Mayall Rd. [MLR 48436/38]
2011 Deed, Marion T. Butler to Silvestre Buscemi, Jr. [MLR 56917/556]

Summary

The house at 257 School Street was likely built not long after Amos Corey purchased a 1.125 acre lot from Zacheus Farwell in 1837. When Corey sold the property to Lewis Sanger in 1841, there was a house, barn and out-buildings on the lot. The federal-style house and buildings attracted small businessmen like Lewis Sanger, a hat manufacturer; Prentiss Sherman, a shoe manufacturer; and later, Edwin C. Butler, an upholsterer; who could use the ell and outbuildings as workshops. The abolitionist views of Lewis Sanger are evident when he headed an 1840 list of Waltham citizens objecting to a gag rule on anti-slavery proposals in the state legislature. Sanger sold the parcel and buildings to Isaac Carver in 1844. Although Isaac Carver of Wayland purchased the house, outbuildings and lot in 1844, he likely did this for his daughter, Sarah, and her husband, Prentiss Sherman. Carver died in Wayland in 1847, and the probate record shows that Prentiss and Sarah Sherman were renting the property from the estate.

Prentiss Sherman, born in 1803 in Wayland, was a shoemaker who established a business in Charlestown, employing 6 to 8 bootmakers in 1825. The diary of Charles Fiske of Waltham noted in 1843 that Prentiss Sherman's company of shoemakers had moved into the Old Tavern in July 1843. Prentiss Sherman continued his shoemaking business in Waltham in the 1840s, and was listed in the 1850 census as a cordwainer (leather worker) whose real estate was valued at \$1,700. This was likely the house, barn & out-buildings at the corner of School and Bacon Streets. The 1850 census shows at least 20 boot and shoe makers living in this vicinity of Bacon & School Streets. In the 1850 manufactures census of Waltham, Prentiss Sherman employed 28 men and 15 women and manufactured 35,000 pairs of shoes per year. In 1854, Sherman sold his School Street property to Harvey Chapin, and Sherman moved to the corner of School and Grant Streets and established a boot and shoe store on Moody Street.

Harvey Chapin moved with his wife and children from Vermont to Waltham in 1824. The 1830 and 1840 censuses show that he lived initially in the vicinity of Beaver Street and Lexington Street. He purchased the parcel and buildings on School Street in 1854, but he died in the following year. His probate record listed a house and store in Charlestown, which was the residence of his son, Nahum; 9 acres of land on Bacon Street; and 40,000 sf of land with a house and barn at the corner of Bacon & School Streets. Harvey's son, Nahum, grew up in Waltham, and worked as a machinist, and later was an overseer at the Francis Cabot Lowell mill. He established a provision business in Charlestown in 1840, and married Lucy Farwell, daughter of Zacheus Farwell in 1841. Nahum became quite prominent in Charlestown, and was elected a Councilman, Alderman, Assessor, state legislator, and school committeeman. However, Nahum never lived in the School Street house, since his father purchased it in 1854, well after Nahum had moved to Charlestown.

Harvey Chapin's estate passed to his widow, Matterosa Chapin, who died in 1861. Her probate inventory listed a 40,000 sf parcel at the corner of Bacon and School Street, with a house, shed and shoe shop. The School Street property evidently went to Harvey & Matterosa's son, George H. Chapin. While George was listed in the 1865 census as a milkman, after that date he was identified in census records and directories as a painter. In 1880, George H. Chapin had 5 employees in his painting business on Prospect Street. George H. Chapin died in 1904, and his widow, Mary, and son, Frank W. Chapin continued to live in the house at 257 School Street. Mary died in 1931. Frank W. Chapin was a watchmaker at the

Waltham Watch Co. He died in 1941, and the house was sold by his estate to Mary S. Joyce, a widow and telephone operator.

Mary S. Joyce lived in the house with her children from 1941 to 1952. In 1955, the house was purchased by Marion Butler and her husband, Edwin. He was the founder of the E.C. Butler Furniture and Upholstery Company on High Street.

Obituary, Edwin C. Butler

Waltham – Mr. Edwin C. ‘E.C.’ Butler of Waltham died Saturday, May 6, 2006 at Saint Elizabeth’s Medical Center, Brighton. He was 78. Born in Weston, a son of the late Heber and Mary (Doucette) Butler, he had lived in Waltham for the past seventy-five years. Mr. Butler was the founder of E.C. Butler Furniture and Upholstering Company on High Street in Waltham. During World War II he served with the United States Marine Corps. He had been a former member of the Loyal Order of Moose, Lodge No. 1018 in Waltham, the Waltham Housing Authority Board of Directors and the Waltham Rent Review Board. He leaves his wife of fifty-seven years, Marion T. (Muisse) Butler; his children, James M. Butler, Karen T. Murphy, Janis M. Thomas and her husband, Stephen and William H. Butler and his wife, Donna, all of Waltham; 11 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was also a brother of the late Heber, Paul and Theresa Butler, Mary Coleman and Lois Boehm. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the Funeral at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday from The Joyce Funeral Home, 245 Main Street (Rte. 20), Waltham followed by a Funeral Mass in Saint Jude Church, 147 Main Street, Waltham at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Waltham. Visiting hours are Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01701.



CHAPIN, NAHUM, of Boston, distiller, is a native of Vermont, born in the town of Jamaica, Windham County, July 16, 1820, son of Harvey and Matte (Rossa) Chapin. His parents removed to Massachusetts, settling in Waltham, when he was a child of four years. He was educated in the public schools and at Smith's Academy, Waltham, which he attended four years. After leaving the academy, he was apprenticed to learn the machinist's trade in the works of the Boston Manufacturing Company of Waltham, and four years later he became overseer of the shops. After three years in that position he removed to Charlestown, and established there a provision and produce business, in which he was successfully engaged for twenty years. In 1860, forming the firm of Richardson & Chapin, he entered the distilling business, which he has since followed, building up extensive works in the Charlestown District, with headquarters in the city proper. In 1877 the firm name was changed to Chapin, Trull, & Co., as at present. Mr. Chapin early became

identified with Charlestown local affairs and an influential citizen. He served in the Common Council from 1856 to 1860; in the Board of

He is connected with the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, and is an active member of the old City Guard of Charlestown. In religious faith he is a Universalist, a member of the standing committee of the First Universalist Church of Charlestown. He was married in Waltham in 1841, to Miss Lucy Farwell, daughter of Zaccheus and Harriet Farwell. They have had four children, of whom two, George Francis and Lucy E. F. Chapin, only are now living. Of the other two, John Henry and Nahum Harvey Chapin, the elder, Nahum H., died at the age of thirty-nine years.



COBB, HENRY EDDY, of Boston, banker and broker, is a native of Connecticut, born in Hartford, June 21, 1839, son of Andrew B. and Lydia M. (Eddy) Cobb. He is descended on the paternal side from John Cobb of Romney, England, born in 1324, whose first descendant in this country was Elder Henry Cobb, settling at Barnstable in 1634. On the maternal side he is also of old Pilgrim stock, from Samuel Eddy, of Middleborough in 1624. His great-grandfather, Captain