

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 19 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 11 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The Wayside

AND/OR COMMON

The Wayside "Home of Authors"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

455 Lexington Road

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Concord

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Mass

Middlesex

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP☒ PUBLIC

___ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___ OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

☒ MUSEUM

___ COMMERCIAL

☒ PARK

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)

National Park Service - North Atlantic Region

STREET & NUMBER

15 State Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Boston

___ VICINITY OF

Mass

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Minute Man National Historical Park Headquarters

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wayside, located on the north side of Route 2A, also known as "Battle Road," is part of Minute Man National Historical Park. The Wayside and its grounds extend just over four and a half acres and include the house, the barn, a well, a monument commemorating the centenary of Hawthorne's birth, and the remains of a slave's quarters.

The Wayside, built prior to 1717, was lived in from 1845 - 1848 by Bronson Alcott and his family, including his daughter Louisa May Alcott. Nathaniel Hawthorne and his family owned the house from 1852 until 1870. In 1883 Daniel and Harriett Lothrop bought the house. Harriett Lothrop wrote the Five Little Peppers series under the pseudonym Margaret Sidney. Each notable owner made alterations to the property giving the house its architectural distinction. The house is presented as nearly as possible as it appeared in 1924, the year Margaret Sidney died.

The following historic buildings and structures remain on the grounds:

1. The Wayside (No. HS1)

The Wayside, a two-story shingled and clapboarded wood frame house with lateral one-story additions, a three-story tower at the rear and a piazza on the west, has undergone alteration since its construction ca. 1714. The original structure was a lean-to type with five bays, entrance centered on the front facade, built on a field-stone foundation with a small shed addition at the rear. The oldest section of the house is rectangular in plan with two rooms on each floor built around a central chimney mass. This type of plan was used in New England from the mid-1600's until the mid-1800's. The chimney, with a fireplace in each room, made the bitter winters endurable. The house retains an original colonial mantelpiece in the East Chamber. Sometime around 1785, wallpaper was added to the interior walls of two rooms. Later, ca. 1815, the east parlor was wallpapered.

In 1845 the house was bought for the use of Amos Bronson Alcott and his family. They named it "Hillside" and lived there until November 1848. Alcott added the center gabled dormer to the roof and enlarged a window to accommodate a new glazed door with pilasters at either side. An existing outbuilding was cut in half and a portion was added to the east and west ends of the house. The east wing contained a bathhouse, laundry and wood house; and the west wing had a study and two new bedrooms.

Alcott's comfortable kitchen, now called the Old Room, was created by combining two smaller rooms in place of the old lean-to. Columned piazzas were added to the south walls of the lateral wings and a small porch dressed up the front entrance. The windows received louvered blinds. Alcott flushboarded the central dormer and painted the house a dark color, probably reddish-brown.

Alcott also built two rustic structures to the delight of his wife and daughters. The hillside arbor, built in 1846, was a respite from scorching summer heat and was constructed of "rustic Hemlock wrought in lattices of hazelnut oziers and sticks of willow and larch." According to Bronson Alcott's diary, the family would breakfast there and share readings together.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wayside is significant because it was occupied by three important 19th century American writers and their families. Bronson Alcott's family, including his daughter Louisa May, lived in the house from 1845 until 1848. In 1852 Nathaniel Hawthorne, the author of The Scarlet Letter, Blithedale Romance and The House of Seven Gables, and his family purchased the house. Hawthorne died in 1864 but his family lived there until 1868. In 1883, Daniel Lothrop bought The Wayside. His wife, Harriett M. Lothrop, wrote the Five Little Peppers series under the pseudonym Margaret Sidney. This noteworthy succession of residents earned The Wayside its sobriquet "Home of Authors."

The Wayside is significant also because of its association with Transcendentalist philosophical movements in Concord during the mid-nineteenth century. Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson often visited with the Alcott and Hawthorne families.

The Wayside Barn is significant because the Alcott girls played in the Barn, using it as a theatre to perform their original plays. Later, Louisa May Alcott tutored area children there.

