

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received JUN 7 1982

date entered

1. Name

historic Wheeler-Merriam House (preferred)

and/or common Elm Brook Farm

2. Location

street & number 477 Virginia Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Concord

N/A vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Middlesex

code 017

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

N/A in process
☐ being considered

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☒ agriculture
☒ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Markey Realty Trust

street & number 477 Virginia Road

city, town Concord

N/A vicinity of

state MA.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Middlesex Courthouse

street & number Cambridge Street

city, town Cambridge

state MA.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets
of the Commonwealth #89

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1980

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston

state Ma.

7. Description

Wheeler-Merriam House, 477 Virginia Road, Concord

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wheeler-Merriam House is an early colonial house located in the rural eastern section of Concord. The property contains 35 acres of land straddling Virginia Road on the southwest side of Pine Hill, one of the highest in town. Elm Brook runs north/south across Virginia Road, the house is surrounded by stone walls, farm land, orchards, and woods. A large barn is located across the road from the house.

The house is 2 1/2 stories high with a central chimney and rear leanto; its wooden frame is sheathed in clapboard and rests on a stone foundation. Attached to the original structure are a one-story porch on the east side and a small gabled ell of one story on the northwest corner; both date from the 20th century. The traditional five-bay facade of the building is asymmetrically arranged.

Ornamentation is generally lacking in the Wheeler-Merriam House, as exemplified by its plain flat architraves and narrow cornice molding. The facade, however, retains elements of one bold, decorative element in its second story facade windows, which are surmounted by very prominent molded cornices. The entire facade and east elevations once featured these cornices, which are attributed to housewright Abner Wheeler.

The east and west elevations of the house are regularly ordered, the only alteration being a simple porch running the length of the east side. Its plain square posts, spanned by rectangular balusters, support a flat roof. The north (rear) elevation has experienced several alterations, most notably the addition of two shed dormers and a gabled ell.

In plan, the Wheeler-Merriam House features three major rooms (two front and one rear) grouped about a central chimney and stairway. The most important surviving woodwork on the interior remains in the entry stair, west parlor, and parlor chamber above. The woodwork in the latter two areas dates probably to the 2d and 3d quarters of the 18th century; the triple run stair is characteristic of the 1st or 2d quarter of the 18th century. Among the most notable interior details are boxed posts and summer beams; ovolo molded, feather-edged paneling; heavy bolection molding around one of the fireplaces; and an unusual "lamb's tongue" treatment of corners in the west parlor. The leanto-- although integral in form-- was apparently added, or at least rebuilt, around the turn of the 19th century. An architectural analysis of the house was made in 1980 by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, providing the basis of understanding its physical form. As it presently stands, the Wheeler-Merriam House has been altered somewhat from its 19th century appearance. Several changes reportedly occurred as a result of a ca. 1904 fire. Principal exterior alterations include the removal of a 1 1/2 story ell and shed built onto the east end of the house; the addition of a porch along that end; and the removal of the projecting cornices from the door and windows on the first floor facade and on the east elevation.

On the south side of Virginia Road is a large barn dating probably from the late 19th century. The wood frame structure has a gable roof, a large rectangular doorway centered on its facade, irregular 6/6 windows, a small ventilator, and plain fascia and corner boards. Running perpendicular to this main structure is a similar but smaller ell, and attached to that is a long, low carriage shed.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☒ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☒ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☒ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☒ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☒ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1692 **Builder/Architect** NA

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Wheeler-Merriam House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and setting. It is significant (1) as a representation of Concord's historic development, (2) for its associations with the prominent Wheeler and Merriam families, in particular a local housewright, and (3) as an interesting and well-preserved example of stylistic evolution, from the 18th and 19th centuries. The property thus meets criteria A, B, and C of the National Register.

