historic structure report

The Wayside Barn

Architectural Data Section

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK / MASSACHUSETTS

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FOREWORD

This report should be read in conjunction with Part II, Historic Structure Report, the archeological investigation report and the Historic Grounds Report—all written on The Wayside, the parent structure of the Barn which stands approximately sixteen feet due west.

Through the research efforts of Miss Margaret Lothrop, the last private owner of the property, we know much about the history of the house and Barn. The present location of the Barn is its third known location since 1845 when it was moved by A.B. Alcott to a site west of The Wayside. In 1860, the building was moved to its existing location by Nathaniel Hawthorne, then later remodeled by the Lothrops.

As proposed in the Master Plan, the exterior of the Barn will be rehabilitated to its appearance of 1924, while the interior space will be utilized as a Visitor Contact Station to further interpret the story of The Wayside.

Orville W. Carroll
Architect, N.P.S.
Deeds recorded as early as 1716 place a barn and house on the original eight acre Ball property that spanned both sides of the present day Lexington Road. The barn is dropped from the deed descriptions between 1778 and 1784 but picked up again in an inventory of 1823 and a mortgage of 1835. From 1845 on there is a good account of the structure found in various sketches, writings, surveys, and photographs.

While the documentation is not conclusive, the writer feels certain that the existing barn is the c. 1716 structure, although not in its original condition. Existing architectural evidence strongly suggests that the barn was shortened in length, perhaps when it was moved in 1845. Between 1883 and 1932, the exterior and interior fabric underwent a series of alterations that resulted in its present appearance. Very few changes have been made to the barn since 1932.
I. THE MASTER PLAN OF 1966

The Wayside Barn is indicated on the Master Plan as Building No. 47. The Barn is treated as a structure separate from The Wayside, Building No. 38, which stands some sixteen feet to the west. These buildings are located in the easterly part of Concord Center just north of Lexington Road, and are part of Unit C of the Minute Man National Historical Park. See Sheet 2 of the Building Use and Treatment Plan, Drawing No. NHP-MM 3002B of the Master Plan. The Master Plan was approved on December 1, 1966 by Acting Director Howard Baker.

The architectural treatment of the Barn as set forth in the approved Master Plan, recommends that the structure be utilized as an "Ext. Contact Station . . . can be used as inter. station and control point necessary for this important structure (The Wayside)."

Other references pertaining to the interpretation of the barn are found in Drawing No. NHP-MM 3018, sheet 2 of 3, of the approved Interpretive Prospectus booklet submitted to the park in 1971.

Drawing No. NHP-MM 3022, Sheet 2 of 2, entitled "Land Acquisition Plan," and Drawing No. 3022, Sheet 1 of 2, entitled "General Development Plan," of the Master Plan, show the relationship of The Wayside and the Barn to the existing parking lot located south of Lexington Road and west of Hawthorne Lane.
II. HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

A. Archeological Data Section:

A 24 page typewritten report entitled "Excavations at The Wayside" was prepared by Contract Archeologist, Cordelia Snow, in March of 1969. This report summarizes the archeological field work accomplished at The Wayside during 1966 and 1967. A second report entitled "Excavations at Casey's House," also prepared by Cordelia Snow in 1969, deals with the archeological excavations of the Eliphelet Fox house site west of The Wayside and contains no references to the Barn.

B. Historical Data Section:

An illustrated 116 page Historic Structures Report entitled "The Wayside, Home of Authors," was prepared by former NPS Research Historian Robert D. Ronsheim in February of 1968. This report deals exclusively with The Wayside. Two folders containing research notes on the land ownership ("The Wayside, Chain of Title") and abutters ("Wayside Abutters") are located in the park files. This research was accomplished by Mr. Ronsheim and student historian Christine Lawson in 1967.

C. Architectural Data Section:

Part II, Historic Structures Report, 91 pages exclusive of photographs and architectural drawings, entitled "The Wayside" was prepared by O.W. Carroll in June of 1968. This report contains occasional references to the Barn. Part III, Completion Report on The Wayside, prepared by this writer in June of 1971, includes two photographs showing rehabilitation work accomplished on the Barn in 1969.

D. Furnishings Plan:

The Furnishings Plan for The Wayside was prepared in rough draft form by Robert D. Ronsheim. Many of the items stored in the Barn loft were incorporated into this plan and were used when the house was furnished. This report has yet to be completed in final form.
E. Historic Grounds Report:

This well-written report of 165 pages exclusive of photographs, sketches and drawings was prepared by NPS Historian Anna Coxe Toogood in March of 1971. This report should be read in conjunction with the aforementioned reports to "flesh out" the skeletal story of The Wayside property. A lengthy bibliography of primary and secondary source materials is included in the Appendices.

F. Interpretive Prospectus of 1971:

This 41 page booklet was prepared by the Office of Environmental Planning and Design, Eastern Service Center, for the purpose of providing guidelines for the future development of the Minute Man National Park. References to The Wayside and The Wayside Barn can be found on pages 5-7, 12, 22-31, 33, 35, 40 and 41. The Interpretive Prospectus plan was approved by the Director, Northeast Region on February 11, 1971.

The Barn is specifically referred to on page 23 as "... the initial visitor contact facility and collection point for entrance fee into the house."

"The facility will be designed for stand-up use with a small information and sales counter and sales display area. Panel displays and a low-cost sales folder will place the authors in historical perspective. . . ."

"More specifically, a stand-up audiovisual show will present brief biographical sketches. . . . Mention here the natural contrasts in the house, its additions and alterations. . . ."

G. Additional Resource Material:

Miss Margaret Lothrop's book The Wayside: Home of Authors, published in 1940, along with her research notes (now owned by the MMNHP) are an important source of information relating to the property. Her recording of the Alcott Journals and letters have been especially helpful in preparing this report.
III. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE BARN

A. Colonial Structure:

We have no information as to the exact date of the construction of the Barn at The Wayside. Beginning in 1778 there are persistent gaps in the deed descriptions concerning the existence of the Barn.

Prior to 1778, deeds recorded as early as 1716 place a Barn on that portion of a house lot belonging to Caleb Ball, about 3/4 of an acre, lying south of the Country Road (now called Lexington Road) and bounded on the west side by a lane leading to Flints Farm (now called Hawthorne Lane). To the south, the house lot was bounded by Mill Brook and to the East by the land belonging to Nathaniel Ball, Jr. From 1716 to 1778 a barn is listed in the deed descriptions. From 1778 to 1784 the barn is dropped from the deed descriptions even though the land was sold and resold three times. In the inventory of Daniel Hoar, Jr., taken in 1823, "One field of 10 acres with a barn thereon" is listed. By 1828, this field had increased in size to 20 acres.

1. See MMNHP files, folder marked The Wayside Chain of Title, researched by Robert Ronsheim and Miss Christine Larson in 1967, hereafter called Research Folder. Prior to 1716/17 Nathaniel Ball, Jr., gave to his son, Caleb Ball, a portion of the property he had received from his father, Nathaniel Ball, Sr., on April 16, 1688 and on January 1705/06. Caleb's share consisted of approximately 3 acres of the original 8 acre house lot which included a barn and dwelling house (later called The Wayside). The remaining 5 acres of land to the east were retained by Nathaniel Ball, Jr. On January 28, 1716/17, Caleb sold his property containing a house and barn to Samuel Fletcher, Jr., a Concord glazer, pp. 1-2.

2. Ronsheim, Research Folder: 1722 (Fletcher to Billings) p.2; 1723 (Billings to Parker), 1723 (Parker to Coleburn) pp. 3-4; 1730/31 (Coleburn to Farrar) p. 4; c. 1740 (Farrar to Coleburn) p.5; 1747 (Coleburn to Breed) p. 5; 1769 (Breed to Whitney) p. 13a; 1778 (Whitney to Taylor) p. 13b, footnote 44ba. (Note the above dates apply only to the land south of the Road.)
In 1830, Horatio Cogswell bought 8 of the 20 acres of land opposite The Wayside. Two years later, Cogswell purchased The Wayside and one acre of land. On January 1, 1835, Cogswell mortgaged the 8-acre piece of land south of the Road with the barn to Abiel Heywood. This is the last mention of the barn.3

On September 18, 1844, Cogswell sold the one acre of land with The Wayside and the 8 acres of land south of the Road to Washington C. Allen. No barn is mentioned in this deed or the succeeding deeds from 1844 to 1883.4

While there has been a continuous chain of title since 1688 to the land on which the Barn stood, there is a lack of continuity in the deeds describing the Barn thereon. However the evidence is weighed in our favor and the writer takes the position that the present-day structure is the same Barn described in deeds from 1716-1823, thus making it equally as old as the house.

The existing Barn is almost square measuring 27' x 28'-6". From the bottom of the clapboards to the plate line, the walls measure 12'-11" high. Overall height from the foundation to the peak is 23'-4".

The building still retains much of the basic framework dating back to the colonial period. The original structure was

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3. Research Folder; 1778 (Taylor to Hoar) p. 13c; 1784 (Hoar to Flint) pp. 17-18; c. 1789 (Flint to Hoar) p. 20; 1823 (Daniel Hoar, Jr., Inventory) p. 33a; 1828 (Daniel Hoar heirs to Henry Hoar) p. 45; 1830 (Hoar to Cogswell) p. 45; 1835 (Cogswell to Heywood) p. 46.

