

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.338
Historic Name:	Stacy, John House and Bookbindery
Common Name:	Reynolds, Dr. Joseph - Emerson, Charles House
Address:	40 Lowell Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	50, H8-1300
Year Constructed:	1827
Architect(s):	Cutler, Isaac; Hosmer, Nathan S.
Architectural Style(s):	Federal
Use(s):	Agricultural; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Orchard; Other Commercial; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Education; Industry; Literature; Social History
Area(s):	CON.A: Concord Monument Sq-Lexington Road Historic Dist. CON.DV: North Bridge - Monument Square Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/05/1973); Nat'l Register District (09/13/1977)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Granite; Stone, Cut



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

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

H8-1300

Concord

A DV

338, 1800

NR: DIS; LHD- 35173

Town Concord

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Concord centerAddress 40 Lowell RoadHistoric Name John Stacy HouseUses: Present dwellingOriginal dwellingDate of Construction 1827Source Marked on stairboard in houseStyle/Form FederalArchitect/Builder Isaac Cutler and/or Nathan Hosmer

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite blockWall/Trim wood clapboardRoof asphalt shingle

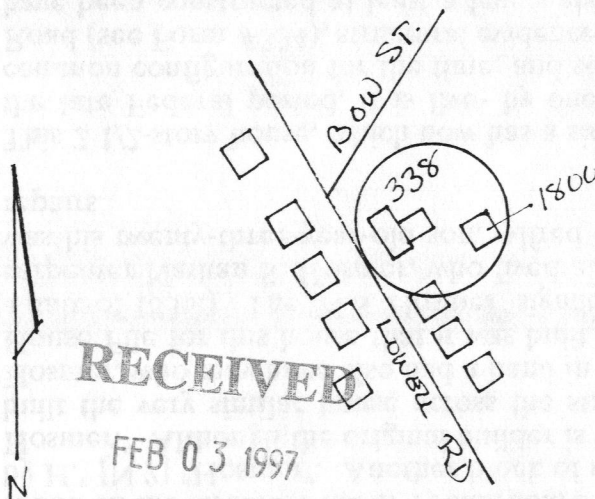
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

2-story cottage (converted barn) at rear:
(36 Lowell Road--#1800)Major Alterations (with dates) late-20th C.:rear addition Roof changed from hipped to
gabled--ca. 1980's. Northwest ell presently
being enlarged.Condition goodMoved [X] no [] yes Date N/AAcreage less than one acreSetting At corner of Bow St., in area of largely19th-C. houses High granite curb/retainingwall with round-dowel picket fence at front

338

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.



RECEIVED

FEB 03 1997

MASS. HIST. COMM

Recorded by Anne Forbes, consultant

research by Anne Donoghue

Organization Concord Hist. CommissionDate 11/96

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [X] *see continuation sheet*

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

40 Lowell Road is one of a few buildings in Concord that can at least be partially dated by records found on the structure itself. A stairboard in the oldest section reads "built in 1827. Rep. . . in 1874 by H." [N.?] "Hosmer". Another block of wood reads "Repaired in year 1874 N.S. Hosmer A.W. Hosmer." Although the original builder is unknown, it is most likely to have been Isaac Cutler, who built the very similar house across the street at #41 Lowell Road (see Form #335), or Nathan Hosmer, who may have also had a hand in #41. (Ruth Wheeler, in fact, states with certainty in her House File for this house that it was built by Isaac Cutler and Nathan Hosmer, although she gives a date of 1836.) The "N.S. Hosmer" signature found in the house is certainly Nathan Hosmer's son, carpenter Nathan S. Hosmer, who lived at 41 Lowell Road from 1840 until 1891. "A.W. Hosmer" was his twenty-three-year-old son, Alfred W. Hosmer, who apparently assisted his father with the repairs.

This 2 1/2-story house, which now has a side-gabled roof, was built with a hipped roof. Typical of the late Federal period, it is five- by one-bay, with a pair of rear chimneys. Although this is a common configuration for the time, and seen as nearby as the house across the street at 35 Lowell Road (see Form #334), structural evidence implies that the southeast-facing end of the building may have been constructed at least a few years before the section that faces Lowell Road. (Cont.)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE [X] *see continuation sheet*

Explain 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 Stacy House is one of a cluster of handsome, well-preserved houses built on lower Lowell Road in the late 1820's and early 1830's, when residential buildings around the common were beginning to extend north and northwest onto Monument Street and Lowell Road. The original owner was John Stacy (1790-1866), a bookbinder, and Concord postmaster from 1841 to 1845. The bookbindery, with a stationery and bookshop, which he established first in the Wright Tavern and later moved to the Milldam Building at 23/25 Main Street (see Form #7), is said to have been the first in the county outside Cambridge. In 1840 his son, Albert, took over the store, and Mr. Stacy concentrated on the bindery until about 1849. During some of those years, he used part of this building as a bookbinding shop. He was a Captain of the Concord Artillery, was narrowly elected to the State Legislature for one term in 1845, served for many years as secretary of the Middlesex County Agricultural Society, and was a trustee of the Middlesex Institution for Savings. During his early years in this house he was also one of many people who became enamored of the trend for silk-raising around 1830. He owned at least four acres here, and planted his property with mulberry bushes, some of which still exist, to feed the silkworms. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES [X] *see continuation sheet*