Sargeant Thomas Wheeler (m. Sarah Merriam, 1648) was the first family member prominent in Concord. Active in civic affairs, in 1653, Wheeler was appointed an overseer of Concord's second division of land in the east quarter, and in 1665 he was appointed with William Hartwell to lay out the road to Woburn. By 1690 Wheeler was a prosperous landowner with 13 children, of which all the sons were provided with property. Tradition dates the Wheeler-Merriam House to 1692, as a wedding present for Thomas's son Timothy at his marriage to Lydia Wheeler. Timothy, like his father, prospered as a landowner and farmer, and was one of the town's wealthiest citizens in his time. The house was subsequently occupied by Timothy Jr. (1696-1782), by a nephew, Abner Wheeler (1745-1820), and by Abner's daughter and son-in-law, Lucy and Joseph Merriam.

The Algeo family occupied the Wheeler-Merriam House ca. 1865 until well into the 20th century, operating a large dairy farm and orchard known as Pine Hill Farm. Since the 1960s the property has been used for a riding school and stable, renamed Elm Brook Farm.

Architecturally, the Wheeler-Merriam House seems characteristic of houses built in the latter part of the first quarter or early part of the second quarter of the 18th century. Some features, (such as the butterfly hinges on a batten door), suggest that parts of an earlier structure may be incorporated in the present structure.

Regardless of its original construction date, however, the importance of this house lies in the quality of its woodwork and in its possible attribution to a known builder. Most of the visible surfaces of the interior and exterior joinery probably date to the second and third quarters of the 18th century. The fact that some of the later 18th century woodwork may be attributed to Abner Wheeler (1745-1820) a cabinetmaker and builder, enhances the architectural historical importance of the house. Abner Wheeler, together with Reuben Bryant, was responsible for the rebuilding of Concord's 1710 meetinghouse in 1791.

The Wheeler-Merriam property should be considered to contain archaeological deposits and features representing continuous historic occupation and land usage in the late 17th century. Traces of structural features and artifact concentrations relating to earlier outbuildings, sheds, lean-to, and well can probably be found through careful archaeological investigation in and around the main house. Excavation of these deposits could

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National Park Service**

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date entered

Continuation sheet Wheeler-Merriam House Item number 8 Page 2

provide an assemblage of materials associated with 17th, 18th and 19th century domestic and farm activities. The analysis of early materials would be useful in supplementing scanty documentary accounts of early American domestic life and customs.

Located along the route of an historic Indian trail now known as Virginia Road, the Wheeler-Merriam property may contain archaeological remains associated with prehistoric and/or historic Indians' use of the area. Several prehistoric sites have been identified to the south of the property along Elm Brook, a tributary of the Concord River, which was a major focus of prehistoric occupation of the region. Additionally, a large mortar (grinding stone) was discovered on top of Pine Hill to the north of the house, suggesting that other artifactual deposits may exist within the property. Survey, excavation and analysis of prehistoric or historic Indian archaeological loci on the property could provide information important to understanding the settlement and subsistence systems of groups who inhabited the Concord-Sudbury-Assabet River drainage before the European settlers.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

Merriam, John M. The Family Name Merriam, Its Origin and a Sample Record, Lakeview Press, Framingham, MA 1935.
Scudder, Townsend. Concord, American Town, Boston, 1947
Shattuck, Lemuel. History of Concord. Russell, Odiorne and Co., Boston, 1835.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 35

Quadrangle name Concord

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UMT References

A	1 9	3 1 0 4 1 0	4 7 0 4 3 7 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 9	3 1 0 2 9 0	4 7 0 3 8 1 0
E	1 9	3 1 0 1 2 9	4 7 0 4 4 0 0
G			

B	1 9	3 1 0 4 1 0	4 7 0 3 8 0 3
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 9	3 1 0 1 2 5	4 7 0 4 1 3 0
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached maps.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
NA			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wendy Frontiero, Preservation Planner, with Mrs. Anna M. Phalon, Concord

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date March 24, 1982

street & number 294 Washington Street

telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston

state MA.