4. Research Folder; 1844 (Cogswell to Allen) p. 48; 1845 (Allen to Sewall and May, one acre, house and buildings), 1845 (Allen to Emerson, 8 acres) pp. 49-50; 1852 (Sewall and May to Hawthorne, one acre, house and buildings, 1852 (Emerson to Hawthorne, 8 acres) p. 51; 1870 (Hawthorne heirs to Gray) pp. 53-55; 1873 (Gray to Pratt) p. 55; 1879 (Pratt to Lathrop) p. 55; 1883 (Lathrop to Lothrop) p. 56. Photostat copies of these deeds are on file at MMNHP. In each instance the description written in the deeds refers to the land and "Buildings thereon."
built in the fashion of other colonial buildings with massive hand hewn sills, posts, rails, plates, girts and rafters. Basically the frame of the present building is supported by four corner posts and four intermediate posts measuring 7" x 7-1/2" (±1"). Rigidity to the frame is furnished by diagonal braces which are morticed, tenoned, and pegged from the posts into the girts and plates. The plates and girts (and probably the original sills which are now missing) measure approximately 8" x 10".

Between the wall posts are morticed and tenoned rails, some square hewn, others round but flatted against wall boards. The vertical wall sheathing was nailed into these rails.

Existing architectural evidence indicates that the Barn was once a longer structure. This evidence is supported by comparing the framing techniques used in building the east and the west walls. The east wall is framed as an outside wall with the rafters, rails, diagonal braces (and missing studding) all morticed and tenoned against the outside or east edges of the girt and posts. The ridgepole is cut off flush with the rafters at the end. Two diagonal wind braces were framed from the rafters to the ridgepole at the east end (the north brace has been cut away to permit a 2" x 8" rafter to be added, c. 1883); the south brace, although a reused piece, appears to have been placed in this position during the original roof construction.

The west wall, however, is constructed like an interior wall. The diagonal braces are framed along the inside or east edges of the girt and corner posts. The end rafters, about five inches wide, are flush with the inside or east edge of the eight inch girt below. This rafter placement left an outer space in the gable end of nearly three inches which is now furred out with used pieces of diagonal braces and studding. No mortice pockets are present along the top edge of the west girt (as they are on the east girt) to indicate that the wall studding ever existed in the gable end. Rather, there are two diagonal struts,

5. Research Folder, p. 29. We know from a study of deeds that a colonial barn standing on the adjacent Timothy Hoar farm to the west measured 70' x 30'; a grain barn measured 30' x 25'. The 70' x 30' barn was later owned by J.B. Moore and is shown on the Thoreau survey of 1860 included in the Appendices. Moore removed this barn in 1862.
seven feet apart, running from girt to rafter. Two identical struts are located in a similar position on the beam near the center of the Barn. Two of the four center struts can be seen on sheet No. 3 of the measured drawings.

These four diagonal struts and adjoining beams have carpenter framing marks chiseled in as follows: south center strut ∅; north center strut /∅; southwest strut /∅; northwest strut //∅. This is good evidence that the four struts were installed at the same time, and designed to support interior pairs of rafters. These building bays were not originally constructed as outside walls.

The ridgepole at the west end is cut approximately 1-1/2" beyond the rafters. While this is not conclusive evidence to prove a longer ridgepole previously existed, when compared with the flush ridgepole at the east end it does support the evidence presented above that the Barn has been shortened. There is no indication at the west end that wind braces were framed into the ridgepole or rafters.

A close examination of the wall sheathing on the west end (which at first sight appeared to be original boards) revealed that these boards had been reused. In the gable end, the existing sheathing is wide, rough mill-sawn, feather-edged boards, nailed horizontally into reused pieces of studding. Old nail holes in the boards, unrelated to the existing studding, indicate that these boards had been removed from another wall but carefully fitted together again. This same condition exists in the wall boards located directly below. From the plate line to the foundation sill, the west wall is covered with sheathing comprised of wide, rough mill-sawn, square edged boards, nailed vertically into the rails. Here again there are signs of earlier (square-shaped) nail holes suggesting that the boards had occupied an earlier wall location. It is entirely possible that these boards were removed from the original exterior wall of the Barn, then reused when the Barn was shortened.

If the west wall boards can be used as a criterion to determine the appearance of the c. 1716 structure, then the walls of the Barn would have been covered as described above--horizontal boards in the gable ends with vertical boards below the plate line (see Plate 7).
The number of original door and window openings is unknown since numerous alterations to the wall surfaces have eliminated most of the basic information. The large double doors, probably arched in the beginning, would have been a necessity for entering the building with wagons filled with crops, etc. (The writer feels sure that this opening is original to the Barn.) Windows in the gable end would be a necessity for lighting the storage space in the loft and the work area below. Hence these two openings could date back to the original construction although they may not have been as large then.

The existing roof structure indicates an unconventional method in framing roof rafters. Typical of certain colonial structures in this area, the roof contains a pentagonal shaped ridgepole into which the rafters are tenoned. Instead of the rafters being placed in opposing pairs, however, they are placed alternately along the ridgepole with the exception of the two end pairs and one intermediate pair.

As previously stated, the center pair of rafters and the west pair of rafters are thought to have been inside bays of the Barn. These rafters are morticed and tenoned directly into the ends of the 8" x 10" cross beams (or summers). The alternating rafters are framed directly into the plate.

Notched into the upper side of the rafters on the north roof slope were four sets of purlins (now missing) spanning the irregularly spaced rafters. This would have provided nailing points for the original roof boards running parallel to the rafters (ridge to plate). The rafters on the south roof slope, however, do not have the purlin notches. Instead the rafters are spaced about four feet apart. Apparently the roof boards were placed across the rafters and were probably wide, rough mill-sawn boards having feather edges with the joints possibly covered with birchbark. If the Barn was built this way, it is the first example of this the writer has seen.

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6. There seems to have been a prevailing practice among the local builders to employ the use of ridgepoles in structures over a certain width and height regardless of their intended use. Thus a house built two rooms deep and two stories high would have a ridgepole also.

7. See four sheets of measured drawings in Appendices.
The original roof coverings would have been wood shingles, probably pine, hand rived and smoothed on both surfaces.

The lean-to, which measures 12'-1" x 17'-10", dates from the late 1890s and is discussed in the section entitled "Lothrop Ownership, 1883-1965."
B. Alcott Ownership, 1845-1852:

The Alcotts moved into "Hillside" on April 1, 1845. According to the deed description recorded on January 10, 1845, the property consisted of "a certain piece or parcel of land... containing one acre... with the dwelling house and other buildings thereon standing..." Mr. Alcott described the property to his brother, Junius, in these words:

Close by Emerson's, under the brow of the Hill, lies a very pretty spot--the Boston Road running between the House and the fertile field of 8 acres, every rod of which is adapted to gardening and lies warmly to the sunny south. The house is a convenient structure, and with some additions and repairs would serve two families, being two stories, with large parlours and chambers. There is a woodhouse, and a Shop--the latter, with a little cost, may be converted into a good cottage house, as roomy as your Oriskany tenement. There are a few Fruit trees beginning to bear. Emerson will give the 8 acres, in trust to us, for all such as desire to come upon a free soil, and to occupy and till the earth unmolested by loads of land or men-tax-gatherers, usurers, and other oppressors of freemen. Two families may live comfortably in the House, and another in the Shop. $3 or 400 will put the buildings in good repair; or move the Barn to a more suitable foundation, and put us all in a good way to begin our endeavor. The whole will cost about $1400 (buildings and land--9 acres--) and, if you could lend us your skill, the repairs would not add greatly to this amount.

8. Lothrop, p. 41.


Despite numerous entreaties written by Bronson Alcott to his brother, Junius, to move to Concord and share in his good fortune at "Hillside," this event apparently never came about. Junius did, however, in 1845 for tax purposes, give legal consent for his name to be used as property owner for the buildings and 9 acres of land. In 1845, Junius Alcott was taxed for "1 house Barn Shop & 9 a. of land" with a "True value" of $1000.

On July 27, 1845, Alcott wrote to Junius again as follows:

My garden has kept me hard at work, and the carpenters have made and are still making large and daily drafts on my time and thoughts. The repairs are going forward, and we hope to have comfortable rooms to offer you when you arrive. I have had the shop set at the end of the House, and it is now being partitioned and done off into several convenient rooms, making a neat house of itself. If you like it, we wish you to occupy it, and if you prefer to build there are fine spots adjoining on which you may set your cottage, residing for the time in this end of our dwelling. The House is large enough for us all. I have also moved the Barn to a better place, and am having it repaired for storing our crops, all of which look unusually promising.

11. The 8 acres of land south of the Country Road actually belonged to R.W. Emerson. Emerson leased the land to the Alcotts who were responsible for paying the property tax. The Barn stood on this 8 acres in 1845. Emerson sold the 8 acres to Hawthorne in 1852.

