

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.7
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Milldam Company Building - Heywood Block
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	23 Main St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Milldam; Concord Center
<b>Local No:</b>	H9-839
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	r 1835
<b>Architect(s):</b>	Little, Harry Britton
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Federal; Row House
<b>Use(s):</b>	Clubhouse; Commercial Block; Post Office; Restaurant
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Commerce; Politics Government; Recreation
<b>Area(s):</b>	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Brick; Wood; Wood Clapboard; Wood Flushboard Foundation: Brick



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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## FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H9-839

CONCORD

DU

7

CONCORD

Town

(neighborhood or village)

Concord Center: the Milldam

23-25 Main Street

ic Name Milldam Co. Building  
Heywood's Block

Present stores, offices

Original commercial

of Construction ca. 1830's

Keyes

Form Federal utilitarian

ect/Builder unknown

Harry Little (storefront)

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim brick and flushboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

some window and door replacement

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting In commercial district,  
in line of stores of ca. 1830-mid-  
20th-century date

Recorded by Anne Forbes

Organization for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992

CON. 7

# BUILDING FORM

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

#23-25 Main Street is one half of a pair of attached row buildings that were among the first to be constructed on the rebuilt Milldam in the 1830's. Both stores have a lingering Federal style quality in the high parapet double chimneys of their end walls and of the party wall that divides them. These are twin buildings, each with a gabled roof and six windows across the second story of the facade. #23-25 has a two-story clapboard rear wing. Its facade is flush-boarded at the second story. Although the storefronts of both buildings have been replaced at least once, the present first story retains the general lines of an early-twentieth-century storefront with polygonal bay windows and recessed entries. The eastern display window still has multi-light panes, probably remaining from the ca. 1930's reconstruction designed by Harry Little.

## 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 built 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: 1852, 1856, 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1887.

Strawberries and Streetcars.

Main Street Historic District List.

☒ 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

CONCORDMilldam Co. Block/  
Heywood's Block

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form

No.

80 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

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## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

It is not clear whether the two connected buildings here at 23-29 Main Street, apparently standing by 1840, were put up by the Milldam Company, or whether one of the partners, Daniel Shattuck, purchased the land here from the company and had the buildings put up himself. In any case, they were referred to by around 1850 as "the Milldam Company Block," and by 1856 as "Heywood & Shattuck's Block." After that they were owned separately, and George Heywood is shown as the sole owner of this part by 1875, and again in 1889; in the later nineteenth-century directories this part of the building is referred to as "Heywood's Block."

For many years #23-25 Main Street was the location of John Stacy's bookshop/bindery and store, where he also kept the Post Office. It was later occupied by Cummings E. Davis for a news stand and confectionery (candy store), and by Charles Stewart as C. E. Stewart's "Clothing House". The second story served as club rooms for over 25 years. An express office was located for a long time in the eastern end of the first story; around the turn of the century it moved to the old bank building across the street, and its space was taken by a drug store, the Concord Drug Store, Inc., under Erastus H. Smith and partners. Mr. Smith was also tax assessor and agent for the Concord Board of Health. After 1892 in those capacities he occupied an office upstairs in the former club rooms. Miss Edith Buck had a millinery store in the western part in the 1880's; she moved her store to Friend's Block at the corner of Walden and Main when that building was completed in 1892. Her space was taken by jeweler and watchmaker Nathan S. Daniels, who opened a store that was the forerunner of Hollis S. Howe. Howe took over the store in 1898, and Hollis Howe jewelers was here for over ninety years, until 1990.

Early in this century Theophilus Mason, the ice dealer, rented an office on the second floor. By the 1930's the eastern store was Helen's Restaurant, and its storefront renovation was designed by architect Harry Little. (See #263 Simon Willard Road.)

CON-7

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community  
CONCORD

Property Address  
23/25 Main Street

Area(s)	FormNo.
	7

## 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.*

Heywood's Block 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 as one of the few remaining structures here constructed by the Milldam Company or one of its owners, and as a multi-store block that played a long role in the development of the town's commercial core. It is eligible under Criterion C as a rare survivor of late Federal period commercial architecture, and thus for its important contribution to the architectural character of the Milldam. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.