

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT



GOWING-CLARK HOUSE (Daniel Taylor House)

**Minuteman National Historical Park
Concord, Massachusetts**

February 2000

Cover Photograph. Gowing-Clark House - View from the Southwest (1999).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST of ILLUSTRATIONS and CREDITS.....	xi
PREFACE	xvi
ADMINISTRATIVE DATA	xvii
Basic Data	xvii
Cultural Resources Data	xvii
Context of Significance	xvii
Period of Significance.....	xvii
Proposed Use and Treatment.....	xviii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	xix
Project Background and Scope	xix
Historical Context	xix
Summary of Research Findings	xix
Character-Defining Features and Recommendations	xx
I. <u>HISTORICAL BACKGROUND and CONTEXT</u>.....	1
TAYLOR FAMILY OWNERSHIP – CIRCA 1648 TO 1778	3
Overview.....	3

Original Settlers William and Mary (Meriam) Taylor.....	3
Second Generation - Brothers Abraham and Jacob Taylor.....	5
Third Generation - Cousins Joseph and David Taylor.....	7
Joseph and Elizabeth (Patten) Taylor	7
David and Sarah Taylor	8
Fourth Generation - Daniel and Elizabeth Lydia Taylor	10
SUBSEQUENT OWNERS	13
The Meriam Family - 1778 to Circa 1830.....	13
John Meriam Sr. - 1778-1804	13
John Meriam Jr., Tarrant P. Meriam, and Ephraim Meriam Jr. - 1804-Circa 1830.....	13
Nathaniel Jewett, Jabez Gowing, and the Clark Family - 1832-1966.....	14
Nathaniel Jewett's Tenancy - Circa 1829-1836.....	14
Jabez Gowing - 1836-1866.....	14
Benjamin Clark Family - 1868-1966.....	15
II. <u>PHYSICAL EVOLUTION</u>	27
CONSTRUCTION - CIRCA 1836	29
Overview	29

Methodology of Physical Investigation	30
Summary of Conclusions	30
Analysis	31
Nails	31
Clapboard Joints	31
Foundation Construction	31
Framing	32
Cellar	32
Main House Roof	33
Ell	34
Anomalies	35
Overview	35
South Façade Construction	35
Possible Former Ell Chimney	35
Sheathing	36
Plan	36
Main Entrance	36
Surrounds	37
Hearth Supports	37
Appearance of Original House	37
POST-CONSTRUCTION ALTERATIONS	48
Benjamin Clark - Circa 1868	48
Overview	48
Physical Evidence	48
Ell Roof	48
Interior Walls and Ceilings	48

Benjamin Clark - Appearance of House by 1899	49
George Clark - Pre-1937	49
Anne and Everett Thorpe - Circa 1950s	50
National Park Service - 1966 to Present	51
III. <u>PHYSICAL ELEMENTS</u>	61
EXTERIOR FEATURES	63
Overview	63
Foundation	63
Main House	64
Ell - South	64
Ell - North	64
Walls	64
Sheathing	64
Cladding	64
Trim	65

Doorways	65
Main Entrance - D101	65
Kitchen Entrance - D102	65
Ell East Doorway - D103	66
Ell West Doorway - D104	66
Rear Doorway - D105	66
Cellar Entrance/Bulkhead - D001	66
Windows	66
South Facade	66
East Elevation	67
North Elevation	68
West Elevation	69
Porches	70
East Porch	70
Northwest Porch	70
Roofs	71
Main House and Ell	71
Porches	71
Chimneys	71
Finishes	71

IV.	<u>CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES and RECOMMENDATIONS.</u>	95
	CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES.	97
	Overview	97
	Exterior	98
	RECOMMENDATIONS.	99
V.	<u>APPENDICES.</u>	101
	APPENDIX A - TAYLOR FAMILY GENEALOGY IN CONCORD.	103
	APPENDIX B - OWNERSHIP SUMMARY OF THE GOWING-CLARK (DANIEL TAYLOR) SITE	107
	APPENDIX C - 1977 HABS MEASURED DRAWINGS	111
	APPENDIX D - ANNOTATED HABS PLANS.	123
	APPENDIX E - PAINT SAMPLES.	129
	APPENDIX F - MORTAR SAMPLES	135
	APPENDIX G - NAIL SAMPLES.	139
	APPENDIX H - 1963 APPRAISAL and 1965 VALUATION REPORTS.	143
VI.	<u>BIBLIOGRAPHY.</u>	175

LIST of ILLUSTRATIONS and CREDITS

Cover: *Gowing-Clark House - view from the southwest. NPS photograph by
Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.*

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. Plan of Battle Road Section of Minute Man National Historical Park. Reprinted from <i>General Management Plan: Minute Man National Historical Park/ Massachusetts</i> , September 1989.	xxi
2. 1967 map depicting Concord in the Colonial period. Reprinted from Ruth Wheeler, <i>Concord: Climate for Freedom</i> , Concord Free Public Library Special Collections	17
3. Annotated GIS map of land ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1717. NPS map by Brian Donahue, 1994; annotated by Barbara Yocum, 1994, and Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	18
4. 1775 map of Concord showing position of British and American troops April 19, 1775. Photocopy from <i>A British Fusilier in Revolutionary Boston</i> , 1926, at Concord Free Public Library Special Collections	19
5. Map showing location of early Concord settlers. From Ruth Wheeler, <i>Concord: Climate for Freedom</i> , 1967, Concord Free Public Library Special Collections	20
6. Annotated GIS map of land ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1750. NPS map by Brian Donahue, 1994; annotated by Barbara Yocum, 1994, and Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	21
7. Annotated GIS map of land ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1775. NPS map by Brian Donahue, 1994; annotated by Barbara Yocum, 1994, and Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	22
8. Annotated GIS map of land ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1800. NPS map by Brian Donahue, 1994; annotated by Barbara Yocum, 1994, and Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	23
9. Portion of 1830 map of Concord surveyed by John G. Hales and published by Lemuel Shattuck. Photocopy of original at Concord Free Public Library Special Collections	24
10. Tracing of Thoreau's 1855 map of Miriam's Corner showing "Gowing" at Gowing-Clark site. Tracing by Barbara Yocum, 1994.	25

11.	Sketch showing Gowing-Clark house from the southeast. Photocopy of reprint from Clara Gowing's <i>My Chest or Ransackings</i> , circa 1899, Concord Free Public Library Special Collections	26
12.	Gowing-Clark House - south facade, west end. NPS photograph by David Bittermann, 1999	40
13.	Gowing-Clark House - south facade, west end detail showing original mill-sawn sheathing. NPS photograph by David Bittermann, 1999	40
14.	Gowing-Clark House - south facade, east end. NPS photograph by David Bittermann, 1999	41
15.	Gowing-Clark House - south facade, east end detail showing original mill-sawn sheathing. NPS photograph by David Bittermann, 1999	41
16.	Gowing-Clark House - ell, south end of east elevation. NPS photograph by David Bittermann, 1999	42
17.	Gowing-Clark House - ell cellar, north side of east chimney base. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	43
18.	Gowing-Clark House - ell cellar, reused timber as north/south girt. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	43
19.	Gowing-Clark House - ell attic looking south, formerly-exposed original roofing on north slope of main-house roof NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	44
20.	Gowing-Clark House - conjectured original appearance of south facade. HABS drawing annotated by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	45
21.	Gowing-Clark House - conjectured original appearance of east elevation. HABS drawing annotated by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	46
22.	Gowing-Clark House - conjectured original appearance of north elevation. HABS drawing annotated by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	47
23.	Gowing-Clark House - ell attic looking south, formerly-exposed area of main house north wall showing original slope of ell west roof. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000.	48
24.	1890 road plan of Meriam's Corner showing Gowing-Clark House and outbuildings. MIMA NHP archives.	55
25.	Photograph labeled "G. Clark" showing Gowing-Clark House from the southeast. Photocopy of original at Concord Free Public Library Special Collections.	56
26.	1946 plot plan of Gowing-Clark lot showing house, barn, and outbuildings. MIMA NHS archives	57

27.	1965 photographs showing two views of south facade of Gowing-Clark House. Photocopy from Valuation Report by Harry C. Berglund, MIMA NHP archives.	58
28.	1965 photographs showing east and west elevations of Gowing-Clark House. Photocopy from Valuation Report by Harry C. Berglund, MIMA NHP archives.	59
29.	1965 photographs showing Gowing-Clark House from the northeast and the last remaining outbuildings from the south. Photocopy from Valuation Report by Berglund, MIMA NHP archives.	60
30.	Gowing-Clark House - ell cellar, north side of center chimney-base pier. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 2000	61
31.	Gowing-Clark House - south facade. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	75
32.	Gowing-Clark House - view from the southeast. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	75
33.	Gowing-Clark House - east elevation. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	76
34.	Gowing-Clark House - main house, east wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	77
35.	Gowing-Clark House - main house, west wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	77
36.	Gowing-Clark House - view from the northwest. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	78
37.	Gowing-Clark House - east porch, view from the south. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	78
38.	Gowing-Clark House - ell, east wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	79
39.	Gowing-Clark House - ell, west wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	79
40.	Gowing-Clark House - ell, northwest corner, foundation. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	80
41.	Gowing-Clark House - junction of ell south wall with main house east wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	81
42.	Gowing-Clark House - junction of ell west wall with main house north wall. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	81
43.	Gowing-Clark House - main house south facade, doorway D101. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	82

44.	Gowing-Clark House - ell south wall, doorway D102. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	82
45.	Gowing-Clark House - ell east wall, doorway D103. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	83
46.	Gowing-Clark House - ell east wall, doorway D103 Suffolk latch. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	83
47.	Gowing-Clark House - ell west wall, doorway D104. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	84
48.	Gowing-Clark House - ell west wall, doorway D104 Norfolk latch. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	84
49.	Gowing-Clark House - main house north wall, doorway D104 Norfolk latch. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	85
50.	Gowing-Clark House - ell east wall, bulkhead doorway D104. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	85
51.	Gowing-Clark House - main house south facade, window W001. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	86
52.	Gowing-Clark House - main house south facade, window W102. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	86
53.	Gowing-Clark House - main house south facade, windows W203 & W204. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	87
54.	Gowing-Clark House - main house east wall, window W105. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	87
55.	Gowing-Clark House - ell east wall, window W105. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	88
56.	Gowing-Clark House - ell east wall, windows W208 & W209. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	88
57.	Gowing-Clark House - main house east wall, window W301. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	89
58.	Gowing-Clark House - ell north wall, window W109. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	90
59.	Gowing-Clark House - ell north wall, windows W109, W210, & W302. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.	90

60.	Gowing-Clark House - ell west wall, window W111. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	91
61.	Gowing-Clark House - ell west wall, window W113. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	91
62.	Gowing-Clark House - ell west wall, window W211. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	92
63.	Gowing-Clark House - main house west wall, windows W214 & W303. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.....	92
64.	Gowing-Clark House - east porch, northeast corner of roof. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	93
65.	Gowing-Clark House - east porch, ceiling and post cornice detail. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.....	93
66.	Gowing-Clark House - east porch, decking and post base detail. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.....	94
67.	Gowing-Clark House - west porch, concrete decking and post base detail. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999	94
68.	Gowing-Clark House - west porch, post cornice detail. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.....	95
69.	Gowing-Clark House - west porch, ceiling and light fixture detail. NPS photograph by Maureen K. Phillips, 1999.....	95

PREFACE

The Gowing-Clark house is located in Concord, Massachusetts, and is part of the Minute Man National Historical Park (MIMA NHP). The house is at present referred to as the Daniel Taylor house, named after the man who was thought to have owned the house (or an older portion of it) on April 19, 1775. The site on which the house sits has potential importance in the interpretation of the historic battle that occurred on that date between British and American troops since it is located across Old Bedford Road from Miriam's Corner where the running battle began as the British troops retreated to Lexington. The structure is in need of maintenance work that would potentially effect important features, and several questions needed to be answered in order to guide the work (e.g., what is the chronology of ownership of the house and site; when was the current main house built and by whom; and when was the ell built and by whom).

This draft historic structure report for the Gowing-Clark house is an abbreviated Level II report. It was prepared for MIMA NHP by the Building Conservation Branch (BCB) of the National Park Service's Northeast Cultural Resources Center and was written by Architectural Conservator Maureen K. Phillips. Preparation for this report involved historical and archival research and physical and photo documentation of the building. Intensive physical investigation was conducted by BCB Historical Architect David Bittermann and Architectural Conservator Maureen K. Phillips, and was limited to areas that were thought may reveal the most information with the least intrusiveness.

The author wishes to thank the staff of MIMA NHP and of the Concord Free Public Library, who have generously assisted in the preparation of this report.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Basic Data

<u>Building Name</u>	<u>Building Number</u>	<u>LCS Number</u>
Gowing-Clark House (Daniel Taylor House)	35	06548

Location

The Gowing-Clark House is located at the west end of the Battle Road Unit of Minute Man National Historical Park in Concord, Massachusetts (**fig. 1**).

Cultural Resource Data

Context of Significance

The Gowing-Clark House is significant as occupying the site that witnessed (from across the road) the beginning of the running battle at Meriam's Corner between British and American troops as the British retreated to Lexington after engaging the Americans at the North Bridge. It is also significant to the MIMA NHP as an example of nineteenth-century farmhouses along the Battle Road. The 1989 *General Management Plan* for MIMA NHP calls for retaining all pre-1920 structures along the road: "[b]ecause 'a number of 18th century structures have been lost, the 19th-buildings will help restore a sense of balance between structures and open fields that was present at the time of the battle'".

Period of Significance

The period of significance for the Gowing-Clark House is circa 1836 to the end of the nineteenth century. This period encompasses the house's construction and its only significant exterior alterations, and reflects its use as the center of operations for a typical New England nineteenth-century farm.

Proposed Use and Treatment

The 1989 *GMP* for MIMA NHP called for preserving the Gowing-Clark (Daniel Taylor) house for adaptive use as park housing. The house is currently occupied by park personnel. The building is experiencing water infiltration and deteriorating fabric and structural components, and the park is planning to rehabilitate the exterior and to stabilize the framing. The work will include replacement of the roof and a significant number of the extant clapboards, and repair or replacement of the two porches.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Background and Scope

The goal of this abbreviated Level II historic structure report is to document the historical evolution, existing features, significance, and character-defining features of the exterior of the Gowing-Clark house. The report is to be used to provide a context for the retrieval of information and to guide the future treatment of the structure. Included in the report are the results of archival research into the chronology of the property's ownership and of limited architectural investigation to obtain physical evidence of the evolution of the structure and its possible construction date.

Historical Context

The Daniel Taylor site (on which sits the Gowing-Clark house) is located within the Battle Road Unit of MIMA NHP and is associated with the opening salvo of the American Revolution on April 19, 1775. It was on that date that the Americans first engaged British troops in armed combat, first in Lexington, and then at the North Bridge in Concord. As the British began their march back to Boston down the Bay Way (Lexington Road), the American troops skirted along the high ridge that runs parallel to the north of the road (and just behind the Daniel Taylor site) and ambushed the British at Meriam's Corner, the northeast corner of the intersection of Bay Way and Billerica Way (Old Bedford Road) and across Billerica Way from the Daniel Taylor site.

Summary of Research Findings

Archival research and physical investigation has determined that the parcel and a house across from Meriam's Corner on April 19, 1775, was owned by Daniel Taylor, the fourth generation of Taylors who had held the land since 1648. However, the existing house is not the structure that witnessed the historic opening to the American Revolution, but one that was built around 1836.

The house that Daniel Taylor lived in was built sometime before 1717. Taylor sold the property in 1776 to John Meriam, and the Meriam family owned the site for the next 50 years. In 1836 the property was purchased by Jabez Gowing, and it is thought that in that year Gowing tore down the circa-1717 house and constructed the existing main house and ell, reusing in the process framing timbers and doors that had originally been part of the old house. In 1868 the house was purchased by Benjamin Clark, who is thought to have raised the ell roof and remodeled the interior. Everett Thorpe, the widower of Clark's granddaughter, Anne Thorpe, sold the property and the house to the United States in 1966.

Although there is strong evidence to determine that the Gowing-Clark house was built after 1815, the conclusion that the existing main house and the ell were constructed in 1836 remains somewhat conjectural. There is also some evidence that the structure could have been built in the 1820s by Tarant Meriam, John Meriam's son, or by Nathaniel Jewett, who owned the property

between 1832 and 1836. The budget for this project was limited and thus, of necessity, involved only a limited documentary research and intrusive physical investigation. While nothing was found that would contradict the conclusions, the research and investigation also uncovered anomalous evidence that could not be pursued at this time, but which, if explained, could lead to a reevaluation of the conjectured construction date, especially for the ell.

Character-Defining Features and Recommendations

The current exterior appearance of the Gowing-Clark house reflects, for the most part, its appearance after the ell roof was raised from a saltbox to a gable roof circa 1868. The house has retained significant integrity from the historic period, with most of the extant exterior features dating either to the construction of the house in circa 1836 or to its one major alteration in circa 1868.

Therefore, the exterior character-defining-features (CDFs) for the house relate to its late-nineteenth century appearance and particularly to those elements that date to circa 1868 or before. It is recommended that the CDFs be preserved, with any repairs or replacements made in-kind.

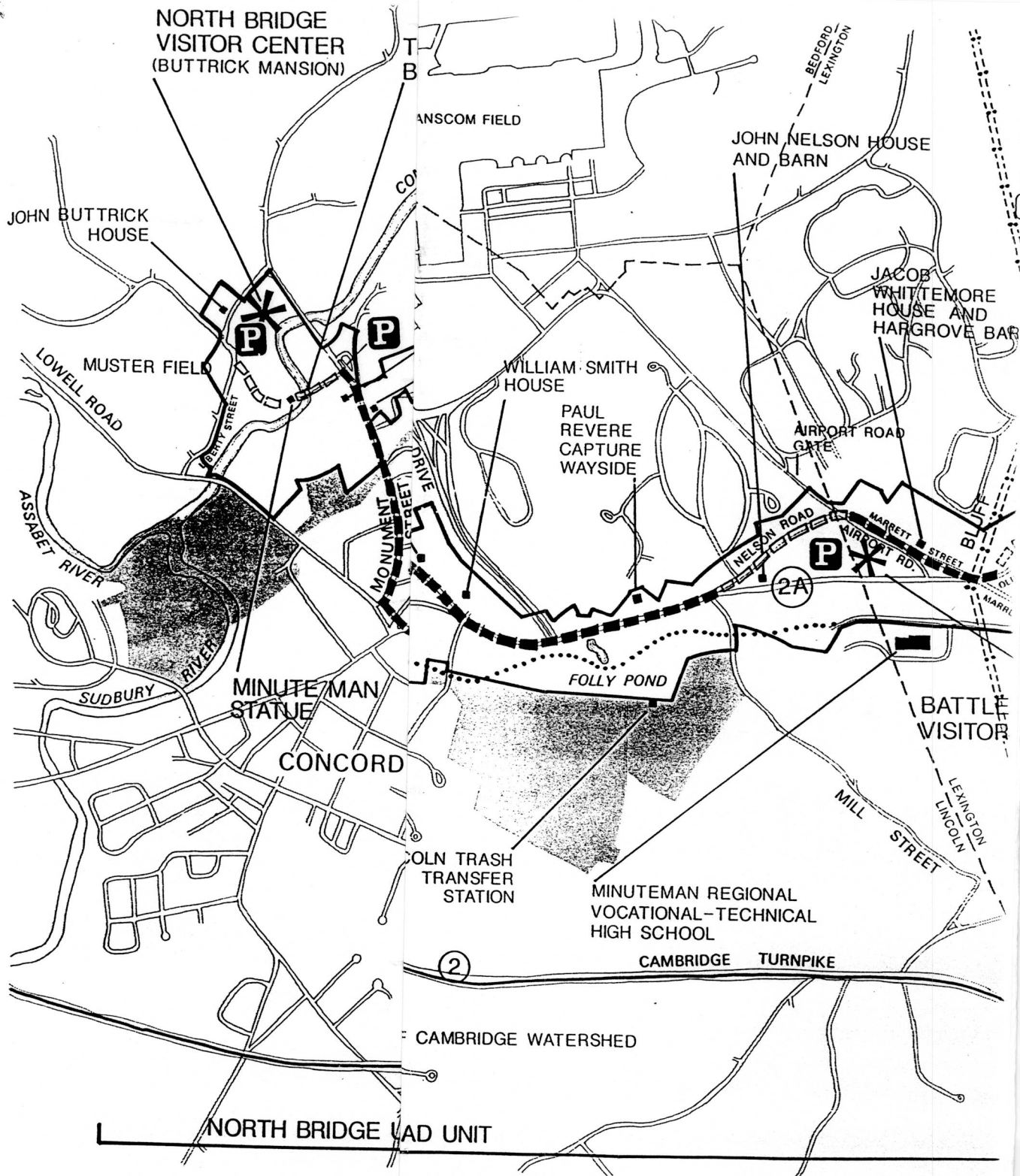
Since there remain several unanswered questions concerning the evolution of the structure, it is important that when any work is performed on the house, care is taken to document any original or historic fabric as it is exposed and/or removed, and that any removed fabric be documented and saved for future analysis.

It is also recommended that, if time and budget allow, the documentary research into the nineteenth century owners of the property be expanded, and that a more thorough intrusive physical investigation be conducted on the structure.

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I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

TAYLOR FAMILY OWNERSHIP - CIRCA 1648-1778

Overview

The house now known as the Daniel Taylor house is situated on property that was owned by Daniel Taylor from 1763 to 1778. The property was a portion of the land holdings of the patriarch of the Taylor family in Concord, William Taylor, who immigrated to Concord in 1648. The parcel was owned by five generations of Taylors until Daniel Taylor sold it to John Meriam in 1778.

The direct link between Daniel and the previous owners of the property is not entirely clear. The parcel passed from William to his son Jacob and then to Jacob's son Joseph. In 1757 Joseph Taylor sold the parcel to David Taylor, who is thought to have been the son of William's son Abraham, and was thus Joseph's first cousin. In 1763 David Taylor sold the property to his son Daniel. After 1778 the parcel had several owners, among whom were John Meriam and his heirs (1788-1830), Nathaniel Jewett (1832-1836), Jabez Gowing (1836-1866), and the Clark/Thorpe family (1868-1966). The National Park Service (NPS) has owned the site since 1966.

Although there was a house on the site as early as 1717, which was probably the residence of Daniel Taylor and his family on April 19, 1775, extant physical evidence indicates that both the main portion and the ell of the existing building were built between 1830 and 1840. The existing house was therefore not built or occupied by Daniel Taylor and would probably be more appropriately named the Gowing-Clark house after its probable builder and remodeler. Although more intrusive investigation is needed to definitively determine the construction date of the ell, no evidence was found that supports the theory that the ell may be the earlier "Daniel Taylor house". All that was found that may remain of the earlier structure were some old doors and some earlier timbers that have been incorporated into the framing of the "new" house.

An abbreviated genealogy of the William Taylor family in Concord can be found in **APPENDIX A** of this report, and a summary of the ownership of the Daniel Taylor house site can be found in **APPENDIX B**.

Original Settlers William and Mary (Meriam) Taylor¹

The first owner of the property on which sits what is now called the Daniel Taylor house was William Taylor (1618-1696), one of Concord's earliest settlers. William came to America on the ship Truelove in 1635 when he was 17 years old with his older brother James (age 28), his sister Ann

¹ Unless otherwise noted, genealogical information on the Taylor family was taken from three manila folders labeled "Genealogy – Taylor" (hereinafter cited as the "Taylor Genealogy") housed in the Special Collections department of the Concord Free Public Library (CFPL); from *Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Concord, Massachusetts, 1635-1850* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1891); and from Lemuel Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, From Its Earliest Settlement to 1832* (Boston: Russell, Odiorne, and Company, and Concord: John Stacy, 1835). The Taylor Genealogy cites numerous references to sources that will be noted only when needed – references cited from sources located at the CFPL were verified by the author.

(age 24), and his younger brother Richard (age 16). Richard made his way down to Yarmouth while William and James initially settled in Lynn (the record is silent on Ann's future).² James married Isobel (Elizabeth) Tomkins in 1641 but apparently William remained unmarried while in Lynn.

Around 1648 William and James Taylor moved to Concord. William, then 30 years old, acquired 8.75 acres of land in Concord and James settled in the northeast portion of Concord that in 1729 would become the town of Bedford (**fig. 2**).³ That same year William married Mary Meriam, the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Meriam who had settled in Concord in 1638-39 soon after emigrating from England; the first of William and Mary's eight children, a daughter Mary, was born in December 1649.

Unless a dwelling already existed on the property that he had just purchased, William most likely built a house on his new property before his marriage. In 1663 William Taylor received a land grant of fourteen lots totaling 117.5 acres in Concord's East Quarter, so-named in 1653 when the town was divided into three parts (or "quarters") so as to simplify the distribution of new lands in what was called the "second distribution."⁴ The exact locations of William's 1648 purchase and the fourteen lots comprising his 1663 land grant are not known for certain. Had he immigrated to Concord several years earlier, it is certain that at least portion of William Taylor's 1648 purchase, the parcel on which he built his house (or on which a house already stood), would have been near town center; a 1635 Massachusetts General Court order had decreed that no new building should be built more than half a mile from the meeting house in any new plantation. However, the order "appears to have been enforced in Concord for about eight years, after which the settlement began to be much more extended."⁵ Thus, after 1643 (six years before William arrived in Concord) the town's built boundaries had begun to expand past the half-mile limit, and William, while possibly desiring to be near the town, could have built his house outside the former ½-mile limit.

It appears from title and probate records that William Taylor's original 8.75-acres, including the original house lot, were located along the north side of the "Bay Way" (later called "Country Road" and now "Lexington Road"), a main road that ran from Concord town center east towards Lexington. The western boundary of the parcel began approximately one mile from the town center and extended east one-quarter mile to the "Way to Billerica" (now old Bedford Road), which ran north from the Bay Way. William's house lot, inherited by his son Abraham on William's death in 1696, was located at the western end of the parcel, and the eastern end, at the northwest corner of the Bay Way and the Way to Billerica, later became the site of the Daniel Taylor house.⁶ In 1663 Mary Taylor's brother John Meriam would build his house at the northeast

² John Camden Hoffen, editor, *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality, Emigrants, Religious Exiles, Political Rebels, Serving Men Sold for a Term of Years, Apprentices, Children Stolen, Maidens Pressed, and Others Who Went from Great Britain to the American Plantations 1600-1700* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1976), quoted in the Taylor Genealogy.

³ The Taylor Genealogy and Shattuck describe James Taylor (1608-1690) as possibly moving to Marlboro, Massachusetts, before 1675. James probably went to live with a son, James Taylor, Jr. (1650-1712), who lived and raised several children in that town. See *Vital Records of Marlborough, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester: Franklin P. Rice, 1908). James Sr. is thought to have left Marlboro due to the "Indian hostilities" and moved to Cambridge, eventually ending up back in Bedford/Concord, where he died in 1690.

⁴ Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord*, p. 37, citing "First Notebook of Town Records," Vol. I Part 1, p. 200 [b] (typed manuscript in seven volumes at CFPL); Charles Hosmer Wolcott, *Concord in the Colonial Period* (Boston: Estes & Lauriet, 1884), pp. 18-19, 68, & 71.

⁵ Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord*, p. 9.

⁶ The Daniel Taylor site may have been part of William Taylor's 1663 land grant. Concord historian Ruth Wheeler also locates William's house lot approximately ¼-mile west of the intersection of the roads, but calls the Daniel

corner of the intersection of the Bay Way and Billerica Way, across the road from the Taylor land.⁷ This corner would eventually be known as Meriam's Corner and is significant for being the location where "the British rear guard and the Americans exchanged shots, beginning a running fight that continued all the way back to Lexington" on April 19, 1775.⁸

Second Generation - Brothers Abraham and Jacob Taylor

Three of William and Mary Taylor's seven sons either did not reach maturity or did not remain in Concord. Their son Samuel died as an infant (b/d 1655), and the eldest son, William Jr. (c.1650-?) and his brother Isike (1659-?) moved to Scituate probably around 1686. The remaining four sons (John [1656-1719], Abraham [1656-1729], Jacob [1662-c.1749], and Joseph [1665-1709]), settled in Concord.⁹ All six sons had undoubtedly received land from William, but William Jr. and Isike would have sold their holdings when they left Concord for Scituate, while John and Joseph, neither of whom had sons, either sold their land (possibly to other Taylors) or bequeathed it to their daughters and thus out of the Taylor family. That would have left Abraham and Jacob as the principal inheritors of William's land legacy.

Abraham Taylor married Mary Whitaker in 1681 and "seems to have passed his life as a blacksmith in Concord, occupying his father's 'house lot'."¹⁰ Jacob Taylor married Deborah Nutting in 1687 and appears to have received from his father the land along the Bay Way between the original Taylor house lot inherited by Abraham and Meriam's Corner. Since Abraham was living with his father, Jacob probably built his own house around the time of his marriage in 1687. This house was located either immediately to the east of the original house lot or on the northeast corner of the Bay Way and Billerica Way (the "Daniel Taylor house" site). William died in 1696 and Mary in 1699. By 1717, Jacob and his son, Jacob Jr. (1695-1767) were living on the corner house site. By 1719 Jacob Jr. had settled on the parcel immediately to the east of the original house lot now occupied by his uncle Abraham.

Taylor site "the second-division farm of William Taylor." However, Wheeler also states that William's son Jacob, and not Abraham, kept the house lot, whereas the Taylor Genealogy and Brian Donahue, who conducted extensive research into the land holdings for a 1994 draft Cultural Landscape Report for Meriam's Corner, concluded that Abraham inherited the house lot. See Ruth Wheeler, "Our American Mile" (Concord: Concord Antiquarian Society, 1957), pp. 6-7; and Brian Donahue and Heidi Hohman, "Draft Cultural Landscape Report for Meriam's Corner, Minute Man National Historical Park (Boston: Division of Cultural Resources Management/North Atlantic Region, National Park Service, 1994), pp. 11-12.

⁷ Barbara Yocum, draft "Historic Structure Report: The Meriam House, Minute Man National Historical Park, Concord, Massachusetts" (Lowell, MA: Building Conservation Branch/Northeast Cultural Resources Center, National Park Service, 1994), pp. 13-14.

⁸ *General Management Plan: Minute Man National Historical Park* (Boston: National Park Service/U.S. Department of the Interior, September 1989), p. 12.

⁹ John and Abraham may have been twins. Their birth dates are listed in *Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Concord, Massachusetts*, as October 19 and November 14, 1656, the month interim between the two dates probably reflecting when the boys were christened or their births recorded. The Taylor Genealogy states that Joseph moved to Marshfield; however, *Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Concord, Massachusetts*, records the marriage of a Joseph Taylor to Ruth Woolly in 1691, the birth of three daughters, and the death of "Joseph, husband of Ruth" in 1709.

¹⁰ "Descriptive Narrative" in the Taylor Genealogy (source unknown). Abraham's profession is listed as a blacksmith on a 1726 deed conveying land to his son, Captain Daniel Taylor. Daniel would later move to Townsend, Massachusetts.

The documentary evidence that places Abraham and Jacob on their respective parcels consists of primary sources such as probate and deed/title records for Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and Concord tax assessment records.¹¹ Concord tax assessment records for the year 1717 list owners of dwelling houses in the area as (in order) Jacob Taylor (with his son Jacob Jr.), Ebenezer Meriam, Joseph Meriam, and John Meriam. Since at that time the tax payers tended to be listed in the order that they were visited, the assessment probably recorded Jacob Taylor and the Miriams as they were situated on Bay Way and Billerica Way. In 1717 Ebenezer Meriam lived at Meriam Corner's, Joseph Meriam lived on the house lot immediately to the north of Ebenezer's house on the east side of Billerica Way (the extant Meriam house), and John Meriam lived on the first house lot to the north of Joseph's house on the west side of Billerica Way, the order in which they were listed on the assessment records (**fig. 3**).¹² The assessment records therefore place Jacob Taylor in the first house to the west of Ebenezer Meriam on Bay Way, or on the corner house site.

Title and probate records combine with the tax assessment records to place Abraham Taylor on the original house lot west of Jacob's parcel on Bay Way. Abraham died in 1729 and his son Ebenezer inherited the original 'house lot.' The assessment records for 1749 indicate that Jacob Taylor and his son Joseph were living at the corner house site (by that time Joseph owned the property), Jacob's son Isaac Taylor was living on a parcel to the west of Jacob and Joseph, Ebenezer Meriam and his son, Ebenezer Jr., to the west of Isaac Taylor (on land purchased from Jacob Taylor, Jr.), and Ebenezer Taylor and his son, Ebenezer Jr., to the west of the Meriams. Thus the records place Ebenezer Taylor (and before him his father Abraham) at the original house lot approximately one-quarter mile to the east of Meriam's Corner.¹³

Secondary sources such as histories of Concord and historical maps were of limited help as reliable indicators of the location of houses at a particular period of time. For example, a map (**fig. 4**) drawn in 1775 and found in the diary of a British soldier -- Lieutenant Frederick Mackenzie of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers -- is a fairly accurate depiction of Concord roads, bridges, some buildings, and the positions of troops on April 19 of that year; the map, however, shows no houses on the north side of Bay Way except in the immediate town center area.¹⁴ Another map entitled "Seventeenth Century Settlers" that was drawn for a 1967 book by Concord historian Ruth Wheeler (**fig. 5**) shows four houses on the north side of the Bay Way to the west of Miriam's Corner. Two of the houses are labeled "William Taylor" -- one located on the current Daniel Taylor house site and the second situated on the original William Taylor house lot.¹⁵ One is tempted to deduce from this map that William Taylor Jr. built a house on the Daniel Taylor site before he left for Scituate around 1686 (when he would have been around 36 years old). However, the accuracy of the map is suspect since it does not show John Meriam's house that was located close to the Bay Way at Meriam's Corner and

¹¹ "Early Massachusetts Records: Records of Middlesex County, Concord, MA," on microfilm labeled "Assessment Records" at the CFPL. The extensive deed and will research conducted by Brian Donahue for the 1994 draft CLR for Meriam's Corner encompassed property owned by the Taylor family at this time. Donahue compiled this information in a series of GIS maps that recorded land ownership and use around Meriam's Corner from the early 18th century to the mid 20th century; some of those maps are reprinted in this report.