12. Ronsheim, Research Folder, p. 50, 1845 (Concord Tax List). The writer also checked the Assessor's Records, Town of Concord, for the year 1845 (recorded August 16, 1845) which are on microfilm at the Concord Free Public Library and found identical information; hereafter cited as Assessor's Records.

13. Herrnstadt, p. 122. Note that Alcott writes he is having the Barn repaired for storing crops.
The fact that the Barn originally stood on the 8-acre tract south of the road is substantiated by the description found in several deeds\textsuperscript{14} and numerous writings.\textsuperscript{15} By July of 1845, Alcott had the barn moved and repaired according to his aforementioned letter. Just what repairs were made to the structure is not known. We are fortunate to have copies of two of Alcott's drawings showing the Barn after it was moved; these sketches are included in this report as Plates 1 and 2.

Equally as interesting as the perspective drawings done by Alcott, is a grounds plan drawn by daughter Elizabeth in 1846. The Barn is shown to the west of the house prior to the building of the stone retaining wall. A copy drawing of this plan has been included in the Appendices.

In 1846, the town property tax was assessed against "S. E. Sewell Trustee for Mrs. A. B. Alcott, House Barn and 9 a land" and was appraised at $1300. A. B. Alcott was assessed for "1 poll tax."\textsuperscript{16} The above tax assessment reflects the rise in valuation due to recent improvements to "Hillside"--a shop(s) and woodhouse were added to the house for extra rooms in 1845.\textsuperscript{17}

\textsuperscript{14} Ronsheim, Research Folder, pp. 2-5; 13a, b, c; 17-18; 49-50.

\textsuperscript{15} Clara Gowing, The Alcotts As I Knew Them, (The C. M. Clark Pub. Co., Boston, Mass.) 1909, p. 3, quoted as follows: "To use Mrs. Alcott's own words, 'we moved the barn across the road, cut the shop in two and put a half on each end of the house.'"

Cornelia Meigs, Invisible Louisa (Little Brown and Company, Boston, Mass.) 1933, p. 74, quoted as follows: "the big, wooded dwelling had been surrounded at first, with various buildings, sheds, a wheelwright's shop, and a barn across the way."

\textsuperscript{16} Assessor's Records, 1846.

\textsuperscript{17} See NPS Historic Structures Reports, Historical and Architectural Data Sections written in 1968, for a full account of these improvements.
No doubt the town assessor took into account the improvements to the land made by Mr. Alcott, when establishing the $300 tax increase over the previous year's valuation. 18

Another increase in property assessment came in 1847 when "S. E. Sewall Trustee for Mrs. A. B. Alcott" was taxed $1360 for a "House barn and 13 a land." The $60 increase reflects the purchase of four acres of land on September 1, 1846, from Abel Moore, lying to the west and north of "Hillside." A. B. Alcott was assessed for "1 Poll Tax." 19

1. Mr. Alcott's Use of the Barn

To this writer's knowledge, no documentation has been found that records the transaction that took place between Mr. Alcott and Mr. Emerson regarding the moving of the Barn standing on Emerson's 8 acres. It was probably a gift from Emerson.

Nevertheless, Alcott suggests that he moved the Barn for "storing our crops." One cannot help but wonder if he had a higher motive than this one for wanting the Barn removed from across the road. Its removal would open up a vista from "Hillside" to Mill Brook and beyond. 20 Also, the Barn as placed up against the hillside afforded a more picturesque setting to suit Alcott's aesthetic tastes. A somewhat similar pattern was followed in 1880 when Alcott had the School of Philosophy built into the hillside west of the "Orchard House."

18. See NPS Historic Grounds Report, written in 1971, for a full account of the changes Alcott made to the grounds at "Hillside."


20. ABA to Mrs. Alcott, October 29, 1860, written while the Alcotts lived at the Orchard House next door: "Certainly if the odious old barn will walk out of sight meanwhile and open the prospect in that direction." In November of 1862, Alcott writes "Moore taken down the barn opposite so long standing there. . . ." Quotes taken from Margaret Lothrop's research notebooks. AXII and XXXVLL, MMNHP files.
The following quotations are taken from the Alcott Journals, 1846-1851, and indicate the use of the Barn:\textsuperscript{21}

May 27, 1846: Swept the Barn.

July 28, 1846: Secured my rye in the Barn—being, as I guess about 35 shocks—Put my barn in order for hay.

August 1, 1846: Got my hay into the Barn.

August 14, 1846: Mowed my hay and put the Barn in order.

April 25, 1847: Cleaned my cellar—Barn . . .

Outside the Barn, the grounds were altered as follows:

June 30, 1846: Shaped the hillside over the Serpentine walk between the House and Barn.

July 1, 1846: Shaped the Hill-Side beyond the Barn . . .

August 7, 1846: Altered the slopes behind the house and put a rustic walk of willows and locust twigs, as the beginning of the walk in the hillside terminating on the western side of the Barn.

August 11, 1846: Carried a rustic fence along the Bank from the Barn to the gate admitting to neighbor Moore's pasture field by the elms . . .

October 2, 1846: Levelled the earth behind my Barn and spread in the path from the great Street gate—preparing the hill-side for a wall behind the barn.

October 6, 1846: My neighbor resumed the laying of the wall of the Conservatory . . .

\textsuperscript{21} Quotations are taken from the Margaret Lothrop research notebooks AI and AIV kept in MIMA files.
October 9, 1846: lime from Mr. Britton for laying back wall. the wall progressing daily.

October 16, 1846: Assisted about laying the wall behind the Barn.

October 17, 1846: Engaged on the wall behind the Barn.

October 18, 1846: Assisted in drawing some stones for the Wall.

October 21, 1846: assisted in laying some stones of the wall.

October 22, 1846: Engaged some more lime in the village for pointing the wall behind the barn and house.

October 27, 1846: Assisted about the Wall and Conservatory.

November 1, 1846: My improvements proceed slowly. The bank wall from behind the Barn to the Bee House is now complete with the exception of a little pointing with mortar. It will furnish a fine wall for grapes, or any wall fruit.

May 17-18, 1847: Busy about my grounds: laying them out for planting. Set some grapes by the wall near the Barn.

June 9, 1847: Sodded on the hill-side by the arbour, and cut a real footpath on the wall top around the barn, just over the Bee House.

June 18, 1847: Began on grape arbour near the barn by the bee-House.

July 9, 1847: Removed the earth by the Bee house Scite and levelled the path to the barn.

July 15, 1847: Dressed the dooryard from the Conservatory to the barn.
References written in Alcott's Journals on October 2, 16-17, 22 and on November 1, 1846, clearly define that the Barn foundation did not abut the stone retaining wall. Instead a space existed between the wall and the Barn large enough to permit the growing of grapes against the stone work. During the archeological explorations of 1967, evidence of the exact location of the Barn site of 1845 was never found.22

2. The Barn as a Theatre and Club

Throughout all of Miss Lothrop's research notes copied from the letters and journals kept by the Alcott family, the writer could find no mention of the Barn being used as a theatre or club by the Alcott girls.

In Elizabeth's Journal for August 28, 1846, she writes, "We went to the barn and swung."23 The remaining references written about the Barn as a place to hold drama performances, etc., all post-date the 1845-48 period and are written by persons other than the Alcotts. A partial listing of these references are as follows:

1878 ABA Journal LIV, p. 268:

... Speaking of Louisa ... She got her culture at home and through experience. She began authorship by writing letters. Then she ventured stories; then followed the reading of them to her parents and sister; then the acting of them as dramas, then a model theatre in the attic. ... The next step was to transfer the

22. See Excavations at The Wayside by Cordelia Snow, NPS archeological Research Report, 1969, kept in MIMA files. A plan of the excavation work for the Barn is included in the Appendices.

23. For entry in Elizabeth's Journal see Miss Lothrop's research notebook AXIII, kept in MIMA files.
theatre to the barn, where the private theatricals soon made considerable noise in the town... 24

ABA Journal LIV, 1878, p. 368:

The barn is the place where Louisa Alcott, when a child, used to hold her amateur theatricals, and every knoll and ravine has its Alcott, Hawthorne or Thoreau legend. 25

1933 Invincible Louisa by Cornelia Meigs:

In Louisa's eyes, the two great assets of the new abode were the little room in the wing and the barn. The Alcotts never kept a horse, although the girls often dreamed of galloping down the shady Concord roads, as did the more fortunate members of their acquaintance. There are, however, a hundred good uses for a roomy barn, other than those intended by the original builder. As everyone knows, barns are particularly well suited for dramatic purposes. . . . Louisa trod the boards of the barn theater through her first play, in a blaze of glory. The curtain went down to applause which shook the old barn rafters.

24. Copied from Miss Lothrop's research notebook AVI, kept in MIMA files. Read by the writer on microfilm at the Concord Free Public Library; Alcott Journal for 1878 on microfilm roll No. 27. This information from a newspaper article pasted in Mr. Alcott's Journal. Title of the Article is "Alcott and His Friends, The Concord Transcendentalists, A Familiar Talk in Joseph Cook's Parlor, Bronson Alcott's Evening." Written April 21, it is obviously the results gleaned from an interview with Mr. Alcott in Concord.