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national

☐ state

☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Patricia L. Weslowski

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date 5/28/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Wheeler-Merriam House

Item number 9

Page 1

Wheeler, Ruth R. Concord, Climate for Freedom. Printing and Publishing Production
Associates, Yarmouthport, MA, 1967.

Wolcott, Charles H. Notes on Land and Roads in Concord.

Old Concord Town Records, Vol. I, II, III

Wills, Deeds, etc. from Middlesex County Courthouse.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Substantive Review

Working No. 6/7/82-1687

Fed. Reg. Date: 7/8/82 - 7/22/82

Date Due: 7/8/82 - 7/22/82

Action: ACCEPT
RETURN 7/19/82
REJECT

Wheeler-Merriam House,
 Middlesex County,
 MASSACHUSETTS,

- ☐ resubmission
- ☐ nomination by person or local government
- ☐ owner objection
- ☐ appeal

Federal Agency: _____

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

appears significant under criteria A&C,
 however, there has been provided no justification
 for the acreage nominated (35 acres)

Recom./Criteria return
 Reviewer Patrick Andrus
 Discipline Historian
 Date 7/19/82
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☒ substantive reasons discussed below

✓ 1. Name

✓ 2. Location

✓ 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

✓ 4. Owner of Property

✓ 5. Location of Legal Description

✓ 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ✓ summary paragraph
- ✓ completeness
- ✓ clarity
- ✓ alterations/integrity
- ✓ dates
- ✗ boundary selection - see reverse

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- ☒ summary paragraph
- ☒ completeness
- ☒ clarity
- ☒ applicable criteria
- ☒ justification of areas checked
- ☒ relating significance to the resource
- ☒ context
- ☒ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please provide a justification for the amount of acreage nominated - how was this boundary chosen? Does it reflect historic or present day land ownership? Is the land under cultivation?

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Title

Date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed MM Brannan

Date 7.19.82

Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

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1. Name

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and/or common Elm Brook Farm

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N/A not for publication

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N/A vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Middlesex

code 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☒ agriculture	☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☒ commercial	☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational	☒ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment	☐ religious
☐ object	N/A in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government	☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial	☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Markey Realty Trust

street & number 477 Virginia Road

city, town Concord

N/A vicinity of

state MA.

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date 1980

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston

state Ma.

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Wheeler-Merriam House, 477 Virginia Road, Concord

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

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The house is 2 1/2 stories high with a central chimney and rear leanto; its wooden frame is sheathed in clapboard and rests on a stone foundation. Attached to the original structure are a one-story porch on the east side and a small gabled ell of one story on the northwest corner; both date from the 20th century. The traditional five-bay facade of the building is asymmetrically arranged.

Ornamentation is generally lacking in the Wheeler-Merriam House, as exemplified by its plain flat architraves and narrow cornice molding. The facade, however, retains elements of one bold, decorative element in its second story facade windows, which are surmounted by very prominent molded cornices. The entire facade and east elevations once featured these cornices, which are attributed to housewright Abner Wheeler.

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On the south side of Virginia Road is a large barn dating probably from the late 19th century. The wood frame structure has a gable roof, a large rectangular doorway centered on its facade, irregular 6/6 windows, a small ventilator, and plain fascia and corner boards. Running perpendicular to this main structure is a similar but smaller ell, and attached to that is a long, low carriage shed.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☒ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☒ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
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☒ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☒ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1692 Builder/Architect NA

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Wheeler-Merriam House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and setting. It is significant (1) as a representation of Concord's historic development, (2) for its associations with the prominent Wheeler and Merriam families, in particular a local housewright, and (3) as an interesting and well-preserved example of stylistic evolution, from the 18th and 19th centuries. The property thus meets criteria A, B, and C of the National Register. *J.O. Jha 2-12-53*

Sargeant Thomas Wheeler (m. Sarah Merriam, 1648) was the first family member prominent in Concord. Active in civic affairs, in 1653, Wheeler was appointed an overseer of Concord's second division of land in the east quarter, and in 1665 he was appointed with William Hartwell to lay out the road to Woburn. By 1690 Wheeler was a prosperous landowner with 13 children, of which all the sons were provided with property. Tradition dates the Wheeler-Merriam House to 1692, as a wedding present for Thomas's son Timothy at his marriage to Lydia Wheeler. Timothy, like his father, prospered as a landowner and farmer, and was one of the town's wealthiest citizens in his time. The house was subsequently occupied by Timothy Jr. (1696-1782), by a nephew, Abner Wheeler (1745-1820), and by Abner's daughter and son-in-law, Lucy and Joseph Merriam.

