

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.AT
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Nine Acre Corner
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Nine Acre Corner
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	
<b>Use(s):</b>	Agricultural; Other Residential
<b>Significance:</b>	Agriculture; Architecture; Social History
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	



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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)

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 23, 2020 at 11:15 AM

CON-AT

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

AT

416-427; 780-783

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116*Looking toward 415 Plainfield Road*

Town

CONCORD

of Area (if any)

Nine Acre Corner

nt Use

residential, agri-  
cultural, commercial

al Date or Period

17th C.-1910

al Condition

good to altered

e

see individual forms

led by

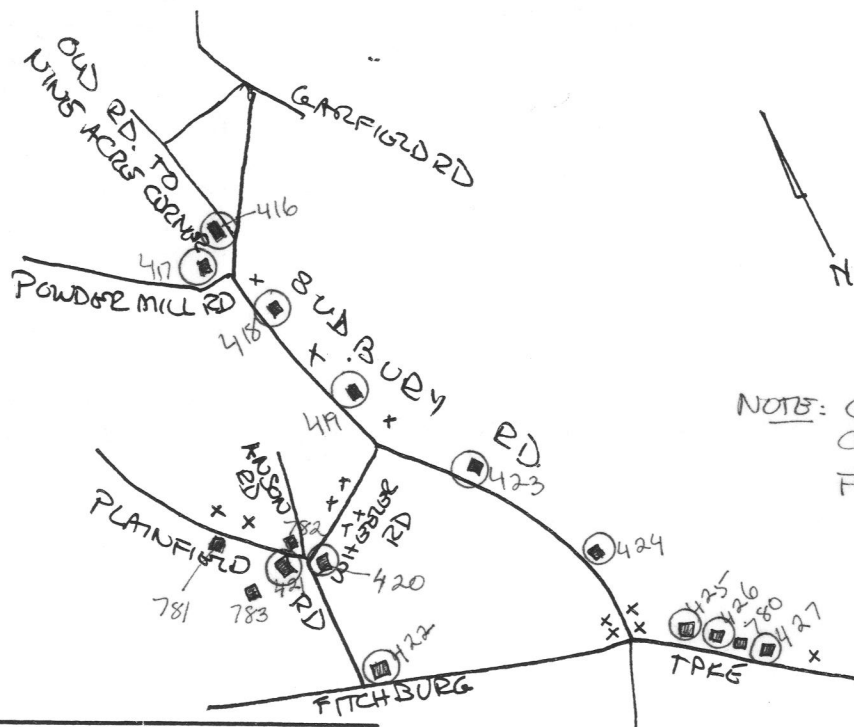
A. Forbes

Organization

research by Tillie Sweet  
for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date

July, 1990

inventory forms have been completed.  
Label streets including route numbers, if  
any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate  
sheet if space here is not sufficient).NOTE: CIRCLED PROPERTIES ARE  
COVERED ON INDIVIDUAL  
FORMS

UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE  
SCALE

# NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

Nine Acre Corner today, still clearly identifiable as an agricultural district because of the substantial amount of farmland that remains here, provides the setting for several scattered farmhouses that range in date from at least the early eighteenth century through 1910. The traditional 2 1/2-story, 5-bay "Second Period" farmhouse is represented by several examples, including the Parkman Tavern on Powdermill Road--parts of which may date to the seventeenth century, [NR]. The hip-roofed Wheeler Homestead at 382-392 Plainfield Road dates to the Federal period; its neighbor across the street at #415, the Alvah Wheeler House, is rare in Concord as a Greek Revival house with full-height side colonnade. Later houses include two well-preserved late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century "gable-ends" at 1451 and 1535 Sudbury Road, and two boarding houses of the turn of the century at 350 and 371 Plainfield Road.

