

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.59
Historic Name:	Jones, Capt. Samuel - Channing, William Ellery Hs
Common Name:	
Address:	325 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	G9-731
Year Constructed:	c 1767
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture; Social History
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: Granite; Stone, Cut



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

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

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 30, 2020 at 11:23 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

G9-731

CONCORD

59

Town

CONCORD

(neighborhood or village)

Concord center

325 Main Street

SS

Jones/Channing House

Historic Name

dwelling

Present

dwelling

Original

ca. 1767

Date of Construction

date on chimney; visual

Style

assessment

Georgian vernacular

Form

unknown

Architect/Builder

Foundation Material:

dressed granite

Foundation

wood clapboard

Wall/Trim

asphalt shingle

Roof

small

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

barn/garage at rear, close to house

Major Alterations (with dates)

small shed dormer on rear.

Condition

excellent

Moved ☐ no ☒ yes

Date 1867

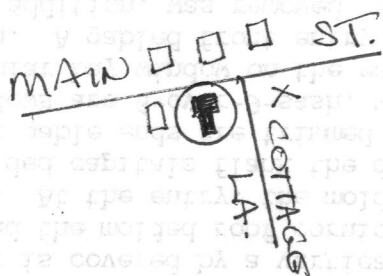
Acreage

less than one acre

Setting In residential district of 18th-
to 19th-century houses, at corner of
Cottage Lane. Open lot with wide side
yard, surrounded by rectangular-
picket fence.

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 Cathy Parmelee

Recorded by for Concord Hist. CommissionOrganization 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.

This house is one of Concord center's best examples of one of the classic house-types of the second half of the eighteenth century, and the oldest structure on this section of Main Street west of Thoreau. It is a typical 2 1/2-story, two-room-deep farmhouse, with a pair of chimneys just behind the ridge, and a 1-story rear wing. The facade is five bays wide, and displays some of the Georgian-inspired decorative detail that appeared even on vernacular houses after 1750. A five-pane transom over the main entry (where the door is covered by a vertical-board storm door,) lets light into the central stair hall, and the molded roof cornice is embellished with both a dentil course and bead molding. At the entry, the molded lintel also has a dentil course, and simple pilasters with molded capitals flank the door. Typically, the cornerboards are narrow and plain. The roof gable ends are trimmed with a rake molding, but do not overhang the end walls. The windows are 6-over-9-sash, with projecting frames and molded crowns. A one-story rectangular bay window on the east end appears to be a late-nineteenth-century addition. A gabled front entry hood, probably a late-nineteenth- or early-twentieth-century addition, was removed some time after 1937. (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.

One of the most significant houses on lower Main Street, #325 was originally the farmhouse on the farm of Samuel Jones. It stood northeast across Main Street on part of the lot that is today #252. Its exact construction date is somewhat unclear, but a date on one of the chimneys says 1767. This tallies with one part of Ruth Wheeler's notes, which say that **Capt. Samuel Jones**, (1741-1812) bought the property on which it stood some time before 1772. This Samuel Jones was a blacksmith; he married Hepzibah, sister of Ephraim Jones. He was a captain in both the Third Regiment of the Militia and the Concord Light Infantry, and apparently owned the house until his death.

Owners' research has traced the subsequent property transfers as follows. 1812: estate of Capt. Jones owed \$1584; property to be sold at auction. 1815: purchased by **Amos Wood**. 1820: Amos Wood gave it to **David Wood**, evidently a minor. Around this time the record becomes somewhat unclear, as other Wood family members and **Ebenezer Conant** all apparently had some connection with the property, which ended up in the hands of **Elijah Wood**, who is shown as owner in 1824. (See #41 Wood Street and #631 Main Street for more information on this branch of the Wood family.) By 1829 the house had been acquired by attorney **Nathan Brooks** and farmer **Abel Moore**, who sold it in that year to **Elisha Fuller**. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☒ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, (former location); ca. 1871, 1875, 1906.
Sanborns from 1903.
Keyes/Tolman "Houses in Concord." 1885; rev. 1915 and 1920's.
Town Directories and tax lists.
Wheeler House file #M16.
Interview with owner, 1992. (Cont.)