The Algeo family occupied the Wheeler-Merriam House ca. 1865 until well into the 20th century, operating a large dairy farm and orchard known as Pine Hill Farm. Since the 1960s the property has been used for a riding school and stable, renamed Elm Brook Farm.

Architecturally, the Wheeler-Merriam House seems characteristic of houses built in the latter part of the first quarter or early part of the second quarter of the 18th century. Some features, (such as the butterfly hinges on a batten door), suggest that parts of an earlier structure may be incorporated in the present structure.

Regardless of its original construction date, however, the importance of this house lies in the quality of its woodwork and in its possible attribution to a known builder. Most of the visible surfaces of the interior and exterior joinery probably date to the second and third quarters of the 18th century. The fact that some of the later 18th century woodwork may be attributed to Abner Wheeler (1745-1820) a cabinetmaker and builder, enhances the architectural historical importance of the house. Abner Wheeler, together with Reuben Bryant, was responsible for the rebuilding of Concord's 1710 meetinghouse in 1791.

The Wheeler-Merriam property should be considered to contain archaeological deposits and features representing continuous historic occupation and land usage in the late 17th century. Traces of structural features and artifact concentrations relating to earlier outbuildings, sheds, lean-to, and well can probably be found through careful archaeological investigation in and around the main house. Excavation of these deposits could

(continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

Merriam, John M. The Family Name Merriam, Its Origin and a Sample Record, Lakeview Press, Framingham, MA 1935.
Scudder, Townsend. Concord, American Town, Boston, 1947
Shattuck, Lemuel. History of Concord. Russell, Odiorne and Co., Boston, 1835.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 35

Quadrangle name Concord

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UMT References

A

1	9
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3	1	0	4	1	0
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4	7	0	4	3	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	9
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3	1	0	4	1	0
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4	7	0	3	8	0	3
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	9
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3	1	0	2	9	0
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4	7	0	3	8	1	0
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D

1	9
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3	1	0	1	2	5
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4	7	0	4	1	3	0
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E

1	9
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3	1	0	1	2	9
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4	7	0	4	4	0	0
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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached maps. The nominated acreage comprises two of three parcels of land under the single ownership of Markey Reality Trust. Parcel 4286, on which the

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
MA			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wendy Frontiero, Preservation Planner, with Mrs. Anna M. Phalon, Concord

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date March 24, 1982

street & number 294 Washington Street

telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston

state MA.

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Patricia L. Weslowski

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

date 5/28/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date 11/26/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

DAI 10731/84

For NPS use only
received JUN 7 1982
date entered

Continuation sheet Wheeler-Merriam House Item number 8 Page 2

provide an assemblage of materials associated with 17th, 18th and 19th century domestic and farm activities. The analysis of early materials would be useful in supplementing scanty documentary accounts of early American domestic life and customs.

Located along the route of an historic Indian trail now known as Virginia Road, the Wheeler-Merriam property may contain archaeological remains associated with prehistoric and/or historic Indians' use of the area. Several prehistoric sites have been identified to the south of the property along Elm Brook, a tributary of the Concord River, which was a major focus of prehistoric occupation of the region. Additionally, a large mortar (grinding stone) was discovered on top of Pine Hill to the north of the house, suggesting that other artifactual deposits may exist within the property. Survey, excavation and analysis of prehistoric or historic Indian archaeological loci on the property could provide information important to understanding the settlement and subsistence systems of groups who inhabited the Concord-Sudbury-Assabet River drainage before the European settlers.

