

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.241
Historic Name:	Hildreth, Jonathan House
Common Name:	
Address:	8 Barrett's Mill Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Hildreth's Corner
Local No:	80
Year Constructed:	r 1750
Architect(s):	Duren, Reuben; Hepburn, Andrew Hopewell
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian
Use(s):	Secondary Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CON.DT: Barrett Farm Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (10/10/1972); Nat'l Register Individual Property (04/03/1991)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Brick; Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Granite; Stone, Cut



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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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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

LHD 10/10/72
NRIND 4/3/91
(36)

AREA

FORM NO.

DT

241

wn Concorddress 8 Barrett's Mill Rd.storic Name Jonathan Hildreth Housee: Present ResidentialOriginal Residential

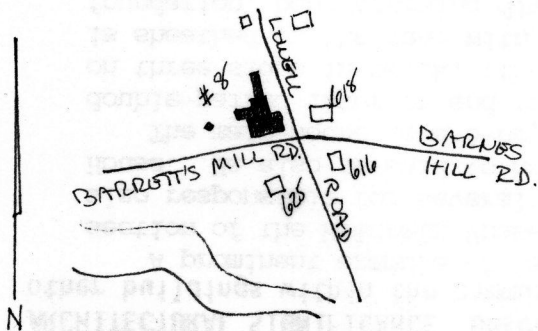
SCRIPTION

te ca. 1763 and 1783-90; ca. 1941urce stylistic evidenceyle late Georgianrchitect Reuben Duren; Andrew HepburnExterior Wall Fabric brick and wood
clapboardOutbuildings summerhouse--early 1940'sMajor Alterations (with dates) sheds:-

19th & 20th cent.s; carriage house early 1880's; main
chimneys rebuilt 1938; rear extension & w. wing ca.
1941. Store burned ca. 1909; privy, smokehouse demol.
ca. 1941; Condition bay window mid-20th C.

ExcellentMoved no Date --Acreage approximately two acresSetting Prominent corner location, amonglarge farmhouses of 18th to late19th-century date.Recorded by Anne ForbesOrganization Date April, 1989

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

UTM REFERENCE USGS QUADRANGLE SCALE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Hildreth House is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C. As the site of the Hildreth store, hub of Hildreth Corner activities from the late eighteenth to early twentieth centuries, its association with the development of a small secondary village a mile north of Concord center is direct and inseparable. (Criterion A.) It is also eminently important as one of Concord's finest examples of high-style late Georgian architecture at the point of its transition to the Federal style. It is the town's only large brick house of the style, and an outstanding illustration of the work of master builder Reuben Duren. (Criterion C.)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

A prominent example of late Georgian architecture in rural New England, the main section of the Hildreth House was built ca. 1783-90 by Reuben Duren, a builder who was also responsible for several houses in Bedford, including the ca. 1790's Penniman/Stearns House. He also is said to have built the nearby brick-ended house at 107 Westford Rd.

The main house is a 5-bay, two-story structure, with asphalt hipped roof, double-paired interior end chimneys, and two hip-roofed dormers above the facade. Clad on three sides in brick, (the facade laid in Flemish bond, the sides in common bond,) it is sheathed on the rear with wood clapboards. A prominent water table tops the granite foundation, band-coursing divides first from second story on the facade. First floor windows are topped by flat arches of splayed stretchers. Windows are 12-over-12 sash, those in the brick walls are set into molded wooden architraves. The deeply-cut, modillioned cornice is identical to the one at the Penniman/Stearns House, as are the heavy wooden shutters with fixed louvers, and the design of the center entry. (Cont.)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

The Hildreth House is the cornerstone of a rural neighborhood known as Hildreth ('s) Corner---a name which indicates the pivotal role of the Hildreth family in the development of this part of Concord. The main house was built for Jonathan Hildreth, (1753-1818,) a Lieutenant in the colonial forces during the Revolution. He manufactured barrels, potash, and bellows, and opened a store on the property which served the residents of the surrounding countryside, known as "the plains," as well as east and north Acton. The store continued in business for well over a hundred years, until it burned ca. 1909. Hildreth's enterprise inspired other activities in the area, which had a grist mill, shoemaker, carpenter, blacksmith shop, and school, becoming, by the early 1800's, a significant secondary village cluster north of Concord center.

Later residents of the house included two of Jonathan Hildreth's sons, who shared the house until the mid-19th century. George W., (1801-1852), lived with his family in the west side of the house. He became a prominent landowner and succeeded his father as proprietor of the store, selling, among other items, "hogsheads of rum", until his death. Jonathan Jr., (1786-1862,) who lived in the east half with their sister Nancy, was a Representative, and Concord selectman from 1822 to 1829. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Boston Public Library. Architects Files.

Brown, Abram. History of the Town of Bedford. Bedford, MA: 1891.

