

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.82
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Leland, Francis O. House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	56 Elm St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Concord Center
<b>Local No:</b>	G9-1723
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	r 1895
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Shingle Style
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; 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](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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## FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

RECEIVED

USGS - CONCORD  
AL - CONCORD  
SECT - B

AREA

FORM NO.

82

CONCORD

Address 56 Elm Street

Historic Name F. O. Leland House

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Description

1890's

Floor plan maps; style

Exterior Shingle Style

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric shingle

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition good

Moved no Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting At base of Elm Street.

in area of late-19th-C. houses.

UTM REFERENCE Parcel G9-1723

USGS QUADRANGLE

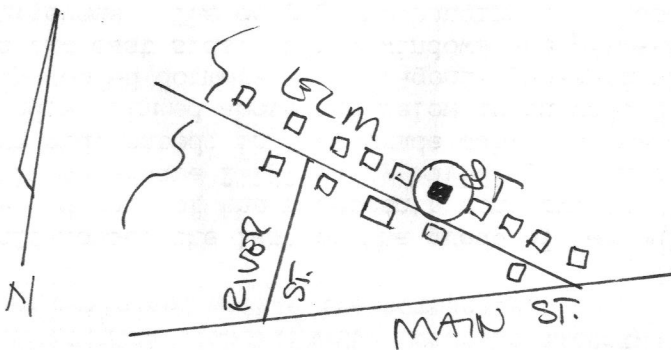
SCALE

Recorded by A. Forbes

Organization Research by Susan Hollis for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date July, 1990

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north



**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

For its connection with the late nineteenth-century residential development of Concord center, and as a well-preserved example of the architecture of its time, this house qualifies as part of a National Register district under Criteria A and C.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.**

This house, the last of the group of ten built on the north side of Elm Street in the second half of the nineteenth century, is its only representative of the Shingle Style. A large square 2 1/2-story building, it has a cross-gabled west wing. Both main gables are pedimented; in the facade gable is one of the Shingle Style's hallmarks--a bow window trimmed above and below by curved, flared shingling. The roof is pierced by two hip-roofed dormers with diagonal panes in the upper sash; a polygonal bay window appears on the east side. Other windows are primarily large 8-over-12-sash, with molded surrounds. The deeply-overhanging roof has wide, flared, boxed eaves punctuated with modillions and dentils. Typical of the Shingle Style, much of the detail is in the Colonial Revival mode--the entry, for instance, has a large glass-and-panel door flanked by leaded sidelights, and sheltered by a prominent porch on triple Tuscan columns. The foundation is fieldstone.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.**

The north side of Elm Street, (formerly Great Road,) between Main and the river was low-lying swamp land until the late 1850's, when Samuel Wheeler, who owned the large farm to the north, began reclaiming the land and built two cottages, one next east at #48 Elm, and one on this site, for his farmhands. Both buildings were standing by 1859, when Wheeler's farmhouse burned and he went bankrupt. Much of the Wheeler property on this side of the river, including this lot, was acquired by William F. Hurd, who laid out houselots in the vicinity, building houses on several, and selling them off over the 1860's and '70's. He retained this property until at least 1885, renting out the cottage to various tenants. By 1893 the property had been sold to Francis O. Leland, a traveling salesman, who had the cottage moved to 18 River Street, possibly as a condition of the purchase from Mr. Hurd. In any case, it appears to have been Mr. Leland who had the present house built shortly after that, It was occupied by him and his family until well into the twentieth century.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Keyes.  
Town directories.  
Maps, plans, and atlases: 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1903.  
Interview with owner, 1990  
Town histories. (See master bibliography.)