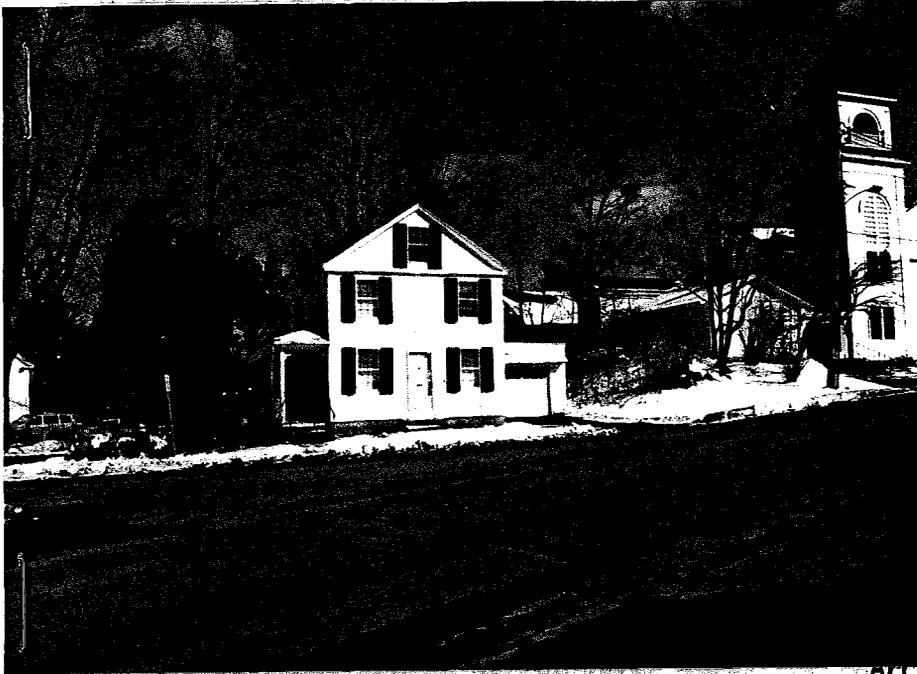


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 80 BOYLSTON STREET  
 BOSTON, MA 02116

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| AREA | FORM NO. |
| B    | 129      |



Location ACTON

Address 8 Concord Road

Historic Name J. Fletcher (1875)

Present single family residential

Original single family residential

DESCRIPTION

Construction ca. 1855

Significance visual / historical

Style Greco-Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard

Outbuildings small 1-car garage with wood  
clapboard siding - shed roof canopy

Major Alterations (with dates) modern doors,  
porch on north side

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre

Setting Near Town Common at village center  
among mixed 19th century residential,  
institutional, and religious properties  
small lot near corner

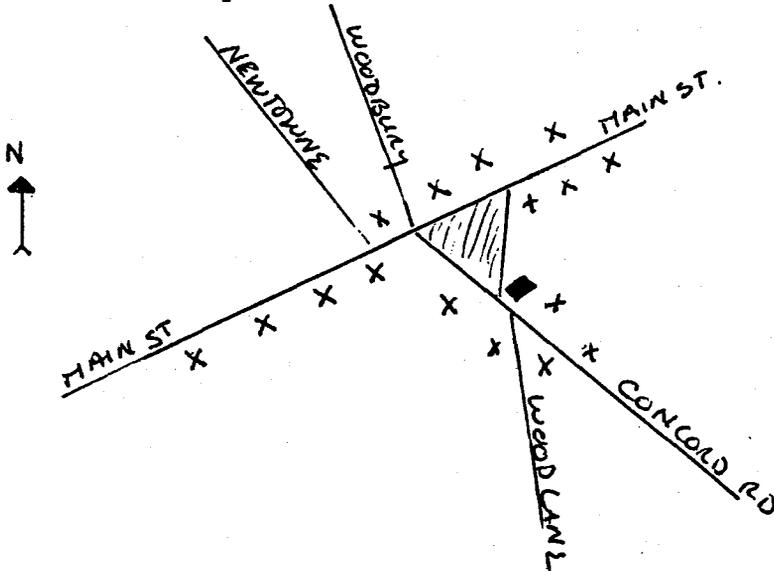
Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Acton Historical Commission