25. Copied from Miss Lothrop's research notebook AIX, kept in MIMA files. Read by the writer on microfilm at the CFPL, roll No. 27. The information is from an unsigned newspaper article pasted in Mr. Alcott's Journal. Title of the clipping is "A Day in Concord." It too is the result of a newspaper reporter's interview with Mr. Alcott in Concord.
In the barn were held meetings of an important organization, the Pickwick Club. Only the Alcott girls were members; but they published a paper just the same, with laboriously written numbers full of stories by all of them, sentimental tales of Anna's, dashing poems by Louisa.26

1940 The Wayside: Home of Authors by Margaret Lothrop:

To the girls the old house with its big attic, the barn, and the steep hillside at the rear were all special playgrounds. The barn won their particular regard. It served as a wonderful theatre in which they could perform the exciting and romantic plays which Louisa created. . . . The hayloft became a particularly advantageous spot from which to lower the bag with the black pudding to rest on the nose of the old witch. . . .27

3. The Barn as a School

1933 Invincible Louisa by Cornelia Meigs:

The barn, scene of her first dramatic triumph, was also the setting for her first venture in the greater enterprise of helping to take care of her dear family. She organized a little school there, probably at the suggestion of Mr. Emerson; for it was his children who made up the greater number of the pupils.28

1940 The Wayside: Home of Authors by Margaret Lothrop:

. . . during the summer of 1848, Louisa, at the request of Mrs. Emerson, undertook the task of teaching the Emerson children, holding her classes in the hillside barn. At about this time Louisa told Ella Emerson a number of fairy tales, later putting them into written form and sending them to her little friend. Several years later these little stories appeared in print, Louisa's first book, Flower Fables.29

28. Invincible Louisa, p. 89.
29. The Wayside: Home of Authors, p. 76.
C. Hawthorne Family Ownership, 1852-1870:

On March 8, 1852, Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased from the Alcott trustees, "... one acre ... with the dwelling house and other buildings thereon standing. ..."30 On the same day he purchased from R.W. Emerson the eight acres south of the Road.31

On July 1, 1852, prior to his leaving for England, Hawthorne purchased from J.B. Moore a 10-1/2 acre tract of land lying on the summit of the hill north of The Wayside.32 The four acres of land lying between this hilltop tract and The Wayside was purchased by Hawthorne from the Alcott trustees on December 3, 1853.33

The deeds do not describe the number of buildings Alcott left on the property in 1852 but besides the house with its many additions, there was the Barn to the west, a Bee House, Conservatory, Back House ("privy"), Summer House on the hillside, arbour, Garden House and a possible shop. Across the Road near Mill Brook stood a bath house.34


32. Ronsheim, Research Folder, p. 52 (Book No. 665:411-2).


34. For a complete listing of buildings see Historic Grounds Report, 1971. By 1856, however, Mr. Alcott writes, "This morning walk by Hill-side, Hawthorne absent and my pretty repairs all falling fast into decay." Copied from Miss Lothrop's research notebook AVI, kept in MMNHP files. Alcott Journal XXXI, p. 368.
The Hawthornes probably did nothing to the Barn in the way of repairs from June 1852 to July of 1853 when they occupied The Wayside. During their seven year stay in Europe, the house was occupied for six years by Mrs. Hawthorne's brother, Dr. Nathaniel Peabody and for the last year by Mrs. Hawthorne's sister, Mrs. Horace Mann. We know of no alterations to the Barn during the years between 1853 and 1860.

The Alcotts, meanwhile, had purchased the property to the west of The Wayside in 1857. When the Hawthornes returned to Concord on June 20, 1860, they immediately started to plan their changes to the property. Mr. Alcott was called in as a consultant; later he acted in a supervisory capacity directing the construction of the additions. Still later, Mr. Alcott carried out much of the supervision and physical work on the grounds (Toogood, pp. 120-121).

Years later Julian Hawthorne described the changes to the barn:

The barn was separate from the house, and stood against the hill on the spectator's left. Hawthorne made no alterations during his first occupancy; but when he returned from England in 1860, he moved the barn to the other side of the house, and connected it with the wing on that side, added another story to the other wing, built in two large rooms behind, and surmounted the whole with the "tower," in the top of which is the study where "Our Old Home" was written. It was all painted a warm buff color and looks to-day almost precisely as it did then.

35. The Wayside: Home of Authors, pp. 96-98. See Ronsheim, p. 65, quoting a letter from Mrs. Hawthorne to Mrs. Mann dated September 25, 1859, which stated that there was a gymnasium to be found "behind the dining room, over the cellar door" and which suggested that it be moved to the barn.

36. Julian Hawthorne, Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Wife, Vol. I, (James R. Osgood and Company, Boston) 1885, pp. 451-52. The Barn walls, which were covered with rough boards, were probably not painted.
More exact documentation of the Barn's location can be seen in the Thoreau Survey dated August 20, 1860. (See copy of survey in the Appendices.) The Barn is shown to the right or east of the house, connected to the one story woodhouse. One should notice that Thoreau places the front of the Barn directly in line with the south wall of the woodhouse, farther north than its present-day location. No other construction features are shown on the survey other than the house-barn complex. The writer has added the Alcott retaining wall of 1846 onto a copy of the survey plan located in the Appendices.

The Hawthorne's use of the Barn is vague. It is almost certain they did not keep any horses or cows. They probably did not own a buggy. There are several references to the Hawthornes being driven in a rented carriage from the railroad station in Concord to their home (Lothrop, p. 136).

An entry in Miss Lothrop's notebook H II reads, "a hen has vouchsafed to lay 2 eggs in our barn" (Toogood, p. 124). (The writer interprets this statement as meaning a hen belonging to a neighbor.)

The Hawthorne family stayed on at The Wayside after Nathaniel Hawthorne's death in 1864 until 1868 when they left for Germany. The activities of the family between 1864 and 1868 are detailed briefly in the Historic Grounds Report (Toogood, pp. 125-137).
D. Ownership Between 1870 and 1883:

In 1870, the Hawthorne family sold The Wayside property to George and Abba Gray. The Grays, in turn, sold the property north of the Road to Mary C. Pratt in 1873, who operated The Wayside as a finishing school for young girls. In 1879, the property was sold to Rose Hawthorne and her husband George Lathrop. On March 10, 1883, the place came under the ownership of the Daniel Lathrop family in whose possession it remained until 1965.37

It is unlikely that any architectural changes were made to the house and Barn after Hawthorne’s death in 1864 or while it was still in the Hawthorne family from 1864 to 1870. Before the Lothrop purchase of 1883, however, a change was made to the exterior of the house-barn complex.38 This change, in effect, was the removal of the one story woodhouse that Alcott had added to the east end of the house in c. 1845 and which later connected the house to the Barn after the latter was moved by Hawthorne in 1860.

The writer strongly suspects that the woodhouse was removed during the ownership of Miss Pratt, 1873-79, in some connection with her school activities. We know of certain interior changes that were made to the house during this time and these interior changes could well relate to the exterior alterations as well.39

A search for the foundation of the woodhouse was conducted by archeologists in 1966-67. No trace of underground footing was found. (Snow, 1969:17. See drawings of excavations in Appendices.)

37. Ronsheim, Research Folder: 1870, p. 53; 1873, p. 55; 1879, p. 56; 1883, p. 56.

38. This change can be determined by examining Plate 7, taken about 1882, which shows The Wayside and the Barn.

39. See MMNHP files, Miss Lathrop notes on The Wayside School.
E. Lothrop Ownership, 1883-1965

The Lothrop's took possession of The Wayside on March 10, 1883. The house and Barn must have looked much like the c. 1882 view as seen in Plate 7. The Barn walls were covered with wide rough-sawn vertical boards. The gable ends (at least on the west side) were sheathed with wide rough-sawn horizontal boards. These wide vertical and horizontal boards still exist today on the west wall but the sheathing boards on the other three walls are all replacements (see Plate 13).

By July 20, 1883, the exterior of The Wayside had been painted a green-gray color (Munsell Co. color No. 2.5Y 6/4). It is very likely that the Barn was altered during the summer of 1883 and painted at the same time as the house. One painted clapboard sample taken from the east wall of the Barn was examined by the writer in 1967. The color of the first coat applied over the new clapboarding was found to be identical to the house paint of 1883. On March 6, 1972, the writer examined a painted clapboard on the north wall of the Barn. It was found that only one coat of paint had been applied to the clapboards between 1883 and the building of the lean-to. This paint color proved to be 2.5Y 6/4, the identical color of the 1883 paint job.

Prior to July 27, 1887, several changes had been made to the Barn. Plate 8 shows the house and Barn before this date since the Piazza had not been constructed. The Barn walls are clap-

40. Research Folder, p. 56. Deed Book 1634, p. 16, Lathrop to Lothrop. See photostatic copy of the original deed in MMNHP files.
41. The Concord Freeman, July 20, 1883, p. 1. On microfilm at the Concord Free Public Library.
42. We have a firm date of 1887 as the time the Piazza had been completed on the western end of the house. See the Boston Evening Transcript, July 27, 1887, p. 1, in MMNHP files, which describes the Piazza as being "planned" by the Lathrops.
boarded; the west gable end window opening now has a 6 over 6 light sash replacing the older 12 over 12; and the single board and batten door below has been swung to the right. This is the first view showing the south wall. It is not known when the arched opening in front was changed to the horizontal architrave and the larger double doors made but most likely it was done at this time.43 The double doors have a dark appearance in Plate 8 suggesting that a dark paint was used.