¹² Donahue and Hohman, draft "Cultural Landscape Report for Meriam's Corner," pp. 17-18; Yocum, draft "Historic Structure Report: Meriam House," p. 18.

¹³ This marked the last year in which property owners were listed approximately in the order in which they were visited; after 1750 taxpayers were listed alphabetically.

¹⁴ The diary covers the period January 5 to April 30, 1775. The map is pasted in the diary; its authorship is uncertain, but it is nevertheless thought to be authentic. The diary and map were reprinted in 1926 in a volume edited by the historian Allen French and entitled *A British Fusilier in Revolutionary Boston* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1926).

¹⁵ Ruth Wheeler, *Concord: Climate for Freedom* (Concord Antiquarian Society, 1967).

does show the current Meriam house (located to the north of the John Meriam house) that was probably not built until circa 1705.¹⁶ In addition, of the other two houses shown on Wheeler's map, the house to the east of William Taylor's original house lot is labeled "Christopher Woolley;" Wheeler had written in a 1957 tourist brochure that the parcel was the original house lot granted to Christopher "Wooley" and that he and his descendants owned the property for 100 years until the 1750s.¹⁷ However, deed and title research conducted by Brian Donahue for the draft CLR determined that Jacob Taylor Jr. owned the property in 1717 and Ebenezer Meriam owned it in 1749.

Third Generation - Cousins Joseph and David Taylor

Joseph and Elizabeth (Patten) Taylor

Six children were born to Jacob and Deborah Taylor between 1690 and 1705, three of whom were sons. As outlined above, after William's death Jacob owned the land on the north side of Bay Way that ran from the original house lot (now owned by his brother Abraham) to Meriam's Corner. By 1717 Jacob was living in a house on a parcel at the corner of the Bay Way and the Billerica Way (the Daniel Taylor site), Jacob's son, Jacob Jr. (1695-1767), was living in a house on a narrow parcel just to the east of Abraham Taylor, and Jacob's son Isaac (1705-1750?) was living on a parcel between Jacob and Jacob Jr. (**fig. 3**). By 1750 Jacob Jr. had sold his parcel to Ebenezer Meriam. Jacob Jr. continues to appear in Concord's tax assessment records for the East Quarter until his death in 1767, but it is not known where he lived after 1750 (**fig. 6**).

Jacob Taylor's third son, Joseph, lived with Jacob on the corner house site and by 1731 Joseph was paying the taxes on the property. In 1748 Jacob gave the corner lot and several other parcels to Joseph, and in the deed documenting this transaction the corner parcel is described as "one acre with dwelling and barn."¹⁸ This is the first known record of a house on the site found on a deed. Jacob lived only another year after his gift to Joseph - - 1749 is the last year in which Jacob appears in the tax assessment records, listed as having one "poll" (vote) and no real estate.

In 1757 Joseph (with wife Elizabeth) sold the corner parcel "with dwelling and barn" and the other land in the East Quarter area that he had accumulated to David Taylor for a little over £173.¹⁹ After that year Joseph is not listed in the East Quarter tax rolls -- he apparently moved to the Carlisle area in the northeast section of Concord (**fig. 2**).²⁰

¹⁶ See Yocum, draft "Historic Structure Report: Meriam House," p. 18; and "Early Massachusetts Records: Records of Middlesex County, Concord, MA," on microfilm labeled "Assessment Records" at the CPFL.

¹⁷ Wheeler, "Our American Mile," p. 7. There is a family connection between the Taylor's and the Wooleys -- a Ruth Wooley married William Taylor's son Joseph in 1691. See *Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Concord, Massachusetts*.

¹⁸ Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 50 Page 150.

¹⁹ Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 62 Page 106. The deed also describes the house parcel as 2 acres rather than 1 acre as outlined in the 1748 deed. However, the descriptions of the boundaries of the parcel are the same in the two deeds and it is thought that the change reflects a correction of an error or a recalculation of the size of the parcel.

²⁰ In 1757 Joseph, along with first cousin Nathaniel, Nathaniel's son Nathaniel Jr., and several other Concord citizens, officially objected to "reuniting" the area to the northeast of town known as Carlisle with Concord. Although their objections were not successful - - Carlisle was reunited and remained a part of Concord until 1780 -

David and Sarah Taylor

Although the records are not clear, it is probable that the David Taylor to whom Joseph Taylor sold his Concord property was one of Abraham Taylor's sons and thus was Joseph's first cousin.

Abraham and Mary Taylor had thirteen children between 1682 and 1705. Of their nine sons, Timothy died in infancy (b/d 1705) and four eventually settled elsewhere -- Abraham Jr. (1682-?) and Jonathon (1694-?) moved to Dunstable, Massachusetts, sometime after 1710; John (1685-?) moved to Nottingham, New Hampshire; and Daniel (1703-1783) moved to Townsend. Benjamin (1699-?) apparently lived in the area and had two daughters, but is not listed in the Concord Tax Assessment records for the East Quarter after 1750. Son Ebenezer (1688-1753) married Deborah [?] around 1720 and inherited the original Taylor house lot when his father Abraham died in 1729 (fig.), and Nathaniel (1701-c.1765) settled in the northeast portion of Concord known as Carlisle.²¹

The records are incomplete concerning Abraham's ninth son, David, who was born in 1698. He may have lived in the Bedford area of Concord for a time and is frequently confused in the Taylor Genealogy with a second David Taylor who was a contemporary of the first David and who also lived in Bedford. The fact that a portion of Bedford was originally part of Concord and did not incorporate until 1729 complicates the attempt to understand the several references to "David Taylor" in the records of the two towns. However, after cobbling together the various town and tax records and working backwards from what is known about Daniel Taylor and his wife and children, the author has concluded that there were two David Taylors; one who purchased the (future) Daniel Taylor site from Joseph Taylor in 1757, who was probably Abraham Taylor's son, and who had a son for whom the site was eventually named; and one who lived in Bedford and who may have been a descendant of William's brother James, who had settled in the Bedford area of Concord in the 1640s.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Concord, Massachusetts, 1650-1850 lists the birth of David, son of Abraham and Mary, in 1698. It also records the marriage of "Dauid [sic] Taylor of Bedford" and Ruth Jones of Concord in 1745 and the death of "Ruth, wife of David Taylor," in 1761 at the age of 50. Concord town records document that in 1728 a David Taylor signed a petition for the incorporation of Bedford "to ease the burden of travel on the Sabbath," that he was considered taxable in Bedford on the "South List" in 1729, and that he signed the first Bedford covenant in 1730 (Bedford was incorporated in 1729).²² *Vital Records of Bedford, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* records a David and Hannah [?] Taylor having of ten children between 1725 and 1741, including

Joseph's sympathies lay in that area and he apparently lived near Nathaniel. In 1763 Concord town records note a town meeting at which was discussed the possibility of laying out a road from Nathaniel Taylor's land through Captain Buttrick's pasture "to accommodate Joseph Taylor [and others]". Concord Town Records, Volume IV Part 2, pp. 221[a] & 222[b]. The town records also record a payment made in May 1769 to Nathaniel Taylor Jr. for the expense of having a "way" changed on his property "on Blood farm beginning at the farm line by Nathaniel Taylor Jr. & through said Taylor's land & so through Joseph Taylor's land...and so through Wilkens land to the Billerica line. *Ibid.*, p. 310[a].

²¹ Although the Carlisle objectors were not successful in separating from Concord until 1780, Nathaniel Taylor helped organize the first house of worship in Carlisle in 1761. The building was not completed, however, until 1781, the year following the incorporation of Carlisle. Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord*, pp. 322 & 329; Robert A. Gross, *The Minutemen and Their World* (NY: Hill and Wang, 1976). The Concord Tax Assessment Records for the East Quarter list Nathaniel through 1753; he disappears from the records in 1754 and 1755, reappears with Nathaniel Jr. between 1756 and 1761, and is not listed after 1761.

²² Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord*, pp. 256-257 & 263; Concord Town Records, Vol. II Part 2, pp. 256, 257, & 263.

sons David Jr., who died young, Jonathon, Eleazar, Nathan, and the second David Jr., who was born in 1739 (a record of David and Hannah's marriage was not found in either Concord or Bedford records). It also records the death of "Hannah, wife of David" in 1744, and the marriage of a David Taylor to Ruth Jones in 1745. The fact that the Concord statistics and not the Bedford statistics records Ruth's death in 1761 suggests that David and Ruth (Jones) Taylor were living in Concord at that time.

This information seems at first to suggest that the David Taylor born in 1698 to Abraham and Mary is the same David who helped to incorporate the town of Bedford, married Hannah and had ten children with her, married Ruth Jones of Concord in 1745 after Hannah's death in 1744, and was living in Concord when Ruth died in 1761. He thus could have been the David Taylor who purchased the corner lot from Joseph Taylor in 1757. However, analysis of this information in conjunction with the Concord tax assessment records leads to the conclusion that the David Taylor who married Hannah is not the same David Taylor who bought the future Daniel Taylor site from Joseph Taylor.

The first indication that there may have been two David Taylors was found in the "Descriptive Narrative" section of the Taylor Genealogy. The Genealogy initially repeats the information about David Taylor that is found in the Concord records, including the fact that he was Abraham's son and that he married Ruth Jones of Concord in 1745.²³ The "Descriptive Narrative" section of the Taylor Genealogy also identifies David Taylor as Abraham's son. However, the Descriptive Narrative records that David married Sarah (not Ruth) after 1744. Coincidentally, the 1763 deed recording the conveyance of the corner house site from David Taylor to Daniel Taylor listed Sarah as David's wife.

This confusion of wives' names is not necessarily fatal to the "one David Taylor" theory; it is possible that Sarah was David's third wife, marrying him after Ruth's death in 1761 and thus appearing as David's wife on the deed in 1763. However, a review of the Concord tax assessment records for the East Quarter reveals that beginning in 1750 and through 1776 the David Taylor who was to purchase and sell the corner house site was living in Concord with at least two sons, neither of whom could have been the sons of David and Hannah.²⁴ In the assessment records for 1750, David Taylor's name is followed immediately by a second David; the first David is shown with one poll (vote) and as owning real estate and the second David with one poll and no real estate. David was thus presumably David's son and was living in his household. These men could not have been the husband and son of Hannah since the surviving son of David and Hannah of Bedford who was named David was born in 1739 and would have only been eleven years old in 1750, whereas the David Jr. listed in the 1750 Concord assessment records was able to vote and was thus at least twenty-one years of age. In addition, none of David and Hannah's children were named Daniel, but in 1756 David Taylor's name on the Concord tax assessment list is immediately followed by a Daniel Taylor, who is shown with one poll and no real estate.²⁵ This record indicates that Daniel was also David's son; he must have been twenty-one years old in 1756 to have being listed with one poll, and was thus probably born around 1735. Further confirmation that Daniel was David's son is found in

²³ See insert titled "William and Mary with Son Abraham."

²⁴ Due to time and budget constraints, Concord tax records for the North and South Quarters and the Bedford tax records were not reviewed. Research into these records may reveal more information about the two David Taylors.

²⁵ After 1751, David Jr. was not listed on the East Quarter assessment; from 1756 to 1764 only David Sr. is listed.

an entry in the town records dated March 12, 1777, that records a payment to Daniel "for his late father David Taylor boarding a daughter of Betty Russells."²⁶

It is thus apparent that there were two David Taylors living in the Concord/Bedford area in the first half of the eighteenth century, one of whom was probably Abraham Taylor's son, David I. It is very possible that David I lived in Bedford for a time. He may have been the David Taylor who signed the petition to incorporate Bedford in 1728 and Bedford's first covenant in 1730. But the David Taylor who owned the parcel that would become known as the Daniel Taylor site was not the David Taylor of Bedford who married Hannah. The fact that David Taylor purchased land in 1763 which had been part of William Taylor's original holdings strongly suggests that David was William's grandson and Abraham Taylor's son.

From the early 1750s David and (eventually) Daniel were active participants in Concord town life. The town paid David several times for working on the "high way" -- in 1752 he was paid for his "sons" working on the high way in Bedford, in 1753 for his own work, and in 1760 for "work on the Great North Bridge - timber and rebuilding". In 1753 he was elected a field driver (whose job was to catch and confine animals roaming on the roads)²⁷ and as a collector (although he, along with several other men, were dismissed "for reasons given" -- apparently this was not a desirable position). Daniel was paid for work on the high way in 1765, and was elected a hogreave (a watchman)²⁸ in 1763, 1768, and 1770, a field driver in 1766 and 1773, and a horse officer in 1771 and 1774.²⁹

In 1763 David Taylor sold to his son the corner house site, along with several additional parcels of land, for £213.³⁰ The deed recording the transaction described the first parcel as "2 acres with dwelling house and barn" with the same boundaries as described in the 1757 deed to David. The dwelling mentioned in the deed was probably the house that had been standing on the site since at least 1717.

Fourth Generation - Daniel and Elizabeth Lydia Taylor

David Taylor sold the corner parcel to his son Daniel in 1763, possibly in anticipation of Daniel's marriage to Elizabeth Lydia [?] sometime before 1767 (**fig. 7**).³¹ The tax assessment records show that both David and Daniel owned real estate with dwelling houses in the East Quarter

²⁶ Concord Town Records, Volume V Part 1, p. 65[b].

²⁷ Barbara Jean Evans, *A to ZAX: A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists and Historians*, 3rd edition (Alexandria, VA: Hearthsides Press, 1995).

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ Concord Town Records, Volume IV Part 1, pp. 48[b], 52[b], 63[a], & 67[b], and Part 2, pp. 186[a], 246[a], 270[a], 284[a], 297[a], 307[b], 332[a], & 394[b].

³⁰ Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 62 Page 107.

³¹ To confuse the genealogy even further, there is a second Daniel Taylor (Daniel II) who was a first cousin and contemporary of Daniel of Concord and who had a wife named Lydia Elizabeth. Daniel II was born in 1732 and was the son of Captain Daniel and Mary Taylor of Townsend, Massachusetts. Captain Daniel, who moved to Townsend around 1729, was the son of Abraham and Mary Taylor and the brother of David I Taylor. Daniel II was married to Lydia Elizabeth Cummins from Dunstable, Massachusetts, and they lived and raised their children in Townsend, where Daniel died in 1768. See Henry Hallowell, editor, *Vital Records of Townsend, Massachusetts: Town Records to 1850 with Marriage Intentions to 1873 and Cemetery Inscriptions* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1992).

until David's death in 1776.³² Daniel, who was listed as a "trader" on the 1763 deed, prospered in Concord, buying and selling land and keeping a tavern in Concord center.³³ He owned the tavern from 1765 until 1776, but in March 1775 he leased it to Amos Wright, possibly because of Daniel's new duties as a lieutenant in the town regiment under Abishai Brown.³⁴ By a quirk of fate the tavern was to play host to both the Minute Men and British troops on April 19, 1775 and has ever since been known as the Wright tavern.³⁵

There is a (possibly apocryphal) story told about Elizabeth Lydia Taylor and her encounter with British troops on April 19, 1775 at the tavern that was found on a typed sheet in the Taylor Genealogy labeled "Lydia Taylor at the Tavern".³⁶ The source of the story is unknown, but it appears to have been written by a British soldier who was at the tavern (the author refers to "our officers"). Even though Amos Wright was then operating the tavern, Lydia could still have been working there while Daniel was busy with his regiment. The story is reprinted below with original punctuation and spelling:

Mrs. Lydia Taylor the wife of Mr. Daniel Taylor who kept a public house in Concord was in the Bar when the British troops went out to Concord on the morning of the 19th of April 75 -- in her fright at seeing the troops and the confusion which the neighborhood was then in [she] had put a few bullets into her pocket, the British troops called for refreshments which she found them, in making change to our officers she by mistake took from her pocket a number of bullets -- The officers said 'Madam what do you do with those balls' - she held up her hand with the balls in it and replied to him 'I would use them in a flintlock if I had one.'

Daniel and Lydia Taylor appear to have been active and somewhat influential citizens of Concord. Lydia kept a school for the town "at 9 acre corner" in 1768. Daniel was one of three men elected town warden in March 1775 and he loaned money to the town to help pay for "the Continental Service" (for which he was paid interest in March 1778 in the princely sum of £9..8S). He also regularly entertained selectmen at his house between 1767 and 1777 (being reimbursed each time out of town funds). It is not known what role he played on April 19, 1775, but it is certain that he owned a house on the site that observed, from across Billerica Way, the engagement of the British and the Minute Men at Meriam's Corner on that day. However, the extant house on the site is not the same structure that was standing in 1775. Architectural research has documented that the existing main house that faces Lexington Road and its north ell were not built until after at least 1815 (see **PHYSICAL EVOLUTION** section, below).

Daniel Taylor sold the Wright Tavern in April 1776. In May 1778 he bought from Samuel Whitney the property and house known later as the Wayside, located on the old Bay Way (now called "County Road") approximately one-half mile closer to town center, along with several additional parcels of land for £815. Taylor held the Wayside property for only a month before selling it on June 15 to neighboring Daniel Hoar, but kept several other of the parcels purchased

³² The Concord Tax Assessment Records for 1776 list "the estate of David Taylor."

³³ There is much discussion in the town records in 1771 and 1772 over whether the waste water gates at the Mill Dam should be moved from adjoining Daniel Taylor's tavern garden to "the other side of Mrs. Mericks shop on the mill dam." Concord Town Records Volume IV Part 2, pp. 339[b], 340[a], 356[a], 357[a], & 358[a].

³⁴ Shattuck, *A History of the Town of Concord*, p. 352.

³⁵ Gross, *The Minutemen and Their World*, p. 6 and fn, p. 194.

³⁶ CFPL Special Collections archives, no cite given.

from Whitney, some of which were located near the Lincoln town line to the east. The same day that he sold the Wayside property, Daniel Taylor sold the corner house site "with dwelling, barn, and shop" and the Taylor farm to John Meriam for £2,000.³⁷ After this date Daniel and his family almost disappear from the Concord records. The last time his name is listed in the tax assessment records for the East Quarter is 1780, and the last mention of him in the Concord town records is in October 1783, when he is referred to as "Daniel Taylor Consolidated."³⁸ One hundred and thirty years after patriarch William Taylor first moved to Concord, the Taylor family no longer had a presence at Meriam's Corner.

³⁷ Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 76 Page 615; Book 79 Page 324; Book 79 Page 319; Book 79 Page 385; MIMA NHP archives, folder marked "Wayside." The Wayside is known as the residence of (among other authors and luminaries) Bronson and Louisa May Alcott and Nathaniel Hawthorne. See Margeret Lathrop, *The Wayside: Home of Authors* (NY: American Book Company, 1968). The flurry of land exchanges at this time and the plethora of deeds caused some confusion for Joyce Lee Malcolm in researching her 1985 *Historic Grounds Report* for MIMA NHP. Malcolm concluded that Samuel Whitney owned the Daniel Taylor site in 1775 and sold it to Daniel in 1778; however, the deed she found was referring to the sale of the Wayside to Daneil Taylor. It is not known what kind of a shop Daniel had at his house; the tax assessment records for 1771 simply records Daniel Taylor with one house and one "shop."

³⁸ Concord Town Records, Volume V Part 1, p. 238[a].

SUBSEQUENT OWNERS

The Meriam Family - 1778 to Circa 1830³⁹

John Meriam Sr. - 1778-1804

John Meriam (1754-1804) was only 24 years old when he purchased the 91-acre Daniel Taylor farm. He had already inherited half of his father Samuel's farm in 1769 and the 1778 purchase more than doubled his land holdings. By 1800 John Meriam's holding in the Meriam's Corner area were extensive -- he owned land on either side of Bedford Road (the old Billerica Way) and County Road (the former Bay Way). Cousin Ephraim owned 94 acres in the area -- the extant Meriam house lot on the east side of Bedford Road and several other parcels on either side of the road -- and Uncle Josiah, cousin Joseph, and cousin-by-marriage Nathan Stow each owned small parcels in the area. With the Taylor family now departed, the Meriam family dominated Meriam's Corner.

Soon after he purchased the Daniel Taylor farm, John Meriam, who had been living in the circa-1691 Lieutenant John Meriam house on the west side of Bedford Road, moved one door down to Daniel Taylor's house, across the road from his Uncle Josiah who occupied the circa-1663 John Meriam house at Meriam's Corner (no longer extant). In 1780 John acquired a number of small lots that had belonged to his great-uncle Ebenezer, who had died in 1777, and picked up the Josiah Meriam house lot across Meriam's Corner sometime before John's death in 1804. When he died, John Meriam owned 183 acres and owed some large debts (fig. 8).

John Meriam Jr., Tarrant P. Meriam, and Ephraim Meriam Jr. - 1804-Circa 1830

The principal legatee and administrator of John Meriam's estate was his son, John Meriam, Jr. (1778-1837), who was described on subsequent deeds as a trader. John Jr. occupied the farm for a few years but there were disagreements with the guardians of John Sr.'s minor children concerning the rent John was paying to the estate. In 1807 it was auctioned off to the executor of John Sr.'s estate, John Sprague of Bedford. However, by 1810 John Jr., now a merchant in Vermont, had reacquired the estate. His brother, Tarrant Putnam Meriam (1782-1864) had been living in the house since 1807 and eventually acquired the farm outright from his absentee brother.⁴⁰

Tarrant Meriam appears to have inherited his father's penchant for land dealing and mortgaged the property to several parties, including Harvard College. Tarrant may have mortgaged the property in order to finance building a new house -- the existing structure. By the late 1820s Tarrant was bankrupt and the farm was sold to creditors; several parcels were acquired by his second cousin Ephraim Meriam, Jr. (1795-1843), probably around 1828. Ephraim, a Concord businessman who owned the extant Meriam house, held the property for only a few years before selling what was left of the John Meriam farm to Thomas Darling (Ephraim apparently

³⁹ Biographical and land holding information for the Meriam family during their period of ownership of the Daniel Taylor site was taken from Donahue and Hohman's draft 1994 CLR. See **APPENDIX B** for an ownership summary of the site.

⁴⁰ It is not known if this transaction was a purchase or a gift -- no deed has been found that recorded the transfer.

retained a parcel on the west side of Bedford Road -- see **fig. 8**). The Meriam family had owned the old Taylor farm for 52 years.

In the next two years the ownership of the property changed hands at least two more times; Moses Warren of Sudbury purchased it from Darling in 1831 for \$4,000, and in 1832 what remained of John Meriam's farm was sold to Nathaniel Jewett for the same amount. It appears that Ephraim Meriam, Thomas Darling, and Moses Warren did not live in the house on the Daniel Taylor site but that they let it out during their period of ownership to Nathaniel Jewett. Tarrant Meriam's last tax assessment in Concord was in 1828, and Ephraim Meriam was assessed only for personal property in 1829 and 1830.⁴¹ Even though Nathaniel Jewett did not purchase the property until March 1832, the name "N. Jewett" appears next to a square designating a house on the Daniel Taylor house site on the 1830 John G. Hales map of Concord (**fig. 9**).

Nathaniel Jewett, Jabez Gowing, and the Clark Family - 1832-1966

Nathaniel Jewett's Tenancy - Circa 1829-1836

Nathaniel Jewett was identified on the 1832 deed as a stone cutter from Charlestown, Massachusetts. In 1833 he purchased an additional piece of land in southeast Concord in 1833⁴² but remained in Concord only until April 1836, when he sold all his property in Concord to Jabez Gowing, a yeoman from Charlestown, and moved to Lexington.

The house that Jewett sold to Gowing in 1836 may have been the building identified today as the Daniel Taylor house. As already mentioned, extant physical evidence found on the main house and on the oldest portion of the ell indicates that both were constructed sometime between 1830 and 1840. Thus, Nathaniel Jewett (who owned the house between 1832 and 1836) may have been the builder of the extant structure, since it is not likely that landlords Ephraim Meriam, Darling, or Warren would have gone to expense of building a new house on the site. If Jewett constructed the extant house, he would have probably completed it soon after he purchased the property in 1832.

Jabez Gowing - 1836-1866

It is thought that Jabez Gowing was responsible for building the "Daniel Taylor" house. If so, he probably completed the new structure soon after buying the property in April 1836. Jabez Gowing was to live in the house and to work the old John Meriam farm for thirty years.

One Concord historian has described Gowing as "a large man with one eye [who] was nicknamed 'cyclops' by the other boys" who so long occupied [the house] that the name Gowing's corner is common."⁴³ His daughter, Clara, would later write books recollecting her childhood in

⁴¹ Ephraim also owned the extant Meriam house across Bedford Road from the Taylor house, but he lived in Concord center; his widowed mother, Mary (Meriam) Swan paid taxes on that property in 1829, 1830, and 1831; see Yocum, draft "Historic Structure Report - Meriam House."

⁴² Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 325 Page 494.

⁴³ John Shipard Keyes, "Houses and Owners or Occupants in Concord, 1885," Volume II (1885), annotated by Adams Tolman (1923), p. 213, typewritten copy made by CFPL (1940); Edward Jarvis, "Houses and People in Concord, 1810-1820" (1882); annotated by Adams Tolman (1915), typewritten.

Concord, including her acquaintance with the Alcotts who lived down the road in the 1840s.⁴⁴ On a plan of Meriam's Corner drawn by surveyor Henry Thoreau in 1855, the name "Gowing" appears at the northwest corner of "the Road to Concord" (the County Road, soon to be known as Lexington Road) and the road "to Bedford" (Bedford Road, the old Billerica Way) as well as on a parcel across Lexington Road (fig. 10).⁴⁵ Certain extant physical evidence and the style of many of the existing features on the interior of the house suggests that Gowing may also have remodeled it in the 1850s.

In 1866 Jabez Gowing sold the old Meriam farm consisting of "100 acres with buildings thereon in East Concord" to Warren Fitts of Concord for \$6,875 -- \$4475 in cash and a mortgage to Gowing for \$2,400. Gowing died soon after selling the property.

Benjamin Clark Family - 1868-1966

The property changed hands twice in the two years following Gowings sale to Warren Fitts, assuming a second mortgage in the interim. Finally in 1868 the farm (minus 15 acres) was sold to Benjamin Clark of Westmoreland, New Hampshire, for \$6,900 -- \$4,900 in cash and the assumption of the remaining \$2,000 balance of the mortgage to Gowing. Clark and his descendants were to own and farm the property for the next 98 years.

According to one Concord historian writing in 1885, Benjamin D. Clark (1826-1916) was a son of J. Brook Clark of Estabrook Road in Concord and "was a great foot runner. After his father's death he inherited the farm on that road."⁴⁶ That he owned another farm in Concord has not been confirmed, but by 1868 he had two children and, according to the 1868 deed, was living in Westmoreland, New Hampshire. Concord historian Ruth Wheeler wrote that Clark was directly descended from Benjamin Clark who had lived near the Taylors in 1717, and "our Benjamin moved to New Hampshire and married Lucy Smith, whose mother was a Flint from Concord."⁴⁷ However, subsequent deeds recording various land transactions by Clark listed his wife as "Mary".

Benjamin Clark was probably responsible for the post-1850 alterations to the house; if so, he probably completed the alterations soon after he purchased it in 1868. Clark sold a few parcels of his farm to his son, George. B. Clark, in 1894 and 1904. After Benjamin's death in 1916, George and his sister Estella J. (Clark) Parker inherited the house lot and what remained of the farm. Estella, married and living in Pepperell, Massachusetts, conveyed her half-interest in the farm to George in 1918.

The first known view of the Gowing-Clark house is a sketch of the house and barn that appeared in Clara Gowing's circa-1899 book *My Chest or Ransackings* (fig. 11). The sketch appears to have been drawn for the book (i.e., in the 1890s), but it is not known if the sketch is supposed to depict the house before Jabez Gowing sold the farm in 1866 or as it appeared when the book was published around 1899. In either case, the view shows that by the end of the nineteenth

⁴⁴ Clara Gowing, *The Alcotts as I Knew Them* (Boston: The C.M. Clark Publishing Company, 1909), cited in Doris Fanelli, *Historic Furnishings Report: Minute Man National Historical Park, The Wayside* (Harpers Ferry, WV: U.S. Dept. of the Interior/National Park Service/Harpers Ferry Center, 1983); and *My Chest or Ransacking* (Reading, MA: W.E. & J.F. Twombly, c. 1899).

⁴⁵ "Plan of the Road at the East Quarter School House in Concord Mass: Surveyed by Henry D. Thoreau, Nov. 9th 1855."

⁴⁶ Keyes, "Houses in Concord in 1885," Volume II, p. 213.

⁴⁷ Wheeler, 'The Clark House,' "Our American Mile," p. 6.

century the ell had been raised to a low two-story structure with a gable roof. The house is also shown with shuttered windows and a one-story porch on the east end of the main house. The liberal placement of trees in the sketch obscures the north end of the ell, but it appears that the ell was connected to a south-facing outbuilding that was in turn connected via additional outbuildings to the "great barn," much in the "Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn" tradition of New England.⁴⁸ A wide driveway is shown leading from Lexington Road past the east side of the house and ell to the barn complex, and a low wooden picket or plank fence runs along either side of the driveway and then up Lexington Road on the house side and around the corner along Bedford Road.

The earliest photograph known to exist of the Gowing-Clark house was taken circa 1937 when George Clark owned the farm. The view (see **fig. 22**) shows the house from the southeast -- the house is now shutterless and one small connected outbuilding remains attached to the northeast corner of the ell. The wooden fence is gone and the house stands open to the roads to its south and east.

George sold several parcels of the farm in the 1920s; in 1946 he conveyed the corner house lot and probably what remained of his original farm to his daughter and her husband, Anne H. and Everett C. Thorpe. In the tradition of the Clark family, the Thorpes bought and sold parcels of land in the area until by 1964 all that was left of the farm was the 1.94 acre house lot and 10.9 acres across Lexington Road. Anne Thorpe died sometime between 1955 and 1963. In 1964 Everett Thorpe sold the 10.9-acre parcel on the south side of Lexington Road to the United States Government for \$10,000, and in 1966 he sold the Gowing-Clark house and the 1.94-acre house lot to the United States government for \$38,000. Both parcels were located in the proposed boundaries of the Minute Man National Historical Park.

⁴⁸ See Thomas C. Hubka, *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn* (Hanover and London, NH: University Press of New England, 1984).



Figure 3. Annotated GIS Map of Land Ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1717 (1994).

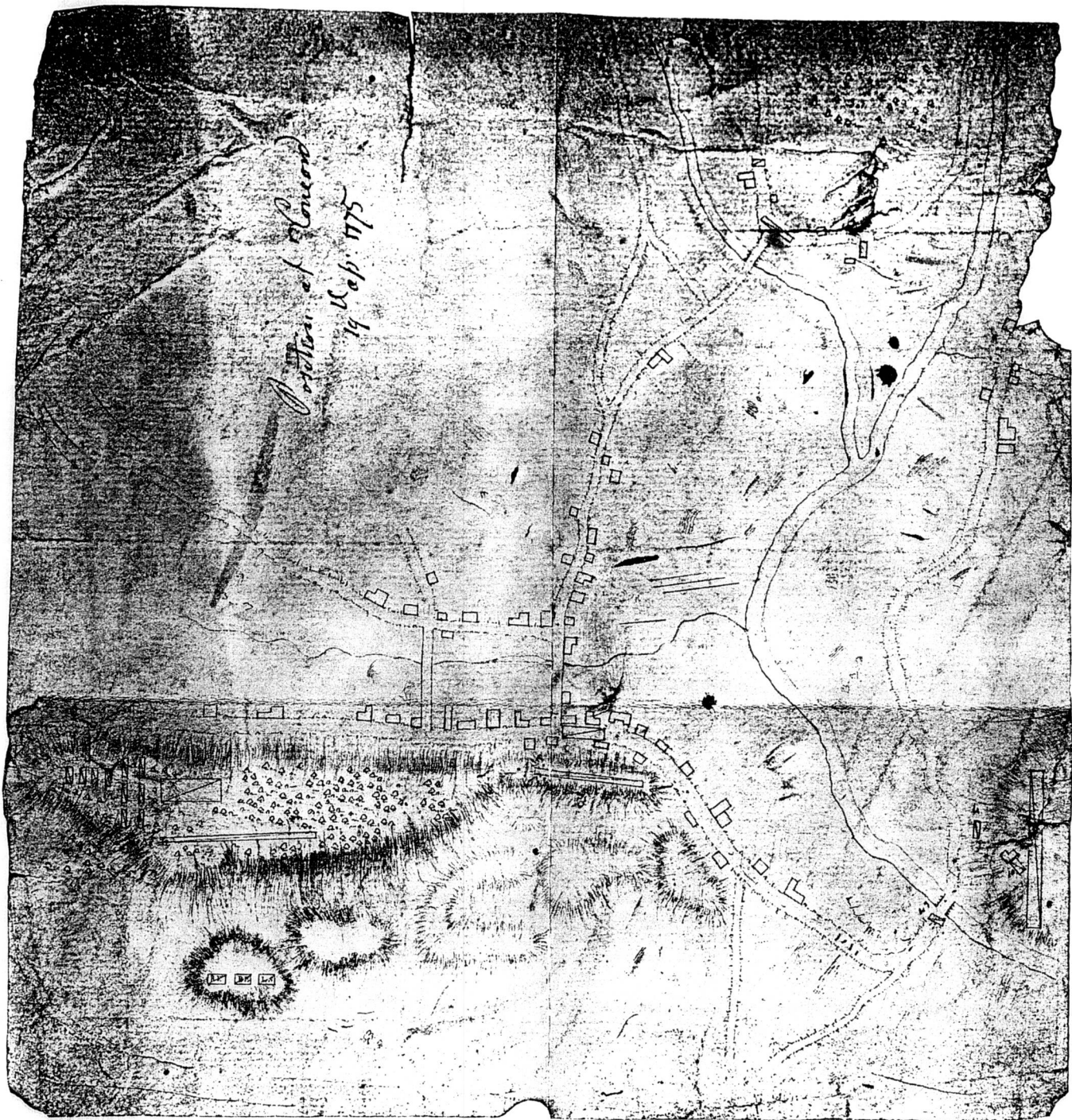


Figure 4. 1775 Map of Concord Showing Position of British and American Troops
April 19, 1775. Bay Way is Lower Road and Miriam's Corner is at the Left Edge of the Map.

