

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.118
Historic Name:	Scotchford, John - Wheeler, Dea. Edward House
Common Name:	
Address:	99 Sudbury Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	G9-177
Year Constructed:	r 1655
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial; First Period; Georgian
Use(s):	Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Exploration Settlement
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Stone, Uncut



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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: Monday, July 30, 2018 at 10:04 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

G9-177

CONCORD

118

Town CONCORD

SECT B

Place (neighborhood or village)

Concord centerAddress 99 Sudbury RoadHistoric Name Scotchford/Wheeler HousePresent dwellingOriginal dwellingDate of Construction late 17th C.;
18th-C. updateEvidence Wheeler; visual evidenceStyle/Form Georgian/First PeriodArchitect/Builder unknown

Prior Material:

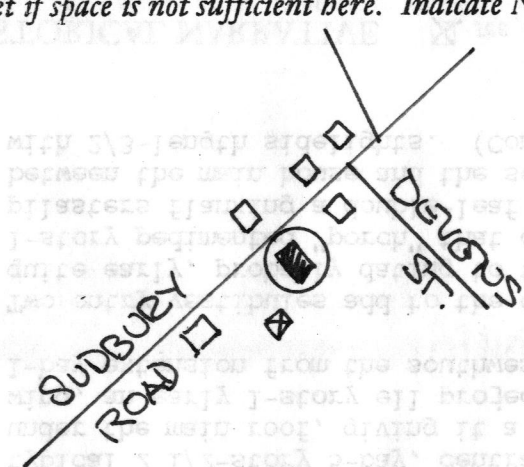
Foundation rubbleWall/Trim wood clapboardRoof asphalt shingleOutbuildings/Secondary Structures none(large gable-end barn now on
parcel next door)

Major Alterations (with dates)

Foundation rebuilt ca. 1900Long 1-story rear wing w. att.
garageCondition excellentMoved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/AAcreage less than one acreSetting close to road in neighborhood
of 17th- through 20th-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 for Concord Hist. CommissionOrganization May, 1991Date (month/day/year)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

Not only is part of this house said to be one of the oldest structures in town, dating to the third quarter of the seventeenth century, but the building as it stands is one of the most well-preserved of Concord's historic structures. The house as seen today is mainly the product of an expansion in the middle of the eighteenth century. It is a typical 2 1/2-story 5-bay, central-chimney farmhouse with a one-story rear extension under the main roof, giving it a "saltbox" profile. Besides a modern 1-story rear wing, an early 1-story ell projects from the southeast end, and a 2-story shed-roofed 1-bay extension from the southwest.

Two entry vestibules add to the character of the house. One, at the main entry, is quite early, probably dating to the third quarter of the eighteenth century. It is a 1-story pedimented "porch" that came into favor during those years, and has tapered pilasters flanking a double-leaf 8-panel door. The other is tucked into the angle between the main house and the southwest bay; it has a hipped roof and a 6-panel door with 2/3-length sidelights. (Cont.)

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.

This house is extremely significant as the homestead of the Edward Wheeler family, and the farmhouse of the Wheeler farm, which covered a considerable portion of Concord center in the Sudbury Road/Thoreau Street area for over 250 years.

It was also one of the earliest farms in town. Part of the house was built by John Scotchford, who as an original settler of "Concord Plantation" received his deed of land before 1653. He served as Town Clerk for 11 years, from 1668 to 1679. In January 1696 John and Susanna Scotchford sold their house and barn with six acres of land, along with another lot near Nine Acre Corner, to Deacon Edward Wheeler (1669-1734.) The homestead remained in the Wheeler family for over two hundred years.

Edward left the house to his son David Wheeler (1707-1784.) David also became a Deacon in the church, and was a member of the Militia that fought on April 19, 1775. He left the house to his son Ephraim Wheeler, (1734-1809), a Lieutenant in the Continental Army. During the revolution stores of tents, axes, spades, and utensils were stored here. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Wheeler House File.

Wheeler, Ruth. newspaper article 12/16/37.

Concord, Climate for Freedom

Keyes, III, p. 428.

Maps, plans and atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1903.

Interview with Eric Smith, March, 1991.

Fenn.

☒ 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

CONCORD

Scotchford/Wheeler
House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

118

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

All windows here are 6-over-9-sash with flat surrounds; those on the west end and first story of the facade have projecting, molded crowns. Like the windows, the architectural trim is typical of the mid-eighteenth century. The house has narrow corner boards and a sill board, no roof overhang at the gable ends, and a projecting, boxed cornice on the facade with a complex molding underneath. The rubble foundation is not characteristic of the house's construction date, and appears to be a rebuilding of the 1890's or early 1900's.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The property passed to **Ephraim Wheeler, Jr.** (1773-1848). Each of his three sons, Henry, Jonathan, and Abiel, built a house on part of the large Wheeler farm. Henry Adams Wheeler, possibly on the occasion of his marriage to Dolly Kendall, had the house at #120 Sudbury Road built in 1828.

After Ephraim's death the house was occupied by tenants, including Mrs. Whitcomb, (daughter of Abiel,) who raised her daughters there. In 1937 it was still occupied by her daughter Mrs. S. Ripley Bartlett, and granddaughter Sarah R. Bartlett.

Ephraim's son **Jonathan Wheeler**, (b. 1804) who had the house just west at #121 Sudbury Road built for his marriage to Deborah Train in ca. 1845, owned #99 for a while, and officially gave it to his wife soon after their marriage. Deed research will be necessary to trace the succession of ownership of #99 after that, however. According to Keyes and Tolman, after Jonathan's death #99 passed to his son **Frank**, who lived there for several years between working in the dry goods trade in East Cambridge and being appointed to a clerkship in the Pension Office in Washington. Tolman says he owned it until his death, and the title passed to his daughter **Isabelle**, who had it repaired and restored at the beginning of this century.