Maps and Atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborn map: 1927.
 Donoghue, Anne. Interview with former owner, 1996.
 Concord assessors' records.
 Concord Directories.
 Concord Free Library: Obituary Files and Scrapbook Collection.
 Concord vital records. (Cont.)

[X] Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places*. If checked, a completed National Register Criteria Statement form is attached. *within NR district boundaries.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Massachusetts Archives Building
 220 Morrissey Boulevard
 Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community

Concord

Property

40 Lowell Road
 John Stacy House

Area(s)
 A

Form No.
 338, 1800

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, cont.

If that is the case, the 1836 date cited by Ruth Wheeler (source unknown) may refer to the main part of the house facing the street. A long rear wing incorporates what was apparently an early attached barn or shed (also used by John Stacy as a book bindery), as well as a section dating to the late twentieth century. A short one-story side ell abutting the northwest end of the house is presently being enlarged.

As at 35 and 41 Lowell Road, most of the windows here are 6-over-6-sash, and like those at #41, they are set into molded, projecting surrounds. The paneled main door is flanked by four-pane sidelights with panels below. A flat-roofed canopy on unfluted Tuscan columns is probably an addition of ca. 1930. It is presently fitted with a storm door and glass infill panels to form a vestibule. A similar canopy/vestibule shelters a second entry on the southeast end of the house; the latter rises to a second-story bay with a shed roof and 1-over-1- and 2-over-2-sash windows.

Architectural trim on the house is typical of its time, and matches that at 41 Lowell Road: the boxed, molded cornice has a prominent bed molding below, and there is no projection at the gable ends. The cornerboards are narrow, and a sill board or "water table" trims the top of the foundation.

The building at the rear of the property (#1800), now a dwelling, has been converted from a former barn. It retains its late-nineteenth-century sliding door.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

Mr. Stacy's business endeavors declined, however, and he declared bankruptcy in the late 1840's. In 1849, the house was purchased by his son-in-law, **John Reynolds**, and both the Reynolds and Stacys lived here together for a few years. Mr. Reynolds, whom Keyes refers to as "an active talking newspaper agent," then sold the house to **Dr. Joseph Reynolds** (possibly a relative) in 1852. The Stacys moved to 50 Monument Street for about two years, before purchasing the house at 68 Sudbury Road (see Form #113).

Dr. Reynolds ran an apothecary store on the Milldam. He had previously practiced medicine in Gloucester for twenty years, then worked as a druggist here in Concord for twenty more. During his years in Concord he served on the School Committee, (in 1856-57 as both Superintendent of Schools and the town Liquor Agent), was a trial justice, and held a position as physician to Westford Academy in Westford. He was also a writer, and wrote Peter Gott the Fisherman while living here. A devoted member of the Farmers Club, he compiled an Agricultural Survey of Middlesex County (1858). During Dr. Reynolds' time he rented out the north part of the house to tenants, among them a Miss Adams, and an engineer, probably on the Middlesex Central Railroad, by the name of Langmaid.

Dr. Reynolds died in 1872, and his wife, Lucy, in 1878. There is some uncertainty as to who purchased the house from her or her estate. According to Ruth Wheeler, who researched the deeds on the property, Lucy P. Reynolds sold the house to William Munroe in 1872, and in 1879 he sold it, with one acre, to **Theresia Emerson**, wife of **Charles Emerson**. Keyes, however, says that Mrs. Reynolds' heirs sold the house to Charles Emerson. (Cont.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community	Property
Concord	40 Lowell Road John Stacy House
Area(s) A	Form No. 338; 1800

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

Concord Assessors' records indicate that from 1873 to 1878 the house did indeed belong to the heirs of Joseph Reynolds, and the map of 1875 shows "Mrs. E.P. Reynolds," (undoubtedly as Joseph Reynolds' heir), as the owner of the entire four-acre parcel. It is possible that the Munroe deed represents a mortgage transaction. Mr. Munroe did purchase property behind the house by 1876, as by that year he had developed Bow Street and erected the three houses at 36, 42, and 52 Bow Street on the land. (See Streetscape Form P). Apparently Mrs. Reynolds remained in the house until her death, when it was sold, with one acre, to Mrs. Emerson.