Figure 5. Map Showing Location of Early Concord Settlers.



Figure 6. Annotated GIS Map of Land Ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1750 (1994).



Figure 7. Annotated GIS Map of Land Ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1775 (1994).

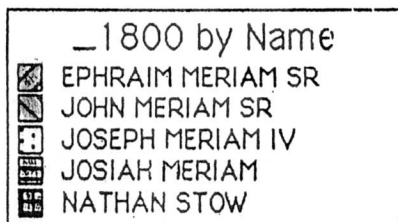
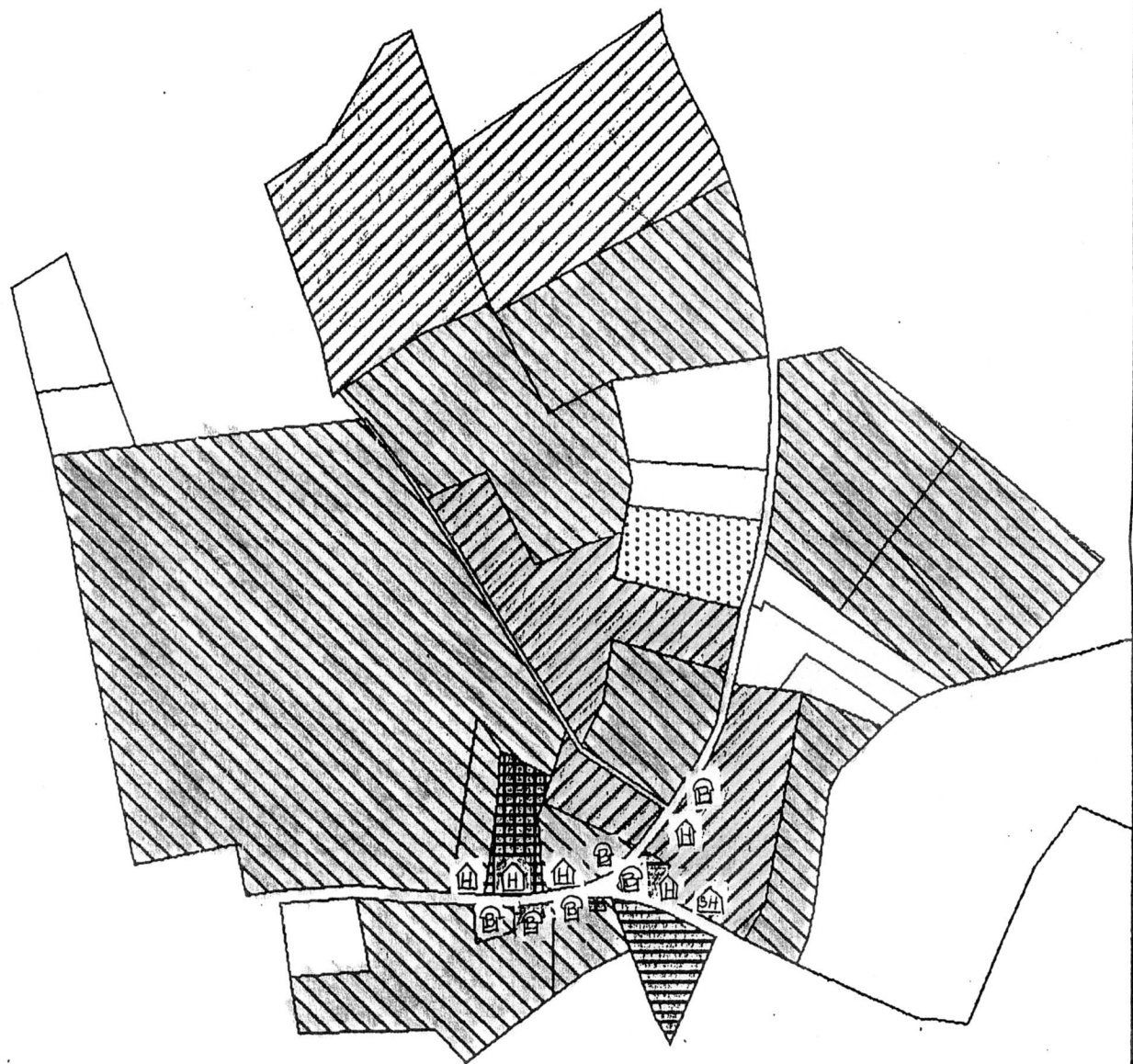
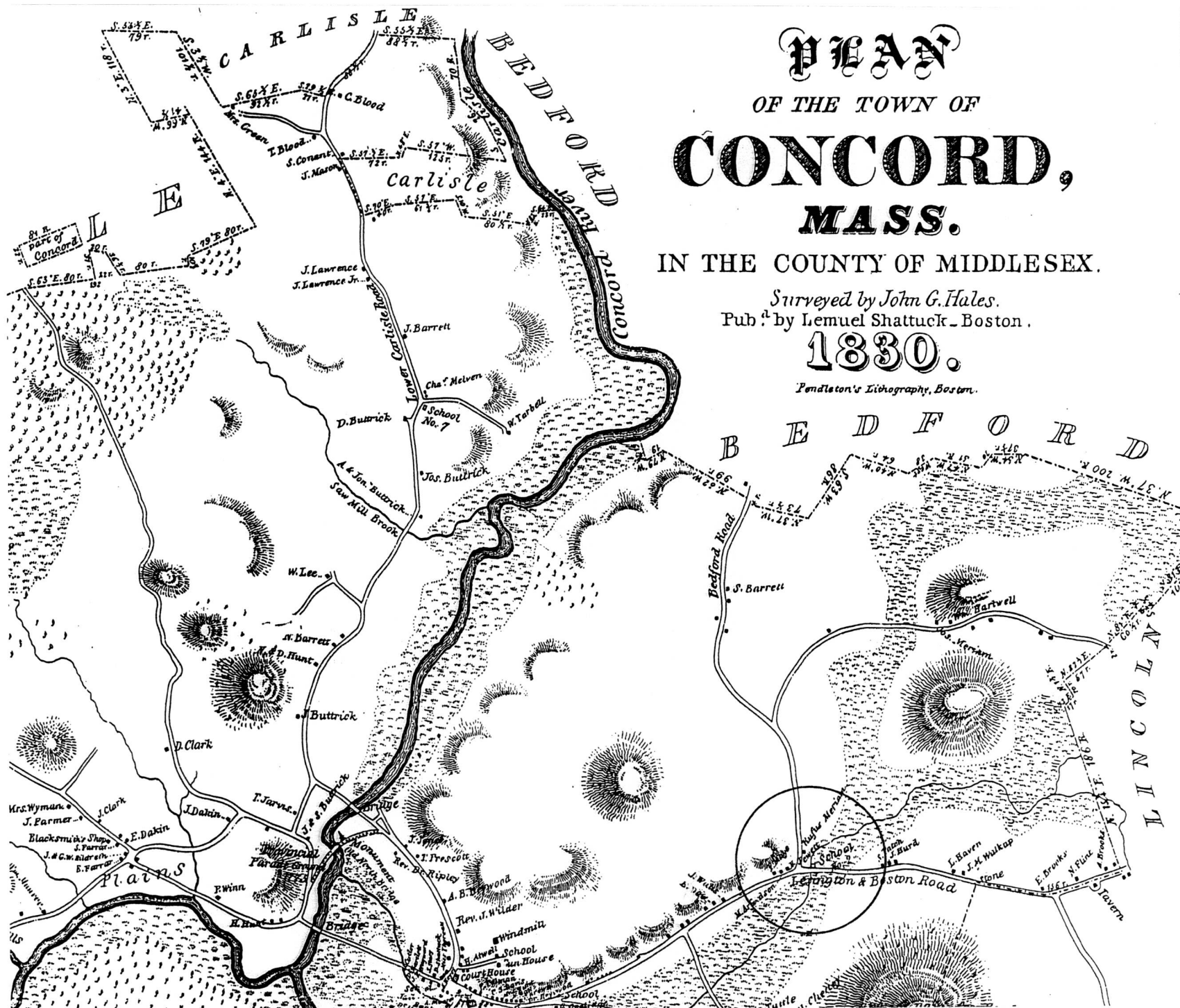


Figure 8. Annotated GIS Map of Land Ownership at Miriam's Corner in 1800 (1994).

Figure 9. Portion of 1830 Map of Concord Showing "N. Jewett" at Gowing-Clark Site (Area Circled).



"Plan of the Road at the East Quarter School House
in Concord Mass: Surveyed by Henry D. Thoreau,
Nov. 9th 1855"

3 ft wide X 1 1/2 ft. tall

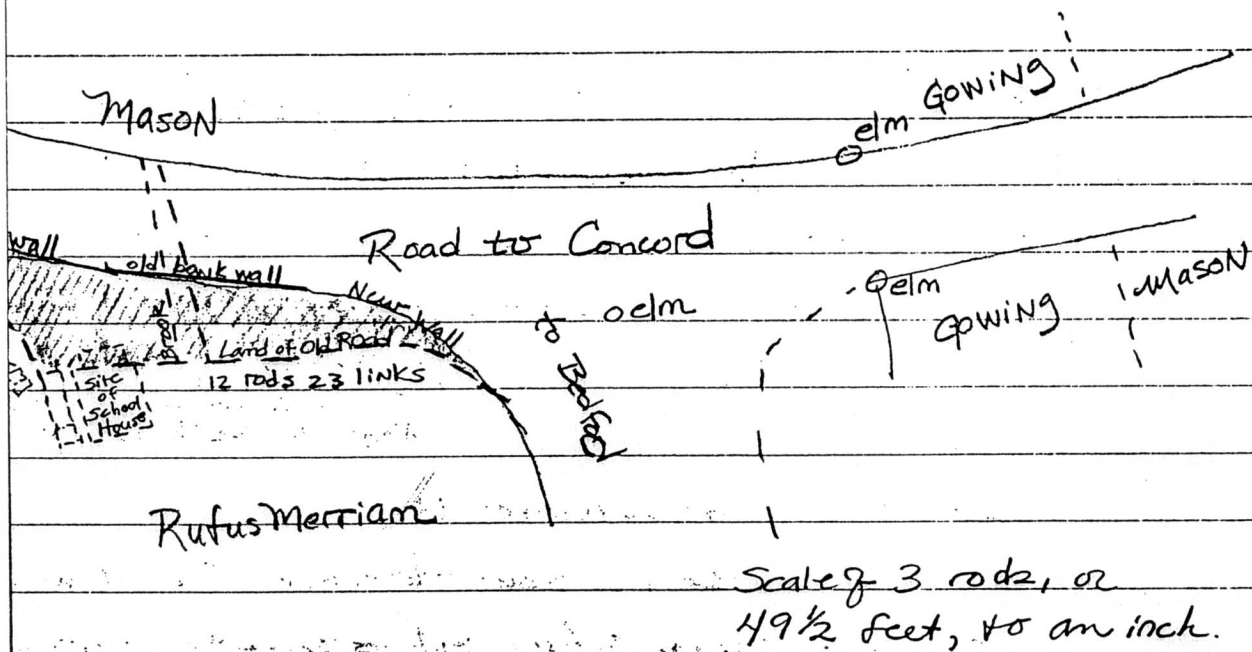
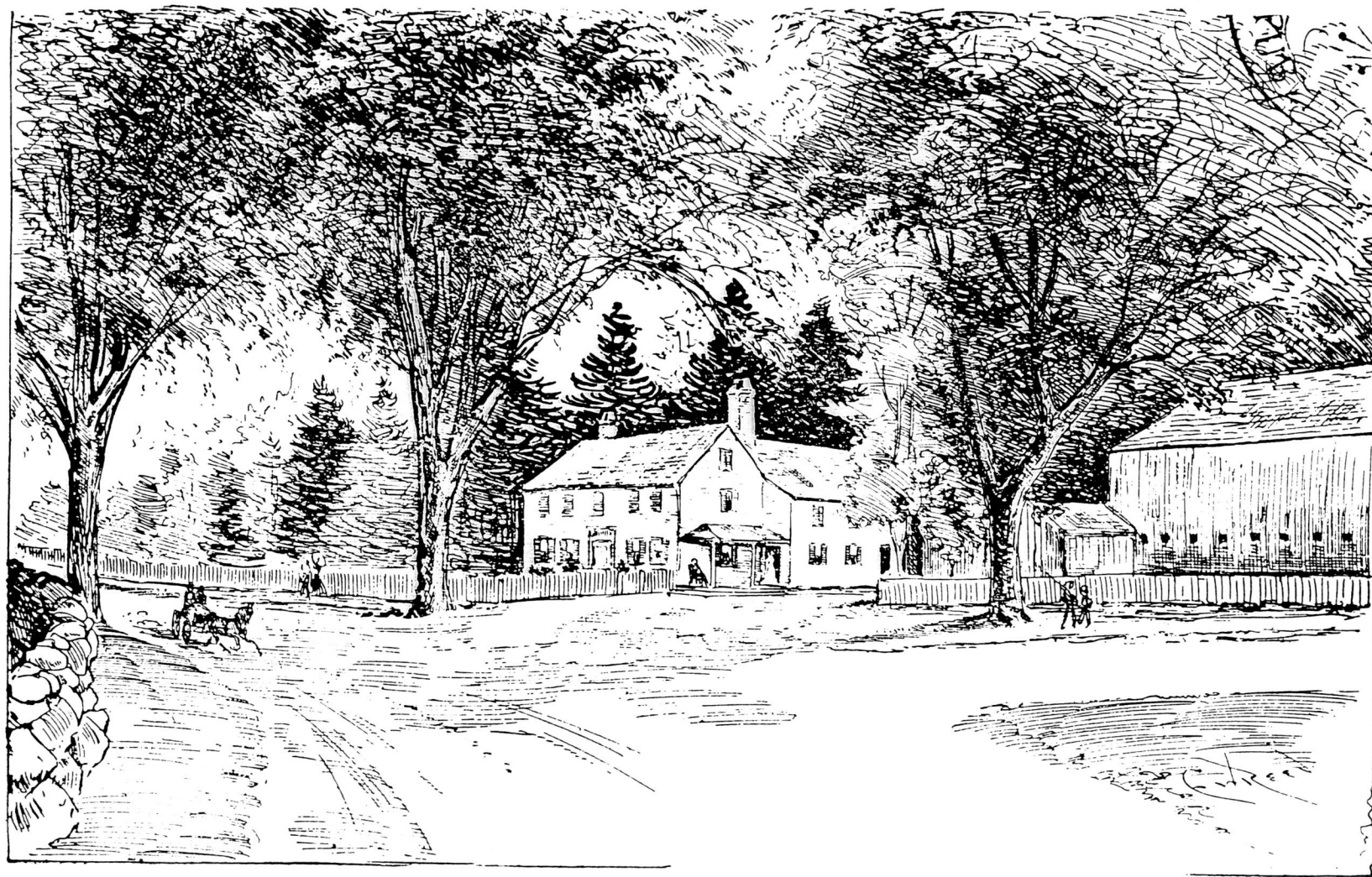


Figure 10. Tracing of Thoreau's 1855 Map of Miriam's Corner Showing "Gowing" at Gowing-Clark Site.



THE HOME OF MY FATHER, WITH THE GREAT BARN NEAR IT.

Figure 11. Sketch Showing Gowing-Clark House from the Southeast (Circa 1899).

II. PHYSICAL EVOLUTION

CONSTRUCTION – CIRCA 1836⁴⁹

Overview

Although the appearance and certain physical features of the “Daniel Taylor house” suggest that the main house dates to the early nineteenth century (when John and Tarrant Meriam owned the house), and that the ell dates to the eighteenth century, the architectural investigation of the structure indicates that both the main house and the ell were probably built sometime between 1830 and 1840, either by Nathaniel Jewett in 1832 or, more likely, by Jabez Gowing in 1836.

It is known from various Concord town records that there was a house on the site as early as 1717 and that this structure was probably standing in April 1775 when Daniel Taylor owned the property. Physical evidence, however, indicates that 1) the eighteenth century house was removed and the existing main house was built at least after 1815 and probably closer to 1840 2) the ell was probably built at the same time as the main house but had a different roof line than what now exists; and 3) many elements, such as structural timbers and doors, from what may have been the house Daniel Taylor lived in were reused in the construction of the house and ell.

Several conjectured construction dates have been proposed for the extant main house and its ell. Many exterior (and some interior) features of the main house appear to date to the early nineteenth century, leading to the conclusion that it was built at that time (the *GMP* estimated circa 1810). A corollary to this conclusion is that the ell was the original eighteenth-century house that was attached to the current main house when the latter was built in the early 1800s; the ell is of smaller proportions than the main house, has its own facade facing Old Bedford Road, and has certain features such as low ceilings on the interior and pre-1800 doors, that suggest an older structure.

Another theory is that the main house is in fact the earlier structure that was significantly remodeled in the early 1800s. This theory is supported by the fact that the main house has an eighteenth-century central chimney plan with the space typically reserved for the massive chimney now used as small rooms. Under this scenario, sometime after 1800 federal-style features (e.g., the main entrance) were added to the main house and the central chimney was removed; in its place two chimneys were built along the rear wall of the house that vented fireplaces in the main house and a kitchen fireplace and bake oven in the newly-attached ell. Attendant to this theory is the proposal that the ell was an early outbuilding that was attached to the main house when it was remodeled.

These theories all have some validity when the easily-visible features on the structures are examined. A limited, intrusive, physical investigation, however, revealed evidence that led to the determination that the house and ell were probably built in the early 1830s, more than 50 years after Daniel Taylor sold the site in 1778.

⁴⁹ Lists of paint, mortar, and nail samples and the locations from which they were removed are contained in APPENDICES E, F, & G of this report.

Methodology of Physical Investigation

In June 1999 Building Conservation Branch (BCB) Historical Architect David Bittermann and MIMA NHP personnel conducted some preliminary architectural investigation of the Gowing-Clark house. They carefully removed several clapboards from between the two first-story windows at the east and west ends of the south façade of the main house (W101-W102 and W103-W104) and from between the two southernmost windows on the east wall of the ell (W106-W107). One sheathing board and a length of surround molding on the west window (W101) were also removed for closer examination, and several nails were removed, placed in artifact bags, and labeled. All features were examined for evidence of the method of manufacture and installation, as well as for signs of any previous episode of sheathing, cladding, and/or window trim. The sheathing and the clapboards were then reinstalled (see **figs. 12-16**).

In October 1999 BCB Architectural Conservator Maureen Phillips and Architect David Bittermann conducted a preliminary investigation of the interior of the structure, focusing on the cellar and attic of both the main house and of the ell. Conservator Phillips then conducted a more thorough physical documentation of the exterior of the structure and of the cellar. Paint samples were removed from the exterior and mortar samples were removed from the cellar and from the exterior foundation of the ell. These samples were returned to the BCB laboratory and analyzed.⁵⁰

In January 2000 Conservator Phillips and Architect Bittermann returned to the house to conduct a more in-depth investigation of the structure of the house. The construction methods and framing of the cellar and of the ell storage room and attic were examined and noted, and several additional nail and mortar samples were removed and analyzed at the BCB laboratory.

Summary of Conclusions

Original framing members that date to between the 1820s and the 1840s, nails used in original features that were manufactured only between circa 1815 and circa 1835, and butt-jointing of the original clapboards, a technique used no earlier than 1830 and more probably closer to 1840, combine to indicate that the house was built between 1830 and 1840. Nathaniel Jewett thus may have built the house when he purchased the property in 1832; however, 1832 is a very early date to be finding butt clapboards and, as he was to live there for only another four years, it is not thought that Jewett built the existing house at a later date. It is more likely that Jabez Gowing built the house soon after purchasing the property in April 1836; this is still somewhat early but for the use of butt clapboards but within the manufacturing time window for the circa 1815-1836 nails used.

⁵⁰ See **APPENDICES D, E, and F** for a list of the paint, mortar, and nail samples and the locations from which they were removed.

Analysis

Nails

The most important and conclusive evidence found in the structure were cut nails that were used on what appear to be original features of both the main house and the ell.

When clapboards were removed from selected areas of investigation, it was apparent that they were the only episode of cladding attached to sheathing boards which were original to the house's construction. Close examination of the cut nails attaching the clapboards to the sheathing revealed that they have the physical characteristics of machine-cut nails that were manufactured only between circa 1815 and circa 1835.⁵¹ The circa 1815-1835 nails were found in original wall sheathing and clapboards on the south façade of the main house and on the east wall of the ell, in original window casing on the main house south façade, in the subflooring and main staircase framing in the main house, and on interior wall sheathing boards in the second-floor ell storage area. Thus, the nail evidence dates the construction of both the main house and the ell to between circa 1815 and circa 1835.

Clapboard Joints

The original clapboards on the south façade and east and west walls of the main house and on the east wall of the ell are all butt jointed. This technique was used possibly as early as 1830 in New England but was most commonly used after 1840. These clapboards are, however, attached using circa 1815-1835 cut nails, and in that period most clapboards joints were skived (i.e., overlapped). This evidence indicates that the house was probably built near circa 1835 -- the end of the use of that particular cut-nail type, and closer to the period when clapboards were butt-jointed.

Foundation Construction

The construction of the foundation walls and the chimney bases in the cellar of the building indicates that the west and east ends of the main house and at least the south half of the ell were erected on that site at the same time.

The structure currently has an L-shaped full cellar under the main house and the south half of the ell. This space is lined with foundation walls composed of large mortared fieldstones topped by several courses of mortared brick. The walls are continuous around the perimeter of the main house and into the ell, suggesting that the entire cellar was constructed in the same period. This theory is confirmed by mortar samples that were removed from both the fieldstone and brick portions of the foundation walls in all areas of the cellar that, upon analysis, proved to have been composed of the same mixture.

⁵¹ These characteristics include burrs (or ridges) along the same-side edges of the shank, a rounded end, and short bevels (marks indicating where the nail was grasped for machine-heading). See Maureen K. Phillips, "Mechanic Geniuses and Duckies": A Revision of New England's Cut Nail Chronology before 1820," *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology* (Albany, NY: The Association for Preservation Technology, 1994), pp. 4-16.

The two chimney bases in the cellar display somewhat different methods of construction on the main-house side and were initially thought to have been erected at different times. One base is located at the center of the north wall at the west end of the main-house cellar, and the second base is located at the center of the north side of the east end of the main-house cellar and extends into the ell cellar (the hearth support on the north side of the chimney base, located in the ell cellar, has been reworked). Both bases have brick piers -- in the west chimney base two piers extend south from the north cellar wall; in the east base three brick piers extend north/south straddling the main-house and the ell cellars. The west chimney base and hearth are supported by a row of 4 feet 6-inch long granite lintels that run east/west and which are supported by pockets in the brick piers, while the east base is supported by a row of reused framing timbers and the south hearth is supported by corbelled brick rising from brick piers.

However, close examination of the brick used to construct the piers for both bases revealed that they are the same type of brick, and analysis of mortar samples taken from piers of both bases indicated that the mortar taken from the west base has the same characteristics as that taken from the east base. These mortars also share the same characteristics as the mortar taken from both the stone and the brick on the original foundation walls. In addition, it was determined that the granite lintels supporting the west chimney were not original - the lintels do not fit well into the pockets in the brick piers and have been shimmed with several small pieces of stone. The original lintels were probably also timbers, which had deteriorated in the damp atmosphere of the cellar and had been replaced with granite. It therefore appears that the L-shaped cellar and the chimney bases were all built during the same building campaign.

Framing

Cellar

Overview

Although much of the framing in the cellar of the Gowing-Clark house has been replaced over the years (as evidenced by empty or half-filled joist pockets in what appear to be original framing members and in the top of the fieldstone foundation walls) much original first-floor framing has survived. Surviving original framing members include the summer beams (with the same cross-sectional dimensions) on the east and west ends of the main-house area of the cellar, the joists and subflooring at the east end and in the central portion of the main-house cellar, and the north/south beam that defines the beginning of the ell extension to the east and the east/west hearth girt in the ell area of the cellar. From this surviving original framing it was possible to determine that 1) the house was constructed between circa 1815 and circa 1835; and 2) many of the original framing members were reused from an earlier building.

“New” Framing Members

Evidence for the conjectured circa 1836 construction date can be seen in the east half of the main-house cellar, where original first-floor joists and what appear to be the original 1-foot wide subflooring boards have survived. The joists and subflooring are mill (or sash) sawn and thus date to no later than 1850; after that date the lumber would probably have been circular-sawn. In addition,

the ends of the cut nails that fasten the room's floor boards to the subfloor extend through the subfloor into the cellar, and these nails display the characteristics of circa 1815-1835 nails.

Reused Timbers

The fact that several of the original first-floor framing members were first used in an earlier structure is evidenced by the fact that these beams fit snugly into pockets in the foundation wall, meaning that they are original to the construction of the house, but they also have unused joist or stud pockets that do not correspond to any other empty pockets in the framing. The most informative of these beams can be seen in the east chimney base and in the ell cellar area.

- The east chimney base consists of three, brick, north/south piers that are 4 feet long each and which straddle the area between the main-house cellar and the ell cellar. East/west lintels that support the chimney above are positioned next to each other across the span of the outer piers and sit in pockets created in the brick of the piers (**fig. 17**). Each lintel is a wood beam that displays some feature of a prior use, such as empty joist or stud pockets or wrought nails in an inaccessible spot. One beam has a bead along one edge. Beading or chamfering the edge of a structural member was a decorative device used when the major beams were exposed on the interior of a house, which was common before circa-1750. Such decorative treatments were not used on framing members in cellars.
- In the ell cellar, the north/south girt that marks where the ell begins to extend east of the east wall of the main house is a massive beam measuring at least 1 foot in cross section (**fig. 18**). This beam was original to the construction to ell-cellar area, but is considerably oversized for its use and also has empty pockets. In addition, although the girt is extremely deteriorated a portion of a bead has survived on one edge. The size of the girt plus the presence of a decorative bead indicates that this girt was once a major carrying beam, probably a summer, from an earlier house that had been exposed and decorated.
- The east/west hearth girt in the ell cellar has empty pockets along its sides that do not have corresponding empty pockets on opposite walls. These pockets are broad flat mortises that are not squared and thus appear to have been carved out for tusk tenons, an eighteenth-century framing joint.

Main House Roof

The framing of the main-house roof appears to date the circa 1830-1840. The framing consists of mill-sawn timbers that are smaller than the hand-hewn or azed timbers used in the post-and-beam framing of an earlier era of construction. Framing from after circa 1850 would probably have been composed of circular-sawn timbers. A few of the rafters are rough textured or hand-hewn and thus may have been reused from an earlier building.

The roof framing gives every indication that it is original to the construction of the house. Supporting this conclusion is the presence of original roof shingles on the east end of main house's north wall that were attached using circa 1815-1835 cut nails. This area was covered when the ell roof was raised at a later date, preserving a portion of roof and wall shingles and a section of a wooden gutter/cornice on the north wall of the main house (**fig. 19**).

Ell

Overview

The framing of the 1 ½-story ell of the Gowing-Clark house is exposed in the second-floor storage room at the north end of the building and in the attic. Investigation of the framing in these areas revealed that 1) the ell was probably built at the same time as the main house and had the same footprint that it does today; and 2) the roof configuration of the ell was originally a low saltbox rather than the existing gable.

Construction

- The extant northeast corner post of the ell is original to the structure. This post is continuous from the ground level of the first floor to the exterior east-wall girt (or plate) that runs above the window line on the second floor and which is also original to the structure. The east-wall plate travels from the northeast post through the south wall of the storage room into the second-floor rear hallway and to the north wall of the main house. On the extant west wall, the original northwest corner post and west-wall plate have also survived and, as on the east wall, the west-wall plate runs through the south wall of the storage room to the north wall of the main house. These framing members indicate that the ell has always been its current length and width.
- Two pieces of evidence were found that suggests that the ell was constructed at the same time as the main house. First, there appears to be no corner post in the southwest corner of the ell, suggesting that the east-wall girt ties directly into the main-house framing (additional intrusive investigation would be needed to confirm this feature). In addition, sheathing boards on the south wall below the original rafter line are mill sawn and fastened using circa 1815-1835 cut nails similar to those found in original features of the main house.

Roof Configuration

There is ample evidence that the original ell had a saltbox roof that was later replaced with the existing gable roof. The original roof had a short east slope that rose from at the existing east-wall plate (see *Ell – Construction*, above) to a ridge located near the level of the main house's north-wall cornice. The long east roof slope of the ell descended from this ridge to a west-wall girt (or plate) located approximately 2 feet above the second-floor floor level (**figs. 20-22**).

Evidence for this configuration can be seen in the ell second-floor storage room and in the ell attic, where the later ell roof now covers an area of the exterior north wall and north roof slope of the main house that had originally been exposed. This evidence includes:

- original west-slope rafters have survived on the north and south walls of the storage room, and the rafters on both walls and the center post on the north wall have been cut off to accommodate the later east-slope rafters;
- original sheathing boards with circa 1815-1835 cut nails are still extant below the original rafters;
- the original west-wall girt (plate) has survived on the west wall of the storage room, approximately 2 feet above the floor level;

- in the attic, exterior wall shingles and wooden cornice/gutter of the main house north wall (now covered by the later ell roof) are cut at an angle near the east end of the wall, marking the eastern extent of the original west-roof slope of the ell (**fig. 23**)

Anomalies

Overview

In the physical documentation of an antique house there are always some features that raise more questions than they answer, especially with limited-intrusive investigation. Below is a list of anomalies found during the investigation of the Gowing-Clark house conducted in spring/fall of 1999 and winter of 2000 for which as of this writing no definitive answers have been found.

South Façade Construction

When clapboards were removed from the south façade of the main house in June 1999, it was observed that the composition of the walls behind the sheathing boards differed on the west and the east ends. On the west end, the sheathing was nailed to studs, which in turn could be seen to have been used as a nailers for the horizontal lath and plaster applied on the interior wall (**figs. 12 & 13**). On the east end, a layer of vertical accordion lath and plaster was visible through the gaps in the sheathing boards applied to the *exterior* side of the wall studs, possibly for use as a wind break. This feature was not present on the west end of the wall. Comparison of the nails from the two ends of the wall could help determine if they were built at the same or different times. However, no nails were removed from the sheathing or from the window casing on the east end of the wall (as they were from the west end) because of concerns that evidence on the lath and plaster the “wind break” would be disturbed. Thus it is not known why the two sides of the wall were have different construction.

Possible Former Ell Chimney

The theory that the ell may have been the original Daniel Taylor house was conjectured from the observation that its massing, asymmetrical fenestration, and low ceiling heights differ from the massing, symmetrical fenestration, and higher ceilings of the main house. If it had originally been a house, the ell would have had a chimney, probably near the center of the structure. In the north room on the first floor of the existing ell the south wall protrudes into the room for several feet (see first-floor plan in **APPENDIX C**). The wall is finished with wallboard, but removing an old furnace outlet provided a glimpse into the cavity. The wall and ceiling of the interior of the area are finished with lath and plaster and are painted, and it appears that this was a closet or pantry to the ell kitchen in the 1800s.

If the ell is indeed a house that pre-dates the main house, it is possible that the space formerly used for a chimney could have been converted into a pantry when the ell was joined with the newly-constructed main house circa 1836. There is also a patched area of flooring in the storage room above immediately over the former pantry, supporting the theory that a something -- possibly a chimney mass -- use to occupy the pantry space and continued to the roof. Unfortunately, when the saltbox roof was replaced with a higher gable roof circa 1868 any possible evidence of a former chimney in the ell roofing was destroyed. Further physical investigation more intrusive than what

has so far been conducted would be required to definitely determine the construction evolution of the ell.

Sheathing

All of the sheathing exposed when clapboards were removed from the west and east ends of the south façade of the main house and from the east wall of the ell was composed of mill-sawn boards. However, the widths of the boards differed in the three areas -- those at the south façade/west end were slightly narrower than those at the south façade/east end (7 to 10 inches wide and 10 to 12 inches wide, respectively), which were in turn slightly narrower than those on the east ell wall (at least 12 inches wide). It is not known why the size of the boards would differ, although it is not uncommon to see sheathing boards of differing widths used at the same time on houses of this period. The nails pulled from the sheathing on the south façade/west end and on the ell east wall all date to circa 1815-1835, suggesting that the narrowest and widest boards were applied at the same time. It is possible that if the entire exterior sheathing was exposed the variation in sheathing size would be seen to exist on all the walls of the building.