☒ 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

CONCORDJones/Channing House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
59

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

In the later 1800's this house shared a large, wide lot with the house just west at #333. Maps indicate that the barn/carriage house just to the rear was standing by 1875; it is still a well-preserved example of a small gable-end barn with rolling door and hay door in the gable.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Fuller, a lawyer, was evidently acting as agent for a physician, Dr. Thomas Foster, who died before the transaction could be completed. Elisha Fuller held the property until 1837, when he sold it to A.W. Fuller, also a lawyer. The remains of the farm, about nine acres, was then broken up with the house finally going to Ellen Fuller Channing as at least part owner, apparently as the result of an inheritance. (Other transactions during the 1840's had included a transfer from the last Jones owners [William and Hepsibeth] to John Cheney, and subsequently to John S. Keyes, who moved the house slightly to the west on its lot.) By 1849 Ellen's husband, William Ellery Channing, was the owner.

William Ellery Channing (1817-1901,) nephew of the Unitarian minister of the same name, was one of the most well-known American poets of his time, although he never achieved material success. As a young man he had sent some of his poetry to Ralph Waldo Emerson, and eventually became a close friend of Emerson, Thoreau, and Sanborn. When he and his wife expressed a desire to move to Concord, it was Thoreau (whose biography Channing later wrote) who arranged for them to live in the little cottage at 142 Cambridge Turnpike, where they moved in 1843. In 1844 Channing went to New York to be assistant editor of the Tribune. The Channings returned to Concord the next year, living for a while on Monument Street, then moved to this house in about 1849. (That is the date indicated by the deeds; it contradicts Sanborn's date of 1851-2, however.) Here they were visited on occasion by Ellen's sister, well-known editor and transcendentalist Margaret Fuller. Beginning in 1855 the west part of the house was rented by Franklin Sanborn, at whose house on Elm Street Channing was to spend his last years. (See #106 Elm Street.) Sanborn lived here with his sister, Sarah, for several years. In 1857 John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, stayed here as Sanborn's guest, and in the years prior to the Civil War, partly because of Sanborn's position as a leader of the anti-slavery movement, the house was frequently used by fugitive slaves as a stop on the "Underground Railroad."

Ellen Channing died in 1856, and in 1865 Channing sold the property to Frederic Hudson, a journalist who was one of the founders of the Associated Press, and editor of the New York Herald during the Civil War. Mr. Hudson took up residence in another house on the lot until his death in 1875, and for the rest of the nineteenth century the building underwent a succession of owners. In 1867 express agent, carriage builder, and former farmer L. Willis Bean and his wife Sarah purchased the building and moved it by a sled pulled by 22 yoke of oxen to its present site. (Cont.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORDJones/Channing House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

59

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The Beans did not live here for very long, however. For five years, from 1873 to 1878, the house was owned by **Elizabeth Hanscom**, who sold it to **Augustus and Corinne Chamberlaine**. The Chamberlaines, who at that time were evidently living across the street at #310, built the barn on the property, rented out the house, and sold it in 1884 to **Margarette Dorman**. She sold it in 1887 to **Mary L. James**, wife of artist Robertson James. The Jameses apparently lived here only a short time, as they were soon to build a new residence on Nashawtuc Hill, but retained ownership of the house until they died. After Mary James' death in 1922 the property was inherited by a long-time tenant, Miss **Harriet P. Rood**, a teacher in the Concord public schools. In 1946 her heirs sold the house to **James Eliot Newton**, who owned and managed the Cooley's store on the Milldam. It has since been owned by the Roberts family.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Moss, Marcia. A Catalog of Thoreay's Surveys in the Concord Free Public Library. 1976.
Roberts, Gordon. Unpublished notes.
Roberts, Julia. Unpublished notes.
Social Circle Memoirs.
Greeley, Dana. Know these Concordians.
Concord Chronicle.
Shattuck.
Sanborn, Franklin. The Life and Letters of John Brown.
Wheeler, Concord, Climate for Freedom.