Although the house dates from the colonial period and was once owned by Concord's Minute Man Muster Master, Samuel Whitney, its architectural significance derives from the alterations and adaptations produced by its successive notable owners who have left tangible evidence of their interests, ideas and behavior. The furnishings in The Wayside represent a variety of styles varying from American Colonial to Victorian. The majority of pieces were owned and used by the Lothrop's in The Wayside, particularly when it served as their summer home. Several items belonged to the Nathaniel Hawthorne family and were acquired by the Lothrop's for that reason.

The house is maintained as nearly as possible as it was in 1924 - the year of Harriett Lothrop's death. The author's daughter, Margaret Lothrop, received ownership to the property at the time of her mother's death and she opened the house to the public and pursued extensive research into the house's history. The Lothrop's, who possessed the property for a total of 82 years, made great efforts to preserve its historic integrity.

The National Park Service acquired responsibility for the property from Miss Lothrop in 1965. It is now administered as a part of Minute Man National Historical Park.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carroll, Orville "The Wayside Barn HSR Architectural Data Section" National Park Service 1973
----- "The Wayside: HSR II Architectural Data Section" (1968)
Lothrop, Margaret The Wayside: Home of Authors New York: American Book Company. 1968
Ronsheim, Robert. "The Wayside HSR Park II Historical Data Section" NPS 1968
Toogood, Anna Cox "The Wayside: Historic Grounds Report" NPS 1970

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.5 *3.27 as per map 5/10/12/1/80*

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 30.8 10.0 470.3 18.0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see site plan

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bronwyn Krog, Preservation Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

NPS/North Atlantic Region

8/15/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

15 State Street

223-3778

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Mass

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ☒

NO ☐

NONE ☐

Peter L. Westendorp
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Asst. Dir. Cultural Resources

DATE

6/15/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Beth Grosvenor
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/11/80

ATTEST

Patrick W. Andrews

DATE

7/8/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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In 1846 Alcott built the Garden House, a gabled thatched structure, cottage Gothic in appearance, set in the willows next to the brook running through the Emerson field. He planned to use it for "bathing and an alcove for retreating from the summer heat and rain."

The Hawthornes took over the property in 1852 and renamed it "The Wayside." Before the Hawthornes relocated to England that year, where Nathaniel served as a U.S. Consul, the family made changes to the house. They remodelled the East Wing, added a pantry, and rebuilt the east chimney.

Upon their return to The Wayside in 1860, the Hawthornes made major alterations to the structure. A three-story tower was built at the rear of the house, and a second floor bedroom was built over the west wing. A doorway was cut between the west chamber and main hallway; and the fenestration of the west wing was changed.

A new porch was built over the front door forcing removal of the Alcott piazza of 1848 - 1860. A bay window was constructed where the porch had been, providing an intimate, sunny space where Mrs. Hawthorne could conduct her correspondence. Another bay window was added to the rear of the tower addition.

Two chimney tops were rebuilt above the roof while a new chimney was built for the tower. Three marble mantels and two wooden ones were installed. Above windows inside the new rooms, peaked wooden cornices were placed. Two additions were given tin roofs. Granite foundation stones were placed under the south wall of the main house and west wing. In 1860 the Old Barn was moved from its 1845 site west of the house and attached to the east woodshed.

The three-story tower addition enclosed the tower study, Hawthorne's private domain. The study, a small but airy room that reaches a peaked, coved ceiling into cross-gabled rafters is entered by an enclosed stairwell with a peaked entryway. The plastered ceiling has paintings done in tribute to Hawthorne by Arthur Gray in 1871. It is furnished by paired and imposing bookcases built in at the north end, each with peaked cornices inscribed with the legends "All care abandon ye who enter here" and "There is no joy but calm." Above three of the five windows were words cut out and put up by Julian Hawthorne; "Olympus," "Harvard" and "J. Hawthorne." Hawthorne's stand-up writing desk is built into the south end, lit by a window at the rear.

Nathaniel Hawthorne died in 1864; his family occupied The Wayside until 1868. After they left, The Wayside was occupied by the Grays from 1870 to 1871 and then by "The Wayside Family School." During this period many features of the property were lost including the Conservatory, the Bee House, the Backhouse, the Summer House, the fences, wells, walks, trees and shrubbery.

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In 1879, The Wayside was bought by George Lathrop, editor of the Saturday Evening Courier, and his artist wife, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop. They stayed there until 1882. In 1883 a writer who admired Hawthorne, Harriett Lothrop, and her husband, Daniel, bought The Wayside. Mrs. Lothrop owned the property until 1924, using it for the most part as a summer house.

