

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.169
Historic Name:	
Common Name:	
Address:	575 Lexington Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Merriam's Corner
Local No:	I9-4179
Year Constructed:	c 1800
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Federal; No style
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	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



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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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Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street

19-4179

CONCORD

169



CONCORD

Neighborhood or village)

Merriam's Corner

575 Lexington Road

Name Coggswell(?) / Cook House;
Frank McManus, 2nd House
dwelling

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Construction ca. 1800

Visual assessment; Our American
Mile

Federal period vernacular

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

fieldstone

Foundation

Wall/Trim

wood clapboard

Roof

asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

small garage/cottage

Major Alterations (with dates)

no significant alterations

Condition

excellent

Moved ☐ no ☐ yes

Date (see P. 2)

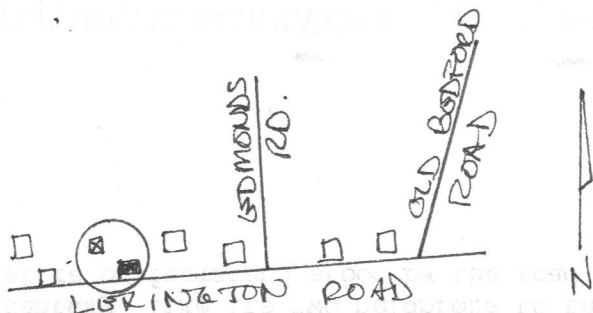
Acreage

less than one acre

Setting in residential district of 18th- to
19th-century houses near Merriam's Cor-
ner. Backed by ridge; granite retaining
wall across 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

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.

One of the smallest and simplest in design of Lexington Road's many historic houses, this little one-story cottage is one room deep, with a three bay facade and a short, one-bay east wing. The windows are 6-over-6-sash, with flat surrounds. The center entry has a paneled door with glass panes at the top, and a narrow flat-board surround. Several features here, such as the lack of roof overhang at the gable ends, suggest a construction date prior to 1825.

This building remained a tiny one-room house as late as the 1920's. Early in this century, like its two neighbors to the west at #533 and 555 Lexington Road, a small store or farmstand stood by the road in front of the house.

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 required to trace the history of #575 Lexington Road, which may date as far back as the late eighteenth century. Ruth Wheeler has established that the house stands on the site of the original house lot granted to Christopher Wooley, and owned by him and his descendants for over a century. As is the case with several of its neighbors, however, some contradictions exist as to the property's later ownership, especially since it is located in an area where at least one small cottage was demolished near the turn of the century, making map identification somewhat difficult. Keyes surmises that this is the tiny house referred to by Jarvis as owned by Huldah Williams early in the nineteenth century. Maps show a house in this position by 1830, when it appears without an owner's name. On the maps of 1852 and 1856 it is shown under the name of L. Coggsell, and from ca. 1871 through 1875 as the property of Mrs. Cook. This is undoubtedly Almira Cook, the woman Keyes refers to as "Miss Cook," who was partially supported by the town, living here in the summer and the alms house in the winter. By 1892 the house belonged to farmer Francis McManus, 2nd and his wife Sarah Quinn McManus, who came to Concord from Ireland, (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889, highway plan of 1898 (courtesy of MMNHP,) 1906; Sanborns from 1927.
Keyes/Tolman "Houses in Concord." 1885; rev. 1915 and 1920's.
Jarvis, "Houses and People in Concord." 1882.
Town Directories and tax lists.
Wheeler, Ruth. "Our American Mile."

- ☐ 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

Coggswell/Cook/
McManus House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
169

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

probably in the late 1880's. In 1901 they moved to their new house at 520 Lexington Road, and in 1906 the house appears under **Charles Pepper's** name. While long-time neighbors believe that it was moved down from the ridge by Charles Pepper when he built his large house up the hill at #525 Lexington Road in 1901, the highway map of 1898 certainly appears to show the house in this position at that time.

According to Tolman, the house was acquired by **Thomas McPhillips** (see also #s 555 and 601 Lexington Road) in 1919. Long-time neighbors say that for some years before 1930 it was owned by the Hogans of 533 Lexington Road, who rented it out.