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CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT  
FOR THE WAYSIDE UNIT

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

SITE HISTORY, EXISTING CONDITIONS, ANALYSIS AND TREATMENT





*The Wayside, as long as it  
is unchanged, has much  
to tell ...*

*Margaret Lothrop, 1968*

# CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

*for the*

## WAYSIDE UNIT

## MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS

SITE HISTORY

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EXISTING CONDITIONS

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ANALYSIS

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TREATMENT

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Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation  
National Park Service, Boston, Massachusetts, 2008

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Cover Photo: Looking east at the porch of the Wayside, an unidentified man, and the double row of trees extending across the southern edge of the lawn.  
Photograph by Charles Everett, 1905, Landscape Architecture I, Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40, folder 1, Minute Man National Historical Park Archives.

Title Page: Wayside, Home of Hawthorne, c. 1901. The Detroit Publishing Company, #53690, c. 1901. From the American Memory Website, Library of Congress, accessed July 2008, LOT 12003, p. 41 <P&P>, Digital file ID det 4a31668 <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/det.4a31668>.

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At Minute Man National Historical Park, Superintendent Nancy Nelson provided overall project guidance and Curator Terrie Wallace served as the project coordinator. Museum Technician Steven Neth assisted with historical research. Chief of Planning and Communications Lou Sideris and Former Park Ranger Robert T. Derry provided review comments. Chief of Maintenance Jeff Kangas and Chief of Interpretation and Education Leslie Obleschuk contributed to the development of treatment recommendations.

For the site construction work and landscape rehabilitation, Peter Woodbury, Engineer for the National Park Service Northeast Region acted as project manager. Jim Harmon, Archeologist with the Northeast Region Archeology Program prepared specifications for archeological excavation and oversaw the drainage excavation. Elizabeth Igleheart, Historian with the Northeast Region History Program assisted with the National Register and National Landmark status. Marcia Dolce at Lowell National Historical Park also assisted with the project.



## **INTRODUCTION**

The Wayside, also known as the “home of authors,” is located along Lexington Road in Concord, Massachusetts, one mile east of the town center and along the main road corridor through Minute Man National Historical Park (Figure 1). Several notable American authors resided at The Wayside, including Bronson Alcott, Louisa May Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Harriett Lothrop. The property is a National Historic Landmark and integral to the park’s mission to tell the story of the American Revolution and the later influence of Concord’s authors during the nineteenth century American literary renaissance.

Set amidst a collection of eighteenth and nineteenth century homes, the six-acre Wayside Unit consists of the three distinct parcels on the north and south sides of Lexington Road, which are portions of larger tracts once owned by the Alcotts, Hawthornes, Lothrops and others since the 1840s (Figure 2). The northern parcel features the c. 1714 house and barn—relocated in the 1840s and 60s—set in a manicured lawn and framed by a hedge, mature evergreens and a long retaining wall at the base of a steep ridge with a terraced slope. Vestiges of earlier gardens with an assortment of flowering trees, shrubs and perennials ornament the yard. Walking paths circulate throughout the property and lead to a commemorative plaque and former garden terraces, as well as the ridgeline above the home. A small parcel to the southeast is a remnant of an eight-acre agricultural parcel that was historically associated with the home, while a larger parcel to the southwest contains a visitor parking lot.

For the past century, the site has been a place of commemoration and education. As written by Margaret Lothrop, resident in the house from 1884 to 1965, “The Wayside, as long as it is unchanged, has much to tell those who, with the ears and the eyes of imagination, can hear the murmurs of the pines and spruces on the terraces, the sound of children at play, and the gentle voices of its honored authors.”<sup>1</sup> Since its inclusion into the National Park System in 1965, The Wayside Unit has been a popular destination for park visitors and school groups to learn about America’s literary heritage.

## **PROJECT SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY**

The purpose of this cultural landscape report (CLR) is to document the physical history of the Wayside Unit, with particular attention to the composition of the landscape in 1904, the centennial of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s birth. This information provides a basis for the development of a treatment plan for the

rehabilitation of the landscape to c. 1904, which coincides with the rehabilitation date identified for the interior of the house.

The first draft of this report informed a major repair project undertaken in 2006 to stabilize the terraced hillside in back of the house and divert water runoff from the hillside away from the house. It also provided guidance for landscape rehabilitation work, including removal of hazardous trees, removal of non-historic vegetation and revitalization of the lawn.

The study area for this report encompasses the three parcels within the 6.11-acre Wayside Unit, including the 3.16-acre parcel containing the eighteenth century home and barn, a .34 acre parcel east of Hawthorne Lane and a 2.61-acre parcel to the west of Hawthorne Lane—based on the acreage in the park’s Geographic Information System (GIS) database. The study focuses on The Wayside and the steep ridge behind the house to the north. The Wayside Unit is one of three areas within Minute Man National Historical, the other two being the North Bridge Unit and the Battle Road Unit. The authorized park boundary was amended by P.L. 102-488 in 1992 and encompasses 971 acres within the towns of Lexington, Lincoln and Concord, Massachusetts.

The report is organized into four chapters: Site History, Existing Conditions, Analysis, and Treatment. The first three chapters document the entire Wayside Unit from the seventeenth century to present. An understanding of these features provides a basis for the treatment recommendations in the final chapter.

**Chapter 1: Site History** documents the history of the landscape from the 1600s to present. A narrative of the evolution of the site is supplemented with historic maps and photographs. The chapter is subdivided into seven historical periods with a c. 1904 period plan accompanying the Lothrop Ownership period.

**Chapter 2: Existing Conditions** is organized with a hierarchy of landscape characteristics and features. It documents the existing condition of landscape characteristics such as topography, circulation, and vegetation. Photographs and an existing conditions plan supplement the narrative.

**Chapter 3: Analysis and Evaluation** is organized with the same hierarchy as Chapter 2. The chapter summarizes existing National Register Documentation and analyzes and evaluates the condition of each feature and its contribution to the significance of the landscape. Photographs supplement narrative descriptions.

**Chapter 4: Treatment** follows the hierarchy of the two previous chapters. The chapter includes an overarching treatment philosophy and specific treatment recommendations for each landscape feature with a c. 1904 period of treatment for both the home and surrounding landscape. A treatment plan and photographs supplement the narrative.

#### **Methodology**

Based on a comprehensive level of research, the lead author examined primary and secondary sources to document the evolution of the landscape. Compilation of the site history for the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries relied on the synthesis of secondary source material, including Robert Ronsheim’s “The Wayside, Historic Structure Report, Part II, Historical Data Section,” Orville Carroll’s Historic Structure Reports for The Wayside and the barn, excerpts of Bronson Alcott’s journal and Alcott family correspondence included in Anne Coxe Toogood’s “The Wayside, Historic Grounds Report,” Margaret Lothrop’s *The Wayside, Home of Authors*, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop’s *Memories of Hawthorne*, and Julian Hawthorne’s *Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Wife*. Additional information was obtained from research notes compiled by Margaret Lothrop and by NPS historical architect Orville Carroll, deeds, and through review of historic photographs.

Material referenced for the Lothrop Ownership period is drawn extensively from the Harriett M. Lothrop Family Papers (HMLFP) collection in the Minute Man NHP archives. Items in the collection include magazine and newspaper articles, correspondence and receipts, and a 1905 existing conditions assessment of The Wayside landscape included in a landscape architecture thesis prepared by Charles Everett, a Harvard student and a family friend of Harriett and Margaret Lothrop. Additional materials referenced from the Minute Man National Historical Park (MIMA) Archives include historic photographs and NPS interviews with Margaret Lothrop. Also referenced are Harriett Lothrop’s (Margaret Sidney) *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, Margaret Lothrop’s *The Wayside, Home of Authors*, and several period guidebooks. Additional information was obtained from deeds, and from photographs and newspaper articles (microfilm) located at the Concord Free Public Library.

#### **HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

The first record of land ownership for The Wayside is from 1666, when Nathaniel Ball owned thirteen acres on both sides of the Bay Road, now known as Lexington Road. Eliphelet Fox owned the land immediately west (within the present-day Wayside Unit) and built a house in 1666. Nathaniel Ball’s property changed hands seven times over the next 100 years, and the structure now called

The Wayside was built between 1700 and 1717. In 1769 Samuel Whitney purchased the property, which consisted of a house and a warehouse on one-half acre of land.

Whitney was a delegate to the Provincial Congress and the muster master of the Concord Minutemen. In April of 1775, when tension was mounting between colonists and the British government, the Town of Concord had stored some of its ammunitions in Whitney's barn. The Town received warning of the British advancement, and managed to move the stores before the British arrived on April 19th. The British were met by Colonial resistance in Lexington and again in Concord, and were engaged in successive skirmishes along the Bay Road (Lexington Road) as they were forced into a retreat back to Boston. These events sparked the beginning of the American Revolution.

In 1845 the Alcott family, consisting of Bronson and Abba Alcott, Anna Bronson, Louisa May, Elizabeth Sewall and Abba May, purchased the property and called it "Hillside." Bronson Alcott and his daughter Louisa May Alcott were the first of The Wayside's famous occupants—Bronson was one of the leading thinkers of the transcendental movement and Louisa May is best known for her novel *Little Women*. Their friend Ralph Waldo Emerson purchased the eight-acre parcel across the road from the house lot and leased it to the Alcotts, who used it for farming. Alcott made many changes to his land, most notably moving the barn onto the house lot from the eight-acre lot across the street, terracing the hillside in back of the house in order to farm it, constructing a stone retaining wall behind the house with at least two sets of stone steps, planting trees between the house and the road, and creating a network of paths.

The Alcotts sold the house lot to author Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1852, whose works include *Tanglewood Tales*, *The Blithedale Romance*, *The House of Seven Gables*, and *The Scarlet Letter*. Hawthorne named the property "The Wayside," the name it is now known by. The most significant alteration to the landscape during the Hawthorne's ownership was the planting of 450 Norway spruce trees, which were delivered from England, on the terraces and some other parts of the hillside. During Hawthorne's ownership, he hired Bronson Alcott to look after and make improvements to his land. This included the creation of several additional paths, including the Larch Path running between The Wayside and Orchard House to the west, and the trails connecting to the Hawthorne Path, which was a route up and across the top of the ridgeline where Hawthorne would pace and think about his writing. Hawthorne also moved the barn from the west side of the house to the east side of the house.

The next famous author to live at The Wayside was Harriett Lothrop, best known for her series *The Five Little Peppers* under the pen name Margaret Sidney. She

and her husband Daniel purchased The Wayside in 1883. At that time the property consisted of the house and barn on 11 acres 56 rods of land on the north side of Lexington Road. The Lothrop's were drawn to The Wayside because of its association with Hawthorne, and they attempted to preserve the landscape as it was during Hawthorne's ownership. On July 4<sup>th</sup> of 1904, the Lothrop's hosted a celebration for the centennial of Hawthorne's birth at The Wayside, and a commemorative plaque was placed on a boulder at the base of the hill, just past the western end of the lawn. The Lothrop's daughter, Margaret Lothrop, continued to keep the house up after her parents died, welcoming visitors and dealing with the challenges of maintaining property. The most significant of these was the Hurricane of 1938, which decimated most of the Norway spruce planted by Hawthorne and damaged Bronson Alcott's stonework. In 1959 Minute Man National Historical Park was established with the primary intent to preserve and interpret the sites, structures, and landscapes of the opening battles of the American Revolution on April 19, 1775. The mission of the park was expanded to include multiple themes in American history including literature when in 1965 Margaret Lothrop sold The Wayside to the National Park Service.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

On December 29, 1962, The Wayside was designated a National Historic Landmark for its architectural, social/humanitarian and literary significance as the home of the significant nineteenth century authors and scholars Bronson Alcott and his daughter Louisa May Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Harriett Lothrop (pen name Margaret Sidney). On February 4, 1985, the property was "reaffirmed" as a National Historic Landmark due to a clerical error that resulted in the previous designation being overlooked. Minute Man NHP was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. On November 29, 2002 the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places accepted documentation for Minute Man NHP Historic District. The National Register documentation, with supplemental listings accepted December 2, 2002 and October 25, 2006, identifies the park as nationally significant in the areas of military, commemoration and literature and locally significant in the areas of architecture, agriculture and archeology. The periods of significance are from 7,500 to 500 years ago for archeological resources and ca. 1655, the date of the oldest extant house in the park, to 1959, the year the park was established.

Due to the intensive shaping of the landscape by its past owners, The Wayside has many features related to its historical significance that survive today. The significant landscape characteristics of The Wayside Unit are topography, spatial organization, land use, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views

and vistas, small-scale features, and archeological sites. The extant landscape features associated with these characteristics include features present at the time of the battle and subsequent commemorative period (site topography, the Battle Road, The Wayside house and barn, and the Eliphelet Fox House archeological site), features pertaining to The Wayside's literary and architectural importance (the terraces and stone retaining walls, the network of paths, the views from the property, patterns of vegetation and specific plant material, the general division of land use on the site, and The Wayside house and barn), and features connected to its archeological potential and local agricultural history (the barn, the building sites, the remnant hillside terraces and drainage systems, and the small piece of the once larger field across Lexington Road).

Based on discussions with the park and findings of this report, rehabilitation, with a c. 1904 historic period framework, is the preferred treatment alternative. A comparative analysis of the c. 1904 period plan with existing conditions allowed a determination of the overall integrity of the site and identification of the landscape's historic features. The 1904 date highlights the commemorative activities of the 1904 Hawthorne Centenary celebration held on the property, the fact that much of the character of the landscape in 1904 strongly reflected the influences of the famous authors who had lived there, and the wealth of documentation of the property from that time. A comparison of the c. 1904 period plan with the existing conditions plan shows a high level of integrity with respect to the property's location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Most notable of the surviving features from 1904 are the house and barn, the terracing of the hillside, the stone retaining walls and steps, the network of paths, and the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque. Extant trees and wooded slopes contribute to the character of the historic landscape, but it was these features that were most damaged in the 1938 hurricane. Hurricane damage to the stone walls was easily repaired, but the loss of most of Hawthorne's Norway spruce trees on the hillside and the line of evergreens between the house and the road, all extant in 1904, have altered the feeling of the property. This impact is now somewhat mitigated by the deciduous trees that have grown up to reforest the hillside. The paths have been jeopardized by the natural growth on the hillside, and several are largely overgrown, but maintenance and clearing has proven to be effective in the places it has been carried out. The 0.34-acre lot on the south side of Lexington Road has been maintained to preserve its open, agricultural quality, but the small size of the lot diminishes the overall agricultural landscape feeling. The field is flanked on two sides by houses. One of the houses was constructed in 1870, and its character complements the historic scene.

In 2006 the initial phase of the landscape rehabilitation project focused on repairs to the site drainage and erosion problems. While these repairs are complete and the condition of the landscape is good, additional treatment recommendations are included in this report to enhance the historic character of the property and maintain its good condition. The house and barn are currently in poor condition and in need of extensive rehabilitation work. Treatment recommendations in this document focus on the circulation features throughout the property, replanting of lost vegetation, enhancement of views and addition of small-scale features to enhance visitor use and appreciation of the historical significance of the property.

## **ENDNOTE**

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<sup>1</sup> Margaret M. Lothrop, *The Wayside: Home of Authors* (New York: American Book Company, 1968).

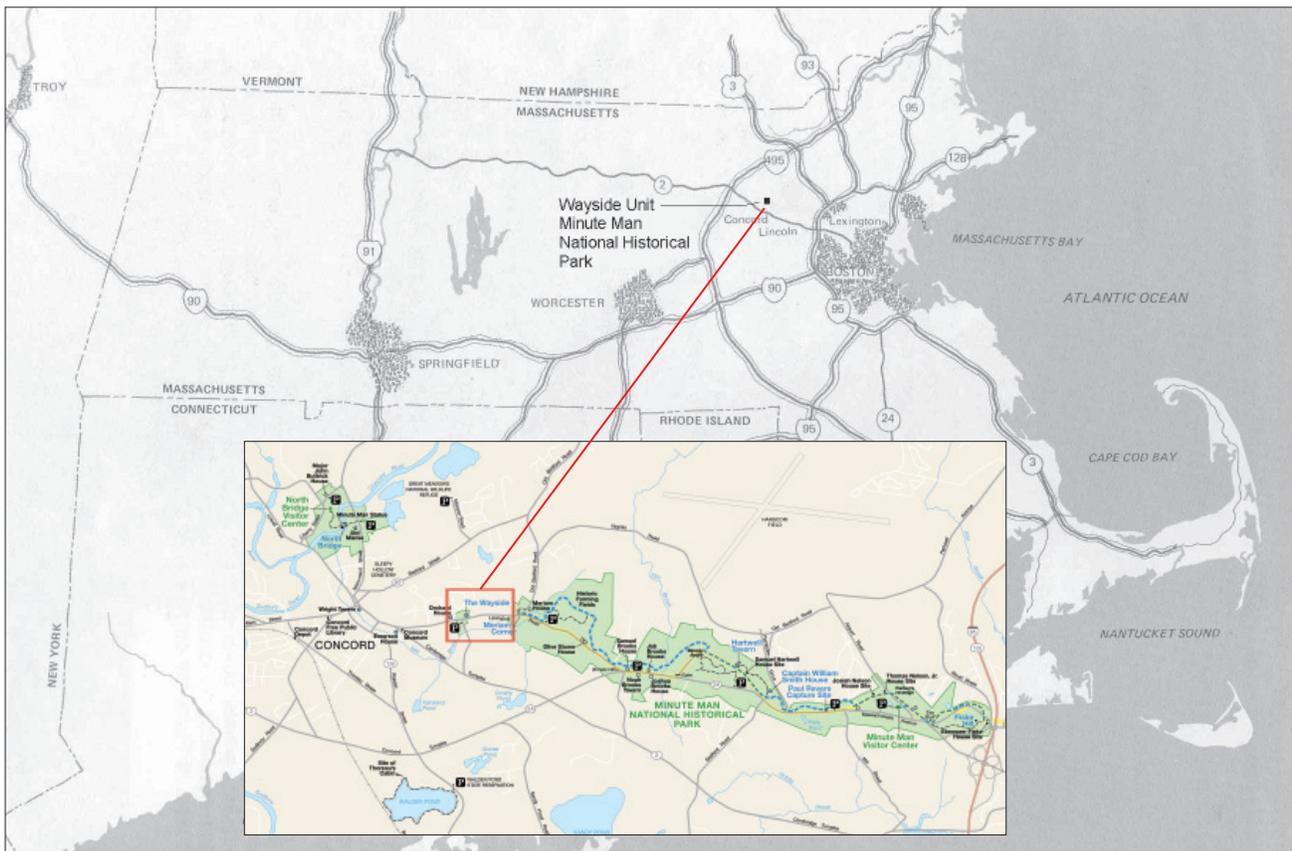


Figure 1. The Wayside Unit is approximately 15 miles west of Boston in Concord, Massachusetts. The Wayside is east of the North Bridge Unit and west of the Battle Road Unit of the park (Minuteman National Historical Park maps, hereafter MIMA, with annotations by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, hereafter OCLP).

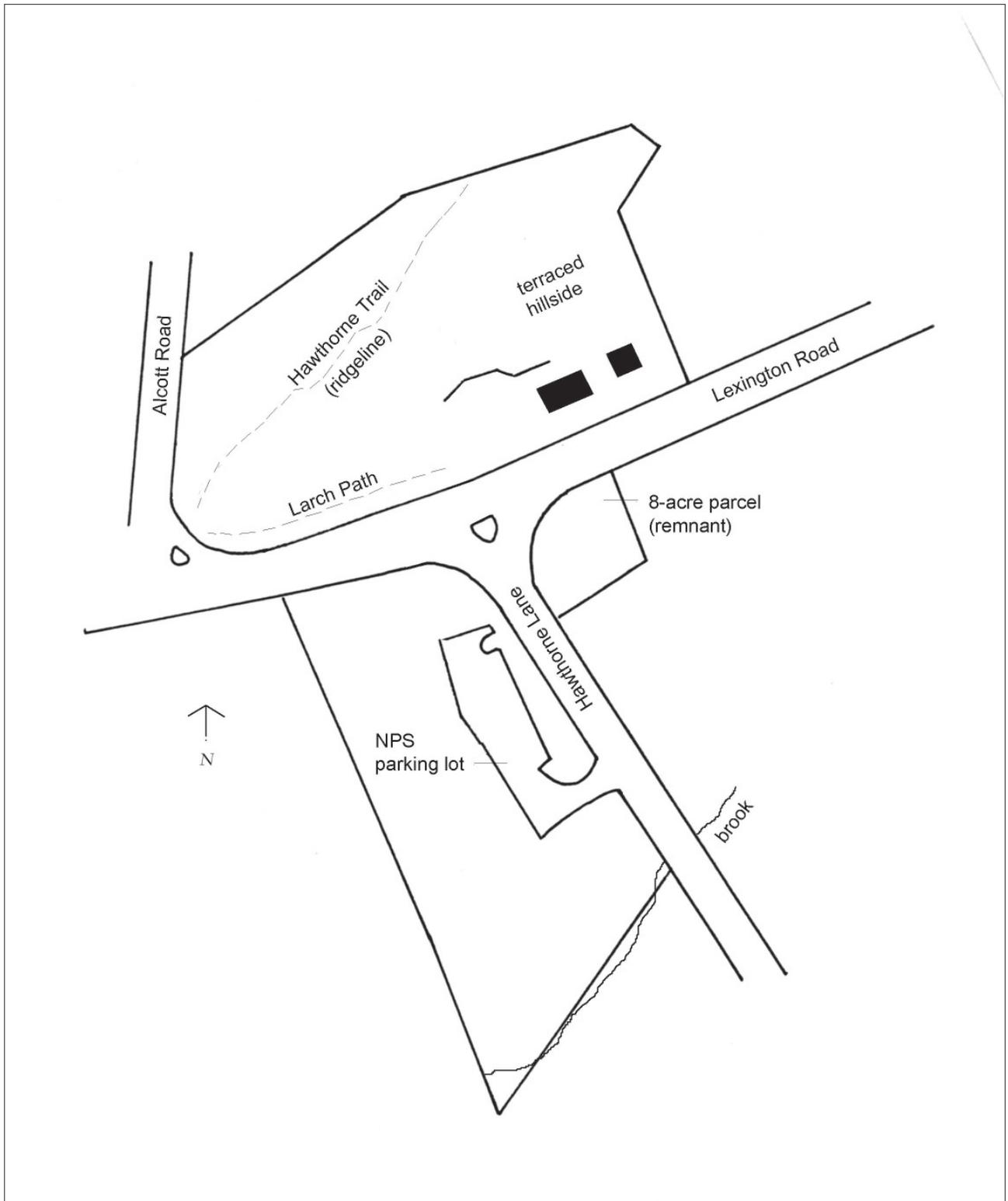


Figure 2. Map of the Wayside Unit (OCLP).



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## **CHAPTER ONE: SITE HISTORY**

### **COLONIZATION AND THE NEW REPUBLIC, PRE CONTACT TO 1845**

#### **Native Americans and European Colonization, Pre Contact to 1666**

For several thousand years prior to indigenous groups planted crops and fished in the Musketequid River (Concord River) area. Archeological studies in the Wayside Unit vicinity and toward Meriam's Corner indicate the area was occupied during the Middle and Late Archaic periods (8,000 BP to 3,000 BP).<sup>1</sup> In the winters, Native Americans hunted game in the vast woodlands surrounding the river. Using fire, they managed the woodlands to promote easier hunting and traveling, and to increase production of edible fruits and nuts. By the 1630s, diseases introduced by early European settlers had decimated the Native American population.

In 1635, a handful of Puritan families ventured inland sixteen miles to settle within the newly established Concord Plantation. The first settlers dug earthen burrows into the southern slope of the ridgeline running along the northern side of the Bay Road (now Lexington Road) which runs in back of the present-day Wayside Unit. By 1636 the town began to distribute land among the inhabitants. The first house lots were clustered within a one-half mile radius from the town meeting hall, and many of these were located along the north side of the Bay Road at the base of the ridgeline. The Meriams were among the first settlers in the area. Built in 1655, the Meriam house at Meriams Corner is the oldest extant structure within the boundaries of Minute Man National Historical Park.

#### **Early Landowners, 1666 to 1769**

The first known record of land ownership for The Wayside property dates to 1666, when Nathaniel Ball owned thirteen acres on both sides of the Bay Road. Located immediately west of Nathaniel Ball's property, on the north side of the road and within the present-day Wayside Unit, was land owned by Eliphelet Fox. Fox built a house in 1666 and the foundation still exists today.<sup>2</sup>

Two years later, Nathaniel Ball transferred "half my house Lott" to his son Nathaniel Ball, Jr., who later transferred it to his son Caleb. The oldest portion of the house on the site dates to circa 1714.<sup>3</sup> Caleb Ball constructed or modified the house in 1716 and 1717, before selling the property to Samuel Fletcher. At this point the property included three acres "on both sides of ye Bay Road with all ye Housing Building & fencing thereon standing that part of ye premises w[hi]ch Lyeth upon the northerly side of ye Bay Road." Between 1717 and 1769, the property changed ownership five times, passing in 1722 from Samuel Fletcher to

Nathaniel Billings, in 1722 or 1723 to Zachariah Parker, in 1722 or 1723 to Nathaniel Coleburn, in 1747 to John Breed, and finally in 1769 to Samuel Whitney, a shopkeeper.<sup>4</sup> At the time the property transferred to Whitney, the house lot included only one-half acre.

#### **Samuel Whitney Ownership, 1769 to 1778**

In 1771, Whitney was taxed for a house, a warehouse, two “Servants for Life,” a horse, 4 oxen, and 150 pounds in stock in trade.<sup>5</sup> Escalating taxes and opposition to British rule prompted Colonial leaders to establish a Provincial Congress in 1774. The following year, Whitney became a delegate to the Provincial Congress and was the muster master of the Concord Minutemen. The Congress assumed two important government functions: tax collection and organization of the Colonial militia. In February 1775, the Provincial Congress ordered stockpiles of military arms and provisions to be stored in Worcester and Concord. Concord stored a portion of its ammunition supply in the warehouse on Samuel Whitney’s property.<sup>6</sup>

During the early hours of April 19, 1775, in an attempt to suppress the mounting colonial rebellion, British troops marched into Concord to seize the town’s military arms and provisions. Reportedly, the ammunition stored in Whitney’s warehouse had been moved to a safer location prior to British arrival, as had most of the town’s military supplies. As the British searched the town for ammunition stockpiles, a building was set fire in the center of town. Whether set intentionally or by accident, the fire ignited the Battle at the North Bridge, the first forcible resistance to British aggression—on the day that marked the beginning of the American Revolution.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Five Successive Owners, 1778 to 1844**

In May 1778, Whitney sold the house lot, which now included 0.75 acres, to Daniel Taylor who in turn sold the property two months later to Daniel Hoar, Sr. The property remained in the Hoar family until 1827, when Daniel Hoar Jr. sold the house lot, which included one acre, to Darius Meriam. In 1832, Meriam sold the property to Horatio Cogswell, and in September 1844 Cogswell sold the one-acre parcel and an eight-acre parcel (known today as Emerson Field) to Washington C. Allen.<sup>8</sup> In 1845 Allen sold the one-acre parcel on the north side of the road, (then known as the County Road, today named Lexington Road), to Abba and Bronson Alcott for \$850. Ralph Waldo Emerson, a fellow transcendentalist and close friend of the Alcotts, purchased the eight-acre parcel on the south side of the road for \$500 from Allen, and leased it to the Alcotts.