The next major alteration to the Barn occurred between 1892 and 1903. (Compare Plate 10 with Plate 12.) Here we can see the addition of the rear lean-to (although not in its present-day form). The west wall contains a single six light sash and the wall is clapboarded to the ground.44 Inside, between the lean-to and the Barn a door opening was cut through and a sliding door installed. In the loft, a small opening was cut through the north wall at floor level to permit the passing of hay from the loft to the lean-to.45

The lean-to went through an alteration before 1932, the year Miss Lothrop returned from California to live permanently at The Wayside. A stone wall, five feet high, was built against the

43. Writer's interview with Margaret Lothrop on August 4, 1966: Miss Lothrop states "I cannot remember the double doors. . . . They may have been put on by HML," meaning her mother.

44. In the writer's interview with Margaret Lothrop on August 4, 1966, Miss Lothrop stated that her mother had the back end added on "for the horse." Prior to the building of the lean-to, horses were kept in two stalls located in the northeast corner of the Barn where the stairway now stands.

45. Miss Lothrop remembered the existing rectangular opening in the rear Barn wall, 2nd floor, where she "threw down hay for the horse." Interview on 8/4/1966. On 8/17/1966, Miss Lothrop repeated she recalls the opening from loft of Barn to rear room where she could throw down hay for the horses. (Emphasis added.)
north earth bank and on the east and west sides a 24 inch high stone wall was built; also portions of the wooden wall were reframed and clapboarded (writer's conclusion). The six light sash was removed and a new 6 over 6 double hung sash was installed in the west wall.46

According to Miss Lothrop, the interior of the Barn was altered around 1900. This would coincide in time with the building of the lean-to. Major changes to the interior of the Barn were as follows:47

Removal of old loft and the rebuilding of the existing 2nd floor. New stairway built to loft space.48

Strengthening of the roof with additional 2" x 8" rafters.

New boards put on roof.

Water piped to Barn; water trough for horses installed.

Room enclosed in loft area.49

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46. Interview notes on 8/17/1966: When questioned about the alterations, Miss Lothrop was unaware that changes had been made to the lean-to. She thought that any changes made would have been done by a tenant. MML knew of one tenant who kept chickens in the rear room and who let them outside by an opening in the east wall.


48. This loft may have been the original one. According to Miss Lothrop, it spanned only the south half of the Barn at a much lower level than the present floor.

49. Miss Lothrop refers to this room only as the "man's room." She identified two of these men: one, only as William and a second as John Smith. These men were hired to stay at The Wayside while the Lothrops were at home to care for the yard, etc., and to provide transportation with horse and carriage or sleigh. In the summer the "man" slept in the Barn loft room. During the winter, he slept in the small room over the kitchen. Interview notes 8/4/1966.
Storage closets built in northwest corner.

The third major alteration to the Barn came in 1914 when the wooden floor was removed and a concrete floor and front ramp were installed. A concrete floor was installed in the lean-to. Thus ended the era of horse drawn carriages and sleighs for the Lothrops.

1. The Lothrop's Use of the Barn

   a. For a birthday party: "Last Saturday was the fifth anniversary of the birth of little Margaret Mulford Lothrop, daughter of Daniel Lothrop, Esq., and it was charmingly commemorated by a children's party at "The Wayside". It had been intended to hold the fete on the lawn, but the rain made it necessary to adjourn indoors, and the lawn decorations were hastily transferred to the barn, which was turned into a veritable bower of delight for the occasion." 51

   b. Summer housing for the hired male help (see writer's interview notes with Miss Lothrop, 8/4/1966; see interview notes taken by R.D. Ronsheim).

   c. For stabling their horses (see interview notes cited above), prior to 1914.

50. Taken from an article printed in The Christian Science Monitor, Saturday, June 20, 1914, p. 17. Newspaper in MMNHP files. "First the old barn was moved by Mr. Hawthorne to the opposite side of the house, its present location. The recent introduction of a cement floor has modernized this structure for the housing of an automobile. . . ." Miss Lothrop stated that her mother first bought an automobile in 1914; interview notes on 8/4/1966. The writer, by deduction, concludes that the earlier floor was wood. See Alcott Journal, May 27, 1846, "Swept the Barn."

51. The Concord Enterprise, Friday, August 2, 1889, p. 3. On microfilm at the Concord Free Public Library.
d. For storing carriage(s) and sleigh,52 prior to 1914.

e. For storage of lawn equipment, misc. furniture, etc. (see Inventory of 1915).

f. For storage of an automobile after 1914. (Miss Lothrop's notes in MMNHP files).

2. The Lothrop Alterations to the Barn

c. 1883: Possible repairs made to the Barn walls; clapboards put on over the sheathing boards. Double doors in the south wall probably installed, and the window in the west gable changed from 12 over 12 light sash to 6 over 6 light sash (photographic evidence). Exterior of the Barn painted same color as the house (see p. 23).

1892-1899: Lean-to built against north wall; wood shingles used on lean-to roof held on by wire shingle nails. Roof of Barn strengthened by the addition of 2" x 8" rafters and new roof boards. Old loft floor removed and existing 2nd floor built; room enclosed on 2nd floor; stairway constructed; water piped into Barn and a water trough installed for the horses. (Note: No evidence has been found to verify the exact date or sequence in time when the above changes were made.)

1899: The Wayside painted Munsell Color No. 10YR 7/6. This same color was found on the Barn woodwork. Although the Lothrop receipt mentions only the house being painted, the writer suspects the Barn was also painted in 1899.

52. The Concord Enterprise, February 23, 1910, p. 1. "Miss Margaret Lothrop was thrown from her sleigh while driving on the milldam Saturday morning. A runner caught in the cartrack and the sleigh overturned, throwing Miss Lothrop out. Fortunately, Miss Lothrop was uninjured, although considerably shaken up as a result. The horse started and ran and was not stopped until he reached Col. Barrett's residence, where Martin Tuttle interfered with his progress."
1906: Electricity installed in the house and possibly the Barn.

1907: Receipt in MMNHP files dated June 19, 1907. Charles N. Miner to Mrs. Daniel Lothrop: "Cr by Carrag & Harness." $65.00. No other explanation offered in receipt. It seems as if Mr. Miner was paid off for his work with a carriage and harness set.

1908: Intercom from house to Barn possibly installed; Pat. date Feb. 10, 1908.

1914: Concrete floor installed in the Barn and lean-to (see p. 26).

1914: Probable time when stone retaining wall was built under north, east, and west walls of the lean-to. Single 6 light sash removed from the west wall of the lean-to and a new opening made about 24 inches to the south where the present day double hung window is located. Wood shingled roof of the lean-to removed and the lower one-third of roof boards replaced; then the roof covered with 36" width rolls of asphalt impregnated felt paper. Lower three courses of red cedar shingles on north roof slope of Barn replaced with white cedar shingles. This was done to permit asphalt roofing to extend about 12" up Barn roof to act as flashing. Red cedar shingles on south roof slope removed and white cedar shingles put on. Wooden ramp up to double doors removed and replaced with a concrete ramp (wooden ramp appears to have been changed prior to 1914 and this may reflect repairs made from time to time). (We have a firm date on the installation of the concrete floor; see page 26. The remaining changes that are listed are the conclusions of the writer.)

1922: House painted (Lothrop receipt of 1922 in MMNHP files). Barn probably painted at this
time although receipt does not indicate this (see Plates 13 and 14 which show the exterior of the Barn in a pristine condition).

1922-1932: Foundations sills replaced from the inside of the Barn by breaking and removing a small section of the 1914 concrete floor round the periphery of the building. Floor slab patched back with modern concrete.

1932: Miss Lothrop returns to The Wayside. The red cedar shingles on north roof slope and the asphalt roofing paper on the lean-to are covered with thick butt, asphalt, slate surfaced shingles measuring 12-1/2" x 20" (cardboard container found in Barn dated August 1932). On the south roof slope of the Barn, the red cedar shingles were removed and a new white cedar shingle roof was installed (architectural investigation by writer). Barn possibly painted.

1938: House and Barn painted (receipt in MMNHP files, dated 10/24/38). Eight coats of paint found on sample clapboards since c. 1883; some coats may represent a two-coat job. Repairs made to the clapboards off and on over the years since c. 1883. Metal gutter and downspout possibly installed on south roof slope.

1948: "Painting house . . . garage . . . and extry worke" (Lothrop receipt in MMNHP files.)

1950: "1 hrs. labor repair barn door" (receipt in MMNHP files, dated February 1, 1950). "1-1/4 hrs. labor garage door" (receipt in MMNHP files, dated May 1, 1950). Repairs made to the Barn several times as noted by the many spliced joints. Dates undetermined as yet.
1960: The white cedar shingles of 1932, on the south roof slope of the Barn, are covered over with asphalt shingles.

