

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.DC
Historic Name:	Main Streetscape IV
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Other Institutional; Residential District
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Community Planning
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	



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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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CON. DC

FORM G - STREETSCAPE

AREA	FORM NO.
E, DC	246
West Concord	



Street Name Main St., (N. side)

Addresses (inclusive) 1336-1450

DESCRIPTION

General Date or Period Ca. 1880-1920

Dominant Architectural Styles Colonial Revival

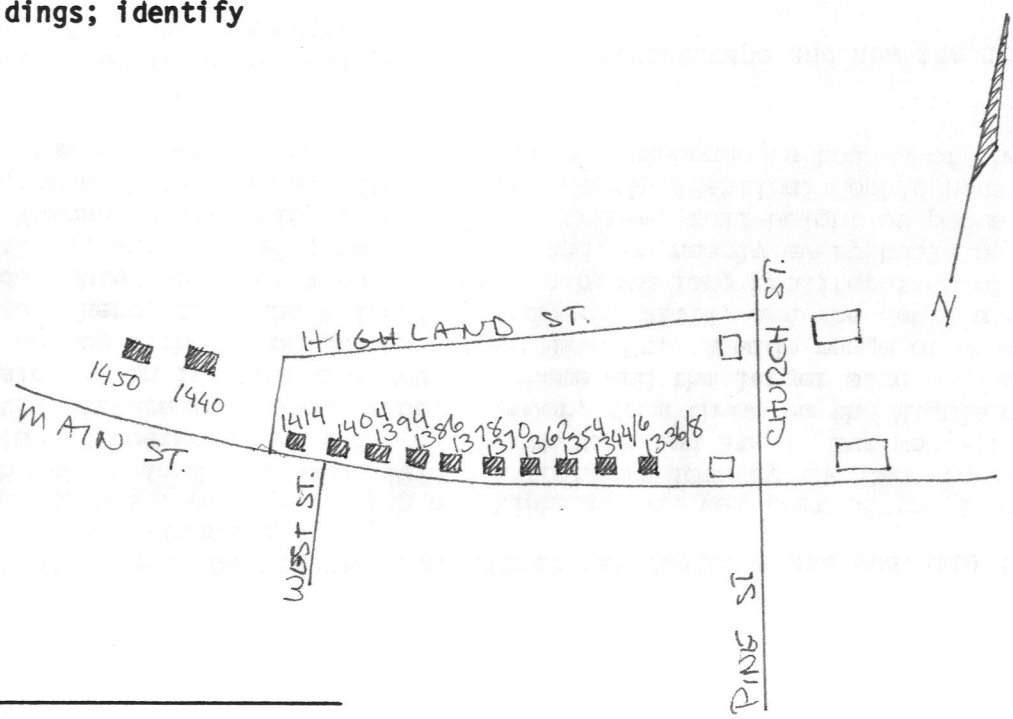
Other Intrusions none

1362-1336/8 Main Street

Alterations Enclosed porches at 1344/46 and 1370; window and door alteration at 1440 and 1450; synthetic siding on six houses

Acreage Approximately 2 acres.

Sketch Map: Draw map of street, clearly showing all buildings; indicate street addresses for all buildings; identify intrusions.
Indicate north.



UTM REFERENCE _____

USGS QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

Recorded by A. Forbes

Organization for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date 3/10/88

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

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

The block of Main St. between Church and Highland St. was part of the 10-acre parcel of former Ralph Warner land that was divided into house lots by the Concord Junction Land Co. in 1896. (See Streetscape Form # : Church/Highland Sts.) Its wood-frame houses are significantly different in appearance, however, from those on the Highland St. section of the subdivision. In its Colonial Revival theme and the larger size of its buildings, it has more in common with its neighbors across Main St. A wide range of Colonial Revival vocabulary appears here, from the Palladian window of #1414, and the dentilated cornice, projecting, sidelighted entry of #1404, through a block-long proliferation of pediments, diamond, elliptical, and stained-glass windows, and, on nearly every building, some version of the Tuscan column--single, double, or triple; full-height or pedestaled.

The row begins with two large, pitch-roofed, nearly identical double houses, with a pair of 2-story bay windows on the facade; (four contemporaneous houses of the same type

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of streetscape and how the streetscape relates to the development of the community.

With Highland and Church Sts, this section of Main St. shows the close involvement of West Concord's residents in shaping its development. The block from Church to Highland St.s was subdivided in 1896 by the Concord Junction Land Co., a syndicate composed of West Concord residents. At least one of the group's original investors, Reformatory Instructor Michael Farrell, built one of these houses, at #1414. As in all the neighborhoods of large, wood-frame houses near Concord Junction, this block is also significant for the number of Mass. Reformatory employees who built homes here, indicating that, at the turn of the century, the demand for new housing created by the Reformatory had not abated. Of the eight houses built on the block by 1906, at least five were owned or occupied by Reformatory officers and instructors.

An important aspect of the streetscape is the former Abiel Chase property occupying a prominent hill-top position at its western end. Chase, dubbed "the Strawberry King", was a market gardener who had much to do with Concord's reputation as a major strawberry-growing center in the second half of the 19th century. His son, F.H. Chase, became a well-known Boston judge. Just west of the converted Chase carriage house, an area of open land is what is left of the William Simpson estate, which Boston congressman John F. "Honey Fitz" Fitzgerald bought in 1897. For a short time it was his residence; it remained his family's summer home for several years. Also in 1897, Abiel Chase succeeded Loring Fowler as Concord Junction postmaster, thanks in part to Fitzgerald's influence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1903, 1909, 1918, 1927.

The Concord Enterprise. 1896 through 1910.

Richardson, Laurence. Concord Chronicle, 1865-1899. Concord, 1967.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys. Simon & Schuster, NY: 1987.

CON. DC

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

West Concord

Form No:

E, DC

Property Name:

1336-1450 Main St.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

are located at 255, 269, 277, and 349 Commonwealth Av.) Other house types range from three Four-Squares, and two large, rectangular hip-roofed houses, to an early flared-roofed "Dutch Colonial" design at #1362, and one of West Concord's few late Mansard-roofed houses, at #1404.

Just west of the subdivision, a sloping landscape rises to a hip-roofed Italianate farmhouse and its pitch-roofed carriage house, the latter altered to a residence by the mid-20th-century .



1336/38 Mam Street (CON. 1386)



1450 Mam Street (CON. 1397)



1440 Mam Street (CON. 1396)