United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 1.5 1981 date entered MAY 1.5 1981

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	<u>e</u>				
historic	WHITE FARM				
and/or common	WHITE FARM				
2. Loca	tion				
street & number	#144 Clint	on Street			not for publication
city, town	Concord		_ vicinity of	congressional district	Second
state New 1	Hampshire	code 3	3 county	Merrimack	code 013
3. Class	sification	1			
Category  district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership  X public  private  both  Public Acquisition  in process  being conside	un wo Acces _X ye	cupied loccupied ork in progress sible es: restricted es: unrestricted	Present Use _X_ agriculture commercial educational entertainment _X_ government industrial military	<pre>museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:</pre>
<u>4. Own</u>	er of Pro	perty			
name	State of N	ew Hampshire	2		
street & number	see contin	uation sheet	t		
city, town	Concord		_ vicinity of	state	New Hampshire 033
5. Loca	tion of L	egal De	escription	on	
courthouse, regis	try of deeds, etc.	Merrimack	County Regi	stry of Deeds, Merri	imack County Courthous
street & number		North Main	n Street, PO	Box #248	
city, town		Concord		state	New Hampshire 033
6. Repr	esentati	on in E	xisting	Surveys	
title	N/A		has this pro	pperty been determined ele	egible? yes no
date				federal state	e county local
depository for sur	rvey records				
city, town				state	

# Condition — excellent — deteriorated — unaltered — word date — moved date — moved

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The White Farm complex, located on the northwesterly side of Clinton Street (NH Route #13) in Concord, New Hampshire, is an interrelated grouping of residential and agricultural buildings surrounded by 136 acres of woodland and open fields—some still cultivated for corn and hay, others left fallow—interspersed with wetlands and small watercourses. The physical integrity of the structures and their setting is all the more remarkable because the property is less than two miles from the New Hampshire state house, less than a mile from Interstate #89, and faces a major highway providing access to the city from the west. It is, therefore, a critical area both for its personal and architectural associations, and as a major example of historical land—use in the city of Concord.

The nominated property includes several structures, as described below:

#### Nathaniel and Armenia White Residence (#144 Clinton Street):

The house is a well-preserved example of mid-nineteenth century vernacular Greek Revival architecture. It appears that the original structure consisted of a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story gable-front main house, facing south onto Clinton Street, with a single-story longitudinal rear ell; a transverse wing was added to the west side at a later date (ca. 1880-1910, from internal evidence), and a small enclosed room (incorporated into the kitchen/service areas) was placed on the rear elevation at an unknown date.

Greek Revival influence is evident in the simplicity of the 3-bay facade. An inset open porch, I bay wide by 2 bay deep (removable insect screening panels were added later) is used on the east side in place of the more typical side hall entrance; the entrance to the house opens off the porch, parallel to the facade, thus combining the advantages of a central-hallway floor plan with gable-to-the-street orientation. The exterior trim (projecting box cornice, flat fascia, cornerboards, window and door surrounds) is made up of plain sawn lumber with minimal applied moulding, suggesting the use of factory-made elements rather than hand-crafted piecework.

The lower edge of the porch frieze is shaped into partial ellipses, springing between each of the porch posts; each bay of the frieze is also emphasized with applied sawn margin bands. The posts (actually, two antae and two free-standing columns) are enclosed in plain wooden casing, approximately square in section, with simple mouldings used at the top to suggest capitals. The effect is one of Federal taste expressed in a Greek Revival vocabulary. The main house, longitudinal ell, and rear projection rest on split-face granite blocks (perhaps quarried locally) with randomly-placed 1 x 4 cellar vent sash; the western ell has a brick foundation; and the entrance porch floor and foundation have been replaced with a concrete slab and concrete blocks, respectively.