CON. 59

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
325 Main Street

Area(s)	Form No.
	59

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

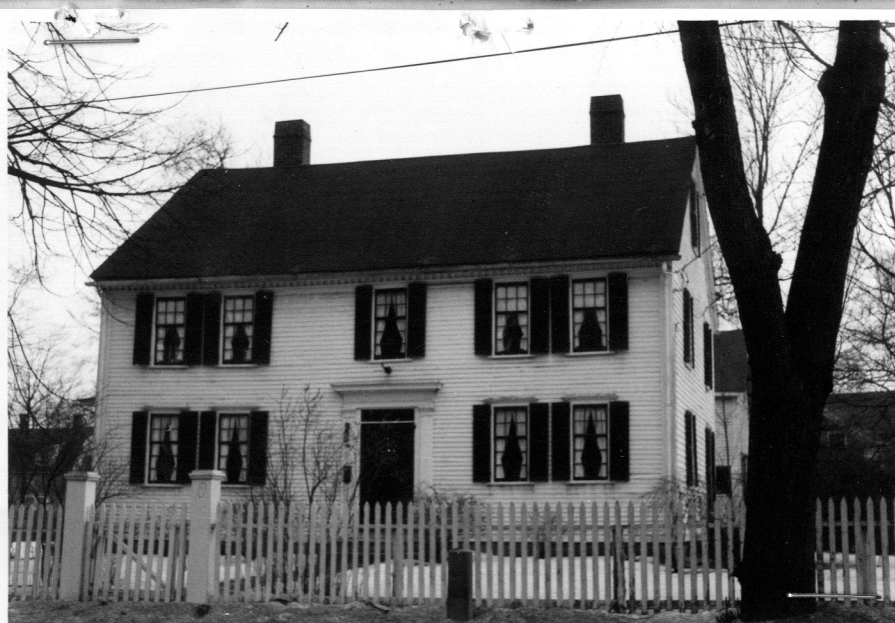
Criteria: ☒ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D

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 individual listing on the National Register and as part of a district of large well-preserved buildings of the late eighteenth- to nineteenth-centuries at Concord center. As the eighteenth-century farmhouse of Capt. Samuel Jones it meets Criterion A. As the primary home of poet William Ellery Channing, it qualifies under Criterion B. As a well-preserved example of a Georgian vernacular farmhouse, it also meets Criterion C. In spite of having been moved, it possesses integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.



CON. 59' HD? Area B 25
wn Concord
eet 325 85 Main St
me Wm Eliza Channing House
iginal Use _____
esent Use _____
esent Owner private
te 19th Style _____
urce of Date land guess
chitect _____

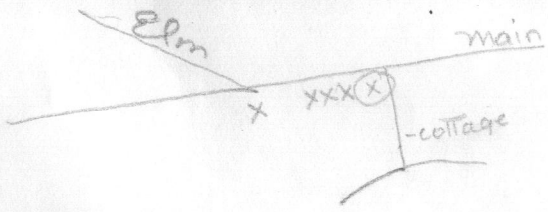
3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered _____
IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: cut stone
WALL COVER: Wood shapboard Brick Stone Other _____
STORIES: 1 2 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular
ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency rear ell Simple/Complex
PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony _____ Recessed _____
ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork _____
FACADE: Gable End: Front/Side Symmetrical/Asymmetrical Simple/Complex Ornament
Entrance: Front/Side Centered Double Features: plaster
Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 6/9 entablature + cornice
Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured cornerboard

OUTBUILDINGS _____ LANDSCAPING _____

5. Indicate location of structure on map below 6. Footage of structure from street 20'
Property has _____ feet frontage on street



Recorder _____
For _____
Photo VII-20
68-571

209.0	65.1.025
-------	----------

NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form. (See Reverse Side)

2-2
A-2 A-3
HD

FOR USE WITH IMPORTANT STRUCTURES (Indicate any interior features of note)

Fireplace

Stairway

Other

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

b. 1818 - 1901

1850-62 lived in this house

Harvard 1834 - earliest poem 1835

wrote biography of Thoreau. contributed to Dial

"last of the Concord brotherhood"

REFERENCE (Where was this information obtained? What book, records, etc.)

~~Colonial Concord~~ - ~~Concord of 1918~~ - ~~Concord~~

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Original Owner:

Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____

Registry of Deeds