

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.15
Historic Name:	Friend's Block
Common Name:	
Address:	49 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	H9-832
Year Constructed:	1892
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival
Use(s):	Clubhouse; Commercial Block; Telephone Office
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Communications; Recreation
Area(s):	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
Building Materials(s):	Wall: Brick; Cast Concrete; Sandstone; Unglazed Terra Cotta Foundation: Granite



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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

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H9-832

CONCORD

DU

15

NOV 17 1992

Town

CONCORD

SECT. 8



(neighborhood or village)

Concord Center

49-57 Main Street

SS

Friend's Block

ic Name

Present

stores, offices

Original

commercial

f Construction

1892 and ca. 1930's

Concord Chronicle; maps

Form

Colonial Revival

ect/Builder

unknown

or Material:

Foundation

granite

Wall/Trim

brick

Roof

(not visible)

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

some storefront and door replacement

Condition

good

Moved

☒

no

☐

yes

Date

N/A

less than one acre

Acreage

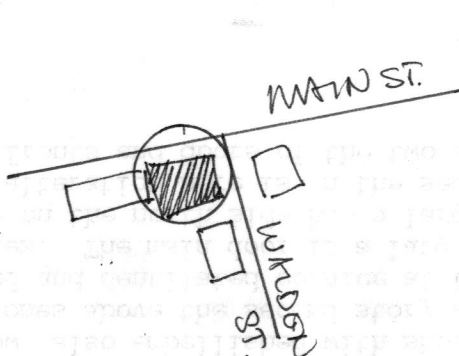
Setting

In commercial district,

in line of stores of ca. 1890's-mid-
20th-century date, at corner of
Main and Walden Streets.

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☒ see continuation sheet

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

Along with the Davis/Richardson Block across Walden street, Friend's Block is one of the focal points of Concord Center. It is a stylish two-story flat-roofed brick structure that sweeps dramatically around the southwest corner of the intersection with Main Street. Its main entry is recessed under the curved corner of the building, where the second story is supported by a pair of large sandstone columns. On each side of the main corner store is a small recessed window, also embellished with short Tuscan columns. Sandstone is repeated in keystones above the second story windows, and terra cotta is used in a decorative banded and dentilated cornice at the roofline and in band coursing between the stories. The main door is a large sidelighted glass-and-panel type. A second entry on the north side has a large-light, sidelighted glass-and-panel door. The main alteration here is in the second-story window replacement, and at the storefronts and doors of the two side stores. (Cont.)

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.

By the middle of the nineteenth century the commercial focus of Concord center had expanded west from the Milldam (the first block of Main Street,) to include several businesses in the houses that were located nearby on both Walden and Main Streets. By the middle of the twentieth century, all ^{but one of} the old houses up to #75 Main Street and #69 Walden Street were gone, and their places had been taken by commercial structures. This building, built in 1892, replaced one of the largest, the old Hastings House, which is reputed to have been built by master-builder Reuben Duren in about 1790. (See #8 Barrett's Mill Road.)

Friend's Block was built in 1892 by pharmacist John C. Friend, who had formerly had a drug store in a building on the site of today's 15-17 Main Street. The new building had ample room for his pharmacy and two other stores on the first floor, club rooms on the second, and a rental unit in the west end. Edith Buck, the milliner, occupied the store at the west end for over twenty years. The store on the Walden Street side was occupied by Charles W. Sanford's furniture store for a while before his 1896 conviction for embezzlement while serving as tax (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Keyes/Tolman.
Concord directories.
Concord Free Library photo file.
Maps, atlases: 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1897.

☒ 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

Friend's Block

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form

No.

80 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Sometime between 1927 and 1936 a narrow two-story section was added to the west end of the building. It is constructed in Flemish bond of a red brick in a variety of tones. Its roof line is slightly lower than the main building. Still generally Federal Revival in feeling, its entry has a semi-circular fanlight and a keystone, molded surround. At the second story is a large tripartite window with a decorative blind arch above. At the first is another three-part window, mullioned and multi-paned, with novelty textured glass in the small paned of the upper section. Here the wall banding is in concrete, instead of sandstone or terra cotta.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

collector. It subsequently became the Concord Clothing Company under Andrew and Thomas Peterson, a men's clothing store that was located here for several decades. The rental apartment was occupied for many years early in the century by dentist C.S. Towne, who had both a home and office here. Sometime before 1915 the second story club rooms were refitted for the telephone exchange.

In 1913 Mr. Friend sold his business to John H. Snow. The drugstore here today is still run by his successors, and is still called Snow Pharmacy.

The ca. 1930 western extension at #57 Main is called "the Peterson Building," and may have been put up by the Concord Clothing Store owners.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

CON 15
Property Address
49-57 Main Street

Area(s)	FormNo.

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.

This building meets the criteria for listing on the National Register as part of a nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century commercial district at Concord center. It is a well-preserved example of early Federal Revival commercial architecture, and thus meets Criterion C. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.