

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.57
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Munroe, Francis House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	300 Main St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Concord Center
<b>Local No:</b>	G9-1713
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1845
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Colonial Revival; Greek Revival
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Slate Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard; Wood Flushboard Foundation: Granite; Stone, Cut



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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)

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 30, 2020 at 11:22 AM

## FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

G9-1713

CONCORD

DU

57

RECEIVED

Town

CONCORD

SECT B

(neighborhood or village)

Concord center

300 Main Street

SS

Francis Monroe House

Historic Name

Present

dwelling

Original

dwelling

Year of Construction

1845

Style

Keyes/Tolman;

Form

Greek Revival, up-  
dated to Federal Revival

Architect/Builder

unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation

dressed granite

Wall/Trim

wood clapboard and flushboard

Roof

slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

3-car garage

Major Alterations (with dates)

1-story

addition at rear--ca. 1970; a few  
windows replaced; rear enlarged and  
glassed sleeping porch added at NE  
corner--early 20th century

Condition

excellent

Moved

☒

no

☐

yes

Date N/A

Acreage

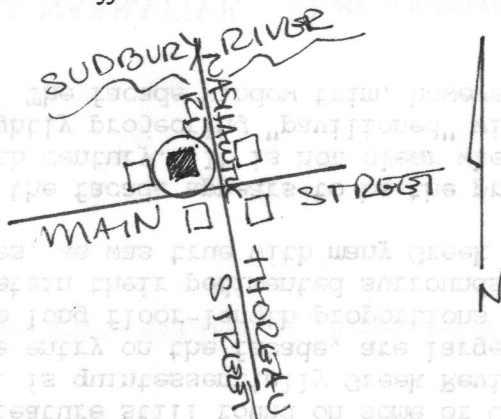
1.25 acres

Setting

In residential district of 18th-  
to 19th-century houses, on corner of  
Nashawtuc Road. Rear yard has high-board  
fence, backing up to river. Hedges  
along front and side, circular drive in  
front.

## 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.



A. Forbes

research by Anne Hayden

Recorded by for Concord Hist. Commission

Organization June, 1992

Date (month/day/year)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

#300 Main Street is one of Concord center's most intriguing hybrid houses. It was built in 1845 at the height of the Greek Revival period, but underwent a substantial renovation in about 1910, when its facade was updated with Federal Revival elements. It is a 2 1/2-story, three- by four-bay gable-roofed house with a two-story rear wing. It has three of what would probably have been four tall interior corner chimneys, a Federal period feature still found on some of Concord's 1840's houses. Most of the detail here, however, is quintessentially Greek Revival. The windows, including a tripartite window over the entry on the facade, are large-paned 6-over-6-sash. Those at the first story have the long floor-length proportions typical of the 1840's, and the windows on the end walls retain their pedimented surrounds. The roof has a deep overhang on all sides, and the eaves, as was true with many Greek Revival houses in Concord, are unboxed.

Much of the facade appears to be the product of the Federal Revival taste of the early twentieth century. It is not clear whether the facade's present flushboard sheathing and slightly projecting "pavilioned" window bays are original or the product of an update. The facade window trim, however, which consists of (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.*

This house was built in 1845 by **Francis Munroe** (b. 1814), brother of William Munroe, Jr., who later built his own residence directly across the street. Francis Munroe first joined his father, William, (see #222 Barrett's Mill Road,) in his pencil-manufacturing business. In 1844 he married Phebe Davis of Gloucester, and this house was built for their wedding. After his father's death, in the mid-1850's he sold the pencil factory and moved to Vermont, where he was involved in a lumbering business. (During that time the house was rented to J. Fay Barrett.) The lumber business failed, however, as did Mr. Munroe's health, and he came back to Concord and this house in the mid-1860's. After he returned he served for a short time as Concord's Superintendent of Public Grounds. He died in 1870 at the age of 55.

Mrs. Munroe lived on in the house until her death in about 1910. The house was purchased by **Abram Hoffeecker**, a manufacturer, who made, according to Tolman, "extensive alterations and additions" to the house. It was evidently he who updated the building with much of its Federal Revival detailing. He died sometime before 1930, the year his wife died. The property was subsequently owned, at least through the 1930's, by Dr. John Baker.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Maps, atlases: 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, Nashawtuc Hill 1883-84, 1889, 1893, 1906.  
Keyes/Tolman "Houses in Concord." 1885; rev. 1915 and 1920's.  
Town Directories and tax lists.  
Social Circle Memoirs.  
Interview with owner, February, 1992.  
Concord Chronicle.

☒ 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

CONCORDFrancis Munroe House

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

57

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

rectilinear-bracketed, or "modillioned" crowns, is more Federal than Greek, as is the wide, elegant entry, with leaded sidelights and a large-paneled door. A pair of pitch-roofed dormers with round-topped sash and keystone, heavy-molded surrounds, were also added during the 1910's. A wraparound porch appears on maps as early as 1875; the present porch is supported on Tuscan columns.

CON-57

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community  
CONCORD

Property Address  
300 Main Street

Area(s)	Form No.
	57

## 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 house meets the criteria for listing on the National Register as part of a district of large well-preserved buildings of the late eighteenth- to nineteenth-centuries at Concord center. As a high-style example of both the Greek Revival and later Federal Revival, it meets Criterion C. It possesses integrity of design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.