

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.409
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Potter, Francis House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	12 Fairhaven Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Hubbardville
<b>Local No:</b>	G10-4300
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	c 1828
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Federal
<b>Use(s):</b>	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Agriculture; Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	CON.AL: Hubbardville
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: 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](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 23, 2020 at 12:40 PM

CON. 409

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

G10-436

CONCORD

AL

409

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town CONCORD

(neighborhood or village)  
Hubbardville

12 Fairhaven Road

Francis Potter House

Present

dwelling

Original

dwelling

of Construction 1828-1832

Deeds.

Form Federal vernacular

itect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures  
early 20th century garage

Major Alterations (with dates) 2-s. rear

extension on S. end, cross-gabled wing

at center, rear--20th C.

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

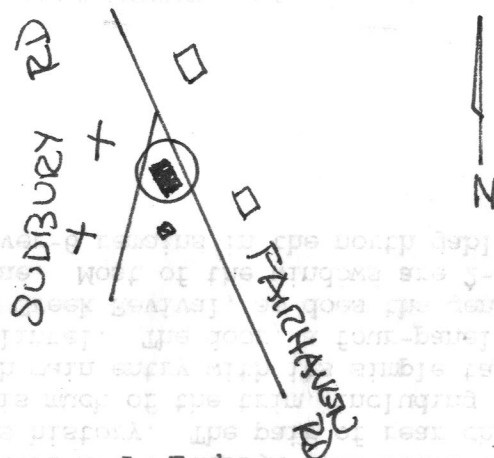
Acreage less than one acre

Setting On triangular lot at intersec-  
tion with Sudbury Rd.; fields across.

In area of 19th-century houses.

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 research by Cathy Parnellee

Organization for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) May, 1991

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

Although at first glance the form and proportions of this house are typical of a 2 1/2-story, pitch-roofed house of the 1820's, its non-symmetrical four-bay facade configuration is highly unusual for its time, suggesting that it may have begun as a three-bay "half-house" design (the south end,) with the single north bay added fairly early in its history. The pair of rear chimneys is consistent with a date in the 1820's. as is much of the trim, including the narrow cornerboards, sill board, and narrow, high main entry with its simple tapered pilasters, molded architrave, and projecting lintel. The door, a four-panel example with applied moldings, heralds the approaching Greek Revival, as does the generous overhang of the molded, boxed cornice at the roof line. Most of the windows are 2-over-2-sash, inserted after 1850, but an earlier 6-over-6 remains in the north gable.

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.*

Known traditionally as the Francis Potter House, #12 Fairhaven Road was built on part of the old Potter farm some time after August, 1828, when Samuel Potter leased the land for it to his son Francis (b. 1805.) (Curiously, there is no mention in the deeds of what Keyes describes as its origin. He says the house was built by Peter Hutchinson (see #342 Bedford Street), who had constructed a barn at the rear out of an old one belonging to Keyes.)

Francis Potter may not have lived here long, however, as he sold it in 1832 to David W. Estabrook, who sold the property a year later to blacksmith Hartwell Bigelow. (Tax records from 1837, however, show Francis Potter and Hartwell Bigelow each owning half a house which stood on land owned by Francis' mother. Further deed research will be necessary to determine whether it was this house or another in the vicinity.) (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps and atlases: 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889, 1906.  
Town Directories.  
Concord, Climate for Freedom.  
Interviews with owner, neighbor, 1991.  
Wheeler House File.  
Keyes, 441.  
Mass. Registry of Deeds.

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

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORDFrancis Potter House

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.  

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**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.**

Abiel Wheeler (see #387 Sudbury Road,) owned the house for a time between 1851 and 1861, when it was purchased, with the barn and surrounding three acres, by John C. O'Brien. John O'Brien was apparently one of many people of Irish heritage who had come to work on the large farms in the Hubbardville area in the middle of the nineteenth century, and it is likely that he worked for Abiel Wheeler himself.

In 1869 the house was purchased by another Irish immigrant, Timothy Goulding, who died at the turn of the century. He is listed as having a variety of professions, including farming and working on the railroad, which was the first job of many of the Irish men who came to Concord. His son, John H. Goulding (b. 1870,) who inherited the property, was a farmer and house painter.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community  
CONCORD

Property Address  
12 Fairhaven Rd.

Area(s) Form No.

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## National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Recommended:

☐ Individually ☒ District ☒ Contributing to a Potential Historic District

Criteria:

A B C D

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Anne McCarthy Forbes

Statement of Significance by

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

#12 Fairhaven Road, an extremely well-preserved vernacular house of ca. 1830, is critical to the character of the Hubbardville area as an eighteenth-to-early-twentieth-century secondary village in a rural, residential part of Concord, and thus meets Criterion C. of the National Register as part of a District.

CON. 409

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Concord

12 Fairhaven Rd.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)  
ALForm No.  
409

Additional information by Anne Forbes, November, 2000:

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

Deed summaries written by the longtime twentieth-century owner indicate that Abiel Wheeler actually sold the property, then a little over three acres, with the house, to John O'Brien in 1851, the deed for which was not recorded until 1861.