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## BRONSON AND ABBA ALCOTT OWNERSHIP, 1845 TO 1852

Bronson Alcott, an author, philosopher and teacher, was one of the most influential men associated with the nineteenth-century transcendental movement, which was centered in Concord. Bronson Alcott's unconventional teachings of art, music, nature study, and physical education prompted some parents to remove their children from his classrooms, and as a result required Alcott to move his family numerous times in pursuit of income. In 1840, with the help of close friend and fellow transcendentalist Ralph Waldo Emerson, the Alcott family moved to Concord. Three years later, Alcott was a co-founder of Fruitlands, a communal farm in Harvard, Massachusetts. The farm failed, and in 1845 the family moved back to Concord, purchasing the one-acre parcel on the north side of the old Bay Road, then known as the County Road (Lexington Road), from Washington C. Allen for \$850 with funds inherited by Abba Alcott, Bronson's wife.

Several subsequent transactions enabled the Alcotts to use the adjacent land. Ralph Waldo Emerson purchased the eight-acre parcel on the south side of the road for \$500 from Allen, and then leased it to Alcott. On September 1, 1846, Abba Alcott's brother, Samuel J. May, purchased a three-acre parcel from Alcott's neighbor Abel Moore. May paid \$90 for the parcel, which adjoined Alcott's parcel to the west and to the north (Figure 3).<sup>9</sup>

In 1845, when Bronson and Abba Alcott moved into The Wayside, they had four daughters: Anna Bronson (14), Louisa May (13), Elizabeth Sewall (10), and Abba May (5). All four of the girls were the basis of the characters in Louisa May Alcott's book *Little Women*, published in 1868, and Louisa's experience growing up in this home also served as inspiration for her book.<sup>10</sup>

The Alcotts called the property "Hillside." The Alcotts were opposed to slavery and the Hillside became a station along the "Underground Railroad" network. Accounts in Bronson's journal and letters written by Abba in 1846 and 1847 indicate that the Alcotts assisted fugitive slaves, sheltering them in their house for as long as two weeks.<sup>11</sup>

In keeping with his transcendental beliefs of self-reliance and living off of the land, Bronson Alcott immediately set about improving Hillside to support his family and guests. At the time of purchase, the house was in very poor condition and the landscape was little more than sand and gravel—almost totally devoid of trees.<sup>12</sup> Despite its reported condition, Alcott optimistically described the property to his brother Junius Alcott:

Under the brow of the hill, lies a very pretty spot – the Boston Road [Lexington Road] running between the House and the fertile field of eight acres [Emerson Field], every rod of which is adapted to gardening, and lies warmly to the sunny south. . . . There are a few Fruit trees . . . beginning to bear .<sup>13</sup>

During the first three years of occupancy, Alcott significantly changed the Hillside landscape to provide food for his family and to “mend Nature and the ill taste of [his] predecessors.”<sup>14</sup> While many of his changes disappeared during subsequent ownership periods, a few remain today.

In addition to altering the existing house, by adding two wings constructed with sections of buildings located on the property, and moving the barn from across the street to west of the house, Alcott also built several new structures. He constructed a conservatory east of the house, a rustic summerhouse on the hillside northwest of the house, and a rustic garden house (or bath house) along the stream on the eight-acre parcel leased from Emerson. Smaller structures included a rustic bridge near the garden house, a beehive above a stone wall, a rustic arched gateway at the edge of the lawn, and a number of trellises. He also repaired existing wells and installed a pump and a fountain on the eight-acre parcel.<sup>15</sup>

To implement some of his plans it was necessary to alter the base of the hillside rising in back of the house. As recorded in his journal from July to November 1846, Alcott “shaped the hillside beyond the barn . . . altered the slope behind the house . . . prepared hillside for wall behind barn . . . [and] wheeled earth from behind house to open a wider passage from barn [west of the house] to conservatory [east of house].”<sup>16</sup> Alcott undertook his most ambitious earthmoving project between April 1846 and July 1847, when he “leveled terraces behind the house,” and July 5, 1847, when he “completed terracing the hillside.”<sup>17</sup> Alcott laid sod and planted peas, potatoes, melons, and fruit trees on the terraces.<sup>18</sup> There is some evidence in later writings about the landscape that suggests that the terraces Alcott constructed may have extended further west than existing conditions indicate.

From statements in Alcott’s journal, it appears that there were two walls east of the house, a retaining wall at the base of the hillside which also served as a conservatory wall, and perhaps a north/south wall that divided the Alcott and the Bull properties to the east.<sup>19</sup> Preparations for construction of a stone wall at the base of the hill, behind the barn (as mentioned above) began in early October 1846. On October 22nd Alcott recorded in his journal “engaged some more lime in the village for pointing the wall behind the barn and house” and on November 1, 1846 he wrote the “bank wall from behind the Barn to the Bee House [just west

of the house] is now complete except for a little pointing with the mortar.” It is not known when he began construction on the stone wall behind the house, however, an August 13, 1846 journal entry mentions stairs behind the house, which, if they are the same stone stairs that exist today, may indicate construction of this section of the wall began before October 1846. In June the following year, Alcott constructed steps near the Bee House, ascending to the first terrace. Alcott also notes in his journal on May 23, 1846 that with the help of neighbors he constructed a conservatory wall “in slope east of the house.” He also mentions in his journal on July 2, 1846 a “wall near conservatory” and near Mr. Bull’s garden.

Alcott also repaired and constructed a number of fences on his property. He repaired a pale (picket) fence near his neighbor Ephraim Bull’s property to the east, altered a fence by the stairs behind the house and extended it to the conservatory east of the house, constructed a “lawn fence on the roadside to the front gate,” and after his brother-in-law purchased the adjoining Moore property he reset the fence separating the two parcels along the new boundary line. Alcott also constructed several fences that may have been more decorative than functional including a rustic fence along a serpentine walk and a rustic fence by the arbor.<sup>20</sup>

In 1845, Alcott began to transplant trees from the hillside in back of the house (probably Moore property) to the front of the house, to serve as a screen between the house and the road.<sup>21</sup> In the spring of 1846, he continued his relocation project, transplanting numerous trees from the hillside to the front of the house to, as stated in his journal, “protect my eyes from the market dust, the tramp of [...], and the roll of wagon wheels.”<sup>22</sup> His journal indicates he transplanted trees on at least six different days between April and June of 1846. Transplanted species mentioned included pines, spruce, larch, hemlock, maple, birch, and locust.<sup>23</sup> On May 6, 1846 he commented, “if trees survive shall find seclusion from the road . . . Had I chosen I should have sought a place remote from the road . . .” Most of Alcott’s journal entries give vague reference to the location or arrangement of the transplanted trees, stating only that the trees were planted “before the door . . . in the yard . . . near the house . . . [and] before the house.” One entry, from May 13, 1846, states at least a portion of the evergreens were planted in rows. On June 20, 1846, Alcott commented, “Nearly all set in April and May survive and are quite thrifty.” Only one reference to transplanting trees is found in his journal for subsequent years. In mid-May 1847 Alcott wrote “set elms by roadside before door.”<sup>24</sup>

In addition to transplanting trees in the dooryard, Alcott and his wife Abba decorated the landscape with flower beds. During the spring of 1846, Alcott leveled areas for flower beds near the house, prepared the beds, and helped his wife plant flowers in the beds. Later journal entries from 1846 and 1847 mention

weeding and raking the beds. A journal entry from April 29, 1846 states Alcott transplanted bergamot and roses, and an entry from June 1847 mentions quince trees by the study door.<sup>25</sup>

More is known about the location and types of fruit trees planted at Hillside. Alcott's journal indicates he primarily planted fruit trees in two areas: on the terraces in back of the house and in front of the house on the eight-acre parcel. He planted peach trees and apples on the terraces, some of which appear to have been planted before the terraces were complete as indicated by two journal entries:

... cut the highest terrace on the hillside trenching a little way upon the Moore lot and opening on the last row of apple trees.<sup>26</sup>

... completed terracing on hillside, the apple and peach trees now stand in the terraces, and are all of easy access.<sup>27</sup>

On October 10, 1846, Alcott "set a score of apple trees in lawn before the House in pretty scallops," and on October 24, 1846 he "selected 100 fine apple trees for setting the lawn opposite the house." In November 17 to 19, 1846, Alcott wrote "apple trees stand prettily on my lawn before my House (eight-acre parcel) in semicircular rows corresponding to my path and will soon grow into a stately orchard"<sup>28</sup>

Alcott also planted individual and small groups of fruit trees near the house, including a couple of apple trees near the house, an apple tree on the slope behind the barn, and three "thrifty Pear trees in lawn before house." Species of apples planted included Hubbardston nonesuch, Bell Flower, Baldwin, Greening, and Fairman.<sup>29</sup>

Underlying the fruit trees and covering much of the area within the dooryard was sowed grass and clover. Alcott generally referred to these areas as "lawn." He planted various mixes of clover and grasses (timothy and red top) on the hillside, which may have included portions of the terraces, under the orchard on the eight-acre parcel, near the house, and on the front terrace. In the area bordering the "alley" (see below) within the eight-acre plot, Alcott sowed a mix of oats and clover. As he did not raise livestock, Alcott probably sold most of the clover and grasses grown in these areas, except perhaps a quantity reserved for a horse, if they owned one. There are several journal entries stating he sold oats and clover. In more ornamental areas Alcott sowed only clover, such as under the evergreen rows, into "borders of front door," on the "hillside by the arbour."<sup>30</sup>

Connecting property features were numerous paths constructed by Alcott. These included functional paths through the terraces and within the eight-acre parcel (both areas planted as gardens) and pleasure paths winding up the hillside to the summerhouse, through ornamental gardens around the house, and to the garden house on the eight-acre parcel. Alcott's journal records the construction method for a number of the paths. Alcott "sloped the ground" and "cut foot paths" up the hillside and through the terraces. To define paths in the dooryard and near the house he laid gravel within the path and sod to define the path. His journals provide less information for the paths within the eight-acre parcel, generally only recording when and not how he finished a path. Below is a list of paths that appear in Figures 4 and 5, and/or are specifically referenced in Alcott's journal.<sup>31</sup>

#### **Hillside & Terraces**

- path leading from the kitchen door up through the terraces
- serpentine walk through locust grove (possibly additional walks through locust grove)
- path up the hillside, originating near the conservatory
- walk on the hillside ending on the western side of the barn
- footpath on the top of the wall, over the bee house and behind the barn (may have been an improvement of the wall mentioned just above)

#### **Dooryard**

- paths at east side of gate
- "walk before the door"
- "paths in garden before door"
- "alleys in the door yard about the front gates"

#### **Paths near the House**

- "walks around the house"
- serpentine walk between house and barn
- serpentine walk behind house
- path from great street gate to behind the barn
- serpentine walks near the wall

#### **Eight-Acre Parcel**

- north/south path leading from garden gate (opposite the front door of the house) to the brook (The "alley," the "middle alley," "broad walk," and/or the "central walk" may be names Alcott used when referencing this walk)
- path from the pump to the brook along which Alcott planted willows (May have been part of the path above)

- additional north/south paths, paralleling both sides of the north/south path mentioned above
- wide cart track from western gate (along Hawthorne Lane) to strawberry bed
- semi-circular path from broad gate to Garden House

Alcott's journals record a large variety of vegetables and small fruits grown at Hillside between 1845 and 1848. Among the most frequently planted crops were melons, sweet corn, squash, beets, beans, tomatoes, turnips, potatoes, and peas. Other crops known to have been grown for at least two years include lettuce, strawberries, radishes, spinach, and cucumbers. The map of Hillside drawn by Elizabeth Alcott in 1846 (see Figure 4) indicates her father planted garden crops on the western half of the eight-acre parcel (labeled garden). She marked the eastern half of the parcel "Field," probably indicating this is where her father planted buckwheat, oats, rye, and possibly additional crops of clover and timothy grass. Crops known to have been planted in other locations include peas and cucumbers behind the house, melons and peas on the terraces, grapes by the wall near the barn, cucumbers in the conservatory, and beans near the conservatory.<sup>32</sup>

By the fall of 1847, Bronson and Abba Alcott's enthusiasm with Hillside had waned; the family was two hundred dollars in debt and Alcott had lost his passion for improving the grounds and planting gardens. With thoughts towards selling the Hillside, Abba began to set the house in order, and to support the family she accepted a position in May 1848 at a water cure spa in Waterford, Maine. Abba returned to Concord in July, and by fall both Abba and Bronson were eagerly hoping to find housing in Boston. On November 17, 1848 the family left Hillside and moved into a leased house on Dedham Street in Boston.<sup>33</sup> From November 1848 to March 1852 the Alcotts leased the Hillside. Very little is known about the landscape and gardens during this period.

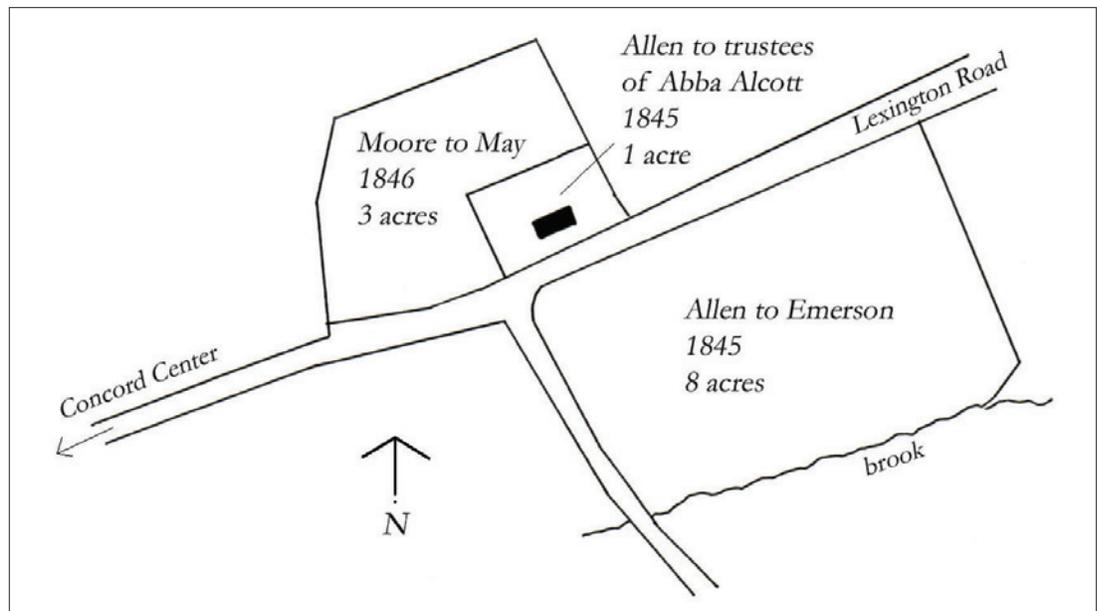


Figure 3. Map of land associated with The Wayside, 1845 to 1852. Acreage includes one-acre parcel purchased by the Alcotts, eight-acre parcel purchased by Ralph Waldo Emerson and loaned to the Alcotts, and land purchased by Abigail May Alcott's brother, Samuel J. May (OCLP).

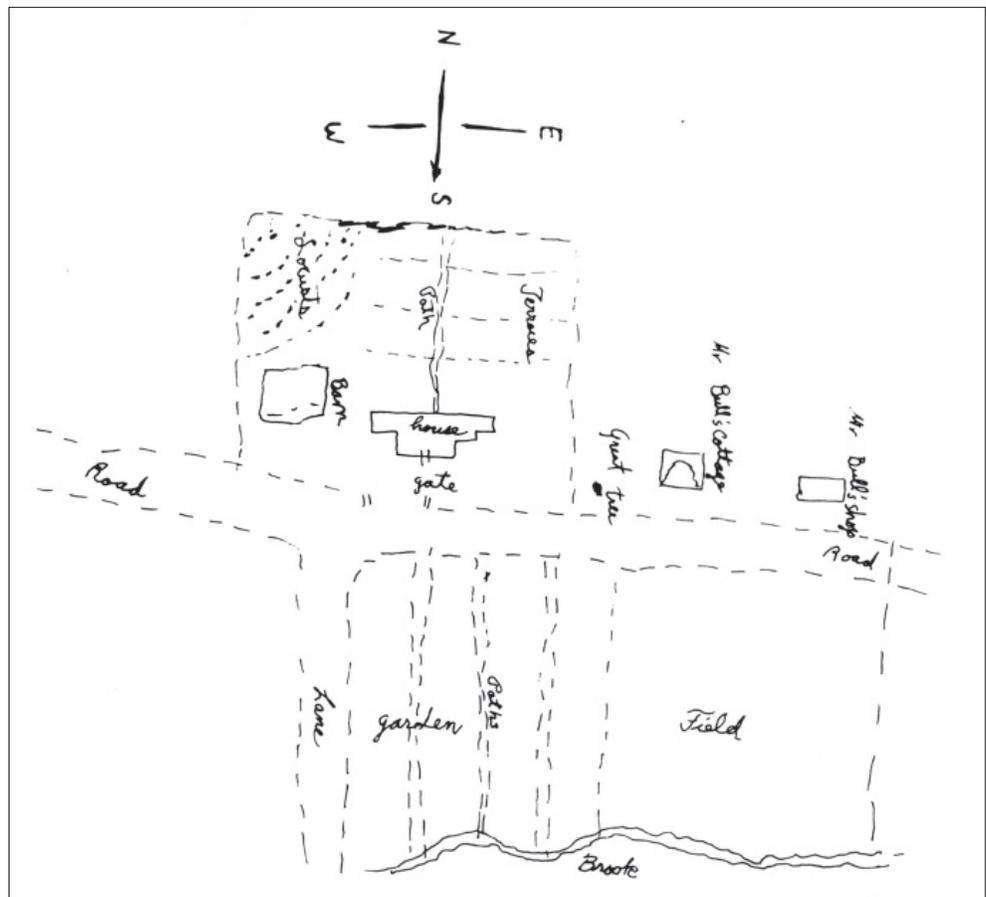


Figure 4. Map of The Wayside property (north of the road) and the eight-acre parcel owned by Ralph Waldo Emerson by Elizabeth Alcott when she was ten years old, 1846. The map depicts The Wayside property prior to Abigail May Alcott's brother's (Samuel J. May) purchase of the adjoining three-acre parcel, north of Lexington Road. Note the locusts, the terraces, the path from the house up the center of the terraces, the barn, the garden and garden paths, the brook, and the field (Elizabeth Alcott journal, 1846, A.B. Alcott Family Letters, on microfilm at MIMA Library).

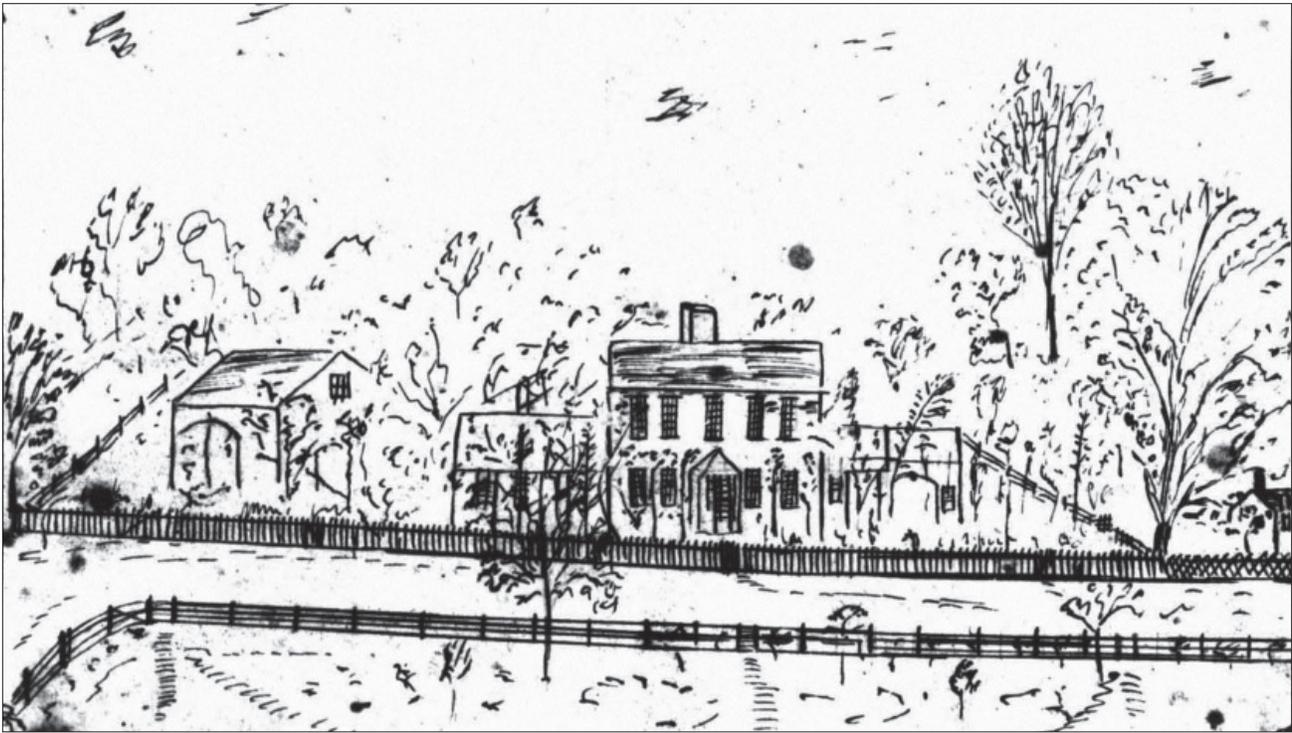


Figure 5. Sketch of The Wayside drawn by Bronson Alcott, c. 1847. The drawing depicts the house and barn; a wooden fence separating the Alcott property and Bull properties (right); another fence separating the one-acre parcel and parcel purchased by Abigail Alcott's brother (Samuel J. May) (left); and fences bordering Lexington Road and Hawthorne Lane. Also depicted are small trees in front of The Wayside (presumably the trees transplanted by Alcott); several small trees south of Lexington Road, within the eight-acre parcel (probably fruit trees); and garden paths (Photographic copy located in MIMA library. Original owned by the Louisa May Alcott Memorial Association).

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## HAWTHORNE FAMILY OWNERSHIP, 1852 TO 1870

This section includes historic context and landscape descriptions of author Nathaniel Hawthorne's residency at the property in 1851 and 1852 prior to his departure to Europe; during the occupancy of the families of Dr. Nathaniel Peabody, Sophia Hawthorne's brother and of her sister, Mary Peabody Mann from 1852 to 1864; after the Hawthornes returned from Europe in 1860 to 1864; and following the death of Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1864 to 1868.

### Hawthorne Occupancy, 1851 to 1852

On March 10, 1852, Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased the one-acre parcel surrounding the house from Bronson and Abba Alcott for one thousand dollars and the eight-acre parcel across the street from Ralph Waldo Emerson for five hundred dollars (Figure 6).<sup>34</sup> The Hillside, renamed The Wayside by Hawthorne, was the second home Hawthorne occupied in Concord. Between 1842 and 1845 Hawthorne and his bride Sophia had leased a house along the Concord River owned by the Emerson family, and known after their occupancy as the Old Manse. When they moved to Hillside, the Hawthornes had three children: Una, (age 8); Julian (age 5); and Rose, a toddler.<sup>35</sup>

As an author, Hawthorne was already widely known. He wrote several novels prior to moving to The Wayside, including *Mosses of the Old Manse*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The House of Seven Gables*, and *The Blithedale Romance*. In the early years at The Wayside he wrote *Tanglewood Tales* and a biography of presidential candidate Franklin Pierce, a Bowdoin College classmate of Hawthorne.<sup>36</sup>

Hawthorne family letters and diary entries provide vivid descriptions of The Wayside landscape. Writings prior to their departure for England indicate the family retained and enjoyed many of the landscape features designed and constructed by Bronson Alcott. In a letter to his friend and author George Curtis, Hawthorne wrote, "my territory extends some little distance over the brow of the hill, and is absolutely good for nothing, in a productive point of view, though very good for many other purposes."<sup>37</sup> Hawthorne valued the hillside landscape as a thinking space—a place to formulate his novels. This was in contrast to how Bronson Alcott valued the landscape for its agricultural production.

The landscape feature most associated with Nathaniel Hawthorne is the ridgeline above the house. While contemplating his writing, Hawthorne paced to and fro along the ridgeline creating a "well worn path," (today known as the Hawthorne Path) first noted in a February 1853 letter from Sophia Hawthorne to her father.<sup>38</sup> In the letter to George Curtis mentioned above, Hawthorne described the hillside vegetation as a "thicket" rather than a "wood." He noted "the hillside is covered

chiefly with locust-trees intermixed with a few young elms and some white-pines and infant oaks.” These locust trees are depicted in Elizabeth Alcott’s drawing (see Figure 4). The openness of the hillside provided a viewing area of the surrounding landscape. As Hawthorne described in the letter to Curtis “there is a good view along the extensive level surfaces and gently, hilly outlines, covered with wood.”

An “avenue of locust trees” leading up the hillside to Alcott’s summer house was the second path mentioned in early Hawthorne family writings. The location of the summer house is more precisely identified in Hawthorne writings than it had been in references from the Alcott period. Sophia noted in a letter to her mother that the summerhouse was “on top of [the] terrace,” and in his journal in 1853 Alcott noted his “arbour” was “amidst the locusts and apple trees.”<sup>39</sup> Given these two statements, and the location of the locust grove as depicted on Elizabeth Alcott’s 1846 drawing, the summerhouse probably stood between the locust grove and the apple orchard on the hillside above the lawn. These statements (and statements made in later years) also may indicate Alcott’s terraces extended further west than existing conditions indicate, above the retaining wall along the northern edge of the lawn.

