

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.H
Historic Name:	Hosmer - Sheehan Farms
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	West Concord
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Agricultural; Residential District
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
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.H

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

H	
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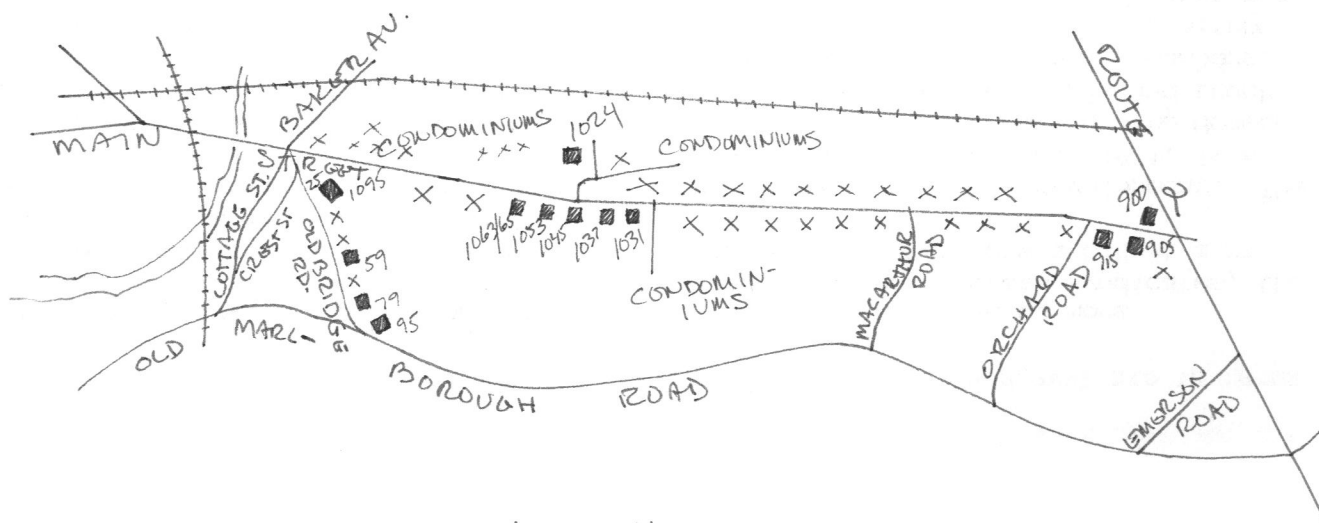
Town West Concord

Name of Area (if any) _____

Hosmer/Sheehan FarmsPresent Use ResidentialGeneral Date or Period Ca. 1814; , late
1880's-1910General Condition GoodAcreage Approximately 25 acresRecorded by A. ForbesOrganization for Concord Hist. Comm.Date 5/20/88

1024 Main Street (CON. 1721)

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).



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 larger neighborhoods of West Concord that grew up more consistently, and especially to those developed by the local real estate syndicates, the Hosmer/Sheehan Farm area has the disparate quality of an area that grew a bit at a time, at the instigation of one family, the Sheehans.

Here the architecture itself tells the story of the neighborhood's development. The large hip-roofed Federal farmhouse on the hill at 1024 Main St., built ca. 1814, is all that remains of the original James Hosmer farmstead. By the 1870's, most of the Hosmer property had been acquired by Jeremiah Sheehan, an Irish immigrant and apple and truck farmer. Several more buildings, including outbuildings and houses for family members, were built on the property. #1053 Main St., a long, 1 1/2-story vernacular gable-front house from ca. 1860-70 is the only building that remains from this group. The Sheehan buildings remained virtually alone until the late 1880's-'90's, when the three vernacular

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

The area along Main St. from Route 2, west to Old Bridge Rd. is an excellent example of how the 19th-century farms of West Concord were gradually subdivided as part of the land boom that occurred in response to the intense demand for housing in the closing years of the century, as the nearby Boston Harness Company, the railroad, Mass. Reformatory, and burgeoning West Concord industries expanded their work forces. The first parcels to be sold by Jeremiah Sheehan and his brother, Daniel, who lived at 1053 Main St., were the properties at 1031-1045 Main St. During the 1890's, Jeremiah Sheehan ~~who~~ regularly advertised houses "to let" near the Boston Harness Co. Since he was a building contractor as well as a farmer, one may conclude that some of the houses in the area were put up by him to rent to factory workers. (The houses at #'s 1031 and 1037 Main St. have cut granite foundations that are quite similar to several on Crest St. built by Sheehan, suggesting that some portions of these two houses, at least, were built by Sheehan himself, who quarried stone from his farm.) In any case, #'s 1063-1095 Main, and the north side of Old Bridge Road through #79 were all part of a subdivision he laid out in 1899.

Jeremiah Sheehan represented West Concord on the Board of Selectmen, and was influential in many West Concord affairs, including the founding of both the Union Church and Our Lady Help of Christians, and the building of both the Concord Junction depot and Association Hall.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

The Concord Enterprise, 1890-99.

Town Directories.

Albert Wood, surveyor. Plan of Proposed New Street and House Lots at Concord Junction Owned by Jeremiah Sheehan. 1899.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

West Concord

Form No:

H

Property Name:

Hosmer/Sheehan Farm

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Queen Anne, gable-and-ell houses at 1031-1045, with their gracious, polygonal, wrap-around verandas, were built.

