

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM****NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195****Name, Location, Ownership**

1. Historic name: Ezra Abbott-Giles-Maplewood Farm
2. District or area: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Street and number: 120 W. Parish Rd.
4. City or town: Concord
5. County: Merrimack
6. Current owner: Joan Woodhead

**Function or Use**

7. Current use(s): residential
8. Historic use(s): residential/agricultural

**Architectural Information**

9. Style/type: Federal
10. Architect/builder: Ezra Abbott (?)
11. Source: surmised
12. Construction date: ca. 1790s
13. Source: Research, ext. visual analysis
14. Alterations, with dates: see attached
15. Moved? no  yes  date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exterior Features**

16. Foundation: granite block & stone
17. Cladding: vinyl
18. Roof material: asphalt shingles
19. Chimney material: brick
20. Type of roof: gable
21. Chimney location: ridge (twin chimneys)
22. Number of stories: 2½
23. Entry location: center
24. Windows: 6/6, 2/2

Replacement? no  yes  date: late 19<sup>th</sup> (2/2); post 1960s (6/6)

**Site Features**

25. Setting: rural
26. Outbuildings: barn, ice house/garage, 3 sheds
27. Landscape features: hay fields, orchard, woodland, pond

**Description** View of farmstead, showing barn at far left

35. Photo #1
36. Date Fall 2008
37. Roll # 7      Frame #9      Direction: NW
38. Negative stored at: NHDHR

28. Acreage: 51 acres
29. Tax map/parcel: 104-1-9
30. UTM reference: 19.286580 / 4789840
31. USGS quadrangle and scale: Hopkinton, 1:24000

