

5 Huntington Street



Huntington Street served as a carriage street or alley serving Merrimack Street in the 1850's. The land at 5 Huntington Street was purchased by Hannah Thompson in 1855 and in 1856 the building was in place and listed as the address of Dr. Charles Thompson. No other building appeared on Huntington Street at this time.

Dr. Thompson was a medical doctor. His brother Dr. Benjamin Thompson of Andover operated the controversial Thomsonian Infirmary on Main Street that is now occupied by the Capital Center for the Arts according to the Amsden history (Vol. 33, page 7). The Infirmary offered a "botanical cure." Charles Thompson advertised the infirmary in the New Hampshire Patriot as a 'Concord Botanic Infirmary' on Main Street in 1837. The Lyford history contains a line drawing of the infirmary on page 916.

In 1858, the Merrimack County school map shows a building on the west side of Huntington Street with the notation "Dr. Thompson" and no other buildings on the west side of the street. The east side buildings all had addresses on Short or Centre Streets. Most of the east side property was owned by Judge Minot.

The architectural survey of 1987, Concord Room, describes the house as stick-built typical of the 19th century. The building had "classic stick-style elements ...and was well preserved, including a shed window, roofs, gable cross-pieces, zigzag ornament in the porch gable, stick-like eave brackets, and the double entry doors with arched glass."

The surveyor noted that the architectural features might meet one qualification for an application for the National Register of Historic Places."

Hannah Thompson held title to the land since 1855 and likely lived in the building with relative Charles Thompson. In 1863, she sold the property to James L. Frost for \$2000. The 1858 school map identifies a J. Frost of School Street as dealing in boots, shoes and rubbers. In 1892, tailor W.S. Baker occupied the house. In 1899, a Queen Anne style porch and ornamentation was added to the east end of the house.