When the Lothrop's took over The Wayside, the house was repainted a green-grey, the water system was switched over into the town's supply; a bathroom was installed on the second floor; and various wallpapering was done; awnings were put over the windows to keep the house cool; and the west wing chimney was rebuilt above the roof.

Their major alteration was adding the new west piazza in 1887 entered through newly installed double glass doors. The piazza is Regency in style with arcading of delicate woodwork sweeping around the porch. The Regency desire for cottage simplicity resulted in the placement of wooden posts and trellis-work to support verandah roofs. This piazza, derivative of these influences, repeated the detailing of the Hawthorne porch. It has a spare geometric pattern created in between its plain balusters by the placement of staggered horizontal bars sectioned off at intervals by paired colonettes which brace semi-elliptical arches. Bracketing punctuates a dentil cornice. The piazza is raised above grade on a wooden framework and overlooks the west lawn.

In 1888 a coal furnace was installed in the cellar with steam-heated radiators put in eleven rooms. The dining room fireplace was dismantled and rebuilt to its current state. By 1891 the first telephone was installed. In 1896 the Old Room kitchen fireplace was built with a "beehive" oven.

In 1899 a new knocker was installed on the front door and the old knocker placed on the kitchen door. Interior shutters and a closet were installed, a concrete cellar floor was added and linoleum was added to the kitchen floor. Double laundry tubs were placed in the kitchen. In 1903 the east piazza was enclosed to become a pantry and additional closet. Doorways were cut between Mrs. Hawthorne's parlor and the sitting room and then the dining room was redecorated with a wallpaper and the trim was painted the then vogueish "Pompeian red" style. Partial electric wiring, storm sashes, and insect screening of the piazza and entrances were installed in 1906.

The central dormer was stripped in 1910; the pilasters, flushboarding and bay window parapet were removed and replaced with clapboards. In 1914 the stone foundation beneath the tower and a portion of the north wall were rebuilt. A concrete apron was poured to stabilize the structure.

The heating system was overhauled in 1922. Hardwood floors were laid in the sitting room and Una's room, and the house was given its yellow paint with cream colored trim.

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Furnishings preserved from the Hawthorne years include a secretary desk, a wooden freestanding bookcase, rocking chair, a dressing table/shaving stand, red leather armchair, the stand-up writing desk and a firescreen painted by Rose Hawthorne Lathrop.

Margaret Sidney acquired an Ephraim Wales Bull chair, a crudely hand-fashioned arm chair, built by the neighbor who also developed the Concord grape.

Alcott and Hawthorne put thought and work into the landscape at The Wayside. While Alcott lived at The Wayside, he toiled from April through October on the hillside, around the house, and in Emerson's field, lent in trust, across the street. Alcott, who did not eat meat, butter, eggs or cheese, built 12 terraces into the hillside, planted flower beds, fruit, maple, locust, birch, spruce and pine trees and raised bountiful quantities and varieties of vegetables, grains and fruits. He constructed fences, paths and outbuildings such as a beehive, a grape arbor and a conservatory surrounded by flower beds.

In 1859, under the supervision of Bronson Alcott who was disturbed by the neglect and deterioration that had occurred to the grounds during Hawthorne's extended stay abroad, walks were laid out on the hill and down to the brook. The walks included the Larch Path to the Alcott's Orchard House, the Cathedral Aisle to the brook, and the Hawthorne Path to the top of the hill. A great variety of trees grew in the yards, the most significant of which was the red and white hawthorn tree still growing near the front door. Several hundred larch and Norway spruce, all of which had been sent to Concord from England, were planted.

The trees along the Hawthorne Path were destroyed in a hurricane in 1938. The Larch Path, however, where the trees were planted at 9' to 10' intervals, has been partially cleared of underbush and is open for public view. Presently, the grounds are maintained at their reduced circumstances. Six spruce and several pines remain as a trace of the Cathedral Aisle down to the brook.

2. The Wayside Barn (No. HS2)

Deeds dating from 1716 place The Wayside barn originally on the eight-acre Ball property. An historical architect studying the structure concluded that the existing Barn is the same structure shortened in 1845, moved to its present site in 1860 and altered in other ways between 1883-1932.