By 1852, the summerhouse was in poor condition. Hawthorne describes the summerhouse and arbors in his letter to George Curtis. “They [summerhouse and arbors] must have been very pretty in their day, and are still so, although much decayed, and shattered more and more by every breeze that blows.” The garden house and the water fountain constructed by Alcott on the eight-acre parcel were also extant at the time Hawthorne purchased The Wayside.<sup>40</sup>

The few gardening references found support the assumption that the Hawthornes gardened less intensively than the Alcotts. The family enjoyed harvesting fruit from the apple and peach trees planted by Alcott and in July 1852 Sophia Hawthorne wrote to her mother “Mr. Hawthorne has sold the grass for thirty dollars.” The grass may have been harvested from the eastern half of the eight-acre parcel, the same location used by Alcott to grow grass and grain. In journal entries from September 1852, Sophia Hawthorne also mentions the children gathered beans and picked peapods. She noted the garden on the eight-acre parcel was “a perfect wilderness of weeds” and was “quite a disgrace to us.” Of the terraces, she wrote both Julian and Una had gardens which included “one hill of corn and [Julian’s] one bean.”<sup>41</sup>

#### **Peabody and Mann Occupancy, 1852 to 1860**

After President Franklin Pierce was elected, he appointed Hawthorne to the Consulship at Liverpool, England.<sup>42</sup> In July 1853, the Hawthornes sailed to England, leaving The Wayside in the care of Dr. Nathaniel Peabody, Sophia

Hawthorne's brother. Just prior to leaving the country, Hawthorne purchased 10 acres 87 rods from John B. Moore for \$263.59. The purchase included the crest of the ridge and a portion of the north face of the ridge, but was separated from the one-acre house lot Hawthorne had purchased from Bronson and Abba by a lot remaining in the ownership of Samuel J. May (Abba Alcott's brother). Five months later, while in England, Hawthorne purchased from Samuel J. May the three-acre parcel abutting The Wayside to the north and west, thus joining all of the lots he had purchased (see Figure 6). In total, Hawthorne owned approximately 22 acres 87 rods (22.5 acres). The Peabodys occupied The Wayside from July 1853 to July 1859.<sup>43</sup> During this time, The Wayside was featured in the book *Homes of American Authors*, which also highlighted the homes of Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, and Walt Whitman, among others.

In 1857, the Alcotts moved back to Concord and during the first week of their return they boarded with the Peabodys at The Wayside, until they found housing in the center of town.<sup>44</sup> In his journal on May 10, 1857, Alcott described The Wayside landscape, noting changes that had occurred since his family sold the property in 1847.

... very little has been done in the way of improving the place during [Hawthorne's] absence, and fewer traces of my handiwork survive than I could wish. My little willow settings by the brookside in the green lane [eight-acre parcel] have grown into a tall clump of foliage ... The arbour [summerhouse] and garden house have disappeared. The paths are grass-grown and obscure. ...<sup>45</sup>

In a more positive tone, Alcott remarked in the same journal entry "the shrubbery thrives around the house."

In 1858, the Alcotts purchased the property neighboring The Wayside to the west, which they named Orchard House. For several weeks during the spring of 1858 the Alcotts returned to board with the Peabodys, until renovation of their new house was complete. Anticipating the Hawthornes would return to The Wayside during the summer of 1859, the Peabodys secured a new home. However, because of a serious illness Una could not travel, so the family postponed their return until the summer of the following year. From September 1859 until June 1860 Sophia's recently widowed sister, Mary Peabody Mann, and her children resided at The Wayside.<sup>46</sup>

While Una recuperated in Europe, Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote his friend and publisher, William Ticknor, that he was making "arrangements for a gardener" and had authorized expenses for "manure, labor, etc."<sup>47</sup> Five months later

Bronson Alcott, then Hawthorne's neighbor, wrote in his journal "at Hillside (Wayside) putting things in place."<sup>48</sup> Hawthorne had hired Alcott to oversee renovation of the house and landscape improvements. In the same journal entry Alcott stated he had "cut a gateway for private passing inside the larch row." The larch row refers to the row of European larches (*Larix decidua*) that would later line the south side of what is known today as the Larch Path. The source for the European larch saplings is unknown, but the species is known to self seed from plantings.<sup>49</sup>

#### **Hawthorne Occupancy, 1860 to 1864**

In June 1860 the Hawthorne family returned to The Wayside. Between August and September 1860, Alcott oversaw a number of landscape improvements at The Wayside, some of which he completed himself.<sup>50</sup> On August 8 Alcott wrote in his journal, "paths are to be laid [at The Wayside] on hill and about woods," and on August 20, 1860 he wrote "at Hawthorne's superintending making of paths. Gunison finds good treading soil behind the house up the land for walks."<sup>51</sup>

On August 14 Alcott "superintend[ed] the laying of a walk across to Hawthornes . . . a convenient path [that] brings the two families together in a few minutes connecting with our [Alcott] walk."<sup>52</sup> The walk originated at the "cut gateway" between the Alcott and the Hawthorne properties and the lawn east of the house. Referred to in letters written by Sophia Hawthorne as the Larch Path or the Larch Avenue, the path ran parallel to Lexington Road and inside the "larch row."<sup>53</sup> Additional paths constructed at The Wayside between August and September 1860 included:<sup>54</sup>

- "walk down to the brook through the willows [eight-acre parcel] across the lawn"
- "paths about the yard"
- "walk from the barn [west of the house] through the locust grove to the hilltop . . . it curves gracefully up the slope under the locusts and pines"
- "path along front of east Orchard to Hawthornes"
- "path along the lane to the hot house [conservatory?]"
- "path over the hill to [Hawthorne's] seat under the pine [large white pine, see below]."

Alcott's journal did not mention if any of the paths that he had originally constructed in the 1840s were still in use. Nor does the journal entry mention the Minot House foundation—a depression still evident at the corner of Lexington and Alcott roads, known as the Minot House cellar, which Hawthorne believed to have once been the home of Rose Garfield—a patriot during the Revolutionary War and a character in Hawthorne's romance *Septimius Felton*.<sup>55</sup>

Several c. 1860s Wayside paths are described in books written by Hawthorne's children, Julian Hawthorne and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, in the late 1800s. In her book *Memories of Hawthorne* (1897), Rose noted her father reached the path along the ridgeline (Hawthorne Path) by "various pretty climbing paths that crept under larches and pines, and scraggy, goat-like apples."<sup>56</sup> One of these paths she described as a "winding pine-flanked path."<sup>57</sup> In his book *Memoirs* (1938) Julian Hawthorne wrote the summer house was located "halfway up the slanting path."<sup>58</sup>

The path most associated with Nathaniel Hawthorne was his "foot-path . . . on the summit of the wooden hill above the terraces,"<sup>59</sup> known today as Hawthorne Path. As mentioned earlier, Hawthorne created the path as he paced back and forward across the ridgeline "to put his mind in the receptive state favorable for hearing the voices of imagination."<sup>60</sup> In *Hawthorne and His Circle* (1903), Julian Hawthorne described the path as a "deeply trodden path, in the hard, root-inwoven soil, hardly nine inches wide and about two hundred and fifty yards in length."<sup>61</sup> Rose described the landscape bordering the path in her book *Memories of Hawthorne* (1897):

Along this path in spring huddled pale blue violets, of a blue that held sunlight, pure as his [Hawthorne's] eyes. Masses also of sweet fern grew at the side of these abundant bordering violets, and spacious apartments of brown-floored pine groves flanked the sweet fern, or receded a little before heaps of blackberry branches and simple flowers."<sup>62</sup>

In his book *The Life and Genius of Nathaniel Hawthorne* (1906), Frank P. Sterns, family friend and contemporary of Julian Hawthorne, noted the Hawthorne Path "descends sharply like a rail-road cut." He also described the vegetation along the northern edge of the trail during Hawthorne's life-time as "dwarf pines and shrub oaks."<sup>63</sup>

Bronson Alcott was also responsible for tree removal, trimming and planting. In September 1860, Alcott "cut and cleared away the birches from the top of the hill east" and "assist[ed] in pruning Hawthorne's apple trees in lawn by [the] house."<sup>64</sup> On October 29, 1860 Alcott wrote in his journal "Next week, I suppose, I am to see to transplanting the evergreen about the Hawthornes' grounds."<sup>65</sup> This entry referred to an ambitious grounds project undertaken during the fall 1860, the planting of, according to Sophia Hawthorne, 450 Norway spruce sent from England.<sup>66</sup> Historic photographs from the early 1900s indicate the spruce trees were planted on the terraces in back of the house and on the hillside east of the house. It is not known to what extent, if any, the trees were planted north of the Hawthorne Path.

A number of books and magazine articles written in the late 1800s and early 1900s, including the books written by Nathaniel Hawthorne's children Julian and Rose, describe the 1860s hillside vegetation. In an article that appeared in the *Critic* (c. 1904), Julian Hawthorne remembered tree species on the summit of the hill included "white pines and pitch pines, and a mingled irregular array of birch, oak, elm, and hickory, all of recent growth; a tangled little woodland."<sup>67</sup> He also noted that apple trees and abundant laburnums—also known as golden chain tree—grew on the terraces.<sup>68</sup>

According to Rose Lathrop Hawthorne, vegetation on the hillside between the Larch Path and the Hawthorne Path was sparse enough that her father's figure "could be plainly seen" from below, as he traversed the ridgeline.<sup>69</sup>

Specific mention of Norway spruce did not appear in historic descriptions c. 1860 to 1864, probably because they would have been seedlings, and as such, would not have contributed significantly to the character of the landscape during Hawthorne's life.

Before the Norway spruce grew up, the ridgeline provided views of distant landscapes, especially from the more open western brow which, according to Rose "sloped rapidly to Lexington Road, and overlook[ed] meadows and distant wood-ranges, some of the cottages of humble folks, and the neighboring huge, owl-haunted elms of Alcott's lawn."<sup>70</sup> At this viewing site, Bronson Alcott constructed a seat for Hawthorne of "twisted boughs."<sup>71</sup> The bench may have been constructed between two trees. Sophia Hawthorne writes to Mrs. Fields on June 29, 1862 "Mr. Hawthorne and I have been up on the hill along the sacra via [sic] to see where we can have seats put between brotherly trees."<sup>72</sup> Post 1860s references and photographs indicate one or more benches stood between pairs of trees on the hillside.

Alcott is known to have built a second bench along the Hawthorne Path, under a large white pine "in back of the house," which according to his wife Sophia, Hawthorne "liked to recline and listen to the seas song in the branches—while in May the grass was blue with violets around him."<sup>73</sup> According to Julian Hawthorne, his mother often joined his father on the "broad bench under the pine tree" to "look out over the meadows."<sup>74</sup>

Alcott also constructed a "rustic seat" at the foot of the hill, the exact location unknown.<sup>75</sup> A "rustic seat" is also known to have stood against the low trunk of a mulberry tree near the house, on which, according to Julian Hawthorne, his mother and father "often sat in the afternoons, talking over their domestic and agricultural plans."<sup>76</sup> Julian Hawthorne stated the "ancient mulberry-tree" stood

on the “tiny lawn in front of the library windows.”<sup>77</sup> The library (also known as the parlor) is located to the left, just inside the front door.

Also located in front of the library, directly adjacent to the front walk, was a hawthorn tree that still exists today. The tree is clearly visible in historic photographs dating to the 1860s (Figure 7). In a letter to her mother dated May 12, 1863, Una Hawthorne writes, “all Rose’s side of the Hawthorne is covered with buds.”<sup>78</sup> This statement is further explained in a letter Sophia Hawthorne wrote to her friend Annie Fields in May 1866:

I did so want to show you the Hawthorne tree . . . wreaths of merry blooms—half double and half single, the single with the rose-tinted stamens and the delicious perfume. The double of perfect form with no fragrance and all pure white.<sup>79</sup>

Together, these two statements written by Una and Sophia Hawthorne describe the tree as it stands today: the front half blooms double white flowers, and about a week later the back half blooms single white flowers with pink stamens. Based on the existing bloom schedule, “Rose’s side” of the tree was the half with single white flowers with pink stamens while Una’s side was the half with double white flowers. The hawthorn tree was planted by Hawthorne and was probably among the trees he had sent from England. The size of the tree in the c. 1860-1864 photographs, the fact that both Sophia and Una referred to it as the Hawthorne (vs. hawthorn) tree, and Una’s personal reference to “Rose’s side” of the tree supports this assumption. It is not known if the Hawthorne Tree (as it is referred to today) was cultivated purposely to exhibit two different bloom types. Existing conditions indicate either the tree is actually two trees, whose trunks have fused together at the base; or one side of the tree was grafted upon the other, and the host cultivar grew along with the intended cultivar.

Letters written by Sophia Hawthorne indicate several species of ornamental plants located around the house c. 1860 to 1864. She wrote of “Papa’s [Hawthorne’s] sunflower by the step,” blooming purple fleur de lys “round the door in the borders of the lawn,” and woodbine Hawthorne had planted and watered, intended to climb the side of the house to his study window.<sup>80</sup> Additional ornamentals mentioned in Sophia’s letters included yellow lilies, crocus, portulacia, gillia, sweet pea, mignonette, and purple fleur de lys.<sup>81</sup> In her book *Memories of Hawthorne*, Rose noted lilies-of-the-valley were her father’s favorite plant.<sup>82</sup>

Soon after returning from Europe, Hawthorne moved the barn from the western to the eastern side of the house. In doing so, he expanded the lawn between the house and the hillside. In *Memories of Hawthorne* (1897), Rose remembered it as

a “large lawn, around which the embowered terraces rose like an amphitheater.”<sup>83</sup> A letter from Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne (1861) indicates the lawn was a social space for family and friends:

After dinner we made a settlement with chairs and table and crickets out by the acacia path, in a delicious shade on thick grass, hard by the tomato-bed. It was delightful out there, and the air nectar; and we all thought how you and Julian would enjoy the fine weather. We had early tea, and soon after – it being Wednesday, our reception day – a stream of ladies appeared from the Alcott path, - the larch path which gradually was resolved into Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Brown, and Elizabeth.<sup>84</sup>

Landscape features paralleling Lexington Road included a hedge bordered by a picket fence and tall evergreens. The trees were described by Julian Hawthorne in two separate accounts, once as “dark firs standing as a hedge along the highway”<sup>85</sup> and in the other as “tall spruce” that, together with the hedge, protected the “house-enclosure” from the street. These trees were probably among the trees planted by Bronson Alcott in the 1840s when he owned The Wayside [Hillside]. It is unclear to what extent the evergreens were located directly in front of the house, since the only known photograph depicting this view from c. 1860 to 1864 does not show a “hedge” of evergreens (Figure 8). Clearly evident in the photograph is the picket fence bordering the hedge along the north side of the road, and a second hedge bordering the eight-acre parcel on the south side of the road. Several small evergreens are depicted in the photographs, one or two in the eight-acre parcel, and at least one more near the southwest corner of the house.

Although the Hawthorne’s also planted crops in the eight-acre parcel, they apparently did not garden it as rigorously as Alcott. In 1903 Julian Hawthorne remembered:

The level meadow [eight-acre parcel] on the south of the road was laid out partly in young fruit-trees, and partially in corn and beans; a straight path to the brook was made, and larches were set out on both sides of it. A few old apple-trees grew to the west of the area divided by the path; and there was one Porter apple-tree that stood close to the fence, on which early and delicious fruit appeared in profusion every year.<sup>86</sup>

The “fruit-trees” were no doubt the same trees planted by Alcott in the 1840s. Fruit trees also stood on the terraces in back of the house, as stated earlier. The “Porter apple-tree” mentioned by Julian Hawthorne is probably the same mature fruit tree depicted in Figure 8, adjacent to the road.

In addition to the corn and beans, the Hawthornes are known to have grown potatoes, squash, tomatoes, melon, cucumber, radish, grapes, and strawberries.<sup>87</sup> Keeping the gardens weed-free was an arduous task, as evident in several letters written by Sophia Hawthorne. On September 9, 1860 she wrote to her husband:

The weeds in the garden now exceed belief. . . Such a riot of uninvited guests I never imagined. I shall try to do something, but I fear my puny might will not affect much against such hordes.<sup>88</sup>

While the weeds grew in abundance, the crops did not grow to the satisfaction of Hawthorne. By 1864, he had decided not to farm the eight-acre parcel. In a note to Bronson Alcott he proclaimed:

They are said to be the best land in Concord, and they made me miserable, and would soon have ruined me if I had not determined nevermore to attempt raising anything from them. So there they lie along the roadside, within their broken fence, an eyesore to me, and a laughing-stock to all neighbors.<sup>89</sup>

In her book, *Memories of Hawthorne*, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop annotated a description of a “straight path” on the eight-acre parcel included in a letter from her mother to her father, stating it ran “over the field to the willows, between firs.”<sup>90</sup> Given both Julian and Roses’ statements and notes from Bronson Alcott’s journal, and the double row of mature evergreens currently located within the eight-acre, it is possible the “straight path,” present in 1860, is the same as the “alley” constructed by Alcott in the 1840s. Julian Hawthorne’s statement that the path “was made,” may indicate the path had to be cleared, since it probably had become overgrown since the 1840s.

#### **Descendants of Nathaniel Hawthorne, 1864 to 1868**

Nathaniel Hawthorne died on May 19, 1864 while he was traveling in New Hampshire with President Franklin Pierce. He undertook the trip in hopes of recovering his strength, as his health had been failing for several years from an undiagnosed illness. The family remained at The Wayside for four years following Hawthorne’s death.<sup>91</sup>

Several landscape descriptions included in letters written by Sophia Hawthorne and Alcott’s journals are of note during this period. A few months after Hawthorne’s death, Sophia wrote to Una “Rose and I sat in the willow cathedral to sew. . . My cathedral aisle looks like the straight and narrow way that leads to life eternal.”<sup>92</sup> The ‘cathedral aisle’ was probably her name for the “straight path to the brook” on the eight-acre parcel and the “willow cathedral” may have been an arbor constructed by Bronson Alcott for the Hawthornes in 1862.<sup>93</sup> The

“cathedral” may have taken the place of the garden house built by Alcott in the 1840s.

On November 8, 1864, Bronson Alcott removed an old post-and-rail fence that bordered the Alcott and Hawthorne properties. He described the fence as an “unsightly line” that ran across the slope. A few weeks later he removed sod from the hillside to “smooth footpath along Hawthorne’s line and mine, east of the house.” According to Alcott, the footpath replaced the fence as the line dividing the two properties.<sup>94</sup>

In June, 1865, Sophia wrote Una, describing a proposed garden at The Wayside, which appeared to be a memorial garden.<sup>95</sup> Although the garden was never constructed, it is important to note because of Sophia’s intention to plant five Hawthorne’ trees in the garden: four white and one pink. Her choice of the trees may provide further evidence as to the significance of the hawthorn tree (known today as the Hawthorne Tree) located by the front door, and possibly to the significance of its blooming habit: one-half double white flowers and one-half single white with rose stamens. Ornamental plants that are known to have grown around the house during this period include petunias, morning glories, sweet peas, woodbine (Virginia creeper), Queen of the Prairies rose, and lilies.<sup>96</sup>

In May 1866 Sophia described The Wayside landscape to her friend Annie Fields:

There is a beauty in May which there is not in July. After these latter rains, the glory of tender and deep greens surpasses all words . . . the walks – the paths look so nice, and there is no knowing what enormity of sauciness the weeds will arrive at by July.<sup>97</sup>

Her letter continues with a description of the hillside:

The young locusts, a quite new growth, are the most delicate soft color, and the dark Norway pines [spruce] have put out deep crimson cones on light green tips that contrast wonderfully.

In another passage she describes a view from the terraces down to the lawn:

On the broad terrace, looking down on the congregation of trees to the lowest lawn, while sitting in a favorite seat of my husbands – on which he could lean against the bank . . . .

The location of the “broad terrace” is unclear. One possibility, the “terrace” may have been the ridgeline, since it is known that there was a bench under the large white pine (mentioned previously) near the Hawthorne Path. But in this location

it is doubtful Hawthorne could have leaned against the bank while sitting on the bench. Given Sophia could see the “lowest lawn” (lawn west of the house) from the broad terrace, the “terrace” would have been located on the hillside west of the house, above the stone wall. And the “congregation of trees” may have been the hundreds of small Norway spruce planted on the hillside in 1860s.

By the fall of 1866, the family contemplated moving to Germany, so that Julian could study Engineering in Heidelberg. Sophia was emotionally conflicted; she wanted to do what was best for her children but was attached to The Wayside. However, financial difficulties associated with remaining at The Wayside emphasized the need to sell the house and make the move.<sup>98</sup> In May, 1868, five months before the family sailed to Europe, Sophia wrote to her friend Annie Fields of her conflicted feelings towards The Wayside.

For the first time, yesterday I walked along the paths of The Wayside – the larch avenue, and on the lawn, and it seemed an awful thing to resign all property in the place where his [Hawthorne’s] feet had trod. But then comes the memory of his distastes, not only of Concord, but of this side of the water. . . . The knowledge of this unease here ought to make me willing to give it up.<sup>99</sup>

In October 1868, the Hawthornes sailed to Europe.<sup>100</sup> The family retained ownership of The Wayside until the summer of 1870. It is not known if the house was occupied during this period.

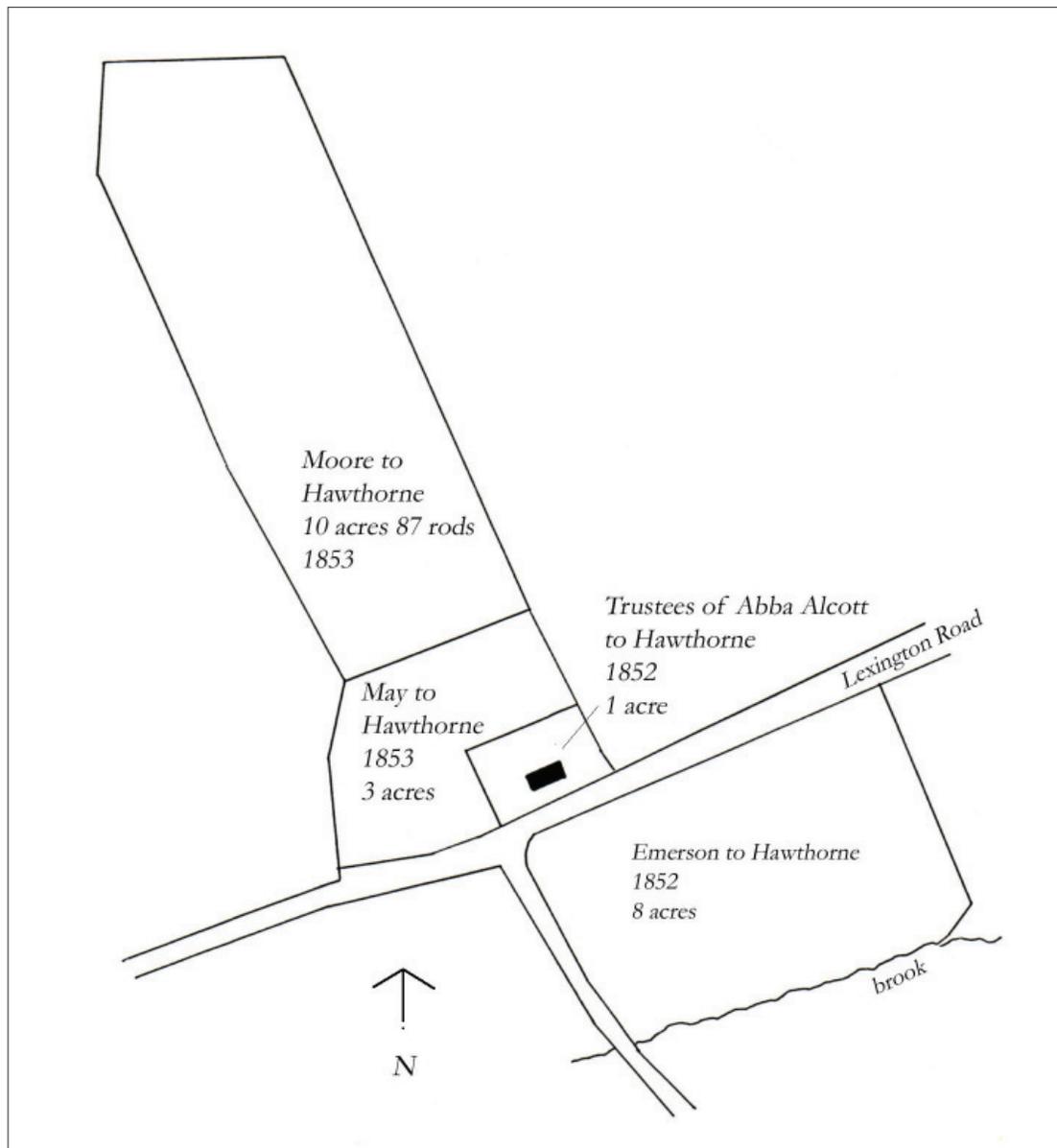


Figure 6. Map of land purchased by Nathaniel Hawthorne, 1852 to 1853 (OCLP).

Figure 7. View east toward the house, c. 1860-1864. Depicted in the photographs is Sophia Hawthorne. Also note the stone wall in back of the house at left, the wooden fence separating the Hawthorne and Bull properties at left, the sparse vegetation on the hillside above the stone wall, the paths through the lawn, and the Hawthorne Tree to far right. Possibly depicted are the mulberry tree (back of Mrs. Hawthorne) and bare woodbine (Virginia creeper) vines growing along the corner of the house at right of center window (photographic copy at MIMA Library and original in Alcott Journal, Houghton Library, Harvard University).