Plan

The plan of the main house has several features common to an early eighteenth-century central-chimney house (see **APPENDIX C**). The main doorway is centered on the south façade and opens into a small hall in which doorways on the east and west walls lead to the two primary first-floor rooms and a steep twisted staircase on the north wall leads to the second floor. In a central-chimney house, a large chimney mass would have been located behind the staircase; in the Gowing-Clark house this space is used for a small room on each floor, leading to the speculation that the chimney had been removed.

However, examination of the interior of the staircase stairwell (accessible from the cellar) revealed that the eighteenth-century style staircase was original to the house, but that it was built circa 1815-1835. Again, the telling evidence was the presence of circa-1815-1835 cut nails in original structural features of the staircase. In addition, there was no evidence on the rear (north) wall of the stairwell that a central chimney had ever existed in that structure.

The main house is thus apparently an example of a plan that marked a transition between the center chimney plan and a center hallway plan which was more commonly used in the later periods of architectural style. This transitional plan was used into the 1830s in New England, although the fact that it was chosen as late as that in Concord when the later plans had been commonly used in the area for at least 40 years (note the circa 1790 Noah Brooks tavern on Lexington Road to the east) makes the Gowing-Clark house an extremely conservative design for its time.

Main Entrance

The main entrance on the south façade of the main house, with its doorway flanked by half-sidelights and topped by a simple architrave, is a federal style that was most commonly used in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries (see **fig. 43**). It was this feature, along with the massing and proportions of the structure, that triggered the speculation that the main house may have been built around 1805 to 1810. However, only wire nails could be seen in the surround and

architrave and the paint history on the surround, pilasters, and sidelight panels is not extensive, suggesting that the doorway may be a modern (i.e., post 1890) feature. Further intrusive investigation of the doorway is needed to confirm whether or not it is an original feature of the main house.

Surrounds

Molding profiles of window surrounds on the first story of the main house and ell were noted and compared to each other to ascertain a relative dating of these features.⁵² Profile **Type A** was used on surrounds on the south façade and east and west walls of the main house and on the two southern windows on the east wall of the ell (W101-W107 and W113). This surround type was also used on the doorway on the east wall of the ell (D103) but not on the main entrance (D101). This molding profile style was commonly used over a long period starting in the early 1800s.

Even though the main-house windows are larger than the two ell windows, it is thought that all the surrounds were original to the construction of the building -- it was from a **Type A** molding on window W101 that 1815-1835 cut nails were pulled, and analysis of paint samples taken from these surrounds revealed similar paint stratigraphies. The difference in window sizes can be explained by the fact that the ell first-floor ceiling is lower than the main-house first-floor ceiling.

The surrounds on two windows on the west wall of the ell (W110 and W112) display molding profile **Type B**. The fact that these window openings are slightly smaller than, and their paint stratigraphies not as extensive as, the first-story windows on the east wall of the ell, would indicate that the west-wall windows were installed at a later date than the east-wall windows. However, molding profile **Type B** is of a style normally associated with an *earlier* period of construction than the **Type A** molding found on two of the east-wall ell windows

Hearth Supports

The hearth support on the west chimney base is part of the base, which is composed of two brick piers spanned by large granite lintels that were probably originally wood timbers. The hearth support on the south side of the east chimney base is composed of corbelled brick (the north [ell-side] hearth support has been reworked with metal lath and Portland cement). Analysis of the mortar samples taken from the brick piers of each base and from the east-base corbelled hearth support revealed that both bases and the hearth support were built at the same time. It is not known why the construction of the hearth supports differs on the two chimney bases.

Appearance of Original House

For the most part, the appearance of the Gowing-Clark house has not changed since it was built in circa 1836 (figs. 20-22). The house consisted of a rectangular two-story main house that faced Lexington Road to the south with a one-and-a-half story ell attached to its northeast end. The main house was one room wide and two rooms deep, had symmetrical placement of windows and doorways on all four elevations, and was topped by a gable roof covered with wood shingles. Two chimneys were positioned along the north (rear) wall of the main house -- each chimney was used to

⁵² These molding profiles were only roughly sketched and not drawn from a profile gauge, and are therefore not included in this report.

vent first and second-floor fireplaces in the main house and the east chimney was also used for a fireplace and bake oven in the ell.

The footprint of the ell was the same in circa 1836 as it is today. The south end of the ell was built over a full cellar that was continuous with the main house cellar; the north end of the appendage sat on a low rubblestone foundation wall. The east wall of the ell protruded approximately 5 feet from the plane of the east wall of the main house, creating a short south-facing wall on the ell. This wall held a doorway that opened into the kitchen. The ell originally had a roof with a saltbox profile instead of the current gable; a short east slope rose to the cornice/gutter level on the main house and a long west slope descended to approximately 2 feet above the first-floor ceiling level.

The placement of windows and doorways on the "public" walls of the house (the south façade and east and west walls of the main house, and the south and east walls of the ell) appears to have been the same as is seen today.



Figure 12. Gowing-Clark House – South Façade, West End (1999).



Figure 13. Gowing-Clark House – South Façade, West End, Detail Showing Original Mill-Sawn Sheathing (1999).

Figure 14. Gowing-Clark House –
South Façade, East End (1999).

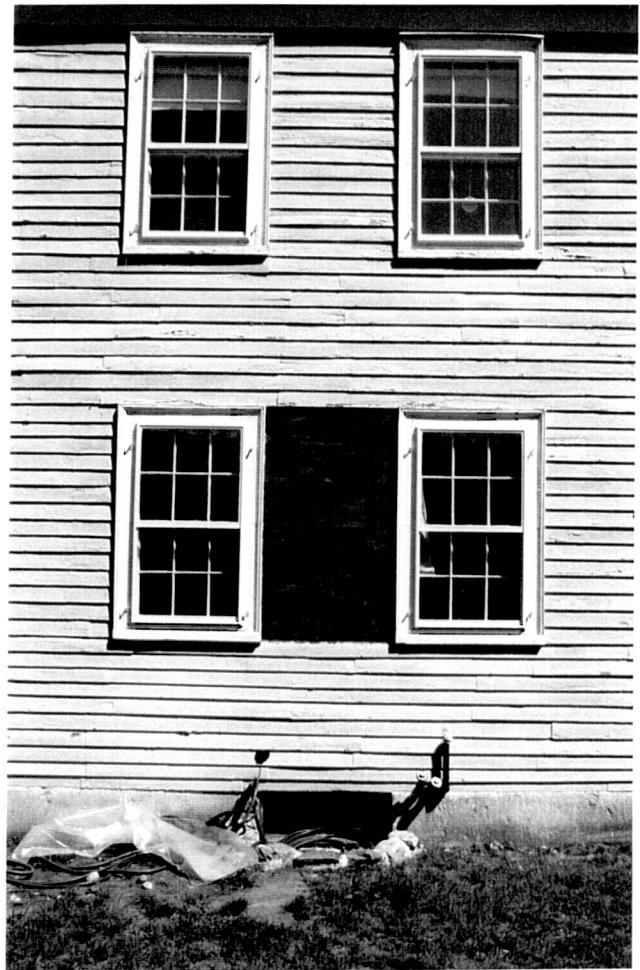


Figure 15. Gowing-Clark House – South Façade,
East End, Detail Showing Original Mill-Sawn
Sheathing (1999).

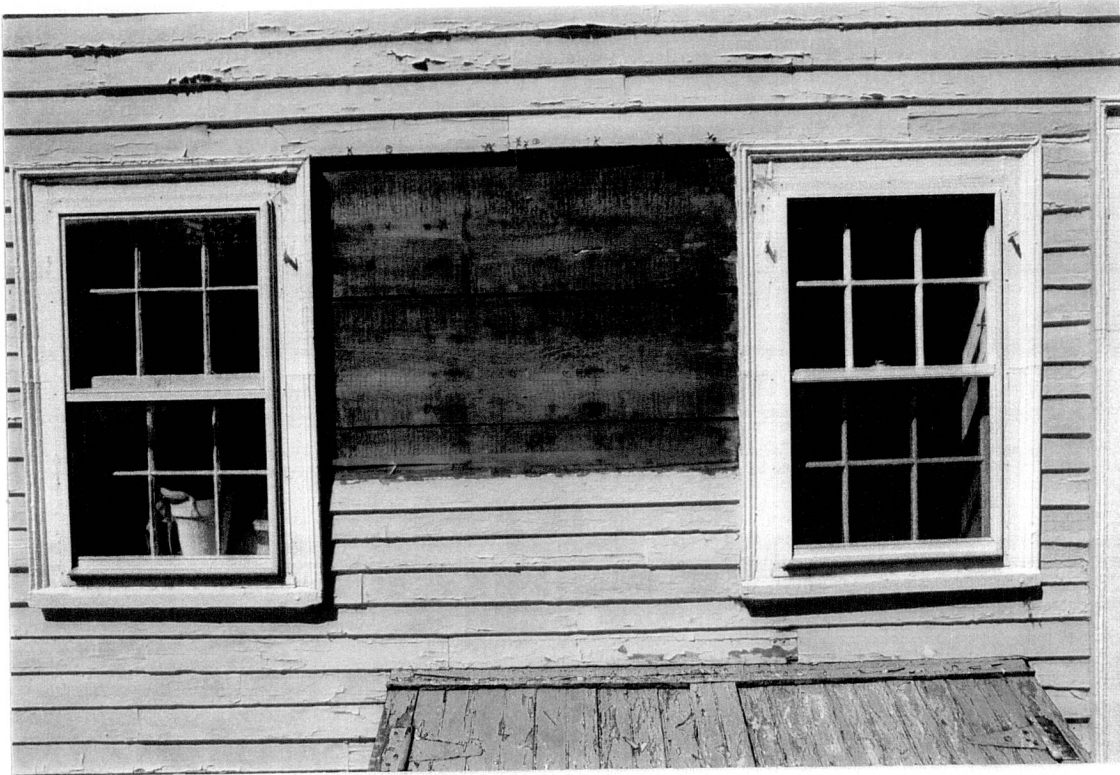


Figure 16. Gowing-Clark House – East Elevation, South End of Ell (1999).



Figure 17. Gowing-Clark House – Ell Cellar, North Side of East Chimney Base (2000).



Figure 18. Gowing-Clark House – Ell Cellar, Reused Timber as North/South Girt (2000).



Figure 19. Gowling-Clark House – Ell Attic Looking South, Formerly-Exposed Original Roofing on North Slope of Main-House Roof (2000).

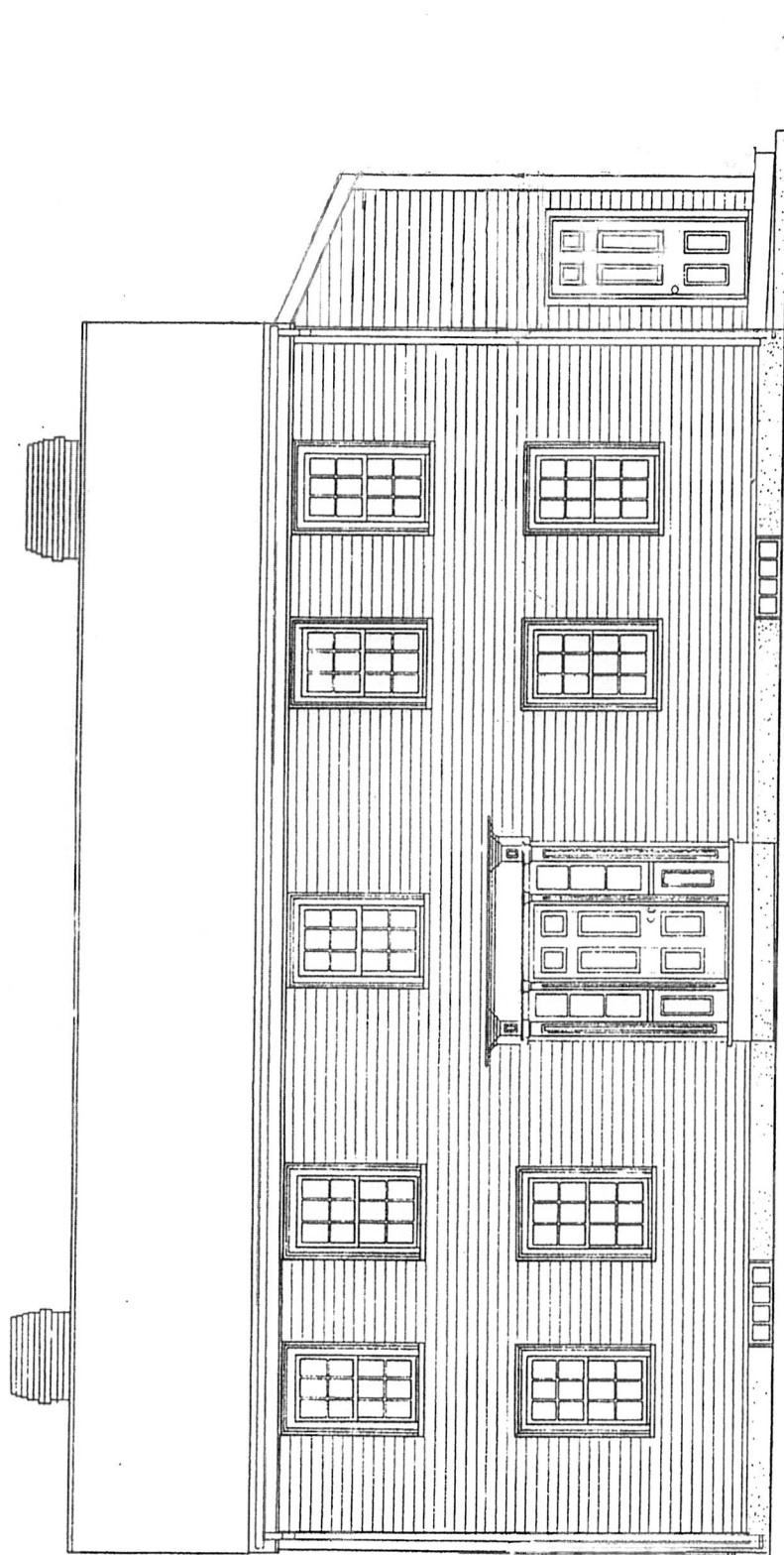


Figure 20. Gowling-Clark House – Conjectured Original appearance of South Façade.



Figure 21. Gowing-Clark House – Conjectured Original Appearance of East Elevation.

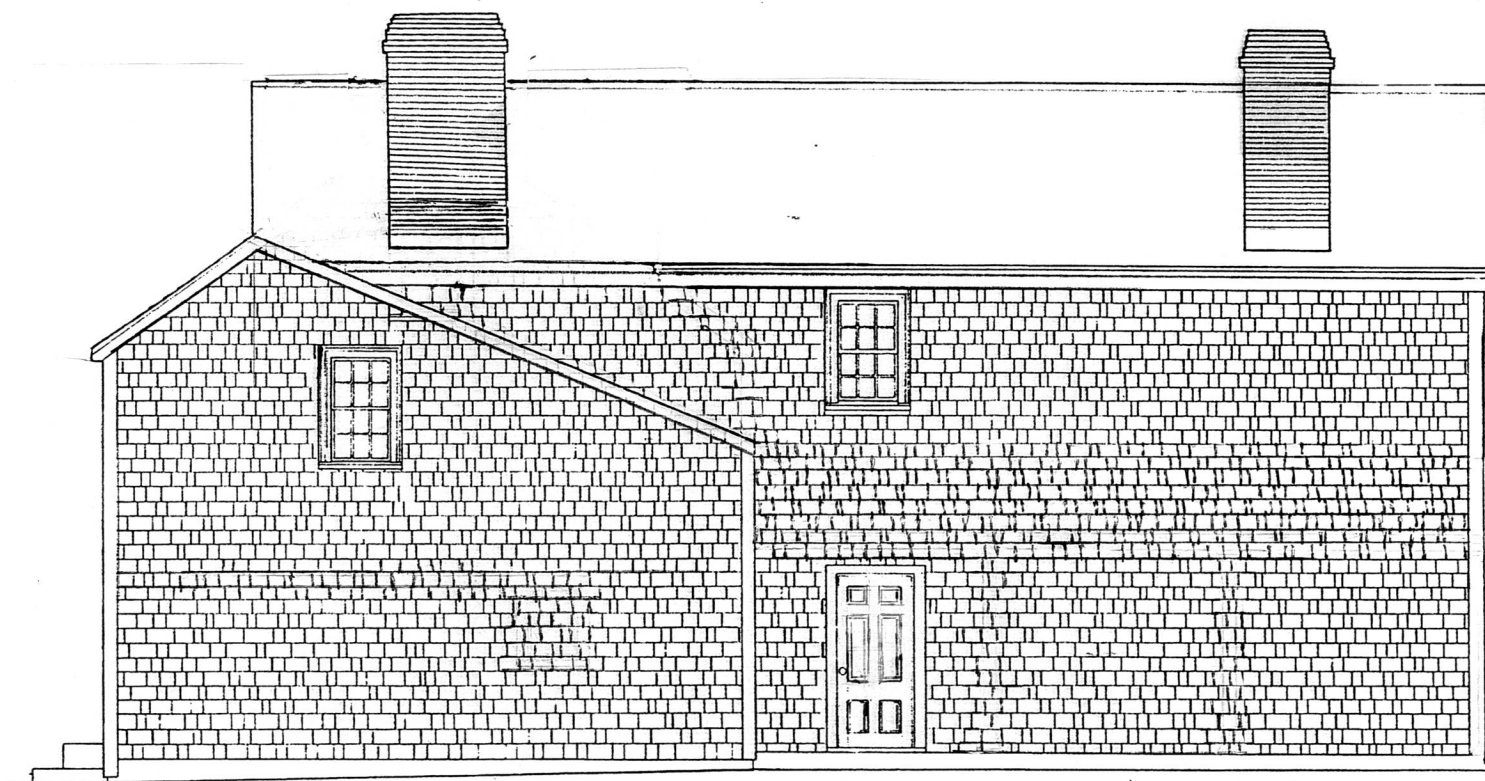


Figure 22. Gowing-Clark House – Conjectured Original Appearance of North Elevation.

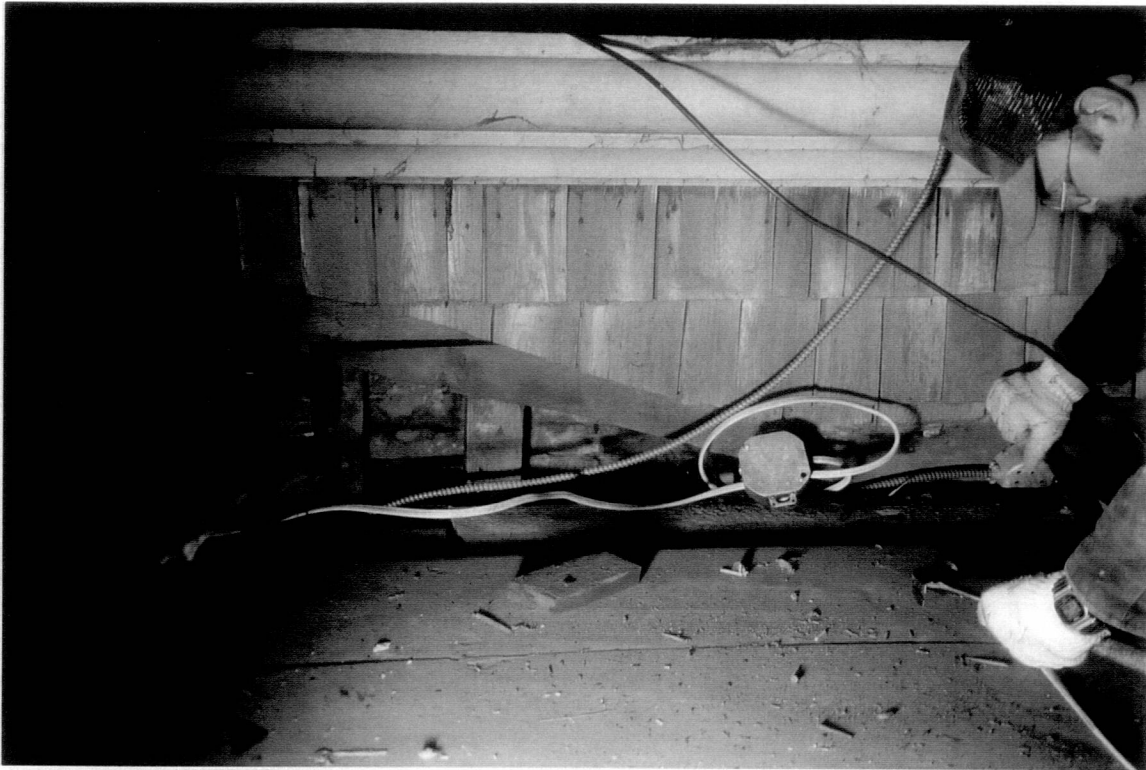


Figure 23. Gowling-Clark House – Ell Attic Looking South, Formerly-Exposed Area of Main House North Wall Showing Original Slope of Ell West Roof (2000).

POST-CONSTRUCTION ALTERATIONS

Benjamin Clark – Circa 1868

Overview

Sometime after 1850 and before 1899 the saltbox roof on the ell of the Gowing-Clark house was replaced with a full gable roof and the east chimney stack was raised. In addition, many of the interior walls and ceilings were replaced in the house either at the same time as or after the ell roof was raised. It is known that the exterior alterations were made at least before 1899, since the gable-roofed ell and raised chimney stack are shown in a sketch drawn for Clara Gowing's book that was published around that year (see **fig. 11**), and existing physical evidence documents that the interior and exterior alterations were made after 1850. Therefore, it is known that the either Jabez Gowing or Benjamin Clark were responsible for the changes. Since it is thought that Gowing would not have troubled with major renovations to the house in his later years, it is conjectured that Benjamin Clark remodeled the house when he purchased the property in 1868.

Physical Evidence

Ell Roof

- When the “new” roof was built it covered the east end of the main house's north wall, preserving a section of the north roof slope and north wall shingles. The roof shingles are original to the circa-1830 construction of the house -- they are attached using circa 1815-1835 cut nails and display several years of weathering. The wall shingles are replacement shingles -- they are circular-sawn and attached using modern cut nails and show minor weathering. “Modern” cut nails⁵³ were manufactured beginning around 1835, and circular-sawn shingles were commonly available after the 1840s. Thus, either Gowing or Clark could have replaced the wall shingles before the ell roof was raised.
- The framing and sheathing of the “new” gable roof on the ell (which is clearly visible above the original roof framing in the second-floor storage room and in the attic of the ell) consist of circular-sawn boards. Circular-sawn framing members were not commonly available until after 1850 but were used well into the twentieth century. Thus the “new” ell roof must have been built after 1850, but could have been raised any time before the Cora Gowing sketch was published in 1899.

Interior Walls and Ceilings

- The framing of the main staircase stairwell (accessible from the cellar) appears original; however, the stairwell walls exhibit both original circa-1836 mill-sawn lath attached (using 1815-1835 nails) below the baseboard level and later circular-sawn lath and plaster above the baseboard, indicating that the walls were replaced some years after the original construction of

⁵³ Modern cut nails differ from the previous generation of cut nails mainly by the fact that the ends are squared or “sheared” as opposed to round.

the house. Circular-sawn lath appeared as early as 1830 and was in common use after 1840. Since the original lath and plaster walls were installed in circa-1836 and arguably would still have been in good condition in 1850, the replacement walls using circular-sawn lath were probably installed after 1860.

- An area of circular-sawn lath similar to that found in the main stairwell is exposed on the ceiling of the second-floor ell hall. The ceiling could not have existed with the original salt box configuration of the ell roof, and would have to have been installed after the ell roof was raised sometime after 1850.
- One interesting finding of the physical investigation is that the renovations apparently involved plastering the space between the east and center piers of the east chimney base. A remnant of circular-sawn lath has survived on a timber lintel between the east and center piers supporting the east chimney and several of the lintels have plaster burns, indicating the former existence of a plastered ceiling.

Benjamin Clark - Appearance of House by 1899

Clara Gowing's sketch of the Gowing-Clark house appeared in her book of her Concord childhood reminiscences called *My Chest or Ransackings* around 1899. Gowing entitled the sketch "The Home of My Father With the Great Barn Near It," which implies that the view shows the house as it appeared when her father owned the farm. The sketch, however, was probably drawn for the book and can only be relied upon to show the approximate appearance of the farmhouse in the late 1890s.

The Gowing sketch (**fig. 11**) shows clearly that the ell now has a full gable roof and that at least the east chimney height has been raised. It also shows the existing one-story porch with a hipped roof on the east wall of the main house, with a figure of a woman standing in the doorway on the short south wall of the ell that the porch roof protects. This porch may have been a very recent addition; a plan of the area drawn in 1890 to record a proposed widening of Lexington Road shows no porch in that location, and does show a porch on the house across the road (**fig. 24**). In Gowing's sketch, the windows are all trimmed with shutters, some of which are closed, and the front doorway appears to have sidelights. A wooden picket or plank fence runs along Lexington Road and Old Bedford Road and up a driveway to the east of the house that leads up to outbuildings. These outbuildings seem to connect the house to the "Great Barn" near Old Bedford Road; the 1890 road plan shows the driveway and a similar long stretch of outbuildings extending from the house but not quite reaching the barn.

George Clark - Pre-1937

The earliest known photograph of the Gowing-Clark house was taken circa 1937 when Benjamin Clark's son, George B. Clark, owned the farm. The view shows that there had been few changes to the house since the late 1890s. The shutters have been removed, and it appears that both chimneys are by this time the same height. A bulkhead opening that is nearly level with the ground

can be seen on the east side of the ell. A remnant of the line of outbuildings that had stretched toward the barn from the house sits at the northeast corner of the ell (the barn is still standing but out of the range of the view – **fig. 25**), and there is no longer a fence separating the property from the two roads. A large tree at the southwest corner of the house blocks the view of the west side of the building, so it is not known if the northwest porch had as yet been constructed.

A plan of land filed in 1946 when George Clark sold the property to his daughter and son-in-law, Anne and Everett Thorpe, shows that by then the northwest porch had been built (**fig. 26**). The small outbuilding that had been attached to the northeast corner of the ell is gone but the barn is still standing. The barn has acquired several appendages of its own, one connected to its northwest corner and another along its southern wall.

Anne and Everett Thorpe - Circa 1950s

A 1963 Appraisal and a 1965 Valuation Report were prepared in anticipation of the sale of the Gowing-Clark property by Everette Thorpe to the United States in 1966 (see **APPENDIX H**). These reports contain descriptions of the house and property and several photographs (see, e.g., **figs. 27-29**) and reflect the improvements and changes that the Thorpes made to the property during their ownership. There is now a low stone wall along Lexington Road with a white picket fence in front of the front door. The wall continues on the other side of the driveway along Old Bedford Road. Shutters have been rehung on the windows on the front and side walls. Clipped evergreen shrubs ornament the corners of the house, porches, and front doorway, and a large maple sits to the south of the house near the stone wall. The bulkhead doorway is now higher on the east wall of the ell. Clapboards cover the south façade and the east and west walls of the main house and the south and east walls of the ell; shingles cover the remaining walls.

The northwest porch with its hipped roof is now clearly visible and is described as having a concrete floor, while the east porch had a wood floor composed of 4-inch wide boards. The ceilings on both porches are described as being covered with “novelty paneling”. Part of the north porch on the rear of the house “is screened with a door to the main building into a small den and a door to the westerly porch.”

The roofing on the house and porches was composed of asphalt shingles and the drainage system composed of “metal gutters and aluminum downspouts”. The clapboarded walls were painted yellow and the shingled walls were unpainted; the trim was painted a lighter color than the walls and the shutters and doors painted a dark color.

By 1963 the barn had been removed but the long shed at its northwest corner remains, although in very poor condition.

It appears that the Thorpes were also responsible for the repairs to the framing and foundation now evident in the cellar. Several framing members have been replaced or reinforced with modern lumber. On the east chimney base, the west side of the east brick pier and the north end of the center brick pier have been reinforced with concrete blocks that have been stuccoed; “1955 – Doolly – 1956” (**fig. 30**) has been scratched into the stucco. In addition, the arch that formerly supported the kitchen fireplace hearth has been replaced with metal lath and poured concrete.

National Park Service - 1966 to Present

A record of the repairs made to the Gowing-Clark house by the National Park Service is stored in the MIMA NHP maintenance files under "Daniel Taylor House". The repairs and the reference documents are listed below in chronological order.

1963-1977

(1977 HABS Drawings)

- Garage/shed removed

1969

(Unidentified Typed Document dated 1971 summarizing work completed on multiple buildings).

- Chimneys: repointed

1971

(Unidentified Typed Document dated 1971 summarizing work completed on multiple buildings).

Exterior

- Repainting: "entire house"
- East porch: reshingled with 16-inch white cedar shingles
 new rafters
 some ceiling boards replaced
- Bulkhead: doors replaced
- Northwest Porch: north half re-roofed with double-coverage rolled mat "to match other half"
 new flashing installed and ceiling boards re-nailed

Interior

- Linoleum laid in kitchen and bathroom
- New wallpaper in master bedroom, living room, and dining room
- Old wallpaper removed from "other two bedrooms"
- Kitchen, bathroom, and "other two bedrooms" painted
- New toilet in bathroom

1977

- New heating system boiler installed (Work Order dated 6/27/77)

1978

- Interior painted (Work Order dated 10/12/78)
- Exterior painted (Completion Report dated 6/11/78)

1979

(Completion Report dated 9/28/79)

- House re-roofed: asphalt shingles replaced with wood shingles
new built-up roofing installed on northwest porch roof
new copper gutters & downspouts installed on north and south roofs
new wood gutter installed on east roof of ell
wall shingles replaced on second floor of ell west wall

1981

- Interior: bathtub and kitchen sink/faucet replaced (Work Order dated 3/4/81)

1982

- Interior: installed Garrison II woodburning stove (Work Order dated 1/4/82)
new vanity, faucet, sink, & chinatop in bathroom (Work Order dated 3/9/82)
new copper piping to bathroom (Work Order dated 3/9/82)

1984

- Exterior repainted (MIMA NHP Maintenance Chart)

1988

- Deleading: paint removed from all painted surfaces on interior and exterior up to 5 feet above floor/ground level (Inspection Report dated 7/15/88)

1989

- East Porch: roof reshingled with white cedar shingles
1-foot section of fascia above roof replaced
flashing joints counter-flashed and tarred
(Typed Notes dated 11/21/89)
- Chimneys: repointed (Project Document "Multiple-Site Site Masonry Repair and Reroofing" dated 9/15/89)

1990

- Large maple to south of house near stone wall (and road) removed (9/11/90 correspondence from Superintendent Larry Gall to Daniel H. Monahan)
- Exterior repainted (MIMA NHP Maintenance Chart)

1992

"Repair to Roof/Eave East Façade of Ell" dated 10/1992

- 28 lf of rotted fascia replaced
- 20 lf of rotted sheathing boards replaced
- Repaired girt – showed surface rot and evidence of carpenter ant damage
- Removed & reinstalled 5 top rows of clapboards
- New clapboards installed at north end of wall, primed and painted
- Casing replaced on north window (W209)
- Removed & reinstalled gutter & downspouts at each end
- Removed & replaced 5 courses of wood roof shingles; 8-inch galvanized drip edge installed under double startercourse
- Electrical service, cable, telephone & fire alarm relocated to rear corner

1995

- Exterior repainted (MIMA NHP Maintenance Chart)

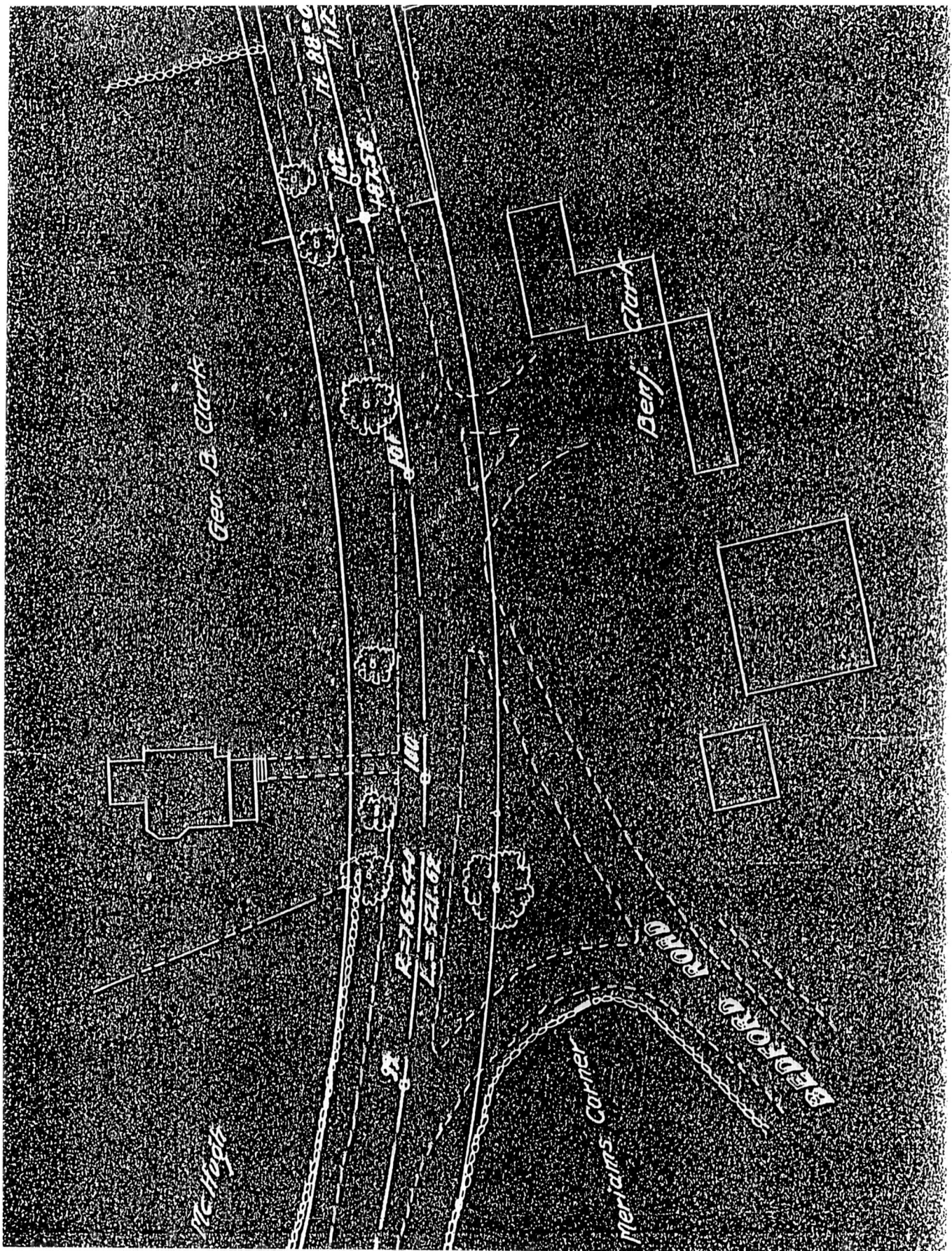


Figure 24. 1890 Road Plan of Meriam's Corner Showing Gowling-Clark House and Outbuildings.



