

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.BN
Historic Name:	Old Bedford Road Area II
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	East Quarter
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Residential District
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Community Planning; Ethnic Heritage
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	



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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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Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

J-6, J-7

CONCORD

BN

10761080



CONCORD

Neighborhood or village) _____

East Quarter

Area _____ Old Bedford Road:
515-595

Use _____ residential

Construction Dates or Period _____ ca. 1873-1930

Condition _____
fair to goodIntrusions and Alterations _____
modern houses interspersed

515-535 Old Bedford Road

Sketch Map

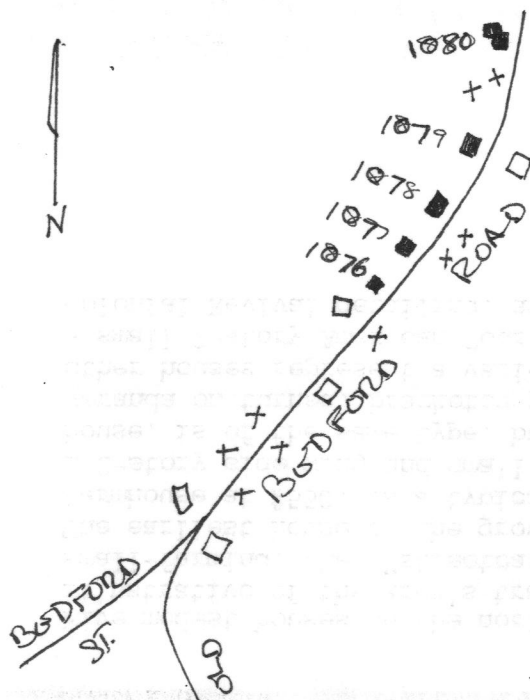
Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.

Acreage _____ ca. 4 acres

Recorded by _____ A. Forbes

Organization _____ for Concord Histor. Comm.

Date (month/day/year) _____ June, 1992



AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

Five modest houses on the northwest side of Old Bedford Road in the east quarter are illustrative of the area's transition from its early agricultural roots to a small-farming, then "streetcar-suburb" neighborhood of the early twentieth century. The earliest house of the group, #547 which stands opposite an eighteenth-century farmhouse at #550, is a typical post-Civil-War 2 1/2-story gable-end farmhouse with a 2-story side wing and small accompanying barn. #595, an early-twentieth-century house, is of the same type, but better preserved: it retains its facade-width veranda on turned, bracketed posts and its glass-and-panel entry door. The three other houses represent a variety of small housetypes of the 1910's-'30's: #527 is a small 2-story American Four-Square, #537 is a square, hip-roofed Bungalow with Colonial Revival detailing, and #515 is a long gable-end Craftsman Bungalow.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.

The end of the nineteenth century saw several of the large farms of the east quarter being broken up into smaller acreages, many of them purchased by recent immigrants from Ireland, Canada, or Italy. The earliest house in this section, #547, was built by Nova Scotian farmer Theodore Barry in the early 1870's. The 1906 atlas shows that he also owned #595.

After World War I, many families from the agricultural region of Faro Superiore, Messina, Sicily, immigrated to Concord. Several of them established small farms along the outer sections of Bedford Street and Old Bedford Road. Others lived here for the presence of the trolley line, which took some of them to jobs in other communities. One of the largest farms, which in the 1920's comprised 159 acres of the former Fox family farm along Old Bedford Road, belonged to members of the Scimone family (see #505 Bedford Street), who still own and cultivate many acres in the vicinity today. Much of the land was sold off for house lots over the years, however, and three of these houses were among the earliest to be built on the new parcels. Dominic Curro built the little cottage at #515 in 1930-31, later selling the property back to Frank Scimone.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Maps and atlases: 1875, 1906.

Town assessor's records.

Town directories.

Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.

Concord Oral History Tapes.

Keyes/Tolman.

☐ Recommended as a National Register District. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD515-595 Old Bedford Rd.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.
BN 1 076 + 080

AREA DATA SHEET

MHC #/ Parcel #	Address	description	date	condition
1076 J7-1040	515 Old Bedford Road	- Craftsman Bungalow Clapboard; 6/1 windows. Concrete-block foundation.	1930-31	good
1077 J7-1038	527 Old Bedford Road	- American Four-Square Clapboard and shingle; 6/1 windows.	ca. 1910-20	fair
1078 J7-1037	537 Old Bedford Road	- Colonial Revival Bungalow Synthetic siding, rubble foundation; hip-roofed; 8/1 windows.	ca. 1910-20	fair
1079 J7-1036-1	547 Old Bedford Road	- vernacular 2 1/2-story gable-end Synthetic siding; brick foundation 2/2 windows.	early 1870's	fair
1080 J6-1032	595 Old Bedford Road	- vernacular 2 1/2-story gable-end Asbestos shingle; rubble foundation. Facade porch on turned, bracketed posts.	ca. 1900	good

MHC INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MHC Inventory scanning project, 2008-2012

MACRIS No.