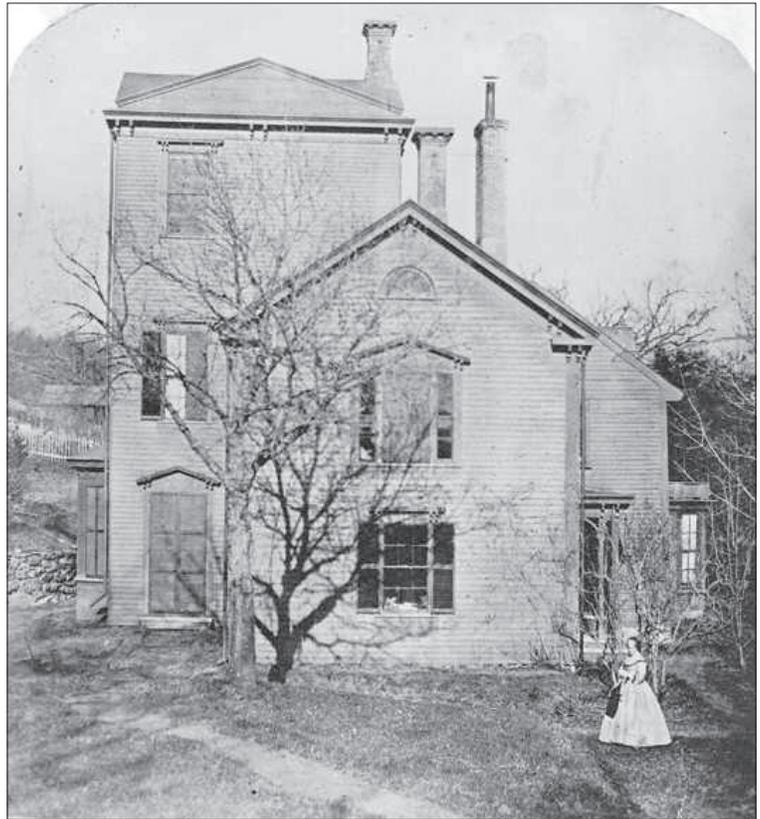


Figure 8. View northeast toward The Wayside, taken from the eight-acre parcel, c. 1860-1864. Depicted in the eight-acre parcel are Sophia and Nathaniel Hawthorne, several small evergreens, a large fruit tree (probably the Porter apple tree), and a hedge bordering the road. Depicted north of the road are a wooden fence bordered by a hedge, the Hawthorne Tree at center left, and a mature evergreen at right. Note the tall evergreens along the ridgeline in back of The Wayside and the roof line of the barn at right (photographic copy at MIMA Library and original in Alcott Journal, Houghton Library, Harvard University).

**GRAY AND PRATT OWNERSHIP, 1870 TO 1879**

On July 13, 1870, Sophia, Julian, Una, and Rose Hawthorne, while living in Dresden Germany, sold their interests in The Wayside to George and Abby Gray for \$3001.00. Properties transferred included the 1-acre houselot Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased from the trustees of Abba Alcott, the 8-acre parcel (south side of road) purchased from Ralph Waldo Emerson, the 3-acre parcel purchased from Samuel J. May (Abba Alcott's brother), and the 10.87-acre parcel purchased from John B. Moore. According to the deeds, the Hawthornes sold 11 acres 56 rods on the north side of Lexington Road and 7 acres 104.5 rods (eight-acre parcel) on the south side of the road to the Grays.<sup>101</sup>

In March 1871, Mary C. Pratt opened a school for young ladies at The Wayside. She apparently leased the house from the Grays, who by then had constructed a new house across the street, on the eight-acre parcel.<sup>102</sup> Mary Pratt originally established the school in Charlestown, New Hampshire in 1866, but moved the school to Concord because it offered "better literary advantages."<sup>103</sup> The following year, George and Abby Gray sold The Wayside to Mary Pratt. The purchase included the 11 acre 56 rod-acre parcel on the north side of Lexington Road. The Grays retained the eight-acre parcel (actually 7 acre 104.5-parcel) on the south side of the road.<sup>104</sup> Mary Pratt operated the "Wayside School for Young Ladies" from 1871 to 1879.

Bronson Alcott's association with The Wayside continued into the 1870s. During this period, he often escorted out-of-town visitors onto The Wayside grounds, sharing within them anecdotes related to Nathaniel Hawthorne.<sup>105</sup> By the 1870s, the importance of The Wayside as Nathaniel Hawthorne's home had been noted in several tour books and at least one magazine article. The earliest appeared in 1853, during Hawthorne's life. The house was featured in the book *Homes of American Authors*, which also highlighted the homes of Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, and Walt Whitman, among others. In 1874, The Wayside was featured in Samuel Adams Drake's *Historic Fields and Mansions of Middlesex*. Drake's narrative includes several descriptions of The Wayside, including:

The house itself is almost hidden from view among the mass of evergreens by which it is surrounded. For some distance a cool walk [Larch Path] skirts the street – a row of thickly-set larches next to the road, with an inner rank of firs and spruces.<sup>106</sup>

Back of the house, and dominating above it, the hill ascends in terraces but so densely is it covered with evergreen-trees . . . as to resemble nothing more than a young forest of native growth.<sup>107</sup>

The passages note the growth of the evergreens brought from Europe by Hawthorne and planted for him by Alcott in 1860. By 1874, they were tall enough to block views of the house, but not large enough to be considered a mature forest.

Drake also described a view from The Wayside to fields on the south side of Lexington Road:

Towards the road, this retreat overlooks a broad reach of sloping meadow in the highest state of tillage. Hill and dale, stream and pool, with all those concomitants of New England landscape which the artist [Hawthorne] so well knew how to weave into his pen-pictures, are here in the charming prospect.<sup>108</sup>

The description is probably of the field on the south side of Lexington Road, west of Hawthorne land [today The Wayside parking lot], which remained under cultivation into the twentieth century.

An article titled “Centennial Concord” appearing in *Appleton’s Journal of Literature, Science, and Art* in 1875 noted Hawthorne’s former home was “boarding-school” for “budding misses.” Included in the article was a description of a path on the eight-acre parcel:

The fir-lined path across the meadow leading to the quiet river was Hawthorne’s favorite walk, and still bears his name.<sup>109</sup>

This would be the same straight path lined by firs that existed during the Hawthorne ownership, and may also be the same as the ‘alley’ constructed by Bronson Alcott in the 1840s. The statement that the walk was Hawthorne’s “favorite,” may have been an author embellishment, since earlier references do not mention this preference.

Bronson Alcott was also associated with The Wayside School. He gave lectures and shared stories of Nathaniel Hawthorne with the girls, and also stories of his daughter Louisa May Alcott who had just published *Little Women* (1868) and had spent her teen-age years at The Wayside.<sup>110</sup> Bronson Alcott also participated in the school’s graduation ceremonies, held each spring on the lawn. An article included in Alcott’s journal from an unidentified newspaper described the decorated lawn during the 1874 ceremony:

The lawn adjoining was hung with Chinese lanterns, and provided with seats, also a stand for music . . . eight of the young ladies entered the lawn

... over their heads waged the spreading branches of oak, and under their feet was a carpet of soft green grass.<sup>111</sup>

A description of the school's June 1877 end-of-the-year celebration appeared in *The Concord Freeman*:

The close of the school year at Wayside was celebrated on the 8<sup>th</sup>, by a fair upon the grounds in the afternoon, with a social gathering, and dancing in the evening. The features at the fair were flowers, ice cream and candy tables, a post office, fancy articles, etc.<sup>112</sup>

The school's last graduation ceremony occurred in 1879.

In June 1879, Bronson Alcott presented the diplomas at the school's last graduation ceremony. According to an article published in *The Concord Freeman*, Alcott "congratulated the young ladies on having been educated in the home which Hawthorne loved and where he wrote his wonderful romances."<sup>113</sup>

## **GEORGE AND ROSE HAWTHORNE LATHROP OWNERSHIP, 1879 TO 1883**

Material presented in this section is drawn from historic photographs and from articles that appeared in *The Concord Freeman*. Additional information was obtained from deeds, correspondence, and George Bartlett's *The Concord Guidebook* (1880).

On March 1, 1879, three months before the close of The Wayside School for Young Ladies, George P. and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop purchased The Wayside for \$4000 from Mary Pratt. Rose was the youngest daughter of Nathaniel Hawthorne. Her husband, George P. Lathrop, was the editor of the Boston Saturday Evening Courier. The property included the 11 acre 56 rod-parcel previously transferred from the Hawthornes to Mary Pratt, which included all of the land previously owned by Nathaniel Hawthorne north of Lexington Road. Mary Pratt moved to Belmont, Massachusetts, where she re-opened her school.<sup>114</sup>

The popularity of The Wayside as a tourist attraction continued. Just prior to taking possession of The Wayside, an article published in *The Concord Freeman* stated the Lathrops had forbidden trespassing “upon the walk between The Wayside and the Orchard House [Larch Path].”<sup>115</sup> Apparently sight-seers had become an intrusive problem.

In May 1880, an article in *The Concord Freeman* announced the publication of *The Concord Guidebook*, which included notable Concord sites, including The Wayside. The section devoted to The Wayside was written by Rose Hawthorne Lathrop and the book was published by D. Lothrop & Company.<sup>116</sup>

In describing the landscape, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop wrote:

The charm of The Wayside felt by persons who have lived there any length of time, consists in the effective groupings of pines, the odd, steep semi-circular formed about the lawn by the shoulder of the hill, closely foliated with several kinds of trees; and the pretty glimpses of the meadows, hemmed with woods, their delicate colors and occasional mists being delightful against the dark stems of the pines. . . . A curving path, bordered by pines and locusts, leads to the top of the hill along which Mr. Hawthorne walked daily, and where he was wont to compose . . .<sup>117</sup>

The passage describes the hillside rising from the western and northern edges of the lawn. The location of the “curving path” is unknown—it may have been the

path that now leads from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque to the Hawthorne Path at the top of the ridge.

Historic photographs depict the landscape along the western and southern side of the house during the Lathrop ownership. Evident in these photographs are landscape features dating to the Hawthorne, and some possibly to the Alcott ownership periods. Included among these are the Hawthorne tree, foot paths, evergreens along Lexington Road and on the hillside, vines on the western façade of the house, and the lawn (Figures 9 and 10).

In February 1881, while living in Boston for the winter, the Lathrop's four year old son, their only child, died. Devastated by his passing, Rose writes later that she could not bear to return to The Wayside where she had "watched him daily." In the spring, Rose and George went to Europe. The house remained empty until the following autumn, when her brother Julian's wife and children moved into The Wayside, while Julian was in Italy.<sup>118</sup> Julian Hawthorne rejoined his family, and in June 1882 they left The Wayside to spend the summer in Nonquit. After also vacationing in Nonquit for two weeks, George and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop returned to The Wayside, where they remained until at least December 1882.<sup>119</sup>



Figure 9. View northeast of George P. Lathrop and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop in front of The Wayside, 1880-1882. Note the denseness of the trees on the hillside in back of the house at left, the stone wall in back of the house, the vines on the house, the ornamental vegetation and paths around the house, and a row of evergreens (three are visible) in front of the house at right (MIMA photographic collection, #24504, MIMA Archives).



Figure 10. View north of The Wayside, c. 1880-1882. Note the trees on the terrace behind the house, the Hawthorne Tree (left), the walks in front of the house, and the large pine tree (right). The pine tree was one of at least three that stood in a row, east of the house (MIMA photographic collection, #8108, MIMA Archives).

## **LOTHROP OWNERSHIP, 1883 TO 1965**

This section includes historic context and landscape descriptions of The Wayside during the Daniel and Harriett Lothrop ownership beginning in 1883; during the Harriett Lothrop ownership beginning in 1892; and during the Margaret Lothrop ownership beginning in 1924 and extending until 1965. Of particular note is the years of 1904 and 1905 as it relates to the events surrounding the centenary of the birth of Nathaniel Hawthorne.

### **Daniel and Harriett Mulford Lothrop Ownership, 1883 to 1892**

On May 10, 1883, Daniel and Harriett Mulford Lothrop purchased The Wayside and the 11-acres, 56-rod parcel north of Lexington Road from George P. and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop for five thousand dollars. Daniel Lothrop was the head of the Boston publishing firm “D. Lothrop and Company,” which published magazines and books for children, including the *Five Little Peppers* series that was written by Daniel’s wife, Harriett Lothrop under the pen name, Margaret Sydney. D. Lothrop and Company also published *The Concord Guidebook* (1880), mentioned earlier, in which Rose Hawthorne’s description of The Wayside appeared. Their only child, Margaret M. Lothrop, was born at The Wayside in 1884.<sup>120</sup>

By the 1880s, The Wayside was widely known as the home of Nathaniel Hawthorne. This association drew the Lothrops to The Wayside and their “respect for the memorials of the past and their desire to preserve them” prompted them to maintain, for the most part, the house and the grounds as Hawthorne had known them. The most significant exterior alteration to the house was a wide piazza, constructed along the western side of the house in 1887.<sup>121</sup>

The home was regularly featured in guide books, magazines and newspapers (some of which were written and published by the Lothrops) and continued to be a popular tourist attraction. As had been the case with George and Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, sight-seers wandering onto The Wayside property continued to be a persistent problem, although apparently the Lothrops were more accepting of the intrusions. Their generosity towards curious tourists is noted in an article that appeared in the *Brains* magazine in 1891:

[The Lothrops have] unfailing kindness and patient courtesy to the many strangers who come to see Hawthorne’s old home, often as though demanding a right, rather than seeking a great favor from busy private individuals.<sup>122</sup>

The guide books and articles in the magazines and newspapers provided vivid descriptions of the landscape, including this overview description included in the July 27, 1877 *Boston Evening Transcript*:

The place so dear to all pilgrims, never seemed so glorious . . . The wealth of foliage in all the shades of green crowning the hill, the sweep of freshly mowed lawn, the eight terraces laid out by Mr. Alcott . . . the historic paths, the quaint rambling mansion, all made a most striking picture.<sup>123</sup>

By the mid-1880s, the evergreens brought over from Europe by Hawthorne and planted by his neighbor Bronson Alcott in 1860s had matured, as had secondary growth trees on the hillside and terraces. The hillside trees, which would include those growing on the terraces in back of the house, are described by George B. Bartlett in *Concord Historic, Literary & Picturesque*:

What was only a fancy [to Hawthorne]. . . in regard to the springing up of a maze of trees, has become in fact the dense, tall growth of firs, pitch pines, larches, elms, oaks and white-birch, which now envelopes the hill. Many of these were set out by his direction, and give the scene the impress of his taste.<sup>124</sup>

Bartlett also noted a “thicket of locust trees in one place,”<sup>125</sup> which was probably the locust grove known to be present during both the Alcott and the Hawthorne ownership periods.

The thick growth of trees on the hillside rose above the lawn west of the house, along the lawn’s western and northern (above the stone retaining wall) edges (Figure 11). As described in the August 15, 1891 *Brains* magazine, “the [forested hillside] makes of the smooth, sloping lawn . . . a lovely sheltered amphitheater.”<sup>126</sup>

The Lothrop’s hosted garden parties, birthday parties for their daughter Margaret, and receptions for notable guests on the lawn. For Margaret’s fourth birthday (1888), the Lothrop’s constructed an “arch of roses” above the lawn, through which a procession of little girls marched.” Located in the center of the lawn was a large artificial rose, from which Margaret appeared as a poem written by her mother, especially for her birthday celebration, was read (Figure 12). Other activities conducted on the lawn included games, dances, a puppet show, dinner, and a bon-bon bag (piñata) suspended from the piazza.<sup>127</sup>

In August 1890, the Lothrop’s hosted a reception for Mrs. John A. Logan during a Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) encampment. John A. Logan was a major general during the Civil War and after the war a U.S. senator until his death in

1886. According to an article in the August 22, 1890 *The Concord Enterprise*, nearly four hundred guests attended the reception, including Samuel Francis Smith, the author of the hymn “America” (“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”) and Julia Ward Howe, author of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic.” As described in *The Concord Enterprise*, “the receiving party stood on the lawn, grouped against the rising background of the forest foliage.” Following the receiving party, the guests sat facing toward the piazza, for literary exercises. Following the receiving party, the guests were seated, facing the piazza, for literary exercises.<sup>128</sup> Decorating the piazza was a very large American flag, draped over the roof (Figure 13).<sup>129</sup>

Following the reception at The Wayside, Mrs. John A. Logan wrote the article “Hawthorne’s Home,” which appeared in the *Home Magazine* in November 1890. In it she noted that, in addition to the assortment of trees mentioned by Bartlett in his 1855 guidebook, the hillside was covered by American ivy and native grape that had “interlace[d] their gigantic arms so gracefully as to form a perfect maze.”<sup>130</sup> Mrs. Logan also included a description of the terraces:

One cannot see them [terraces] without climbing under the thick undergrowth of wild blackberries, young pines, and all sorts of wild shrubs. The sunlight can only penetrate through the heavy canopy of leaves here and there; hence the dampness prevents one from sitting there with any comfort, or degree of safety to health.

Period publications also describe the lawn and plantings in front of the house. In *Concord Historic, Literary and Picturesque*, George B. Bartlett noted the “rambling house” was covered at one end with rose vines and woodbine (Virginia creeper) (Figure 14). He also mentions “a flourishing hawthorn tree [Hawthorne Tree] which serves as a silent record of his [Hawthorne’s] name, a hedge separating the lawn from the road, and “dark pines in front of the lawn.”<sup>131</sup>

The “dark pines” or evergreens, did not extend in front of the house, despite other historic reference, such as the article that appeared in the August 15, 1891 *Brains* magazine, which states the evergreens “along the street almost conceal the house and grounds from view.” Historic photographs depict the evergreens ran inside the hedge along the southern edge of the lawn, east and west of the house. As described in the December 11, 1891 publication *The Week*, the area immediately in front of the house was “a little bit of greensward, shaded by a stately elm, divides the entrance from the road (Figures 15 and 16).”<sup>132</sup>

Several other ornamental plantings close to the house are described in the September 1866, *The Saturday Evening Spectator*. The publication stated “Hawthorne’s sweet briar rose tree still flourishes at the southwest corner of the study” and the “reserved, dark-eyed pansies under the window actually resemble

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the former owner [Hawthorne].”<sup>133</sup> Construction of the piazza in 1887 would have required the removal of “Hawthorne’s sweet briar rose tree.” It is not clear from the description in the *Spectator* which window the pansies were located under. The same publication also stated “close by the veranda (probably the porch by the front door) is the bed of lily of the valley, still flourishing and carefully tended, which he [Hawthorne] planted.”

Among the most photographed and written about Wayside landscape features during this period were several paths traversing the wooded hillside, a couple of benches along the paths, and a wooden platform constructed in large white pine. Information included in the period guidebooks, newspapers, and magazines, as well as from Daniel and Harriett Lothrop, attributes these features to Nathaniel Hawthorne. However, subsequent research, including NPS interviews with Daniel and Harriett’s daughter, Margaret Lothrop, indicates the wooden platform and the benches probably did not date to the Hawthorne period.

In her book *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, Harriett Lothrop (Margaret Sidney, 1892) stated the Larch Path, which ran parallel to, and just above Lexington Road west of the house, “follow[s] that winding curve made by the road as it breaks away from the straighter line and the turnpike.”<sup>134</sup> The slight curve she wrote about is at the western end of the path, and is evident today by the line of extant larch trees. She described the larch trees bordering the southern edge of the path as “graceful, tremulous pendants that now, on a summer day, conceal the path from the curious gaze of the passer-by” (Figure 17). She also stated the trees were among the evergreens sent from Europe and planted by Hawthorne, however, as noted previously, this is incorrect. The trees existed prior to the path and also prior to the large planting of evergreens brought over from Europe by Hawthorne. The larch trees were probably planted by Bronson Alcott in the 1840s when he owned The Wayside (Hillside).

In *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, Harriett Lothrop noted the Hawthorne Path began “within a stone’s throw of the old apple-tree on the lawn (Figure 18)”<sup>135</sup> While it is undisputed the Hawthorne Path traversed the ridgeline behind the house, this is the earliest reference found that specifically states it began in the lawn at the base of the hill. An earlier reference appearing in the September 11, 1886 *The Saturday Evening Spectator* stated “Under the white birches and the larches at the northwest corner of the lawn is the beginning of the ‘Path to the Woods,’ which winds up to the crest of the hill . . .”<sup>136</sup> Although the newspaper account does not state the path leading from the lawn into the forested hillside was the beginning of the Hawthorne Path, it does confirm that it lead up to the ridgeline. Photographs from the late 1800s and 1900s (Figures 19 and 20) and existing conditions indicate the path curved gently up the hill, connecting with the Hawthorne Path about three hundred yards east of The

Wayside's western property boundary, which will be discussed again in the next section. While it can not be conclusively determined, this path may have been one of the paths Bronson Alcott oversaw construction of for Nathaniel Hawthorne c. 1860. Alcott describes in his journal, as mentioned previously, a "walk from the barn [west of the house] through the locust grove to the hilltop . . . it curves gracefully up the slope under the locusts and pines." The proximity of path to the barn [stood west of the house in 1860] and the descriptive phrase "curves gracefully" match historic images and current conditions. The extent to which the path known to have existed in the 1880s would have cut through the locust grove is less clear.<sup>137</sup>

The most frequently referenced path was the Hawthorne Path. As described previously, Nathaniel Hawthorne created the path, as he paced along the ridgeline, contemplating text for his novels. According to the George B. Bartlett in *Concord Historic, Literary, and Picturesque* (1885), the path had remained unpreserved since Hawthorne's death "yet nature, as if by a secrete sympathy with his [Hawthorne's] genius, has thus far refused to obliterate it, and it remains distinct amid the bordering wild growth."<sup>138</sup> Similar sentiment suggesting spiritual preservation of the path appears in other historic writings.

Located along the paths were at least two wooden benches and a wooden platform in a large white pine, each of which appear in historic photographs. According to an NPS interview with Margaret Lothrop in the 1960s, there may have been as many as four benches on the hillside. She also stated she was not sure the seats dated to Hawthorne ownership, but she remembered at least one of them as being weather beaten and grayish. Given the fact that the benches would have been at least twenty years old when the Lothrop's purchased the property, it is highly improbable that they would have remained from the Hawthorne ownership. Perhaps Hawthorne's children, known to have communicated with the Lothrop's, described the location of benches that existed during their ownership of The Wayside, and then the Lothrop's reconstructed the benches.

A short bench, braced between two evergreen trees, stood at the western end of the Hawthorne Path (Figure 21).<sup>139</sup> This would have probably been the site of the bench Bronson Alcott constructed for Nathaniel Hawthorne c. 1862. During the Alcott's ownership, the c. 1862 bench was constructed of "twisted bough" between "brotherly trees" at the "western brow" of the ridgeline. The straight-line construction of the c. 1880s to 1890s bench is further evidence it was not a bench constructed in 1862.

A second, longer bench, braced between what appears to be two white pine trees, is believed to have been located along the path that led from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline. A note included on an historic image of the

bench (Figure 22), believed to be in the handwriting of either Daniel or Harriett Lothrop, identifies its location as “Half way up Hawthorne Path—supposed site where Septimius met the British Soldier in ‘Septimus Felton.’”<sup>140</sup> A note written by Margaret Lothrop on the back of another historic photograph of the same bench states the seat was “half-way up the hill,” which supports the location of the bench along the path leading to the ridgeline.<sup>141</sup> Also located along the Hawthorne Path was a wooden platform constructed among the limbs of a large white pine tree.

According to a September 11, 1886 article in *The Saturday Evening Spectator*, the “rough plank platform” stood about fourteen feet from the ground, was accessible by a ladder, and “contain[ed] seats for six or more persons,<sup>142</sup>” an article that appeared the following year in the *Boston Evening Transcript* described the ladder as “rather shaky steps (Figure 23).”<sup>143</sup>

As previously described, a white pine, special to Nathaniel Hawthorne, grew along the Hawthorne Path in the 1860s. However, a platform in the tree is not mentioned in historic references prior to the Lothrop’s ownership. Despite this, Daniel and Margaret Lothrop believed the platform had been built and used by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and their opinion appears in numerous historic references. Years later, in an interview with the NPS, their daughter Margaret Lothrop stated her parent’s assumption was wrong, and that she had been told the platform had been constructed for a ceremony (details unknown) after the Hawthorne’s had sold the property.<sup>144</sup> Also, it is not known if the white pine that held the platform was the same white pine Hawthorne was fond of sitting beneath.

According to Margaret Lothrop, from the top of the wooden platform she could look out over the meadow on the western side of the Hawthorne Lane to the Cambridge Turnpike (Route 2). She also mentioned during her interview with the NPS that the meadow was visible to the right of The Wayside chimney, which places the platform in the white pine tree on the ridgeline in back of the house, probably near The Wayside’s eastern property boundary.<sup>145</sup>

#### **Harriett Mulford Lothrop Ownership, 1892 to 1924**

Daniel Lothrop died on March 25, 1892 at the family’s winter residence in Boston. Harriett Lothrop and her young daughter Margaret returned to The Wayside for the summer.<sup>146</sup> A photograph dating to the early 1890s shows the house as well maintained and framed by a privet hedge along the front sidewalk and maturing evergreens behind the house on the hillside (Figure 24).

Following Daniel Lothrop’s death, Harriett and Margaret continued to spend most of the year at The Wayside, until Margaret graduated from Concord High

School in 1900, after which the two spent considerably more time away from The Wayside. Trips included visits with family and friends; travel associated with Harriett's volunteer work with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Children of the American (which she organized in 1895), and extended trips to Europe.<sup>147</sup>

Margaret Lothrop attended Smith College from 1901 to 1905, and then later attended Leland Stanford University in California where she received a masters degree in 1915. After graduation, Margaret became an instructor at the university. In 1918 she took leave from the university for one year and served with the Red Cross in Europe during World War I. When Margaret returned, she resumed her teaching position. From 1912 to her death in 1924, Harriett Lothrop typically spent the winters in California with her daughter.<sup>148</sup>

When Harriett returned to Concord, she generally stayed at the Concord Inn. Notices appearing in the *Concord Enterprise* indicate Harriett leased The Wayside eight times from 1910 to 1921, though she probably rented to more individuals than the paper reported. Throughout this period (possibly in between leases) Harriett and Margaret continued to entertain friends and family, and to host social events at The Wayside. The last event occurred in May 1924, just a few months before Harriett's death.<sup>149</sup>

Harriett Lothrop was responsible for the preservation of two of Concord's most historic buildings, both of which bordered The Wayside property. In 1894 she purchased the Grapevine Cottage property, which included 10.69 acres. The cottage, which stands east of The Wayside, was significant as the home of Ephraim Bull, the originator of the Concord grape. Bull had been a neighbor of the Alcotts, and then the Hawthornes during their ownership of The Wayside. Harriett partially rebuilt the cottage and then in 1905 sold the cottage and 0.66 acre surrounding the house to her daughter Margaret for "\$1.00 and other consideration." (Figure 25) Prior to and after the sale, the Lothrop's leased the cottage. Harriett also subdivided and sold additional lots, several of which were purchased between 1900 and 1902.<sup>150</sup>

In 1900, Harriett purchased the Orchard House, located west of The Wayside on the 12.41-acre parcel Bronson Alcott bought when the Alcotts returned to Concord in the 1850s. While living in the house, Alcott's daughter, Louisa May Alcott, wrote her famous novel *Little Women* (1868). Included on the property was The Chapel, a small wooden structure located west of the house. The Chapel was first used c. 1885 as a classroom for Bronson Alcott's "School of Philosophy." The school held yearly summer sessions, drawing philosophical thinkers from across the nation. Alcott operated the school from 1879 until his death in 1888, after which the school closed. By 1911, and possibly soon after she acquired the

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Orchard House property, Harriett Lothrop moved The Chapel onto The Wayside property, to the hillside northwest of the house. In 1911 Harriett sold the Orchard House and 0.382 surrounding acres to the Louisa May Alcott Memorial Association, with terms similar to the previous real estate transaction, for “\$1 and other consideration (see Figure 25).<sup>151</sup>

### **Special Events at The Wayside, 1892 to 1903**

Harriett Lothrop continued to welcome curious sight-seers to The Wayside, as evident from the following passage included in the 1895 publication, *Literary Shrines: The Haunts of Some Famous Authors*.

