

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.158
Historic Name:	Fletcher, Hezekiah - Cuming, Robert House
Common Name:	
Address:	383 Cambridge Tpk
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	East Quarter
Local No:	I10-4104-2
Year Constructed:	c 1691
Architect(s):	Fletcher
Architectural Style(s):	First Period; Georgian; Greek Revival
Use(s):	Agricultural; Boarding House; Dairy; Hospital; Private School; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Education; Exploration Settlement; Health Medicine
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wood Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Concrete Unspecified; Granite



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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: Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 11:32 AM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

110-4101-2

CONCORD

158

Town CONCORD

(neighborhood or village)

old "East Quarter"Address 383 Cambridge TurnpikeHistoric Name Fletcher/Cuming HousePresent dwellingOriginal dwelling, schoolDate of Construction pre-1700, mid-18th-centuryType Wheeler; visual assessmentForm First Period frame, Georgian/Grk. Rev. exteriorArchitect/Builder unknown (Francis or John Fletcher, builder)

Exterior Material:

Foundation parged granite?Wall/Trim wood clapboardRoof asphalt shingleOutbuildings/Secondary Structures two shedsMajor Alterations (with dates) 1989-90:2-S. wing on east end extended,barn/garage attached.Condition goodMoved ☐ no ☒ yes Date 1986Acreage less than one acreSetting Back from street on largeopen lot in area of 19th-20th-cen-tury houses. Brook to rear.

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. Forbesresearch by Tedd OsgoodOrganization for Concord Hist. CommissionDate (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.

Portions of this building may be among the oldest structures in Concord, as a house is known to have existed on the site as early as 1691. Some of it was definitely standing by 1724, and thus would undoubtedly have the heavy framing of the late First Period. The present form and exterior of the main house, however, are largely Georgian or "Second Period" in their appearance. This is a large "double-pile," or two-room-deep 2 1/2-story building. It has a central chimney, and a symmetrical five-bay facade with 6-over-6-sash windows in projecting frames. (Those on the gable-ends have tapered crowns characteristic of the Georgian period.) The cornerboards are gone, (probably as a result of the stucco siding which was applied to the house in the 1920's,) but a dentilated cornice remains at the roof line. The main entry, which was updated during the Greek Revival period, probably in the 1830's, has fretwork pilasters flanking a 6-panel door with 2/3-length sidelights, and a wide, full entablature of frieze, architrave, and molded, projecting lintel. (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.

According to Ruth Wheeler, a house stood here in 1691, as the Town Report of that year describes the "way to Mr. Flint's farm" (now Hawthorne Lane and the eastern end of Cambridge Turnpike,) as "turning to the south side of John Fletcher's house." Undoubtedly that building was considerably smaller than the house that stands here today, but it may be incorporated as part of the larger structure. 18 acres of 437 belonging to John's father Francis Fletcher in 1666 were located here. It is not known if Francis Fletcher had actually built the house mentioned in the 1691 report, but the likelihood that he did is indicated by the fact that his brother-in-law, Eliphalet Fox, owned a farm just to the south. [See #455 Cambridge Turnpike.] (Francis' wife Mary [Wheeler] was the sister of Eliphalet's wife, Elizabeth.) In any case, it is likely that John acquired some of his father's farm, as well as the house, after he came of age. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Interview with owner, 4/7/91.

Maps and atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, ca. 1871, 1875, 1889, 1906.

Town Directories.

Wheeler. Concord, Climate for Freedom.

Keyes/Tolman.

Wheeler House File.

☐ 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

Fletcher/Cuming House

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
 158

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

Today the house is dominated by a large two-story wing extending south from the rear corner, joined by means of a second-story passage to a large gable-end barn/garage. Pre-1980 photos show both a wing in this position and a late-Victorian veranda wrapping from the east end of the main house to the wing facade. A sizeable barn east of the house was demolished in 1986, the same year that the house was moved back from the road and rotated 15 degrees.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The property was apparently inherited by **Hezekiah Fletcher**, who sold it in 1724 to farmer **Robert Cuming**. He was a distinguished Scotchman who had come to this country in about 1715, settling in Concord about 1722. (See also the home of his son, Dr. John Cuming [NR], who was born here in this house in 1728.) It was probably under Robert Cuming's ownership that the house became the large double-pile Georgian building seen today.

The next known owner of the house was **Thaddeus Hunt** (1752-1822,) son of Dea. Simon Hunt of Lowell Road. He was probably still the owner when house was used for smallpox hospital during the outbreak of 1792. (See also the Ephraim Potter House, [the "Pest House," #154 Fairhaven Road--NR] which was used for a similar purpose.) Among those who stayed here were the children of Jonathan Fay.

After Thaddeus'Hunt's death the property was sold to **Augustus Tuttle**, who ran the farm here for much of the nineteenth century. After his death the farm passed to his son **Charles D. Tuttle**, (shown as owner by 1871,) who lived here with his mother.

Documents conflict as to the succession of owners from ca. 1890 through the turn of this century. (See Wheeler and Keyes.) Apparently, however, **Orlando E. Patch** was here by 1892. He ran a dairy business, delivering milk throughout the town for many years.

After he died his widow sold the farm to **Wilmot R. Jones** in about 1911-12. Mr. Jones established the Mill Brook School for boys on the premises. Judge Prescott Keyes was also a founder. The Jones family together with some of the school staff and a few boarding students lived in the house. Classes were held in a building around the corner on Hawthorne Lane. The school closed in 1917.

C.M. Doherty may have owned the property for a time, and from 1936-1956, it was owned by farmer **Thomas Butler**. It continued in his family until 1971.



Government Religion/Philosophy
Literature Indians
Music Development of Town/City

2. Town Concord
Street 383 Camb. Turnpike (E side of Hawthorne)
Name Cambridge
Name Fletcher - Cuming
Original Use _____
Present Use _____
Present Owner private
Date 18th C Style _____
Source of Date aw
Architect _____

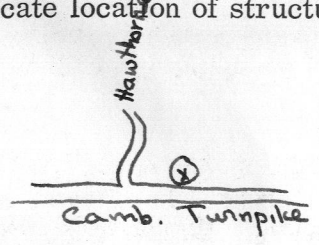
3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered
IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: cutstone
WALL COVER: Wood shingles (siding) Brick Stone Other _____
STORIES: 1 2 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular
ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency To East 2nd St. ridge Simple/Complex
PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony side, wing also a porch 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: pediment, side lights, cornice
Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 6/6
Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured covered perhaps by siding

OUTBUILDINGS _____ LANDSCAPING _____

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



Recorder _____
For _____

Photo IV-15
68-486 E.09.065.1.0 18

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

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)

Sold to Robert Cummins in 1724 by Hezekiah Fletcher
 who had bought it in 1698 from Eleazer Ball - there was
 a house here in 1691

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

Mrs Wheeler CAS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Original Owner:

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