

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.375
Historic Name:	Loftus, Mark House
Common Name:	
Address:	118 Belknap St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	G9-633
Year Constructed:	c 1885
Architect(s):	Loftus, Mark
Architectural Style(s):	Queen Anne; Stick Style
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CON.Z: Back of the Depot - Fairgrounds
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Brick



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

This file was accessed on: Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:17 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

PI. CONCORD
USGS CONCORD
SEU - B

CON-375

AREA

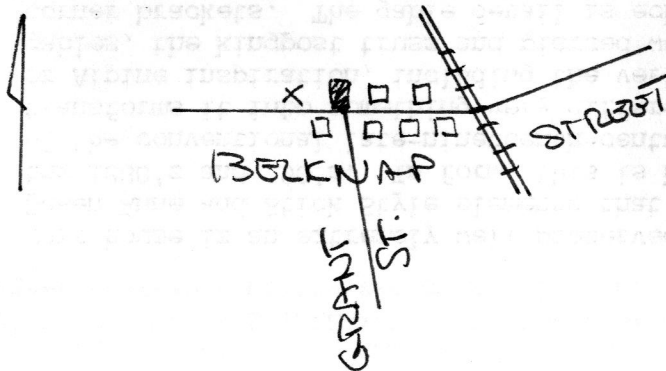
FORM NO.

Z

375



Indicate north



Town CONCORD
Address 118 Belknap Street
Historic Name Mark Loftus House
Use: Present dwelling
Original dwelling
DESCRIPTION
Date ca. 1885-89
Source maps; style
Style Q. Anne/Stick Style
Architect Mark Loftus (?)
Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard
Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none
Condition excellent

Moved no Date N/A
Acreage less than one acre
Setting Small lot, opposite

Grant; RR in rear; in area of fair-to
altered houses of similar date.

UTM REFERENCE Parcel G9-633

USGS QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

Recorded by A. Forbes

Organization for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date July, 1990

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

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

This house is an extremely well-preserved illustration of the eclectic combination of Queen Anne and Stick Style elements that became popular, especially west of Boston, in the 1880's and '90's. In form, this is basically a 2 1/2-story "upright-and-wing" house of the conventional late-nineteenth-century type. Its ornamentation, however, transforms it into something very different from its neighbors. Much of it is of Swiss or Alpine inspiration, including the vertical boarding and stick-work paneling under the gables, the kingpost truss and pierced-work gable screening and the saw-cut angular corner brackets. The gable detail is echoed elsewhere, as well: flared braces at the main entry support a heavy hipped and gabled hood with sawcut work, and the vertical boarding appears a second time in the facade of an entry porch to the side bay. Other trim is subdued, consisting only of narrow corner boards and unboxed, molded cornice, and simple square posts and plain braces on the porch. (Cont.)

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

This property, along with some of its immediate neighbors on Belknap Street, is likely to prove significant for its association with one type of small-scale speculator who invested in the development of the neighborhoods to the south and west of Concord center at the end of the nineteenth century--the carpenter/builder who built houses and then rented out or sold them. In this case it is highly likely that #118 was built by carpenter Mark Loftus who owned the strip of land on the north side of Belknap Street from the railroad to #132. It appears that he built first the house at #126/128 by 1875, then this house and one to its west, (now demolished). By 1906 all seven houses on the site today were standing, and it is tempting to think that he built them all. As he is listed in the 1906 directory as living "opposite Grant" Street, it is also tempting to think that he built this house for his own family, and that its elaborate carpentry work was an advertisement for his skills. At least two other Loftus family members lived in these houses at the beginning of this century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Town directories.

Maps, plans, and atlases: 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1903.

Richardson. Concord Chronicle.

CON. 375

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: CONCORD	Form No:
Property Name: 118 Belknap St.	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The veranda balustrade is a combination of vertical, diagonal, and horizontal stickwork. Windows, including a pair on the second story and a polygonal bay on the first story of the facade, are 2-over-2-sash. A diamond window appears under the east gable. Doors are of the two-light glass-and-panel type. The foundation is brick.