Date March 1990

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north

Assessor's Map # F-3A-44

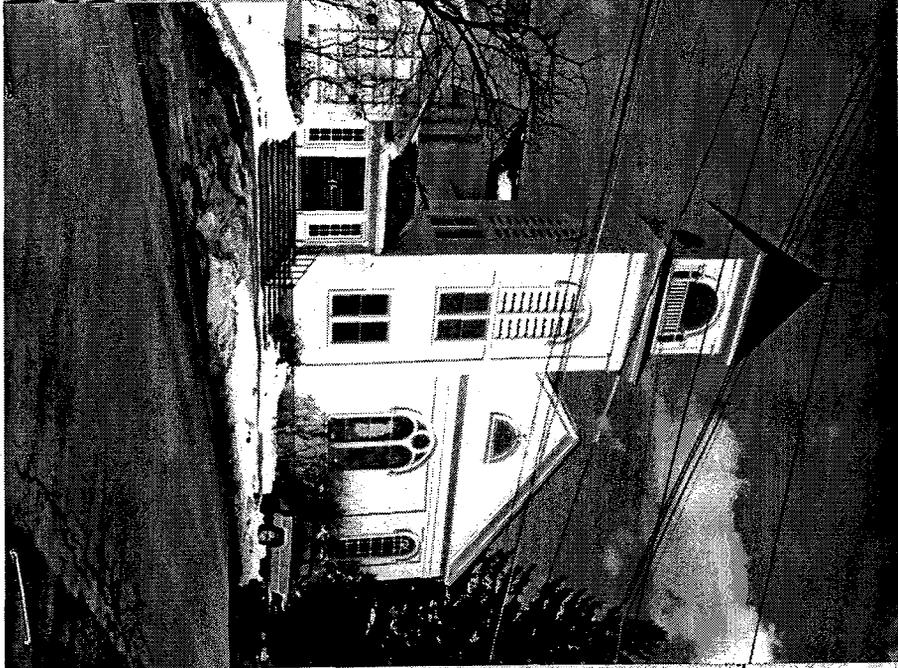
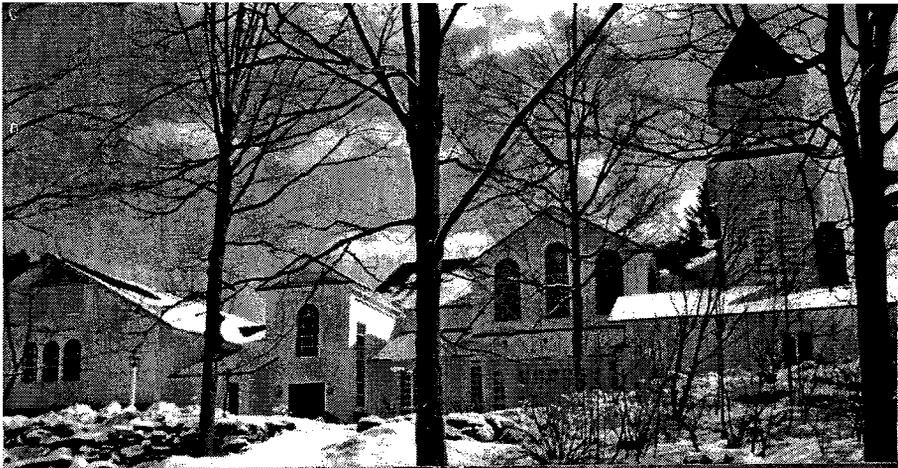


UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

USGS QUADRANGLE \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_





AREA B FORM NO. 130

Town ACTON

Address 12 Concord Road

Historic Name Evangelical Church

Acton Congregational Church

Present religious

Original religious

DESCRIPTION

Date 1846 / 1898 / 1966

Source Fletcher / Phalen

Style Queen Anne

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) 1966 - large rear wing and small modern ell next to tower

