

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.CM
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Brown, Joseph D. Farm
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Bateman's Pond; North Quarter
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	
<b>Use(s):</b>	Agricultural; Dairy; Other Residential
<b>Significance:</b>	Agriculture; Architecture
<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: Friday, October 23, 2020 at 11:51 AM

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

F3

CONCORD

CM

1182-1184

CONCORD



Neighborhood or village  
Bateman's Pond

Ephraim/Joshua/  
Area Joseph D. Brown Farm

Use residential

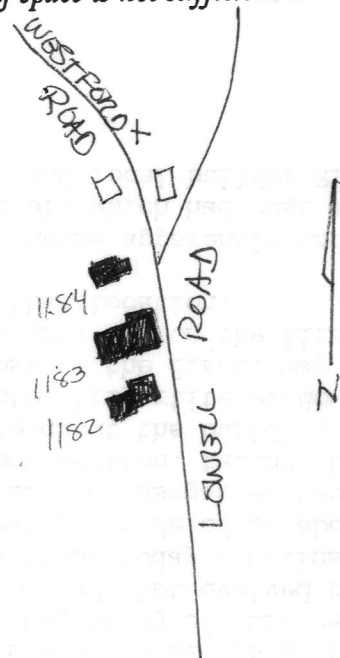
mid-18th-  
Construction Dates or Period 19th-20th century

Condition good/excellent

Intrusions and Alterations none

## 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.



Acreage ca. 4 acres

Recorded by A. Forbes

Organization research by Anne Hayden  
for Concord Histor. Comm.

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992

AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

This small area, in spite of being under the ownership of the Middlesex School since the beginning of this century, retains much of the character it would have had as a farmstead that evolved over the course of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The house today contains very little of the mid-eighteenth-century dwelling that was greatly remodeled in about 1855, then burned and was largely rebuilt in 1923. Today it is a cross-gabled two-part, 2 1/2-story building with a large rear wing. The front section, facing the road, is a large three-bay structure. The windows throughout the building are primarily 6-over-6-sash, with flat surrounds. The center tripartite window at the second story facade, and the long proportions of those on the first, may remain from the Greek Revival period of the mid-nineteenth-century; one on the first story has long sidelights which remain from a former door at that location.

The house apparently underwent some major changes in 1901, when the Middlesex School, which had just acquired the farm, hired architects Strickland, Blodgett and Law and local builder Richard Wilson to renovate the building. (Cont.)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

#1409/1411 Lowell Road dates back to the middle years of the eighteenth century, when its long connection with one of the most important families of the North Quarter, the Browns, began. The earliest section of the house was evidently built by Ephraim Brown (1710-1788), eldest son of Thomas and Hannah Potter Brown, who later became a deacon in the church, and is referred to in documents as keeping a school in a farmhouse here as early as 1745.

The next owner of the farm was Ephraim's son, Ephraim Brown, Jr. (1742-1812), followed by his younger brother Lt. Samuel Brown (1752-1819.) Samuel, a shoemaker, married Elizabeth Brown, and the farm eventually went to their son, Joshua Brown, (1787-1855,) and thence to his son, Joseph Darby (J.D.) Brown (b. 1816.) (Another son, Joshua Warren Brown, bought the Nathaniel Hutchinson farm at 1266 Lowell Road in about 1840.) J.D. Brown made extensive changes to the farmstead, substantially rebuilding or renovating the house and building two large barns. He converted the farm to a large dairy farm, and became a major milk dealer for the region. As soon as the railroad came through in 1844 he built an ice house and milk car station by the Fitchburg Depot, from which he shipped nearly a (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☒ *see continuation sheet*

Maps, atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, 1875, 1889, 1906.  
"Plan of the Grounds of Middlesex School" 1903.  
Keyes/Tolman. "Houses in Concord." 1885; rev. 1915 and 1920's.  
Town Directories and tax lists.  
Jarvis.  
Shattuck. (Cont.)

