

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.474
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Damon, Edward C. Barn
<b>Common Name:</b>	Concord Wood Working Lumber Storage Building
<b>Address:</b>	1657 Main St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	West Concord
<b>Local No:</b>	229
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	c 1870
<b>Architect(s):</b>	Maslowski, Francis
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	No style
<b>Use(s):</b>	Agricultural; Out Building; Single Family Dwelling House; Warehouse
<b>Significance:</b>	Agriculture; Architecture; Commerce; Industry
<b>Area(s):</b>	CON.D: Westvale
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Concrete Unspecified; Stone, Cut



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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## FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

2687

Concord

D

CON.474

**Town/City:** Concord

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

### Photograph



**Address:** 1657 Main St.

**Historic Name:** Edward C. Damon Barn

**Uses:** Present: Single-family Residential

Original: Agricultural

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1870

**Source:** Historic Maps

**Style/Form:** No Style

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Stone and Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

A small building is shown on the locus map. The building cannot be seen from the right-of-way. The foundation of a small building appear in the aerial views of the property.

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

West facade door infilled and window replacements - 1979-1980 under direction of Francis Maslowski.

**Condition:** Fair

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 1.41 Acres

**Setting:** Located on a long, sloped wooded lot in the historic village of Westvale, near the Damon Mill.

### Locus Map



**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

1657 MAIN STREET

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.474

☒ 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.*

1657 Main Street (CON.474) is a one-story wood frame residence which is reported to be the barn associated with the Damon Residence at 1641-1645 Main Street (CON.471). The two-bay wide building faces north and is set back approximately fifteen feet from the edge of Main Street. The space between the street and the facade is covered in asphalt. The lots slopes down away from Main Street exposing the lower sides of the side and rear elevations. The residence is capped by a front gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Centered in the gable is an octagonal window; a horizontal hood mould above the window is a remnant of a loft opening. The residence is clad with painted wood clapboards. Access is provided by an entry located at the west end of the north facade. The single door entry is set within a slightly larger arched wood frame opening. The space between the door and frame is clad with unpainted wood clapboards. Centered on the facade is a larger arched wood frame opening that once acted as the primary entry. A vertical board infill replaced the door in the opening. There are four window openings on the west elevation and two infilled openings on the east.. All windows are replacements. 1657 Main is significant for its associations with the Damon Family.

### 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 Damon Barn at 1657 Main Street (CON.474) was constructed ca. 1870 by Edward C. Damon. The property first appears on the 1875 map as property of E.C. Damon along with 1651 Main Street (CON.473) to the west of 1641-1645 Main Street (CON.471). Edward Damon (1836-1901) was born in Concord, the son of Calvin Carver Damon (1805-1854) and Rebecca Poor Farnham (1808-1882).<sup>1</sup> 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.

It appears from deed research that the barn was owned by the Damon family until 1943. Subsequent owners include: Concord Wood Working (1970s) who used the space to store their lumber;<sup>2</sup> Carmen F. Spinelli and Anthony J Ruggiero (1977-1979); and Annette C. Maslowski (1979-present).<sup>3</sup> It appears that the building was converted into residential use in 1979 under the direction of Francis Maslowski.<sup>4</sup>

The 1988 MHC inventory form of the barn indicates that "late in the 19th century, the building was used to house the Clydesdale horses for the trucking business that was one of the Damon enterprises at 'Factory Village.' At one time, Westvale milk dealer James Russell also housed some cattle there and farmed the land to the south of the building."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Search of Calvin Carver Damon on Ancestry.com

<sup>2</sup>Nancy Dee and Charles W. Dee. "311 Years of Industrial History: Concord's *Westvale* Commercial Area was Pioneered in 1658," in *Hear Ye* (Acton, MA: Jason H. Korell., 1969), np. [Concord Public Library]

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 31344 Page 415.

<sup>4</sup> Concord Building Inspection and Zoning Enforcement Division Records for 1657 Main Street.

<sup>5</sup> Anne Forbes. Massachusetts Historical Commission Form B: Damon Barn. Concord Historical Commission, March 1988. on file at Massachusetts Historical Commission. Boston, MA (also Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System [MACRIS], via [www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc)).