A house is forever ruined as a home by having been the abode of a great man, a truth well attested by the present amiable mistress of his [Hawthorne’s] own Wayside, whose experience with a legion of unaccredited, intrusive, and often insolent persons who come all hours of the day, and sometimes in the night, demanding to be shown over the place, would be more ludicrous were it less provoking.<sup>152</sup>

Harriett hosted numerous events at The Wayside for these organizations and other groups and individuals, especially during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Accounts of the events that appeared in local and regional newspapers often included vivid descriptions of the events, which were generally held on The Wayside lawn.

On May 18, 1895, Harriett Lothrop hosted members of the Christian Endeavors who were attending their annual convention in Boston. The Christian Endeavors is a Christian-based youth organization founded in 1881. Hundreds of conventioners traveled by train, and some on bicycle, to Lexington and Concord to visit the towns’ historic sites. Harriett, and thirty-four members of the newly organized Children of the American Revolution (CAR), welcomed the Christian Endeavors to The Wayside. According to newspaper accounts, the CAR “gathered up on the lawn, sang patriotic songs, and punctured their applause by flag waving.” A second newspaper account noted the celebration was held on the piazza and the “amphitheater of the close-trimmed lawn (Figure 26).

Several years later, Harriett Lothrop hosted a reunion at The Wayside, for local CAR societies. According to an article in the *Concord Enterprise*, 250 people attended the April 19, 1898 reunion. Patriotic exercises were held on the “broad greensward in front of the spacious piazza and under a red, white and blue arch, a flag at either end.”<sup>153</sup>

Later the same summer, the CAR hosted a garden party at The Wayside, as a fund raiser for the Massachusetts Volunteer Aid Society. The house was draped with Cuban and American flags and bunting, and a portrait of President McKinley, framed in garland, hung over the center of the piazza. Below the president's portrait was an 'In Memoriam' for the Battleship Maine, also encircled in garland. At an appointed time, a large twenty-one foot flag was unfurled by Margaret Lothrop from a rope stretched from a large pine on the hillside to The Wayside tower. As the flag opened, hundreds of small flags floated onto the lawn as the audience sang "The Star Spangled Banner."<sup>154</sup> Given the length of the flag, it is possible that it was the same flag that was draped over the piazza roof during the Lothrop's reception for Mrs. John Logan in 1890 (see Figure 13).

On July 26, 1903, Harriett Lothrop hosted a event at The Wayside for the Emerson Memorial School. A meeting occurred in the Hillside Chapel, after which the participants "walked over the famous 'Larch Path' in route to The Wayside's "terraced lawns, with the adjacent pine groves." From the lawn they observed literary exercises delivered from the "spacious piazza, with its arches of woodbine (Virginia Creeper)."<sup>155</sup> The mention of the event held in the Hillside Chapel is the earliest reference found that states she had used the building during one of her events.

#### **The Hawthorne Centenary, 1904**

A historically significant event held at The Wayside was the Hawthorne Centenary hosted by the Lothrops in 1904, in honor of the one hundredth anniversary of Nathaniel Hawthorne's birth. Material in this section is drawn almost entirely from the large collection of historic photographs in the park archives, from a 1904 article in *Country Life in America* magazine, and a thesis prepared by Charles Everett in 1905. Everett, a family friend of Harriett and Margaret Lothrop, was a Harvard student enrolled in a course, Landscape Architecture I.<sup>156</sup>

The Hawthorne Centenary was celebrated July 4 to July 7, 1904 at The Wayside. The first day's proceedings began at the foot of the hillside, west of the house. Guests numbering about three hundred sat on folding chairs placed upon lawn and under the tall evergreens at the edge of the lawn, facing toward two large pine trees draped by a large American flag. Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson, author and family friend of the Hawthornes, delivered an opening address as strong gusts of wind rushing through the grove of pine trees, drowned out his voice. Following the short address, Beatrix Hawthorne loosened the large flag between the two pines to unveil a granite boulder monument commemorating Nathaniel Hawthorne, her grandfather (Figure 27).<sup>157</sup> Given the size of the American flag, it is possible that it was the same flag that was draped over the piazza during the reception for Mrs. Logan in 1890 and the same flag from which

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hundreds of smaller flags were dropped onto the lawn during the fund raiser for the Massachusetts Volunteer Aid Society in 1898.

The monument with inset bronze tablet was placed near the base of the hillside, along the north side of the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline. According to the inscription on the tablet, Hawthorne “trod [on this path] daily . . . to the hill [ridgeline].” The inscription, and the identification of the path as the “Hawthorne Path” in the *Country Life in America* article, is further evidence that the trail was present during Hawthorne’s life.<sup>158</sup>

The strength of the wind necessitated moving the celebration to the Hillside Chapel, which according to an article in the *Boston Transcript* was in “back of the old Alcott House.”<sup>159</sup> After the unveiling of the monument, the visitors gathered their folding chairs, stopped briefly to examine the boulder, then walked to the Hillside Chapel where the program continued. The Hillside Chapel was also the location of exercises that occurred the following three days.<sup>160</sup>

Many of the landscape features known to be present during the early years of Lothrop ownership were also present at the time of the Hawthorne Centenary. Significant among these were paths associated with Nathaniel Hawthorne. As mentioned, the monument was located along the north side of the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline. This path is clearly depicted in Figure 27 and Figure 28, and is described in the *Country Life in America* article as the Hawthorne Path located “just above the larches” where it “starts its circuitous way up the steep hillside.”<sup>161</sup>

One or more additional paths may have also lead up the hillside to the ridgeline. Margaret Lothrop stated in an NPS interview an “irregular path up [the] hill used to come out just inside of the big tree [large white pine tree with wooden platform],” and text in *Literary Shrines: The Haunts of some Famous Authors* (1895) mentions the “famous ‘Acadia path’ of Mrs. Hawthorne.” Both descriptions may have been of the same path, possibly the “serpentine walk through the locust grove” cut by Bronson Alcott in the 1846.<sup>162</sup>

Photographs included in the *Country Life in America* article also depict the Larch Path and the Hawthorne Path. As described by Charles Everett in his thesis, a view west down the Larch Path was “very splendid of a regular aisle with great towering stems like columns.”<sup>163</sup> Everett was describing the row of larch trees bordering the southern edge of the trail.

An extant path connecting the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the Larch Path may also have been present in 1904. Although not

conclusive, existing conditions and a suggestion of the path in Figure 27 indicates the current path may date to at least 1904.

Also depicted in the *Country Life in America* article were the two wooden benches located along the Hawthorne Path and along the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline, mentioned in Daniel and Harriett Mulford Lothrop Ownership - 1883-1892. Although these photos are believed to pre-date the Hawthorne Centenary, their inclusion in the article indicates they still existed. In addition to the two wooden benches, the wooden platform in the white pine tree along the Hawthorne Path was also extant, although extensively reconstructed by 1904. In an interview with the NPS, Margaret Lothrop stated:

Mother rebuilt [the] platform . . . at least once. From what it had been in earlier times, ladder with steps and railing for safety provisions, and perhaps enlarged. In redoing the platform [she] made it larger and safer but didn't change it."<sup>164</sup>

As evident in Figure 29, the design of the rebuilt platform was significantly different from that of the original platform (compare to Figure 23).

The thesis prepared by Charles Everett includes vivid descriptions of The Wayside terraces and hillside. In discussing the evergreens brought by Hawthorne from Europe in 1860 and planted on the terraces, Everett remarked "It is very impressive to stand in one of the aisles formed by the plantation of trees along the terraces and the effect is almost that of a church. . . . The average height of the trees is from fifty to sixty feet." (Figure 30). He also noted the evergreen plantation was "lapsing back to Nature's way as the terraces are no longer kept up and the whole has a wild and rugged air about it" and the *Country Life in America* article, described the trees on the terraces as a "dense canopy of foliage that all but engulfs the house." Of the hillside, Everett wrote:

The foliage on the spur [hillside west of the lawn] and on the ridge is of the densest possible and the graceful sweep of the branches of the Norway pines and there generally feathery character gives an effect of extreme loveliness.

Everett was particularly fond of a "superb elm tree" growing above the stone retaining wall. He wrote "The way the drooping branches sweep down over this wall is one of the loveliest and most characteristic features of the composition." According to Everett, the elm branches drooped so low they touched the lawn, about six feet below the base of the tree. He was less impressed by the evergreens surrounding the "superb elm" and three elms located further up the hill. He said,

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“the great mass of [evergreen] foliage is decidedly dark and when not lighted by a brilliant sun, most depressing.”

The landscape feature described in his thesis in the most detail was The Wayside lawn. According to Everett, the “bright green lawn” measured eighty-eight feet “from the piazza to the first tree of the slope” and eighty-five feet “from the stone wall at the rear to the street boundary of trees (Figures 31 and 32). He described the lawn as “rather oblong in shape and somewhat irregular . . . its contour is clearly marked by surrounding masses of dense foliage.” Of the lawn’s topography, Everett stated:

. . . two levels run across, making not a continuous flat lawn, but one divided within reason into three slopes. These to be sure are very slight, about thirty feet apart and with a change in height of about ten inches.

As stated in the thesis, a double row of mature trees stood as a barrier between the southern edge of the lawn and Lexington Road. The rows were planted about four feet apart and trees within the rows were spaced at “arbitrary intervals.” The rows, which consisted of “Norway Pines [spruce], hemlocks and three or four magnificent elm,” extend west from the southwestern corner of the piazza, stopping abruptly about two-thirds of the way across the lawn (Figure 33). The double row of trees may have been the “rows of evergreens” planted by Bronson Alcott in 1846.” Everett stated that although the distance between the tree trunks and their “high growing branches” did not provide a solid screen between the piazza and the “gaze of passer-bys,” the character of the tree planting “afford[ed] a charming view of the undulating fields beyond on the other side of the street, with the hills beyond covered with dark green masses and following the contour the bendings of the Concord River.”

Commenting on a “gap” created by an opening between the end of the double row of trees and the beginning of the forested hillside, Everett stated “it seems as though trees were meant to be there.” He suggested that perhaps some trees had either died out or had been taken out. Everett referred to the gap as an “unpleasant hole in the foliage” which made an “all too easy [an] entrance for eager sightseers” (see Figure 28).

A deciduous hedge bordered the southern edge of the double row of trees and extended east across the front of The Wayside property (see Figure 28). The species of shrub within the hedge is unclear. In the 1904 *Country Life in America* article, the hedge was referred to as “a hawthorne hedge” and in Everett’s thesis he stated it was a “rather low and scattering lilac hedge.” In an interview with the NPS, Margaret Lothrop said her mother “had to replace the older one [hedge],” which could indicate why two different species are mentioned. However, a close

examination of available historic photographs indicates that neither hawthorn nor lilacs were used as hedge material in front of The Wayside.

However, “a few straggly lilac bushes,” as described by Everett, were located at the northeast corner of the lawn, adjacent to the stone retaining wall. Existing lilac shrubs in the same location confirm Everett’s identification (Figure 34).

A path encircled the house, connecting the service area in back of the house to the front of the house (Figures 35 and 36). Paths also ran between the house and the barn, from the front bay window (original front door location) to the public walkway (see Figure 36), and from the eastern edge of the lawn to the public walkway, which paralleled Lexington Road. An entry drive was located between the house and the barn (Figure 37).

Historic photographs dating from the early 1900s to 1920s depict wooden boardwalk covering portions of the paths, including the paths between the house and the barn, the front of the house to the side (east) entrance, the front of the house to the public walkway, and from southeastern corner of the lawn to the public walkway. The walk consisted of horizontally placed boards, about three-foot long (Figures 38 and 39). The boardwalk is not evident in all historic photographs from this period, which probably indicates it was only used during the warmer months (Figure 40).

#### **Quiet Years at The Wayside, 1905 to 1924**

Following Margaret’s graduation from Smith College in 1905, both Harriett and Margaret began spending considerable time away from The Wayside. The two women sailed to Europe three times between 1905 and 1910, their extended trips lasting up to ten months each. In between trips abroad, they traveled state-side and spent time at The Wayside.<sup>165</sup>

From 1911, when Margaret began graduate studies at Leland Stanford University, until her death in 1924, Harriett Lothrop spent winters in California with her daughter. Accounts in the *Concord Enterprise* indicate Harriett rented The Wayside at least four years during this period. Given that she typically stayed at the Colonial Inn during this period, when she was in Concord, she may have consistently rented the house. On several occasions during this period, Harriett entertained at The Wayside. These events may have occurred between rentals.<sup>166</sup>

A number of these events were featured in the *Concord Enterprise*. In June 1914, Harriett and Margaret Lothrop hosted an event for the Boston Author’s Club at The Wayside, serving members of the club tea on the lawn.<sup>167</sup> Two years later, Harriett held a reception at The Wayside for her friends, the former Irish viceroy

and his wife Lord and Lady Aberdeen. The event began in the Hillside Chapel (The Chapel) where Lord and Lady Aberdeen presented stereopticon views of Ireland, after which the guests “passed over the Larch Path . . . to tea served on The Wayside lawn”<sup>168</sup> (Figures 41 and 42). In 1923, and again in 1924 (just month’s before her death), Harriett Lothrop hosted events at The Wayside for the Children of the American Revolution. On July 25, 1923 she gave a “pretty party” for the Old North Bridge Chapter CAR at the Hillside Chapel [The Chapel] and on the grounds of The Wayside, and on May 14, 1924 she hosted a “Mother’s and Guest Day” at The Wayside.<sup>169</sup>

Historic photographs provide images of The Wayside landscape in the 1910s and early 1920s (Figure 43 and 44). As depicted in Figure 43, the evergreens on the hillside and terraces towered above the house. A comparison of Figure 42 with Figure 43 reveals several changes in front of the house between 1916 and c. 1922. By c. 1922, a large pine tree which had stood in front of the house was gone, and the hitching post had been moved further west from its original position along the road in front of the bay window. Also, a mailbox had been installed along the road, just west of the hitching post. Figure 44 depicts the service area in front of the barn, and between the barn and the house. Visible in the photograph are several shrubs near the house, a lawn in front of the house, a large elm, and a wide entrance drive leading up to the barn.

#### **Margaret M. Lothrop Ownership, 1924 to 1965**

Following her mother’s death in August 1924, Margaret Lothrop rented The Wayside and remained at her teaching position in California, returning to Concord occasionally. Between 1928 and 1939, Margaret explored numerous ways in which to sell The Wayside to organizations sympathetic to its literary history.

In 1928, she entered into an agreement with the Concord Antiquarian Society. The society opened The Wayside to the public for two months during the summer, to see if there was enough interest and enough money collected (25 cents per visitor) to justify purchasing the house and property from Margaret. Prior to the opening, the society raised two hundred dollars, which was used to purchase publicity, a sign in front of the house, and to hire several individuals to oversee the operation. The Wayside was open six days a week between August and September, 1928.<sup>170</sup>

In August 1929, historian Allen French of the Concord Antiquarian Society wrote Margaret Lothrop to report the amount of money raised (the agreement had been extended into 1929) through admission cost was not enough to justify Margaret’s selling price. As an alternative, French endorsed an interest from the Trustees of Public Reservation in acquiring The Wayside.<sup>171</sup>

Margaret Lothrop also looked to members of the educational community for potential purchase and preservation of The Wayside. In a 1931 letter, Everett Getchell of the English Department at the School of Education, Boston University stated “as soon as the schools and colleges open we shall begin our campaign: and I feel confident that the necessary sum (\$25,000) can be raised within the coming year.”<sup>172</sup> As with previous interest from the Concord Antiquarian Society and the Trustees of Public Reservations, no action was taken.

In 1932, Margaret Lothrop permanently moved back to The Wayside from California, and personally opened the house each summer for tourists. Prior to her return, The Wayside was operated each summer by a committee of Concord residences.<sup>173</sup>

A series of letters between Margaret Lothrop and William T.H. Howe, friend and president of the American Book Company, indicate the seriousness of her desire to sell the house by the late 1930s. During the summer of 1937, Margaret had sold “the land back of The Wayside,” (probably included all the land north of the ridgeline) and in December 1938 she wrote to Howe “I should make next summer my last season at The Wayside.” Margaret expressed her desire to sell it to “some educational or literary organization or group, who would carry on the type of educational work, which I have tried to do.” However, if such a buyer was not found, she would “feel free to take out all of the furniture and sell as a private home.”<sup>174</sup>

The following month, William Howe wrote to Margaret Lothrop, “feeling as you do about the work, labor, and anxiety of carrying on ‘The Wayside,’ I am convinced that you should dispose of it.” William Howe offered to distribute an announcement of the proposed sale to educational journals.<sup>175</sup>

In letters that followed, Margaret Lothrop shared with Howe various proposed plans for the sale of The Wayside, none of which transpired. In November, 1938, Margaret wrote “there seems to be no purely literary or educational organization or institution . . . capable or willing to undertake the purchase of The Wayside,” and that “proper management requires an organization with experience managing an historic house or a museum.” She came to the conclusion that the “Concord Antiquarian Society best fulfills these ideals,”<sup>176</sup> despite earlier reservations. Margaret initially wanted the house to “remain a home,” versus a “cold museum,” where the “happy family life, etc. of the former authors is stressed.”<sup>177</sup>

By the summer of 1939, Margaret was in the process of writing her book *The Wayside, Home of Authors*, to be published by the American Book Company. Both

Margaret Lothrop and William Howe hoped publication of the book would arouse interest from suitable buyers.<sup>178</sup>

In August, 1939, William Howe died unexpectedly. In a letter following his death to Mauck Brammer at the American Book Company, Margaret stressed the need to have her book published by Christmas, stating "I MUST make next year my last year here showing it [Wayside] to the public. I cannot bear the physical and financial strain any longer."<sup>179</sup> Although her book was published in 1940, it did not result in the sale of *The Wayside*. Margaret Lothrop remained at *The Wayside*, continuing to open it to the public, for another twenty-five years.

### **The Great Hurricane of 1938**

In addition to enduring the he normal strain from operating *The Wayside*, Margaret had to contend with the damaging affect of the September 1938 hurricane, which devastated *The Wayside* landscape. In Concord, an estimated twelve hundred public trees were blown down by the storm.<sup>180</sup> At *The Wayside*, many of the trees planted eighty to one hundred years earlier by Bronson Alcott and Nathaniel Hawthorne were destroyed.

In an interview with the NPS in 1961, Margaret recalled that at least three tall pines which had been planted by Alcott in the front yard fell before her eyes, and then an eighty-foot Norway spruce on the terraces behind the house broke ten feet or more from the ground.

First one tree went down and then another and still another, the amount of visible sky increasing. The noise was terrific.<sup>181</sup>

She also mentioned during the interview, that some of the larches along the Larch path had fallen during the heavy winds. Only a month after the hurricane Margaret wrote a letter to Paule Frese, editor of *The Flower Grower*, in which she stated:

It is to be noted that the larch trees, forming the border of the famous "Larch Path" . . . are still proudly waving their heads high above the path. They were not damaged.<sup>182</sup>

Together, these two references to the larch path seem to indicate that only a few of the larch trees were destroyed during the hurricane.

Margaret also wrote to Frese, "The trees had obtained an unusual height, closely planted as they were. It is hoped that a few of the trees may be saved, although not those of extreme height." She expressed to Frese how fortunate it was that the buildings were preserved and asked the editor not to emphasis in the

magazine the destruction of the trees “much as we are saddened by their loss.” She ended her letter, “It’s a sad sight.”

Ten days after the hurricane, Margaret Lothrop arranged to have the blown down and damaged trees removed. She entered into an agreement with John Forbes of the Concord Ice Company in which Forbes would pay her seventy-five dollars “for the wood on my land.”<sup>183</sup> Margaret specified that he was to take only “fallen trees . . . and any dead trees now standing.” He was also required to “cut stumps close to the ground” and to “leave brush in piles suitable for burning.” As a secondary deal, Margaret gave him permission to cut “two single tall [spruce trees] on the top of the hill behind the house, the three tall ones behind the house, and two tall leaning ones near the road.” in exchange for removal of “some trees which may be dangerous or unsightly but about which no determination can be made now.” In the 1961 NPS interview Margaret Lothrop stated she had sold the mature spruce trees because the devastation was so great she could not afford to restore the landscape.<sup>184</sup>

An article in the November 18, 1938 *Boston Globe* stated John Forbes had purchased The Wayside timber to construct a new icehouse. According to the article, Forbes thought it would take all winter to remove an estimated half million feet of lumber, and that it had been necessary to employ a team of light-yoked oxen to remove the sixty-foot trees, because the hillside was too steep for a truck or tractor (Figures 45 and 46).<sup>185</sup>

In her book *The Wayside, Home of Authors* (1940), Margaret Lothrop wrote of the post-hurricane hillside:

Sometimes now I look at the bare terraces behind the house, the destruction of those towering trees seems almost unendurable. They had not only formed a dark green frame for The Wayside, but also created a shaded, sun-flecked retreat.<sup>186</sup>

Her sadness of the view was tempered by the knowledge that for the first time in about one hundred years, the open hillside allowed northern sunlight to penetrate The Wayside, as it had during Hawthorne’s lifetime (Figure 47).

. . . I catch myself reflecting that the sunshine which now floods Mrs. Hawthorne’s parlor has changed it from the gloomy place I had always known to the cheerful room Mrs. Hawthorne must have had when the trees were little.<sup>187</sup>

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She also acknowledged that the loss of trees on the hillside and terraces opened views of the surrounding countryside, similar to views experienced by Hawthorne.

... with [the loss of trees on the terrace], and the thinning of trees on the farther slope of the hill, the wide vista over the meadows so dearly loved by Mr. Hawthorne, is once more visible from his hilltop path [Hawthorne Path] where he used to pace back and forth as he planned his future work.<sup>188</sup>

Of the evergreens planted by Alcott and/or Hawthorne along the cathedral aisle on the eight-acre parcel, Margaret stated in a 1966 NPS interview, “The trees were topped after the 1938 hurricane by Mr. Carruth, who thought that another hurricane might destroy [them].”<sup>189</sup> At the time of the hurricane, the Carruth’s owned the eight-acre parcel. In c. 1945, Mrs. Carruth sold the property to Margaret Lothrop.<sup>190</sup>

#### **The Wayside Landscape, 1939 to 1965**

A photograph from the 1940s depicts young secondary growth evergreens on the terraces in back of the house, probably seedlings that survived the hurricane or grew from buried seeds (Figure 48). In the years that followed, some of the evergreens grew to maturity, however, deciduous trees would ultimately dominate the hillside.

A collection of receipts found in the park archives dating from 1941 and 1955 indicate the nature of some landscape improvements undertaken by Margaret Lothrop in the 1940s and 1950s. In the fall of 1941, Margaret hired Jenks Tree Service on three separate days to remove an unspecified number of trees, possibly damaged trees undetected after the hurricane. A note at the bottom of the receipt indicated there might be additional trees that needed to be removed.<sup>191</sup>

In July 1946 Margaret Lothrop paid the Suburban Tree Service to spray shade trees, and then in September 1946 she hired the same company to cut down two elms.<sup>192</sup> Ten years earlier, Margaret received a letter from R.H. Allen, the Massachusetts Director of Pest Control, who identified insect specimens sent to him from The Wayside as elm leaf beetles.<sup>193</sup> This, or perhaps Dutch elm disease, may have been what caused the death of the elms removed. A second invoice from the Suburban Tree Service indicates more trees (species unidentified) were removed in December 1946.<sup>194</sup>

Later invoices for loam, bone meal, and “Liberty Lawn” indicate Margaret Lothrop improved the lawn, and a 1955 invoice from the Suburban Tree Service states she paid \$115 for pruning.<sup>195</sup>

Historic photographs reveal several trees and shrubs planted by Margaret Lothrop, including a deciduous tree near the western façade of the piazza, two lilac bushes along the western edge of the lawn, and a Norway spruce in the middle of the southern half of the lawn (Figures 49 to 51).

In interviews with the NPS, Margaret Lothrop mentioned planting daylilies along the stonewall after 1932. She also remembered planting a rose bush west of the barn, and thought perhaps she had planted roses at the southeast corner of the house. Photographs c. 1965 to 1968, prior to NPS landscaping, depict numerous ornamental plantings around the house. Species observed in these photographs include daylilies, lilacs, barberry, ferns, lily-of-the-valley, iris, and foxglove. Also depicted is the vine growing on the western façade of the piazza, mentioned earlier, and vines growing along two trellises: one at the southeast corner of the house and another on the western façade of the barn (Figures 52 and 53).

Among the most noticeable landscape changes that occurred during Margaret Lothrop's ownership were the loss of the path system around the house and the reconfiguration of the path to the front door. Paths in front of the house and along the western side of the piazza, clearly visible in a 1925 photograph,<sup>196</sup> are not depicted in later photographs, except for a remnant of a path along the piazza (see Figure 52). By 1937, Margaret Lothrop had repositioned the walk to the front door from the public walkway, which originated further west than the original opening (Figure 54). The path approached the front door perpendicular to the public walkway, versus the older walk which cut diagonally across the lawn. Placement of the new walkway required removal of a portion of the hedge bordering the public walkway.

Margaret Lothrop welcomed and educated Wayside visitors for over thirty years. An article in the July 1, 1937 *Concord Journal* noted "many groups of students visit the house each year,"<sup>197</sup> and an article in the April 19, 1949 *Boston Globe* stated "on the lawn outside, or in the drawing room of the house, this lovable woman surrounds herself with children of all ages and patiently relates anecdotes and tales about the great people who lived there."<sup>198</sup> Margaret continued to share her knowledge of the house with groups even after selling *The Wayside* to the federal government in 1965. As depicted in Figure 55, Margaret is speaking with a group of students on *The Wayside* lawn in 1968. The last of *The Wayside* authors, Margaret Lothrop, died in May 1970.

