

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.87
Historic Name:	Leavitt House
Common Name:	
Address:	94 Elm St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	G9-1727
Year Constructed:	r 1880
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Slate Wall: 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

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FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

87



CONCORD

94 Elm Street

ic Name

Leavitt House

Present

dwelling

Original

dwelling

PTION

1880

assessor's records

late Classical Revival

ect

unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric

wood clapboard

Outbuildings

3-car garage

Major Alterations (with dates)

oriel window--e. end, after 1933; porch and entry bay added ca. 1933; some windows replaced; modern brick steps.

Condition

good

Moved

no

Date N/A

Acreage

less than one acre

Setting

Near base of Elm Street, opposite River street. In area of late-19th-century houses.

Recorded by

A. Forbes

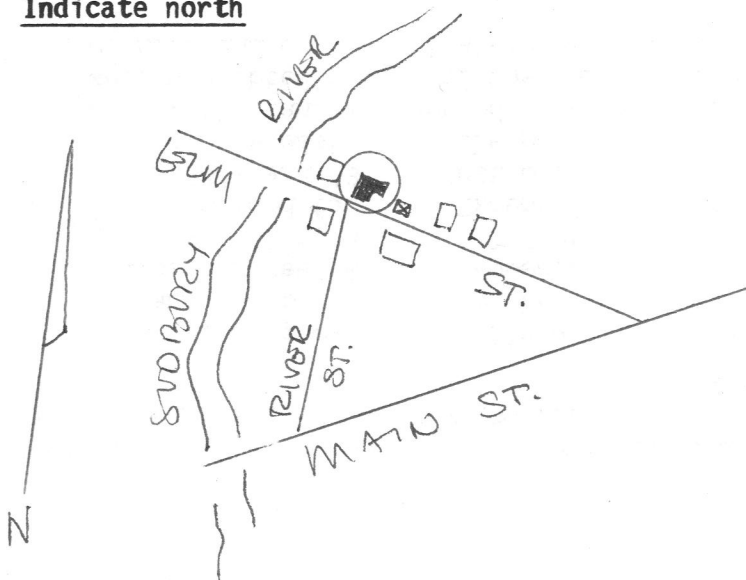
Organization

research by Elinor Beake for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date

July, 1990; rev. 1992

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



UTM REFERENCE

Parcel G9-1727

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE

RECEIVED

JUL 15 1993

MASS. HIST. COM.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

For its family connection with Franklin Sanborn, and the late nineteenth-century residential development of Concord center, this house qualifies as part of a National Register district under Criterion A.

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

This building was originally an Italianate house like its neighbors to the east, with a rectangular bay window on the facade and a shorter east wing. It took on its present Classical/Greek Revival appearance in a radical renovation by Alexander C. Peters in 1933-34. It is a tall 2 1/2-story, three-bay pedimented-gable-end building with a flush-boarded facade. Except for the brick foundation, which was typical of Concord in the 1870's and '80's, most other features date to the 1930's renovations. They include most of the east wing, the porch with entry bay, and the main entry, which has a 3-panel door with transom, tapered pilasters, and a triangular pediment. The windows, which were undoubtedly part of the renovation, are 6-over-6-sash. Parts of the molded, boxed cornice and corner pilasters with molded capitals may be original. The roof is slate.

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 Street and the Sudbury River was low-lying swamp land until the 1850's, when Samuel Wheeler, who had acquired the former Willard/Lee/Barrett farm to the north, began reclaiming the land. He sold out to David Elwell, who owned the farm briefly until the old farmhouse burned, and the property again changed hands. Most of the land on this side of the river was acquired at low cost by William F. Hurd, who laid out house lots in the vicinity, selling them off over the 1870's and '80's. According to Keyes, Hurd himself had this house erected, and rented it out for a while before selling it in 1885 to Eliza (Mrs. Joseph N.) Leavitt, mother-in-law of the well-known journalist and reformer Franklin Sanborn of #106 Elm Street, next door. (See Form #88.) Other evidence, however, including assessor's records and Raymond Baldwin's Social Circle memoir of Franklin Sanborn, indicate that the house was under Leavitt family ownership as early as 1880. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Town directories and assessor's records.
- Maps, plans, and atlases: 1883-84, 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1903.
- Keyes/Tolman. III/382.
- Elinor Beal: interview with owner, 1991.
- Obituary file, Concord Free Library.
- Social Circle Memoirs.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD

94 Elm Street
Leavitt House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
 87

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

(Although Baldwin says that the Leavitt "sisters" owned both this house and the land at #106, which they sold to Franklin Sanborn for his new house, town records show only that Eliza Leavitt owned this house and lot for many years.)

Mrs. Leavitt apparently lived here until her death sometime before 1893, with her daughters Caroline, Jane and Josephine. The daughters inherited the property, and Miss Josephine Leavitt, the last of the family, lived here until her death in 1931. The house was then purchased by **Alexander** and **Emily Peters**, who radically renovated the building. Mr. Peters was a civil engineer, and may have been involved in its design. The Peters also filled part of the lot, and terraced the rear land in three levels down to the river.

In ca. 1961 Trinity Church bought the house, which it owned until 1976. During that time it was occupied by the Rev. Clark, and the Rev. Nigel Andrews.