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre

Setting At village center, near Common and among early to mid 19th century dwellings

large building taking up most of lot and extending to the rear of the lot - well established setting

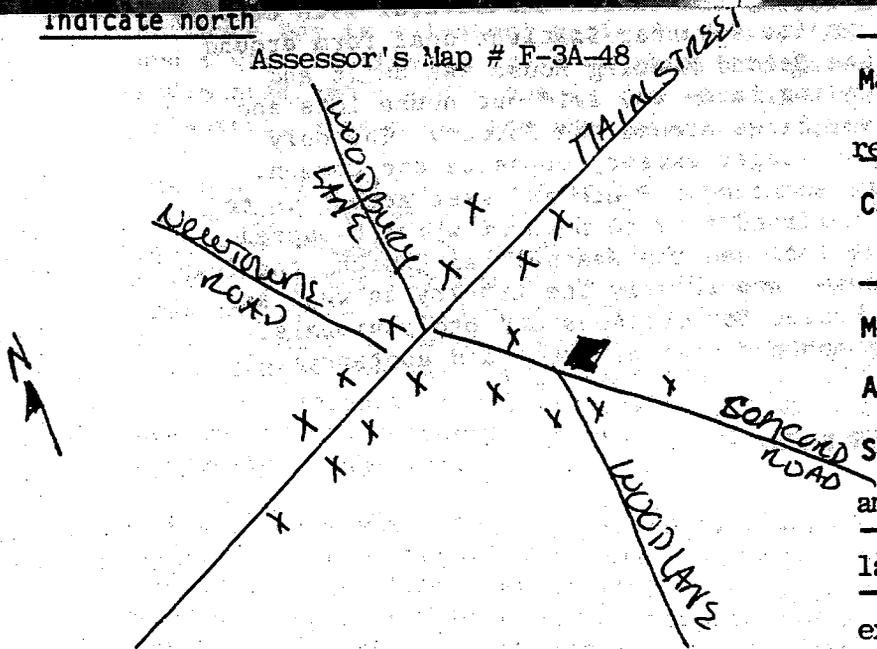
Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Acton Historical Commission

Date March 1990

Indicate north

Assessor's Map # F-3A-48



UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

USGS QUADRANGLE \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

|                                   |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Community:<br><br>ACTON           | Form No:<br><br>B-130 |
| Property Name:<br>12 Concord Road |                       |

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION - 12 CONCORD ROAD

Today's Congregational Church is a result of three construction periods all of which can still be seen in the complex Queen Anne design. The templar gable front meeting house built in 1846 on a raised granite block foundation sits at an angle to Concord Road. The clapboard siding, flush board pilasters, and the molded entablature including a molded boxed cornice with full returns has been retained from the building's Greek Revival construction. The flush board pilasters frame the multi-light roundheaded window bays on each end of the large central bay in the gable front facade. These windows and the roundheaded fanlight in the templar gable end all have molded projecting lintels with tab ends. This gable front facade was altered in 1898 with the addition of the large central stained glass window with projecting molded lintel, the removal of the main entrance and the removal of a spire surmounting the gable peak.

The 1898 changes and additions are marked by the corner tower with its clapboard siding, flat corner pilasters with narrow molding suggesting capitals and its roundheaded scalloped louvered openings. The wide entablature and flared cornice support the upper stage of an arcaded bell tower with pyramidal top and cross spire. Each roundheaded arch of the bell tower has a molded projecting lintel springing from bracket or tab ends, and a balustrade across the opening flanked by small window lights.

The 1966 additions include the low 1-story side ell which now houses the entrance to the tower and sanctuary as well as the large gable roof addition at the rear. The enclosed entrance lobby has double panelled doors flanked by 10-light side-lights and separated by pilasters and narrow molding. To the left of this entrance bay is a 1-story gable front section with a raking cornice, no returns, and a vine lattice to break up the solid gable front wall surface. One of the pedimented gable additions is viewed behind the entrance bay and has wide corner pilasters, a deep cornice and returns and three roundheaded windows.

