

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.BW
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Fenn School
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	
<b>Use(s):</b>	Private School
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Education
<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)

This file was accessed on: Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:36 AM

CON. BW

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

BW

1925-1129

CONCORD

of Area (if any)

Fenn School

ent Use

school

ral Date or Period

1929-mid-20th C.

ral Condition

excellent

Fenn House CON. 1127

Sketch Map. Draw a general 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. Indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient).

Acreeage

6.5 acres

Recorded by

A. Forbes

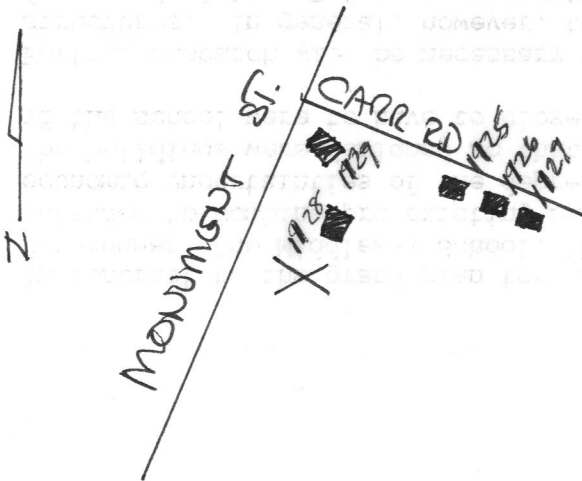
Organization

research by Anne Foley  
for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date

July, 1990

Parcel H6-1356



UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE  
SCALE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

In contrast to the grand plan for a new Colonial Revival campus that was executed at its forerunner, the Middlesex School, the design for the much smaller Fenn School was always intended to combine pre-existing buildings with new. In addition, it is said that the economic uncertainties of the depression forced contingency plans--hence for many years the buildings were designed so that they could be readily sold and converted to houses if the school were to have to close.

Further research will be necessary to sort out the dates and architects of the various structures. In general, however, today's campus consists of the early-twentieth-century farmstead of Lars Petersen, renovated by William Kussin, (the main farmhouse was moved from Monument Street to 50 Carr Road in 1928-9,) a donated boathouse converted to a dining hall, two Georgian Revival structures of mid-century, and a large classroom/gym complex of the late-twentieth century.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

The Fenn School was founded in 1928-9 by Roger Fenn, (1895-1988,) a former master at the Middlesex School on Lowell Road, (founded 1901,) who wanted to establish a school of a similar philosophy for elementary-age boys. He purchased 5 1/2 acres of the former Lars Petersen farm on Monument Street for a campus, hired architect William Kussin to relocate and renovate the farmhouse and barn, and opened the school with 53 boys just before the the depression began in the fall of 1929. The emphasis on small classes, close student-faculty relationships, and on fostering a student's responsibility for his own education formed the basis for a school that weathered the initial financial crisis and has been successful through the years, growing to a present enrollment of about 240.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- Garrellick and Bailey, Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.
- Fenn School records.
- Garrellick, "Oral History Tapes:" interview with Roger Fenn, 1977.
- The Concord Enterprise.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

Fenn School

BW

#125/129

AREA BW:

FENN SCHOOL

AREA DATA SHEET

Degree of Integrity: Excellent=intact, unaltered; Good=minor alterations only; fair=alterations such as synthetic siding, replacement windows/doors, or minor changes in form; Alt.=many alterations, integrity greatly diminished.

<u>MHC/Map #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Approx. Date</u>	<u>Degree of integrity</u>
<del>925</del> 1125	36 Carr Rd.	Colonial Revival	Dining Hall	early 20th C.	alt.
<del>926</del> 1126	42 Carr Rd.	Colonial Revival	Hall Infirmary	early 20th C.	alt.
<del>927</del> 1127	50 Carr Rd.	Colonial Revival	Petersen Farmhouse	ca. 1900	fair/alt.
<del>1638</del> 1638	516 Monument St.	Georgian Revival	Thompson Hall	mid-20th C.	exc.
<del>1639</del> 1639	522 Monument St.	Georgian Revival	Admissions Building	mid-20th C.	exc.

MHC INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MHC Inventory scanning project, 2008-2012

MACRIS No. CON. BW

AREA BW  
Pl. ~~8~~  
USGS CONCORD  
SECTION - C

1125 - 36 CARR RD

1126 - 42 CARR RD

1127 - 50 CARR RD

1128 - 516 MONUMENT ST

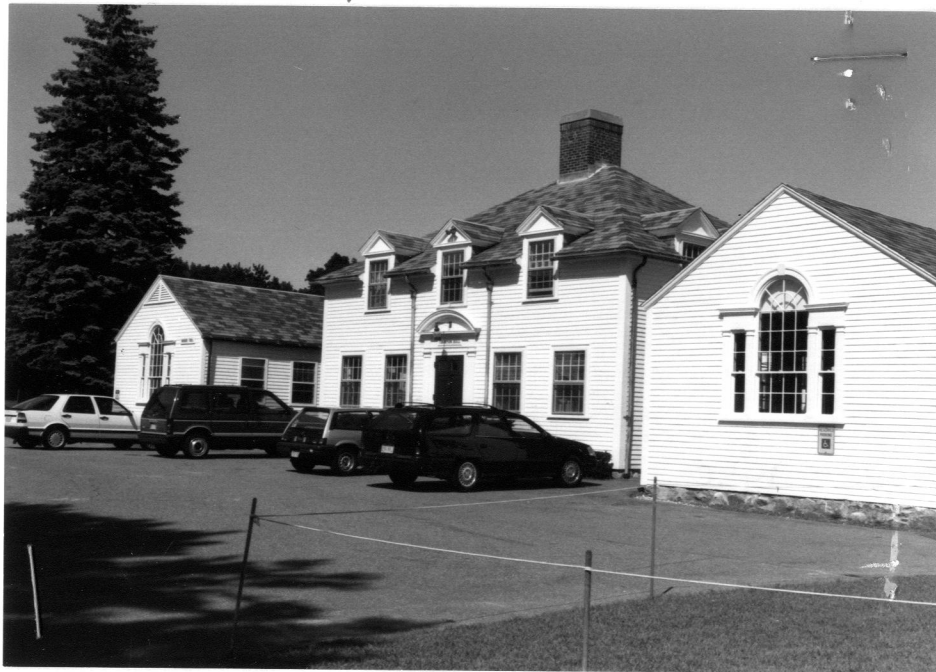
1129 - 522 MONUMENT ST



*Fenn Hall Infirmary (CON. 1126)*



*Fenn School Administrative Building*



*Fenn Thompson Hall (CON. 1128)*