CON. BN

AREA BN
PL. EAST QUARTER
SECTION- C
USGS- CONCORD

1076- 515 OLD BEDFORD RD

1077- 527 OLD BEDFORD RD

1078- 537 OLD BEDFORD RD

1079- 547 OLD BEDFORD RD

1080- 595 OLD BEDFORD RD



537, 547 Old Bedford Road
(CON. 1078, CON. 1079)



547 Old Bedford Road (CON. 1079)



595 Old Bedford Road (CON. 1080)

Original yellow form: Eligibility file
Copies: Inventory form
Town file(w/corresp.)
Macris
NR director _____

CON BN

Community: CON

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 3/27/01

Date Due: 4/27/01

Date Reviewed: 4/4/01

Type: x Individual

 x District (s)(Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: Multiple Areas (see below for list)

Inventory Form: See Below

Address: Old Bedford Rd / Bedford Street / Virginia Road

Requested by: TD

Action: Honor ITC Grant x R & C Other:

Agency:

Staff in charge of Review: SW

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

 x Eligible
 Eligible, also in district
 Eligible only in district
 Ineligible
 More information needed

DISTRICTS

 Eligible
 Ineligible
 x More information needed

CRITERIA: x A B x C D

LEVEL: x Local x State National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS:

Old Bedford Road Area (CON.BM)
Old Bedford Road Area II (CON.BN)
Bedford Street Area II (CON.BO)
Lower Old Bedford – Virginia Roads Area (CON.BL)
William Tibbets – Thoreau Farm (CON.176)

INDIVIDUAL:

Enos Fox House (CON.182)
Samuel Fox House (CON.181)
Benoni & Thomas Fox House (CON.180)
Waldo Flint House (CON.179)

The entire area radiates from the intersection of Old Bedford Road and Bedford Street and part of Virginia Road (see map). The area is illustrative of the area's transition from an early agricultural to small farming area to an early 20th century streetcar suburb residential neighborhood. A majority of the land was once associated with the Fox family. The properties predominately read as historic structures in form though some have replacement windows or a form of synthetic siding.

The Old Bedford Road Area, the northernmost area, consists of three houses at 643, 654 and 667 Old Bedford Road all dating from the 1870's to the 1920's. Modern houses are located adjacent to these historic structures and to the north and south on Old Bedford Road. There is also a modern subdivision to the west (see map).

The Old Bedford Road Area II lies just to the south the Old Bedford Road Area. The area includes five properties 515,527,537,547,595 Old Bedford Road all located on the west side of the street, all constructed between 1870 and 1931. The historic properties are comprised of Greek Revivals and bungalows.

On the east side of Old Bedford Road at number 550 is the Enos Fox House. A Georgian farmhouse constructed in 1770 with a two story rear ell (may be a one story ell with an added second story dating to the early 20th century). The building is a five bay, two and a half story late Georgian structure with a central chimney, with a projecting central bay. The building is wood clapboard sided with 6 over 9 wood windows. The property is one of several in the area built by the Fox family, one of the earliest families in Concord. The house was used by subsequent families who farmed the area fields. Fun fact - during the Revolutionary War, when Harvard College was moved to Concord, a professor was housed here.

Just to the south of the Old Bedford Road Area II are several individually inventoried properties including:

- The Samuel Fox House at 505 Old Bedford Road: It is believed that the house may retain some heavy timber framing dating to 1702 but it predominately dates to the mid 18th century with a vernacular Georgian feel. The building has a salt box addition to the rear, is a five bay symmetrically arranged façade with a projecting one story central bay, and retains 6/6 wood sash and the majority of its architectural details. It has a clapboard façade with shingled sides. There was a former carriage house that was attached to the house, but destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. The site includes a 1930's garage, shed, greenhouse complex, and roadside stand.
- Benoni and Thomas Fox House at 474-472 Old Bedford Road, diagonally opposite the Samuel Fox House: The side of the house faces the street and there is a large condo addition added to the house. This structure began as a typical 18th century five bay 2 and a half story structure with a central chimney. The building is wood clapboard sided with late 19th century 2/2 wood sash with plain trim. The house at one time had a Victorian wrap around porch (as seen in earlier inventory form) that was removed and replaced with a central projecting bay in the 1990's.
- Waldo Flint House at 430 Old Bedford Road: Located at the corner of Bedford Street in a deep lot with mature trees with remnants of an orchard to the south. The c. 1890 2 and a half story dwelling with 2/2 wood windows is a vernacular Queen Anne style house with wood clapboard and shingles. A large clapboarded barn and carriage house sits adjacent to the house and is a very well preserved example in the town of Concord with a small cupola, central dormer with hay door, 6/6 wood sash, and vertical board central door.

Bedford Street II lies southwest of Old Bedford Road Area II after the intersection of Old Bedford Road and Bedford Street. The area consists of 9 properties on the north side of Bedford Street and one on the south side surrounded by modern residential properties. Mid 19th to early 20th century structures of various styles and several of the properties also have outbuildings.

The Lower Bedford – Virginia Road Area lies southeast of the intersection of Old Bedford Road and Bedford Street. The area consists of 7 residential properties dating from the late 19th to early 20th century. The southernmost portion of the area is within the Minuteman National Historic Park which includes the property at 55 Old Bedford Road (which is also in the American Mile LHD) and the agricultural land to the east of Old Bedford Road.

William Tibbets – Thoreau Farm, on the north side of Virginia Road, one of three inventoried sites outside the previous area is just west of the Deacon Wheeler- Thoreau Birthplace, which is individually eligible for listing in the National Register, and the Wheeler-Merriam House, which is individually listed in the National Register. Constructed c. 1878, the Greco-Italianate 2 and a half story three bay with a projecting wing house is sided in asbestos shingle. The associations with Thoreau extend only to the farm land associated with the site, the Thoreau farmhouse was demolished and this property built in the same location. The property was sold to the Wheeler family next door and farmed with the adjoining land.

DETERMINATION:

The Enos Fox House, Samuel Fox House and Waldo Flint House w/ barn and carriage house all retain integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, feeling, association and materials and are eligible under Criteria A and C.

The Benino and Thomas Fox House is not eligible for listing because it lacks architectural integrity due to alterations over time, including a new side addition and removal of the Victorian porch.

More information is needed to determine eligibility for the areas in order to assess the number if intrusions (if any) between the houses in the areas and the areas themselves.