EXP. 12/31/84

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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received **JUN 7 1982**

date entered

Continuation sheet

Wheeler-Merriam House

Item number 9

Page 1

Wheeler, Ruth R. Concord, Climate for Freedom. Printing and Publishing Production
Associates, Yarmouthport, MA, 1967.

Wolcott, Charles H. Notes on Land and Roads in Concord.

Old Concord Town Records, Vol. I, II, III

Wills, Deeds, etc. from Middlesex County Courthouse.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

QUB NO. 10001-0016
EXP. 12/31/04

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Wheeler-Merriam House Item number 10 Page 1

house is located, contains 18.4 acres; the barn stands on Parcel 4261-1, containing 16.9 acres. The third parcel, 4261-2, is adjacent to the latter parcel and contains no historically significant structures on its 17.1 acres. The Wheeler-Merriam House originally stood on twelve acres of land, yet the associated acreage has fluctuated vastly over the years, as fortunes increased and declined and as use changed from farming to dairying to the present riding stable. The nominated acreage was thus chosen to include only the land directly connected to major extant structures and reflects present lot division.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Wheeler-Merriam House
MA, Middlesex

Working No. 6.7.82-1087

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83

Date Due: 11/28/82

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11/24/82
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

☒ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria A+C / accept

Reviewer MacDougal

Discipline A.H.

Date 11/26/82

see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ altered

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☒ boundary selection

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION IS WEAK BECAUSE
IT RELATES TO CURRENT OWNERSHIP RATHER
THAN AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF
HISTORIC OWNERSHIP. PLACES, HOWEVER,
ARE ONLY THOSE WITH EXISTING STRUCTURES.
TO RESOLVE
BOUNDARIES WOULD REQUIRE ESTABLISHMENT
OF ARBITRARY BOUNDARIES NOT BASED ON OWNERSHIP.

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
_____ completeness
_____ clarity
☒ applicable criteria
_____ justification of areas checked
☒ relating significance to the resource
_____ context
_____ relationship of integrity to significance
_____ justification of exception
_____ other

CASE FOR
ELIGIBILITY UNDER B IS WEAK.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
_____ Photographs
_____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Wheeler-Merriam House
Elm Brook Farm
477 Virginia Rd. Concord Ma

Wheeler-Merriam House
Concord, Middlesex Co., MA

Photographer: Robert Watt Date: 1981
Neg. filed: Mrs. Anna Phalon
 106 Brister's Hill Rd
 Concord, MA
Looking northeast.



Wheeler-Merriam House
Concord, Middlesex Co., MA

Photographer: Robert Watt Date: 1980
Neg. filed: Mrs. Anna Palon
106 Brister's Hill Road
Concord, MA

View northwest

Photo 2 of 2

July 1980

Wheeler House
(Elm Brook Farm)

477 Virginia Rd Concord Ma. 01742



PREPARED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS
FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY OF 1960 BY
AIR SURVEY CORPORATION
ARLINGTON 9, VIRGINIA