Clark, Gladys. Recorded interview with Renee Garrellick, 1982. Letters, undated. (Cont.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: CONCORD	Form No: 241
Property Name: Hildreth House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, continued.

The entry, the most prominent feature of the facade, is a well-preserved illustration of a type found in 18th-century builders' guides. Executed in wood, it has a dentilated triangular pediment supported by flat, fluted Doric pilasters, the whole backed by an imitation-stone architrave. Here the door is recessed into the facade, (that at the Penniman/Stearns House is not.)

The interior of the main house is lavishly decorated with late Georgian molded wainscoting, mantels, chimneypieces, and compound crown moldings.

The rear 2-story wing, which predates Duren's section by at least 20 years, is a pitch-roofed, clapboard house, (builder unknown.) Its windows are 6-over-9 and 6-over-6 sash; the facade entry, which faces Lowell Rd., displays a 4-light transom and molded, sloping hood. The door is 6-panel, with a shallow-molded surround. Originally a 3-bay half-house, this section was elongated ca. 1941 by an additional bay at the north end, and later altered by the insertion of a bay window beside the door.

A pitch-roofed, two-story west wing abuts the rear of the earlier section. This wing, built ca. 1941 along with a loggia connecting it to the main house, the north end of the older house, and a small summerhouse, are the work of architect Andrew H. Hepburn, of Perry, Shaw and Hepburn. A master of Colonial restoration, Hepburn repeated elements of Reuben Duren's building, such as sloping window hoods from the rear facade, throughout the new sections. For the columns of the loggia he copied Duren's entry pilasters. The little pyramid-roofed summerhouse is a square, wood-framed building with sliding sash over wainscoting on three sides, and a 15-light glass door with divided sidelights on the front. It is set on an angle within another square of delicate Ionic columns and pilasters which were originally part of a Greek Revival house in Arlington. As a building complex that displays the work of two master builders, 150 years apart, the Hildreth House is a fascinating contrast between two approaches to the American idiom.

Extending north from the earlier rear section of the house is a line of attached sheds--a one-story, pitch-roofed section, a hip-roofed carriage house, (now with twentieth-century garage doors,) built in the early 1880's by a Hildreth son-in-law, and a 1-story twentieth-century shed beyond, presently undergoing reconstruction.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, continued.

The house passed out of the Hildreth family early in the twentieth century, and was bought ca. 1919 by architect Andrew H. Hepburn, who, in his partnership with William Perry and Thomas Mott Shaw, (another Concord resident,) is best known for the restoration of Williamsburg, VA, during the 1930's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, continued.

Garrelick, Rene. "Rooms Full of Memories: the Story of a House," Concord Journal, March 25, 1982.

Hildreth, H.A. History of the Family of Hildreth in America. ca. 1853.

Keyes, J.S. Houses in Concord, 1885; with notes by Adams Tolman ca. 1924.

Scudder, Townsend. Concord: American Town. (Boston: Little, Brown, 1947.)

Shattuck, Lemuel. History of the Town of Concord. (Boston: Russell, Odiorne, 1835.)

Wheeler, Ruth. House File. Unpublished. 1937 and 1969.



South Façade



Rear Section



Looking East



Main Entry



Rear Wing



Barrett's Mill Road, looking East toward Hildreth's Corner



Looking West from Barnes Hill to Barrett's Mill Road (Hildreth House at right)



Southwest Corner, Barrett's Mill and Lowell Roads



616 Lowell Road. Southeast corner, Barrett's Mill/Barnes Hill Roads and Lowell Road



Northeast corner, Barnes Hill and Lowell Roads



Summer House, 8 Barrett's Mill Road



Stephen Barrett House, 107 Westford Road, Concord (CON.441)



Col. Timothy Jones House, 231 Concord Road, Bedford (BED.4)



Penniman-Stearns House, 26 Great Road, Bedford (BED.27)



Pickman House, Dudley Road, Bedford



1 Concord 241
 2 Lowell Rd at Barrett's Mill
 3 Bugelow House
 4 Hildreth House
 5 Initial Use _____
 6 Present Use _____
 7 Present Owner Hallett - Olsen
 8 1769 Style Georgian
 9 Date of Date _____
 10 Architect _____

11 12. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered

13 IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by _____

14. DESCRIPTION

15 FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: cut stone
 16 WALL COVER: Wood _____ Brick Stone Other _____
 17 STORIES: 1 2 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular
 18 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency SW side garden Simple/Complex
 19 PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony _____ Recessed _____
 20 ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard cornice
 21 Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork 2
 22 FACADE: Gable End: Front/Side Symmetrical/Asymmetrical Simple?/Complex Ornament
 23 Entrance: Front/Side Centered Double Features: flat portico features - light shutters
 24 Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 12/12 + dormers 6/6
 25 Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured _____