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

The area in the southwest part of Concord called "Nine Acre Corner" grew over the course of two centuries from Peter Bulkeley's nine-acre meadow to encompass nearly the entire southwest quadrant of the town. The original meadow was probably at the intersection of today's Sudbury Road and Old Road to Nine Acre Corner, (the latter laid out in 1867, on the orders of Town Meeting, by George Wheeler, who was also an original settler.) George Wheeler, who already had acquired a substantial acreage in the south quarter during the town's "second division" of land in 1653, subsequently bought Bulkeley's land, adding it to what eventually became one of Concord's largest agricultural areas, much of it owned by members and descendants of the large Wheeler family for over three hundred years. By 1880, six large farms were located in the area, all owned by Wheeler relations.

The wide reputation of Nine Acre Corner by 1900 as a market-gardening and greenhouse region was largely due to the efforts of Anson Wheeler, who in 1890 was the first to build greenhouses here on his 200-acre farm, and the first in Middlesex County to produce cucumbers under glass. By 1904 he had five large greenhouses, (out of an eventual ten,) Frank Wheeler also had five, and Samuel Lufkin, who began growing under glass on Sudbury Road in 1903, had three. Besides cucumbers, tomatoes, mint, rhubarb and radishes were also grown under glass. (Cont.)

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps and atlases: 1830, 1852, 1856, 1871, 1875, 1889, 1906.  
 Garrelick and Bailey, Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.  
 Richardson, Concord Chronicle.



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

CONCORD

Form No:

AT 416-427,  
780-783

Property Name:

Nine Acre Corner

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

By the early 1900's Anson Wheeler employed up to 25 farmhands, and had built two boarding houses, at 350 and 371 Plainfield Road, to house his employees. During World War II the farms here, as was the case throughout the area, were worked by German prisoners of war housed at Fort Devens.

By the middle of the twentieth century, however, a combination of competition, low market prices, and rising taxes had begun to reduce the farmland, and in the 1960's much of the Wheeler family acreage was sold for the development of the Anson, Raymond, Alden, Paul Revere, Peter Bulkeley, and Longfellow Road residential area.

A few working farms still survive here, however. The Verrill Farm, its farmstead still located in the Alvah Wheeler house at 415 Plainfield Road, continues the Nine Acre Corner tradition with both market-gardening and the county's largest herd of registered Holsteins producing milk for wholesale buyers. While his predecessors once employed farmhands newly-arrived from Ireland, Italy, or Scandinavia, the fields are now worked by Puerto-Rican farmhands, or recently-immigrated Cambodians. The Brigham and Taranto family cultivate smaller acreages for vegetable growing.

BIBLIOGRAPHY, cont.

Wheeler House File.

Marian Wheeler: private collection.

Shattuck.

Jarvis.

Scudder.

Swayne

Garrellick. "Oral History Tapes."

Walcott.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Deeds"

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

CONCORD

AREA AT

416-427, 780-783

Nine Acre Corner

AREA <sup>AT</sup>:

NINE ACRE CORNER

AREA DATA SHEET

Name: most property names refer to owners in 1830, 1852, 1856, 1875, and/or 1889.

Degree of Integrity: Excellent=intact, unaltered; Good=minor alterations only; fair=alterations such as synthetic siding, replacement windows/doors, or minor changes in form; Alt.=many alterations, integrity greatly diminished.

An asterisk [\*] indicates that a property is also covered on an individual or small group form.

<u>MHC/Map #</u>	<u>Street address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Approx. date</u>	<u>Degree of integrity</u>
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Fitchburg Turnpike

<del>427</del>	*82 Fitchburg Tpke.	Greek Revival		19th C.	good
780	94 Fitchburg Tpke.	Col. Revival		ca. 1905	good
<del>426</del>	*148/154 Fitchburg Tpke.	Col. Revival		ca. 1900	good
<del>425</del>	*170 Fitchburg Tpke.	Greek Revival		mid-19th C.	good
422	*350 Fitchburg Tpke.	Second Period	F. & N. Wheeler Hse.	1770's	good

