

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.449
Historic Name:	Temple, Richard - Stone - Munroe House
Common Name:	
Address:	222 Barrett's Mill Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	F6-1654
Year Constructed:	1671
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian
Use(s):	Agricultural; Furniture Factory; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Industry
Area(s):	CON.CO: Barrett's Mill Road Area CON.DT: Barrett Farm Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (10/10/1972)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Granite; Stone, Cut; Stone, Uncut



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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

F6-1654

CONCORD

CO

449

Town

CONCORD

neighborhood or village)

222 Barrett's Mill Road

c Name

Temple/Stone House
Munroe/Merriam House

Present

dwelling

Original

dwelling

f Construction

parts 1671; en-
larged mid-18th century
Wheeler, visual
assessment

orm

Georgian vernacular

ect/Builder

unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation

fieldstone and granite

Wall/Trim

wood clapboard

Roof

asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

small ca. 1960 artist's studio

Major Alterations (with dates)

20th-century:
greenhouse on wing facade, shed dormer
on rear. West end porch enclosed,
garage doors on e. end.

Condition

good

Moved

☒

no

☐

yes

Date

N/A

Acreage

2.17 acres

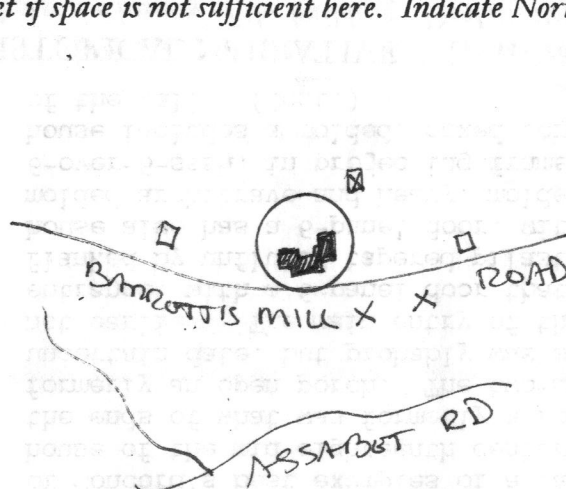
Setting

On open lot with stone barn

foundation to east, cottage behind
to north. Opposite stone wall and
large open meadow.

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.



Anne Forbes;

Recorded by

Organization

research by Susan Sekuler
for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year)

June, 1992

CON. 449

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

This house is one of many in Concord that enclose all or part of a very early house within its walls. The presence of a "gunstock" post in one of the rear rooms is one clue, although it is generally believed that one of the front first story rooms pre-dates the rest of the house. The exterior of the house today, however, is one of Concord's best examples of a large, two-room-deep, 2 1/2-story center-chimney house of the mid-eighteenth century. Two side wings flank the rear house corners at the ends of what was formerly a rear leanto. That on the west, now a low ell, was formerly an open porch. The two-story wing on the east, with rear leanto, is of uncertain date, but probably was standing at least by the mid-nineteenth century, if not earlier. The main entry of the house is in a pedimented projecting lobby entrance, with a 6-panel door that appears to date to the Federal period. It is flanked by unfluted tapered pilasters. A second entry in the east wall of the main house also has a 6-panel door, with glass in the top two panes. This door has a molded architrave and heavy, molded lintel. The windows of the main house are 6-over-6-sash, in projecting frames. 6-over-9-sash appear in the east wing. The house includes a molded, boxed cornice with a very heavy complex molding at the top of the wall. (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.

Ruth Wheeler did considerable deed research on this area of Barrett's Mill Road, but it is still difficult to trace the earliest ownership of this property. It is clearly significant, however, for its role in the early development of the area north of the Assabet River near Spencer Brook, as well as for its nineteenth century owners, especially William Munroe.

The oldest part of the house is believed to have been built by Richard Temple in 1671. He had bought a considerable amount of land here in 1654, but apparently had lived on Liberty Street, selling his old house lot there when he and his family moved here. As was common in the latter part of the seventeenth century, Richard Temple divided his large land holdings among his sons before he died. This portion, then including 100 acres with "mansion or dwelling-house, barns, outhouses, gardens, yards, fencing, and all that is appertaining to the same," went to his son Isaac Temple. In return Isaac agreed to take care of his father and mother until they died, and to give them a "decent buryall." (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, 1875, 1889, 1906.
Keyes/Tolman.
Town directories and tax files.
Interview with owner, 4/92
Wheeler House File #Bar 2.
Walcott, "Titles."
Jarvis.

☐ 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

Temple/Stone/Munroe
Merriam House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
CO 449

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Interior details give many hints as to the evolution of the house. Vertical-board doors, possibly dating to the First Period, are re-used in some locations. Diagonal fireplaces are cut into the center chimney in the front rooms, possibly indicating an update in the Federal period. Much of the interior woodwork may be attributed to William Munroe himself, including a curving staircase, interior shutters and paneled fireplace cupboards, both of which feature a distinctive figure-eight cut out in the panels.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

In 1722 Isaac sold the house, with 20 acres, to **Ebenezer Townsend**. He was a "clothier," (i.e. a cloth finisher,) and thus undoubtedly ran the small fulling mill on Spencer Brook. He in turn sold the property in 1724 to **Samuel Chandler**, a housewright. Chandler deeded it in 1731 to his son-in-law **Joseph Dudley**. It is possible that none of these three owners lived in the house, however, for in the last transaction Chandler refers to Isaac Temple and his wife Prudence as still living there.

In 1740, Joseph Dudley sold the property, with an additional three acres across the road, to a small company called the "Manufactory Company," which was attempting to issue paper money secured by mortgages on land. The company later failed, but was apparently still in operation in 1754, when a house shown here on the Benjamin Brown plan is labeled "Locke's House." (Locke is believed to have been agent for the Manufactory Company.)

The next known owner, later in the eighteenth century, was **Capt. John Stone**. His epitaph tells that he designed "that modern and justly celebrated piece of architecture, Charles River Bridge" between Boston and Charlestown. His daughter Patty married **William Munroe, Sr.** He was a highly-skilled cabinetmaker, and he and his wife lived here with Martha Stone, John Stone's widow, from 1807 to 1811. Here William Munroe made clock cases in a shop attached to the house, possibly today part of the east wing. William and Patty moved to Lexington Road for several years, but returned in 1820 and lived here again until 1844. By then William Munroe had a successful furniture and his pioneering pencil business, which was also carried on here at the house.

Sometime after 1844 Col. Joseph Holbrook evidently bought the farm, but by 1847 it belonged to **Darius Meriam**. He was a farmer, who lived here through the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1875 he sold it to **Amos Cook**, whose farm further to the west had just been taken by the state for the construction of the new state prison. He owned the house until at least 1889. In 1906 it appears under the name of farmer **Charles L. Miner**. Shortly thereafter it was apparently acquired by **Dr. Theodore Chamberlain**, who sold it in 1910 to **Christian Olsen**. He sold it in 1929 to **Lincoln R. Soule**. The Soules tore down an existing barn, and made some interior renovations. In 1936 it was purchased by **Eben Corey**. The property is still in the Corey family today.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community	Property Address
CONCORD	222 Barretts Mill Road

Area(s)	FormNo.
CO	449

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 individual listing on the National Register both for its well-preserved architecture, (a well-preserved 17th/18th-century 2 1/2-story, center-chimney farmhouse which displays the work of a prominent 19th-century cabinetmaker on the interior,) and for its association with several important farming families of the North Quarter. In addition, it is eligible as the home of William Munroe, Sr., credited with having been the first manufacturer in the country of lead pencils.

It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.