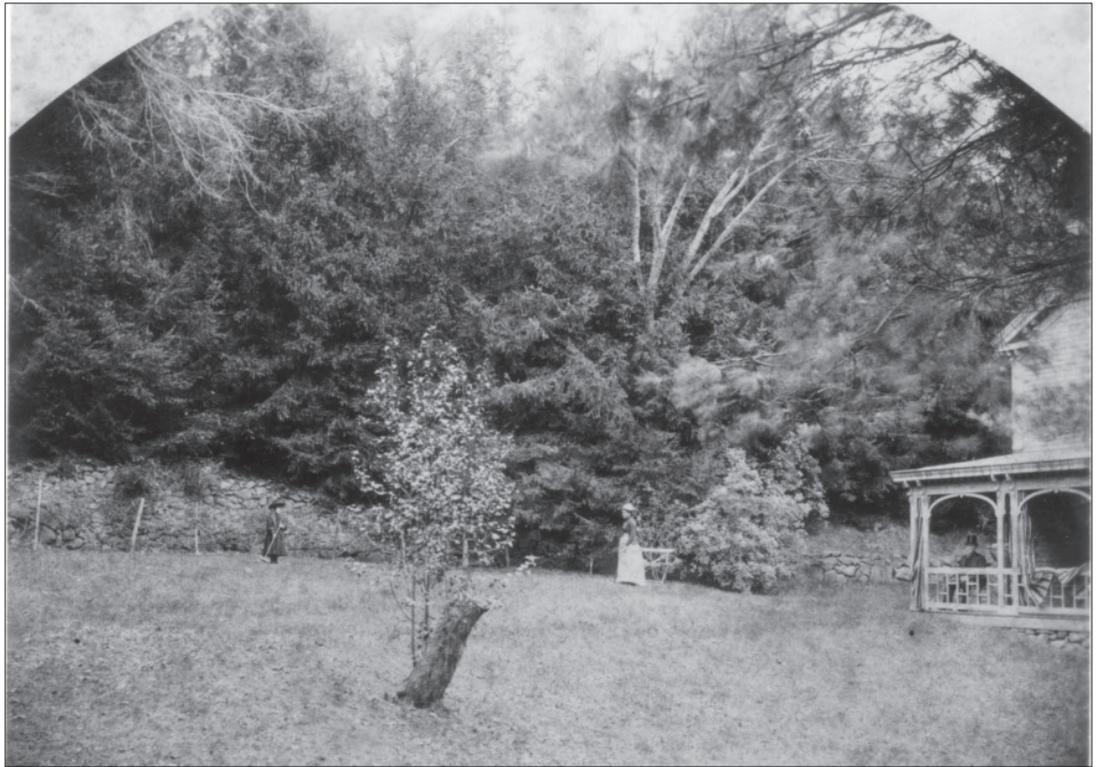


Figure 11. View northeast of the sloping lawn and the forested hillside, c. 1890. Depicted in the photograph is Margaret Lothrop, playing crochet; her nurse Lizzette; and the gentleman sitting on the piazza (possibly Daniel Lothrop). Also note the stone retaining wall, the Norway spruce growing on the hillside, and the apple tree stump in the foreground (MIMA photographic collection, #30825, MIMA Archives).

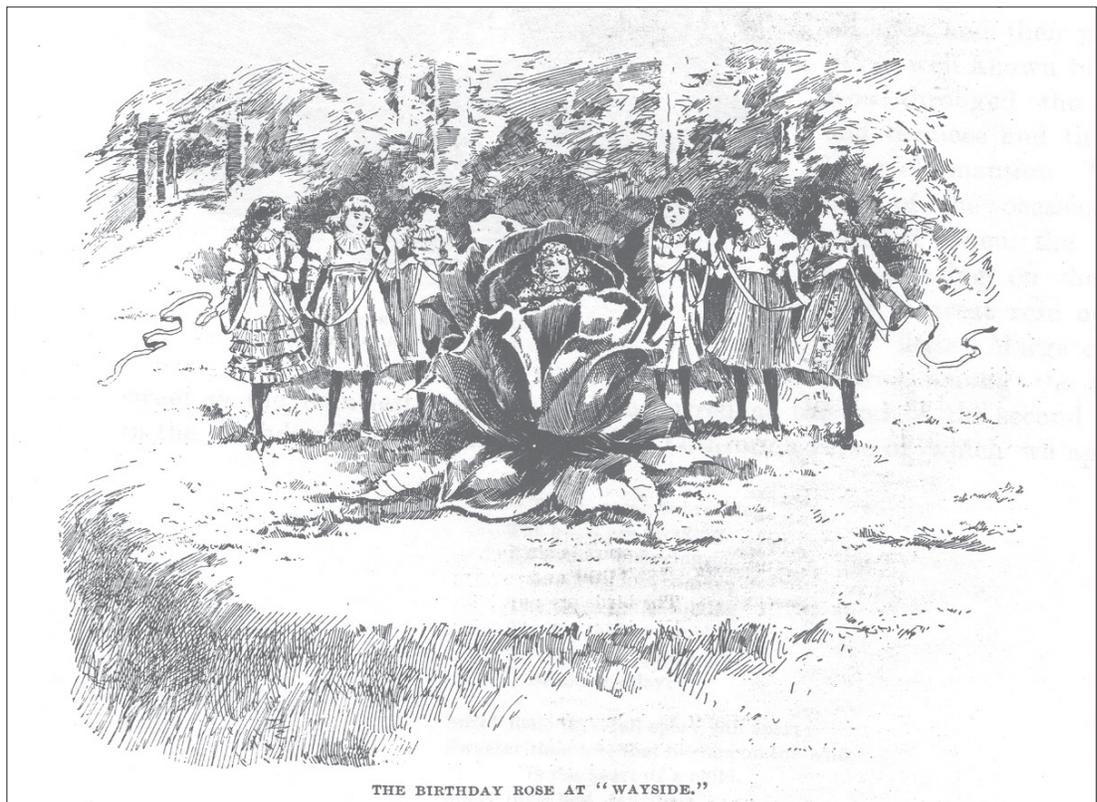


Figure 12. Sketch of Margaret Lothrop (in the rose) during her fourth birthday celebration on The Wayside lawn. The view of the lawn is west, toward the forested hillside. Note the path on the hillside at left, which probably led from the lawn up to the Hawthorne path (*Wide Awake*, August 1893, Magazines box 19, MIMA 11299 MIMA Archives).



Figure 13. View east of The Wayside lawn and piazza during the August 1890 reception for Mrs. John A. Logan (MIMA photographic collection, #24512, MIMA Archives).



Figure 14. View northeast of the rose vines and woodbine growing along the western façade of the house, prior to construction of the piazza. Photograph by A.W. Hosmer, c. 1886-1887. Depicted in the photograph are Margaret Lothrop (left), Elizabeth Peabody, sister of Sophia Hawthorne (center), and Daniel Lothrop, and Margaret Lothrop (right). Also note the lawn and the paths (MIMA Photographic Collection, #24501).



Figure 15. View northeast of The Wayside, c. 1883-1887. Note Lexington Road in the foreground, the “stately elm” (center), the paths along the road and to the front door, the hedge along the path, the “evergreens in front of the lawn” (left), the Hawthorne Tree by the front door, and additional evergreens along the road, east of the house at right (MIMA photographic collection, #24603, MIMA Archives).



Figure 16. View northwest of The Wayside. Photograph by A.W. Hosmer, c. 1880 to 1885. Note Lexington Road, the telephone lines, the “stately elm,” the path along the road and the hedge (left); the drive up to The Wayside barn (right); the evergreens along the road, east of the house (center and far right); the Hawthorne Tree (center); the lawn west of the house and the “evergreens in front of the lawn” (background left). Also depicted in the photograph (though difficult to see) is a hitching post (in front of The Wayside), and fire hydrant and a gas street light along the road (MIMA photographic collection, #30824, MIMA Archives).



Figure 17. View west of the Larch Path. Photograph by A.W. Hosmer, prior to 1894. Note the row of larch trees paralleling Lexington Road at left and the more random planting of evergreens on the hillside at right (MIMA photographic collection, #30815, MIMA Archives).



Figure 18. View west of the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline at right in the late 1880s. Also note Lexington Road to the far left, the Larch Path entrance in the shadow at left, and the apple tree stump in the lawn at center (MIMA Photographic collection, #2265, MIMA Archives).



Figure 19. Photograph titled "Hawthorne's Path, Bottom of the Hill" showing the beginning of the path that led from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline. This photograph by A.W. Hosmer with no date probably pre-dates the Lothrop's ownership, but the handwritten note on the card is believed to be that of either Daniel or Harriett Lothrop (MIMA photographic collection, #30754, MIMA Archives).

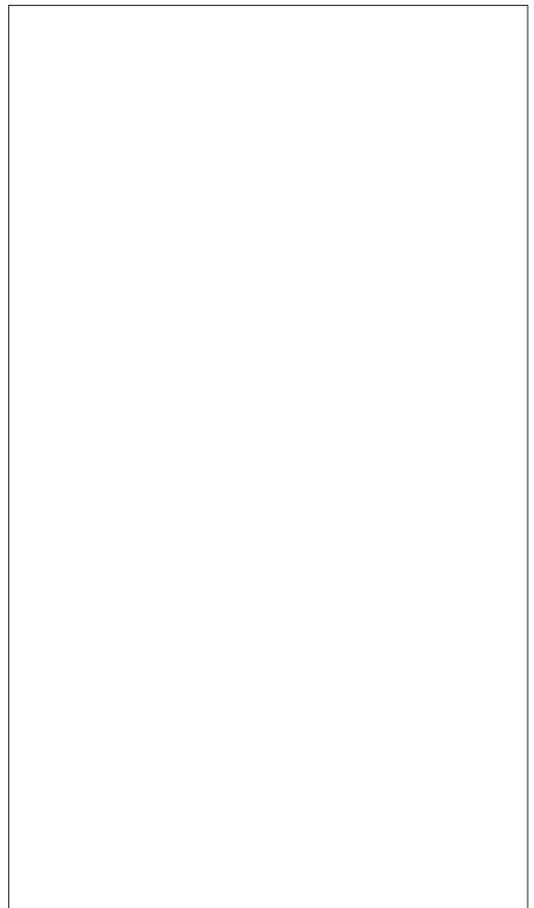


Figure 20. View west of the path that led from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline, as it traversed up and across the hillside. Photograph by A. W. Hosmer, c. 1880-1902 (Courtesy of the Concord Free Public Library).



Figure 21. Bench at the western end of the Hawthorne Path. Photograph by A. W. Hosmer, prior to 1893. Note the Norway spruce and the clearing around the bench (MIMA photographic collection, #30808, MIMA Archives).



Figure 22. Bench about half way up the path that led from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline. Photograph by The Moulton Photo Co., Salem Massachusetts, c.1888s-early 1890s. Note the path in front of the bench (MIMA photographic collection, #30805, MIMA Archives).



Figure 23. A wooden platform in the large white pine, along the Hawthorne Path. Photographed by Moulton-Erickson Photo Co., Salem, Mass, c. 1890. Note the ladder and what appear to be wooden braces extending from the ground to the platform (MIMA photographic collection, #30794, MIMA Archives).



Figure 24. The Wayside, c. 1890, showing the elm between the sidewalk and road, the privet hedge and maturing evergreens framing the house. Daylilies are visible below the bay window and the Hawthorne Tree is behind the elm near the front door (MIMA Library neg files SO-13an).

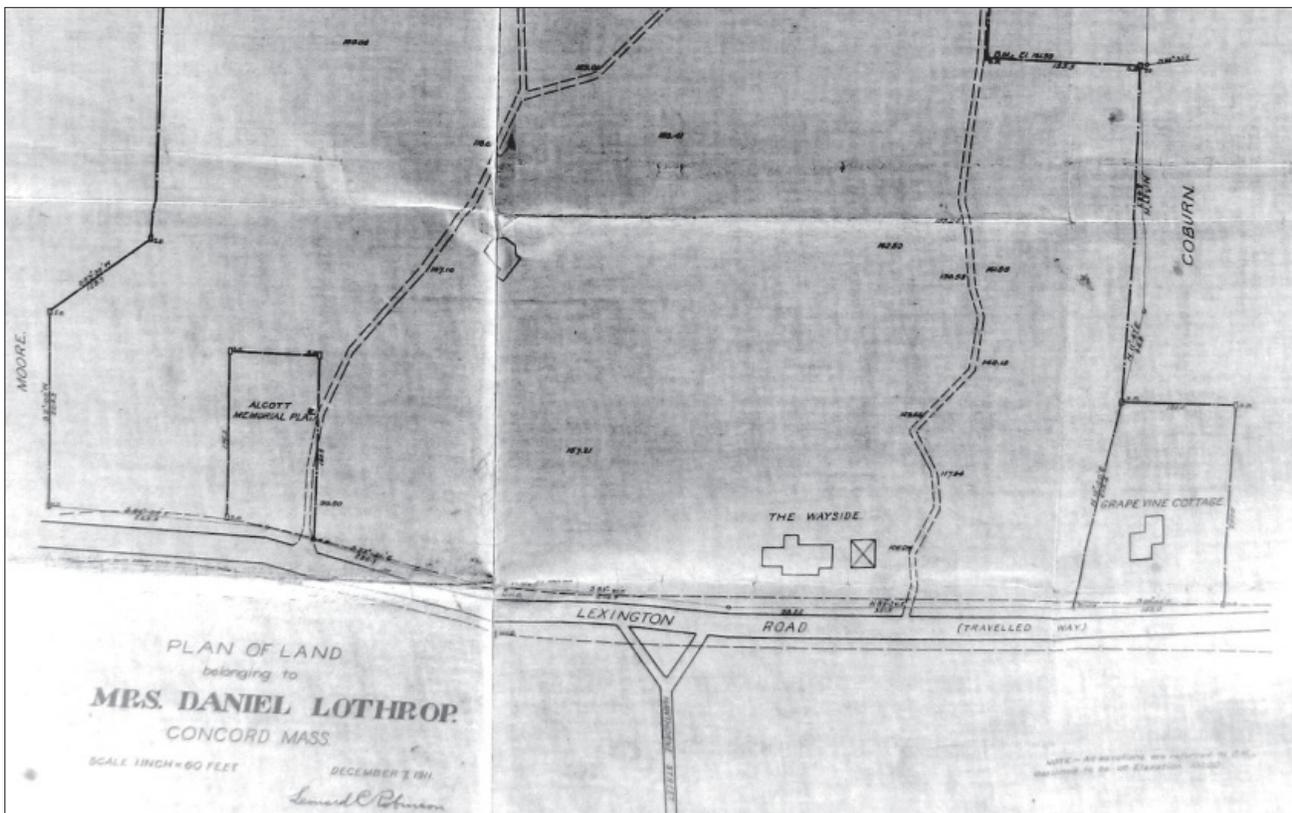


Figure 25. Section of the “Plan of Land belonging to Mrs. Daniel Lothrop, Concord, Mass.” December 7, 1911, [Samuel] C. Robinson. Depicted on the plan is The Wayside, the .66-acre lot (Grapevine Cottage) Harriett Lothrop sold to Margaret Lothrop in 1905, the 0.382 lot (Orchard House) Harriett Lothrop sold to the Louisa May Alcott Association in 1911, and the Hillside Chapel, on the hillside northwest of Wayside at left (MIMA HMFLP, box 79 folder 2, MIMA Archives).



Figure 26. View east of The Wayside, c. 1895, possibly taken on July 18th during the event hosted for the Christian Endeavors. Note the bicycle, children and the people sitting on the lawn. Also note the trimmed lawn and the vines growing on the piazza (MIMA photographic collection, # 24508, MIMA Archives).

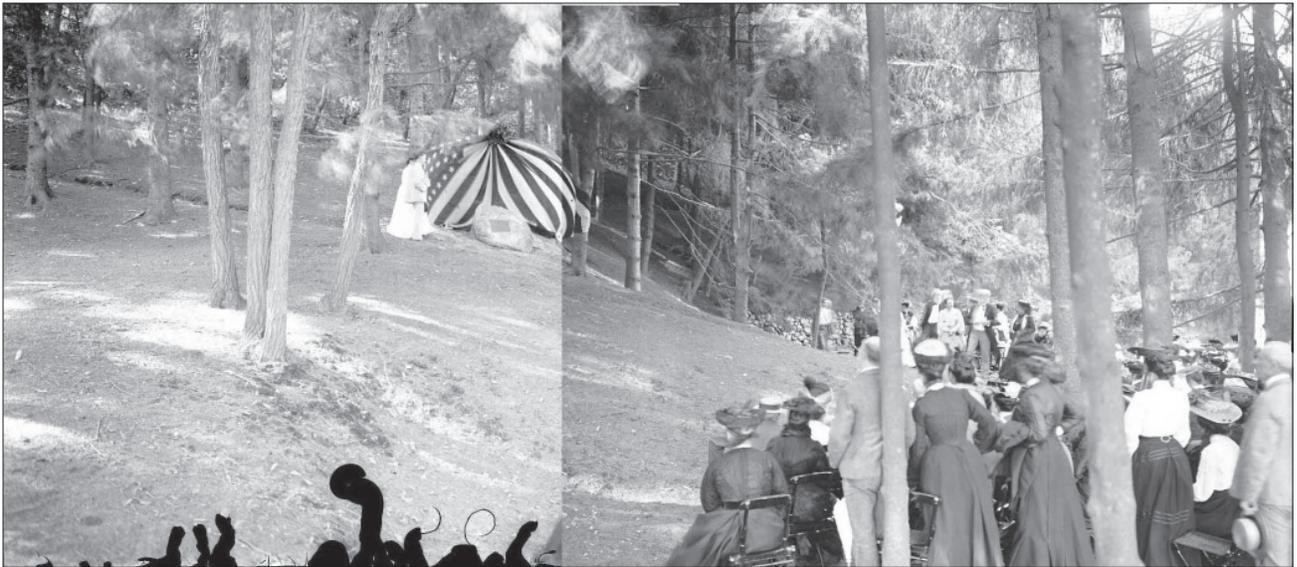


Figure 27. View north of the crowd gathered for the Hawthorne Centenary and the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque, just after it was unveiled by Beatrix Hawthorne, July 4, 1904. Col. Thomas Wentworth is presumed to be standing next to Beatrix Hawthorne. Also depicted in the photograph is the path leading from the northwest corner of the lawn to the ridge line (top left) and what appears to be a path leading from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque to the Larch Path (left center). Notice the lack of under story vegetation under the evergreens (MIMA glass plate negatives #10150 and #10154, digitally combined, MIMA Archives).



Figure 28. View southeast down path leading from the ridge line to the northwest corner of the lawn. Also depicted in the photograph is the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque at center, the lawn and the house. The photograph appeared in *The Hawthorne Centenary at The Wayside*, Concord, Massachusetts, July 4-7, 1904 (MIMA photographic collection, #24520, MIMA Archives).



Figure 29. The wooden platform in the large white pine along the Hawthorne Path, c. 1900-1917. Note the sturdy steps and hand rail around the platform (MIMA photographic collection, #30791, MIMA Archives).



Figure 30. "The ridge back of The Wayside, showing the thick grove of trees now covering it" as captioned in *Country Life in America*, July 1904 (HMLFP, box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).



Figure 31. View west of the lawn toward the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque (distant center), photograph by Charles Everett, c. 1905. One of the three “very slight” slopes described by Charles Everett in his thesis is depicted in the image, running diagonally across the lawn from southwest to northeast (Everett’s Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 32. View north of the lawn, retaining wall and the hillside. Photographed by Charles Everett, c. 1905 (Everett’s Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 33. View east of the double row of trees extending across the southern edge of the lawn. Photographer Charles Everett, c. 1905. Also note the hedge bordering the southern edge of the double row of trees, the vines growing on the piazza post, and the Hawthorne Tree, on south side of the house. Identity of man in the photograph is unknown (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 34. View south of the gap between the double row of trees along the southern edge of the lawn (left) and the eastern edge of the forested hillside. Photograph by Charles Everett, c. 1905. Also note Lexington Road, the eight-acre parcel on the south side of Lexington road (distance), and the wooden sign on the lawn. The purpose of the sign is unknown; however Everett's reference to "eager sightseers" suggests perhaps it was a no trespassing sign (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 35. View northeast of the lilacs located at the northeast corner of the lawn. Photograph by Charles Everett, c. 1905. Also note the stone retaining wall and the path leading to the back door (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 36. View north of the entry path leading from Lexington road to the path encircling The Wayside. Photograph by Charles Everett, c. 1900. Note the hitching post (bottom right), stone steps, and the public walkway. Also depicted are daylilies in front of the bay window and vines growing on the front of the house (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 37. View northwest of the entrance drive (bottom right-covered in snow) between the house and the barn (right-off image), c. 1903. Also note the two pines (left and center), the elm, the vine growing above the side door and the privet hedge. Image appeared in *Country Life in America*, July 1904 (HMLFP, box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).

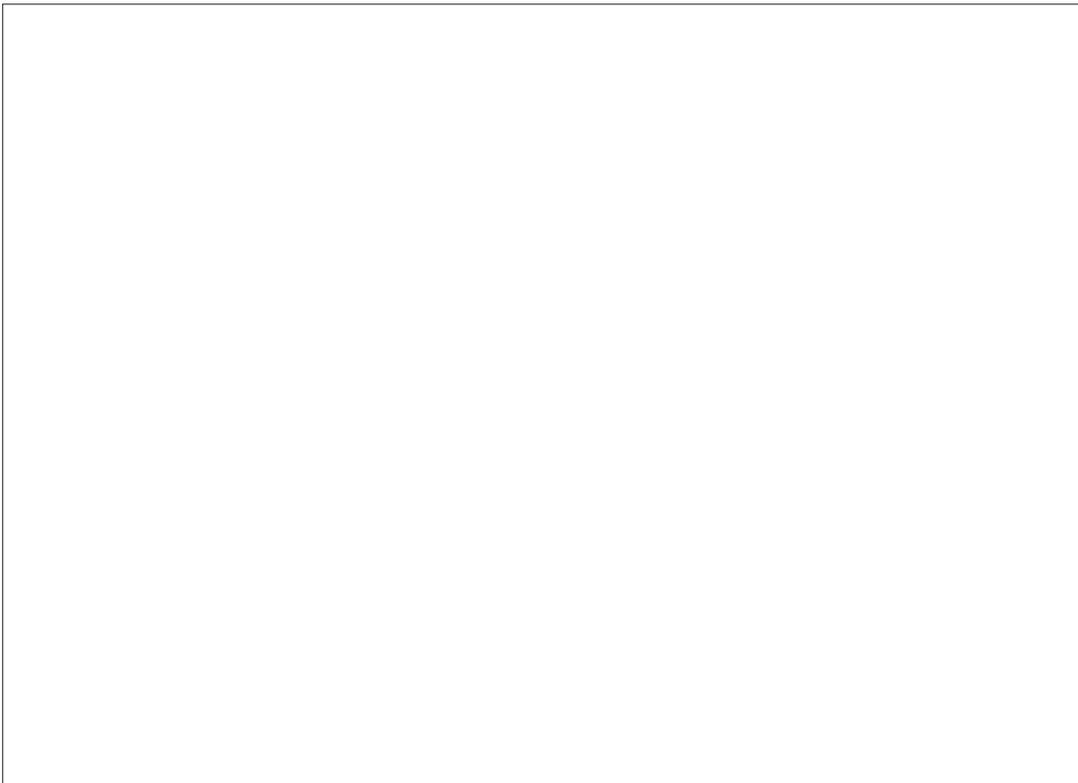


Figure 38. View northeast of the wooden boardwalks in front of The Wayside. Photograph by Tolman, c. 1903-1910. Also note the mature elm tree standing between the sidewalk and road to the west of the entrance walk (Courtesy of Concord Free Public Library).



Figure 39. View of the boardwalk in front of the front bay window, c. 1902. (MIMA photograph # 24548, MIMA Archives).



Figure 40. View northwest of the boardwalks between the house (left) and the barn (out of picture, right), c. 1902. (MIMA photograph # 24602, MIMA Archives).



Figure 41. Lord and Lady Aberdeen in the west lawn at a reception in their honor, September 20, 1916. Note the dense hillside vegetation at left and the mature pine trees along Lexington Road at right (MIMA photographic collection, #33106, MIMA Archives).



Figure 42. Lord Aberdeen in front of The Wayside, photographed by Lady Aberdeen, September 20, 1916. Note the hitching post (right), and mature vegetation in front of The Wayside, including the tall hedge bordering the public walkway, and the mature evergreens and elm tree (MIMA photographic collection, #24647, MIMA Archives).



Figure 43. View northeast of The Wayside, c. 1922. Note the mature evergreens on the hillside and terraces in back of the house, the Hawthorne Tree (center), the mature hedge, the mature (failing) elm tree (center right), and the mature evergreen (right). Also depicted is a boardwalk covering the path leading to The Wayside from the sidewalk, a mailbox and hitching post along Lexington Road, and a "for rent" sign on the mature evergreen tree on the right. The front walkway near the bay window is gone (MIMA photographic collection, #24611, MIMA Archives).



Figure 44. View northwest of The Wayside, c. 1922. The photograph is one of only a few historic images that depict a service portion of The Wayside landscape. Note the wide entrance drive and the mature elm tree (MIMA photographic collection, #24569, MIMA Archives).



Figure 45. View east during the removal of the trees blown down by the 1938 hurricane. Photograph taken in the fall of 1938. Note the tree stump in the foreground, the elm, pine and Norway spruce that are still standing on the edge of the west lawn, the house in the background and Lexington Road to the right (MIMA negative collection, GR-33a MIMA Library).



Figure 46. View west of the oxen along the Larch Path during removal of the trees blown down by the 1938 hurricane. Note the larch trees, which survived the hurricane (MIMA negative collection, GR-33an [1 of 3 negatives] MIMA Library).



Figure 47. View northwest (from the eight-acre parcel) of the hillside in back of The Wayside, following the 1938 hurricane. Note the few remaining medium-sized evergreens and black locust on the hillside. Also note the surviving large elm between the house and the barn (*Lexington and Concord, 1939*).



Figure 48. View northeast of The Wayside (from Hawthorne Lane) about six years after the hurricane, c. 1945. Note the secondary growth evergreen seedlings on the terraced hillside and few remaining mature evergreens along the ridgeline. Also note the surviving elm along Lexington Road, west of the house (MIMA negative collection, SW-17a, MIMA Library).



Figure 49. View southeast of deciduous tree adjacent to the western facade of the piazza. Photograph by Cervin Robinson, Historic American Building Survey, February 1963. Also note the clump of lilacs (left), vine growing on the side of the piazza (just right of tree), and the lilac at the southwest corner of the piazza at right (MIMA negative collection, 63-125, MIMA Library).



