

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.266
Historic Name:	Wheeler, Edwin House
Common Name:	
Address:	252 Elm St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	F9-1773
Year Constructed:	c 1885
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival; Shingle Style
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	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

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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

F9-1773

CONCORD

266



CONCORD

neighborhood or village)

Concord center

252 Elm Street

Name Edwin Wheeler House

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Construction ca. 1885

Social Circle Memoirs

Form Colonial Revival/
Shingle Style

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

screened porch at northwest, rear

Condition excellent

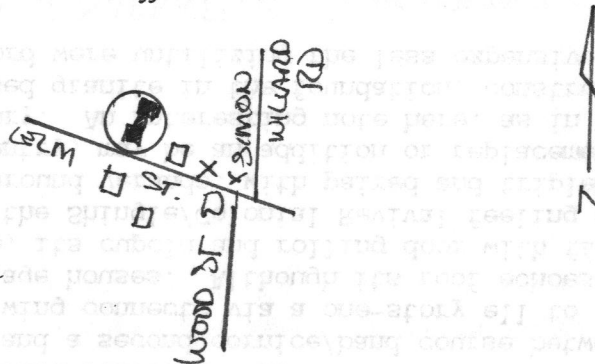
Moved ☐ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting On residential main street,
in area of mixed modern and large late-
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

Organization for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) June, 1992

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

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

Like #253 across the street, this is one of Elm Street's hybrid houses. In this case it combines the steep, overhanging pyramidal roof, continuous wall surface, bow dormer window, and massive chimneys of the Shingle Style with elements of the Colonial Revival. The facade is three bays wide, with a polygonal bay window on the western end, and paired 4-over-2-sash. (See the Anderson/Wheeler Homestead on Fitchburg Turnpike for another example of this unusual sash combination.) The entry is a seven-panel door with unadorned surround. The architectural trim includes a molded, boxed cornice at the roof line and a second cornice/band course between the first and second stories. A two-story rear wing connects via a one-story ell to one of Concord center's most well-preserved carriage houses. Although its roof echoes the high pyramidal shape of that on the main house, its cupola and rolling door with facade gable and hay door above depart somewhat from the Shingle/Colonial Revival feeling of the rest of the building. A hip-roofed wraparound veranda, with paired and tripled Tuscan columns and second-story balcony over the entry, may be an addition or replacement of the early years of the twentieth century. An interesting note here, as in #253 across the street, is the continuance of dressed granite in the foundation, constructed at a time when nearly all houses in Concord were utilizing the less expensive brick.

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 was built as the retirement home of Edwin and Mary Wheeler. Like many farmers of their era who had lived in the outlying agricultural districts for most of their lives, the Wheelers left their Nine Acre Corner farm to spend their later years here near the town center. They had this house built directly across the street from the recently-built home of their son, Harvey (see #253 Elm Street). Another son, William, was currently building his own house nearby on Nashawtuc Hill, and later bought the huge farm which stretched between this section of Elm Street and the Assabet River.

Edwin Wheeler died in 1898, and his widow, Mary, lived on in the house until her death in 1909.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Maps, atlases, and plans: 1889, 1893, 1906.

Macdonald, Loren, in Memoirs of Members of the Social Circle, VI, 126-137. 1918.

Keyes/Tolman.

Town directories.

Obituary File.

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