## **Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System**

## **Scanned Record Cover Page**

Inventory No: CON.410

Historic Name: Potter, John - Wheeler, George F. House

**Common Name:** 

Address: 25-27 Fairhaven Rd

City/Town: Concord

Village/Neighborhood: Hubbardville

Local No: G11-388

Year Constructed: c 1828

Architect(s):

Architectural Style(s): Greek Revival; Italianate

Use(s): Agricultural; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family

**Dwelling House** 

Significance: Agriculture; Architecture

Area(s): CON.AL: Hubbardville

Designation(s):

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Building Materials(s): Wall: Synthetic Other; Wood

Foundation: Brick



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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

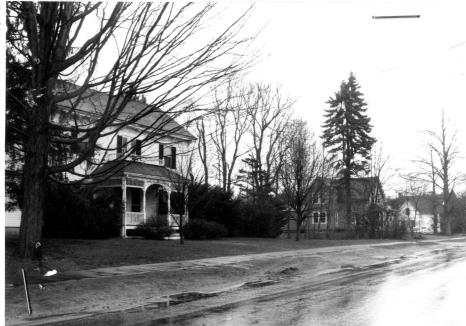
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CON. 410

FORM NO.

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 80 BOYLSTON STREET BOSTON, MA 02116



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

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## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

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

Although it has undergone considerable updating over the years, and probably a good deal of enlarging as well, 25/27 Fairhaven is a good example of a 2 1/2-story 3-bay house of the first half of the nineteenth century, probably evolving through the influence of several architectural fashions. The house has a large 2-story rear wing. The windows, which would date to after 1855, are 2-over-2-sash, with a pair of 1-over-1-sash, typical of the middle part of the century, over the center facade. The boxed, molded cornice is adorned with saw-cut brackets, an Italianate feature. The building was converted to a double house in about the 1920's; it is probably at that time that the pair of large glass-and-panel doors at the center of the facade were installed. The large hip-roofed entry porch, with turned posts and spindlework balustrade, frieze screen, and balcony, is a Queen Anne touch probably added at the same time. (It had previously had a wraparound veranda.) The foundation is brick, a further indication that a major rebuilding of the ca. 1830 house took place after 1870.

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

This is one of the early farmhouses in the Hubbardville area, standing by 1830, and is significant for its connection with two of the three major farming families here, the Potters and the Wheelers. It was the home of John Potter until at least 1871. By 1875 it had become the property of George F. Wheeler, who owned it until the end of the nineteenth century. (See also #387 Sudbury Road.) George Wheeler was one of Concord's farmers who helped to shape the town's ethnic compositon by bringing farm laborers here from Europe, many of whom stayed in town, ultimately purchasing their own farms. (See e.g. Fenn School, for the farm of Lars Petersen.) In 1873 the minister of the Lutheran church in Loiten, Norway stopped in Concord to see the historic sites. While here he met George Wheeler, who told the minister he would be happy to hire farm workers from Norway. Several Norwegians from poverty-stricken Loiten relocated here as a result, with George Wheeler paying the fare of the farmhands, who had to repay it before earning any money in this country.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Interviews with owner and Hubbardville residents, 1990
Town directories.
Maps, plans, and atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, 1871, 1875, 1889, 1893.
Keyes, III/443.
Concord Oral History tapes.
Garrelick and Bailey. Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.