The east side which is partially viewed from Concord Road and from Wood Lane is dominated by a large projecting square bay with pediment top on molded concrete blocks to resemble dressed granite blocks. There are no windows on the front of this projecting bay and three roundheaded windows with projecting lintels and tab ends in the gable pediment. The raised granite foundation of this long east side is punctuated by three large 10/10 windows and one entrance door which is sheltered by the tall projecting bay on stilts. At the rear of the main body is a 1-story connecting ell leading to the wide gable roof 1966 addition which has modern casement windows and ribbon windows marking the top of the raised concrete aggregate foundation.

The west side which is only partially viewed from the public way is complex with a series of projecting gable end additions. The original meeting house design is recalled in the fenestration with multi-light tall windows and roundheaded windows similar to those on the templar gable front facade. From left to right there is the gable end of the large wide 1966 rear addition with wide raking cornice and eave overhang, no returns, and three roundheaded windows of the same size centered on the clapboard wall surface, a long shed roof 1-story ell

Staple to Inventory form at bottom



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

ACTON

Form No:

B-130

Property Name:

12 Concord Road

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

projecting from the main block, a tall templar gable end projecting entrance bay cut into the shed roof extension, and a wide pedimented projection half way between the tall entrance bay and the corner tower. The tall templar entrance bay has long multi-light windows on the side, double door entrance surmounted by a roundheaded multi-light window. The wide gable end projecting bay has three roundheaded windows with the center one taller than the end ones all with stained glass, molded corner pilasters, and a molded cornice with narrow returns. This gabled section sits on the long shed roof addition in which there is a string of vertical rectangular multi-light windows. In front of the tower is the long side of the 1966 addition to the front entrance ell west of the tower.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

The formation of this church's congregation is particularly important in the development of Acton as it was a definitive action in exercising religious freedom when parishioners of the old Congregational Church broke away to form the Evangelical Society in March 1832. Two factions had been growing within the First Parish congregation with the introduction of Unitarian ideas. It was the conservative group or "Vestry" which left the First Parish to form the Evangelical Church. In preparation the Chapel (504 Main Street) had been built in 1829 and the first minister of the newly formed Society, the Rev. James Trask Woodbury (after whom Woodbury Lane is named) was called to service in August 1832. There were 44 founding members and others were admitted every second month for at least the next year with the largest group in November 1833. This rapid growth of the congregation led to the immediate construction of a meeting house on this site in 1833. That building burned in 1846 and the Greek Revival templar front meeting house was built immediately. The cost was \$6,000 for the 50' by 75' building which housed 82 pews. The pipe organ was installed in 1867.

The remodelling of the church building occurred in 1898 and the stained glass windows were gifts from parishioners and friends. The central front window was given by the Hon. William A. Wilde, library benefactor.

In 1910 the Evangelical Church was renamed the Acton Evangelical Congregational Church.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom



FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 80 BOYLSTON STREET  
 BOSTON, MA 02116

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| AREA | FORM NO. |
| B    | 131      |

