

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.167
Historic Name:	McManus, Francis II House
Common Name:	
Address:	520 Lexington Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Merriam's Corner
Local No:	I9-4083
Year Constructed:	r 1895
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Victorian Eclectic
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Archaeology, Historic; Architecture
Area(s):	CON.DS: American Mile Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/06/1961)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: 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

CON. 167

Massachusetts Historical Commission

80 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02116-1111 1 5 1003

9-4083

CONCORD

DS

167

LHD. 3/6/61



CONCORD

Neighborhood or village)

Merriam's Corner

520 Lexington Road

Name Francis McManus, 2nd House

Type dwelling

Use dwelling

Construction 1900-1901;
(possibly earlier 19th C.)Assessor/s records; visual
assessment

Style vernac. Victorian/Queen Anne

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

1-car concrete-block garage

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition excellent

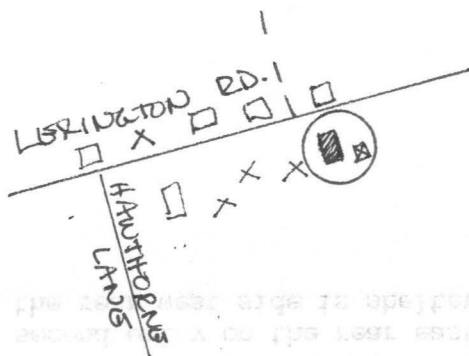
Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage four acres

Setting In residential district of
18th-19th-century houses near town center.
Modern houses interspersed. Close to
road.

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.



Recorded by A. Forbes
research by Tedd Osgood
for Concord Hist. Commission

Organization
June, 1992

Date (month/day/year)

BUILDING FORM

CON. 167

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

#520 is a well-preserved 2 1/2-story two-bay "gable-end" building with mass-produced architectural trim that is typical of vernacular houses built at the turn of this century. A simple house, its wraparound veranda with turned posts and lacy brackets nevertheless lends a note of the Queen Anne decorative taste to the building. The 2-over-2-sash windows have unadorned surrounds and shutters. The house has three entries--the facade door is a later 4-panel door with four lights across the top; a second entry on the rear east side has a single-light glass-and-panel door; a third on the rear west side is sheltered by a door hood on Tuscan columns.

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.

Documentary evidence on the origin of this house is somewhat contradictory. It may at least stand on the foundations of the Ephraim Bull's former mid-nineteenth-century goldbeater's shop, (see #491 Lexington Road,) since J.S. Keyes, writing in 1885, refers to a building at this location as "a good sized two-story house formerly used by Mr. Bull for his goldbeaters shop, but of late years a tenement house." According to Tolman, however, that house stood across the street, and was torn down at the turn of the century. Maps suggest that he may be referring to a building that appears east of the Bull cottage on the maps of 1852, 1856, 1875, and on the highway plan of 1898. He says that the former Bull shop/tenement was bought and demolished by the Peppers and Coburns, who built their houses on the ridge north of the Bull cottage in 1900-1901.

Although there is a slight possibility that, instead of having been torn down, that building may have been moved here and remodeled, by all appearances this is a house typical of the turn of the century. It is remembered today as the second home of **Francis McManus, 2nd** and his wife **Sarah Quinn McManus**, who came to Concord from Ireland sometime between 1886 and 1892. They formerly lived at #575 Lexington Road; as late as 1898 they are shown as owners of that house, as well as of a field here at this location. They moved here to their new home in 1900-01. Their farm (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1906; Sanborns from 1927.

Keyes/Tolman.

Town directories and Assessor's records.

Interviews with Kathleen Horgan, granddaughter of Francis McManus, 2nd., and neighbor Mary Flannery Bufton, 3/92.

☐ 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

CONCORD520 Lexington Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

167

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

stretched south from Lexington Road down to the wetlands of the Mill Brook. They grew potatoes and other crops which they sold at a roadside stand. This Francis McManus was primarily a farmer; he was not related to the Francis McManus who with his brother ran the livery stable on Thoreau Street. Two of Francis and Sarah's daughters lived here until the middle of this century.