Figure 50. View east of two small lilacs along the western lawn edge in the foreground, c. 1950. Note the groomed lawn, tree stump and daylilies along the lawn edge (bottom right), vines growing on the piazza, and the plantings along the base of the piazza (MIMA negative collection, WE-22an, MIMA Library).



Figure 51. View east of the Norway spruce in the middle of the southern half of the lawn with the Hawthorne Tree on the right. Photographed by O.W. Carroll, c. 1967-1969 (MIMA negative collection, 71-403, MIMA Library).



Figure 52. View northeast of ornamental plantings around the piazza. Photograph by O.W. Orville Carroll, July 12, 1967. Depicted are two clumps of lilacs (right and distant left), vines on the western façade of the piazza, daylilies at the base of the vine, and a small barberry under the lilac (right). Also note the tree stump (left) of the deciduous tree planted by Margaret Lothop (see Figure 44) and the footpath (MIMA negative collection, 71-307, MIMA Library).



Figure 53. View north of ornamental plantings along southern facade of the house, east of the bay window. Photograph by O.W. Carroll, July 12, 1967. Plantings depicted include daylilies (left), a small barberry shrub (building corner), foxglove (right), a vine growing on the trellis (right) and milkweed in the center of the bed (MIMA negative collection, 71-305, MIMA Library).



Figure 54. View north of dog by the walkway to the front door. Photograph by Margaret Lothrop, 1937. Note the Hawthorne Tree to the left of the door and the lilac and iris to the right of the door (MIMA photographic collection, #24542, MIMA Archives).



Figure 55. View southwest of Margaret Lothrop on The Wayside lawn, speaking to a group with the trunks of a white pine and elm visible in the background to the left and the branches of a Norway spruce to the right. Photographed by O.W. Carroll, c. 1968 (Courtesy of Orville Carroll).

## **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, 1965 TO PRESENT**

In 1959, Minute Man NHP was established for its association with the opening events of the American Revolution. As identified in the park's enabling legislation, The Wayside was located in an area of land that could be acquired in the future. In June of 1965 the NPS purchased The Wayside and its associated lands from Margaret Lothrop for \$56,800 and integrated the property into the adjacent park. The house fit thematically under the original enabling legislation because of its association with Samuel Whitney, who owned the house in 1775 and served as the muster master of the Concord Minutemen. The park also recognized the significance of the property for subsequent eras and for multiple themes in American history.

The purchase included the house, 3.32 acres, and some of the furnishings and objects in the house. The property by this time consisted of the house and immediate yard, the crest and southern portion of the hillside, the 0.34-acre parcel south of Lexington Road and east of Hawthorne Lane (the remnant of the Emerson field), and the lot south of Lexington Road and west of Hawthorne Lane (now the visitor parking lot). The Wayside was closed for extensive restoration work until April 1971 when it was opened to the public. Around that time, the historic elm tree near the Barn entrance was removed due to disease.

When The Wayside was first purchased, the NPS decided to interpret the house through to the year 1924, the year of Harriett Lothrop's death. In 2000, the decision was made to begin the period of interpretation in c. 1904. This date was determined based on the commemorative celebration of the Centennial of Hawthorne's birth, which took place from July 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> in 1904.

In the early 1990s the park service improved accessibility to the house by installing a ramp. In 1998 the park submitted a request for work to be done to halt the loss of key elements of the historic landscape. This included a cultural landscape report and treatment plan, and using this information to inform the work needed to protect the historic vegetation, paths, terraces, and stonework. Projects would also aim to protect the house and barn, as over time soils from the ridge had eroded down-hill and accumulated against the north wall of the house, causing rot.

In 2006 work was carried out based on the preliminary findings in a draft of this report. These efforts included stabilization of the lower terraces, diversion of runoff, removal of deposited soil, addition of a stone retaining wall behind the eastern side of the house, and planting of historically-appropriate decorative plants just uphill of the new retaining wall to aid in reducing future erosion and

flooding. A drainage area was also created in back of the house to stop runoff water that had, at points in the past, caused flooding in the basement of the house. At this time, efforts were also made to remove some of the non-historic vegetation identified in the draft report. This included an evergreen in the middle of the southern portion of the western lawn, some of the overgrown vegetation on the paths, and a clump of non-historic lilacs.

The NPS has re-established some of the overgrown paths through the woods around the house (particularly the Larch Path along Lexington Road and the Hawthorne Path up the ridge line), removed and added plant material from the grounds to approximate the appearance of the landscape ca. 1904, and repaired degraded parts of the house that both detracted from its appearance and threatened the integrity of the structure.

Today, rehabilitation work is ongoing at The Wayside. Several significant projects are still needed, such as restoring or reestablishing some of the paths, maintaining the ridge area and the gardens around the house, repainting and roof work on the house, better preserving of the contents of the house, increased visitor accommodation, and vegetation rehabilitation. Visitors are welcomed into the house and barn during open hours, and the grounds are always open for people to walk the historic paths.

The Wayside has enjoyed numerous recognitions since it became part of Minute Man National Historical Park. On February 4, 1985, The Wayside's National Historic Landmark designation was reaffirmed, and a plaque commemorating the designation was placed under the Hawthorne tree, next to the front door. In 1992, park legislation specifically identified The Wayside as one of the sites to be preserved and interpreted, thereby formally acknowledging the secondary theme of the park, the nineteenth century American literary renaissance as demonstrated by the lives of the authors who had lived in The Wayside. In 2001 the Wayside was also recognized as being a part of the Underground Railroad from 1846 to 1847 during the Alcott's ownership. A plaque stating its designation as a part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom was placed on the east side of the walkway to the barn.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> National Register Documentation, Section 8:64.

<sup>2</sup> The house was abandoned 159 years later in 1825. Based on the writings of Henry David Thoreau, the structure was later occupied by Casey, the African slave of Samuel Whitney. Casey gained his freedom at the end of the Revolutionary War and resided in the residence until his death in 1822. The site is listed on the National Register for its archeological significance. National Register Documentation, Section 8:66.

<sup>3</sup> HSR.

<sup>4</sup> Margaret M. Lothrop, "The Wayside," c. 1937. (Quotes and notes compiled from Concord Town Records and Middlesex Deeds by Lothrop, MIMA Archives, Harriet M. Lothrop Family Paper (HMLFP) Box 79, Folder 7).

<sup>5</sup> Margaret M. Lothrop, "The Wayside," c. 1937. (Quotes and notes compiled from Concord Town Records and Middlesex Deeds by Lothrop, MIMA Archives, HMLFP Box 79, Folder 7); Robert D. Ronsheim, "The Wayside, Minute Man National Historical Park, Historic Structure Report Part II, Historical Data Section" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, February 29, 1968), pp. 4-5.

<sup>6</sup> Douglas P. Sabin, "April 19, 1775, A Historiographical Study, Part I, The British are Coming" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Minute Man National Historical Park, December 7, 1983), pp. 1-3; Robert D. Ronsheim, "The Wayside, Minute Man National Historical Park, Historic Structure Report Part II, Historical Data Section" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, February 29, 1968), pp.6-8.

<sup>7</sup> Robert D. Ronsheim, "The Wayside, Minute Man National Historical Park, Historic Structure Report Part II, Historical Data Section" (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, February 29, 1968), pp.6-9.

<sup>8</sup> Margaret M. Lothrop, "The Wayside," c. 1937. (Quotes and notes compiled from Concord Town Records and Middlesex Deeds by Lothrop, MIMA Archives, HMLFP Box 79, Folder 7); List of deeds ordered from Middlesex County Courthouse. (MIMA Archives, Unprocessed Orville Carroll material acquired by MIMA in July 2002).

<sup>9</sup> Author unknown, "Amos Bronson Alcott" [cited January 2005], <http://www.louisamayalcott.org/bronsontext.html>; Author unknown, "The Alcotts" in Thomas Hampson, I Hear American Sing [cited January 2005]. Available at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/ahas/poet/alcotts/html>; Anna Coxe Toogood, "The Wayside, Historic Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historical Park" (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Eastern Service Center, Office of History and Historic Architecture, March 1970), p. 8; HGR, footnote 1, p. 90.

<sup>10</sup> Anna Coxe Toogood, "The Wayside, Historic Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historical Park" (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Eastern Service Center, Office of History and Historic Architecture, March 1970), pp. iii, 1.

<sup>11</sup> Letter from Abba Alcott to her brother, January 13, 1847. In "The Underground Railroad in Concord and at the Wayside," compiled by Terrie Wallace, Minuteman NP.

<sup>12</sup> Toogood, "The Wayside, Historic Grounds Report," p. 8.

<sup>13</sup> Bronson Alcott to Junius S. Alcott, as quoted in *The Letters of A. Bronson Alcott* (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1969) p. 117.

<sup>14</sup> Alcott Journal XX, May 8, 1846 as quoted in Toogood, "The Wayside, Historic Grounds Report," p. 10.

<sup>15</sup> Entries in Alcott Journal, June 8, 1845 to June 19, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 16-17, 100-109; Alcott Journal, June 22, 1847, as quoted in Margaret M. Lothrop notes, HMLFP box 43, folder 7, MIMA Archives.

<sup>16</sup> Entries in Alcott Journal, July 1, 1846 to November 1, 1846, as quoted in HGR, pp. 101-102.

<sup>17</sup> Alcott Journal, April 29, 1845 and July 5, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 96, 109. In all, Alcott cut at least eight and possibly twelve terraces into the hillside in back of the house. In a journal entry dated June 14-15, 1847, he stated "worked all dozen of my terraces, having now completed four of them and having four more to finish." The two halves of his statement do not seem to state the same total number of terraces.

<sup>18</sup> Entries in Alcott Journal, April 29, 1845 to April 18, 1848, as quoted in HGR, pp. 96-98, 108-110; Alcott Journal, June 23, 1847, as quoted in Margaret M. Lothrop notes, HMLFP box 43, folder 7, MIMA Archives.

<sup>19</sup> Alcott Journal, October 22, 1846, as quoted in Orville W. Carroll, "Historic Structure Report, The Wayside Barn, Architectural Data Section, United States," Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center, March 1973), p. 15; Entries in Alcott Journal, May 23, 1846 to June 12, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 101-102, 106, 111.

<sup>20</sup> Alcott Journal, April 17, 1846 to July 7, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 100-103, 110-111. Alcott used "arbour" interchangeably within his journal with "summer house" and "garden house." He also referred to a "grape arbour." It is not known which "arbour" was located next to the rustic fence.

<sup>21</sup> Abba Alcott to Samuel J. May, September 19, 1845, as quoted in HGR p. 103.

<sup>22</sup> Alcott Journal, April 25, 1846, as quoted in HGR, p. 103.

<sup>23</sup> Alcott Journal, April 25, 1846 to June 20, 1846, as quoted in HGR, pp. 103-105.

<sup>24</sup> Alcott Journal, May 11-12, 1847, as quoted in HGR, p. 111.

<sup>25</sup> Alcott Journal, April 29, 1846 to June 19, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 103-105, 111-112.

<sup>26</sup> Alcott Journal, June 22, 1847, as quoted in HGR, p. 109.

<sup>27</sup> Alcott Journal, July 5, 1847, as quoted in HGR, p. 109.

<sup>28</sup> Alcott Journal, October 10, 1846 and October 24, 1846, November 17-19, 1846, as quoted in HGR, pp. 99.

<sup>29</sup> Alcott Journal, April 18, 1846, October 10, 1846 and October 13, 1846, as quoted in HGR, pp. 96, 99.

- <sup>30</sup> Alcott Journal, April 10, 1846 to July 17, 1847, as quoted in HGR, pp. 96-99, 101, 104, 108-109, 111.
- <sup>31</sup> Alcott Journal, April 17, 1846 to July 17, 1848, as quoted in HGR, pp. 100-103, 110-111.
- <sup>32</sup> Abba Alcott to Samuel May, June 8, 1845, as quoted in HGR, p. 96; Bronson Alcott to Julian Alcott, August 1845, as quoted in HGR, p. 96; Alcott Journal, April 10, 1845 to September 26, 1848, as quoted in HGR, pp. 96-99, 108-110.
- <sup>33</sup> HGR, pp. 26-32.
- <sup>34</sup> Samuel Sewall & Samuel J. May, trustees of Abba Alcott to Nathaniel Hawthorne, 643:42; Ralph W. Emerson to Nathaniel Hawthorne, 625:219-220.
- <sup>35</sup> MML, *The Wayside: Home of Authors*, p. 80; HGR, p. 35.
- <sup>36</sup> HGR, pp. 36-37.
- <sup>37</sup> Nathaniel Hawthorne to George Curtis, July 14, 1852, as quoted in HGR p. 118.
- <sup>38</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Father, February 20, 1853, as quoted in HGR p. 43.
- <sup>39</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Mother, June 13, 1852, as quoted in HGR p. 117; Alcott Journal, May 7, 1853, as quoted in HGR p. 119.
- <sup>40</sup> Nathaniel Hawthorne to George Curtis, July 14, 1852, as quoted in HGR 117-118; Julian Hawthorne, *Hawthorne and His Circle* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1903), p. 58; Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, July 8, 1863, as quoted in HGR 124.
- <sup>41</sup> Sophia Hawthorne's Diary, September 1-13, 1852, as quoted in HGR p. 118; Sophia Hawthorne to Mother, July 4, 1852, as quoted in HGR p. 117.
- <sup>42</sup> HGR, pp. 36-37.
- <sup>43</sup> HGR, pp. 37, 48; John B. Moore to Nathaniel Hawthorne, 665:411; Samuel J. May to Nathaniel Hawthorne, 688:461.
- <sup>44</sup> MML, *The Wayside*, p. 99
- <sup>45</sup> Alcott Journal, May 10, 1857, as quoted in HGR p. 119.
- <sup>46</sup> MML, *The Wayside*, pp. 97-100.
- <sup>47</sup> Nathaniel Hawthorne to Ticknor, March 4, 1859, as quoted in HGR p. 120.
- <sup>48</sup> Alcott Journal, August 6, 1859, as quoted in HGR p. 120.
- <sup>49</sup> George Petrides, *A Field Guide to Trees and Shrubs* (Boston, Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1958, pp. 18, 148.
- <sup>50</sup> Alcott Journal, August 6, 1860 to October 29, 1860, as quoted in HGR pp. 120-123.
- <sup>51</sup> Alcott Journal, August 20, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 120.
- <sup>52</sup> Alcott Journal, August 14, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 120.
- <sup>53</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, September 9, 1860, as quoted in *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 429; Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, July 28, 1861, as quoted in HGR, p. 122; Sophia Hawthorne to Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, April 5, 1868, as quoted in HGR p. 130; Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 10, 1868, as quoted in HGR p. 66.
- <sup>54</sup> Alcott Journal, August 8, 1860 to September 18, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 120-121;
- <sup>55</sup> Toogood, HGR, p. 148.
- <sup>56</sup> Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 448.
- <sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 434.
- <sup>58</sup> Julian Hawthorne, *Memoirs* (1938) as quoted in HGR 132.
- <sup>59</sup> SH to Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, April 5, 1868 as quoted in HGR, p. 129.
- <sup>60</sup> Julian Hawthorne, *Hawthorne and His Circle* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1903), p. 53.
- <sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 53. ["in the Critic, p. 69 Julian Hawthorne described it as "some two hundred yards to the fence which enclosed Mr. Bull's estate"]
- <sup>62</sup> Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 449.
- <sup>63</sup> Frank P. Stearns, *The Life and Genius of Nathaniel Hawthorne* (Philadelphia: J.P. Lippincott, Co.: 1906) as quoted in HGR, p. 137.
- <sup>64</sup> Alcott Journal, September 11, 1860, September 19, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 121.
- <sup>65</sup> Alcott Journal, October 29, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 121.
- <sup>66</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, April 5, 1868, as quoted in HGR p. 130.
- <sup>67</sup> Julian Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years," *Critic*, c. 1904, pp. 68-69. (HMLFP, box 34 folder 20, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>68</sup> Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years," p. 68.
- <sup>69</sup> Harriett Mumford Lothrop, "Hawthorne in Old Concord," *Everywoman*, July 1915. Harriett Lothrop mentions she obtained the information in her article from Rose Hawthorne Lathrop.
- <sup>70</sup> Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, as quoted in HGR p. 134.
- <sup>71</sup> Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years," p. 69.
- <sup>72</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, as quoted in HGR p. 122.
- <sup>73</sup> Alcott Journal, September 18, 1860, as quoted in HGR p. 121; Sophia Hawthorne to Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, April 5, 1868, as quoted in HGR p. 129.
- <sup>74</sup> Edith Garrique Hawthorne, ed., *The Memoirs of Julian Hawthorne* (New York: Macmillian Co., 1938), as referenced in HGR p. 54.
- <sup>75</sup> Sophia Hawthorne's diary (n.d.), as quoted in Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 432.
- <sup>76</sup> Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years," p. 68.
- <sup>77</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 68.
- <sup>78</sup> Una Hawthorne to Sophia Hawthorne, May 12, 1863, as quoted in HGR p. 123.

- <sup>79</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 28, 1866, as quoted in HGR p. 128
- <sup>80</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Una Hawthorne, September 1862, as quoted in HGR p. 123; Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 2, 1963, as quoted in HGR p. 123;  
Sophia Hawthorne to Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, April 5, 1868, as quoted in HGR p. 129.
- <sup>81</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, July 1860, as quoted in Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 435; Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, c. 1860, as quoted in HGR, p. 121; Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, July 28, 1861, as quoted in HGR p. 122; Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, c. July 1862, as quoted in HGR 123; Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 3, 1863, as quoted in HGR p. 123.
- <sup>82</sup> Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 432.
- <sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 434.
- <sup>84</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, July 30, 1861, as quoted *Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Wife*, p. 286-287.
- <sup>85</sup> Edith Garrique Hawthorne, ed., *The Memoirs of Julian Hawthorne*, as quoted in HGR p. 131; Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years, p. 68.
- <sup>86</sup> Julian Hawthorne, "Hawthorne's Last Years," *The Critic*, c. 1904 (HMLFP B34, F20).
- <sup>87</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, September 9, 1860, as quoted in Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 426; Julian Hawthorne, Nathaniel Hawthorne and His Wife, vol. 2 (Boston: James R. Osgood and Company, 1885), p. 284; Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, July 28, 1861, as quoted in HGR p. 123; Sophia Hawthorne to Una Hawthorne, as quoted in HGR p. 123.
- <sup>88</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Nathaniel Hawthorne, September 9, 1860, as quoted in Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 426.
- <sup>89</sup> Nathaniel Hawthorne to Bronson Alcott, c. 1864, as quoted in HGR p. 52.
- <sup>90</sup> Lathrop, *Memories of Hawthorne*, p. 434.
- <sup>91</sup> Margaret M. Lothrop, *The Wayside: Home of Authors*, pp. 135-145
- <sup>92</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Una Hawthorne, September 15, 1864, as quoted in HGR 127.
- <sup>93</sup> Alcott Journal XXVII, September 4-7, 1862, as quoted in HGR p. 123.
- <sup>94</sup> Alcott Journal XXXIX, September 17, 1864 and November 30, 1864, as quoted in HGR p. 124.
- <sup>95</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Una Hawthorne, June 9, 1865, as quoted in HGR p. 127.
- <sup>96</sup> Letters written by Sophia Hawthorne to Una Hawthorne, Annie Fields, and Frederick Goddard Tuckerman, as quoted in HGR pp. 127-129.
- <sup>97</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 28, 1866, as quoted in HGR 129.
- <sup>98</sup> HGR pp. 62-68.
- <sup>99</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Annie Fields, May 10, 1868, as quoted in HGR 167.
- <sup>100</sup> HGR p. 68.
- <sup>101</sup> Julian Hawthorne and Una Hawthorne to Abby Gray, 1132:550; Rose Hawthorne to Abby Gray, 1132:552; Sophia Hawthorne to Abby Gray, 1132:554. A comparison of the sum of all the land purchased by Nathaniel Hawthorne to the acreage noted in the deeds reveals a discrepancy. It appears that the Hawthornes transferred less land to the Grays than they owned, especially north of Lexington Road. Given the 1870s deeds noted the parcels transferred to the Grays were the same as those purchased by Hawthorne, the difference in amounts may have been the result of a more precise resurvey of the land.
- <sup>102</sup> Mary Pratt rented then owned The Wayside.
- <sup>103</sup> "Wayside School for Young Ladies," *The Concord Freeman*, May 18, 1876 (microfilm, CFPL).
- <sup>104</sup> George and Abby Gray to Mary C. Pratt, 1247:466.
- <sup>105</sup> HGR, p. 69.
- <sup>106</sup> Samuel Adams Drake, *Historic Fields & Mansions of Middlesex* (Boston: James R. Osgood & Co., 1874), p. 373. Drake's book was subsequently reprinted under the titles *Old Landmarks & Historic Fields of Middlesex* (1876) and *Historic Mansions & Highways* (1899).
- <sup>107</sup> Drake, *Historic Fields & Mansions*, p. 373.
- <sup>108</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 374.
- <sup>109</sup> "Centennial Concord," *Appleton's Journal of Literature, Science, and Art*, April 24, 1875, p. 527.
- <sup>110</sup> "Wayside School for Young Ladies," *Concord Freeman*, May 18, 1876 (microfilm, CFPL); Alcott Journal LIV, April 19, 1878, as quoted in HGR pp. 71-72.
- <sup>111</sup> Alcott Journal, XLIX (c. 1874), as quoted in HGR p. 138.
- <sup>112</sup> *The Concord Freeman*, June 14, 1877 (microfilm, CFPL).
- <sup>113</sup> *The Concord Freeman*, June 19, 1879 (microfilm, CFPL).
- <sup>114</sup> March C. Pratt to George P. Lathrop, 1503:451; *The Concord Freeman*, March 20, 1879, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives); *The Concord Freeman*, March 27, 1879, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>115</sup> *The Concord Freeman*, May 1, 1879, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>116</sup> "The Concord Guide Book," *The Concord Freeman*, May 13, 1880 (microfilm, CFPL). It's curious that Rose Hawthorne Lathrop contributed to the publication, given the Lothrop's desire to curtail sight-seers on the property.
- <sup>117</sup> George B. Bartlett, *The Concord Guidebook*, second edition, revised (Boston: D. Lothrop and Company, 1880), pp. 58-59.

- <sup>118</sup> *The Concord Freeman*, February 10, 1881; March 31, 1881; June 9, 1881; and November 10, 1881, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives); Rose Hawthorne Lathrop to Thomas Wentworth Higginson, October 13, 1899, as quoted in HGR p. 75.
- <sup>119</sup> *The Concord Freeman*, June 16, 1882; June 21, 1882; September 1, 1882; and December 1, 1882, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives). The articles did not specify whether the Hawthornes and the Lathrops vacationed in Nonquit Massachusetts or Nonquit Rhode Island.
- <sup>120</sup> George P. Lathrop to Daniel Lothrop, 1634:17; Margaret M. Lothrop, *The Wayside: Home of Authors* (New York: American Book Company, 1968), 153-155; HGR p. 77.
- <sup>121</sup> Lothrop, *The Wayside*, p. 159, HGR p. 76.
- <sup>122</sup> Jean Kincaid, "Boston Letter," *Brains*, August 15, 1891, p. 39 (magazines box 28, #11187, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>123</sup> "The Philosopher's Picnic," *Boston Evening Transcript*, July 27, 1887, as quoted in HGR p. 80.
- <sup>124</sup> George B. Barlett, *Concord Historic Literary & Picturesque* (Boston: D. Lothrop Company, 1885), pp. 60, 63. The passage does not mention Norway spruce, known to have been planted by Hawthorne on the hillside and to have been extant in the 1880s. This is typical of most historic descriptions of the landscape and can probably be attributed to the authors' lack of horticultural knowledge.
- <sup>125</sup> Bartlett, *Concord Historic, Literary & Picturesque*, p. 63.
- <sup>126</sup> Jean Kincaid, "Boston Letter," *Brains*, August 15, 1891 (MIMA 11187, Magazines box 28, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>127</sup> "A Party at Wayside," *The Concord Enterprise*, August 11, 1888 (microfilm, CFPL).
- <sup>128</sup> "Reception in Honor of Mrs. Gen. John A. Logan," *The Concord Enterprise*, August 22, 1890 (microfilm, CFPL); <http://www.jal.cc.il.us/johnlogan.html>, 3/31/2004; Jean Kincaid, "Boston Letter," *Brains*, August 15, 1891, p. 39 (magazines box 28, 11187, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>129</sup> The flag that was draped over the roof in 1980 is in the park's museum collection (MIMA 61576).
- <sup>130</sup> Mrs. John A. Logan, "Hawthorne's House," November, 1890 (HMLFP box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>131</sup> George B. Barlett, *Concord Historic Literary & Picturesque* (Boston: D. Lothrop Company, 1885), pp. 59, 63.
- <sup>132</sup> "Roamings in Classic Massachusetts. III," *The Week*, December 11, 1891 (HMLFP box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>133</sup> "The Wayside," *The Saturday Evening Spectator*, September 11, 1886 (HMLFP box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>134</sup> Margaret Sidney, *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, Revised and Enlarged Edition (Boston: D. Lothrop Company, 1892), pp. 64, 67.
- <sup>135</sup> Margaret Sidney, *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, Revised and Enlarged Edition (Boston: D. Lothrop Company, 1892), pp. 67.
- <sup>136</sup> "The Wayside," *The Saturday Evening Spectator*, September 11, 1886 (HMLFP box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>137</sup> According to Elizabeth Alcott's 1846 drawing, the locust grove stood above the barn. However, her map did not include the parcel purchased by her uncle Samuel J. May in 1847, and later owned by Nathaniel Hawthorne, which may have shown the locust grove extended further west. Also, given she was only ten when she drew the map and fourteen years had passed since the map was drawn, the extent of the locust grove may have extended further south.
- <sup>138</sup> Bartlett, *Concord Historic, Literary, and Picturesque*, (Boston: D. Lothrop Company, 1885), p. 85.
- <sup>139</sup> Notations accompanying historic photographs of the bench indicate its location.
- <sup>140</sup> Septimus Felton was the main character in a book of the same name that was written by Nathaniel Hawthorne and staged at The Wayside.
- <sup>141</sup> MIMA photographic collection, #30803, MIMA Archives.
- <sup>142</sup> "The Wayside," *The Saturday Evening Spectator*, September 11, 1886 (HMLFP box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>143</sup> "A Philosophical Picnic," *Boston Evening Transcript*, July 27, 1887, as quoted in HGR p. 143.
- <sup>144</sup> MML interview, October 2, 1967 (HMLFP, box 83 folder 1, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>145</sup> MML Interview, winter 1965-1966 (HMLFP box 82 folder 2, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>146</sup> *The Concord Enterprise*, March 25, 1892, June 10, 1892, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>147</sup> *The Concord Enterprise*, 1892-1924 (microfilm, CFPL and as transcribed in Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3 folder 3, MIMA Archives); *Middlesex Patriot*, 1900-1902 (as transcribed in the Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3, folder 3, MIMA Archives);
- <sup>148</sup> MML Interview, June 1966 – August 1966 (Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 1 folder 11, MIMA Archives); *The Concord Enterprise*, 1912-1924 (as transcribed in Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3 folder 3, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>149</sup> *The Concord Enterprise*, 1912-1924 s transcribed in Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3 folder 3, MIMA Archives); *The Concord Minute Man*, 1915-1915 (as transcribed in Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3, folder 3, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>150</sup> Ebenezer Rockwood Hoar to Harriett M. Lothrop, 2307:267; Harriett M. Lothrop to Margaret Lothrop, 3169:476; Lothrop, *The Wayside*, p. 183; Harriett M. Lothrop and Stephen G. Coolidge, 1-year lease (HMLFP box 39 folder 3, MIMA Archives); *The Concord Enterprise*, July 18, 1906 (as transcribed in Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 3 folder 3, MIMA Archives); Harriett M. Lothrop to Charles H. Pepper, 2814:188; Harriett M. Lothrop to Julia L. Colburn, 2957:363; Harriett M. Lothrop to Alice Bradley, wife of Will Bradley, 2971:432.
- <sup>151</sup> William Torrey Harris to Harriett M. Lothrop (HMLFP box 39 folder 3, MIMA Archives); Bartlett, *Concord: Historic, Literary and Picturesque*; Harriett M. Lothrop to Louisa May Alcott Memorial Association, 3605:104.