Charles Emerson (1841-1916), son of William Emerson, was a nephew of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Born in New York, he had studied medicine in Paris and Vienna, and while in Europe he married Theresia Steiner (or Keveschi) of Hungary, in 1871. Upon their return to this country they settled in Concord. As it is known that they extensively altered the house, it may be that the 1874 "repairs" made by Nathan S. Hosmer were done under their direction, and that they were living here, possibly as tenants, before Mrs. Reynolds died.

Mrs. Emerson was afflicted with both mental and physical illness for many years. Periodically she was placed in a hospital, and Mr. Emerson traveled abroad; at other times they traveled together, and rented this house to tenants. They were here together in 1883-1884, but by 1885 he was again absent from Concord, and she lived alone in the house. They later lived at 25 Middle Street (see Form #100), and at 26 Elm Street (see Form #79). In her last illness in 1910-1911, Mrs. Emerson was treated at the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston. Her husband, in gratitude for the care she received, gave land and money to establish a Deaconess branch hospital in Concord. Built in 1911, it was later named Emerson Hospital in his honor.

For many decades after the Emersons' occupancy, 40 Lowell Road was associated with three remarkable women. The Emersons sold the house in 1891 to **Miss Louise Kennedy**. Miss Kennedy purchased several adjacent properties at that time, including 63 Monument Street, her primary residence, Mr. Munroe's three Bow Street houses, and the house next door at 32 Lowell Road. (See Forms #205 and 339). At the same time she also bought the "old Block House" on Main Street. (See Form #337.) Until her death in 1923, she was one of Concord center's foremost early twentieth century landladies.

From the time she bought this property she rented the house to Miss Lucretia S.W. Perkins, who lived here for over forty-five years, until her death in 1938 at the age of 94. Miss Perkins had formerly lived in Connecticut, South Carolina, and in New York, where she had been a teacher and a prominent organizer of unions for women workers, including at least one forerunner of the powerful Ladies' Garment Workers Union. She spent some time in England, where she became a close friend of former Prime Minister J. Ramsay MacDonald, who later visited her in Concord. After she moved here she spent much of her time working for Civil Service reform.

After Louise Kennedy's death, her property descended to her niece, **Mildred Kennedy**, who lived at 63 Monument Street, then in Boston, and occupied this house in the 1940's-1950's. Miss Kennedy, who was deaf, had founded the Speech Readers Guild in 1916, which provided reading services for the deaf. She was also a strong advocate of a method of hearing through a bone-conduction system called the Phipps Method, and trained people in its use in the barn on either this property or at 63 Monument Street. She died in 1961.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

CON 338
Property

Concord

40 Lowell Road
John Stacy House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)
AForm No.
338;1800

BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Garrelick. Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars. 1985.

Jarvis.

Keyes. "Houses in Concord."

Shattuck.

Social Circle Memoirs: John Stacy.

Wheeler House File #Lo4.



338

1800

Left: CON. 338

Right: Dr. Joseph Reynolds
Barn (CON. 1800)

FORM B - STRUCTURE SURVEY
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

1. Is this structure historically significant to:
Town _____ Commonwealth _____ Nation _____

Structure has historical connection with the following themes: (See also reverse side)

Agriculture	Commerce/Industry
Architecture	Science/Invention
Art/Sculpture	Travel/Communication
Education	Military Affairs
Government	Religion/Philosophy
Literature	Indians
Music	Development of Town/City

2. Town Concord Street 40 Lowell and Bow Sts
Name John Stacy House
Original Use NRDIS-9/13/77 PL-CONCORD
LHD-315173 USGS-CONCORD
Present Use SECTION 3
Present Owner private
Date 1828 Style 1836
Source of Date Mrs Wheeler
Builder Isaac Cutter
Architect Nathan Hosmer

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered _____

IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low _____ Material: cut stone

WALL COVER: Wood clapboards Brick Stone Other _____

STORIES: 1 2 | 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular

ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency 1 stly wing 2 stly ell Simple/Complex

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony _____ Recessed _____

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork _____

FACADE: Gable End: Front/Side Symmetrical/Asymmetrical Simple/Complex Ornament

Entrance: Front/Side Centered Double Features: cutty back

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 6/6

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured corner boards

OUTBUILDINGS _____ LANDSCAPING _____

5. Indicate location of structure on map below 6. Footage of structure from street 12' Lowell
Property has _____ feet frontage on street

Recorder _____

For 1

Photo 1-12 68-526 7-09 065-1-050

NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form. (See Reverse Side)

FOR USE WITH IMPORTANT STRUCTURES (Indicate any interior features of note)

Fireplace

Stairway

Other

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

in 1879 owned by Charles Emerson nephew of Ralph Waldo Emerson and donor of Emerson Hosp. (Concord)

REFERENCE (Where was this information obtained? What book, records, etc.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY



Original Owner: _____

Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, _____ Registry of Deeds