Details on the east side are consistant with the Greek Revival style. The arrangement of the 4 bays of the main house is unequal but regular. The longitudinal ell appears to have been extended eastward, creating an inset porch with an entrance flanked by narrow 2/2 sidelights, suggesting a functional semi-enclosed working space. The ell also seems to have been expanded vertically with the later expansion of the attic into a second floor with one central double, and two single, dormers; their segmentally-headed 6/6 windows, applied scrollwork, and console eave brackets are unlike any other windows on the house. All other east elevation sash are 6/6, though the rearmost one on the ell is much smaller and obviously newer.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 _X 1800-1899 _X 1900-	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historicX agricultureX architecture art commerce communications	<ul> <li>community planning</li> <li>conservation</li> <li>economics</li> <li>education</li> <li>engineering</li> <li>exploration/settlement</li> <li>industry</li> </ul>	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy X politics/government	science sculpture X_ social/ humanitarian theater X_ transportation
		invention	Unde	X_other (specify) erground Railroad
Specific dates	1846	Builder/Architect		

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Significance, agriculture: In 1846, Nathaniel White purchased some land 2 miles southwest from the State House on what is now Clinton Street in Concord. This land later became the White Farm. White "gave much attention to farming", and the White Farm was "one of the most highly cultivated in the state" throughout White's lifetime and even after his death. On the farm, milk cows were kept and a variety of food stuffs were grown. Not only was the White Farm well developed but it was also one of the largest in Concord, encompassing 400 acres. The farm has remained in agricultural use—first as a dairy farm, and later for production of corn and hay—throughout its ownership by the State of New Hampshire. In the fall of 1980, the State Prison agricultural program was expanded to include operations at the White Farm.

Significance, architecture: The White Farm was built in the late 1840's in the then popular Greek Revival style. The White Farm is characteristic of the simpler form of transitional Greek Revival dwelling which incorporate latent Federal features. Unlike the majority of urban Greek Revival homes, the White Farm had few of the embellishments of ornamentation and is basically a functional farmhouse. For example, the closets are worth noting in that they are practical in size and quite numerous, a feature not usually found in most homes of that time. In addition, the White Farm's numerous barn structures are well preserved examples of farming architecture in the 1800's. The total White Farm complex reflects the architectural taste of White and 19th century Concord.

Significance, politics and government: In 1842, Nathaniel White took his first step into political life when he was chosen by the Whigs and Free Soldiers to represent Concord in the State Legislature. He continued to serve in government through to 1875 when he ran for governor under the Prohibition party. Although he lost, he was delegated to the important Cincinnati Convention which nominated Rutherford B. Hayes for President. White's honesty, responsibility and conviction for reform earned him the respect of the people of New Hampshire.

Significance, religion: The White Memorial Universalist Church on the corner of State and School Street in Concord is a tribute to Nathaniel White. From its inception in 1833 to its completion in 1841 and afterwards, White was the church's driving force—a reflection of his commitment to liberalism and humanitarianism, in religion as well as in politics. He gave much of his time and money to establish Concord's only Universalist Church. Without White's support, the church would have ceased to exist. After White's death, the church became the White Memorial Universalist Church in honor of its donor.

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, Region One. The Underground Railroad in New England. Boston MA: American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, n.d. (1976) Clarke, J.B Successful New Hampshire Men. Manchester, NH: J.B. Clarke, 1882. Lyford, J.D. History of Concord. Concord, NH: Rumford Press, 1903.

			Bushell w war	<u> </u>
10. Geograp	hical Data		una Mui	Variable [1]
Acreage of nominated prope Quadrangle name <u>Conco</u> UMT References	•		Month Cuadi	rangle scale 1:24000
A 1 9 2 9 2 4 2 10 Zone Easting	4   7   8   5   1   4   0   Northing	B 119 Zone	- <del> </del>	0 4 <sub>1</sub> 7 <sub>8</sub> ,4 <sub>6</sub> ,2 <sub>1</sub> 0 Northing
C 119 2 9 1 8 2 10 E	4   7   8   4   2   4   0	D <u>  1   9</u> F   H	29134	0 4,78,48,40
Verbal boundary descrip	tion and justification	· .		
	see conti	nuation sheet	:	a to a spiror and the
List all states and count	ies for properties over	lapping state or	county boundar	ries
state	code	county		code
state	code	county	∴.	code
11. Form Pro	epared By			
name/title Robi	nson/Holden: Inst	ructors		
			data	20.1 1000
organization Trad	<u>litions Worth Prese</u>	erving Class	date June	e 30th, 1980
street & number 125	School Street		telephone 603	-224-5954
city or town Cond	cord	·	state New	Hampshire 03301
12. State Hi	storic Pres	ervation	Officer	Certification
The evaluated significance o	f this property within the	state is:		· · · · ·
national	_x_ state	local		
As the designated State Historian (1997), I hereby nominate this paccording to the criteria and	property for inclusion in t	he National Regist	er and certify that	
State Historic Preservation C	Officer signature	9-2-	Julie	
•	ept. of Resources & ic Preservation Off		relopment dat	e February 12, 1981
For HCRS use only		, /	<del>.</del>	
1 .	s property is included in t	the National Regist	ter	
Emer Man Drugo			dat	e 5/15/81
Keeper of the National Reg	ister			/ /
Attest:			dat	e
Chief of Registration				