Figure 25. Photograph Labeled “G. Clark” Showing Gowing-Clark House from the Southeast (Circa 1937).

July, 1946
SCALE 40 80 FT.

(Original on file.)

SCALE OF THIS PLAN

40 0 40 80 FT.





View from Lexington Road



Southwesterly View from Lexington Road

Figure 27. 1965 Photographs Showing Two Views of South Facade of Gowling-Clark House.



Easterly View



Westerly of Ell

Figure 28. 1965 Photographs Showing East and West Elevations of Gowing-Clark House.



Northeasterly View of Ell



Driveway and Shed

Figure 29. 1965 Photographs Showing Gowling-Clark House from the Northeast and the Last Remaining Outbuilding from the South.



Figure 30. Gowing-Clark House – Ell Cellar, North Side of Center Chimney-Base Pier (2000).

III. PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

EXTERIOR FEATURES⁵⁴

Overview

The Daniel Taylor house (figs. 31-33) is located on Lexington Road in Concord, Massachusetts. The property on which the house is situated is pie-shaped, bounded by Lexington Road to the south and Old Bedford Road to the east. The structure is composed of a rectangular, two-story, gable-roofed main house that is one-room deep and which faces Lexington Road, and a rectangular, one-and-a-half story, gable-roofed ell that extends from the northeast corner of the main house and which faces Bedford Road. The main house measures approximately 42 feet long by 18 feet 6 inches deep, and the ell approximately 26 feet 6 inches long by 22 feet deep.

The configuration of the doorway and window openings on the main house is symmetrical. On the south facade a federal-style main entrance with sidelights is centered on the wall of the first story and is flanked by two windows on either side; on the second story, windows are placed above each of the windows and the doorway on the first story. The east and west walls (figs. 34 & 35) each have one window on the first, second and third stories, placed one above the other. The rear (north) wall has only one doorway and one window - the doorway is centered on the first story and the window centered on the second story above the doorway. The north wall is interrupted at its east end by the ell.

The east wall of the ell protrudes approximately 5 feet from the east wall of the main house (fig. 37), allowing for a doorway on the ell's short south wall that opens into a side hall and the kitchen. Three windows are asymmetrically placed on each of the east wall's two stories, while on the first story a doorway is located between the two north windows and a bulkhead located to the south of the doorway (fig. 38). Windows are also asymmetrically placed on the first and second stories of the ell's west wall - three on the first story and two on the second story -- and a doorway again placed between the two northernmost windows on the first floor (fig. 39). The ell's north wall has one window on each of its first, second, and third stories.

The house has two chimneys, one located near each of the west and east ends of the main house's north wall (fig. 31). The east chimney also pierces the ridge at the south end of the ell's gable roof. The house also has two, one-story, hipped-roofed porches; the oldest is located on the east wall of the main house and protects the ell entry (see fig. 33), and the largest wraps around the west and north sides of the main house (fig. 36).

⁵⁴ All measurements are approximate. Doorway and window numbers refer to those used on the annotated HABS plans found in APPENDIX C of this report. Due to the limited nature of this report, interior features were not documented.

Foundation

Main House

- Full cellar
- Walls composed of large fieldstones topped by 8 to 18 inches of brick
- Exterior of south-wall foundation faced with dressed granite (only side visible - other three sides blocked by porches – see **fig. 57**)

Ell - South

- Full cellar continuous with main cellar and including stairwell for bulkhead steps
- Walls composed of large fieldstones topped by 8 to 18 inches of brick

Ell - North

- Built on-grade with no access from full south-ell cellar
- Low walls composed of rubblestone
- Exterior of north and west walls covered with Portland cement stucco (**fig. 40**)

Walls

Sheathing

- Type: sash-sawn boards 10-12 inches wide
- Joints: butt joints
- Fasteners: using cut nails

Cladding

¹Clapboards

- Location: main house - south facade, east and west walls
ell - south and east walls
- Exposure: 4 to 4 ½ inches
- Joints: butt
- Fasteners: cut and wire nails
- Other: most clapboards date to c. 1815 and are fastened using cut nails;
areas of modern clapboards on east wall of ell fastened using wire nails

Shingles

- Location: main house - north (rear) wall
ell - north (rear) and west walls

Trim (Figs. 41 & 42)

- Frieze: under eaves - 8-inch-wide plain-board;
under porch ceilings - on main-house east, west, & north walls
- Bargeboard: at gable ends - 8-inch wide plain-board
- Corner Boards: 6 ½ wide plain board on southeast, southwest, and northwest corners of main house and on southeast corner of ell;
7 ½-inch wide plain-board on ell northeast corner;
6-inch wide plain-board on ell northwest corner
- Other: fascia under east porch ceiling higher than adjacent fascia over D102 on ell south wall;
corner board at north end of main house east wall partly covered by ell south wall;
corner board at north end of ell west wall partly covered by main house north wall

Doorways

Main Entrance - Doorway D101 (Fig. 43)

- Location: center of south facade on main house; accesses main hall
- Configuration: 6-panel door flanked by half sidelights;
- Surround: pilasters with carved molding on either side of doorway and sidelights
simple architrave across top of doorway and sidelights
- Hardware: knob with box lock on interior; door knocker
- Other: pilaster molding similar to **Type A** molding on south-wall windows;
door fitted with modern storm door;
two steps to doorway and landing composed of large granite slabs

Kitchen Entrance - Doorway D102 (Fig. 44)

- Location: center of short south wall on ell; accesses side stair hall and kitchen
- Configuration: modern glazed door with nine lights (3-over-3) on top half and two vertical, rectangular panels on bottom
- Surround: 4 ¾-inch wide plain board
- Hardware: modern chrome knob
- Other: fitted with modern storm door

Ell East Doorway - D103 (Figs. 45& 46)

- Location: north of center on ell east wall (north of W107); accesses ell storage room
- Configuration: wide horizontal beaded boards on exterior over vertical boards on interior
- Surround: 4 ¾ inches wide with **Type A** molding profile
- Hardware: Suffolk latch

Ell West Doorway - D104 (Figs. 47 & 48)

- Location: north of center on ell west wall; accesses ell storage area from rear of house
- Configuration: three vertical tongue-and-groove beaded-boards; center board is 15 ¾ inches wide
- Surround: 4 ¾-inch wide plain-board
- Hardware: Norfolk latch

Rear Doorway - D105 (Fig. 49)

- Location: center of main house north wall
- Configuration: modern glazed door with nine lights (3-over-3) on top half and two vertical, rectangular panels on bottom
- Surround: 4 ¾-inch wide plain board
- Hardware: modern chrome knob
- Other: fitted with modern storm door

Cellar Entrance/Bulkhead - D001 (Fig. 50)

- Location: east wall of ell to south of doorway D101
- Configuration: two door leafs constructed of tongue-and-groove vertical boards; each board 6 7/8-inches wide, grooved to look like two boards
- Surround: plain-board
- Hardware: 2 strap hinges on each leaf; handle and padlock on center board
- Other: installed 1937-1963; original opening was lower – closer to ground

Windows

South Facade

Cellar Story (Fig. 51)

- Locations: W001 - center of west side of wall
W002 - center of east side of wall

- Sizes: each - 2 feet 9 inches long by 9 inches wide
- Sashes: each - single sash with four horizontal lights
- Surrounds: none
- Other: each - well lined with mortared fieldstone

First Story (Fig. 52)

- Locations: W101 - west end of wall
W102 - between W101 and D101
W103 - between D101 and W104
W104 - east end of wall
- Sizes: each - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high
- Sashes: each - 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: each - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: each - fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window;
each - shutter pintles

Second Story (Fig. 53)

- Locations: W201 - west end of wall
W202 - to east of W201, between W201 and W203
W203 - center of wall
W204 - to west of W203, between W203 and W205
W205 - east end of wall
- Sizes: each - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high
- Sashes: each - 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: each - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: each - fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window;
each - shutter pintles

East Elevation

First Story (Figs. 54 & 55)

- Locations: W105 - main house, center of wall
W106 - ell, south end
W107 - ell, north of W105, to left (south) of D103
W108 - ell, north end
- Sizes: W105 - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high
W106-W108 - 2 feet wide by 3 feet 9 inches high
- Sashes: each - 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: W105-W107 - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
W107 - 4-inch wide plain board
- Other: each - fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window;
W105-107 have shutter pintles;
surrounds on ell windows W106 & W107 attached using wire nails

Second Story (Fig. 56)

- Locations: W206 - main house, center of wall
W207 - ell, south end over W106
W208 - ell, north of W207 over W107
W209 - ell, to right (north) of W208
- Size: W206 - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high;
W207-W209 - 2 feet wide by 3 feet 6 inches high
- Sashes: each - 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: W206-W208 - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A** (?);
W209 - 4-inch-wide plain-board
- Other: each fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window;
W206-W208 have shutter pintles;
surround on W209 replaced in 1992

Third Story (Fig. 57)

- Location: W301 - center of gable
- Size: 1 foot 9 inches wide by 2 feet high
- Sash: 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surround: 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

North Elevation

First Story (Fig. 58)

- Location: W109 - ell, near west end
- Size: 1 foot 6 inches wide by 2 feet high
- Sash: fixed single-pane sash
- Surround: 4 ¾-inch wide plain board
- Other: top casing replaced after 1965

Second Story (Fig. 59)

- Locations: W210 - ell, to east of center
W213 - center of main house north wall
- Size: each - 2 feet wide by 3 feet 6 inches high
- Sashes: 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: W210 - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

Third Story (Fig. 59)

- Location: W302 - ell, center of gable
- Size: 1 foot 9 inches wide by 3 feet 6 inches high
- Sash: 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surround: plain board
- Other: fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

West Elevation

First Story (Figs. 60 & 61)

- Locations: W110 - ell, north end
W111 - ell, south of D104
W112 - ell, south end
W113 - main house, center of wall
- Sizes: W 110 & W112 - 2 feet wide by 3 feet 6 inches high;
W111 - 3 feet 2 inches wide by 3 feet 3 inches high;
W113 - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high
- Sashes: W110, W112, & W113 - 6-over-6 double-hung sash
W111 - double casement, 6 lights (2-over-3) on each sash
- Surrounds: W110 & W112 - 3 ½-inch wide with molding profile **Type B**
W111 - 2-inch wide plain board
W113 - 3 ½-inch wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: W110, W112, & W113 fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

Second Story (Figs. 62 & 63)

- Locations: W211 - ell, to south of center
W212 - ell, south end
W214 - main house, center of wall
- Sizes: W211 - 2 feet wide by 3 feet 6 inches high
W212 - 1 foot 9 inches wide by 3 feet 6 inches high
W214 - 2 feet 3 inches wide by 4 feet high
- Sashes: 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surrounds: W211 & W212 - 4-inch wide plain-board
W214 - 3 ½ inches wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: each fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

Third Story (Fig. 63)

- Location: W303 - main house, center of gable
- Size: 1 foot 9 inches wide by 2 feet high
- Sash: 6-over-6 double-hung sash
- Surround: 3 ½-inch wide with molding profile **Type A**
- Other: fitted with modern, triple-track, storm/screen window

Porches

East Porch (Figs. 33-34 & 64-66)

- Location: east side of main house in space created by protrusion of ell
- Size: 18 feet 4 inches wide by 6 feet deep
- Foundation: unknown - granite piers acting as step to porch block view
- Flooring: 4-inch wide (approximate) tongue-and-groove decking laid east/west
- Steps: 7-foot long granite block at south end; line of granite blocks along east edge
- Structure: three 6-inch square posts along east edge of porch support cased beams that carry porch roof;
each post composed of a 4-inch square post cased with 4-inch wide boards and corners filled with quarter-round molding;
post "cornice" consists of 8-inch square board
- Balustrade: none
- Ceiling: tongue-and-groove beaded boards installed in north/south direction;
each board approximately 5 ½ inches wide & grooved at center to appear to be two boards
- Other: decking probably replaced after 1965;
some rafters and section of ceiling board replaced in 1971

Northwest Porch (Figs. 35-36 & 67-69)

- Location: wraps around west and north sides of main house
- Size: west side - 8 feet 2 inches deep by 26 feet 10 inches wide
north side - 8 feet 6 inches deep by 24 feet 8 inches wide
- Foundation: poured concrete
- Flooring: poured concrete
- Steps: 8-foot 6-inch long granite block at south end
- Structure: seven 6-inch square posts (three each along north and west edges and one in northwest corner) support cased beams that carry hip roofs;
each post composed of a 4-inch square post cased with 6-inch wide boards;
post "cornice" consists of 8-inch-square board trimmed with molding
- Balustrade: none
- Ceiling: tongue-and-groove beaded boards installed in north/south direction on west side and east/west direction on north side; each board approximately 5 ½ inches wide grooved at center to appear to be two boards;
"mitered" joint where north and west ceiling-boards meet
- Fixtures: two Colonial Revival-style ceiling fixtures
- Other: concrete deck appears to have been poured/installed over old concrete floor/foundation (visible along with former poured-concrete post bases under west edge of existing floor);
north side was a screened porch in 1965; screening removed at unknown time

Roofs

Main House and Ell

- Type: gable, no eaves or overhang
- Sheathing: wide-board
- Roofing: cedar shingles
- Other: wood-shingle roofing installed in 1979, replacing asphalt shingles

Porches

- Type: hipped
- Sheathing: unknown
- Roofing: east porch - cedar shingles;
northwest porch - built-up rolled roofing installed in overlapping layers
- Other: east-porch roofing last resingled in 1971 (?);
northwest porch rolled roofing last replaced in 1979

Chimneys

- Locations: chimney "A" - near west end of main house at north eave
chimney "B" - near east end of main house at north eave; pierces south end of ell ridge
- Composition: brick with simple corbelling at top
- Sizes: chimney A - 3 feet wide by 1 foot 9 inches deep;
chimney B - 4 feet wide by 1 foot 9 inches deep
- Composition: chimney A has two flues, one each for first and second-floor fireplaces in main house;
chimney B has three flues, one each for first and second-floor fireplaces in main house and kitchen fireplace in ell (now used to vent heating system)
- Other: chimneys repointed 1969 and 1989

Finishes

- Foundation: none
- Walls – Main House: south facade, west & east walls salmon-pink
north wall unpainted
- Walls – Ell east wall salmon-pink
north and west walls unpainted
- Trim: wall, doorway, window, & porch light cream

- Sashes: all walls light cream
- Doors: D101 & D102 dark green
 - D103 & D104 blue
 - D105 light cream
- Bulkhead: D001 blue
- East Porch: decking blue-gray
- East Porch: ceiling light cream
- Northwest Porch: ceiling varnish
- Other: wall paint discolored - originally cream-gold;
 exterior painted approximately every 5-6 years since 1971;
 deleading in 1988 on all surfaces up to 5 feet high



Figure 31. Gowling-Clark House – South Façade (1999).

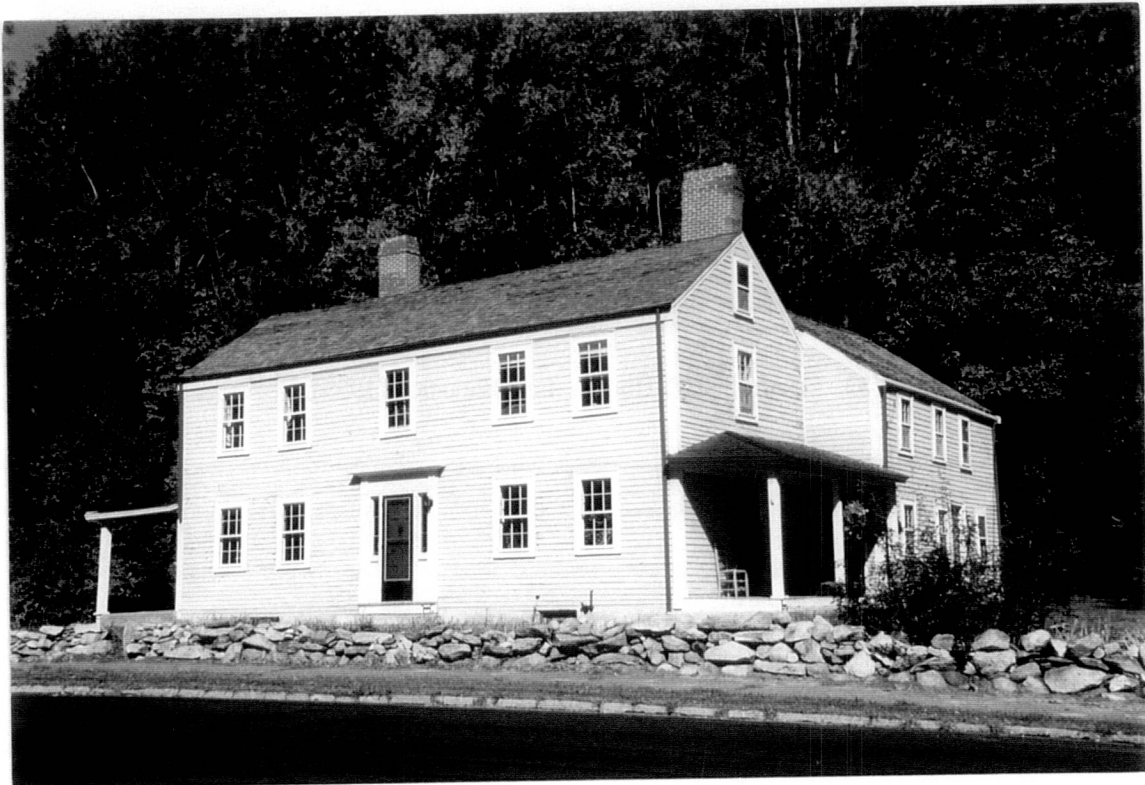


Figure 32. Gowling-Clark House – View from the Southeast (1999).



Figure 33. Gowling-Clark House – East Elevation (1999).

Figure 34. Gowing-Clark House – Main House, East Wall (1999).

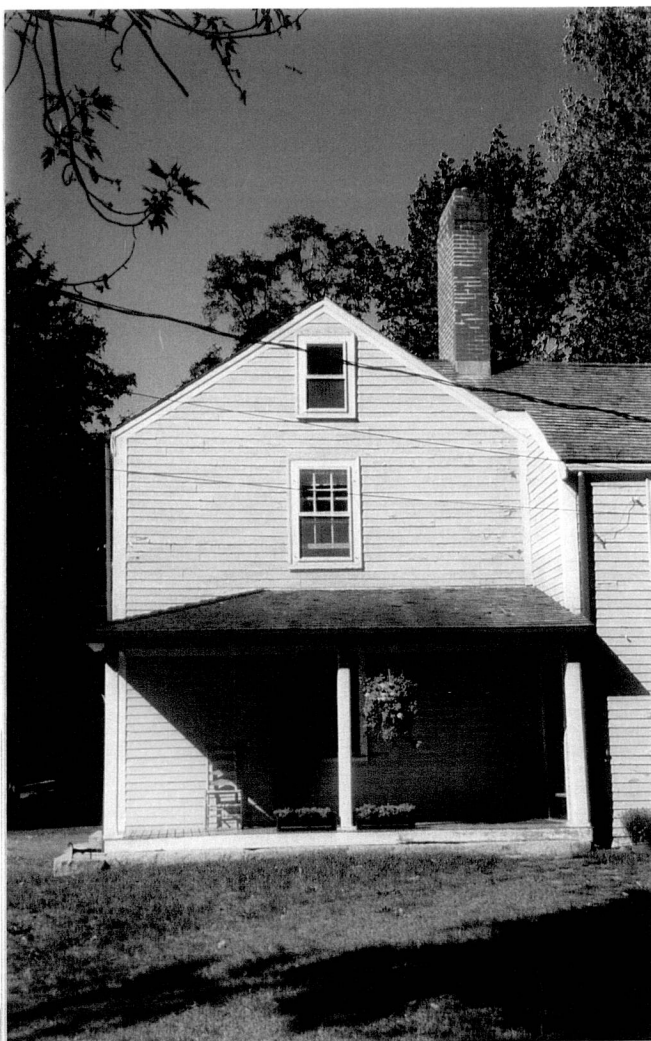


Figure 35. Gowing-Clark House – Main House West Wall (1999).



Figure 36. Gowing-Clark House – View from the Northwest (1999).



Figure 37. Gowing-Clark House – East Porch, View from the South (1999).

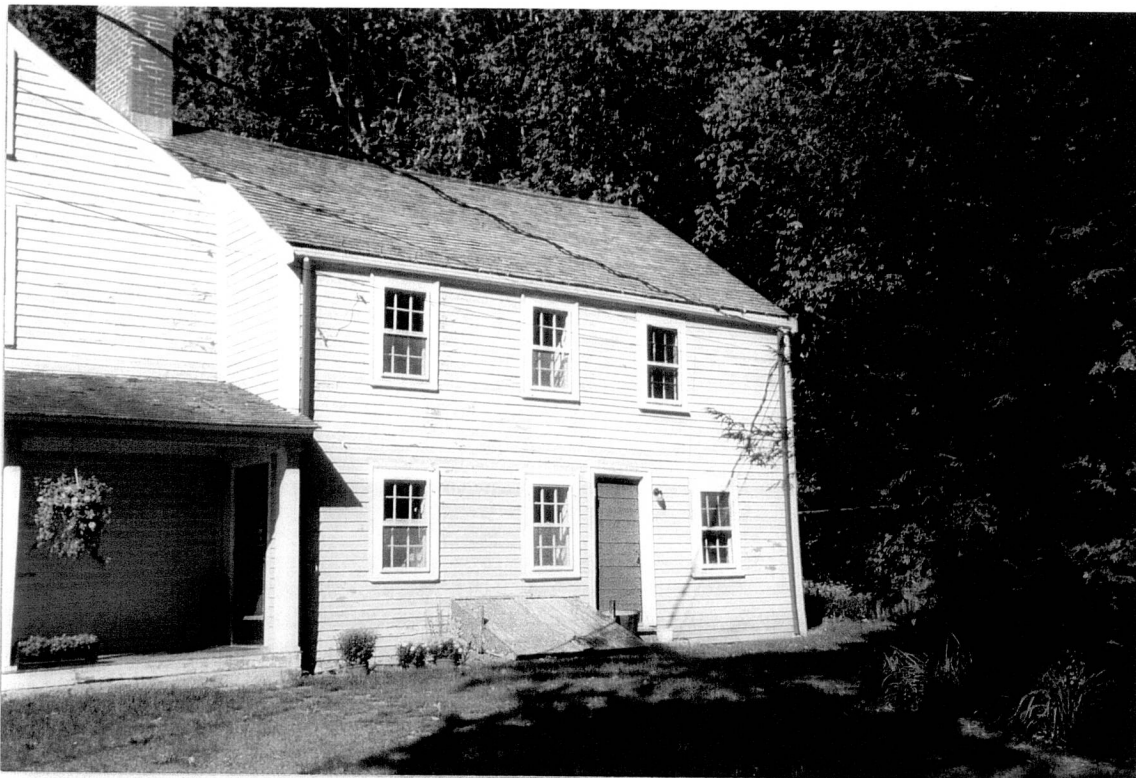


Figure 38. Gowing-Clark House – Ell, East Wall (1999).



Figure 39. Gowing-Clark House – Ell, West Wall (1999).



Figure 40. Gowling-Clark House – Ell, Northwest Corner, Foundation(1999).



Figure 41. Gowing-Clark House – Junction of Ell South Wall with Main House East Wall (1999).



Figure 42. Gowing-Clark House – Junction of Ell West Wall with Main House North Wall (1999).

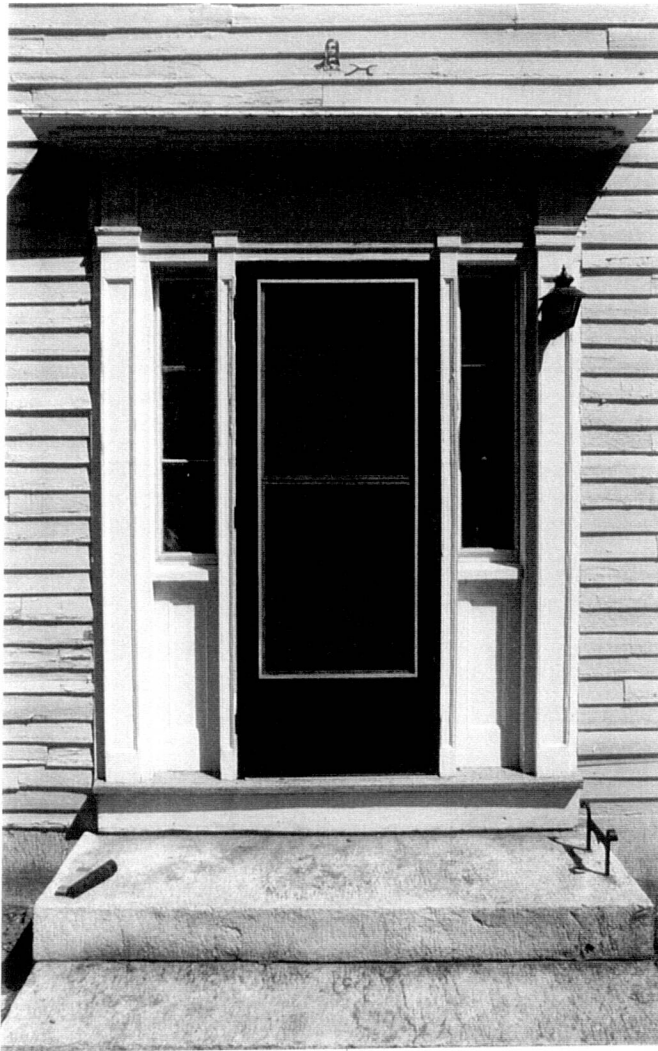


Figure 43. Gowing-Clark House – Main House South Façade, Doorway D101 (1999).

Figure 44. Gowing-Clark House – Ell South Wall, Doorway D102 (1999).



Figure 45. Gowing-Clark House –
Ell East Wall, Doorway D103 (1999).

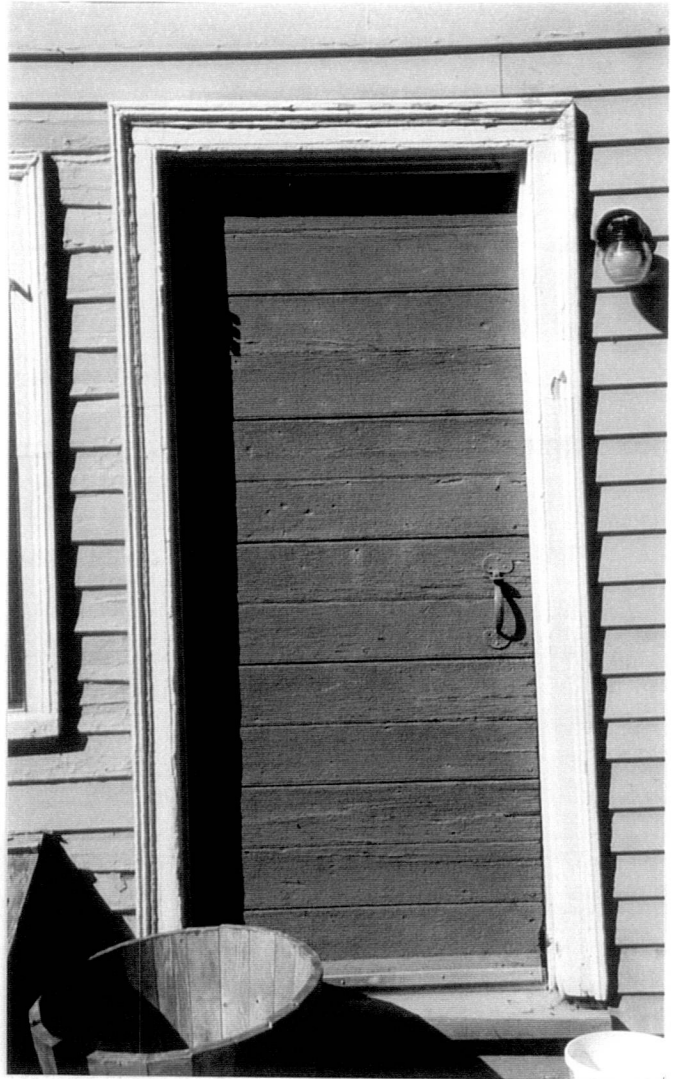


Figure 46. Gowing-Clark House – Ell East
Wall, Doorway D103 Suffolk Latch (1999).



Figure 47. Gowing-Clark House – Ell West Wall, Doorway D104 (1999).



Figure 48. Gowing-Clark House – Ell West Wall, Doorway D102 Norfolk Latch (1999).



Figure 49. Gowing-Clark House – Main House North Wall, Doorway D105 (1999).



Figure 50. Gowing-Clark House – Ell East Wall, Bulkhead Doorway D001 (1999).



Figure 51. Gowing-Clark House – Main House South Façade, Window W001 (1999).



Figure 52. Gowing-Clark House – Main House South Façade, Window W102 (1999).



Figure 53. Gowing-Clark House – Main House South Façade, Windows W203 & W204 (1999).



Figure 54. Gowing-Clark House – Main House East Wall, Window W105 (1999).

Figure 55. Gowing-Clark House –
Ell East Wall, Window W108 (1999).



Figure 56. Gowing-Clark House – Ell East Wall, Windows W208 & W209 (1999).

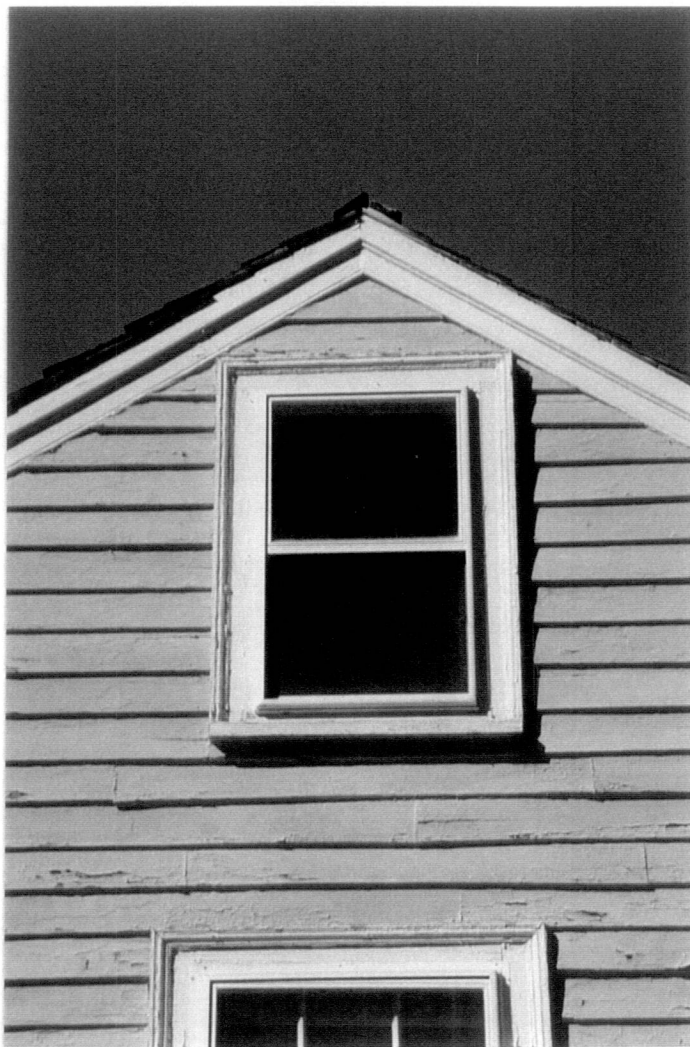


Figure 57. Gowing-Clark House – Main House East Wall – W301 (1999).