Important Note: The writer has investigated the background of "Merton Carter, Concord, Apr. 30, 1872" whose signature appears on the north wall of the Barn. Merton Carter was born in Lincoln, Mass. In 1898, he married Myra L. Smith in Lowell, Mass., at the age of 25. This would make Carter's birthdate 1873.53

53. Index cards listing marriages, births and deaths for Concord. As shown to the writer by Reference Librarian Mrs. Marcia Moss, Concord Free Public Library.
F. National Park Service Ownership after 1965:

Margaret Lothrop sold The Wayside, the Barn and 3.32 acres of land to The National Park Service on June 21, 1965. Both the house and Barn were in extremely poor condition when the Service took over. Miss Lothrop's energies, expended in maintaining the house on a full time basis since 1932, were completely spent. She died in April of 1970, a scant five years after leaving the house she had interpreted to the public for 32 years.

The writer interviewed Miss Lothrop almost daily during September of 1966. The interview was related almost exclusively to the architectural changes made to the house and Barn. Parts of two days were spent talking about the Barn, its alterations and its contents.

A major part of the writer's time during 1967 was devoted to architectural research on The Wayside and the preparation of the Architectural Data Section of the Historic Structure Report.

Rehabilitation work on The Wayside began in April of 1968 and lasted through August of 1969. During this time, structural repairs were completed to the west wall of the Barn and rear addition to permit the permanent installation of a gas meter and regulator. This was located along the north wall of the Barn near the juncture of the lean-to (see Plate 21).

The northwest corner post of the Barn was found to be hollow. This was repaired by cutting away all but the interior surface of the post and inserting a pressure treated 6" x 6" laminated post in its place.

The laminated pine foundation sill (c. 1914?) at the northwest corner was also found to have rotted. This was replaced in part, along the north and west walls, with similar laminated 8" x 10" pressure treated pieces. A matching sill was placed under the track of the sliding door between the Barn and lean-to. A new concrete patch was required in the floor on both sides of the new sill to replace a previously broken part of the 1914 concrete work.
A new window sash was required in the west gable end to replace the rotten sash found there.

Minor repairs were completed on the cornice of the south wall where excessive rotting had occurred due to the roof leaking.

In 1971, further repairs were made to the east wall near the ground. A new door sill was installed, some sheathing boards spliced, and several rotten clapboards replaced. This work was done by the Park maintenance force.
When one compares the photographs of 1922 with present-day photographs, a definite sag in the south wall may be noted. Part of this sag was caused by the failure of the south wall plate due to rot. The plate must have been in a weakened condition about this time since a 4" x 7" purlin was installed nearby under the rafters to relieve the weight of the roof.

Another factor contributing to the unevenness of the south wall is the center post which is about six inches out of plumb. By moving the post back into position (if the diagonal brace, etc., permits) this wall condition should be partially corrected.

Generally speaking, the fabric of the barn is in fair condition. The west wall, in part, was repaired in 1968. A lower portion of the east wall (south half) was repaired in 1971. The south wall poses the biggest problem in regard to repair work. A removal of the asphalt shingles will be required to determine the extent of rot in the roof boards.
B. Interior Conditions

The interior framework seems to be sound. Most of the laminated foundation sills are rotten and will need replacing. The existing laminated sills appear to be second replacements, as the 1914 concrete floor is cut back several inches from the wall around the perimeter of the Barn and patched in with a modern type of Portland cement mix. In places where the posts have settled to the level of the second replaced sills, there may not be a chance of changing these elevations.

Many of the existing rails in the east and west walls, while old timbers, are made up of used pieces. They seem to have been placed there when the present walls were resheathed. The original hardwood diagonal braces were removed and replaced with pine braces in the north wall, presumably in 1883 when this wall was resheathed and clapboarded (see Sheet No. 2 of the measured drawings).

There has been an infestation of carpenter ants in the Barn walls over the years. The extent of their damage has not yet been ascertained.

The concrete floor of 1914 is in poor condition. In addition to being patched around the perimeter it contains several serious cracks. The floor slab is about 2-1/2" thick and rests on a sand base. The concrete floor was poured over the top of the foundation sills at the south half of the Barn while abutting the sills at the north half.

Generally when old timbers take a permanent set, usually with a sag, there is little that can be done to straighten them. This is probably the case with the ridgepole, the floor joists, beams and girts. We may have to live with these irrational lines.

The stairway of c. 1900 located in the northeast corner, while not designed in the most convenient fashion, is useable and should be saved.
V. ARCHITECTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Proposed Exterior Rehabilitation Work:

Plates 13 and 14 were taken of The Wayside and the Barn in 1922, after Mrs. Lothrop had exterior repairs and painting completed. These photographs are used as restoration guides in rehabilitating the exterior of the Barn to its condition of 1924, the year Mrs. Lothrop, last noted author to live in The Wayside, died. Unfortunately, we have no photographs taken of the north or east walls of the Barn; work here will depend upon the interpretation of existing architectural evidence.

1. East Wall: Repair clapboards and trim; renail loose boards; repair door; scrape all loose paint from woodwork and repaint. Repair window frames and sash; reglaze sash. Point up stone foundation. Lower grade about six inches along east wall.

2. South Wall: Repair or replace rotten plate; straighten cornice and repair trim; straighten center post and ressplice lower end; repair double doors; repair clapboards; putty holes; prepare woodwork for painting by lightly sanding. Replace existing gutter with new stock; paint gutter and downspout. Paint woodwork.

3. West Wall: Build new board and batten door to match existing door; repair clapboards where necessary; putty nail holes; lightly sand and clean painted woodwork prior to painting. Build (optional) wood walk from west door of Barn to existing wood platform at Kitchen door; treat with "Hydrozo." Reglaze north sash. Paint woodwork, door, windows, clapboards and trim. Replace frayed electrical wires between house and barn. Point up stone foundation.


5. Roof: Remove existing asphalt shingles. Apply 43 courses of red cedar shingles to the south roof slope and 42 courses of red cedar shingles to the north roof slope (approximately...
mately 5" to the weather). Apply two flood coats of "Hydrozo" to finished roof. Install and paint comb boards. Paint extended edges of shingles along the verge boards and cornice overhang. Replace metal gutter and straps along the south eave; paint metal gutter and straps. Install heat cables the full length of the south eave and downspout.

Remove asphalt impregnated felt paper on roof of the lean-to; salvage portions of roofing paper for architectural evidence. Replace asphalt roofing paper as found but install built-up roof underneath as added protection. Apply coating of asphaltum to top surface of roofing paper. Build new wooden gutter and brackets along north eave of lean-to.

6. Foundation: Repoint stone foundation wall of Barn and lean-to. Match mortar color, texture and finish of existing wall.

7. Exterior Paint Colors: (Munsell Co. color numbers.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Munsell Color Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clapboards</td>
<td>10 YR 7/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trim</td>
<td>2.5 Y 8/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doors</td>
<td>10 G 2/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sash</td>
<td>7.5 R 3/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Paint Application: Apply a two coat paint job; prime coat plus one finish coat; then repaint one coat when The Wayside is painted again. Use white lead and oil with tinting colors mixed to match Munsell color chips.
B. **Proposed Interior Work**

1. Replace rotten foundation sills; replace rotten wall boards.

2. Repair center post in south wall; straighten wall.

3. Remove 1914 concrete floor and sand fill. Place audio conduit, electrical conduit, telephone conduit, fire detection system conduit, house drains and water pipes underground. Replace sand fill with crushed stone; install a waterproof membrane and pour a four inch concrete floor slab. Install anchoring devices where needed.

4. Build new information desk; install new walls with doors, closet, etc., as shown on the preliminary plans included in the Appendices. Install water fountain.

5. Convert space in lean-to for staff use. Provide toilet facilities and office-lounge area as shown on the preliminary plans. Provide utility closet to contain electrical distribution panel and audio-visual equipment.

6. Insulate top side of loft floor with rigid insulation, then cover with plywood. Insulate inner walls on 1st floor where possible.

7. Provide for audio-visual exhibits as designed by the Museums Branch at Harpers Ferry.

The writer recommends that much of the interior woodwork of the Barn be left exposed. The exposure of the raw framework would allow the visitor to visually interpret the construction of the building while viewing the exhibits or waiting for entry into The Wayside.
C. Proposed Utilities

1. Install new underground electrical service from existing utility pole to the Barn. Place cables in conduit.

2. Install electric baseboard heat. Provide thermostatic zone controls.

3. Install water pipe from existing water line in cellar of The Wayside to the Barn. Pitch piping to permit draining of water back to cellar of the house.

4. Install underground conduit between house and Barn for extending existing telephone service and to provide intercom service.

5. Install fire and smoke detection system in the Barn. Connect to existing fire alarm system located in cellar of The Wayside. Utilize telephone conduit for running fire detection system wire.

6. Install burglar detection system in the Barn. Use radio transmitter type alarms attached to ground floor door and window openings. Install radio receiver in existing metal cabinet located in cellar of house and connect to existing burglar alarm system. Control of both house and Barn detection systems to remain operated by keyed switch located in The Wayside.