Plainfield Road

781	350 Plainfield Rd.		Wheeler Boarding House	ca. 1900	good
782	371 Plainfield Rd.		Wheeler Boarding House	ca. 1900	good
783	378 Plainfield Rd.		Raymond Wheeler House	1910	good
<del>421</del>	*382-392 Plainfield Rd.	Federal	Wheeler Homestead	1816	altered
<del>420</del>	*415 Plainfield Rd.	Greek Revival	Joel/Alvah Wheeler House	mid-19th C.	good

Powdermill Road

(NR) <del>417</del>	*20	Powdermill Rd.	Parkman Tavern	late 17th C.	good
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Sudbury Road

<del>416</del>	*1284 Sudbury Rd.	Astylistic <del>Greek Revival</del>	Uhler House	ca. 1920 <del>18th C.</del>	alt.
<del>418</del>	*1367 Sudbury Rd.	Federal	Hosmer/Conant House	late 18th C. <del>early 19th C.</del>	good
<del>419</del>	*1451 Sudbury Rd.	Col. Revival	Lufkin House	ca. 1890's	good
<del>423</del>	*1535 Sudbury Rd.	vernac. Q. Anne		ca. 1870	good
<del>424</del>	*1571 Sudbury Rd.	Federal	Miles House	early 19th C.	alt.

AREA 1A7  
PL- NINE AVE CORNER  
USGS- MAYNARD  
SECTION- B

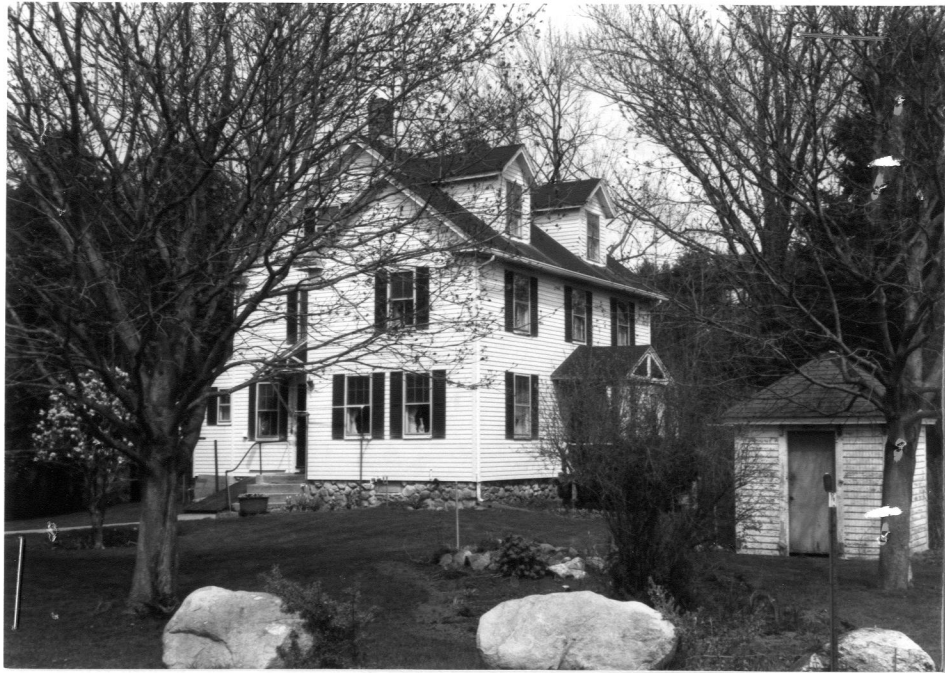
780 - 94 FITCHBURG TPK (USGS- CONCORD)

781 - 350 PLAINFIELD RD

782 - 371 PLAINFIELD RD

783 - 378 PLAINFIELD RD





94 Fitchburg Turnpike (CON. 780)



1535 Sudbury Road (CON. 423)



415 Plainfield Road (CON. 420)