

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.4
Historic Name:	Urquhart Bakery
Common Name:	
Address:	15-17 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Milldam; Concord Center
Local No:	H9-841
Year Constructed:	1898
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival
Use(s):	Bakery; Commercial Block; Restaurant
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce
Area(s):	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
Building Materials(s):	Wall: Brick; Wood Foundation: Brick



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

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 30, 2020 at 11:06 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H9-841

CONCORD

DU

4

RECEIVED

Town

CONCORD

(neighborhood or village)

Concord Center: the Milldam

15-17 Main Street

ss

Historic Name Urquhart's Bakery

Present restaurant; offices

Original commercial

Date of Construction ca. 1898

Maps; Keyes; visual
assessment

Form Federal Revival

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim brick

Roof (not visible)

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

20th C: store front replaced

Condition good

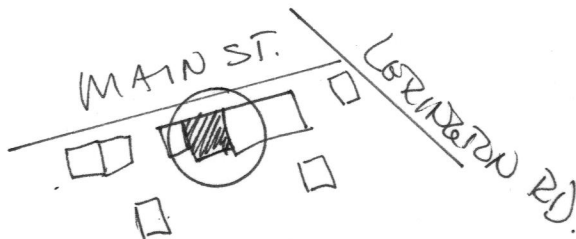
Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting In commercial district,
in line of stores; parking
lot to rear.

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 Anne Forbes

Organization for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

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

In contrast to its lowered neighbor to the east, this building was always a two-story store building with a flat roof. It has a high, flat facade, of which the second story is evidently original. A pair of blind brick arches surround two pairs of round-topped windows for a generally Federal Revival effect. The first story streetfront is a later replacement; it has a large multi-light bow window in the center, flanked fluted Doric pilasters, and at the ends of the facade, by two narrow fanlighted entries.

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.

The first block of Main Street, today still called "the Milldam," occupies the earliest true commercial center of Concord, where by the eighteenth century a bustling trade was carried on. Near the old mill on the Mill Brook that had begun grinding grain in 1639-40, artisans' shops, offices, and stores actually stood on the mill dam itself. In 1828 the Milldam Company was incorporated by a group of local entrepreneurs including Daniel Shattuck, Cyrus Stow, Ephraim Merriam, Abel Moore, John Keyes, and Nehemiah Ball. With a capital stock of \$20,000 they bought up the property on both sides of the dam, drained the pond, (which had developed great waste-disposal problems,) built a wide gravel road where the dam had stood, and sold lots for business buildings on both sides of the street. In the process, most of the former buildings were torn down; a few were moved to other locations. The Milldam Company constructed some buildings here itself; others were put up by individual owners, and several here today are later replacements. This first block of Main was called "Exchange Street" in the latter part of the nineteenth century. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Keyes/Tolman.
Concord directories.
Wheeler.
Concord Free Library photo file.
Maps, atlases: Sanborns from 1887.
Strawberries and Streetcars.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD

Urquhart's Bakery

Massachusetts Historical Commission
No.
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form

4

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

This building occupies the site of John C. Friend's first apothecary shop, the forerunner or Snow's Pharmacy at the corner of Main and Walden Streets. Mr. Friend built the other pharmacy in 1892, and the old wooden building here was bought by baker Alexander Urquhart who replaced it with this two-story brick structure in about 1898. His bake shop and oven were in the ell at the rear on Independence Court, and his store in the front. Mr. Urquhart owned and occupied the building for many years, and later added a small restaurant here.

By 1917 the second floor was occupied by a tailor shop run by Medow and Silverman, two of Concord's few eastern European Jewish immigrants, several of whom were tailors.

CON. 4

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
15-17 Main Street

Area(s)	Form No.
	4

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

- ☐ Individually eligible ☒ Eligible only in a historic district
☒ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Anne McCarthy Forbes

Statement of Significance by _____

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

Urquhart's Bakery meets the criteria for listing on the National Register as part of a nineteenth-early-twentieth-century commercial district at Concord center. It is eligible under Criterion A for its long role in the development of the town's commercial core, and under Criterion C for its distinct Federal Revival contribution to the architectural character of the Milldam. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.