7. Install house drains beneath floor slab of the Barn for proposed plumbing. Connect to existing house sewer.
Alcott Property
January 10, 1845
A. Property purchased for Mrs. Abba Alcott on January 10, 1845, consisting of one acre of land, (b) 1 house (c) 1 shop and (d) wood house. Location of the shop and wood house above is conjectural.

B. Property purchased by R. W. Emerson on January 10, 1845, consisted of 7 acres 104 1/2 rods of land and (a) 1 Barn. Location of the Barn above is conjectural. Land leased to the Alcott Trustees.

e. House of Abel Moore.

f. Barn of Abel Moore, measuring 70' x 30'.

Plan traced over Survey by Thoreau, 1860. C/W
Alcott Property
Taken from Elizabeth Alcott's Diary, 1846
A. Property purchased for Mrs. Abba Alcott on January 10, 1845, consisting of one acre of land, 1 house, 1 shop, and 1 wood house. Shop and wood house added to each end of the house in 1845 (b). Property purchased from Abel Moore on September 1, 1846 consisted of three acres of land to the west and north of the original one acre.

B. Property purchased by R. W. Emerson on January 10, 1845, consisted of 7 acres 10½ rods of land and one Barn. This land was leased to the Alcott estate by Mr. Emerson. The Alcotts moved the Barn across the Country Road during the summer of 1845 and located the building at point "a" above. A bathing house was built on Emerson's land near Mill Brook (See Historic Grounds Report, 1971).

Plan traced over Survey by Thoreau, 1860. [Signature]
A. Property purchased by Nathaniel Hawthorne from the Alcott Trustees on March 8, 1852, consisted of one acre of land and (a) 1 Barn and (b) 1 house with the Alcott additions of 1845. In addition, there were other outbuildings on the grounds not shown (see Historic Grounds Report for a full account of the property).

B. Property purchased by Nathaniel Hawthorne from R. W. Emerson on March 8, 1852, consisted of 7 acres 104½ rods of land. On this property, Mr. Alcott had build a bathing house near Mill Brook in 1845. Mr. Alcott farmed this acreage from 1845 to 1848.

Traced over plan drawn by Thoreau in 1860.
Hawthorne Property
After July, 1853
A. Property purchased by Nathaniel Hawthorne from the Alcott Trustees on March 8, 1852, consisting of one acre of land and (a) 1 Barn and (b) 1 house with additions by the Alcotts. Also, numerous outbuildings.

B. Property purchased from R. W. Emerson on March 8, 1852, 7 acres 104½ rods.

C. Property purchased from J. B. Moore on July 1, 1853, 10 acres 87 rods.

Plan traced over Thoreau Survey of 1860. o.w.c.
Hawthorne Property
After December, 1853
Property purchased from Alcotts. 1 acre with (a) 1 Barn (b) 1 house and numerous outbuildings not shown (see Historic Grounds Report, 1971).

Property purchased from R. W. Smerson. 7 acres 104½ rods of land.

Property purchased from J. B. Moore on July 1, 1853; 10 acres 87 rods.

Property purchased from the Alcott Trustees on Dec. 2, 1853; 3 acres.

Plan traced over Thoreau Survey of 1860. OHC 31
Plan of The Wayside
Surveyed by Henry D. Thoreau, 1860
Plan of Nathaniel Hawthorne's Estate in Concord, Mass.

Surveyed by Henry O. Moreau
Aug. 20, 1858

Reproduced 1969 by the Frolik Club, New York, with permission of the owner, John Jr., The Wayside, Concord, Massachusetts.

a. Barn
b. House
c. Retaining wall added to plan

Scale of 8 rods to an inch.

Distances in 4-rood chains unless otherwise noted.

Prepared by J. E. S. 1858

53
Gray Property
1870-1873
Barn removed by J. B. Moore in November, 1862

ABBY AND GEORGE GRAY PROPERTY - 1870-1873

a. Barn
b. House

Plan traced over Thoreau Survey of 1860

55
Owners of The Wayside
1873-1883
PROPERTY OWNERS BETWEEN 1873 - 1883

A. Mary C. Pratt 1873 - 1879
A. Rose Hawthorne Lathrop 1879 - 1883
A. Harriet and Daniel Otis Thoreau 1883

Traced over plan drawn by H. D. Thoreau in 1860
Lothrop Property
c. 1900
MRS. DANIEL LOTHROP PROPERTY ABOUT 1900

A.  a. The Barn with lean-to addition (1892-1900)
    b. The House with porch addition of 1887
Plan of Property
March 31, 1965
PLAN OF LAND IN
CONCORD MASS.
OWNED BY MARGARET LOTHROP
R.D. NELSON    ENGINEER
37 MAIN ST    CONCORD, MASS.
1" = 40'
MARCH 31, 1908

a. Stone retaining walls added to plan
Archeologist's Drawings
1969
APPENDIX C

TRENCH BETWEEN THE WAYSIDE AND THE BARN

Plan of Utilities
1968 and 1971
Inventory of Garage and Stable
1915
Appendix E

Garage & Stable

Tools:
Wooden rake (new)
Roller for paths & grass
Lawn Mower
Hose
Bar for turning on water on lawn
Ladders
Stepladder
Wheelbarrow
Pl. [?]

Part of The Wayside Inventory taken May 1st, 1915
Original in MMNHP files
Electrical Layout of Old Attic
The Wayside, 1936
Appendix F

Electrical Layout of Old Attic in The Wayside, 1936

First Story And Cellar

- Denotes switches
- Down a partition
- Up a partition
- Continues on same floor or to a ceiling light beneath
- Lights
- Circuit
- Cutouts
- Bells
- Batteries
Specifications for Painting House and Barn,
n.d.
Specifications for Painting Barn
Owned by Miss Lothrobe
Lexington Road

Exterior All wood and metal surfaces to receive two coats of guaranteed pure white lead and linseed oil paint.

Doors All doors to receive one coat of green paint.

Putty To be puttyed where needed.

Cost of painting barn to be $65\frac{25}{100}$ sixty-five dollars.

Cost of painting barn for one coat to be $42\frac{25}{100}$ forty-two dollars.

Mark Mara
18 Bedford St.
Tel. 282.

Specifications for Painting and Decorating Residence of Miss Lothrobe Lexington Rd.

Exterior All exterior wood and metal surfaces shall receive two coats of guaranteed pure white lead and linseed oil paint.

Blinds All blinds to receive two coats of paint.

Screens All screens to receive two coats of paint.

Storm Sash All storm sash on front of house to receive two coats of paint.
Chimneys All chimneys to receive two coats of paint.

Metal Roofs All metal roofs to receive touch up and one coat of paint.

All surface that is loose to be scraped and cleaned.

Porch Floor to receive one coat of linseed oil.

Putty House to be puttyed where it is needed.

Front Door Extra charge of four dollars $4.00 if door is to be stripped.

Cost of painting house to be $425.00

Extra charge for priming new wood to be at the rate of $6.50 six-fifty per day.
H.A.B.S. Measured Drawings
1970, 4 sheets
1961, 1 sheet
THE WAYSIDE

CONCORD MIDDLESEX COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS

THE WAYSIDE, SO NAMED BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE, WAS BUILT BY ELIZABETH, NATHANIEL'S WIFE, NOT BY A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, BUT BY THE CONCORD MINUTE MEN, A GROUP OF THE CONCORD MINUTE MEN WHO CONSECRATED THE PLACE WHO CONSECRATED IT TO THE MAJESTY OF THE NAME OF IMPORTANT LITERARY PERSONS, INCLUDING AMES PLIMOUTH ALcott, L. O. MAY ALcott, NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE, AND HIS WIFE, ELIZABETH ALcott.


STONE RETAINING WALL

LEXINGTON ROAD (TO CONCORD CENTER)

SITE PLAN

NELSON A. BING, HISTORIC AMERICAN

SURVEY NO. 1910-1951

CONCRETE

THE WAYSIDE

MACED. 1961

A. M.
Preliminary Drawings of Proposed Work
1 sheet
Illustrations
Plate 1.

Drawing of "Hillside" by Alcott dated in another hand as 1847. To the left can be seen the Barn. Its gable roof is oriented east and west, the same as it is today. Notice that while the double doors in front are in the same location as today, the head of the opening is arched; Plate 2 shows this same detail. Note the six light sash in the east gable end compared with the 12 light shown in Plate 2.

The inscription to the left reading "First Theatre" probably refers to the use of the Barn by the Alcott girls when Louisa May Alcott produced some of her early girlhood plays.

Original drawing owned by the Louisa May Alcott Association, Concord, Massachusetts.

MIMA Negative No. SO-2.

Plate 2.

Drawing of "Hillside" by Alcott dated in another hand as 1848. The date 1848 seems to be in error as Alcott had added the roof dormer over the entrance door during the winter of 1847-48 (Ronsheim, 1968: p. 67). This sketch shows the Barn to the left more clearly than does Plate 1. Note that Alcott shows all vertical boards on the east and south walls of the Barn. Below the 12 light window sash there appears to be a single door at ground level, perhaps the same door opening that exists today (see Plate 16).

