

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Inventory No: | CON.634 |
| Historic Name: | Underhill - Buck House |
| Common Name: | |
| Address: | 14 Thoreau St |
| City/Town: | Concord |
| Village/Neighborhood: | Concord Center |
| Local No: | G9-752 |
| Year Constructed: | c 1892 |
| Architect(s): | |
| Architectural Style(s): | Shingle Style |
| Use(s): | Single Family Dwelling House |
| Significance: | Architecture |
| Area(s): | CON.AA: Thoreau - Belknap Streets Area |
| Designation(s): | |
| Building Materials(s): | Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard; Wood Shingle Foundation: Stone, Uncut |



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

G9-752

USGS Quad

CONCORD

Area(s)

Form Number

CON. 634

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116



Town

CONCORD

Set B

(neighborhood or village)

Concord Center

Address 14 Thoreau Street

Eric Name

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Year of Construction ca. 1892

Style Maps, Keyes

Form Shingle Style

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation

rubble stone

Wall/Trim

wood shingle and
clapboard

Roof

asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

1-car garage

mid-20th C.:

Major Alterations (with dates)

flush door on facade, modern entry

hood on south side.

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage less than one acre

Setting In first, residential block

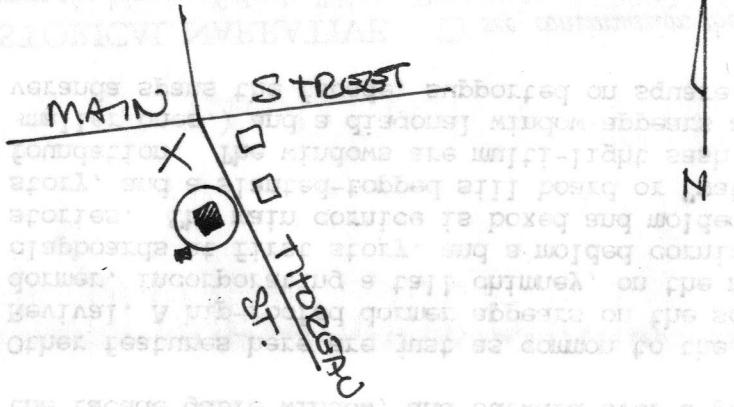
on Thoreau Street, in line of mid- to

late-nineteenth-century houses.

Low brick wall at front.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by A. Forbes

research by Elinor Beane

Organization for Concord Historical Commission

Date (month/day/year) June, 1991

BUILDING FORM

CON. 634

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

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

One of the last nineteenth-century houses to be built on lower Thoreau Street, #14 is one of Concord center's few examples of the Shingle Style. The 2 1/2-story "gable-end" house-type seen here was often the vehicle for the Shingle Style in its most modest form, and frequently included elements common to the vernacular Queen Anne. This house is no exception--its detail is subdued, and the Shingle style finds its main expression in the shingled texture of the upper stories, especially where it curves inward above the facade gable window, and outward over a pediment cornice and two-story bow window.

Other features here are just as common to the Queen Anne, and even to the early Colonial Revival. A hip-roofed dormer appears on the south slope of the roof, a pitch-roofed dormer, incorporating a tall chimney, on the north. The house is sided with wood clapboards at first story, and a molded cornice emphasizes the separation between the stories. The main cornice is boxed and molded, narrow corner boards appear at first story, and a slanted-topped sill board or "water table" trims the top of the rubble foundation. The windows are multi-light sash (with one large central pane surrounded by smaller ones,) and a diagonal window appears at the southeast corner. A pitch-roofed veranda spans the facade, supported on square posts with narrow trellises.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

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.

In the 1880's and '90's Mrs. Susan Underhill owned the former William Munroe property (the house is now gone) at the southwest corner of Main and Thoreau Streets, which included a considerable portion of the land extending south behind the house toward Belknap Street. Tolman says it was she who had #14 built on the back part of the property as a rental house, and that it was occupied for several years by lawyer Edwin N. Chase. Map evidence presents a contradiction, however. It is shown on the 1893 map as belonging to A.H. Pierce by that time. In about 1912 it was purchased by Miss Edith A. Buck, a milliner, and her sister, who lived there together for several years.

In the 1950's, under the ownership of George Sweeney, the house was apparently re-designed, to become a much simpler structure.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Maps and atlases: 1893; 1906; Sanborns from 1903.

Town Directories.

Interview with owner, 3/1/91.

Keyes/Tolman.

- Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.