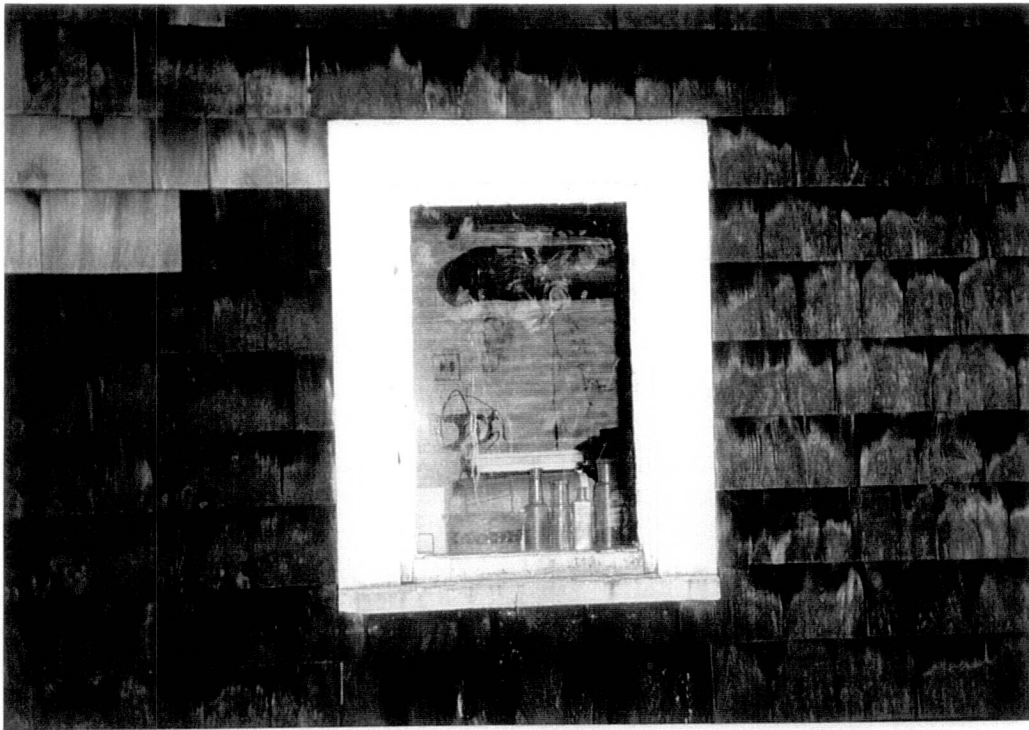


Figure 58. Gowing-Clark House – Ell North Wall – Window W109 (1999).



Figure 59. Gowing-Clark House – Ell North Wall – Windows W109, W210, & W302 (1999).



Figure 60. Gowing-Clark House – Ell West Wall, Window W111 (1999).



Figure 61. Gowing-Clark House –
Main House West Wall, Window W113
(1999).



Figure 62. Gowing-Clark House – Ell West Wall, Window W211 (1999).

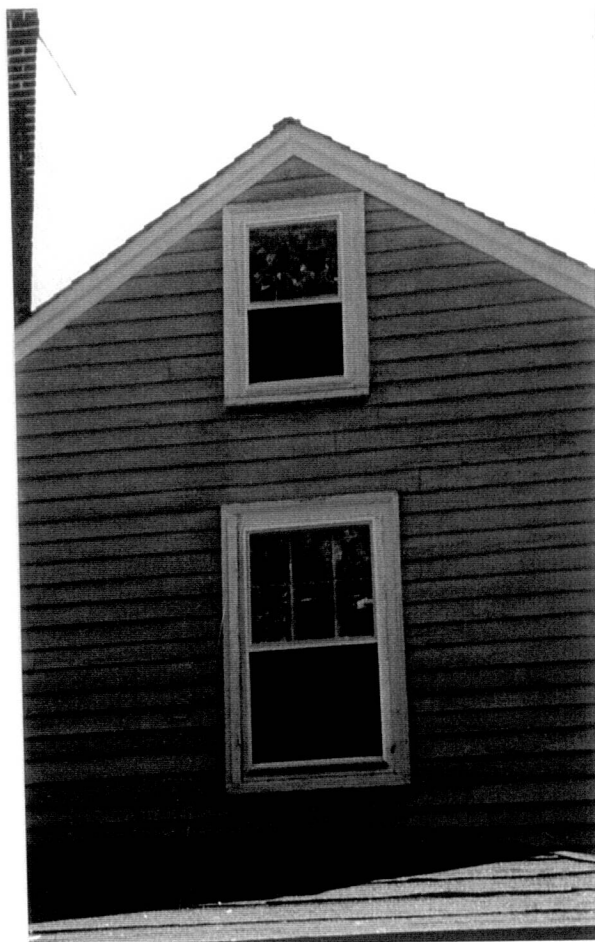


Figure 63. Gowing-Clark House – Main House West Wall, Windows W214 & W303 (1999).



Figure 64. Gowing-Clark House – East Porch, Northeast Corner of Roof (1999).



Figure 65. Gowing-Clark House – East Porch, Ceiling and Post Cornice Detail (1999).

Figure 66. Gowing-Clark House – East Porch, Decking and Post Base Detail (1999).



Figure 67. Gowing-Clark House – West Porch, Concrete Decking and Post Base Detail (1999).



Figure 68. Gowing-Clark House – West Porch, Post Cornice Detail (1999).



Figure 69. Gowing-Clark House – West Porch, Ceiling and Light Fixture Detail (1999).

IV. CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES
and
RECOMMENDATIONS

CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Overview

NPS-28, Cultural Resources Management Guideline sets forth several reasons for preparing a historic structure report:

To minimize loss of **character-defining features** [emphasis added] and materials whenever existing information about the developmental history and condition of the historic structure does not provide an adequate basis upon which to address anticipated management objectives, whenever alternative courses of action for impending treatment and use could have adverse effects, or to record treatment.⁵⁵

Character-defining features (CDFs) are defined in *NPS-28* as follows:

A prominent or distinctive aspect, quality, or characteristic of a historic property that contributes significantly to its physical character. Structures, objects, vegetation, spatial relationships, view, furnishings, decorative details, and materials may be such features.⁵⁶

By this definition, a CDF can date from any period in the history of a property. A more restrictive definition of a CDF is cited in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, in which CDFs are tied to the "historic character" of a building:

Character-defining features. . .[are] those architectural materials and features that are important in defining the building's historic character. . . The character of a historic building may be defined by the form and detailing of exterior materials, such as masonry, wood, and metal; exterior features, such as moldings and stairways, room configuration, and spatial relationships, as well as structural and mechanical systems.⁵⁷

The determination of the CDFs for a structure is made in conjunction with its period of significance. The 1989 *General Management Plan* (GMP) for Minute Man National Historical Park calls for restoring the 1775 historical character of the Battle Road section of the Park (the western edge of which begins at the Gowing-Clark house [the "Daniel Taylor house"]). However, all pre-1920 structures are to be retained: "Because a number of 18th-century structures have been lost, the

⁵⁵ *NPS-28, Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, Release No. 5 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, NPS History Division, 1997), p. 119.

⁵⁶ *NPS-28*, Appendix A, p. 178.

⁵⁷ Kay E. Weeks and Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of the Interior/National Park Service, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships/Historic Preservation Services, 1995), p. 63.

19th-century buildings will help restore a sense of balance between structures and open fields that was present at the time of the battle.”⁵⁸ The *GMP* categorized the “Daniel Taylor house” as a nineteenth-century building, estimating its construction date as circa 1810, and called for it to be preserved for adaptive reuse.⁵⁹

The architectural investigation of the house conducted for this report determined that it was probably built circa 1836 (by Jabez Gowing) and last significantly altered (by Benjamin Clark) circa 1868 when the ell roof was raised. Thus, for purposes of interpretation and rehabilitation, the period of significance for the structure would be its appearance in the last half of the nineteenth century.

Therefore, the CDFs of the Gowing-Clark house are those distinctive materials and features that characterize the building as it appeared in the late 1800s. The most significant CDF of the house is its exterior appearance as a typical nineteenth-century farmhouse.

Exterior

Most of the exterior features of the Gowing-Clark house date to its appearance after the ell roofline was changed from a saltbox to a gable roof circa 1868. Thus, the exterior CDFs for the house are:

- the **siting** of the building across the road from Meriam’s Corner and backed up to a high ridge;
- the **configuration** of the two parts of the building in relationship to each other; the main house faces Lexington Road, while the ell, jutting out from the east wall of the main house, faces towards Old Bedford Road and the former location of the barn and outbuildings;
- the **symmetrical** (and conservative) early-nineteenth century **appearance** of the main house, with its centered federal-style doorway and balanced fenestration.
- the **asymmetrical** eighteenth-century **appearance** of the ell, with its low roof line and unbalanced placement of doors and windows;
- the hipped-roof **east porch**;
- the **butt-jointed clapboards** on the public walls of the house and the ell;
- the **shingled walls** on the rear walls of the main house and ell;
- the **wood-shingle roofing** on the main house, ell, and east porch;
- the distinctive **federal-style main entrance** on the south façade with its sidelights and simple architrave;
- the extant **doors** on the east and west walls **of the ell** (in doorways D103 and D104);
- the existing **configuration of the windows and doorways** on the public-facing walls of the main house and the ell;
- the **extant window and doorway surrounds** on all public-facing windows and doorways except window W209 at the north end of the ell’s second story (what is thought to have been an original surround with a **Type A** molding profile was replaced by a plain-board surround in 1992).

⁵⁸ *General Management Plan: Minute Man National Historical Park/Massachusetts* (U.S. Department of the Interior/National Park Service (September 1989), p. 39.

⁵⁹ *IBID*, p. 40.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The current exterior appearance of the Gowing-Clark house reflects, for the most part, its appearance in the historic period of 1836-1899. The house has retained a significant integrity from this period, with most of the extant exterior features dating either to the construction of the house in circa 1836 or from its only major alteration in circa 1868. The one important feature of the house that may not date to the 1836 or to 1868 is the main entrance doorway. However, the doorway is thought to have been installed before 1899 and is considered to be a CDF.

It is therefore recommended that the character-defining features of the house be preserved and that any alterations to the structure, including repairs and routine maintenance work, should respect those features. Any historic feature that cannot be repaired should be replaced in-kind with one that is constructed (when possible) of the same or similar material and installed in the same manner as the original feature.

Since there remain several unanswered questions concerning the physical evolution of the structure, it is also recommended that, as work is performed on the house, care is taken to document any original or historic fabric as it is exposed and/or removed, and that any removed fabric be documented and saved for future analysis. This recommendation is especially applicable to the northwest porch, for which the date of construction has not been determined.

It is also recommended that, if time and budget allow, the documentary research into the nineteenth-century owners of the property be expanded, and that a more thorough intrusive physical investigation be conducted on the structure.

V. APPENDICES

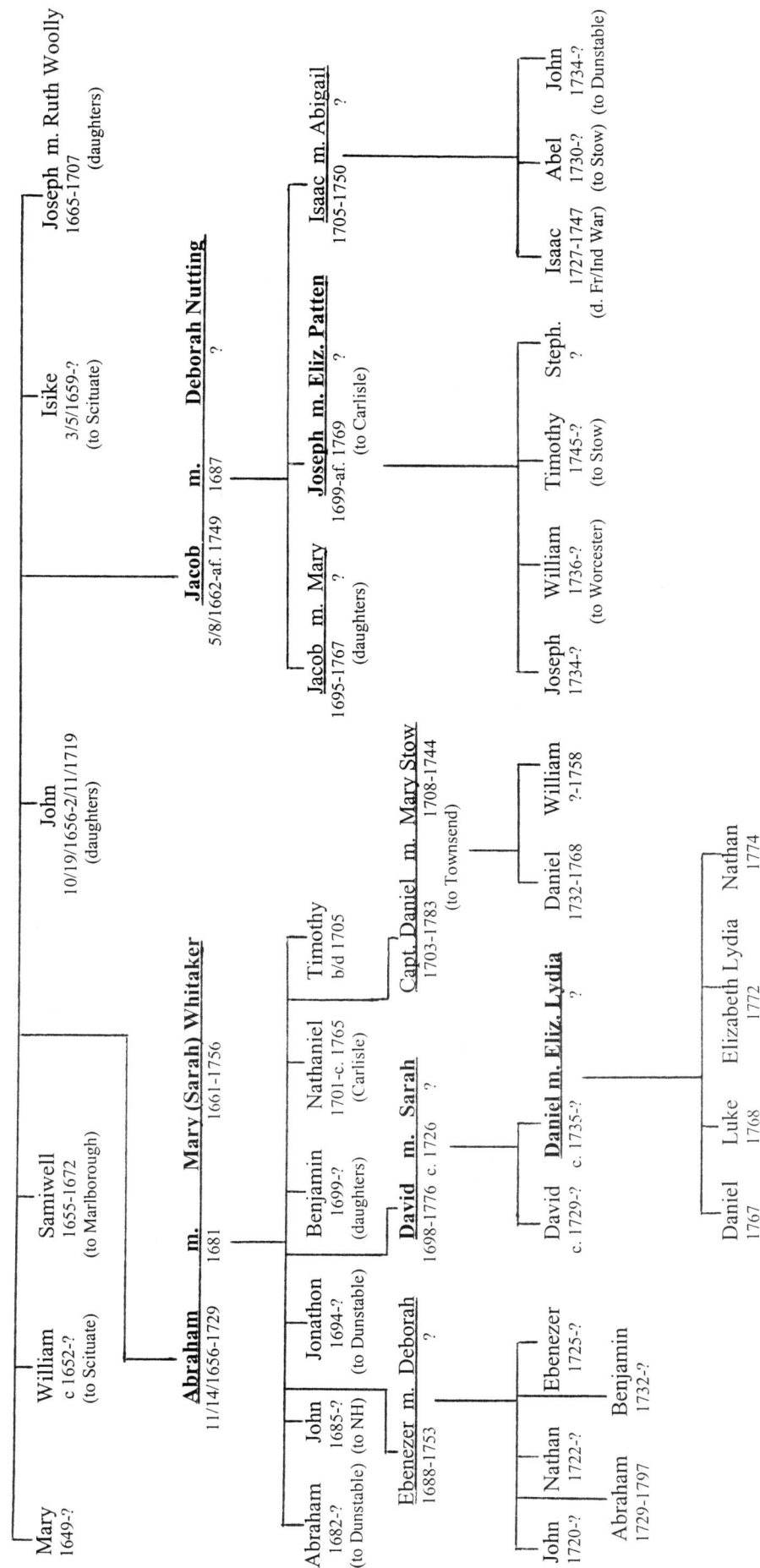
APPENDIX A
TAYLOR FAMILY GENEALOGY
in CONCORD

William Taylor m. **Marv (Meriam) Taylor**

1618 (in England) – 6/12/1696 (in Concord)

Mary (Meriam) Taylor
1630 (in England) – 10/12/1699 (in Concord)

William came to America in 1635. He first settled in Lynn, Massachusetts and removed to Concord ca. 1648. Around that time he married Mary Meriam, who came to America with her parents Joseph and Sarah (Goldstone) Meriam in 1638 and settled in Concord that same year. William bought 8.75 acres in Concord in 1649 and in 1663 received a land grant of 117 acres in the East Quarter of Concord (part of the second division). The portion of that grant on which the Daniel Taylor house sits passed from William to his son Jacob, from Jacob to his son Joseph, from Joseph to his 1st cousin David, and from David to his son Daniel. Daniel Taylor sold the property in 1778.



¹ Names of owners of the Daniel Taylor property are in **bold** letters. Daughters are not listed since land they inherited usually passed out of the Taylor family.

APPENDIX B
OWNERSHIP SUMMARY
of the
GOWING-CLARK (DANIEL TAYLOR) SITE

OWNERSHIP SUMMARY¹

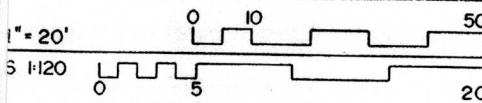
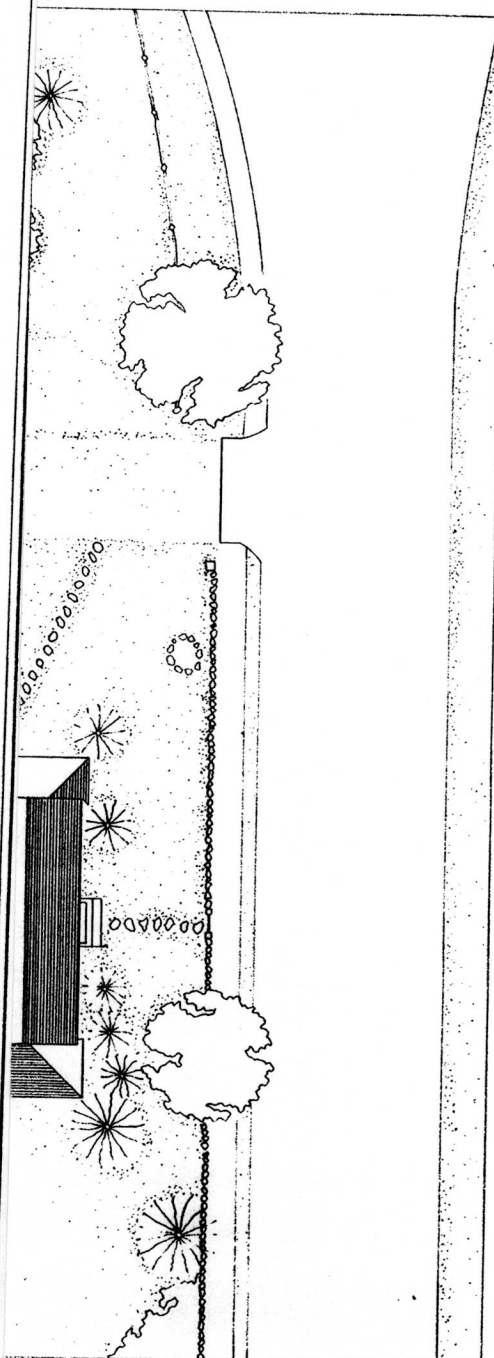
- 1648** **William Taylor** purchases 8.75 acres in Concord [Shattuck, citing Concord Town records; Wheeler; Taylor Genealogy]; may include Daniel Taylor site
- 1663** **William Taylor** receives land grant of 117 acres in the East Quarter of Concord [Shattuck, citing Concord Town Records, Volume I Part 1]; may include Daniel Taylor site
- C. 1687-96** **Jacob Taylor** (married in 1687) receives from his father William (d. 1696) land on The north side of the Bay Way and to the West of the Way to Billerica that may include Daniel Taylor site [Donahue, draft CLR, and Yocum, draft HSR]
- 1717** By this date **Jacob Taylor** is living in a dwelling house on the Daniel Taylor site [Donahue, draft CLR, and Yocum, draft HSR]
- 1748** Jacob Taylor gives the Daniel Taylor site “with dwelling and barn” to his son, **Joseph Taylor** [Middlesex Country Registry of Deeds, Book 50, Page 150]
- 1757** Joseph Taylor sells the Daniel Taylor site and other parcels to his first cousin, David Taylor, for £173..6S..8P [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 62, Page 106 (recorded 1763)]
- 1763** David Taylor sells the Daniel Taylor site and other parcels to his son, **Daniel Taylor**, for £213..6S..8P [Middlesex Country Registry of Deeds, Book 62, Page 107]
- 1778** Daniel Taylor sells the Daniel Taylor site and other parcels to **John Meriam** for £2,000 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 79, Page 324]; John Meriam’s property value jumps from 401£ to 1590£ [Concord Tax Assessment Records]
- 1804** John Meriam dies and **John Meriam, Jr.**, inherits the John Meriam farm, including the Daniel Taylor site [Donahue, draft CLR, and Yocum, draft HSR]
- 1807-10** Dispute over John Meriam’s estate; farm passes to executor John Sprague in 1807 and back to John Meriam, Jr., in 1808 and 1810 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 181 Page 33 and Book 200 Page 153 – cited in Donahue, draft CLR] John Jr.’s brother, Tarrant P. Meriam, is living at the Daniel Taylor site by 1807 [Donahue, draft CLR]
- C. 1811-15** John Meriam, Jr., conveys the John Meriam farm to his brother, **Tarrant P. Meriam**. [Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 248 Page 363]
- C. 1828** Tarrant P. Meriam, in debt, sells Meriam farm to creditors; most of farm, including the Daniel Taylor site house lot, is purchased by his second cousin **Ephraim Meriam, Jr.** [Donahue, draft CLR]

¹ Sources are in brackets.

- C. 1830** Ephraim Meriam, Jr., sells what remains of the Meriam farm and Daniel Taylor 'house lot' to **Thomas Darling** [Darling owned property in 1831 – see below]
- 1831** Thomas Darling sells the farm and the 'house lot' to **Moses Warren** of Sudbury, Massachusetts, for \$4,000 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 304 Page 245]
- 1832** Moses Warren sells the farm and 'house lot' to **Nathaniel Jewett**, a stone cutter from Charlestown, Massachusetts, for \$4,000 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 311 Page 507]
- 1836** Nathaniel Jewett sells the farm and 'house lot' to **Jabez Gowing** of Charlestown, Massachusetts for \$3,000 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 365 Page 108]
- 1866** Jabez Gowing sells the farm and 'house lot' to **Warren Fitts** of Concord for \$4,475 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 995 Page 74]
- 1867** Warren Fitts sells the farm and 'house lot' to Wright Smith of Concord for \$5,500 plus the assumption of two mortgages totalling \$ 4,400 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 1007 Page 229]
- 1867** Wright Smith sells the farm and 'house lot' to Warren Fitts of Concord and Albert Gould of Boston for \$ 5,500 plus the assumption of two mortgages totalling \$4,400 [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 1025 Page 58]
- 1868** Warren Fitts and Albert Gould sells the farm and 'house lot' to **Benjamin Clark** of Westmoreland, New Hampshire, for \$ 4,900 plus remaining \$2,000 mortgage [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 1054 Page 272]
- C. 1917** Benjamin Clark dies; farm (minus several parcels that Clark had sold off or had already given to son George) and 'house lot' are inherited by Benjamin's children **Estella J. (Clark) Parker** of Pepperall, Massachusetts and **George B. Clark** [1918 deed (below) refers to Estella Parker as "heir-in-law of my father Benjamin Clark, deceased"]
- 1918** Estella J. (Clark) Parker conveys her ½ interest in the remaining farm and "house lot" to her brother **George B. Clark** [Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 4213 Page 458]
- 1946** George B. Clark conveys the farm (minus several parcels that he had sold off) and "house lot" to his daughter and son-in-law **Anne H. and Everett C. Thorpe** [Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 7041 Page 112]
- 1966** Everett C. Thorpe (Anne Thorpe has died) sells the farm and "house lot" to the **United States** for \$38,000 [Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 11266 Page 185]

APPENDIX C
1977 HABS MEASURED DRAWINGS

SE

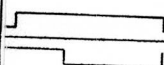
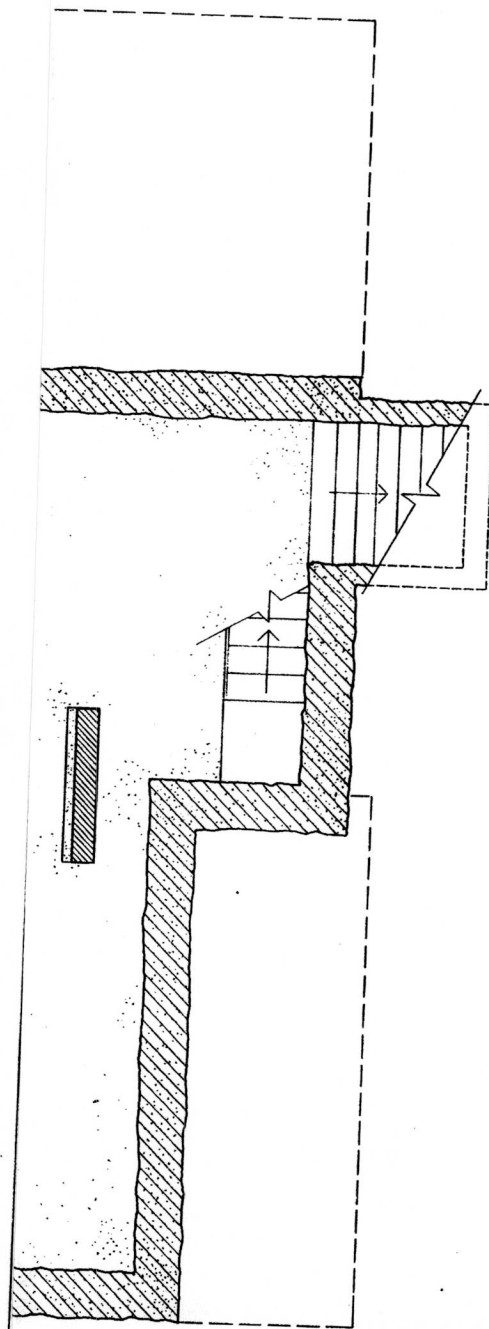


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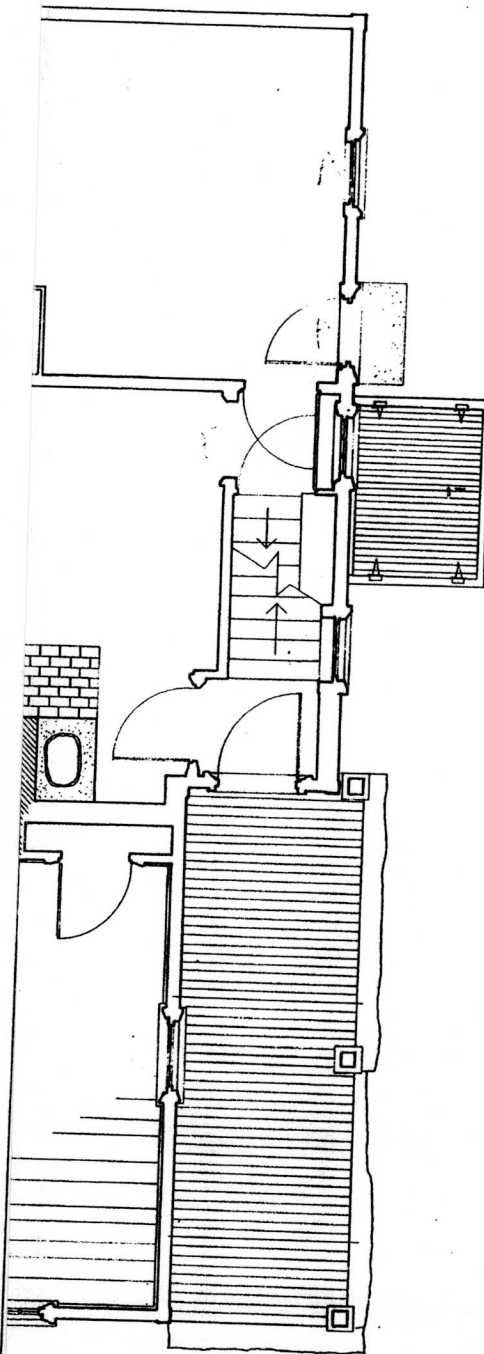
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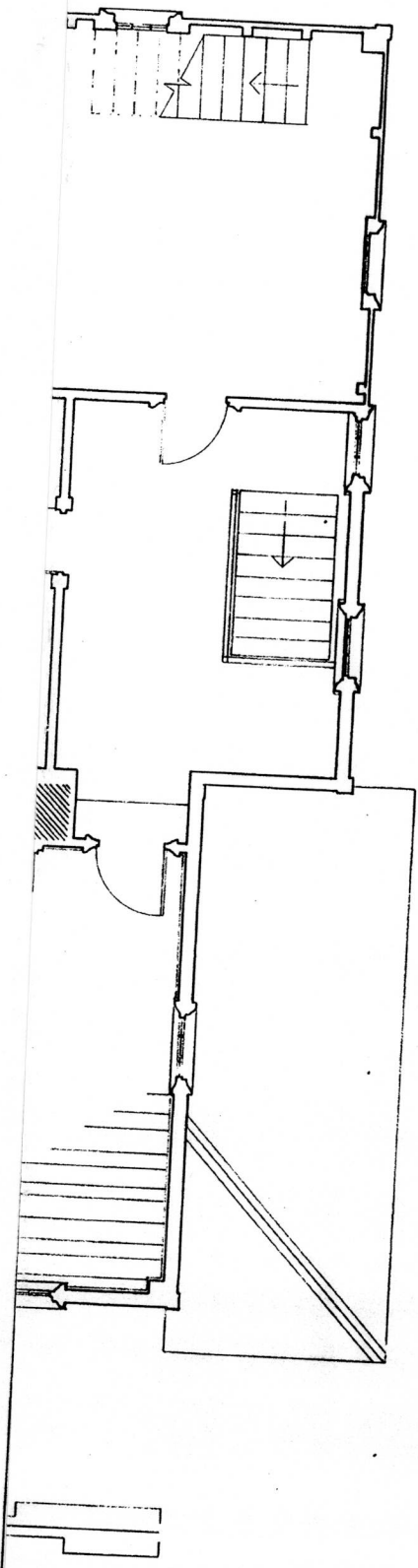


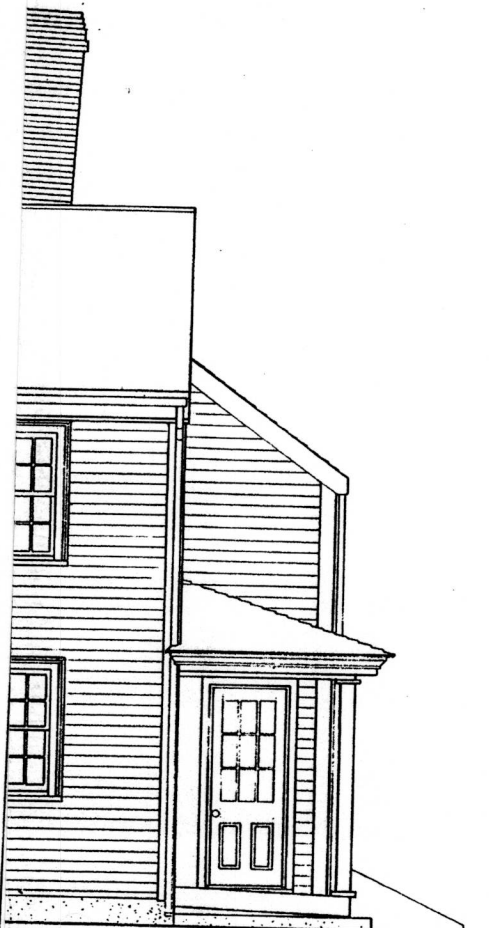
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WINDOW TYPE

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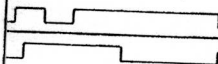
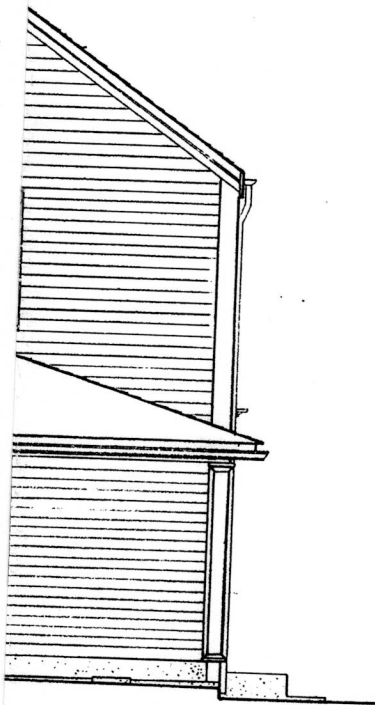


MASSACHUSETTS

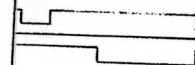
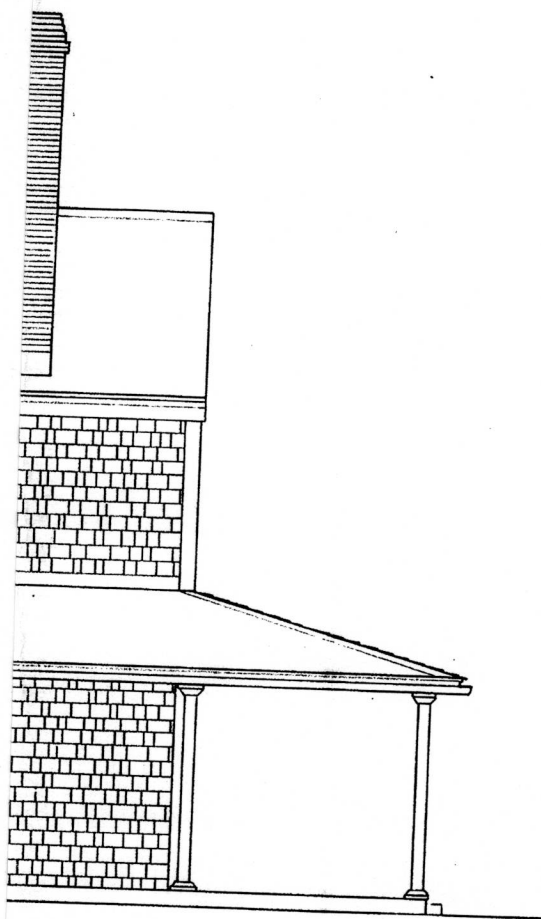
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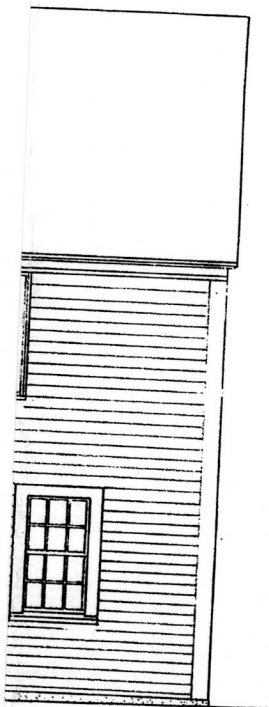
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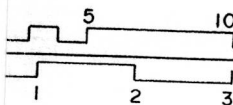
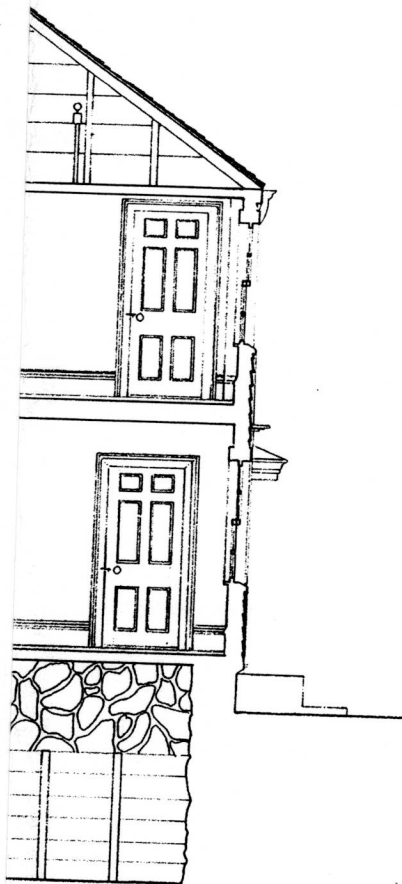