After Jeremiah Sheehan subdivided several more lots just to the west on the south side of Main and north side of Old Bridge St.s in 1899, a more varied turn-of-the-century feeling was created by the mixture of several different house types. The big pedimented double house at 1063/65 Main St. is a modest, classicised interpretation of the Queen Anne, a little "French Cottage" at 79 Old Bridge Rd. is a very late example of the Mansard-roofed Second Empire style, and a Spanish-inspired, tile-roofed stucco house at 25 Old Bridge, (1095 Main,) contrasts vividly with two pitch-roofed, gable-front houses on Old Bridge Rd.

Traveling east on Main St., after a section of later 20th-century houses, and a view to the north at the large 1972 condominium complex that now occupies the Sheehan farmstead, one comes to another group of three late 1890's/early 20th-century houses, each reflecting one stylistic trend of the times—#915 the American Four-Square, #905 the large, square, Colonial Revival house, and #900 the vernacular gable-front house with shingled upper story and Colonial Revival veranda.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Wheeler, Ruth. Wheeler House File.

Beers, FW. Map of Concord. from Beers' Atlas of Middlesex County, 1875.

Street numbers marked with an asterisk, (*,) indicate properties which also appear on Streetscape Forms; those with two asterisks, (**,) appear on individual forms.

MAIN STREET

- 1717 *900 Main St.
Ca. 1900 2 1/2-story pitch-roofed, gable-front, vernacular Victorian house with late Queen Anne and Colonial Revival porch detail. Wood clapboard and shingle.
- 1718 *905 Main St.
Ca. 1896 large, square, 2-story vernacular Colonial Revival house. Wood clapboard.
- 1719 *915 Main St.
Ca. 1898 Four-Square with Colonial Revival veranda. Wood shingle.
- 1720 930-1019 Main St.: NON-CONTRIBUTING
19 houses--mid- late-20th century
north side: large 1970's condominium complex of 30 + buildings
- 1721 **1024 Main St.
James Hosmer/Jeremiah Sheehan farmhouse. 2-story, hip-roofed, Federal style house with later additions. Synthetic siding.
- 1722 *1031 Main St.
Ca. late 1890's 2 1/2-story, Queen Anne vernacular gable-and-ell house with wraparound veranda; companion to #1045 Main St. Synthetic siding.
- 1723 *1037 Main St.
Ca. 1887-91 2 1/2-story pitch-roofed, gable-front house with shallow west ell; wraparound porch with turned columns, brackets, and decorative-shingled pediment. Queen Anne vernacular. Wood clapboard. Michael Burke house; later, residence of Daniel Sullivan.
- 1724 *1045 Main St.
Ca. late 1890's Queen Anne vernacular house; wood clapboard, with decorative shingling at 2nd story. See description for #1031 Main St.
- 1725 *1053 Main St.
Ca. 1860's 1 1/2-story, gable-front house. East ell constructed ca. 1892. House of Daniel Sheehan, later Timothy Sheehan. Synthetic siding.
- 1726 *1063/65 Main St.
Ca. 1900 2 1/2-story classicised Queen Anne vernacular double house; pedimented-gable front and side roof dormers. Lathe-turned columns and balusters at center entry porch. Synthetic siding.

- 1727 1073 Main St.: NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid 20th-century Cape Cod house.
- 1728 1079 Main St.: NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid 20th-century Cape Cod house.
- 1729 *1095 Main St./25 Old Bridge Rd. (DEMONSTRATED)
Ca. 1910 2-story, hip-roofed eclectic stucco house with decorative rafter-ends; veranda with half-height posts and Ionic columns.

OLD BRIDGE ROAD--NORTH SIDE

- 1730 41 Old Bridge Rd.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid-20th-century Cape Cod House.
- 1731 51 Old Bridge Rd.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid-20th-century Cape Cod House.
- 1732 59 Old Bridge Rd.
Ca. 1900 2 1/2-story gable-front vernacular house; facade veranda with lathe-turned columns and pierced brackets, (partially enclosed.) Wood shingle.
- 1733 71 Old Bridge Rd.--NON-CONTRIBUTING
Mid 20th-century 2-story house.
- ~~**79 Old Bridge Rd.~~
Ca. 1900 1 1/2-story, late Second-Empire cottage. Veranda with lathe-turned columns and spindle brackets. House of John and Daniel Sullivan in 1905. Wood Clapboard.
- 1734 ~~95 Old Bridge Rd.~~ 260 Old Marlboro Rd
2 1/2-story pitch-roofed, vernacular wood-shingled house. Early 20th-century, or much-altered mid to late 19th-century.

AREA [4]
 PL- WEST CONCORD
 USGS-MAYNARD
 SECTION - A

1717- 900 MAIN ST

1718- 905 " "

1719- 915 " "

1720- 930-1019 " "

1721- 1024 " "

1722- 1031 " " (ALSO Dm)

1723- 1037 " " (ALSO Dm)

1724- 1045 " " (ALSO Dm)

1725- 1053 " " (ALSO Dm)

1726- 1063-1065 " " (ALSO Dm)

1727- 1073 " "

1728- 1079 " "

1729- ^{21 OLD BRIDGE RD} ~~1095~~ " (Demolished)

1730- 41 OLD BRIDGE RD

1731- 51 " "

1732- 59 " "

1733- 71 " "

1734- 95 " 260 OLD BRIDGE RD



900 Main Street (CON. 1717)



1031-1045 Main Street



905, 915 Main Street (CON. 1718, CON. 1719)



21 Old Bridge Road (CON. 1729)