

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.36
Historic Name:	Jones, Elnathan Jr. House
Common Name:	Concord Academy Dormitory - Lee House
Address:	128 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	G9-1704
Year Constructed:	r 1835
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Dance Hall; Dormitory; Hotel or Inn; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Other Educational
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Recreation; Transportation
Area(s):	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
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

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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

G9-1704

CONCORD

DU

36

Town CONCORDPlace (neighborhood or village) Concord Center

128 Main Street

Historic Name "Coach House"Present dormitoryOriginal dwelling/coach-house and hallDate of Construction between 1829-39Style WheelerForm Greek RevivalArchitect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

brickFoundation wood clapboardWall/Trim asphalt shingle

Roof

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures noneMajor Alterations (with dates) exterior chimney on east.Condition goodMoved ☐ no ☒ yes Date betw. 1856, 1875Acreage less than one acre

Setting Near commercial district, opposite Concord Free Library. Second in line of large Federal and Greek Revival residences. School buildings to rear, wooden fence across front.

Recorded by Anne Forbes;
research by Sally Dallas
for Concord Hist. Commission

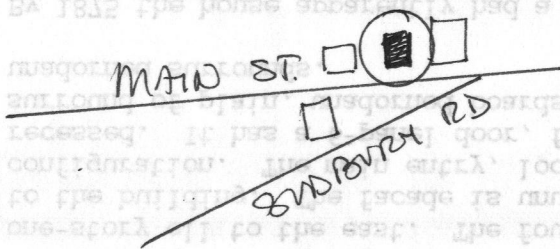
Organization June, 1992

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992



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.



BUILDING FORM

CON. 36

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

This building, today a significant example of a 2 1/2-story, pedimented, gable-end Greek Revival house, is a conversion of the two-story wing that was built onto the west side of #122 some time between 1829 and 1839. It had a coach and carriage shed on the first floor, and a hall above where parties and balls were held. #122 was converted to a double house some time after 1856, and it was evidently at that time that the "coach house" wing was separated from the building, turned 90 degrees, and converted to a dwelling house. A two-story wing extends to the rear, and a one-story ell to the east. The four high interior corner chimneys may be original to the building. The facade is unusual in its four-bay, non-symmetrical configuration. The main entry, located in the second bay from the east, is recessed. It has a 6-panel door, full-length divided sidelights, and an outer surround of plain, unadorned boards. The windows are 6-over-6-sash, also with flat, unadorned surrounds.

By 1875 the house apparently had a large attached carriage house or other extension across the back of the rear wing. It was gone by 1889.

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.

Further research will be necessary to determine the exact construction date of this building. Like #122 Main next door, it stands on part of the former farm of Elnathan Jones, Jr., where a small dwelling was standing in 1796. The property was bought by Joseph Cordis at about that time; he sold it to John Richardson in 1798, who rented #122 to Jonathan Wheelock who ran a tavern there from 1801 through 1821.

In 1829 the tavern was taken over by William Shepherd, part owner of the stage line to Keene, N.H. Mr. Shepherd called his establishment Shepherd's Hotel, and cultivated a "better" class of patrons than the teamsters who frequented the Bigelow Tavern just to the east (now gone.) He expanded the building by erecting a large addition on the west side for a coach and carriage shed, with a hall upstairs that was used for balls and parties. Among those who hosted an annual ball there was the Concord Light Infantry Company. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906.
Sanborns from 1903.

Keyes/Tolman.

Wheeler House File #M2.

Town directories and tax files.

Richardson, Concord Chronicle.

Concord Academy records.

- ☒ 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

"Coach House"

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
36

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

In 1839 Mr. Shepherd relocated to Manchester, New Hampshire, where he ran a large hotel for the next forty years. Although Wheeler says the next owner of the tavern was Col. Joseph Holbrook, according to research by school personnel it was "Howe's Hotel" from 1839 to 1846, and Holbrook owned it from 1846 to as late as 1884. (Maps, however, indicate that it had passed out of his ownership by 1875.)

Under Holbrook's ownership the tavern/hotel was known as the Coffee House. The coming of the Fitchburg Railroad in 1844 ushered in the end of the stage coaches and a decline in the hotel and tavern business, however. It was apparently Mr. Holbrook moved the "coach house" wing to the west and converted both it and the tavern into houses, (some time after 1852, when the two are still shown as one building).

By 1875 #128 was owned by builder and house-painter Edward S. Barrett. He died shortly thereafter, and the next owner was a Dr. Cook, a homeopathic physician. He must have owned it for a very short time before it was bought by William M. Prichard, who rented it out. Among his tenants was Orlando Underhill, a retired leather dealer, who came to Concord from Boston and later moved further west on Main Street. Some time in the early eighties it was acquired by one of Concord's beloved and eccentric physicians, Dr. George E. Titcomb. (He and his wife only lived here briefly--see also their later home at #67 Sudbury Road.)

The building was rented out for several years thereafter. One of its occupants were Henry D. Coolidge, (see #91 Sudbury Road.) By 1906 it had been acquired by Moses B.L. Bradford. Today he is remembered for establishing the first golf course in Concord on the land behind this house and #140 next door. (See Area form, "Concord Country Club.") He apparently rented out the house, evidently to family members, as well. According to Tolman the occupant in 1915 was Horace Bradford.

In 1937 the building was owned by Mrs. John P. Bowditch. It was later acquired by Concord Academy, which named it Lee House, after a parent and trustee. It was first remodeled as the headmaster's home in 1963, then in 1972 converted to a dormitory.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

CON. 36
Property Address
128 Main Street

Area(s)	Form No.
	36

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 district of large well-preserved houses of the late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-centuries at Concord center. For the role it played in the town's development as an extension of an early nineteenth-century tavern it meets Criterion A; as part of a large, stylish Federal/Greek Revival tavern complex, it meets Criterion C. In spite of having been turned 90 degrees and converted to a dwelling, it possesses integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.