

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.473
Historic Name:	Damon, Edward C. House
Common Name:	
Address:	1651 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	230
Year Constructed:	r 1850
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Gothic Revival
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House; Workers Housing
Significance:	Architecture; Industry
Area(s):	CON.D: Westvale
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Brick



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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
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

2685	Concord	D	CON.473
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Town/City: Concord

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

Photograph



Address: 1651 Main St.

Historic Name: Edward Damon Rental House

Uses: Present: Single-family Residential

Original: Single-family Residential

Date of Construction: Mid-nineteenth century

Source: Architectural Style

Style/Form: Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Locus Map



Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

A mid-twentieth century, one-story, one-car garage is located south of the residence.

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Replacement Windows - 1993

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ Date:

Acreage: .45 Acres

Setting: Located on a narrow sloped lot in a residential area in the historic village of Westvale, near the Damon Mill.

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

1651 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.473

☒ 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.

1651 Main Street (CON.473) is a one-and-one-half story wood-frame Gothic Revival style residence. The three-bay wide building faces north and is set back approximately fifteen feet from the edge of Main Street. The lots slopes down away from Main Street exposing the brick foundation of the side and rear elevations. The residence is capped by a front gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Typical of the Gothic Revival style, the gable features decorative vergeboards and is capped by a wood finial. Interior brick chimney pierce the east and west roof planes; one on each side. The residence is clad with painted wood clapboards. Access is provided by an entry centrally located on the north facade. A bracketed gable roof hood is located above the entry. Like the roof of the main block, the gable roof of the entry hood features decorative vergeboards and is capped by a wood finial. A single 1/1 replacement window is located to each side. There are four window opening on the east elevation and two on the west. All windows are twentieth century replacements. A bracketed shed roof caps each window opening. Although altered by replacement windows, 1651 Main Street maintains the form and details of a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival residence.

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.

The Gothic Revival style was typically constructed between 1840 and 1880. The Gothic Revival residence at 1651 Main Street (CON.473) is first identified on the 1875 map as property of E.C. Damon; however properties do appear in the area on the 1852 map. Edward Damon (1836-1901) was born in Concord, the son of Calvin Carver Damon (1805-1854) and Rebecca Poor Farnham (1808-1882).¹ After his father's death in 1854, Edward took over control of the Damon Mill at which had been under his father's control since 1834 when he purchased the mill from James Derby. The Damon mill was destroyed by fire in 1862 and replaced that same year by the extant Italianate brick mill (CON.479; CON.DX; NR listed 1979) designed by Elbridge Boyden of Worcester. Edward was very active in the local community; school committee, the library committee, Board of Selectmen, a trustee of the Middlesex Institution for Savings, to name a few.

While it is likely that the property was built by Edward Damon, head of the Damon Manufacturing Company ca. 1862-1864 during the period of rebuilding at the Damon mill after a fire in 1862, it may have been constructed a few years earlier. 1651 Main Street was likely used as a rental property by the Damon family who were residing in the late nineteenth century at 1641-1645 Main Street (CON.471), the home of his father, Calvin C. Damon. 1880 Census records do not indicate house numbers and with the large number of mill employees residing in the area at this time, it is difficult to determine who may have been residing in this house at the time. It appears from deed research that the property was owned by the Damon family until 1943. Between 1943 and 1993, the property was owned by Roger S. and Ruth H. Carter.² In 1993, the current owner James A. MaCaulay purchased the property.³

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

Beers, FW. Middlesex County. New York: JB Beers & Co, 1875. [online at <http://www.historicmapworks.com>]

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

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.

¹Search of Calvin Carver Damon on Ancestry.com

² Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 6672 Page 323.

³ Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 23955 Page 549.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1651 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.473

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES continued

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]

Walling, Henry Francis. *Map of the Town of Concord*. Boston: Henry Francis Walling, 1852. [Boston Public Library]



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1651 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.473

[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.

Although altered by replacement windows, 1651 Main Street maintains the form and details of a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival. 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 Damon Mill Historic District. The potential historic district would include the Damon Mill, the store, workers housing along Water Street and Main Street as well as several Damon family homes in the neighborhood.

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

P. W. CONCORD
USGS - MAY
SELF - A

AREA



FORM NO.

229
473



West Concord

Address 1651 Main St.

Historic Name

Present

Residential

Original

Residential

DESCRIPTION

Mid-19th century

Source Maps and visual assessment

Gothic Revival

Architect

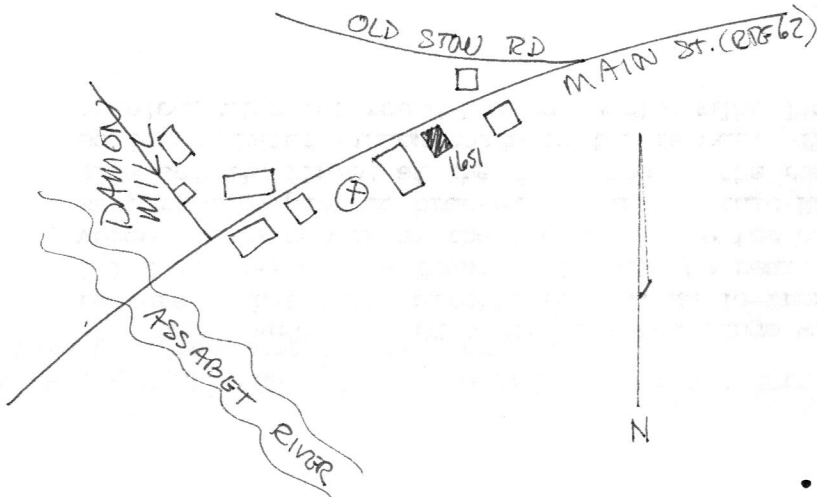
Exterior Wall Fabric

Wood Clapboard

Outbuildings

Garage and shed

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north



Major Alterations (with dates)

Gable window replaced, facade;
~~single sash window added, E. side.~~

Condition

Good

Moved

Date

Acreage

Less than one acre

Setting

Perched on a slope overlooking the Assabet River, on a main street. Part of a cluster of wood-frame houses of early to late 19th century date.

UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE

Recorded by

A. Forbes

Organization

for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date

3/5/88

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

One of West Concord's very few buildings with Gothic Revival features, this long, pitched-roofed, gable-front, wood-frame house is 1 1/2 stories at the front, 2 1/2 at the rear. Pierced, sawtoothed verge boards remain at the facade and center entry hood, which is supported by pierced brackets. Other Gothic Revival trim includes a slim spindle finial at the front end of the roof ridge, and solid-bracketed window hoods on the facade. The front entry door is paneled, with two round-headed, rectangular lights.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Important as the only house in the Gothic Revival style in West Concord, #1657 belonged to the Damon family by the early 1870's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Walling, Henry F. Map of the Town of Concord. 1852
Untitled map, 1864-72.