0 100 200 300 400 500
DATUM IS USC & GS MEAN SEA LEVEL
500 FOOT GRID BASED ON MASSACHUSETTS COORDINATE SYSTEM

Wheeler-Harriman House
Concord, MA
Concord Assessors Map
Map 2 of 2

INDEX TO ADJOINING SHEETS

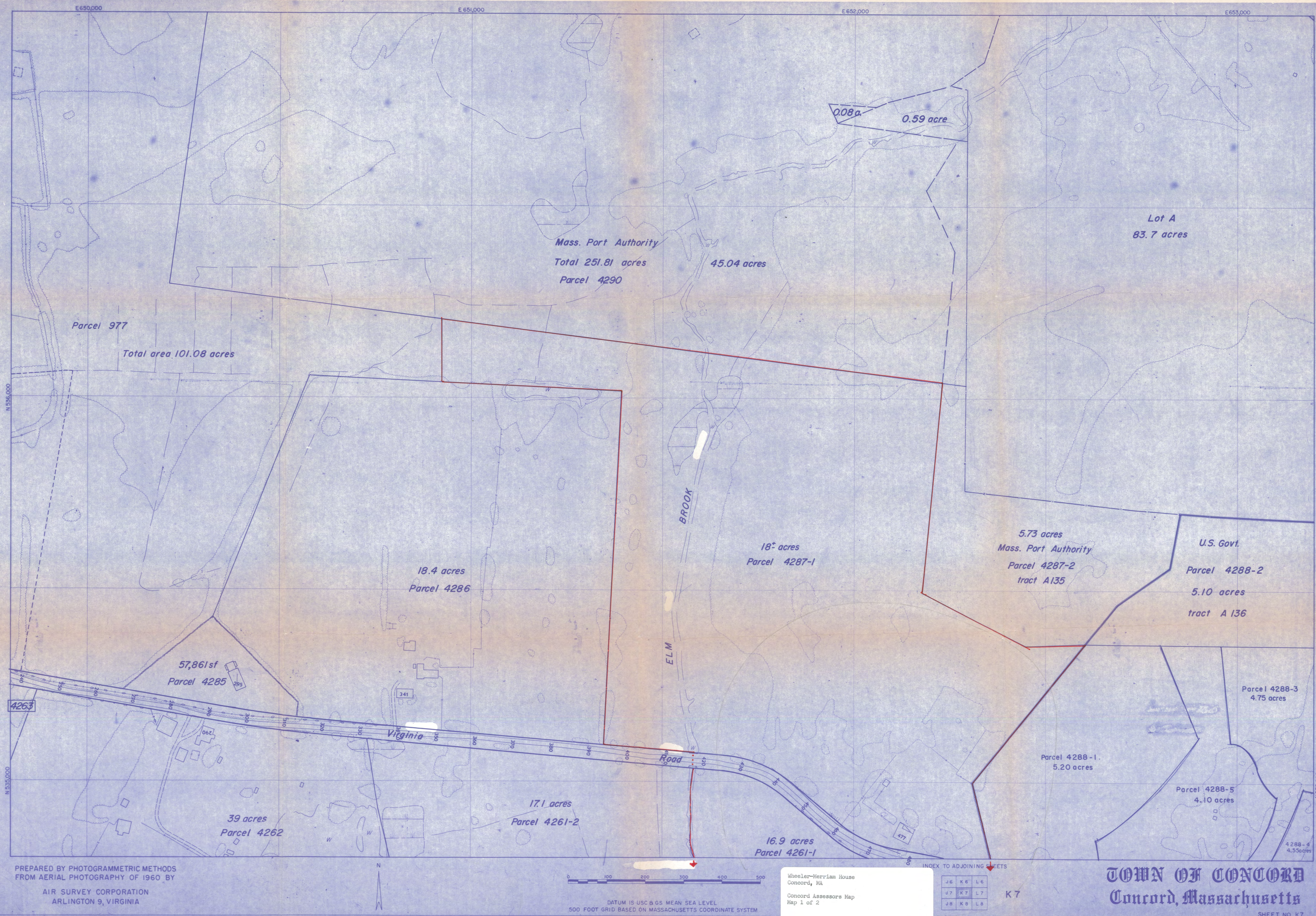
J 7	K 7	L 7
J 8	K 8	L 8
J 9	K 9	L 9

K 8

TOWN OF CONCORD
Concord, Massachusetts
SHEET NO. K 8

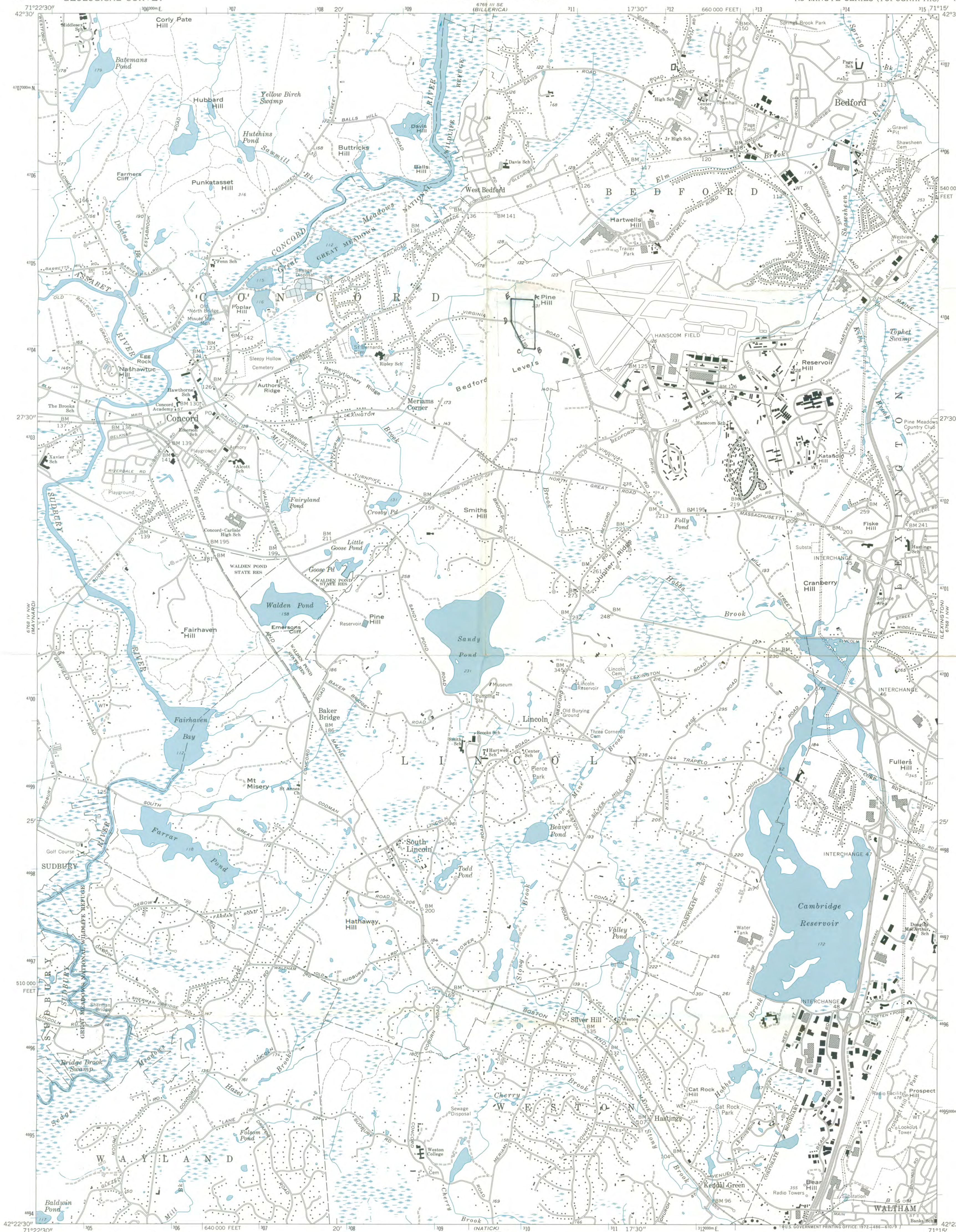
WHEELER-MERIAM HOUSE
- 477 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD, MASS

WHEELER-MERIAM HOUSE
- 477 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD, MASS



Tax map For Wheeler-Merriam House
477 Virginia Rd Concord

Mrs Philip A. Phalox
106 Brister's Hill Rd Concord



Wheeler-Merriam House
Concord
Middlesex Co., MA

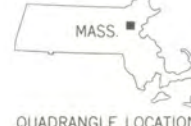
UTMS:
A 19/310/410
19/4704/370
B 19/310/410
19/4703/803
C 19/310/290
19/4703/810
D 19/310/125
19/4704/400
E 19/310/129
19/4704/400