The house was sold out of the Goulding family in 1972.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES, cont.

Notes on deed research by Anna Goulding Manion, 12/7/94.

RECEIVED

OCT 01 2001

MASS. HIST. COMM

CON. 409 ✓ 12

FORM B - STRUCTURE SURVEY  
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

1. Is this structure historically significant to:  
Town \_\_\_\_\_ Commonwealth \_\_\_\_\_ Nation \_\_\_\_\_

Structure has historical connection with the following themes: (See also reverse side)

Agriculture	Commerce/Industry
Architecture	Science/Invention
Art/Sculpture	Travel/Communication
Education	Military Affairs
Government	Religion/Philosophy
Literature	Indians
Music	Development of Town/City

2. Town Concord  
Street 12 Sudbury → Fairhaven  
Name Old Potter House  
Original Use \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Use \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
Date C. 1820 Style Federal  
Source of Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Architect \_\_\_\_\_

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered \_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by \_\_\_\_\_

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: \_\_\_\_\_

WALL COVER: Wood \_\_\_\_\_ Brick Stone Other \_\_\_\_\_

STORIES: 1 2 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular

ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency \_\_\_\_\_ Simple/Complex

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony \_\_\_\_\_ Recessed \_\_\_\_\_

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard  
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork \_\_\_\_\_

FACADE: Gable End: Front/Side Symmetrical/Asymmetrical Simple/Complex Ornament

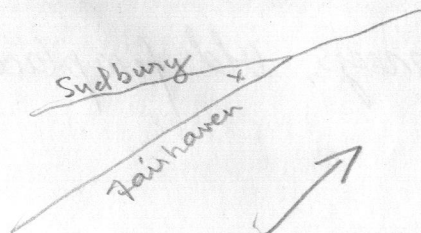
Entrance: Front/Side Centered Double Features: \_\_\_\_\_

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied \_\_\_\_\_

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured \_\_\_\_\_

OUTBUILDINGS \_\_\_\_\_ LANDSCAPING \_\_\_\_\_

5. Indicate location of structure on map below 6. Footage of structure from street  
Property has \_\_\_\_\_ feet frontage on street



Recorder \_\_\_\_\_  
For \_\_\_\_\_

Photo IL-16  
68-450 E 09. 065.1. 012

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

3-3  
#4  
A-4  
history coming I hope

ON.409

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

Fireplace

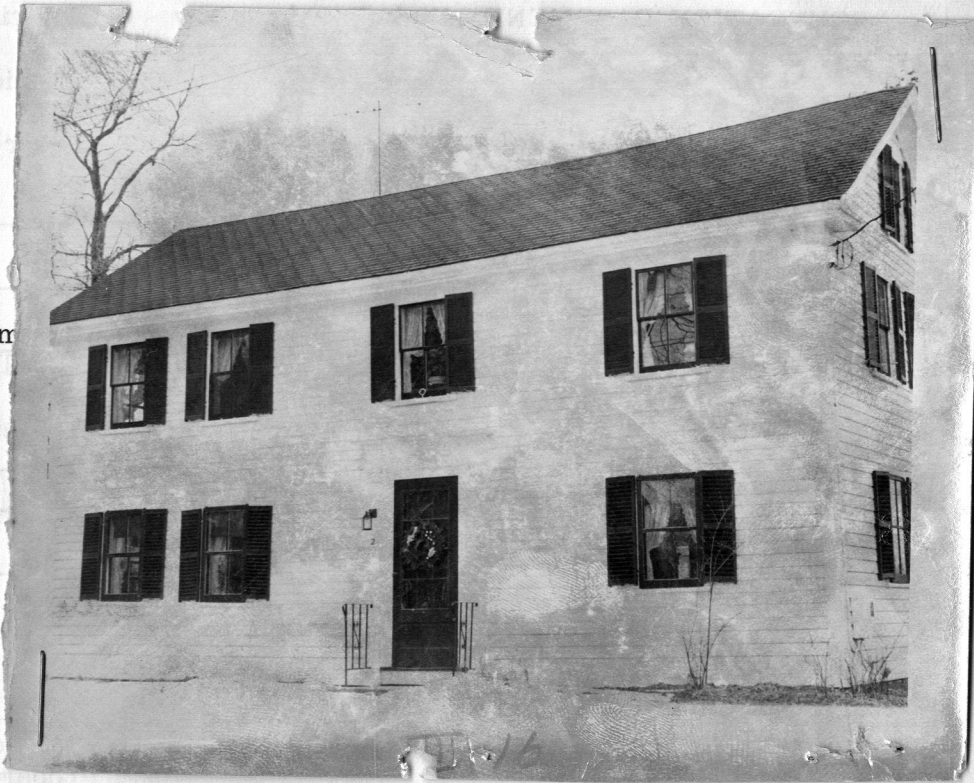
Stairway

Other

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

REFERENCE (Where was this information obtained?)

BIBLIOGRAPHY



*No chimneys, old fireplace*

Original Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Deed Information: Book Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Registry of Deeds