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

CONCORD

1657 MAIN STREET

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.474

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

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Dee, Nancy and Charles W. Dee. "311 Years of Industrial History: Concord's *Westvale* Commercial Area was Pioneered in 1658," in *Hear Ye* (Acton, MA: Jason H. Korell., 1969), np. [Concord Public Library]

Forbes, Anne. Massachusetts Historical Commission Form B: Damon Barn. Concord Historical Commission, March 1988. on file at Massachusetts Historical Commission. Boston, MA (also Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System [MACRIS], via [www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc](http://www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc)).

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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]

Street Directories: 1886, 1892, 1896, 1901, 1905/06, 1909/10, 1913, 1917, 1921, 1925, 1929, 1934, 1937, 1941, 1947, and 1950.

\_\_\_\_\_. Survey of historical and architectural resources, Concord Massachusetts. Concord, Mass: Concord Historical Commission, 2002.

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



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1657 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)    Form No.

D	CON.474
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# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

1657 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

D

CON.474

*[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.*

1657 Main Street (CON.474) is significant for its association with the Edward C. Damon and the Damon Residence at 1641-1645 Main Street (CON.471). The building 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

PR - W. CONCORD  
SECT - A  
USGS - MAY

AREA

D

FORM NO.

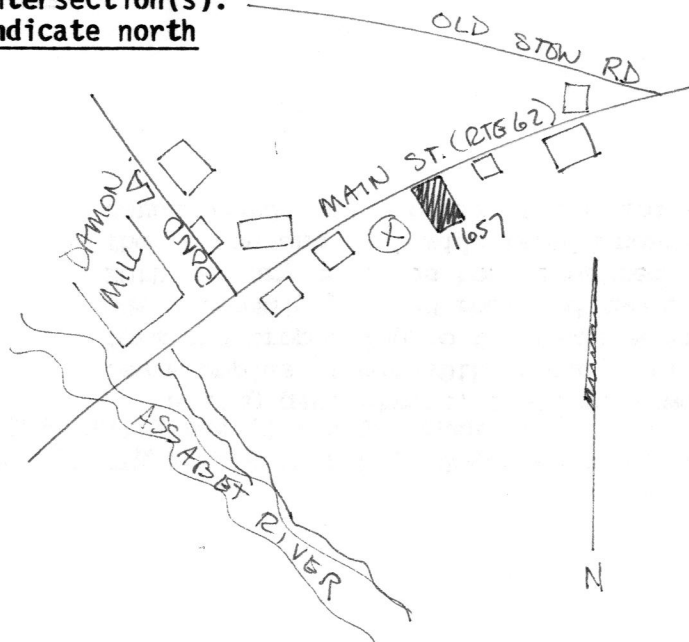
229  
474



West Concord

1657 Main St.  
Damon barn  
Residential  
Barn  
Ca. 1870  
Maps and visual assessment  
19th-century vernacular/utilitarian

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



Architect  
Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard  
Outbuildings  
Major Alterations (with dates) Attached shed on W. side removed. Converted to residence, and 20th-century door inserted, west end of facade. 20th century round gable window, facade.  
Condition Good

Moved Date  
Acreage Approximately 1 1/3 acres.  
Setting On sloping land, amid mainly 19th-century wood-frame houses, opposite a wooded hillside.

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.

A long gable-front, 1-story, (two in rear), wood-frame structure, #1657 is one of the few examples of mid-19th century utilitarian architecture in West Concord. Similar in form and proportion to the Damon & Smith engine house at #1582-84 Main St., this building has a broadly pitched roof and two segmentally-arched doorways on the facade. A 20th-century door has been inserted under the smaller arch on the west end of the facade. The facade and east side remain nearly windowless; the only trim consists of wide cornerboards and a horizontal board spanning the facade at eave level.

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

#1657 Main St. was a barn on the Damon family farm, and was thus originally on the same lot as #s 1641 and 1651. While the rest of Westvale has grown into a village around it, the barn and the open fields behind it stand as the only reminder that a working farm existed here. Late in the 19th century, the building was used to house the Clydesdale horses for the trucking business that was one of the Damon enterprises at "factory village." At one time, Westvale milk dealer James Russell also housed some cattle there, and farmed the land to the south of the building.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Untitled map of Concord, ca. 1864-73.  
Beers, F.W. Map of Concord. 1875.  
Interview with Marian Wheeler, 3/88.