The Barn stands sixteen feet east of The Wayside and is a one-and-one-half story wood frame and gabled building, rectangular in plan, with a wood shingle roof, an unmoulded cornice, plain frieze boards on both eaves and unmoulded fenestration. Its dimensions are 27' 10" x 22' 10" and has walls which are 13' in height, and a distance of 23' 4" from the foundation to the gable peak. A single-story lean-to measuring 17' 10" x 12' 1" at the north wall rests on a random laid rubble stone masonry foundation.

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A short concrete ramp leads up to wide double-leaf barn doors made of narrow vertical boards and hung with three strap hinges. Slightly off center in the west walls are shingle-leaf board doors above which are 6-over-6 double-hung sash windows. A sliding door in the north wall leads into the adjoining lean-to which has two windows. The east elevations mirrors the west with the exception of a shuttered opening to the south of the door.

The building is distinguished by a framework which almost entirely dates from the colonial period with hand-hewn posts, rails, plates, girts and rafters. Structurally, the Barn is formed by four corner posts and four intermediate posts joined by diagonal braces which are mortised, tenoned and pegged from the posts into the plates and girts. Between the wall posts are mortised and tenoned rails to which the vertical wall sheathing was nailed.

Unlike the exterior wall construction of the east end, the west wall construction is that of an interior wall providing structural evidence that the Barn was shortened. In addition, boards, pierced with nail holes unrelated to their present configuration, seem to have been reused at the west end. This led to the conclusion that this sheathing was carefully salvaged from its earlier wall location.

The Alcotts, who used the Barn for crop storage, moved it from a first site south of the road to another site west of The Wayside. The Hawthornes moved the Barn when they returned from England to its present location east of The Wayside and connected it to the house at the woodshed. When the Lothrop's acquired the property in 1883, the barn had 12-over-12 double-hung sash windows and was sheathed horizontally in the gable ends and vertically on the walls with rough-sawn boards, and it was no longer attached to the house. During the next five years, the Barn was clapboarded, its windows altered to their 6-over-6 double-hung sash form and the original arched opening was altered to the present horizontal architrave.

Near the turn of the century, the Lothrops remodelled the building with additional rafters, roof boards, a complete second floor instead of a loft and the rear lean-to appeared. In 1914 they added the concrete floor and built up the ramps. An uneven stone masonry wall was given to the rear lean-to about 1900.

The interior elements on the first floor currently include a large open space for visitor orientation in the Barn proper and a kitchenette and washroom facility for the staff in the lean-to.

The second floor of the Barn is divided into a large, unused, L-shaped space and a smaller storage room. The area was a loft historically entered by either the stairs or a trap door.

The clapboards of the barn are painted in yellow with cream trim, identical to the colors of The Wayside. The Barn now serves as the visitors' orientation center for The Wayside.

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Also on the grounds of The Wayside is the remains of a 17th century house presumed to have been occupied by a former slave. The site, located at the base of the hill, has been completely excavated. Erosion, which serves to cover and protect the site, presents no immediate danger to the site. The Casey's house site and artifact collection are valuable to understanding 18th-century Concord. As such, the site is related to the theme of Minuteman National Park rather than The Wayside.

The well is located between the barn and the house. The well dates back to the Hawthorne residency and was covered by a metal grate in the 1960's by the National Park Service.

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CONTINUATION SHEET The Wayside ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

This continuation sheet serves to expand upon and amplify the original Statement of Significance prepared 8/15/78.

From 1845 until 1924 The Wayside was the home and literary subject of three significant nineteenth-century authors. Of varying reputations and stature, all three, nonetheless, enjoyed international acclaim. Louisa May Alcott wrote her first volume there during the summer of 1848 while tutoring Ellen Emerson. Flower Fables, a series of fairy tales, had been written to entertain and amuse Ralph Waldo Emerson's young daughter.

Between 1845 and 1848, the years the Alcotts lived at The Wayside, Amos Bronson Alcott, Louisa May's father, continued his interests as educator, author, mystic and "most transcendental of the transcendentalists."¹ An intimate of Emerson and Thoreau, his cooperative vegetarian community of Fruitlands failed only months before Alcott moved his family into The Wayside.