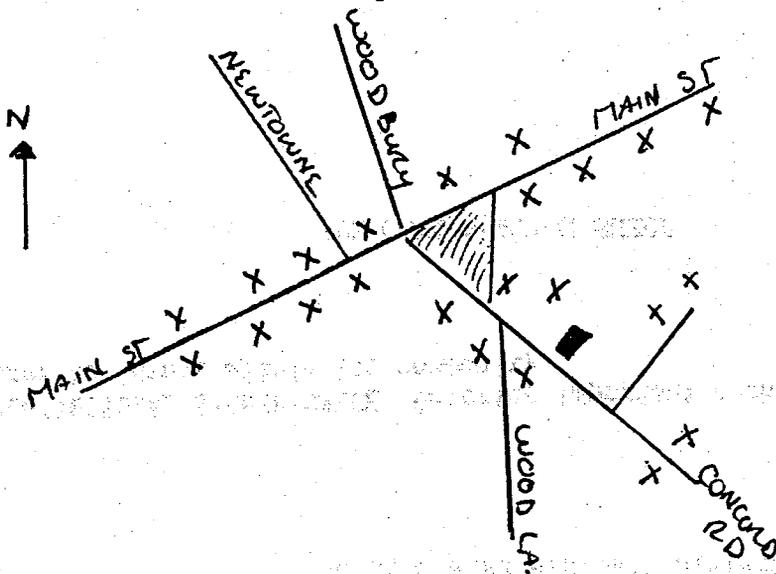


City ACTON  
 Address 20 Concord Road  
 Historic Name Fletcher (rental property)  
 (1870s) Dole and Hapsgood (1850s)  
 Present single family residential  
 Original single family residential

DESCRIPTION  
 Date 1846  
 Source NR Nomination  
 Style Greek Revival / Italianate  
 Architect unknown  
 Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard  
 Outbuildings 2-car garage / barn with pair of carriage shed doors and 1 overhead door  
 Major Alterations (with dates) 1870s updated doorhood, porch and later shed roof dormers

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north

Assessor's Map # F-3A-60



Condition good  
 Moved no Date n/a  
 Acreage less than one acre  
 Setting Next to Church on east side of Concord Rd., mature well established 19th century neighborhood near civic-public religious and residential properties

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_  
 USGS QUADRANGLE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler  
 Organization Acton Historical Commission  
 Date March 1990

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:  
ACTON

Form No:

B-131

Property Name: 20 Concord Rd.

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION - 20 CONCORD ROAD

The 1 1/2 story Greek Revival cottage with 1-story side ell has its gable-front facade facing the Church with the long side facing the road. Built on a granite foundation the house is sheathed in clapboards and has an asphalt shingle roof. In the mid-19th century the 3-bay side-hall entry facing the church was the main entrance. The 1870s hipped roof doorhood with heavily carved brackets is reminiscent of the conventional late 19th century updating of many of the local properties. The Italianate door with two roundheaded glass panels flanked by the Greek Revival feature of full side-lights has been preserved. The full pediment of the gable front retains its boxed molded cornice supported by the wide plain cornerboards. The two windows in the gable pediment have 1/1 sash like the other windows of the cottage.

The long west side facing Concord Road has four bays with 1/1 sash, plain surrounds and louvered shutters. There is a 2-bay shed roof dormer and the tall painted brick chimney pierces the roof just below the ridge in the middle of the main house block. The side ell, also facing Concord Road, has a sweeping bungalow-like full length porch on cast concrete block foundation and supported by round columns and a plain balustrade. The porch appears to be an early 20th century addition and the ell is a part of the original design or was added soon after construction due to its foundation and the footprints on 19th century maps. There is an entrance door with modern storm door flanked by 1/1 windows. There is a chimney in the ell also.

A white picket fence with arbor entrance once led to the side hall entry on the gable side of the house. Although the path no longer exists the overall effect is picturesque and contributes to the setting.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT - 20 CONCORD ROAD (continued)

Concord Road, although established by the mid-18th century was not readily used or settled on until the early 1800s. Nagog Hill Road to Concord Road was the north south route passing the Woodlawn Cemetery. At the village center Wood Lane was constructed in 1806 as a more direct route to the Union Turnpike (Route 2). Wood Lane is now a dead end street.

Built in 1846 by housewright Abner Hosmer (b.1813) this cottage was constructed in the same year as the second meeting house of the Evangelical Church which it faces. Owners during the 1850s included Mrs. Dole (1851) and J. Hapgood (1856). From 1858 to 1893 the house was owned by Fletchers and was probably leased to boot and shoe factory workers. Deacon John Fletcher (1790-1879) and his sons Hon. John Fletcher (1827-1899) and Edwin ran the local industry. The late 19th century maps indicate that J. Fletcher owned the property in 1871 and E. Fletcher in 1875. By 1889 the Rev. James Fletcher lived here. It was he who wrote Acton's history in 1890 just before his death in the 1893 fire that swept through the boot and shoe factory and the Monument Hotel.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

CENTRE  
DISTRICT