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

OWNER OF

CONTINUATION SHEET PROPERTY #1

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 2

- 1) Department of Administration & Control c/o Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds State House Annex, Concord, New Hampshire 03301
- Department of Agriculture
  #85 Manchester Street
  Concord, New Hampshire 03301
- Department of Resources & Economic Development 6 Loudon Road

  Box #856

  Concord, New Hampshire 03301
- 4) New Hampshire Hospital #105 Pleasant Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION #2 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The rear elevation (incorporating the transverse ell) is less organized, with an irregular pattern of two 6/6 windows and a door (with a Queen Anne colored glass upper panel) under a simple stickwork hood, an enclosed cellar bulkhead entry, and a small projected room. The clapboards and curving roofline show evidence of the eastward and upward expansion of the original ell, which may contribute to water leakage and peeling paint problems. The west side of the transverse ell is without openings; the south side has three plain dormers with 6-light fixed sash; immediately below them are three eyebrow-type windows with 6-light fixed sash; below them at the entrance level, but not symmetrically spaced, are three 6/6 windows and a door similar to the rear door, with a Queen Anne colored glass upper panel and a stickwork hood. The ell appears to have been a service addition for the use of the farm laborers, as attested both by internal fixtures and finishes, and by a well-worn boot scraper set into the concrete door stoop. An asbestos-board skirting panel surrounds the western ell at the sill level, covering the foundation.

At the intersection of the western ell and the rear projection of the longitudinal ell a 6-light eyebrow window is repeated, above a simple 4-panel (flat profile, with marginal/rabbets) late-Federal type door which opens onto a small, square porch, open above a wooden dado; a doorway is framed into the west bay of the porch, but lacks a door. The Asher Benjamin-type mouldings of the porch, attached with cut nails suggests that the porch was probably part of the original structure or at least an early addition.

The west elevation of the house is divided into 4 regular bays of 6/6 sash.

The gabled roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. One single-flue brick chimney rises from the ridge just inside the rear wall of the main house; the stack for flues at the front of the house has been removed. A tall single-flue brick chimney is attached to the rear of the western ell. Except for lightening rods and plumbing vents, there are no other roof features.

The interior conforms to a simplified version of the Greek Revival style, incorporating some late-Federal elements. The primary entrance (from the eastern front porch) opens to a stairhall with a "parlor" on the south and a kitchen on the north. Several changes in room arrangement and function have occurred during the history of the house; since the State of New Hampshire purchased the building, some modern facilities have been added: cabinets, basins, and electrical outlets. Most of the walls on the first floor have 20th century wallpaper; the original pine floors have been replaced or covered over with hard pine and hardwood strip flooring. The dining room boasts a pressed metal ceiling with a simple design, and a cased column. The doors, of mortise and tenon construction, are generally 4-panelled early Greek Revival with some 4-panel late Federal examples. The woodwork of the principal first-floor rooms consists of plain wood casings with a simple horizontal moulded lintel. Window surrounds extend downward to the floor, enclosing flush-boarded wainscot panels. Sash have typical

see continuation sheet

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION #3 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Greek Revival profiles. The sharpness of the details of the wookwork suggests that it has not been painted many times; although now white, chipped spots reveal that much of the wood was originally grained. The front "parlor" sports a false-fireplace, a mantelpiece and decorative surround of metal, grained to look like marble.

