

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.BP
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Bedford Street Area III
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	East Quarter
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	
<b>Use(s):</b>	Residential District
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Community Planning
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	



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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 A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

CON-BP

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

I-7

CONCORD

BP

1091-1096

519-543 Bedford Street

Town CONCORD

Neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

East Quarter \_\_\_\_\_

Area Bedford Street:  
517-565

Use residential

Construction Dates or Period ca. 1900-1910

Condition fair

Intrusions and Alterations  
modern houses on south side

Area ca. 4.5 acres

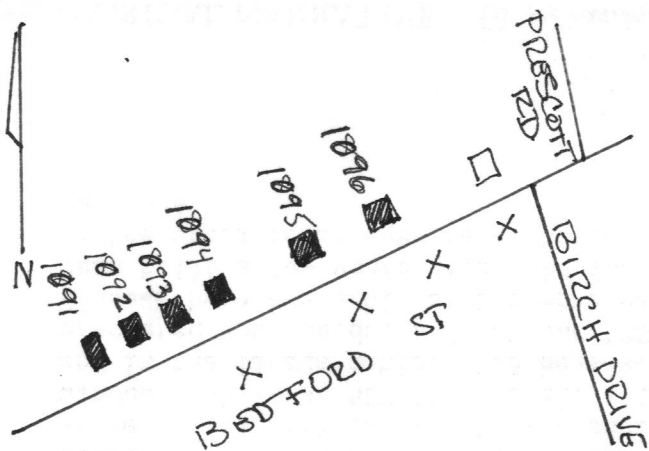
Recorded by A. Forbes

Organization for Concord Histor. Comm.

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992

## 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.



551, 563 Bedford Street (CON. 1095,  
CON. 1096)

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

In spite of the altered condition of most of these little houses, the row of buildings on the northwest side of Bedford Street just beyond St. Bernard's Cemetery is still a good illustration of one type of small turn-of-the-century neighborhood that grew up along Bedford Street after the streetcar came through. Five of the six houses here are all of one type--the two-bay cottage with the gable end facing the street. #517/519 is two-story (possibly raised in this century) with paired windows, while #s 523-557 are all 1 1/2-story, with a single window beside the door and in the facade gable. Two houses, #s 533 and 543 retain their elaborately-bracketed door hoods, and 523 and 533 still have their glass-and-panel doors. Windows here are a mix of 2-over-2-sash, 6-over-6's, and at #557, which may have been built a few years after the four to the west, 6-over 1's. At the eastern end of the group is an even later house, a long shingled bungalow, probably dating to ca. 1926.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

This line of houses was built on a row of half-acre lots evidently divided out from either the McGrath or Prescott farm shortly after the streetcar line was built down Bedford Street at the turn of the century. It is possible that at least the first houses were built by **Charles W. Prescott**, who is shown as owner of four buildings in this location in 1906; it is not known whether he sold them or rented them out to tenants. Charles Prescott had a large asparagus farm along this section of the road through much of the first part of this century. At one time the government set up an experimental station to determine the cause and treatment of asparagus rust.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Keyes/Tolman.  
Maps and atlases: 1906.  
Town assessor's records.  
Town directories.  
Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.  
Concord Oral History Tapes.

☐ Recommended as a National Register District. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD517-557 Bedford Street

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.  
BP 18917896

MHC #/ Parcel #	Address	AREA DATA SHEET	date	condition
		description		
1891 I7-1186	517/519 Bedford Street	- altered vernac. gable-end 2-stories; clapboard. Long extension on east side.	1900-1910	fair
1892 I7-1185	523 Bedford Street	- vernacular gable-end cottage Shingle; fieldstone foundation.	1900-1910	fair
1893 I7-1184	533 Bedford Street	- vernacular gable-end cottage Shingle; rubble/fieldstone foundation. Bracketed door hood.	1900-1910	fair
1894 I7-1183	543 Bedford Street	- vernacular gable-end cottage Synthetic siding; rubble/fieldstone foundation. Bracketed door hood	1900-1910	fair
1895 I7-1182	557 Bedford Street <i>Demolished</i>	- vernacular gable-end cottage Synthetic siding; rubble/fieldstone foundation.	1900-1910	fair
1896 I7-1181	565 (563) Bedford Street	- Craftsman bungalow Shingle; rubble foundation.	ca. 1920	fair



MHC INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MHC Inventory scanning project, 2008-2012

MACRIS No. CON-BP

AREA BP  
PL- EAST QUARTER  
SECTION - C  
USGS- CONCORD

1091 - 517-519 BEDFORD ST

1092 - 523 BEDFORD ST

1093 - 533 BEDFORD ST

1094 - 543 BEDFORD ST

1095 - 557 BEDFORD ST

1096 - 565 BEDFORD ST