

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.429
Historic Name:	Williams, Elizabeth and Emma House
Common Name:	
Address:	900 Tanglewood Dr 443 Tanglewood Dr
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	G15-3449-6
Year Constructed:	1899
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CON.AU: Woodis - Isaac Lee - Wright Farm
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Stone, Uncut



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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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FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

G15-3449-6-1

CONCORD

AU

429

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

RECEIVED

CONCORD

Town

Sheet 3



Neighborhood or village)

Woodis/Isaac Lee Farm

900 (443) Tanglewood Drive

Name Elizabeth and Emma Williams
House dwelling

Present dwelling

Original 1899

Construction Concord Chronicle

Style Federal Revival

Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

rubble

Foundation

wood clapboard

Wall/Trim

asphalt shingle

Roof

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Concrete Doric "folly" in garden; on separate parcel: carriage house/barn (converted to residence); two garages.

Major Alterations (with dates)

no apparent alterations

Condition

excellent

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage

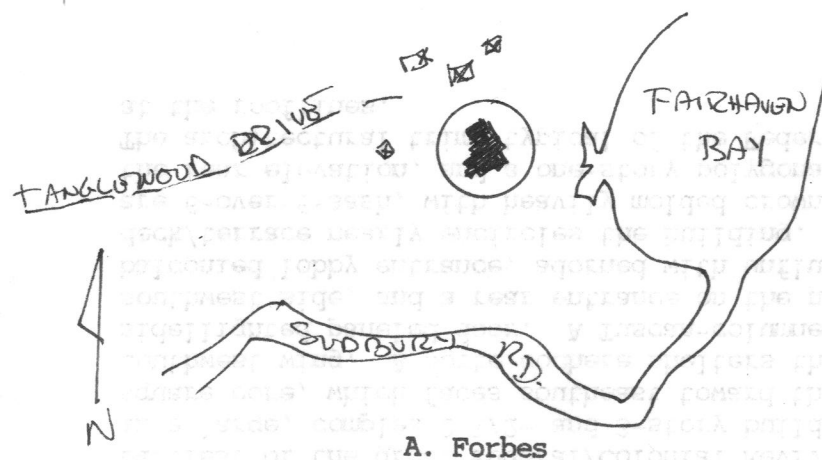
27.9 acres

Setting

Off road on private drive at bluff overlooking Sudbury River. Surrounded by steep lawns, gardens, and stone walls.

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.



A. Forbes

Recorded by

for Concord Hist. Commission

Organization

July, 1992

Date (month/day/year)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

With the Charles Francis Adams House on Fairhaven Hill, #900 Tanglewood Drive is the earliest of the great Federal/Colonial Revival riverfront houses built in Concord. It is a large, complex 2 1/2- and 3-story building with a hipped roof. It consists of a square core, which faces southeast toward the river, a 2-story north wing, and short southwest wing. A porte-cochere shelters the main entry, which has a large recessed and sidelighted paneled door. A Tuscan-columned porch shelters another entry on the southwest side, and a rear entrance on the northwest rear has a sidelighted and balconied lobby entrance, adorned with unfluted pilasters. A continuous wooden deck/terrace nearly encircles the building, linking the entrances. Most of the windows are 6-over-6-sash, with heavily molded crowns. A large Palladian window is located on the rear elevation, and a one-story polygonal bay window projects from the east side. The architectural trim, typical of the Federal Revival, includes a modillioned cornice at the rooflines.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This magnificent house is significant as one of the first two large country estates "not for farming" built in Concord. The other was the Charles Francis Adams House on Fairhaven Hill. Both were constructed in 1899, and they ushered in an era of country-estate building on Concord's hills and overlooking her waterways that lasted through the 1930's.

Many of the country estates were established on parts of some of Concord's most historic farms. In this case, the Misses Elizabeth and Emma Frances Williams bought the old eighteenth-century Woodis and Isaac Lee Farm on the Fitchburg Turnpike in about 1899. They built this house on the bluff overlooking Fairhaven Bay for their own residence, where it became known as a "home of boundless hospitality and charm." They also probably built the beautiful horse barn that still exists today west of the old Lee farmhouse at 509 Garfield Road. They hired a manager, who lived in the old farmhouse, to run the farm.

Elizabeth Williams died in 1916, and by 1925 the house and farm had been acquired by Richard Fessenden. The Fessenden family owned the property through the middle of this century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Town Directories and tax lists.
Concord Chronicle.
 Obituary file, Concord Free Library.

- ☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
900 (343) Tanglewood
Drive

Area(s)	FormNo.
AU	429

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district
☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Anne McCarthy Forbes

Statement of Significance by _____

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

This building meets the criteria for individual listing on the National Register for its role in Concord's development as one of the first two residential country estates built overlooking Concord's rivers in the 1890's, (Criterion A.) It also meets Criterion C as a excellent example of a large three-story Federal Revival house. It possesses integrity of design, location, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.