

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.234
Historic Name:	Clark, Benjamin House
Common Name:	
Address:	299 Estabrook Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	North Quarter
Local No:	G6-1469-1
Year Constructed:	c 1724
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Stone, Uncut



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

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 12:24 PM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

G6-1469-1

CONCORD

234

Town CONCORD

(neighborhood or village)
old "North Quarter"

299 Estabrook Road

Benjamin Clark House;

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

of Construction ca. 1724 and later

ce Wheeler

/Form Georgian vernacular

itect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

large shingled gable-end barn

Major Alterations (with dates) New rear

wing with deck on W. side; some window and door replacement, W. side, large dormer at rear. New 6/6 windows.

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage 25.26 acres

Setting Stands side to street facing

south down long grassy hill. On rural road of mixed 18th-C. and modern 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.



Recorded by A. Forbes research by Corina Favorito

Organization for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year) June, 1991

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

#299, perched side to the street on the long, stone-wall-lined slope of Estabrook Road, with its surrounding fields and woods and large shingled gable-end barn behind, is one of Concord's most picturesque farmhouses. Although parts may pre-date 1724, its aspect today is that of a solid 2 1/2-story vernacular Georgian "saltbox" house, with some later updating, mainly in the Greek Revival period. The three-bay facade arrangement is somewhat unusual in Concord for an eighteenth-century house; the 1-bay shed-roofed "jog" on the east end is found in several others, including e.g. #612 Barrett's Mill Road. A simple porch on square posts fills the angle between the main house and the extension. The main entry is by way of a wide, shallow central "porch," which today has a modern door and half-length sidelights. The windows, which replace 2-over-2-sash, are modern 6-over-6-sash, with flat surrounds. The architectural trim is typical of the mid-eighteenth-century--a molded, boxed cornice with simple molding below, plain corner boards, and a projecting "water table" atop the foundation. The off-center stove chimney is probably a mid-nineteenth-century replacement for a massive central chimney. Extending diagonally north from the northeast corner of the house is a recent long 2-story wing which follows the lines of an earlier one.

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.

Thanks to what appears to be a tendency toward extraordinary longevity in the Clark family, who with their kin at one time owned a large section of the North Quarter, this property had only five owners over the course of 200 years. At least part of the house appears to have been built for farmer William Clark, who came to Concord to settle on Lexington Road. His second wife (born 1682) inherited the Thomas Dane house at #47 Lexington Road [NR]. Records show that William Clark sold the Dane house to Jonathan Ball in 1724, the most likely date for him to have moved to Estabrook Road.

The property passed to William's son, Benjamin Clark, who died in 1809 at the age of 93. He was a surveyor as well as a farmer, and made a plan of part of the north Quarter in 1754. The next owner was his son, also Benjamin Clark, who died in 1835 at the age of 85. It passed next to his son, Daniel, who died in 1867, unmarried. He was a Selectman in the 1830's (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps and atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871; 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906.
Shattuck, Lemuel. History of the Town of Concord. 1835.
Town Directories.
Wheeler, Ruth. Concord: Climate for Freedom. 1967.
"House File."
Keyes/Tolman.
Interview with owner, 6/19/91.

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

CONCORDBenjamin Clark House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

234

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The farm then became the property of a nephew, **Cyrus Clark**, who died at 96 in 1923. Until his very last days he still drove a horse frequently to Brighton to trade in cattle.

Estabrook Road is one of the few early roads in Concord that today is much shorter than it was in the mid-eighteenth century. At that time it was the Carlisle Road, running two miles north from its origin through the farmland of the North Quarter to the border of the newly-formed town of Carlisle. Stone walls along its entire length still mark its route, but today it has returned to meadow and woodland north of #393, where the publicly-owned Estabrook Woods begins.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
299 Estabrook Road

Area(s)	Form No.
	234

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.

Like its neighbor at #81 Estabrook Road, #299 is one of the most well-preserved of Concord's hybrid eighteenth- to mid-nineteenth-century outlying farmhouses, blending both the vernacular Georgian and Greek Revival styles, and thus qualifies under Criterion C of the National Register. It also qualifies under Criterion A for its association with several generations of the Clark family, who were responsible for much of the rural development of the Lowell/Estabrook Road section of Concord's north quarter over the course of 200 years.



CON. 234 92 ✓

wn Concord
eet 299 Estabrook Rd
me Clark House
iginal Use _____
esent Use Farmhouse
esent Owner private
e c. 1743 Style _____
rce of Date and Mrs Wheeler not at all documented. see over
chitect _____

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered interior altered - Mrs Wheeler
IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great/Little None SITE endangered by _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: _____

WALL COVER: Wood clapboard Brick Stone Other _____

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

ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency all to rear 1/2 story wing E Simple/Complex

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony E side 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: entrance porch hipped roof

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 19" C 2 1/2 3 over 2 limited over all windows

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured cornerboards

OUTBUILDINGS + LANDSCAPING _____

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

Recorder _____

For _____

Photo 68-529 VI-15

68-530

E.09.066.1.0 92

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

#-3 A-5 (interior altered)
3-4

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)

On 1754 map as the Benjamin Clark House. (BC born 1693) !
 Son Benjamin born 1717 married Rebekah Hagg in 1743
 Perhaps house was built at the time of this marriage,
 since the father of the 1st Benjamin lived on Lexington Rd

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

Ruth K. Wheeler, CAS

BIBLIOGRAPHY



Original Owner: _____

Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, _____ Registry of Deeds