The inscription to the right reading "Home of L.W. & Theatre at the age of 16 & 17" refers to Louisa May Alcott's writings of Little Women and the theatrical plays produced in the Barn by the Alcott girls. Miss Alcott lived at the "Hillside" between the ages of 13 and 16 thus the person who added the inscription, probably at a later date, was in error concerning the age of Louisa May during her stay at "Hillside."

Original drawing owned by the Louisa May Alcott Association, Concord, Massachusetts.

MIMA Negative No. SO-1.
Plate 3.

General view of the lawn west of The Wayside and the stone retaining wall that protected the Barn on the north and west sides. The retaining wall made a right angle conforming to the northwest corner of the Barn. This 90° angle can be seen more distinctly in Plate 4. According to the Alcott Journal of 1846, a space existed between the Barn and the stone wall. During the hurricane of 1938, this section of the stone wall was damaged and consequently rebuilt. The new stone wall does not conform in shape to the wall of c. 1845.

Photographer unknown; date between 1904-1938.

MIMA Negative No. GR-4a.
A close-up view of the 90° corner built into the stone retaining wall of c. 1846. After Alcott moved the Barn from across the Road to this site prior to July of 1845, he began to build the retaining wall in October of 1846. The Barn did not abut the stone wall, but set a few feet away. The hurricane of 1938 apparently toppled the nearby trees causing severe damage to this section of the stone wall; it was never rebuilt to this shape.

Photographer unknown; photograph taken prior to 1938.

MIMA Negative No. GR-38an.
The Hawthorne commemorative plaque and boulder unveiled July 4, 1904, by Mrs. Daniel Lothrop. To the rear of the boulder may be the beginning of Alcott's "... footpath on the (serpentine) wall top around the barn, just over the Bee House." (Alcott Journal XXI: 1847, June 8-9. Toogood, p. 110.) The location of the Barn between 1845-1860 is to the lower right, just beyond the photograph.

Photographer unknown; photograph taken prior to 1938.

MIMA Negative No. GR-2a.
Plate 6.

First known photograph taken of The Wayside showing the Barn on the right as moved by the Hawthornes in 1860. The one-story woodhouse that connected the east wing with the Barn can be seen in this view. Sometime between 1870 and 1883 the woodhouse was removed (see Plate 7). Other details of the Barn are obscured by the foliage.

Photographer unknown; taken from Julian Hawthorne, _Hawthorne and His Circle_, p. 58.

MIMA Negative No. SO-6an.

Plate 7.

A view of The Wayside taken from the southwest with the west side of the Barn to the right. Note the lower vertical boards vs. the horizontal boards in the gable end; also the 12 over 12 light sash in loft and the single board and batten door below, with a left swing. The ground level was some 10 to 12 inches below the grade of today. Note the absence of the one-story woodhouse that once connected the east wing with the Barn.

Photo by H.L. Whitcomb, c. 1882, Photo Collection, MMNHP.

MIMA Negative No. SO-7an.
"THE WAYSIDE," SHOWING NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE AND HIS WIFE
Plate 8.

This photograph was taken prior to the building of the Piazza on the west side of the house in 1887. By this time, the barn had undergone extensive remodeling. (Compare this view with Plate 7, taken in c. 1882.) Note the horizontal lintel above the double doors, replacing the archway as shown in Mr. Alcott's sketch of 1847. A few hooks used for the laundry line rope still exist today on the house and barn walls. Notice the horse to the extreme right.

Photographer unknown; date taken between 1883-1887.

MIMA Negative No. SW-lan.
Plate 9.

An early view showing the south or front side of the Barn after extensive remodeling had occurred. Clapboards have been nailed over the original wall boards; new trim installed around the door and window openings; the arched head opening over the double doors replaced with a straight lintel; and new double doors installed (no photographic evidence for this). Note the steep wooden ramp cleated for use by horses.

Photograph attributed to A.W. Hosmer, 1889.

MIMA Negative No. SE-16.
Plate 10.

View of the Barn after the following alterations were completed: Clapboards and trim applied over original wall boards; 12 over 12 light sash removed and replaced with a 6 over 6 light sash in west gable end; single board and batten door rehung in west wall (right hand swing). The feature visible at the lower left corner of the Barn has not been identified. Note the use of clothes lines between the house and the Barn.

Photographer, probably A.W. Hosmer; dated on back of original photograph, Oct. 7, 1892.

MIMA Negative No. SO-10an.

Plate 11.

The rear or north wall of the Barn can be seen in this view prior to the building of the lean-to addition. Most of the clapboards on the north wall can be seen today, protected by the roof of the lean-to.

Photographer unknown; date about 1895.

MIMA Negative No. WE-7an.
Plate 12.

The Wayside and Barn around 1900. The lean-to addition can be seen to the rear of the Barn. Note the six light sash. The present-day stone foundation on the west side of the lean-to had not been built; instead the clapboards run to the ground. To the left of the lean-to, stone steps now replace the wooden steps seen in Plate 9. Compare this view with Plate 10.

Photographer unknown; date between 1892-1902.

MIMA Negative No. SO-15b.

Plate 13.

This view along with Plate 14, shows The Wayside and the Barn in its repaired and newly painted condition. Mrs. Lothrop returned to Concord from California in May of 1922. As early as 1915, Mrs. Lothrop began to summer at the Colonial Inn located in Concord, while The Wayside was rented (see research notes on Concord newspapers, MMNHP files.) This was the case in 1922, when The Wayside was being renovated inside and out, to prepare the house for renting (notice "For Rent" sign on tree). A series of photographs were taken of the house by George Shepard in 1922 and it is believed that Plates 13 and 14 are two of them. These photographs are used as primary sources for citing physical evidence when listing the proposed architectural recommendations for rehabilitation work.

Photograph probably by George Shepard, 1922.

MIMA Negative No. SW-11bn.
The Barn as seen in 1922. The concrete floor of 1914 is clearly visible as well as the watering trough for horses against the west interior wall. Electricity was installed in the Barn, probably in 1906, when the house was electrified. Note the use of wood shingles and the ridge board on the roof. Notice the absence of roof gutters, a feature that the writer recommends we continue to use in the final rehabilitation work.

The interior of the Barn was remodeled by the Lothrops between 1892 and 1903. An automobile was purchased by Mrs. Lothrop in 1914 and the Barn was then used as a garage.

Photograph probably by George Shepard, 1922.

MIMA Negative No. SE-7a.
Plate 15.

Contemporary view of the Barn looking northeast before rehabilitation work was started on the structure in 1968. The six over six light double hung sash in the gable end and the single board and batten door below are the only openings in the west wall of the Barn. The west wall of the lean-to has two openings, a double hung window and a vent.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-338.

Plate 16.

East wall of the Barn showing three openings: one six over six light double hung sash in the gable end; one board and batten shuttered window opening and one board and batten door. The window opening in the gable end and possibly the door opening below are indicated in Alcott's sketch of 1847, Plate 1. The lean-to dates from the late 1890's or early 1900's, and contains a six light sash.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-330.
Plate 17.

The Barn and the lean-to as seen from the northwest. The rear portion of the yard has undergone many changes since the Barn was moved to this location in 1860. The lean-to was added to the Barn in the late 1890's or early 1900's.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-333.

Plate 18.

Interior view of the ground floor looking north with the lean-to beyond. Stairway to the loft is located in rear right corner. Most of the construction seen in this view was the result of remodeling by the Lothrops around 1900 or later according to Miss Lothrop. The electricity probably dates from 1906.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-332.
Plate 19.

Interior view of the lean-to looking east along the main wall of the Barn. The east wall has a single six light sash.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-333A.

Plate 20.

Loft space in the Barn looking back into the north-east corner where stairway starts. Much work was done to the Barn in the early 1900's as seen in this photograph: additional rafters and braces, new roof boards, new floor and the enclosed room to the right.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-331.
Plate 21.

A view of the west wall of the lean-to after repairs had been started in 1969. Extensive deterioration was encountered in the wall which required immediate repair work prior to painting of prime coat. The west wall of the Barn was rehabilitated at the same time.

Photo: National Park Service
O.W. Carroll, August 1969.

MIMA Negative No. 71-79.

Plate 22.

A two-inch low pressure gas main was installed from the meter/regulator, located at the northwest corner of the Barn, to the cellar of The Wayside via this ditch. A high pressure gas main, 3/4 inch pipe, runs from the meter to the street. (See Utilities plan in Appendices.)

Photo: National Park Service
O.W. Carroll, October 1968.

MIMA Negative No. 71-383.
The west walls of the Barn and the lean-to after repairs and prime coat painting were completed in September of 1969. Project was stopped because of lack of funds. The window sash in the gable end is a new replacement (1969). Note asphalt roof shingles.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 71-337.

A view from the southwest showing The Wayside and the west wall of the Barn after rehabilitation work came to a close in September of 1969.

The historic elm tree seen near the Barn entrance was removed in 1971 because of a diseased condition.

Photo: National Park Service

MIMA Negative No. 72-279.