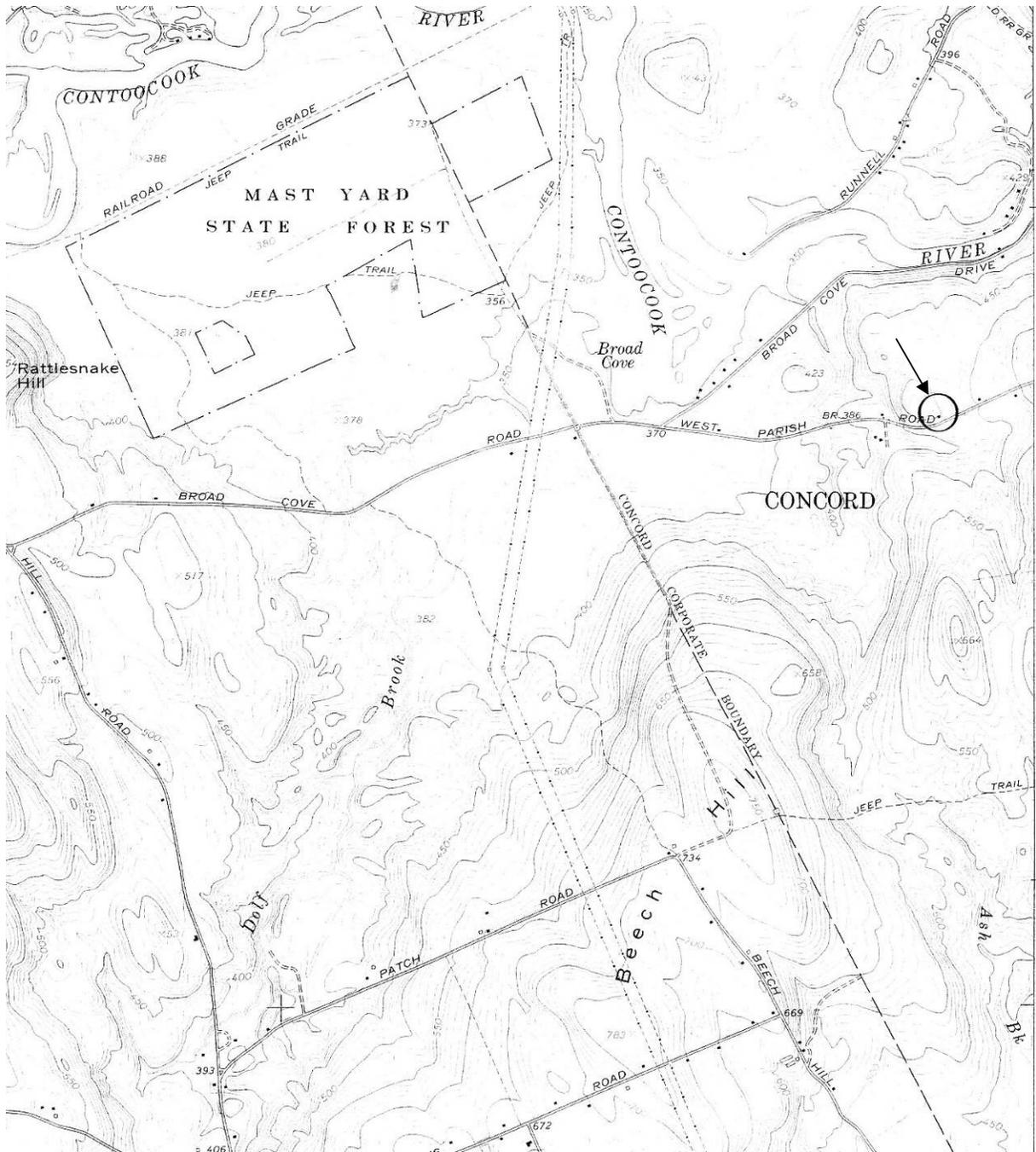
**Form prepared by**

32. Name: Elizabeth Durfee Hengen, Preservation Consultant
33. Organization: for Concord Heritage Commission
34. Date of survey: Fall 2008

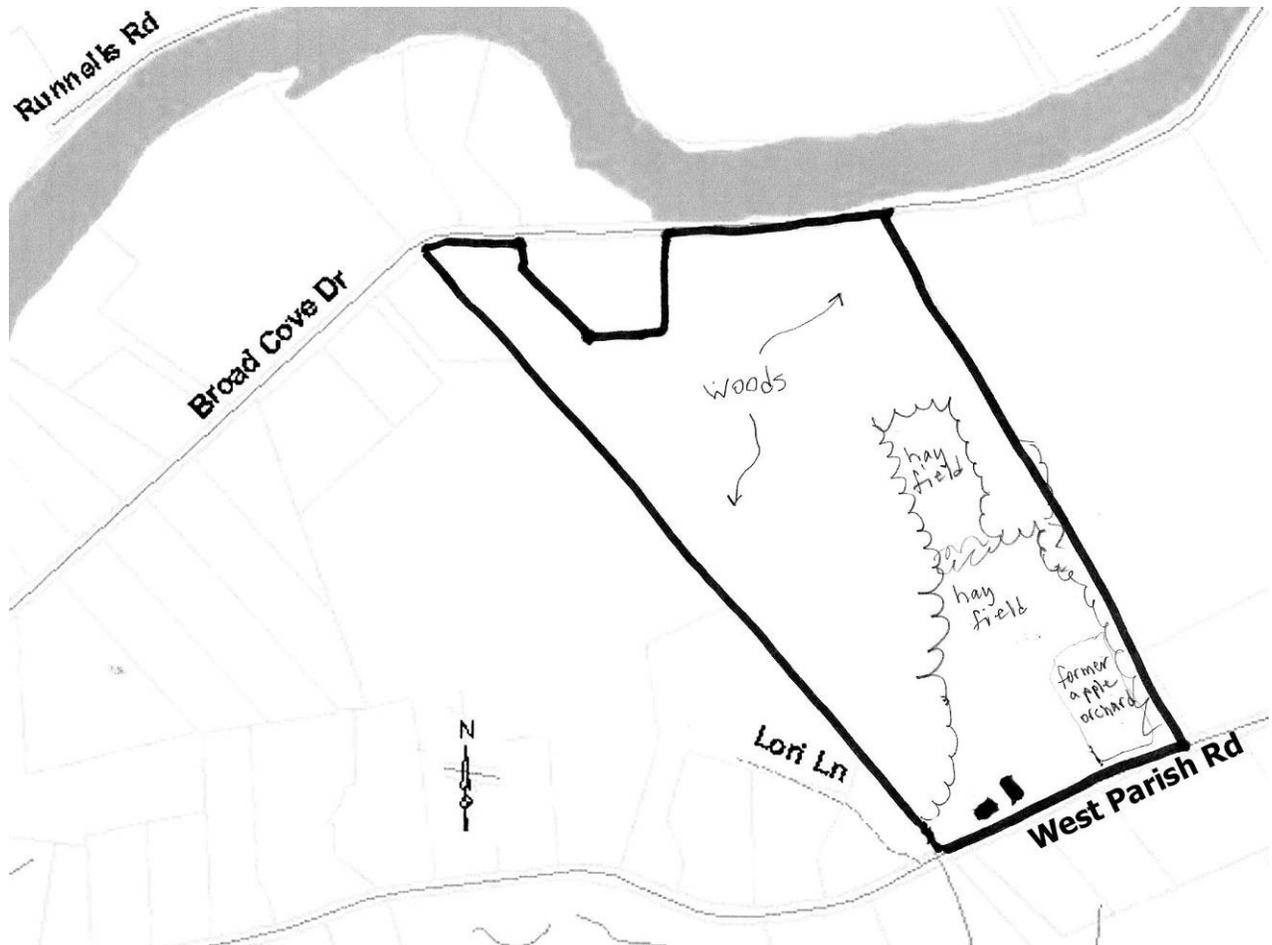
INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195