26 OUTBUILDINGS _____

27 LANDSCAPING _____

28 5. Indicate location of structure on map below

29 6. Footage of structure from street 10

Property has _____ feet frontage on street

Recorder _____

For _____

Photo

68-555
68-556
68-557

E. 109. 1065. 1.080

NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form. (See Reverse Side)

FOR USE WITH IMPORTANT STRUCTURES (Indicate any interior features of note)

Fireplace

Stairway

Other

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

Jonathan Hildreth kept store here to 1818

Jan farm made bellows

Sons each took 1/2 house

Jonathan jr. Selectman + Rep - died 1862

Architecturally a gem - people have come from outside area to study this -

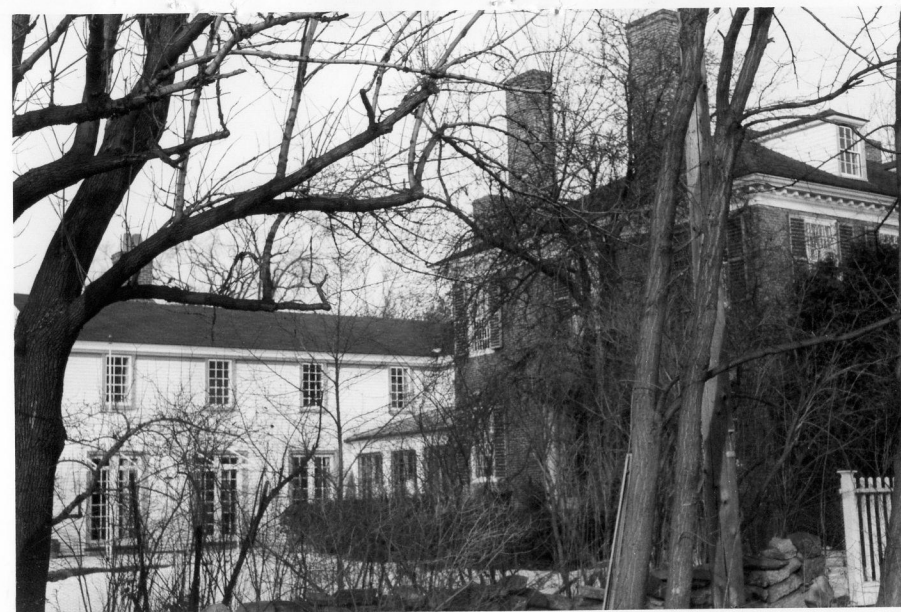
REFERENCE (Where was this information obtained? What book, records, etc.)

Newspaper article - Mrs Wheeler CAS Sept 2 '37

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Original Owner: Jonathan Hildreth

Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, _____ Registry of Deeds



Community: ConcordMHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received:

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 5/17/89Type: B Individual

District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: JONATHAN HILDRETH HOUSE

Inventory Form:

Address: 8 Barrett's Mill RoadRequested by: Concord Hist. Comm.

Action:

Honor

ITC

Grant

R & C

Other:

Agency:

Staff in charge of Review: AT

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

- ☐ Eligible
☒ Eligible, also in district
☐ Eligible only in district
☐ Ineligible
☐ More information needed

DISTRICTS

- ☐ Eligible
☐ Ineligible
☐ More information needed

CRITERIA:

(A)

B

(C)

D

LEVEL:

Local

State ?

National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by

Laura Littlefield

Jonathan Hildreth House located in Concord
 in the Barrett's Mill LHD. Is eligible individually
 and as part of a possible district
 At Hildreth corner and along Barrett's Mill
 Road. Individually for Criterion A its
 association with this part of Concord
 as the focal point of development in this
 area. Crit C: its outstanding architectural
 significance from 1763 - 1941 its evolution
 through time with later additions by
 Andrew W. Hopburn could make the property
 eligible at the state level

Community:

ConcordMHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 2.7.89

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 3.1.89

Type: B Individual

District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: JONATHAN HILDRETH HOUSE

Inventory Form: NEW FORM

Address: 8 BARRETT'S MILL RD

Requested by: CONCORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Action: Honor ITC Grant R & C Other:

Agency:

Staff in charge of Review:

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

- ☐ Eligible
☐ Eligible, also in district
☐ Eligible only in district
☐ Ineligible
☒ More information needed

DISTRICTS

- ☐ Eligible
☐ Ineligible
☐ More information needed

CRITERIA:

A

B

C

D

LEVEL:

Local

State

National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by

Lester Litchfield

Excellent example of late Georgian early Federal architecture. They wish to nominate it under criteria A, B+C. We need more information for Jonathan Hildreth to substantiate crit. B. We would also like to know more about Hildreth corner. What else exists there and the history. The architectural information provided was excellent but would like a photo of the Summer house mentioned on the B-form. Also what is the present owners opinion. Do they know what the Hist. Comm. is doing? The property is located in a special acts LHD Barrett Hill Farm?

10/86