MASSACHUSETTS	SURVEY NO. 	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 6 OF 10 SHEETS	LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER
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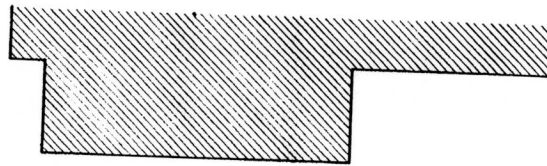


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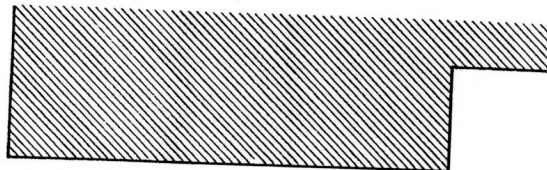
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HISTORIC AMERICAN
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SHEET 9 OF 10 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INDEX NUMBER



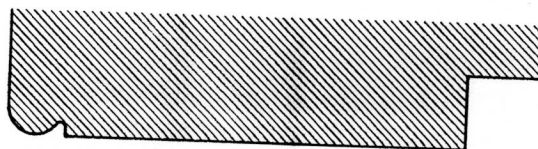
WINDOW MOULDING TYPE (A)



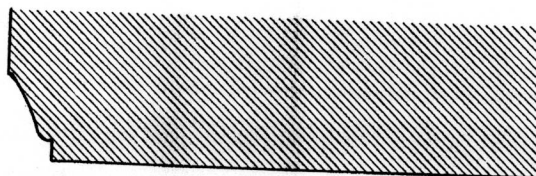
WINDOW MOULDING TYPE (B)



WINDOW & DOOR MOULDING TYPE (C)

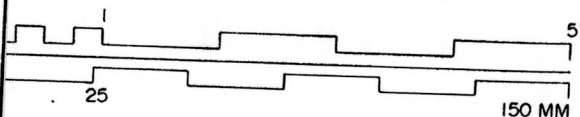


WINDOW MOULDING TYPE (D)



WINDOW MOULDING TYPE (E)

LOCATIONS IN BUILDING INDICATED ON FLOOR PLANS



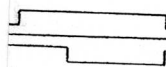
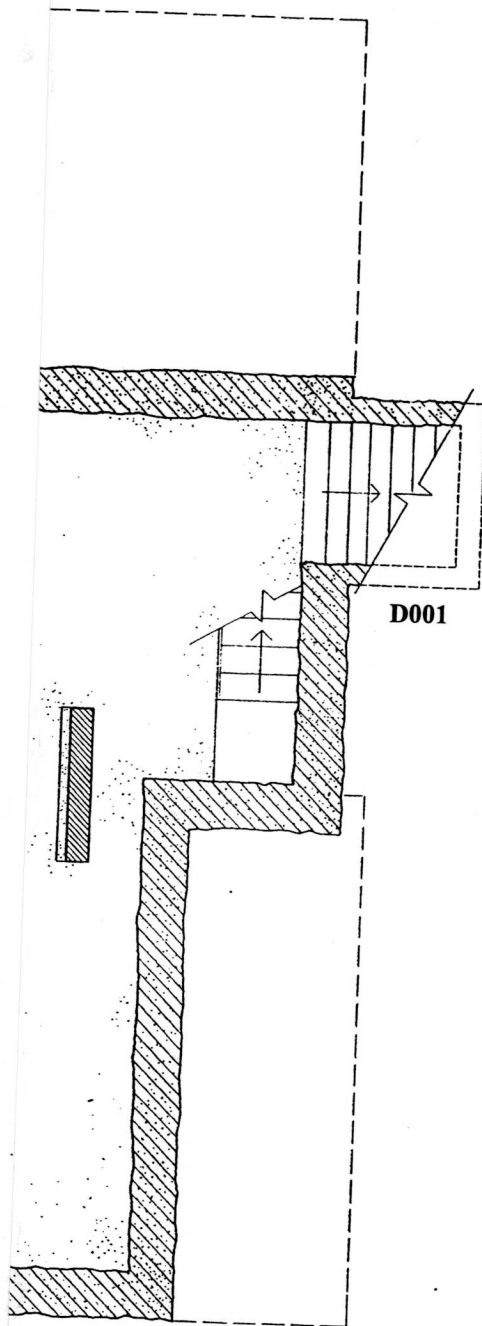
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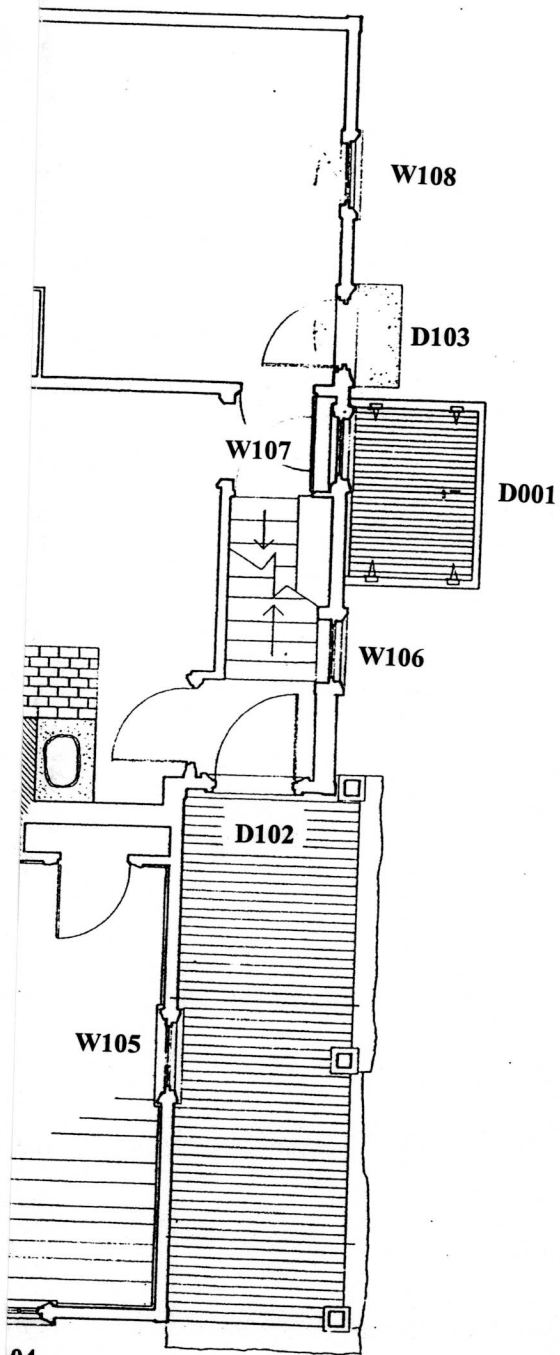
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HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 10 OF 10 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INDEX SERVICE

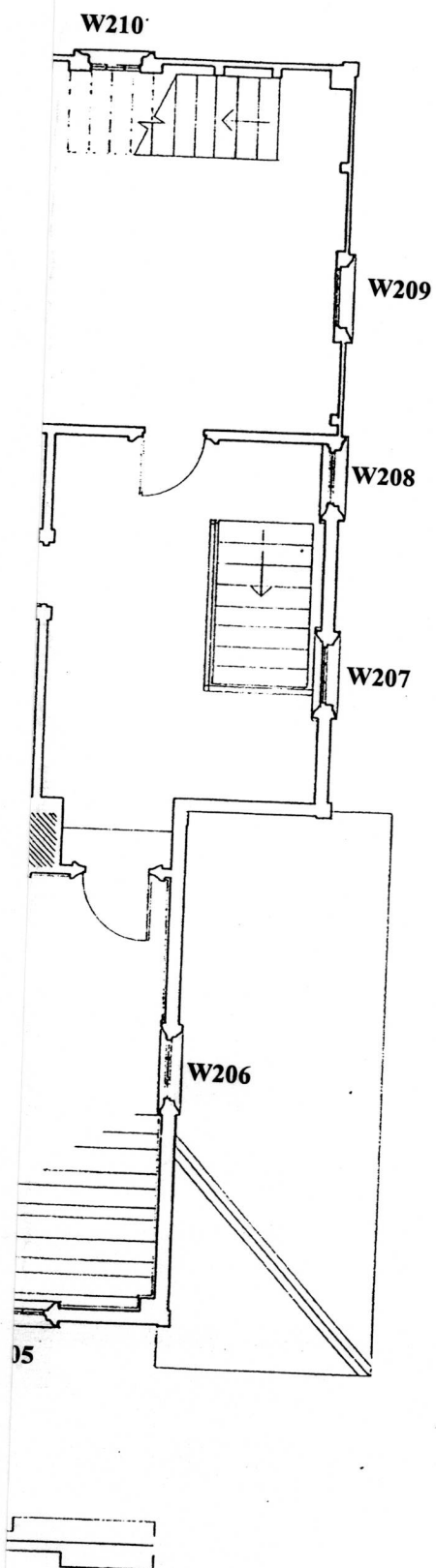
APPENDIX D
ANNOTATED HABS PLANS





04

WINDOW TOP



APPENDIX E
PAINT SAMPLES

METHODOLOGY

Approximately 70 paint samples were taken from the exterior and the basement interior painted surfaces of the Daniel Taylor house in September and October 1999. Samples were removed using an X-acto knife by Architectural Conservator Maureen K. Phillips of the Building Conservation Branch (BCB), Northeast Cultural Resources Center. Each sample was numbered and placed in an individually-labeled coin envelope, on which was listed the date, the area from which the paint sample was removed, and comments about the condition of the area -- e.g., whether the feature appeared to be original to the construction of the house. The samples were logged using a three-part code that identifies the park, the building, and the paint sample number, beginning with MIMA-35-P001. In this code, "MIMA" is Minute Man National Historical Park, "35" is the structure number for the Daniel Taylor house, and "P001" is paint sample number 1.

Samples were examined at the microscopy laboratory of the BCB using a stereozoom microscope. Paint layer sequences (chromoarchaeologies) were recorded, and spot chemical tests were performed. Chemicals used included sodium sulfide to identify lead paint and to help to identify similar layers between samples.

A list of the paint samples taken and the location from which each sample was removed is included in this appendix. Time constraints do not allow for the incorporation of the chromoarchaeology tables or for color matching specific layers. However, the findings of the analysis were used to assist in the relative dating of various features of the structure and have been incorporated into the physical evolution section of this report.

SAMPLE NUMBERS and LOCATIONS

Exterior

<u>Sample #</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Location/Description²</u>
P001	South - Main House	West end – clapboard
P002	South - Main House	East end – clapboard
P003	South - Main House	East end – clapboard, below paint removal line
P004	South - Main House	West end – corner board
P005	South - Main House	East end – corner board
P006	South - Main House	East end – corner board, below paint removal line, above patch at bottom
P007	South - Main House	East end – corner board, patch at bottom
P008	South - Main House	Doorway D101 – sidelight, west side panel (below paint removal line)
P009	South - Main House	Doorway D101 – west pilaster
P010	South - Main House	Doorway D101 – west pilaster, below paint removal line
P011	South - Main House	Doorway D101 – surround
P012	South - Main House	Window W101 – surround, molding
P013	South - Main House	Window W101 – surround, fascia
P014	South - Main House	Window W101 – sill
P015	South - Main House	Window W103 – surround
P016	South - Main House	Window W103 – surround, below paint line
P017	South - Main House	Window W103 – sill, below paint removal line
P018	South - Main House	West porch – post
P019	South - Main House	East porch – post
P020	South - Ell	East end – clapboard
P021	South - Ell	East end – corner board
P022	South - Ell	Doorway D102 - door
P023	South - Ell	Doorway D102 – surround (below paint removal line)
P024	South - Ell	West end – vertical board between D102 and east wall of main house
P025	South - Ell	Fascia board above D102
P026	East - Main House	Clapboard
P027	East - Main House	Fascia board at top of wall at porch ceiling
P028	East - Main House	South end – corner board
P029	East - Main House	North end – corner board
P030	East - Main House	Window W105 – surround
P031	East - Main House	Porch – center post

² Unless otherwise indicated, all samples were taken from above the area where paint was removed in 1992 for lead abatement purposes.

P032	East - Main House	Porch – center post, below paint removal line
P033	East - Ell	Clapboards (older)
P034	East - Ell	Clapboards – behind bulkhead door
P035	East - Ell	North end – corner board (bottom patch?)
P036	East - Ell	North end – corner board (below paint removal line)
P037	East - Ell	North end – corner board
P038	East - Ell	Doorway D103 – door
P039	East - Ell	Doorway D103 – surround
P040	East - Ell	Window W106 – surround
P041	East - Ell	W108 – surround
P042	East - Ell	Bulkhead – T & G beaded-board door
P043	North - Ell	West end – corner board
P044	North - Ell	Window W109 – sash
P045	North - Ell	Window 109 – surround
P046	West - Ell	Doorway D104 – T & G beaded-board door
P047	West - Ell	Doorway D104 – surround
P048	West - Ell	Window W110 – surround
P049	West - Ell	Window W111 – surround
P050	West - Ell	Window W112 – surround
P051	North - Main House	Fascia board at top of wall at porch ceiling
P052	North - Main House	West end – corner board
P053	North - Main House	Doorway D105 – door
P054	North - Main House	Doorway D105 – surround
P055	West - Main House	Clapboards
P056	West - Main House	North end – corner board
P057	West - Main House	Fascia board at top of wall at porch ceiling
P058	West - Main House	Cove molding on wall fascia board
P059	West - Main House	Window W113 – surround
P060	East - Main House	Porch – ceiling
P061	East - Main House	Porch – interior-facing fascia of vertical beam
P062	North - Main House	Porch – second post from west
P063	North - Main House	Porch – interior-facing fascia of vertical beam
P064	North - Main House	Porch – ceiling
P065	West - Main House	Porch – interior-facing fascia of vertical beam
P066	West - Main House	Porch – second post from south
P067	West - Main House	Porch – ceiling
P068	North - Main House	Ell attic – former wooden gutter/cornice
P069	North - Main House	Ell attic – former wall shingle

APPENDIX F
MORTAR SAMPLES

METHODOLOGY

Twenty-two mortar samples were removed from the interior and exterior of the Daniel Taylor house in September/October 1999 and January 2000 by Architectural Conservator Maureen K. Phillips of the Building Conservation Branch (BCB), Northeast Cultural Resources Center. Each sample was placed in an individually-labeled artifact bag on which was listed the date, the area from which the mortar sample was removed, and comments about the condition of the area -- e.g., whether the feature appeared to be original to the construction of the house. The samples were also logged using a three-part code that identifies the park, the building, and the mortar sample number, beginning with MIMA-35-M001. In this code, "**MIMA**" is Minute Man National Historical Park, "**35**" is the structure number for the house, and "**M001**" is mortar sample number 1.

Mortar analysis was carried out in the mortar laboratory at the BCB. Each sample was pulverized using a mortar and pestle. Approximately 20 grams of pulverized sample were then weighed out, swirled in a solution of diluted hydrochloric acid, and separated into sand and fines components (residues or sample impurities that were originally of the mortar -e.g., clay, silica magnesia, extra-fine sand, etc.).

After drying, the sands and fines were weighed and a calculation was made of the approximate weight of acid soluble materials that had been present in the sample. The color of sands and fines were noted and the fines were color-matched using the Munsell Color Notation System for mortar.

A list of the mortar samples taken and the location from which each sample was removed is included in this appendix. Time constraints do not allow for the inclusion of the analysis. However, based on the results of the analysis, samples were grouped by shared characteristics and given relative dates. This information was used to assist in the relative dating of various features of the structure and have been incorporated into the physical evolution section of this report.

SAMPLE NUMBERS and LOCATIONS

<u>Sample #</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Location/Description</u>
<i>Exterior</i>		
M001	North - Main House	Northwest corner of rear porch – poured-concrete flooring
M002	West - Ell	“Stucco” over rubble stone along foundation
<i>Interior - Cellar</i>		
M003	East - Ell	Mortar from fieldstone stair/foundation wall
M004	North - Ell	Mortar/stucco from fieldstone foundation wall
M005	North - Ell	Mortar from brick top of foundation wall
M006	West - Ell	Mortar from disturbed section of foundation wall
M007	South - Ell	Stucco over concrete blocks laid next to east brick pier of east chimney base
M008	South - Ell	Mortar from center brick pier of east chimney base
M009	South - Main House	West end to east of W001 – mortar/stucco from fieldstone foundation wall
M010	South - Main House	West end to east of W001 – mortar/stucco from brick top of foundation wall
M011	South - Main House	East end to west of W002 – repointing mortar from fieldstone foundation wall
M012	South - Main House	East end to west of W002 – mortar from brick top of foundation wall
M013	West - Main House	Mortar/stucco from fieldstone foundation wall
M014	North - Main House	Center – stucco from fieldstone foundation wall
M015	North - Main House	Center – mortar from fieldstone foundation wall
M016	North - Main House	Stucco over west brick chimney base
M017	North - Main House	Mortar from west brick chimney base
M018	East - Main House	Mortar from fieldstone foundation wall
M019	East - Main House	Mortar from corbelled-brick hearth support on south side of east chimney base
M020	South - Ell	Stucco over center pier of east chimney base
M021	South - Main	Mortar from center pier of east chimney base
M022	South - Main	Mortar from west pier of east chimney base

APPENDIX G
NAIL SAMPLES

METHODOLOGY

Twelve nail samples were removed from the interior and exterior of the Daniel Taylor house in June 1999 and January 2000 by Historical Architect David Bittermann of the Building Conservation Branch (BCB), Cultural Resources Center. Each sample was placed in an individually-labeled artifact bag (some samples consisted of more than one nail) on which was listed the date, the area from which the nail sample was removed, and comments about the condition of the area -- e.g., whether the nail appeared to have been original to the feature and whether the feature appeared to be original to the construction of the house. The samples were also logged using a three-part code that identifies the park, the building, and the nail sample number, beginning with MIMA-35-N01. In this code, "**MIMA**" is Minute Man National Historical Park, "**35**" is the structure number for the house, and "**N01**" is nail sample number 1.

Each nail sample was examined using a hand-held lens and/or a stereozoom microscope and physical characteristics of the nail were noted. All of the nails removed are machine-cut nails and, based on the physical characteristics noted, were assigned conjectured dates of manufacture. Those nails that had ridges on both edges of one side and rounded ends could be dated to 1815-1835; those with ridges on both edges of one side and sheared ends could be dated to post-1835.

A list of the nail samples taken, the location from which each sample was removed, and each sample's conjectured manufacture date, is included in this appendix. The findings of the analysis were used to assist in the relative dating of various features of the structure and have been incorporated into the physical evolution section of this report.

SAMPLE NUMBERS and LOCATIONS

<u>Sample #</u>	<u>Location/Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
N001	South façade – window W103 surround, 2 nails; nails and casing appear original to construction	1815-1835
N002	South façade – west end, 3 complete sheathing nails; nails and sheathing appear original to construction	1815-1835
N003	East wall of ell, 3 clapboard nails; nails and clapboards appear original to construction	1815-1835
N004	East wall of ell – 4 sheathing nails; nails and sheathing appear original to construction	1815-1835
N005	Main staircase – 1 lath nail (access from cellar); nail and lath	1815-1835
N006	Main staircase – 1 riser nail (access from cellar); nail and riser appear original to construction	1815-1835
N007	Main staircase – 1 lath nail (access from cellar); nail and lath appear to post-date original construction	post-1835
N008	Ell – second-floor storage area, 1 sheathing nail from below original west-slope joist; nail and sheathing appear original to construction	1815-1835
N009	Ell – attic, 3 flooring nails; nails and flooring post-date original construction	post-1835
N010	Ell – attic, 3 nails from main-house north wall shingles now covered by raised ell roof; nails deteriorated, but shingles post-date original construction	post-1835?
N011	Ell – attic, 2 nails from main-house north wall shingles now covered by raised ell roof; nails deteriorated	post-1835?
N012	Ell – attic, 2 nails from main-house north roof slope now covered by raised ell roof; nails and roof shingles appear to date to original construction	1815-1835

APPENDIX H
1963 APPRAISAL and 1965 VALUATION REPORTS

Appraisal of Unit "A" Parcel 9-K Part II

Lexington Road

Concord, Massachusetts

By Willard C. Bodge

15 Besworth Street

Boston 8 Massachusetts

Appraised August 2, 1963

Legal Description

A parcel of land on the Northerly side of Lexington Road, beginning at the land of the Terrence McHugh Estate and running North 9 degrees 30 feet East seventy-seven (77) feet more or less along land of said McHugh to the beginning of a stone wall, thence turning and running North 37 degrees 30 feet East, seventy (70) feet to land now or formerly of Ellen Burke, then turning and running South 50 degrees West, four hundred twenty-six (426) feet more or less along land of Burke to Old Bedford Road, then turning and running on Old Bedford Road, sixty-five (65) feet more or less with a radius of 1730 feet to a highway bound at the beginning of a curve. Then turning and running along the curve two hundred thirty-eight (238) and seventy-four hundreths (238.74) feet with a radius of 361 feet to a highway bound then running along Lexington Road, North 35 degrees 31 feet West, eighty-four and sixty four hundreths (84.64) feet to another highway bound, then running along Lexington Road 35 degrees 30 feet West, fifty-nine (59) feet to the point of beginning, containing according to "Plan of Land of Everett C. Thorpe, Concord, Massachusetts, dated July 1946 by James A. Christenson, Eng. 1.9 acres.

Description of Land

Size and snape of land are indicated by plan included in this report. The front on both Lexington Road and Old Bedford Road is approximately street grade. There's a loosely laid fieldstone wall and white picket gate in front of dwelling and a flagstone walk to the front entrance. The garage and sned are approached by an upgrade gravel driveway. The approximate location of a stone retaining wall is shown on plot plan. The grade at the rear of the house rises abruptly, this being a part of Revolutionary Ridge. The rear is generally wooded. It's estimated that the highest area is approximately 300 feet above street grade. There's a woods path near the northerly boundry of Old Bedford Road which provides access to the high rear land, this path runs along the edge of the highland, the area between the path and the north boundry being steep down and for a distance of a few hundred feet the land on the south of the path is also steep down, so the path runs along the top of the ridge. The ridge appears to have a poor type of gravel, suitable for fill but of a doubtful value for either building or construction purposes. At the westerly end of the woods path there's a clearing with a plank seat and make-shift out-of-door fireplace.

There is a section of the foundation walls of an old barn just east of the dwelling.

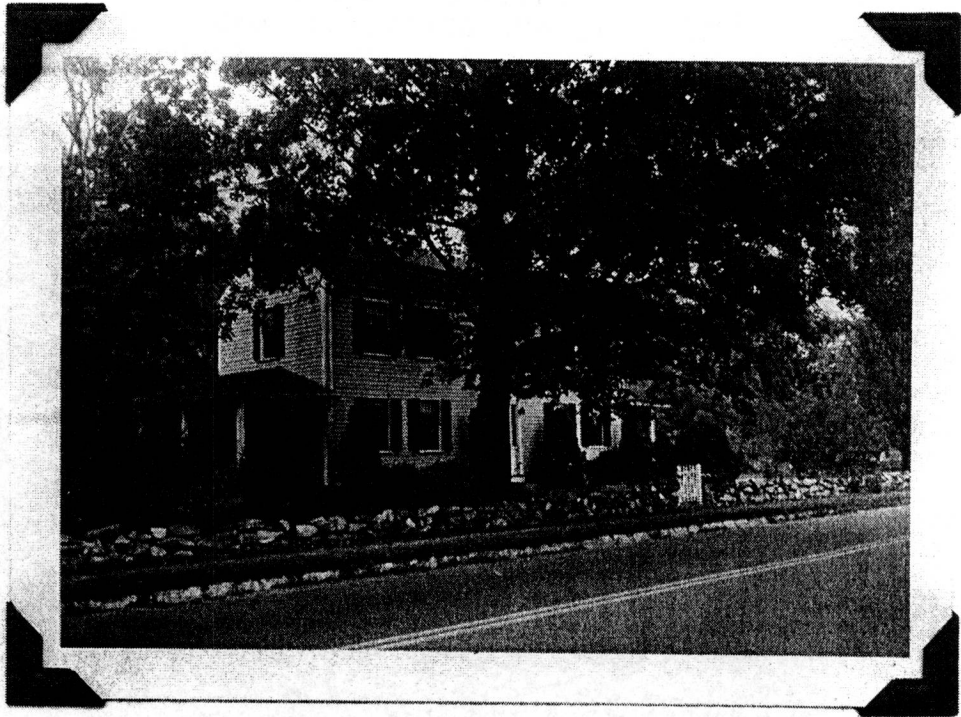
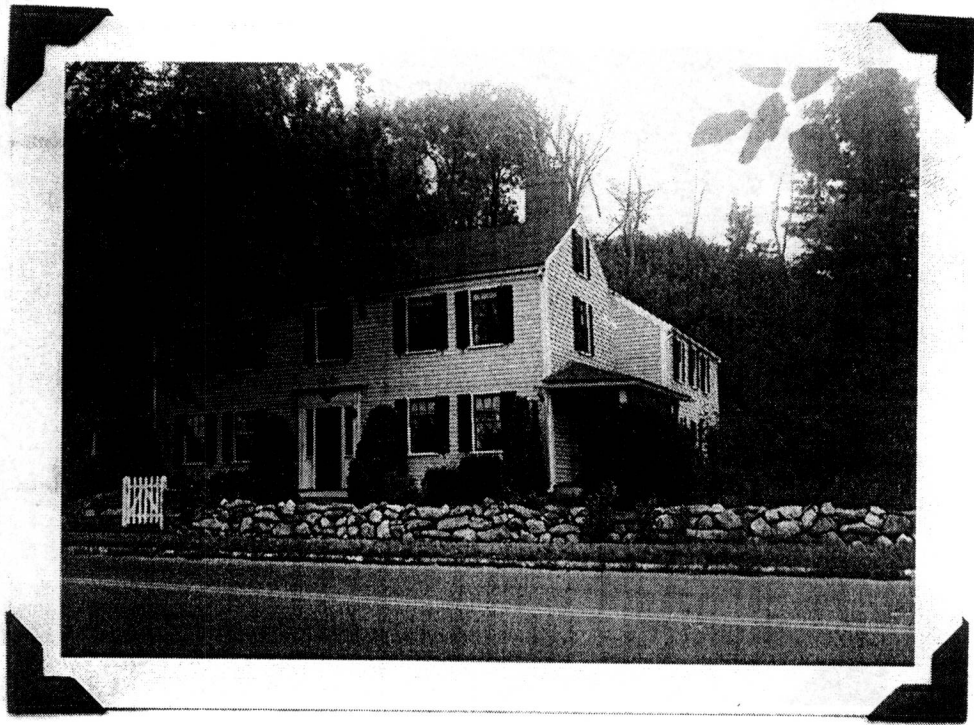
Improvements

Improvements consist of an old colonial type farm house and sned-garage. The dwelling is a 2-1/2 story wood frame structure with exterior siding of yellow painted wood clapboards, wood shutters, metal gutters and aluminum downspouts, asphalt shingle roof, cut graphite foundation in the front section and fieldstone foundation in the ell. Ell is said to be the oldest part of the structure dating about 1700 (more or less) and the front section added, about 1800 (more or less).

The garage is an extension of the old shed, but is separately partitioned. It provides for an automobile and has a tarvia floor and an overhead wood door. The remainder of shed has open studs, dirt floor and there is a second overhead door at the easterly end.

It's claimed that the property has been in the Clark family (that of Mrs. Thorpe, deceased) for over 200 years.