The second floor of the main house is plainer. The original wide, pine floorboards of the south portion are painted brown. The woodwork reflects that of the first floor, but the cornice treatment at window and door casings. is simpler. The balusters of the stairwell are also simpler, and the newel--unlike the massive turned one at the firstfloor landing--narrows at the top to a more graceful, Greek column effect. (The stair to the attic is enclosed.) Most of the doors throughout the second floor appear to be original, and some of their 19th century hardware remains intact. The moulding profile of the cornice at the hall side of the door to the southeast chamber has a profile like that of the other cornice mouldings in the house--except that it is executed with greater delicacy and may be hand-made with a moulding plane, rather than factory-produced as the others appear to be; perhaps it was the full-scale model for preparing the other woodwork elements, and was installed in an inconspicuous place where such differences would not be noted. Interestingly, the door to the attic stair opposite, is a Federal 4-panel example which retains exquisite golden-maple paint graining on its rear (attic) side. It is also possible that these two features are the sole survivors of original finish materials, superseded by a mid-19th century updating. In the central rooms of the second floor, north of the hallway, serious roof leakage has occurred. In these rooms the original floors are covered with knotty pine and linoleum. Chips in the white-painted walls reveal a sand color, consistent with Greek Revival taste. However, nowhere in the house are typical Greek Revival details, such as "bullseye" corner blocks, used in the woodwork despite their frequency in similar houses in the Concord area.

The dormered rooms over the longitudinal ell are plainly finished, in keeping with their presumed function as servant's rooms.

The attic reveals a balloon-type frame construction. Some of the original up-and-down sawn rafters have been replaced with circular-sawn rafters, and many of the studs appear to have been made of rough and/or scrap lumber.

The house is basically sound, except for roof leakage (perhaps from the ridge chimney and the second-floor ell dormers), undermining of the west side of the house cellar wall by water, and consequent peeling paint—none of which seem to require difficult or complex repairs.

see continuation sheet

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION #4 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

Immediately to the rear of the White residence is a small square white clapboard structure with a hipped roof, topped with a finial; access doors are located on the north and south sides. Now used for storing trash barrels, it may have once been a privy or a well-house.

The farm complex behind the White's house includes several buildings now owned by the State of New Hampshire. The original timber framed barn (57' x 195') with a sheet metal roof is decorated with an Eastlake cupola with wood slat ventilators, intersecting transverse gables, and a finial; it also includes a silo. During the 1940's, the State Hospital Dairy was in operation, there housing 85 milking cows; now the barn is used for storage. Eastward across the driveway stands a 5 bay garage with corrugated metal roof and 2 metal ventilators. Another adjacent 5 bay concrete block garage was built in 1963. A small wood-framed storage shed between the Cow Barn and the garages housed calves during the Dairy's operation.

Two small houses, possibly the farm managers' residences, are no longer in use. At #148 Clinton Street, the characteristic Greek Revival gable faces the street. The 3-bay design and side-hall entrance mirror the style of the White's main home, but the trim around the windows and porch lacks any decorative elements. Perhaps this reflects the status of the occupants. The foundation is made of split-face granite blocks; the central chimney appears to be original. The brick foundation of the longitudinal ell suggests that it was added later. The back porch has a painted wooden floor and asphalt shingle roof. The main roof was originally wood shingle and is now covered by ribbed metal panels. A small asbestos-sided garage with an asphalt-shingled roof stands next to and west of the house, facing Clinton Street.

At #152 Clinton Street, the white clapboard house has a central entrance door with Greek Revival sidelights, flanked by two windows. The entrance opens onto an added porch supported by metal posts. The foundation is brick. There is a random order of windows on the east side and a symmetrical pattern on the west. A small ell was added to the back of the house and its doorway was subsequently roofed over to provide an open-porch entrance. There is one large shed-dormer on the rear roof and two symmetrical single-flue chimneys aligned with and set back from the ridge. Behind the house stands a small clapboard storage shed in poor condition.

