

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.1506
Historic Name:	Russell, Benjamin F. house
Common Name:	
Address:	1305 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	c 1900
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CON.F: Derby Addition CON.DD: Main Streetscape V
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Shingle Foundation: Stone, Uncut



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 12:06 PM

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

2610

Concord

F,DD

CON.1506

Town/City: Concord

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
West Concord

Address: 1305 Main St.

Historic Name: Benjamin F. and Phebe Russell

Uses: Present: Single-family Residential

Original: Single-family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1900

Source: Historic Maps

Style/Form: Dutch Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Field Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingles

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

A late twentieth century, one-story, two-car garage is located to the south of the residence - 1985

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: .220 Acres

Setting: Located on a corner lot in a residential area located along Main Street to the west of the village of Concord Junction, the business center of West Concord. The lot features foundation plantings and mature trees.

Recorded by: Geoffrey Melhuish

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (*month / year*): July 2013

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2013

MASS. HIST. COMM.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1305 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F,DD

CON.1506

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

The Benjamin Russell House at 1305 Main Street (CON.1506) is a one-and-one-half story wood-frame Dutch Colonial Revival. The three-by-three bay building faces north on the south side of Main Street and is set back approximately fifteen feet from the road on a level lot. The building adopts a rectangular plan on a field stone foundation. Typical of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, the house is capped by a side gable gambrel roof with a projecting front gable gambrel at the east end. All of the roof planes are sheathed with asphalt shingles. Two interior brick chimneys pierce the roof near the ridge. Two shed roof dormers are located on the north roof plane to the west of the gable. Each dormer features a 6/2 double-hung wood sash set within a simple wood surround. A single 6/2 wood sash window is centered in the front gable as well. The residence is clad with wood shingles. A wood water-table separates the wood shingles from the foundation. Access is provided by a centrally located entry which is located to the west of the projecting gable. The opening is protected by a one-story, one-bay hipped roof porch. A paneled wood post at the northwest corner and engaged paneled pilasters support the roof. The six-panel wood door entry is flanked by eight-light sidelights. A paired 6/2 double-hung wood sash window is located to the west of the entry and a one-story bay window is located to the east. The openings are highlighted by simple wood surrounds. 1305 Main Street is a well-preserved one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial Revival residence constructed in Concord during the early twentieth century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

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.

In 1874 the "Derby Addition" was laid out to the south of Concord Junction on approximately 35 acres of land owned by Benjamin Derby. Benjamin Derby's farmstead was originally located northeast of Main Street until the late 1960s.¹ It appears that Benjamin Derby "anticipated the demand for housing heralded by the 1874 act of the Massachusetts legislature that authorized the building of a new State Prison, just north of Concord Junction."²

Development of the area was slow to begin. There were only five house lots, on the original 109 lot "Derby Addition" by 1889 and those lots were located on Main Street. Shortly after, Derby Street and the easternmost area of Central Street were developed between 1890 and 1910. Many of the single family homes and double houses in the area were built as speculative housing by Reformatory Officers and local residents for resale and rental to employees of the Reformatory, nearby factories including the Boston Harness Company, the 1906 Allen Chair Company or the Fitchburg Railroad.

The Benjamin Russell House at 1305 Main Street (CON.1506) appears to have been constructed ca 1900 for Benjamin F. Russell (b 1830) and his wife Phebe (b 1833), based on historic map research. The current footprint of the building is shown on the 1906 map and the 1927 Sanborn Map. The Russells continued to reside on Main Street in 1910. Benjamin had worked as an officer at the State Reformatory in Concord. During the 1920s, the property was under the ownership of Gardner W. Russell, grandson of Benjamin and Phebe. Gardner was born in 1899, the son of George G. and Susan A. Russel. Gardner continued to maintain ownership of Main Street for much of the twentieth century. In 1980, the property was purchased by Dana and Kathleen Booth.³ The current owner, Jane Portanova, purchased the property in 1992.⁴

¹ Anne Forbes, Massachusetts Historical Commission. The "Derby Addition" (CON.F) *Concord Massachusetts*. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 1988. [CFPL]

² Ibid.

³ Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book 13921 Page 538.

⁴ Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book 22260 Page 136.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1305 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F,DD

CON.1506

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com. <http://www.ancestry.com>. Accessed May 7- May 17, 2013.

Concord Building Inspection and Zoning Enforcement Division Records. [Town of Concord]

Forbes, Anne. Massachusetts Historical Commission. The "Derby Addition" (CON.F) *Concord Massachusetts*. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 1988. [CFPL]

Forbes, Anne McCarthy. *West Concord: Survey of historical and architectural resources, Concord Massachusetts*. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 1989. [Concord Free Public Library]

Middlesex South Registry of Deeds. <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/rod/rodmidsth/midsthidx.htm>. Accessed May 7- May 17, 2013.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. August 1887; September 1892; May 1897 January 1903; December 1909; August 1918; May 1927; May 1927-August 1947. [State Library of Massachusetts]

_____. Middlesex County. Boston: Geo. H Walker & Co, 1889. [online at <http://www.historicmapworks.com>]

_____. Concord Junction, Massachusetts. George E Norris, 1893. [online at <http://www.historicmapworks.com>]

_____. *Middlesex County*. Boston: Geo. H Walker & Co, 1906. [online at <http://www.historicmapworks.com>]

Street Directories: 1886, 1892, 1896, 1901, 1905/06, 1909/10, 1913, 1917, 1921, 1925, 1929, 1934, 1937, 1941, 1947, and 1950. [State Library of Massachusetts and online at <http://www.ancestry.com>.]

_____. Survey of historical and architectural resources, Concord Massachusetts. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 2002. [Concord Free Public Library]



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1305 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

F,DD

CON.1506

[Delete this page if no Criteria Statement is prepared]

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**

Statement of Significance by Geoffrey Melhuish

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

1305 Main Street is a well-preserved one-and-one-half story Dutch Colonial Revival residence constructed in Concord during the early twentieth century. The residence possesses a high degree of integrity of design, setting and workmanship. The property meets criterion A and C at the local level and would be a contributing property in a potential Historic District. Many of the homes along Main Street, Derby Street and Central Street maintain a high degree of architectural integrity. Most of the buildings were constructed during the second half of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century and are historically significant for their association with the industrial and residential growth of Concord Junction in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Exact boundaries of a potential National Register District within this area remain to be determined; however the boundaries of a potential district might include the area defined by Main Street to the north, Derby Street to the east, Riverside Avenue and Pleasant Street to the south, West Street to the west and the section of Central Street within.