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

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORDEphraim/Joshua/Joseph  
Brown FarmMassachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

CM 1182-1184

## DESCRIPTION, cont.

However, due to a major fire which destroyed at least the rear and upper sections of the building in 1923, it is not possible to trace exactly what changes were made in 1901. Photos pre-dating the fire show that the roof the house was then oriented with its gable-end to the street, and that the rear ell had a much different appearance than today. An expansive wraparound porch shown on all three sides of the front section may have been part of the 1901 renovations. After the fire the rear and upper floors were rebuilt, and the roof re-aligned to present its long side to the street.

Standing north of the house, in more original condition, are two magnificent barns. Although there were formerly at least two earlier barns here, one of these probably dates to the beginning of this century. The southernmost is a long gable-end or "New England" type on a random ashlar foundation, with a pair of hip-roofed vents or cupolas, and a three-bay facade with a large transom over its diagonal-boarded door. Probably the most elaborate barn in the Bateman's Pond area, it has decorative vergeboards at the rake line, and gables embellished with decorative stickwork and patterned shingle. The shingle detail is repeated over the two small facade windows that flank the door.

The second barn, (#7 Westford Road,) is not shown on a plan of the Middlesex School drawn in 1903, and may have been built by the school a few years later. It stands on a fieldstone foundation. It, too, is clad in both clapboards and shingles, with some decorative stickwork and simple vergeboarding. This building has its wagon door in the long side, with a wide wall gable above it, sheltering a hay door. A hip-roofed vent/cupola adorns the roof ridge here, as well. A long 1 1/2-story wing extends to the east.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

thousand cans of milk, brought by wagon from Concord and nearby towns, every day. In later years he left the farm to the management of his son, Joseph Darby Brown, Jr. (b. 1850,) who was the next owner.

In 1883 Joseph, Jr. sold the farm to A.D. Clark, who briefly used the land as a quarantine station for a large herd of Scottish cattle, and boarded the workmen in the house. The next year, according to Keyes, Mr. Clark sold the farm to John Brewster of Cambridge for a stock farm. Other sources indicate that the actual owner of the huge "Musketaquid Stock Farm," which went through to Monument Street, was Willard White. He quickly became an active and highly respected citizen of the Bateman's Pond area, even leading Sunday services in the district schoolhouse on the corner. According to Tolman, he built additional barns, probably the two that still stand today, just north of the house. Mr. White's ambitious enterprise failed, however, he incurred enormous debts, and Concord Chronicle gives a vivid account of his precipitous departure in the middle of the night in 1890. (Cont.)



CON.CM

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD

Ephraim/Joshua/Joseph  
Brown Farm

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.  
CM 1182-1184

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The Browns evidently bought back their property, but in 1900-01 the Brown farm, with 224 acres, was bought from the bank by the **Middlesex School**, (see area form, "Middlesex School,") When the school opened in 1901 it held its first classes in the old District 6 Schoolhouse, and boarded the students in the farmhouse. The larger of the two barns served as the school's first gymnasium.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Concord Vital Records.  
Concord and Carlisle school records.  
Middlesex School Records.  
Interviews with residents, Middlesex School staff, 1992.

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AREA DATA SHEET

MHC #/ Parcel #	Address	name/description	date	condition
1182	1409/1411 Lowell Road - Brown Farmhouse		mid-18th-, mid-19th C./	good
	F3-1578 (1399 Lowell Rd.)	formerly Greek Revival	1920's	
		Clapboard; granite foundation; slate roof.		
1183	Lowell Road - Whiting Barn		late 19th C.	excellent
	F3-1578	Clapboard and shingle; ashlar foundation.		
1184	7 Westford Road - Middlesex School Barn		early 20th C.	excellent
	F3-1578	Clapboard and shingle; fieldstone foundation.		

AREA CM  
PL-BATEMAN & NORTH QUARTER  
SECTION - A  
USGS- CONCORD

1182 - ~~1409~~ 1411 LOWELL RD (ALSO AREA CT)

1183 - LOWELL RD (ALSO AREA CT)

1184 - 7 WESTFORD RD (ALSO AREA CT)



Barn, Lowell Road (CON. 1183)  
Whiting Barn



Barns, Lowell Road



Barn, Lowell Road (CON. 1184)  
Middlesex School Barn