

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

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|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Inventory No:</b>           | CON.426  |
| <b>Historic Name:</b>          | Anderson - Wheeler House   |
| <b>Common Name:</b>            |  |
| <b>Address:</b>                | 148-154 Fitchburg Tpk  |
| <b>City/Town:</b>              | Concord  |
| <b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>   | Nine Acre Corner   |
| <b>Local No:</b>               | F15-3446   |
| <b>Year Constructed:</b>       | 1890   |
| <b>Architect(s):</b>           |  |
| <b>Architectural Style(s):</b> | Colonial Revival   |
| <b>Use(s):</b>                 | Agricultural; Hotel or Inn; Single Family Dwelling House   |
| <b>Significance:</b>           | Agriculture; Architecture  |
| <b>Area(s):</b>                | CON.AT: Nine Acre Corner   |
| <b>Designation(s):</b>         |  |
| <b>Building Materials(s):</b>  | Roof: Asphalt Shingle<br>Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard<br>Foundation: Ashlar Random Laid; 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)

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FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

F15-3446

CONCORD

AT

426

Town CONCORD

SECT B



neighborhood or village)

Nine Acre Corner

148/154 Fitchburg Turnpike

c Name Anderson/Wheeler Homestead  
Frank Wheeler House  
Present dwelling

Original dwelling

f Construction 1890

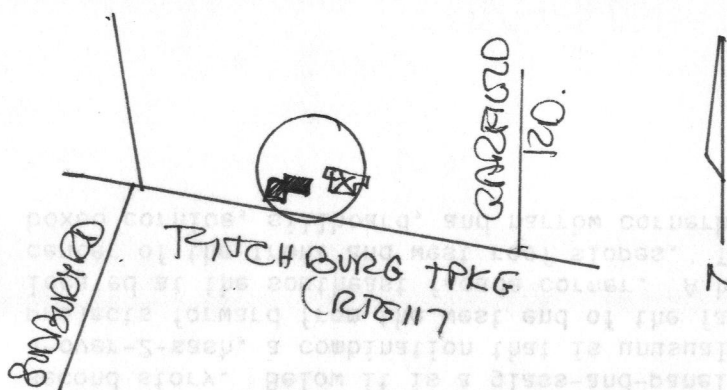
Owners' records

Form Colonial Revival/Queen  
Anne vernacular  
unknown

ect/Builder

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.



Exterior Material:

Foundation uncoursed granite  
ashlar  
Wall/Trim wood clapboard  
Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures  
large hip-roofed barn; shed.  
19th-C. carriage house

Major Alterations (with dates)

fire escape on west side

Condition excellent

Moved ☐ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage one acre

Setting On busy through-route oppo-  
site meadows and wetlands. Fields behind,  
hedge across front.

Recorded by Anne Forbes;  
research by Tillie Sweet  
for Concord Hist. Commission

Organization June, 1992

Date (month/day/year)

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

#148/154 Fitchburg Turnpike, one of the most well-preserved houses at Nine Acre Corner, is also its best example of an 1890's farmhouse and residence. It is a large two-story hip-roofed building with a long east wing. Among its many typical 1890's features are the uncoursed granite-block foundation and the wraparound veranda on turned posts. The facade is animated by a large projecting bay at the second story. Below it is a glass-and-panel center entry. The windows are 4-over-2-sash, a combination that is unusual in Concord. A one-story polygonal bay projects forward from the west end of the facade, and a large diagonal bay window is located at the southeast facade corner. A hip-roofed dormer projects from the center of the front and west roof slopes. The architectural trim includes a molded, boxed cornice, sillboard, and narrow cornerboards.

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.

Today #148/154 Fitchburg Turnpike is significant as the 1890's farmhouse of Frank Wheeler, and for much of this century of his daughter, Esther Howe (Anderson) Wheeler. It occupies the site of a former house, however, referred to most frequently as the Whipple Tavern, which was a stagecoach stop on the main road between Boston and Fitchburg, and apparently dated back to the eighteenth century. It was first operated by the Lee family (see area form "the Lee Farm" and #509 Garfield Road). It provided lodging, food and drink, and a change of horses for travelers, as well as maintaining a blacksmith and a harness shop on the premises. In 1831 David Whipple took over as proprietor from Lyal Lee, and continued the tavern for several years.

In 1858 the property was purchased by farmer Edwin Wheeler of the large Nine Acre Corner Wheeler family. In 1888 he deeded it to his son Frank Wheeler, who married Lucy Brigham, of another Nine Acre Corner family. Frank and Lucy owned it for only two years, however, before the buildings burned down in 1890. They subsequently built this new house and barn on the site. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

- Maps, atlases: (former building) 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889,  
(present building) 1906.
- Keyes/Tolman.
- see Wheeler House File #Fi4.
- Town directories and tax files.
- Wheeler
- Scudder. (Cont.)

☐ 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

CONCORDAnderson/Wheeler Homestead

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Frank Wheeler is known as the developer of rust-free asparagus. He was active in town government, and represented Nine Acre Corner on the School committee in the mid-1890's.

After her father's death Frank's daughter, **Esther Howe Anderson** took over the management of the farm, which included property along the Turnpike as far west as the old Wheeler house at #350. She operated it as a truck farm, with eight greenhouses, from the 1920's through the middle years of this century. Her husband was **Leslie Anderson**, son of Lars Anderson of Anderson's Market on the Milldam, who took over the management of the market from his father. Today the homestead is still in the Anderson family, and is operated as a bed-and-breakfast inn.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Richardson.

Garrellick &amp; Bailey.

Concord Oral History Tapes.

Owners' records and brochure.