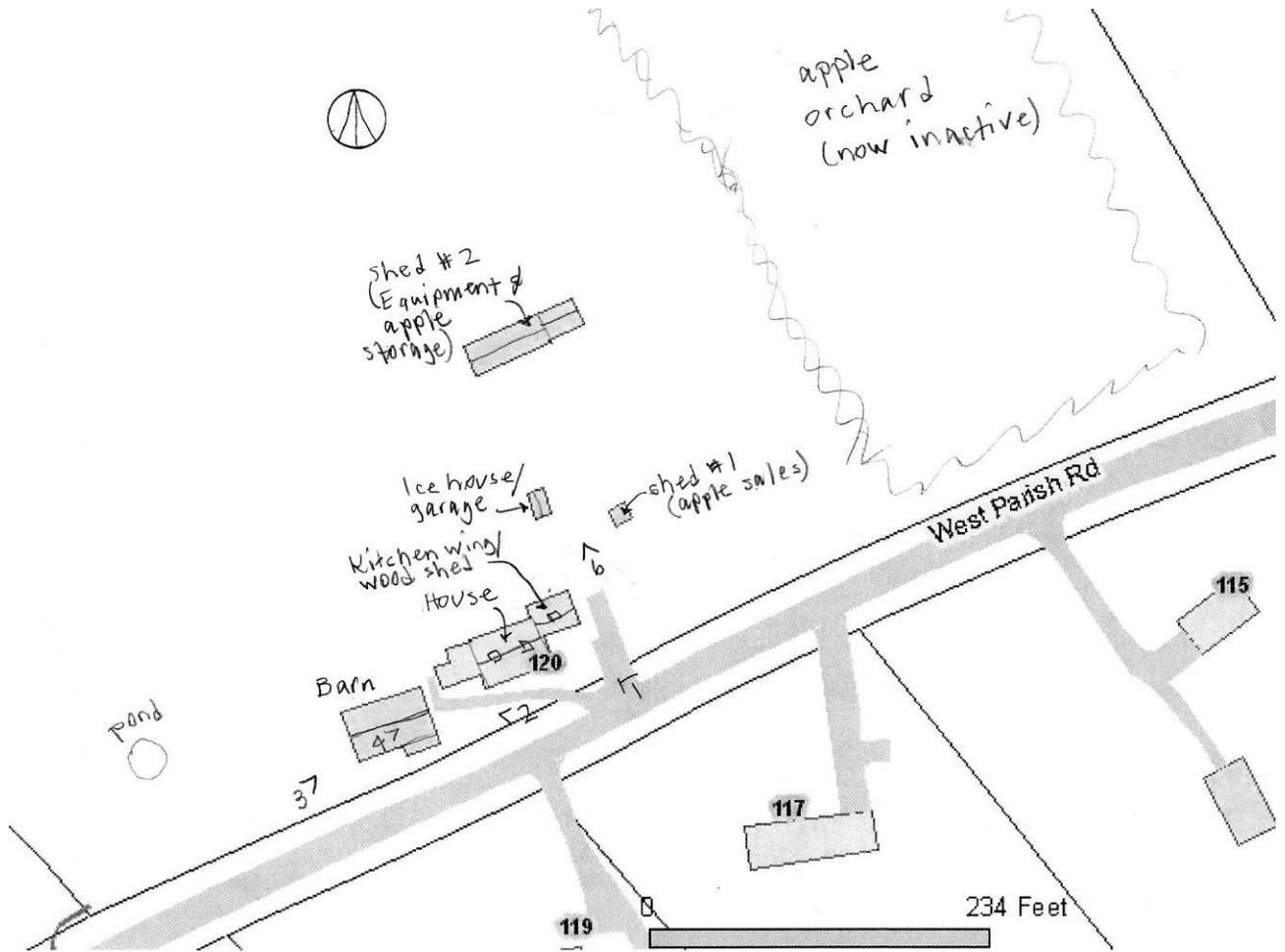
39. LOCATION MAP: USGS map, not to scale