The Wayside was the only house that Nathaniel Hawthorne ever owned, and it was he who gave the house its name in mid-July 1852. Although he spent most of his life in Salem, he lived in Concord during two very important periods. The first was the period July 9, 1842, to October 1845, when he lived in The Old Manse with his new bride, Sophia Amelia Peabody, the period he referred to as the happiest years of his life. The second was the last twelve years of his life from late May 1852 until his death in May 1864. Both Concord periods figure largely in Hawthorne's writings.

Hawthorne immortalized The Old Manse when, in June 1846, he entitled a collection of his short stories, Mosses From An Old Manse and included a preface entitled "The Old Manse" in which he described his home and his impressions of some of the people he knew in Concord, including Ralph Waldo Emerson.

The Wayside, too, appeared in two of Hawthorne's later works, "The Wayside: Introductory" to Tanglewood Tales which was written March 13, 1853, and Septimius Felton which first appeared in July 1872, eight years after Hawthorne's death.

While living at the Wayside, Hawthorne began no fewer than eight pieces; of these, three did not appear until after his death. Those completed and published while he lived included: a biography of Franklin Pierce, September 11, 1852; "The Wayside: Introductory" (March 13, 1853), in Tanglewood Tales, September 20, 1853; The Marble Faun, February 28, 1860; "Chiefly About War Matters: in the July 1862 issue of The Atlantic Monthly magazine; and Our Old Home: A Series of English Sketches, September 15, 1863. The incomplete manuscripts that were edited and published posthumously by various members of the Hawthorne family included: Septimius Felton in 1872, The Dolliver

¹Ernest Sutherland Bates, "Alcott, Amos Bronson," in Dictionary of American Biography, vol. 1, ed. Allen Johnson (New York:Charles Scribner's Sons, 1964), p. 139.

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Romance in 1876, and Doctor Grimshawe's Secret in 1882. Although this was a period of literary activity for Hawthorne, none of the works, finished or unfinished, during this period rank with his literary masterpieces, The Scarlet Letter and The House of the Seven Gables, and they lack the stellar brilliance and insight into human nature in the best of Hawthorne's short stories written during the 1830s and 1840s.

The last literary resident of The Wayside was Harriett M. Lothrop, better known as Margaret Sidney, who wrote forty children's books between 1880 and 1916. Although only three of the forty titles are still in print, The Five Little Peppers and How They Grew, her most widely read work, is still very popular with six different editions by three different publishers currently in print.

In October 1881 Harriett Mulford Stone (Margaret Sidney) married her publisher, Daniel Lothrop, an early advocate and publisher of children's literature. He published two children's magazines, Wide Awake and Pansy, and enlisted the aid of some of the best literary figures of the late-19th century to write for them including Edward Everett Hale and John Greenleaf Whittier. He also enlisted the aid of such famous illustrators as Frederick Childe Hassam, Herman Heyer, and Kate Greenaway to prepare the illustrations for his children's books and magazines.

On May 10, 1883, Harriett and Daniel Lothrop bought The Wayside, and they and their daughter, Margaret Mulford Lothrop, kept and preserved The Wayside for over 82 years, longer than any other single family in the history of the house. They purchased The Wayside because of its literary connection with Hawthorne.

Harriett Lothrop, in addition to all of her literary activities, devoted time, money, and immense energy and personal dedication to the preservation of four significant historic structures in Concord: The Wayside (1883); The Grapevine Cottage (1894), home of Ephriam Wales Bull, the man who developed the Concord grape; The Orchard House, Louisa May Alcott's home and the house in which she wrote Little Women in 1868; "Old Concord Chapter House" of the D.A.R. (1909), one of the oldest houses in Concord.

In October 1894 Harriett Lothrop organized the Old Concord Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and on April 5, 1895, she founded the National Society Children of the American Revolution. She served as national president from 1895-1901 and was made honorary president for life in 1901. 1980 was the Eighty-fifth Anniversary of the National Society, Children of the American Revolution. At that time there were 550 societies with 11,760 members.

The three literary families who lived in The Wayside, the Alcotts, Hawthornes, and Lothrops, made important literary philosophical, and social contributions to American culture.

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