Despite the fact that he owned a brick house on School Street in Concord (no longer standing), it is interesting to note that Nathaniel White, one of the wealthiest, and most prominent and most progressive men in the community, chose to reside in and operate a farm complex of simple, conservative design. At a time when ornamentation and ostentation were vogue, this rather humble grouping of buildings suggest that White was more concerned with his humanitarian contributions to society than in displaying his wealth.

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE #5 ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Significance, social/humanitarian: Both Nathaniel and Armenia White were among Concord's most prominent citizens and gave considerable financial support and energy to a variety of local and state charitable and philanthropic efforts, such as: the New Hampshire asylum for the insane, State Reform School, Orphan's Home at Franklin, Home for the Aged in Concord, Mercy Home in Manchester (where Mrs. White was on the Board of Trustees), and New Hampshire Centennial Home for the Aged. Both were ardent in temperance, women's sufferage and abolitionist movements. They also contributed greatly to the Universalist Church, renovation of the State House in 1863, and extablished the White Opera House where presidents and other dignitaries were entertained. Nathaniel White was a Trustee of the Loan and Trust Savings Bank, director of the Profile House in New Hampshire and Mount Washington Cog Railroad and a partner and chief stockholder of the Concord Patriot newspaper and Concord's first water delivery company in 1872 on Long Pond. White's Park was willed to the city as a public park in 1884. Mrs. White was president of the New Hampshire Women's Christian Temperance Union and president of New Hampshire Women's Sufferage Association. Armenia also supported Nathaniel in all his career ventures.

Significance, transportation: Nathaniel White began his contribution to the transportation system of New England in 1832. At this time he established a stage coach route from Concord to Hanover. He was recognized as an excellent driver and was commissioned to drive U.S. Grant through New Hampshire. In 1835 White became partners with Capt. William Walker, also of Concord. Together they expanded the route to Lowell and Boston, Massachusetts. White personally made three weekly trips to Boston. In 1842, railroads became important in the express business. White was one of the original partners of the express company which delivered goods throughout New Hampshire and Canada by rail, and which became the American Express Company. "There is no record of the enterprise being tied into the Underground Railroad, but the possibilities are interesting to contemplate."

Significance, Underground Railroad: "It is a matter of record that the hospitable home (of Nathaniel and Armenia White) was a refuge of many a hunted slave — a veritable station on the underground railroad where welcome, care, food, and money were freely bestowed and the refuges were sent on their way rejoicing. A surviving granddaughter recalls her grandmother's stories about futitive slaves arriving at the farm on foot or horseback and being sheltered in the attic or the hay mow."<sup>2</sup>

American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, Region One. The Underground Railroad in New England. Boston MA: American Revolution Bicentennial Administration,
n.d. (1976), 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup><u>Ibid</u>, 16-17.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION #6 ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

The nominated property is a parcel of approximately 136 acres in Concord, New Hampshire. Starting at the intersection of Clinton Street (NH Route #13) and the Turkey River and going esterly, it is bounded on the south by the New Hampshire Hospital and the New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development, until it reaches the "State Police Lot"; thence northerly and then easterly around the "State Police Lot" to its northeastern corner; thence diagonally northeastward to an offset in the southern boundary of land owned by the State of New Hampshire (formerly owned by the Church of Christ, Scientist) abutting the White Farm tract; thence northwesterly along the northern boundaries of land owned by the New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development to the Turkey River; thence southerly along the eastern bank of the Turkey River to the place of beginning at the intersection of the Turkey River and Clinton Street--all as delineated in plans (1) @ 1" = 400', drawn by Phipps (1975) from a 1926 plan by Whitford @ 1'' = 400'; and (2) @ 1'' = 200', traced from tax map/s by Phipps (February 1973) and revised by Sidmore (June 1974), both of which are on file in the New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development.

These boundaries have been selected to include the White Farm buildings and the only significant intact remnant of the White Farm tract north of Clinton Street, and to incorporate representative contiguous examples of of farm's significant historical setting and production units, including river edge marsh, meadow, mowing, tillage, garden, orchard and woodlot. (Refer to sketch map, Continuation Sheet #7)

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