Another source says that both #s 99 and 121 (and the large barn to the rear) passed to Jonathan and Deborah's daughter **Helen Wheeler Blanchard** (wife of Walter Blanchard) in 1892.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
99 Sudbury Road

CON-118

Area(s)	FormNo.
	118

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Recommended:

☒ Individually ☐ District ☒ Contributing to a Potential Historic District

Criteria:

A	B	C	D
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Anne McCarthy Forbes

Statement of Significance by _____

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

The Scotchford-Wheeler House meets Criterion C of the National Register as an extremely well-preserved First Period/Georgian farmhouse, and Criterion A as the homestead of the Edward Wheeler farm, which covered a considerable portion of Concord center in the Sudbury Road/Thoreau Street area for over 250 years.



2. Town Concord
Street 99 15 Sudbury Rd
Name old Wheeler House
Original Use _____
Present Use _____
Present Owner _____
Date early 1700s Style Georgian
Source of Date see reverse
Architect _____

Literature _____
Music _____
Indians _____
Development of Town/City _____

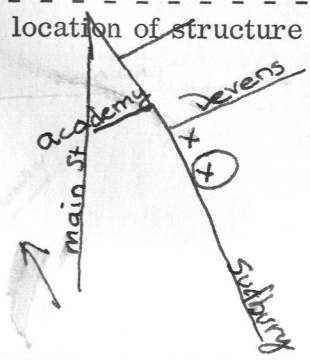
3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered _____
IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: fieldstone
WALL COVER: Wood clap. Brick Stone Other _____
STORIES: 1 2 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular
ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency southside leads to wing Simple/Complex
PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony _____ Recessed _____
ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard lean to
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 cornerboards

OUTBUILDINGS _____ LANDSCAPING _____

5. Indicate location of structure on map below 6. Footage of structure from street less than 10
Property has _____ feet frontage on street



Recorder _____
For _____
Photo ILL-7A
68-460

E-09	065	1.014
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NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form. (See Reverse Side)

H-3 A-3 ✓ ✓

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)

and 77 predates 1696 - when Scotchford sold house + barn to Edw
* Wheeler -
storage during Rev.

[I would judge this early 18th C. However, this house is the old Wheeler
homestead + important in local area - well restored (wheeler)

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

* Wheeler article - news - 12/16/37

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Original Owner: _____

Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____

Registry of Deeds

CON. 118

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Concord

99 Sudbury Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
118

Additional information by Anne Forbes, May, 2001:

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, cont.

An interior inspection will be necessary to determine the evolution of this very old house, and to gain an understanding of its original form. Local documents and tradition strongly suggest an initial construction date shortly after John Scotchford purchased the land in 1653.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

This venerable homestead has now remained in the possession of the Wheeler family for over three hundred years. Dea. David Wheeler (1707-1784,) the third owner of the house, served as a Lieutenant during the Revolution.

For many years in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries the building was a double-house, of which one half was rented out. Among the tenants after Ephraim Wheeler, Jr.'s time was a widowed relative, Mrs. Sarah Lincoln Whitcomb.

Since 1991, deed research has clarified the official chain of title after Jonathan Wheeler's ownership. **Jonathan Wheeler** acquired the property through a codicil to his father's will in 1848. In 1876 he conveyed the house and about seven acres to his son-in-law **Walter S. Blanchard** of Cambridge, who immediately conveyed it to Jonathan's wife, **Deborah Savage Wheeler**. She owned it until her death in 1893, whereupon the house passed to her son, **Francis (Frank) Parkman Wheeler**, and the "side lot" just to the west to her daughter, **Helen S. Blanchard**.

On July 5, 1893, Francis Wheeler conveyed the house to his daughter, **Isabelle Wheeler**. Between that time and her death in 1955, Miss Wheeler sold several lots on Devens Street east of the house, while retaining the "house lot," thereby reducing the property to its current dimensions. Upon her death the house was inherited by her niece or cousin, **Margaret Smith Wakelin**. After Mrs. Wakelin's death, it was sold by her estate to **Richard Warren Wheeler** and his wife, **Betty Ann** in 1975.

BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES, cont.

Comments by owner, 1/19/94.

Schmidt, Harvey H. Summary of deed research, 10/95.

Wheeler, Christopher. Architectural plans and elevations, 1977.

RECEIVED

OCT 01 2001

MASS. HIST. COMM

Original yellow form: Eligibility file _____
Copies: Inventory form ☒ _____
Town file(w/corresp.) _____
Macris _____
NR director _____

CON-118

Community: Concord

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 8/2/12

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 8/30/12

Type: ☒ Individual ☐ District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: Scotchford - Wheeler House

Inventory Form: CON.118

Address: 99 Sudbury Rd

Requested by: Historic New England

Action: ☐ Honor ☐ ITC ☐ Grant ☐ R & C ☐ Other: PR

Agency: Staff in charge of Review: MST

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 Michael Steinitz

The Scotchford-Wheeler House at 99 Sudbury Rd, Concord, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C at the local level as a well-preserved Colonial Period residence with three centuries of association with the Wheeler family. While a 17th century construction date has traditionally been claimed for the building (or some portion thereof), no directly visible physical evidence diagnostic of First Period construction appears to be evident in the building. Further archaeological investigation of the building fabric, and possibly dendrochronology analysis might reveal more about the construction history and physical evolution of building, and a National Register nomination would need to be informed by such an expert assessment. Otherwise, the building appears to be a representative mid-eighteenth century structure, with subsequent additions and alterations over time, and mostly likely to have been constructed by a member of the Wheeler family, which owned the property after 1696, and continues to own the property today.