

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.261
Historic Name:	Mason, David - Robbins, W. Barn
Common Name:	
Address:	594 Strawberry Hill Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	E5-1971-1
Year Constructed:	1893
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	No style; Victorian Eclectic
Use(s):	Agricultural; Dairy; Out Building
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: 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

E5-1971-1

MAYNARD

261

Town CONCORD(neighborhood or village) SECT AAddress 594 Strawberry Hill RoadHistoric Name David Mason barnW. Robbins FarmPresent barnOriginal barnDate of Construction 1893Carving carved on facadeStyle/Form Utilitarian "New England"barnArchitect/Builder unknown

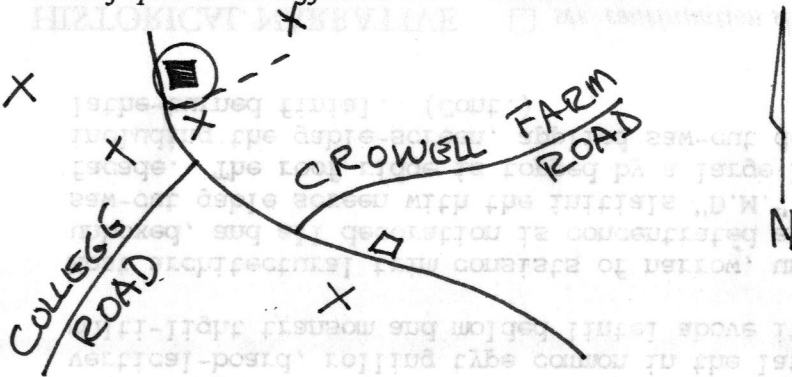
Prior Material:

Foundation granite and fieldstoneWall/Trim wood clapboardRoof asphalt shingleOutbuildings/Secondary Structures modernhouse just west on same parcelMajor Alterations (with dates) two modern flush doorsCondition excellentMoved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/AAcreage 2.61 acres

Setting In vicinity of modern houses on large lots; opposite Annursnac conservation land. Close to road, with post-and-rail fence in front, small orchard to north.

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
Organization research by Beatrice von Baeyer for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) May, 1991

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

Although the farmhouse to which it was attached is now gone, this barn remains in almost completely intact condition. Although it may include an earlier structure, the building today is one of the most magnificent examples in Concord of a large "New England" barn of the end of the nineteenth century, and is all the more significant because it can be seen at close proximity from the road. As is true of all "New England" barn construction, its facade and main wagon door are in the gable end. The building is flanked by a 1-story cross-gabled ell on either side. All doors are of the vertical-board, rolling type common in the late 1800's; the central wagon door has a multi-light transom and molded lintel above it.

Most architectural trim consists of narrow, unadorned boarding. The roof eaves are unboxed, and all decoration is concentrated at its upper section, where an elaborate saw-cut gable screen with the initials "D.M." and the date of 1893 appears over the facade. The roof ridge is topped by a large belvidere or "lantern" with similar detail, including the gable-screen, applied saw-cut decoration below the windows, and a lathe-turned finial. (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 barn is significant as the only surviving structure from one of several farms which fronted on the east side of Strawberry Hill Road (formerly the Old Acton Road) in the nineteenth century. As the carving on its belvidere indicates, it was either built or substantially rebuilt (according to a former owner it was the latter) in 1893 by David Mason, who operated a model dairy and truck farm here from the late nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries.

David Mason married the daughter of Warren Robbins, who established a farm here which encompassed 100 acres prior to 1852. Robbins built both a house and barn at this location, close to the road. The farm was inherited first by Robbins' widow, then by his daughter and David Mason, who apparently remodeled both the house and barn in the mid-1890's. (Cont.)

After David Mason's death, (ca. 1930), the farm was inherited by his daughter, Emma B. Mason, and eventually by the Mason's granddaughter Emma M. Bresnick, who used the building as a horse barn, and ran a riding school on the property.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Maps and atlases: (1852, 1856, 1875, 1889--Robbins farm shown;) 1906 Walker Atlas:
Mason farm.

Keyes, I, 124.

Town directories.

Interview with former owner, spring 1991.

☐ 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

CONCORDMason Barn

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

261

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Most windows here are 6-over-6-sash; the northern ell also has one 6-light window, a 4-light transom window on the facade, and a pitch-roofed dormer. A shed-roofed entry vestibule on the ell facade may be original to the building, or a relatively early addition.

Until 1985 a farmhouse stood just to the north of this building. Old photos of the 1920's and 40's show the barn looking as it does today, and nearly abutting a tall cross-gabled "gable-end" house of typically 1890's proportions, with gable-screen detail similar to that which survives on the barn.