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1940. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

UTM GRID AND 1970 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route



Wheeler-Merriam
Property - East Concord

CONCORD, MASS.
N4222.5—W7115.7.5

1970

AMS 6768 IV NE SERIES V814
Mrs Philip A Phalon
106 Bristers Will Rd Concord

65
April 26, 1982

Dear Mrs. Waskowski, ^{MASS. HIST. COMM.}

I am very pleased to hear that the Wheeler-Merrim House (Chim Brook Farm) is to be considered for nomination in the National Register of Historic Places.

This 1692 house and its visible surroundings are very much the same as they were several hundred years ago when Sgt. Thomas Wheeler and his descendants lived in the homes along Virginia Rd. There are still at least three of these homes still standing - one being the birth place of Henry David Thoreau.

There are some fine examples of seventeenth and eighteenth century joinery in both the interior

and the exterior² woodwork. Abner
Wheeler, (1745-1820) a known house-
wright and cabinet maker who
rebuilt Concord's 1710 Meetinghouse,
lived here and worked on the house.
The Georgian period ornamental
door and window caps are most
probably the work of Abner Wheeler.
There are some lovely examples of
"lamb's tongue" decorative molding
in the west parlor probably from
the late 17th century which would
lead you to believe that more
than one of the Wheelers were
talented wood workers.

Through the years the house
has come down through the
Wheeler's, the Merrim's and the
Algeos. The Algeos had cattle

and dairy animals and the farm was an important stop-over for the cattle drives during the late 1800s.

Although I am no relation to the Wheelers, the Merriams or the Algers I am fascinated by the house and the stories it tells. There is a lovely family book written by John Merriam about the people who lived here in the mid eighteenth century. All the ghosts of this home have stories to tell; from the Indian wars when Sgt. Thomas's Uncle, Captain Thomas Wheeler, was hero of the Brookfield Massacre; through the Revolution when they were but a stone's throw from "Bloody Triangle";

the Civil War and so - the Concord
Role Call is proof of their sacrifice.

I would sincerely hope that
this home can be preserved so
that others will be able to
appreciate the talents, the courage,
and the imagination of those
early settlers.

Thank you for your time
in reviewing this nomination.

Sincerely

Anna M. Phalon

Mrs. Philip A. Phalon
106 Brister's Hill Rd.
Concord, Ma. 01742



CONCORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

TOWN HOUSE

CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742

May 6, 1982

RECEIVED

MAY 12 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Ms. Patricia L. Weslowski
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Wheeler Merriam House

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

Mrs. Phalon has done a solid job of researching the Wheeler-Merriam House, and she has conscientiously and accurately documented the importance of the House and the role its various inhabitants played in Concord's history.

The application for National Register status has our wholehearted and enthusiastic support.

Yours sincerely,

Renee Garrelick
Chairman

RG/lom



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

May 27, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull, Acting Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

- ✓ Concord: Wheeler-Merriam House (local)
- Gloucester: Central Gloucester Historic District (local)
- Leominster: Monument Square Historic District (local)
- Leominster: Wachusett Shirt Factory (local)
- Newton: Farlow and Kenrick Parks Historic District (local)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/sac

enclosures



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

August 31, 1982

Mr. Jerry Rogers
Keeper
National Park Service
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
600 Arch Street
Room 9310
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Enclosed are several National Register forms:

Salem: Rufus Choate House (local) new submission - This has been voted eligible by the State Review Board; the owner supports nomination.

Boyalston: Deacon Cyprian Keyes House/Barlin Acres (local) resubmission - additional photos have been included.

✓ Concord: Wheeler-Merriam House (local) resubmission - We have added a boundary justification.

Ipswich-Turner Hill (state) - resubmission - photos and descriptions of out-buildings have been added as well as a boundary justification.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures

CJ/pg

1982