40. PROPERTY MAP:



40. PROPERTY MAP & PHOTOGRAPH KEY:



**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM****NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195****Methods and Purpose**

This form was completed as part of a survey of rural agricultural properties within the City of Concord, a project sponsored by the Heritage Commission. The overall purpose of the project was to raise public awareness of the city's rich agricultural legacy through a combination of identification, education, public policy and preservation planning tools.

Due to limited resources, the survey focused on barns and outbuildings that met all of the following criteria: (1) were sited on at least 10 acres of land; (2) they were located in a fairly rural area and not within the city center or an outlying village; (3) the surrounding land retained historic landscape features, such as open fields, pasture, and stone walls; (4) the outbuildings retained a high level of integrity from their agricultural era. None of the barns on the St. Paul's School campus were included. In addition, a few landmark barns, even if on a small lot, were included. Approximately 45 properties were included in the survey. Whenever possible, an interior inspection of the buildings was undertaken.

The survey was conducted at the reconnaissance-level. Historic background information was acquired from questionnaires sent to each property owner, personal interviews, a review of historic maps, and limited research in local histories. Certainly, additional research data on farms is available from population and, in particular, agricultural census records, and owners are encouraged to pursue those to add to this data base.

When properties were part of a larger, agricultural district, the form locates them as such, and a separate form documenting that historic agricultural neighborhood was prepared.

**41. Historical Background and Role in the Town or City's Development:**

This was one of several early farms established along West Parish Road in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Known as District 4 Road, it was a main artery into Hopkinton.

Corporal Ezra Abbott (b. 1765) was the first owner of this property. His twin brother, Nathan, lived immediately to the west. Both Abbott houses were likely built in the 1790s. In addition to farming, Ezra apparently had good skills as a master building, suggesting he likely erected this house and barn. He is also credited with constructing the District 4 Schoolhouse that stood a short distance to the east, just past a long disused range road still visible at its south end on District Five Road.<sup>1</sup>

In 1812, Corporal Abbott's son John purchased the house from his father, though the parents continued to live in it. John was living there still in 1833. "The house is of the sturdy type common on prosperous farms of that time. Its frame is of oak beams ten by twelve inches and there are six fireplaces one of which is large enough to hold four foot wood, with a brick oven and an ash pit by its side."<sup>2</sup>

By 1858, the farm had passed to the Giles or Gile family, in whose ownership it remained through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. During that period, it maintained a herd of milk cows. The last family member, Bertha Eastman, and her husband, local historian Fred Eastman, planted the apple orchard here. For some time, however, they resided in West Concord and rented out the house at 120 West Parish Road. The property adopted the name Maplewood Farm sometime during this period.

<sup>1</sup> Amsden, Chapter 24: 12; *Village of West Concord, 1727-1976*: 31.

<sup>2</sup> Amsden, Chapter 24: 12.

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM****NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

Circa 1960, the property was purchased by Paul and Flora Burdette. During their six-year tenure, they converted the orchard to a hay field and raised long-hair cattle.

Since 1966, the property has been in the hands of the Woodheads, who continued operating it as a farm. Joan and her now-deceased husband, Richard, replanted the orchard with approximately 500 trees and maintained an active business here until the mid-1990s.



Historic photograph taken before 1897, reproduced in *Amsden, A Capital for New Hampshire, Chapter 24, opposite page 12.*

**42. Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts:**

- 51. Mixed agriculture and the family farm, 1630-present.
- 54. Orchards and cider production, 1650-present.
- 56. Local-scale dairy farming, 1800-present.

**43. Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation:**

Maplewood Farm is located in a rural section of Concord, near the Hopkinton town line. Its 51 acres, which extend north to Broad Cove Road (and once continued across that road) include two hayfields (one behind the buildings and a second north of woodlands), a man-made pond west of the barn and dating from ca. 1955-65, and an overgrown orchard.