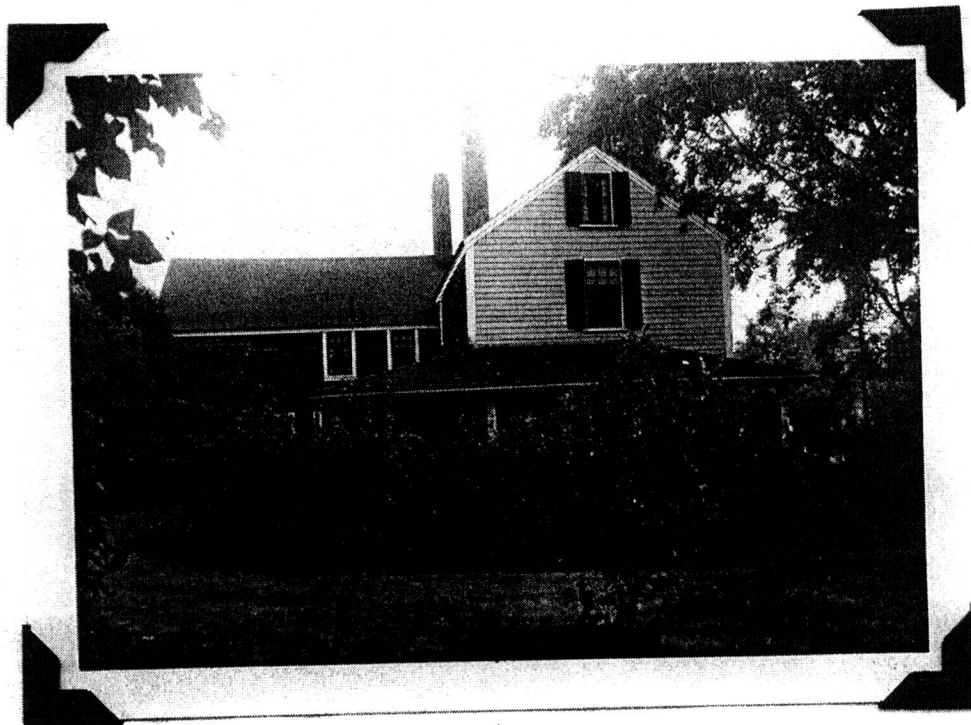
Main House	36' x 18.33'
Ell	22' x 26.5'
Main House and Ell W/S Porch	218.49 sq. ft.
E/S Porch	<u>140.25 sq. ft.</u>
	358.74 sq. ft.
Shed	23'
Garage	38. 58'



TWO FRONT VIEWS



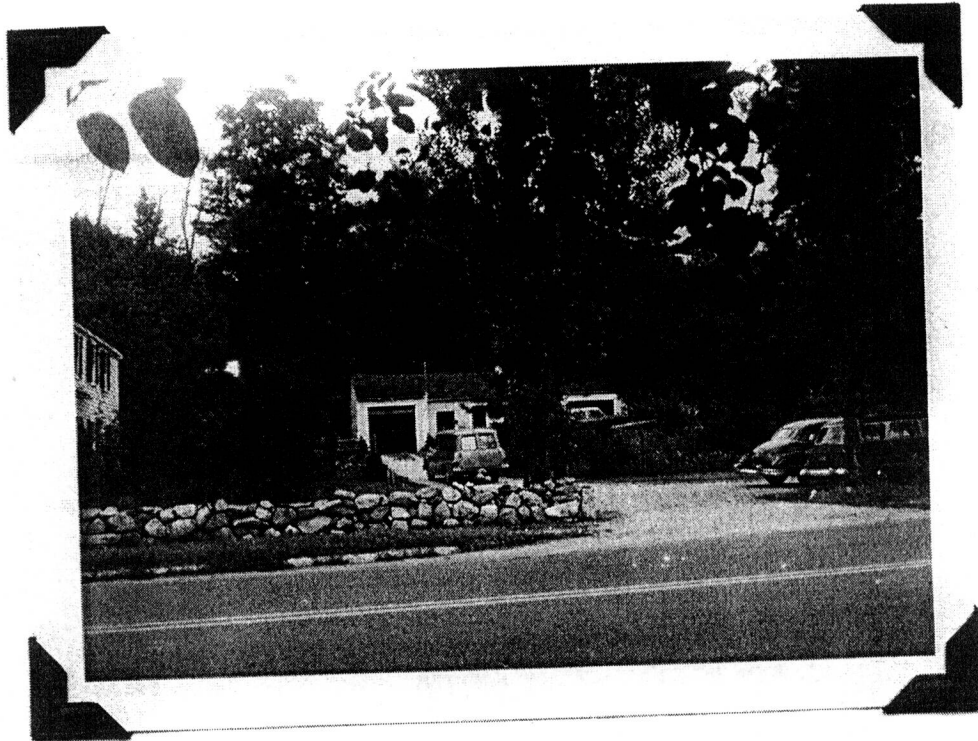
EAST SIDE LOOKING
TOWARD LEXINGTON ROAD



WESTERLY SIDE



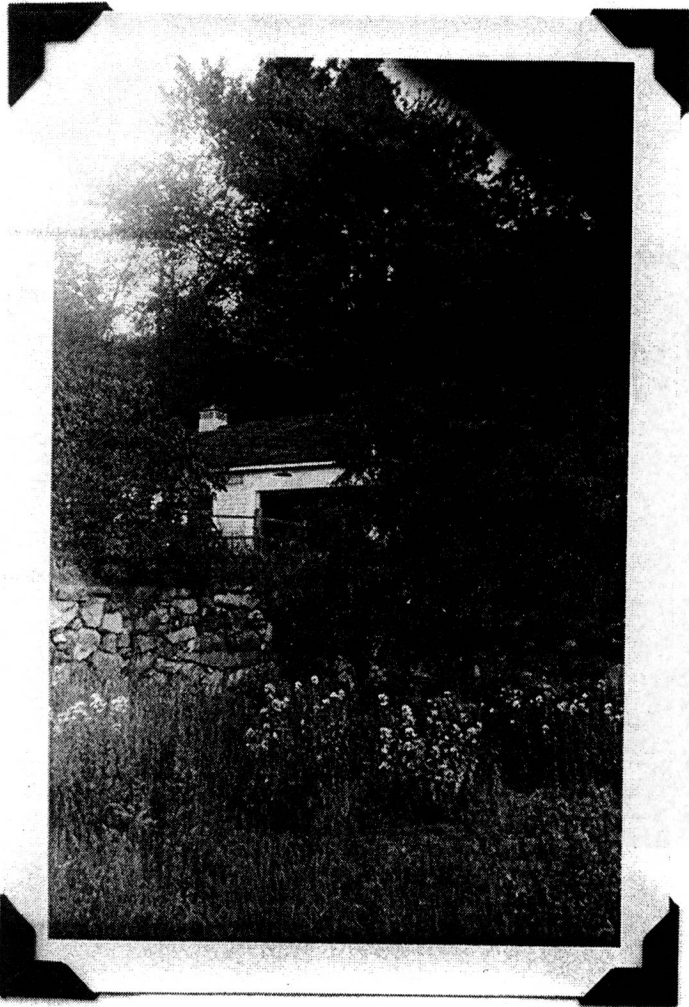
TWO VIEWS OF
EASTERLY SIDE



DRIVEWAY AND
SHED - GARAGE



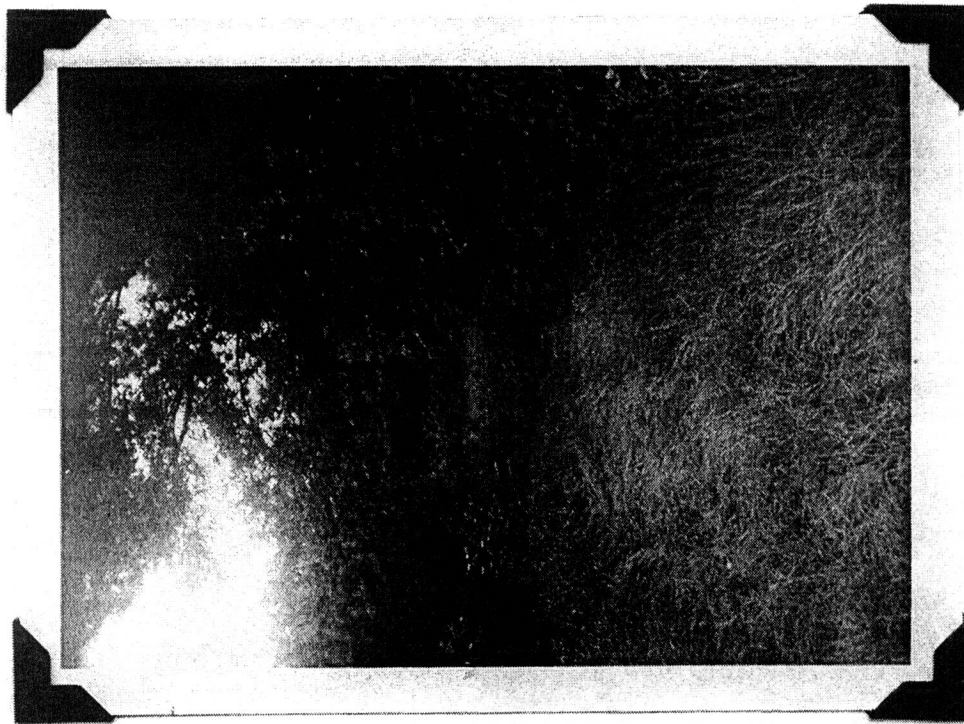
SHED-GARAGE



SHED-GARAGE FROM
CELLAR OF OLD BARN



HIGH CLEARED AREA
LOOKING SOUTH



WOODS PATH FROM
OLD BEDFORD ROAD



OLD STONE WALL AT
NORTHERLY BOUNDARY

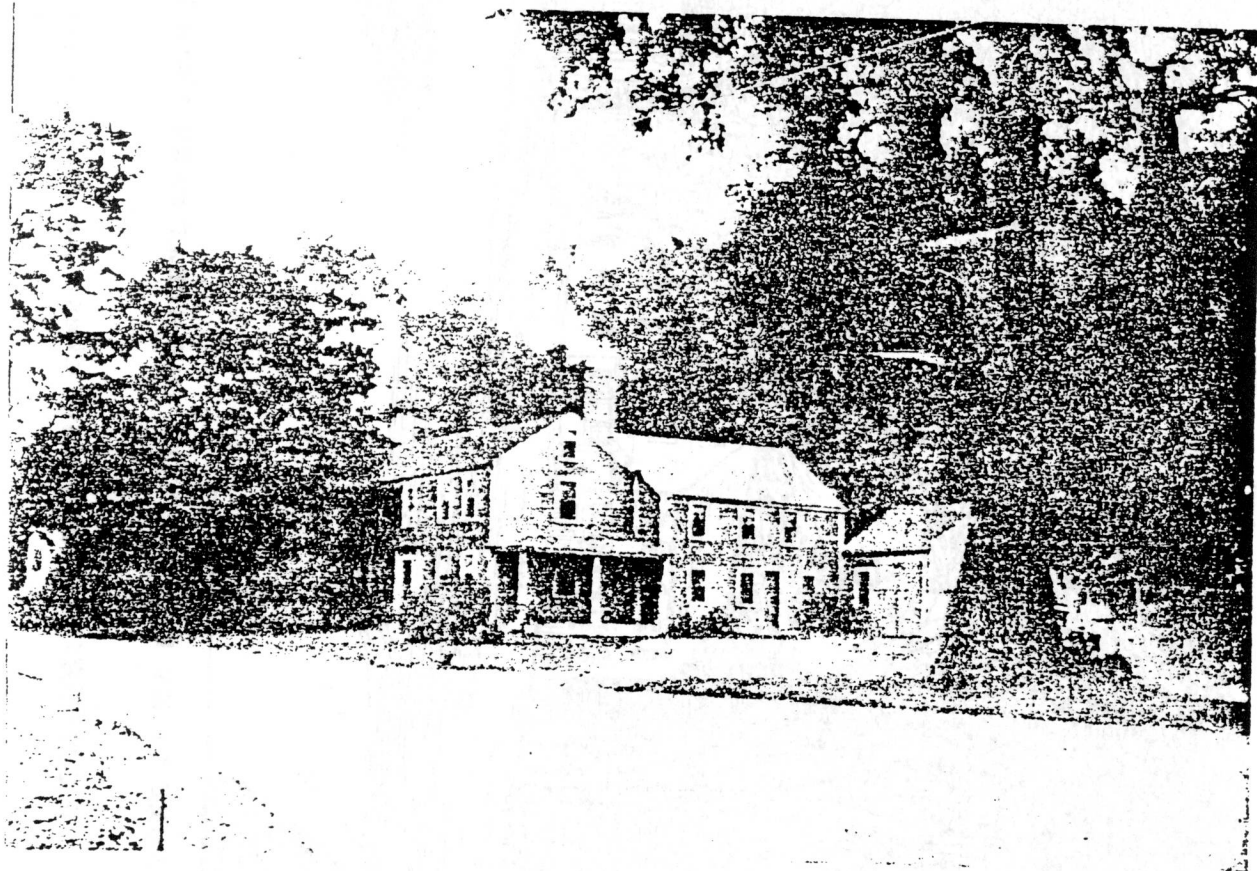
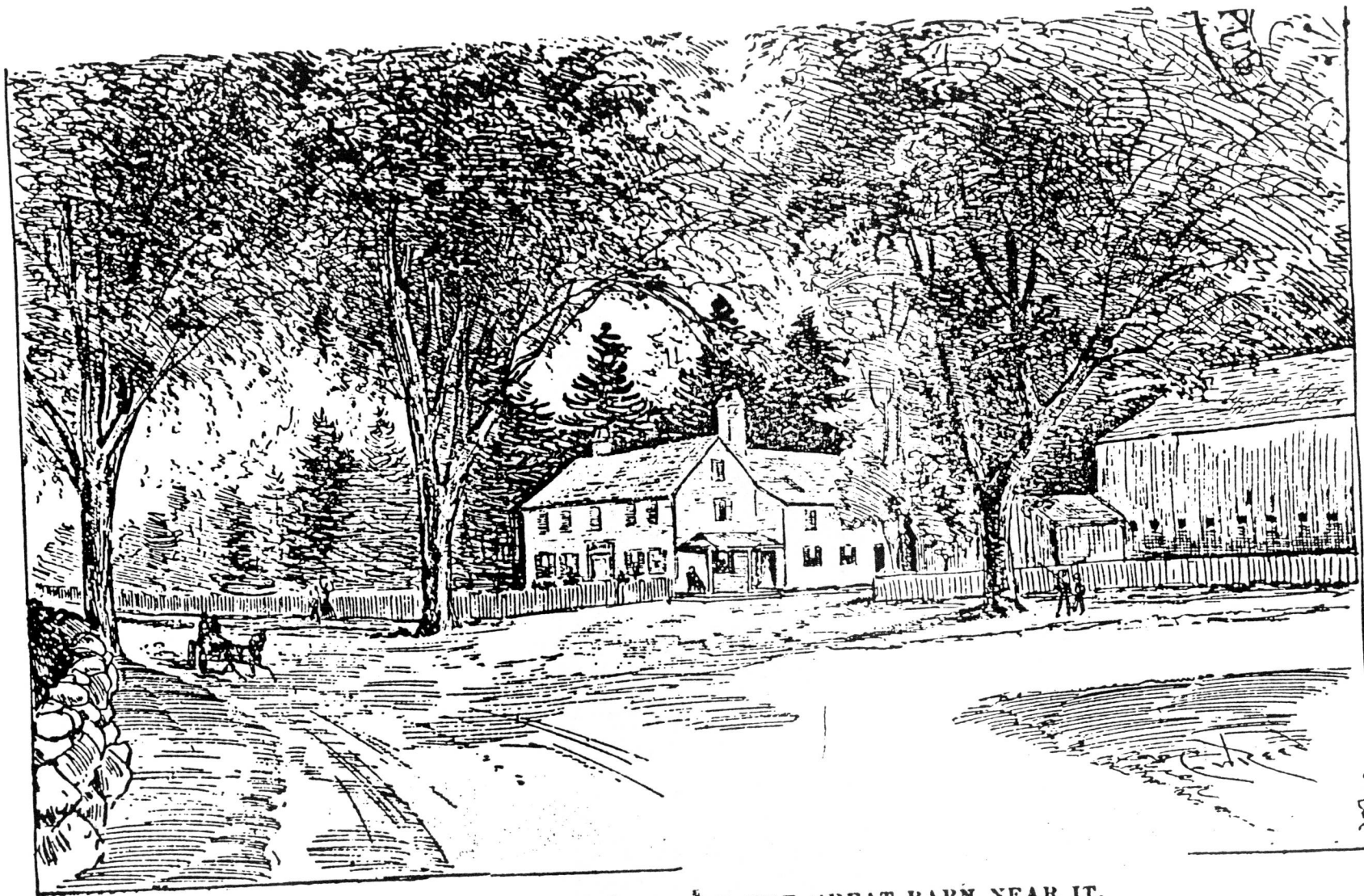


photo c. 1937
by George Shepherd

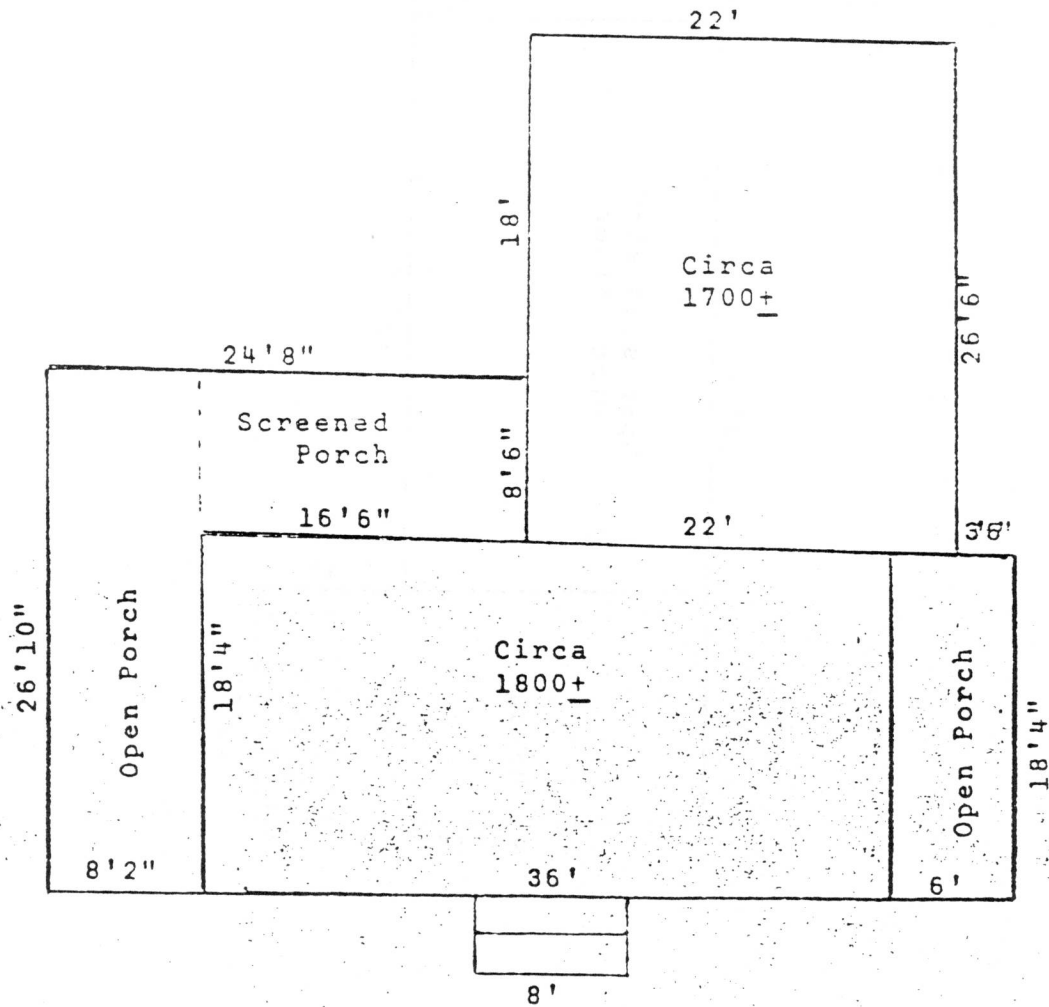


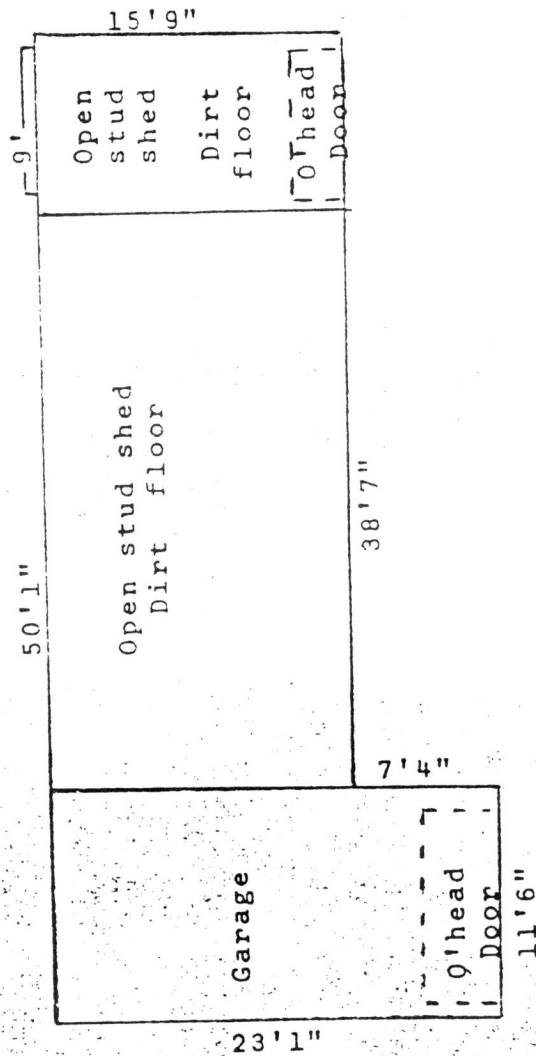
THE HOME OF MY FATHER, WITH THE GREAT BARN NEAR IT,

REVERSE: "From my chest or ransacking/ Clara Gowing c. 1899

EVERETT C. THORPE

CONCORD
MASSACHUSETTS





Valuation Report

Residential

Everett C. Thorpe

Property

Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts

Certificate of Value

I certify that I have personally inspected the subject property, at Lexington Road in the Town of Concord, County of Middlesex, Massachusetts; that I have no affiliations with the owner, and that my opinion of value is based upon unbiased analysis of all known factors which affect its worth.

In my opinion the value of the property under consideration, as of December 27, 1965 is \$39,500.00

Harry C. Berglund

Appraiser.

Table of Contents

Page

1.	Area Tract Number
	Location
	Ownership
	Purpose of Appraisal
2,3,4,5	Photoprints of Property
6,7	Legal Description
8.	Plan of Land
9.	Sketch of Buildings
10.	Concord Town Plan
11-16 incl.	Physical Description
17.	Zoning
	Assessment
	Title and Interest
	Neighborhood
18.	Best and Highest Use
	Valuation Report
	Cost Approach
19-21 incl.	Comparable Sales
22-23.	Correlations and Limitations

Area Tract Number

Unit "A" Parcel 9, K, Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts, further described by Plan number 1314 of 1946, recorded Sept. 3, 1946 in Middlesex South District Registry with deed in Book 7041, Page 112.

Location

The subject property is situated on the Northwest corner of Lexington Road and Old Bedford Road, Concord, Massachusetts.

Ownership

The owner of the subject property is Everett C. Thorpe, surviving husband of Anne H. Thorpe, wife, deceased, as tenants by the entirety. Mr. Thorpe residing on the premises, Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts.

Purpose of Appraisal

The purpose of this appraisal is to establish a fair market value of the subject property just to the buyer and seller. Fair market value may be defined as the price a willing buyer would pay, and a willing seller accept, both parties fully aware of the potential and actual uses of the property, and neither acting under compulsion to buy or sell, the property having been exposed to the market for a reasonable time.



View from Lexington Road



Southwesterly View from Lexington Road



Easterly View



Westerly of Ell



Northeasterly View of Ell



Driveway and Shed



View of Vacant Land from Lexington Road



View of Land from Old Bedford Road

Legal Description

I, George B. Clark of Concord, Massachusetts, for consideration paid, grant to Everett C. Thorpe and Anna H. Thorpe, husband and wife as tenants by the entirety, both of Concord, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, with quitclaim covenants, the land in the Easterly part of said Concord, being a certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated on the Northerly side of Lexington Road and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the Northerly side of Lexington Road at land of Terrence McHugh Estate and running North 9 degrees 30' East, seventy-seven feet more or less along land of said McHugh to retaining wall; thence turning and running North 11 degrees East, two hundred thirty-five feet more or less along land of said McHugh to the beginning of a stone wall; Thence turning and running North 37 degrees 30' East, seventy feet, more or less to land now or formerly of Ellen Burke;

Thence turning and running South 50 degrees West, four hundred twenty-six feet more or less along said Burke to Old Bedford Road; Thence turning and running along said Old Bedford Road sixty-five feet more or less, with a radius of 1780 feet to a highway bound at the beginning of a curve; Thence running along said curve two hundred thirty-eight and $74/100$ feet with a radius of 361 feet to a highway bound; Thence running along Lexington Road North 35 degrees 30' West eighty-four and $64/100$ feet to another highway bound.

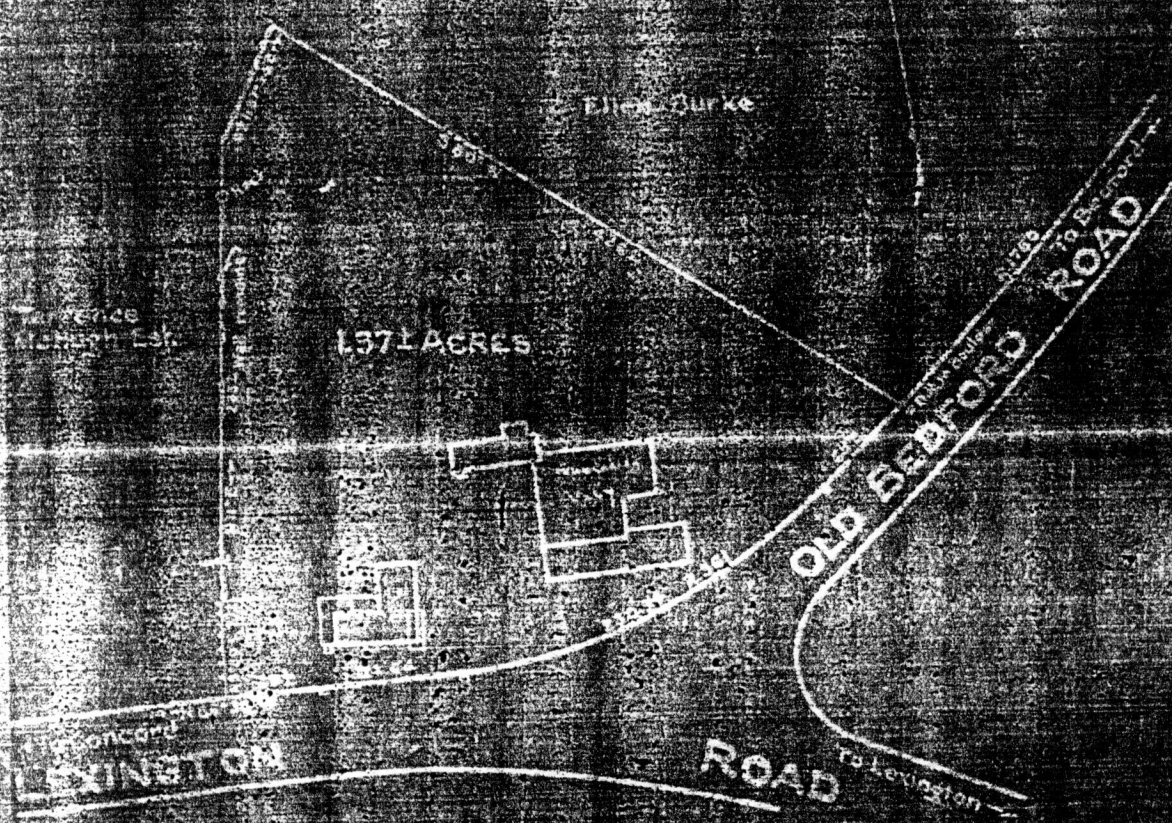
Thence running along said Lexington Road North 85 degrees 30' West, fifty-nine feet more or less to the point of beginning and containing 1.97 acres more or less. All according to a plan entitled "Plan of Land of Everett C. Thorpe, Concord, Mass. July 1946, James A. Christenson, Engineer". to be recorded herewith. Being part of the same premises conveyed to me by deed of Estella J. Parker dated May 10, 1918 and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds, Book 4213, Page 458.

This conveyance is made subject to a mortgage with the Middlesex Mutual Fire Insurance Co. dated May 28, 1910 and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds, Book 5465, Page 413.

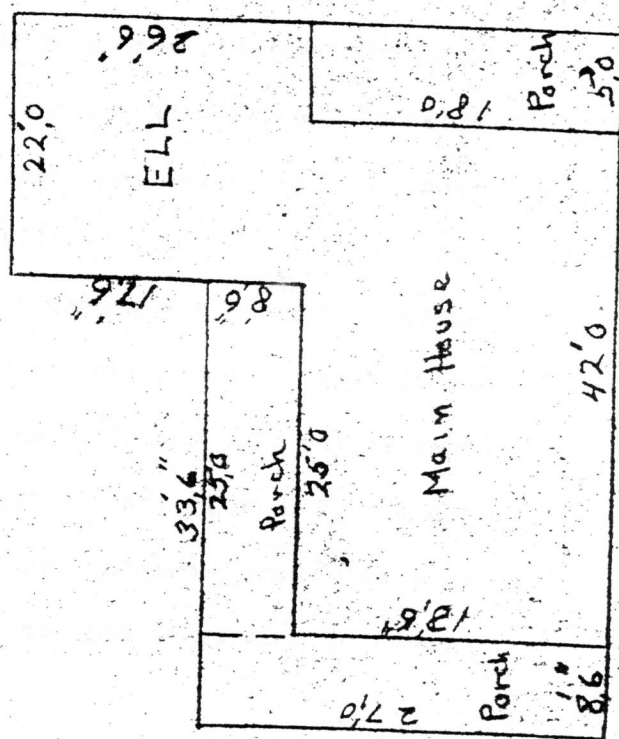
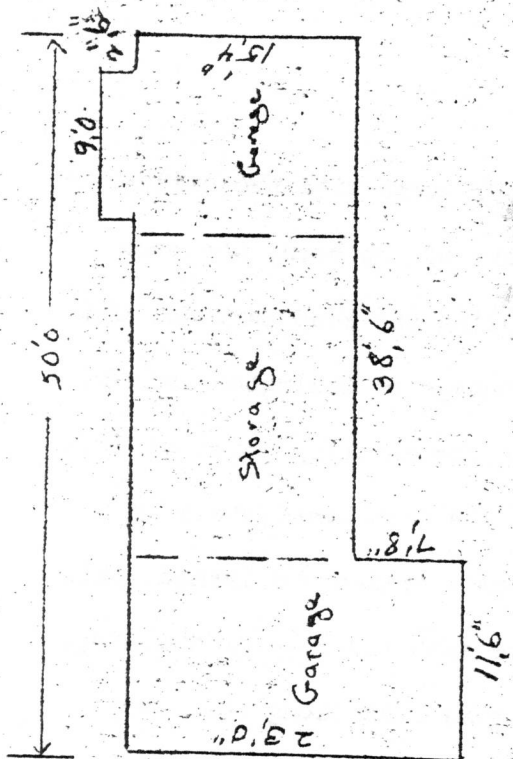
The consideration for this deed is less than one hundred dollars.

August 21, 1946, Record September 3, 1946,

Book 7041, Page 112.



Register of Deeds, So. Dist.
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
Plan Number 1315
Recd. Sept. 2, 1966
George B. Clark
Everett C. Thorpe et al.
Recorded Sept. 7041 Page 112
Signed *John D. Sullivan* Register



Physical Description

1990
The subject property consisting of 1.97 acres with two buildings thereon, a residence and shed part of the barn, the barn being razed and only part remaining being the shed part and the foundation. The land area with a frontage on Lexington and Old Bedford Roads extends to and includes the easterly point of Revolutionary Ridge ending at a point. The area immediately in front and around the residence is nicely graded and lawned, this area ends at a gravel driveway on the easterly side of dwelling. A low stone wall with a small white gate runs along the front boundary of the property, two large maples, two poplars one on each side of driveway grow just inside the stone wall. A good size spruce and two smaller elms and a lilac hedge are growing along the westerly bounds of the property. The front and two sides of the dwelling are heavily landscaped with andromedas, yews and Forsythias; rear part of the lawn, about ten feet from the dwelling ends at a heavily wooded and steep hillside. The easterly part of the property along Old Bedford Road rises at about five percent elevation at a distance of about a hundred feet ending into the previously mentioned hillside. This area has situated on it the old foundation of the barn, and the shed type structure remaining; at present time the beginning of a growth of underbrush and dry reedy grass covers the area. The

hillside and Revolutionary Ridge are covered by a heavy growth of small pines and hardwood trees.

The dwelling and ell are of wood frame construction on fieldstone foundation, with two inside brick chimnies, the outer front and side walls are covered by clapboards laid three inches to the weather, rear wall of main building and rear of ell are covered with wood shingles. The roofs on main building and ell with metal gutters and conductors is covered by Composition shingles. Windows are double hung sash, 6 over 6, with exception of the kitchen window which is wood casement. The front and side windows are equipped with shutters. An easterly open porch covers side entrance to kitchen in the ell; three square columns support the shed-type roof with metal gutters and conductor, roof covered by same composition shingles as main house. Ceiling novelty panelling, floor four inch flooring, in poor condition. A second open porch covers the entire westerly side of the main house and extends along rear side to ell. The shed-type roof is supported by six square columns 6 x 6. Roof with aluminum gutters and conductors is covered with tarpaper, ceiling novelty panelling, floor concrete. Part of porch in rear of main building is screened with door to main building into a small den, and door to westerly porch.

Entry into the dwelling from a small concrete platform is into a center hall, walls and ceiling plaster, floor hardwood, colonial stairway to second floor, pine, railing spindles and newels round, door

to dining room on right and living room on left.

Living Room, walls and ceiling plaster, floor hardwood, brick fireplace with wood colonial mantle, two built in coat closets.

Dining Room, walls and ceiling plaster, floor 4 to 6 inch board flooring, brick fireplace with wood colonial mantle, built-in closet for china, doors to kitchen in rear, and to a small den on the westerly side.

Den, walls and ceiling plaster, floor six inch boards, built-in small closet for dishes, door to outside rear porch.

Kitchen, in ell, walls and ceiling plaster, floor linoleum on wood flooring, Dutch oven fireplace, built-in knotty pine cabinets with formica counter, stainless steel single tray sink, electric hotplate and built-in wall electric oven; also a built-in beech cutting board in counter, knotty pine cabinets over counter, door to small outer hall, and arch to a small alcove, with stairway to cellar and door to storage room.

Alcove, walls and ceiling plaster, floor linoleum on wood flooring.

Storage Room, inner wall plasterboard, other walls and ceiling rough frame, floor concrete, connection for washing machine, doors to rear yard and side yard.

Rear Entrance Hall, walls and ceiling plaster, floor linoleum on wood, stairway to second floor, pine, door to open side porch.

Second floor main house, two bedrooms and bath with one bedroom in ell.

Second floor Hall, walls and ceiling plaster, floor six inch

boards, stairway to open attic with door to bathroom from landing.

Attic, open floored, rough frame.

Bedroom westerly side main house, walls and ceiling plaster, floor 6 to 8 inch boards, brick fireplace with wood colonial mantle, two built-in clothes closets.

Bedroom easterly side main building, walls and ceiling plaster, floor 8 to 10 inch board, brick fireplace, blocked-up, colonial wood mantle, built-in clothes closet, door to rear hall and door to bathroom.

Bathroom with entrance from easterly bedroom and platform from stairway to attic. Walls and ceiling plaster, floor linoleum, (badly worn) on wood flooring, leg bathtub, white, old type, other fixtures, white, modern.

Rear Hall second floor, walls and ceiling plaster, floor 6 to 8 inch boards, railing over stairwell. This hall is two steps lower than easterly bedroom. Doors to small bedroom on the westerly side, and to storage room to the rear.

Bedroom, walls and ceiling, plaster, floor wide boards, small built-in clothes closet.

Storage Room, ell, walls and ceiling rough frame, floor 6 to 10 inch boards, stairway to open attic.

Attic, Ell, floored, rough frame.

Cellar, walls fieldstone, ceiling rough frame, floor an estimated 2/5 concrete, the remainder dirt floor, bulkhead to sideyard.

Equipment: Furnace steam, oil fired, make Delco-Heat, attachment for automatic domestic hot water. Oil storage tank capacity 275 gallons.

The living quarters are heated by steam system with radiators in each room. The house is connected to the Town water system; sanitary facilities are covered by a septic tank.

The Living quarters consist of seven rooms, with one bath, five fireplaces of which one is closed. The general condition of the house is fair to good; it was noted that the plaster shows cracks in all ceilings except the kitchen.

The owner of this property claims that the rear part, the Ell, was built in the year 1700 and the front part, main building was built in 1804.

The doors and trim in the house is colonial with three Christian doors noted. Inspection of the exposed frame, showed some dry rot, however no indication of termites was noted.

The Garage and Storage building originally part of the razed barn is a shed type structure with pitched roof, of wood frame construction on one layer concrete block foundation, outside walls are covered with clapboard, roof without gutters is covered with composition shingles. Inside divided into three parts, single car garage at each end with storage area in the middle; rough frame, floors in the garage areas are concrete, in the middle section it appears that the floor was originally concrete but now larger part is dirt flooring; an addition in rear of this part of 2.6 x 9 feet has been added to make room for a car, as the depth of 15.9 feet

was not sufficient. This building is in a poor condition with rafters spreading, showing a decided sway in the ridge; it appears that a heavy snow storm may level this building. 7

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