House (ca. 1790s): The main house is a 2 ½ story, 5x3 bay building likely dating from the 1790s, although it underwent major modernizing in 1897 and again post-1960. Twin, interior corbeled chimneys project from the ridge. Alterations from 1897 included removing all but one of the original six fireplaces in order to install stoves; rebuilding the two chimneys; and replacing the original 9/6 window sash with 2/2. Sometime after 1897, a kitchen wing with wood shed was added to the east. Since 1960, additional alterations include applying vinyl siding over the clapboards; replacing the front entry door and surround; installing 6/6 window sash; removing the shed that connected the house to the barn; adding a porch to the west end; and converting the kitchen wing into an in-law apartment.

Barn (ca. 1810-20): The barn on Maplewood Farm is of particular significance for its age, high level of integrity, and as the only historic barn surviving on W. Parish Road, west of Carter Hill Road.

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM****NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

It is a gable-front, timber-frame, bank barn that faces east toward the house and was built in two sections. The eastern three bays have a hewn primary members, gunstock posts and a scribe-rule frame. The scribe marks are Roman numerals that correspond to the bent number. The roof frame of these bays has principal rafters, three rows of log purlins, original sheathing boards, and a Queen truss.

The western two bays were added sometime after 1897. That timber frame exhibits circular-sawn members, including posts, beams, rafters, purlins, and sheathing boards.

The main entrance to the barn is off-centered to the north. A hay loft runs the length of the barn on both sides, above the stable area, and a scaffold is above the center drive in the first three bays. Given the sloping land, it is doubtful there was ever a door at the west end. The exterior of the structure has clapboard siding, a channel-metal roof, raking eaves, flat trim, and a field boulder foundation. The main doors are paired, made of vertical tongue-and-groove boards, and mounted on exterior, rolling tracks. Stall windows appear along the south side.

Interior features include a hay track and fork (the latter came from Greylock Farm at 97 Hopkinton Road), pig trough, manure pits, and a grain bin. The walls of the south bay are whitewashed, reflecting the use of that area for cows.

Ice House/Garage (ca. 1910): This small, gable-front building has vertical-board siding and a pair of hinged doors made of vertical boards.

Shed #1: Located near the ice house/garage, this was built ca. 1992 of scrap lumber and used for sales when the farm was actively growing and selling applies. It is currently used for storage.

Shed #2: This shed was built in two sections. The west end dates from ca. 1970 and was erected as an equipment shed. It was expanded in 1988. The east end was built in 1988 for apple storage.

**46. Statement of Integrity:**

This property, with its assemblage of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings, as well as surrounding fields, woodland, pond and orchard, retains integrity of location, design, materials, setting, workmanship, feeling and association.

**48. Bibliography and/or References:**

Amsden, Grace P., *A Capital for New Hampshire*. Unpublished manuscript in 3 vols., written between 1930 and 1960.

Bouton, Nathaniel, *The History of Concord*. Concord: Benning W. Sanborn, 1856.

*City of Concord Directories*, 1812 -1970.

Lyford, James O., ed., *History of Concord, NH*. Concord: Rumford Press, 1903, 2 vols.

**Interview**

Joan Woodhead, owner, September, 2008.

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

**Maps, Atlases, Plans and Views**

1858 *Map of Merrimack County*. Surveyed by H. E Walling, New York. Published by Smith and Peavey.

1892 *Town and County Atlas of the State of New Hampshire*. Compiled by D. H. Hurd and Co., Boston.  
2006 *Aerial Maps*. City of Concord.

**Surveyor's Evaluation**

NR listed: individual   
within district

NR eligible: individual   
within district   
not eligible   
more info needed

NR Criteria: A   
B   
C   
D   
E

Integrity: yes   
no

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

Address: 120 West Parish Rd. Date taken: Fall 2008 Negative stored at: NHDHR



Photo 2 description: Gable front of barn  
Roll: 7 Frame: 10 Direction: W



Photo 3 description: Barn, showing rear (added post 1897) bays and east elevation  
Roll: 5 Frame: 16A Direction: NE

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

Address: 120 West Parish Rd. Date taken: Fall 2008 Negative stored at: NHDHR



Photo 4 description: Barn interior, showing original ca. 1810-20s framing system  
Roll: 5 Frame: 15A Direction: NE



Photo 5 description: Barn interior, showing detail of ca. 1810-20s scribe-rule framing & roof frame  
Roll: 5 Frame: 14A Direction: E

**INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM**

**NHDHR INVENTORY NUMBER: CON0195**

Address: 120 West Parish Rd. Date taken: Fall 2008 Negative stored at: NHDHR



Photo 6 description: View of ice house/garage and 1970s-80s sheds in rear  
Roll: 5 Frame: 17A Direction: N