- <sup>152</sup> Theodore Frelinghuysen Wolfe, *Literary Shrines: the Haunts of Some Famous Authors* (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott, 1895), pp. 59-60.
- <sup>153</sup> "Patriotic Celebration for Young People," *Concord Enterprise*, April 19, 1898. (microfilm, CFPL)
- <sup>154</sup> "Unique and Delightful," *Concord Enterprise*, June 2, 1898. (microfilm, CFPL)
- <sup>155</sup> "Reception by Mrs. Lothrop," Boston Sunday Herald, July 26, 1903. (HMLFP, box 36 folder 12, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>156</sup> Charles Everett, "Landscape Architecture I, Thesis III." (HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives) and Charles Everett to Harriett Lothrop, n.d. (HMLFP, box 10 folder 12, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>157</sup> *The Hawthorne Centenary, Celebration at The Wayside, Concord, Mass., July 4-7, 1904* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1905); "The Hawthorne Tablet," *Boston Transcript*, July 5, 1904, pp. 11-12.
- <sup>158</sup> "Country Homes of Famous Americans," *Country Life in America*, July 1904. The magazine article stated "Just above the larches [Larch Path], the Hawthorne path starts its circuitous way up the steep hillside."
- <sup>159</sup> "The Hawthorne Tablet," Boston Transcript, July 5, 1904. This would indicate that Harriett had not yet moved the building onto The Wayside property.
- <sup>160</sup> "The Hawthorne Tablet," Boston Transcript, July 5, 1904; *Hawthorne Centenary*.
- <sup>161</sup> "Country Homes of Famous Americans," *Country Life in America*, July 1904.
- <sup>162</sup> MML interview, October 2, 1967 (HMLFP, box 83 folder 1, MIMA Archives); Theodore Frelinghuysen Wolfe, *Literary Shrines: the Haunts of Some Famous Authors* (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott, 1895), p. 64; *Alcott Journal* XX, August 5, 1846 (as quoted in HGR p. 101).
- <sup>163</sup> Charles Everett, "Landscape Architecture I, Thesis III." (HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>164</sup> MML interview, Winter 1965-66, (HMLFP, box 82 folder 2, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>165</sup> Numerous articles appearing in *The Concord Enterprise*, 1905 – 1910, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, and MIMA Archives).
- <sup>166</sup> Numerous articles appearing in *The Concord Enterprise*, 1911 – 1928, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, and MIMA Archives).
- <sup>167</sup> "Notable Literary Gathering," *Concord Enterprise*, June 10, 1914 (microfilm, CFPL).
- <sup>168</sup> "Had Noted Guests, Lord and Lady Aberdeen Addressed Gathering at Hillside Chapel," *Concord Enterprise*, September 27, 1916 (microfilm, CFPL)
- <sup>169</sup> *The Concord Enterprise*, July 25, 1923 and May 14, 1924, as quoted in MIMA Architectural Conservator's Research Notes (Box 3, Folder 5, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>170</sup> Gladys E. H. Hosmer to Margaret Lothrop, August 9, 1928 (HMLFP, box 71 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>171</sup> Allen French to Margaret Lothrop, August 22, 1929 (HMLFP, box 71 folder 9, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>172</sup> Everett L. Getchell to Mrs. Sweet, August 16, 1931 (HMLFP, box 71 folder 9, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>173</sup> Margaret's friend and neighbor, Sarah Moore, was custodian of the house from 1928 to 1932 – MML interview, June 1966-August 1966 (Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 1 folder 11, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>174</sup> Margaret Lothrop to W.T.H. Howe, December 8, 1937 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>175</sup> W.T.H. Howe to Margaret Lothrop, January 6, 1938 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>176</sup> Margaret Lothrop to W.T.H. Howe, November 9, 1938 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>177</sup> Margaret Lothrop to W.T.H. Howe, December 29, 1937 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>178</sup> Margaret Lothrop to W.T.H. Howe, June 3, 1939 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives); Margaret Lothrop to Mauck Brammer, August 29, 1939 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>179</sup> Margaret Lothrop to Mauck Brammer, August 29, 1939 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 4, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>180</sup> *Concord Journal*, September 23, 1938 (HMLFP, box 68 folder 4, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>181</sup> NPS Interview with Margaret Lothrop, May 16, 1961, as paraphrased and quoted in HGR, p. 83.
- <sup>182</sup> Margaret Lothrop to Paul F. Frese, October 6, 1938 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 3, MIMA Archives)
- <sup>183</sup> Margaret Lothrop to John Forbes, September 28, 1938 (HMLFP, box 78 folder 3, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>184</sup> NPS Interview with Margaret Lothrop, May 16, 1961, as paraphrased in HGR, p. 83.
- <sup>185</sup> Dorothy Wayman, "Oxen Scene at Concord Like Bright Tints of Old Print," *Boston Globe* (HMLFP, box 79 folder 8, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>186</sup> MML, *The Wayside*, p. 186.
- <sup>187</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 186.
- <sup>188</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 187.
- <sup>189</sup> NPS interview, August 4, 1966, (Architectural Conservator's Research Notes, box 1 folder 12, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>190</sup> "Land Purchased 1945 from Mrs. Carruth" map, (HMLFP, box 79 folder 2, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>191</sup> Jenks Tree Service invoice, December 17, 1941 (HMLFP, box 91 folder 7, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>192</sup> Suburban Tree Service invoices, July 23, 1946 and December 3, 1946 (HMLFP, box 91 folder 76, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>193</sup> R.H. Allen to Margaret Lothrop, May 21, 1936 (HMLFP).
- <sup>194</sup> Suburban Tree Service invoice, December 16, 1946 (HMLFP, box 91 folder 7, MIMA).
- <sup>195</sup> Albert Rizzitano invoice, June 5, 1947, Mill Brook Nursery invoice, October 25, 1949, B.W. Brown Grain Co., April 10, 1950, Suburban Tree Service, January 27, 1955 (HMLFP, box 91, folder 7, MIMA Archives).
- <sup>196</sup> MIMA photographic collection, #24651, MIMA Archives (July 1925).
- <sup>197</sup> "The Wayside," *The Concord Journal*, July 1, 1937.
- <sup>198</sup> Pauline Beck, "The Home of Three Famous Authors," *The Boston Sunday Globe*, April 17, 1949 (HMLFP, box 69 folder 1, MIMA Archives).

# Cultural Landscape Report

## Minute Man National Park The Wayside Unit Concord, Massachusetts

### 1904 Period Plan



National Park Service  
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation  
[www.nps.gov/oclp](http://www.nps.gov/oclp)

#### SOURCES

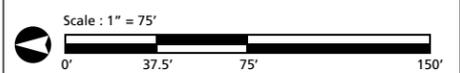
1. Topographic Survey of Wayside Unit, Minute Man National Historic Park, GEOD Consultants, April 8, 2004.
2. Historic photographs, MIMA Archives.

#### DRAWN BY

Debbie Smith and Jacob Tisinger, AutoCAD and Illustrator, 2008

#### LEGEND

- Property Boundary
- Existing Deciduous Tree
- Existing Evergreen Tree
- Field Grasses
- Retaining Wall
- Tree Canopy
- Road or Path
- Agriculture
- Hedge



Drawing 1









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## CHAPTER TWO: EXISTING CONDITIONS

This chapter provides images and a detailed description of landscape characteristics and extant features of the Wayside Unit, as documented in June 2008. Features documented include topography, spatial organization, land use, circulation, buildings, structures, utilities, vegetation, views and small-scale features.

The Wayside is part of Minute Man National Historical Park and is located in Concord Massachusetts, on the north side of Lexington Road one-half mile east of the town center. Single family residences, many of which date to the nineteenth century, line the road. The Wayside Unit is divided into three parcels. The 3.16-acre main parcel, containing the Wayside house, barn, the Larch and Hawthorne Paths, and associated features, sits parallel to and is defined by Lexington Road to the south. On the west end of this parcel, a steep ridge descends to meet Alcott Road. As shown on the existing conditions plan, the property line follows the ridge line and turns east just north of the Hawthorne Path. The line turns south and is marked by a split-rail fence along the eastern border.

The southeastern parcel of the property is a 0.34-acre remnant of the original 8-acre property. It is bounded to the north by Lexington Road, to the west by Hawthorne Lane, to the south by a few fence posts and Mill Brook, and to the east by several large deciduous and evergreen trees and a private residence.

The southwestern 2.61-acre parcel contains the Wayside Unit parking lot, a small portion of lawn, and a stand of quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and red maples (*Acer rubrum*). It is bounded by Lexington Road to the north, Hawthorne Lane to the east, Mill Brook to the south, and vegetation to the west. A split-rail fence outlines most of the parcel.

Overall, the Wayside Unit is well maintained and frequently visited by a portion of the 1.2 million visitors that come to Minute Man National Historical Park. The most notable changes to the condition of the landscape are a result of years of erosion. Areas along the walking paths are eroded due to steep grades—especially along the southern edge of The Wayside parcel facing Lexington Road and the area around the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder. Likewise, erosion has degraded the quality of the garden terraces on the hillside behind the house, making them less conspicuous than they once were. Invasive species such as Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and Buckthorn (*Rhamnus spp.*) have sprung up around the periphery of the property and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) has spread throughout the

wooded areas. Undergrowth fills many of the areas and saplings have sprung up along the paths and terraces limiting views of the house and surrounding landscape. The house is in need of repair while the barn, located to the east of the house, sags heavily in the roof. Apart from these worn or overgrown areas, The Wayside remains in good condition.

Guided tours, reenactments, and special holiday events are offered at The Wayside throughout the year. The inside of the house is only open for guided tours while anyone can visit The Wayside's landscape year-round.

#### **Spatial Organization, Topography and Land Use**

The Wayside house and barn, which rest on a level plane and run parallel to Lexington Road, form the core of the property (Figure 56). Rising sixty feet in elevation from the back of the house is a moderately wooded ridge, which also runs parallel to Lexington Road. From the Hawthorne Path along the crest of the ridge line, one can see two private residences that are tucked below the north side of the ridge. West of the house, the ridge descends and runs southwest to meet Lexington Road. The bend in the ridgeline encloses the landscape and, with the help of many maples (*Acer spp.*), oaks (*Quercus spp.*) and lindens (*Tilia spp.*), protects the house from northern winds.

There are five visible terraces on the hillside, each nearly stretching the length of the house. Lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) and young Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) and Norway and sugar maples (*Acer platanoides* and *Acer saccharum*) dot the more sunny lower terraces, while the upper terraces are in the deep shade of mature maples, lindens and oaks with an understory of Norway spruce, American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) and hickory (*Carya spp.*). Two sets of steps in the stone retaining wall provide access to the terraces. A larger set of steps is to the rear of the house north of the kitchen (Figure 57) and a smaller set in poor condition is farther west along the wall near the piazza and at the northeast corner of the west lawn. Paths from these steps merge and lead up through the terraces to the ridge allowing access to the terraces and Hawthorne Path at the peak of the hill. The Hawthorne Path (Figure 58) and Larch Path (Figure 59) are both east to west corridors that terminate at the edge of The Wayside property at the intersection of Alcott Road and Lexington Road.

The Larch Path runs from Alcott Road to the west lawn. At its western end are two entrances, one on a steep slope at the intersection of Lexington and Alcott roads just a few feet south of the terminus of the Hawthorne Path, which is partially filled in with undergrowth, and a second from the sidewalk along Lexington Road, which is wider and more commonly used. Where these two short entrance segments merge is a circular depression, with an approximately

15-foot diameter which may represent the cellar of the Minot House. The pit sits just below the elevation of Lexington Road while the Larch Path lies around five feet above the road. The Larch Path continues east and meets with the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder placed in 1904. The boulder is on the northern edge of the Larch Path while the eroded path terminus steeply descends a couple feet to meet grade with the house's western lawn (Figure 60). The lawn surrounds the piazza on the west side of the house and extends around the front and back of the house. The west lawn slopes gently toward the house and road and is bounded on the north by a retaining wall, which contains the steep slope of the hillside.

On the southern edge of the parcel, a privet hedge (*Ligustrum spp.*) stands a few feet high, separating the front lawn from the sidewalk and providing a more private feel to the property (Figure 61). North of the privets and west of the house entrance stands the Hawthorne Tree, a pink and white flowering hawthorn (*Crataegus spp.*). Apart from this vegetation, the lawn is very open. The remaining features sit east of the house and barn near the eastern edge of the parcel. A stone retaining wall, a split-rail fence, north-to-south-oriented line of privets and thick shrubs enclose the eastern lawn area creating a secluded setting.

Sitting directly across Lexington Road to the south and resting a foot or two lower in elevation is the 0.34-acre parcel (Figure 62), historically known as the 8-acre parcel and today referred to as Emerson Field. Fence posts and trees border the parcel from private residences on the east and south while the north and west edges are open to Lexington Road and Hawthorne Lane respectively.

Directly across Hawthorne Lane to the west is the parcel containing the Wayside Unit parking lot (Figure 63). The parking lot lies in a north to south direction with an entrance connecting to Hawthorne Lane on the southeast and a cross walk connecting to Lexington Road on the northwest. A stand of young trees forms an "L" shape on the western and southern portions of the parcel. A split-rail fence and numerous deciduous trees bound the north and east sides of the parcel. The trees provide both a visual screen and create a wooded setting for the parking lot.

#### **Circulation**

Vehicular roads surround and divide the Wayside Unit. Alcott Road runs north to south and bounds The Wayside on the west. It intersects the east to west Lexington Road which separates The Wayside from the two southern parcels (Figure 64). Hawthorne Lane, which runs north to south and allows cars to enter the parking area, separates The Wayside parking lot from the 0.34-acre remnant parcel. Lexington and Alcott roads are both about 30-feet in width while

Hawthorne Lane is between 20 and 25-feet in width. All of the roads have two lanes.

Multiple historic paths, which have since been altered, lead visitors around The Wayside house while newly constructed paths connect The Wayside and the southwest parcel. The southeast parcel isolates itself as no path connects it to the other parcels. A path and ramp on the east side of the barn serve as the main entrance to The Wayside house while multiple paths meander throughout, providing access and views. On the northern edge of Lexington Road, a sidewalk 2-feet to 3-feet wide and made of asphalt in some places and concrete in others, follows the curves of the road from east to west and connects with the barn entrance, the house entrance, The Wayside parking lot, the Larch Path and the Hawthorne Path (Figure 65). The soil in between the walk and curb, specifically west of the crosswalk, has eroded leaving crumbled asphalt and an 8 to 12-inch gap between the elevation of the walk and the curb. Beginning on the eastern side of the north parcel, a wooden ramp extends off the eastern entrance of the barn (Figure 66). It runs east and then south and connects to a 4-foot wide compacted gravel and sand walkway with soil stabilizer. The sidewalk continues west and intersects with a stone walkway which leads to the entrance of the house. Further west about thirty feet are traces of a walkway that once led to the piazza and west lawn, but the former path is now blocked by infill plants in the privet hedge. Halfway between the house and Alcott Road, a crosswalk connects the sidewalk to The Wayside parking lot. The sidewalk continues west and intersects with the Larch and Hawthorne Paths near the intersection of Lexington and Alcott roads.

At the intersection of Alcott and Lexington roads, the Hawthorne Path climbs the ridge in a northeastern direction until it terminates on the peak of the ridge. The southwestern portion of the Hawthorne Path is steep, narrow—only a foot or two wide—and tightly bordered by undergrowth and groundcover. Also, erosion has made the path uneven in many places. As the Hawthorne Path reaches its eastern end, another path—not clearly defined—descends in a southeastern direction down the ridge and ends at the stairs, built into the hill's retaining wall, located at the rear of the house. This path is filled with undergrowth and is difficult to see especially where it intersects the Hawthorne Path. After leaving this path and descending the stairs, the narrow rear lawn leads to the western lawn toward the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder (Figure 67) where the Larch Path begins. The Larch Path, varying between 4 and 5-feet wide, can be taken to the west to reconnect with the sidewalk or a smaller and less discernable path can be taken past the boulder and up the ridge to reconnect with the Hawthorne Path (Figure 68). The only paved paths are the sidewalk, the stone walkway at the entrance of the house, and the path leading to the ramped barn entrance. The remaining paths have a compacted soil surface.

### Vegetation

The most famous specimen, the Hawthorne Tree (*Crataegus spp.*), resides southwest of the house entrance and appears to be in good condition. At its base, against the foundation of the house, are a sweet mockorange (*Philadelphus coronarius*) and small privet, both which might be self sown. These are surrounded by fern and lily-of-the-valley. About 20-feet south of the hawthorn stands a privet hedge which is planted parallel to Lexington Road. In the eastern lawn, privet hedges run perpendicular to Lexington Road and flank the path leading to the barn. Also found in the lawn are maple trees, day lilies (*Hemerocallis spp.*), and low-lying grassy shrubs. There are several foundation plantings of day lilies surrounding the house. The most historically significant grouping of vegetation occurs along the Larch Path. Though there are only six European larches (*Larix decidua*) along the path, gaps on the southern edge of the path are filled in by mature sugar maples (*Acer saccharum*), Norway maples (*Acer platanoides*) and lindens. Small and medium height lindens and Norway maples sprout up on the path, most heavily on the northern edge. The ground is covered in lily-of-the-valley and an abundance of poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*). The terraces behind the house consist mostly of deciduous trees, especially Norway and sugar maples. Some Norway spruces also speckle the ridge while an assortment of lowbush blueberry, lily-of-the-valley, ferns (of the division Pteridophyta) and poison ivy cover the ground. Sitting upon and spilling over the retaining wall in the rear of the house are lilacs (*Syringa spp.*), spiraea (*Spiraea spp.*), forsythia (*Forsythia spp.*), tulips (*Tulipa spp.*), day lilies, and milkweed (*Asclepias spp.*).

In the intersection of Lexington Road and Hawthorne Lane is a traffic island (see Figure 64) with Coneflower (*Echinacea spp.*), sedum (*Sedum spp.*), day lilies, a juniper (*Juniperus spp.*), and sage (*Salvia spp.*). The island is maintained by the town of Concord.

The 0.34-acre parcel is bordered on the south and east by maples and evergreens while the remaining area is an open, grassy field. The grass is mowed less frequently than the other two parcels (see Figure 62).

Across Hawthorne Lane in the 2.61-acre parking lot parcel, deciduous trees border the north, east and south edges and the grass surrounding the parking lot is kept short and mowed regularly (see Figure 63). Tree species dotting the lawn along the eastern and northern edges include sugar maple, European larch, honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), crabapple (*Malus spp.*), black oak (*Quercus velutina*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*).

The western side of the lot, however, is less tended and is filled in by a stand of quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). The undergrowth and ground is covered by

an assortment of plants including: black locust, blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*), milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*), jewel weed (*Impatiens spp.*), sedges (*Carex spp.*), Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), daisy flea bane (*Erigeron annuus*), wild grape (*Vitis spp.*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), gray dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*), arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). Some invasive plants have also entered the area: Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), bedstraw (*Galium spp.*), honeysuckle, privet, multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), and buckthorn (*Rhamnus spp.*). The view of the surrounding properties to the west is blocked by the dense stand of trees and shrubs. The ground is covered in long grasses similar to those found in the 0.34-acre parcel.

#### **Buildings, Structures and Utilities**

The three-story house (Figure 69) rests parallel with Lexington Road and is connected by a wooden boardwalk to the barn (Figure 70), which stands about twenty feet to the east. A four-foot high stone retaining wall, beginning near the sidewalk in the eastern lawn of The Wayside, runs north until it is slightly behind the house and barn and then runs west, terminating along the base of the hillside directly north of a Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) on the edge of the west lawn. The wall bulges in many places and needs to be monitored in these areas. Northwest of the piazza in the western lawn is a small retaining wall with a few stairs that are mostly covered by soil and grass (Figure 71). On the south side of Lexington Road a set of power lines and street lights runs the length of the property parallel with the road. One set of lines connects to the house on the southeast corner immediately below the gutter. In between the house and barn on the southern side of the boardwalk rests a well once used by the residents of the house.

#### **Views and Vistas**

Due to the thick understory of young tree saplings, views from the wooded periphery of the property are obscured. There are partial views from the first and second terraces on the hillside, but any views that could be seen from the top of the terraces are blocked by the vegetation (Figure 72). Views of the house, piazza, Hawthorne tree, and privet hedge are best seen from the southwest area of The Wayside lawn. From this area there is also a break in the privet hedge, allowing views to the busy road, traffic island and parking lot (Figure 73). Views of the entire façade of the house can be seen from many angles along Lexington Road and the 0.34-acre parcel to the south (see Figure 69). A vista of the Larch Path is best viewed from either the eastern entrance near the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder or the western entrance near Alcott Road (see Figure 71). From these places, the Larch Path, the surrounding vegetation and the terminus points can be seen. The terminus point when looking from east to west is Alcott Road, while the terminus point looking west to east is The Wayside

house. The mature larches (*Larix decidua*) and maples make the space feel quite large.

#### **Small-scale Features**

Small-scale features at the Wayside Unit mostly include signs, plaques and fences. Greeting visitors driving on Lexington Road, a sign is posted directly south of the house entrance, perpendicular to Lexington Road and nestled in with the privet hedge. The sign marks the house as The Wayside, Home of Hawthorne, The Alcotts, and Margaret Sidney (Figure 74). A smaller sign hangs from the main sign by two small chains letting visitors know whether the house is open or closed for the day. Parallel with Lexington Road and standing slightly taller than the privet hedge is a wooden sign with a directional arrow pointing towards information, exhibits and tickets. Placed in the grass between the sidewalk and Lexington Road to both the east and west of The Wayside house are two brown, metal street signs indicating, “Parking”, “The Wayside”, and “Orchard House” with directional arrows pointing south towards the parking lot parcel. A third sign very similar to the previous two is placed in the triangular-shaped median at the intersection of Lexington Road and Hawthorne Lane. This sign also directs visitors to the parking lot. A tall, brown, wooden sign about seven feet in height is placed on the southeast side of the barn entrance path. The sign contains brochures for Minute Man National Historical Park and covered in a plastic frame are two sheets of paper containing images and historical information about The Wayside (Figure 75).

Three plaques are placed on the property. The largest is the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque, which is mounted on a large boulder in the woods just west of the lawn (see Figure 67). A National Historic Landmark plaque is mounted on a small boulder by the front door. West of the barn, a few feet southeast of a sign, is a boulder and plaque recognizing The Wayside house as a link in the Underground Railroad (see Figure 75).

Starting at the boulder with the Underground Railroad plaque and moving directly east, parallel with Lexington Road, a split-rail, wooden fence runs for about 25-feet before turning directly north for 35-feet (see Figure 75). The north to south portion of the fence runs directly along the eastern property line of The Wayside. The same style fence borders the north and east edges of the parking lot parcel (see Figure 63). There are a few signs with historical information on The Wayside positioned throughout the property. One is located near the eastern entrance of the Larch path and aptly describes the history of the Larch Path (see Figure 71). As one progresses west through the path, the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder appears to the north, and another sign tells the story of a slave named Casey who became a free man after fleeing his owner and fighting in the Revolutionary War. East of the connection between the parking

lot and parking lot sidewalk is a sign with a map of Minute Man National Historical Park describing the historical use and appearance of the parking lot parcel.

Because the unit is bisected by a major road and contains two intersections, there are numerous traffic signs that detract from the historic setting. About halfway between The Wayside home sign and the crosswalk north of Lexington Road is a yellow crosswalk sign, and halfway between the crosswalk and the intersection of Lexington and Alcott roads is a “no parking” sign. South of the Underground Railroad boulder and plaque is a 35 M.P.H. speed limit sign.

Two small-scale features are located next to the house. On the northeast corner of the house is a rectangular, wooden storage chest (Figure 76). Protruding from the east-facing wall of the southeast corner of the house are two cellar doors, painted the same green hue as the storage chest (see Figure 56). Both appear to be historic features associated with the house. There are no longer any benches or outdoor viewing platforms on the property.

#### **Archeological Features**

There are three main archeological features at The Wayside and a fourth possible site. The most extensive archeological feature, ironically, cannot be seen by visiting the site. A series of sub-surface drainage pipes has been installed to prevent the house from receiving unwanted water that could lead to property damage and flooding. A more prominent but unmarked feature is the well located just south of the boardwalk connecting The Wayside house and barn. A circular formation of stones surrounds the well that is no longer in use today. The Eliphelet Fox house, or Casey’s house, is marked with a sign (Figure 77). This site rests along the northern edge of the Larch Path directly west of the “Casey’s House” sign. Without the sign, the site would surely be missed as the area is covered in poison ivy and deciduous seedlings. A depression with an approximately 15-foot diameter, which may be the Minot House cellar, shapes the land a few feet east of Alcott Road and the connection between the Hawthorne Path and the Larch Path.



Figure 56. A northwest view of The Wayside house and barn (right), 2008.

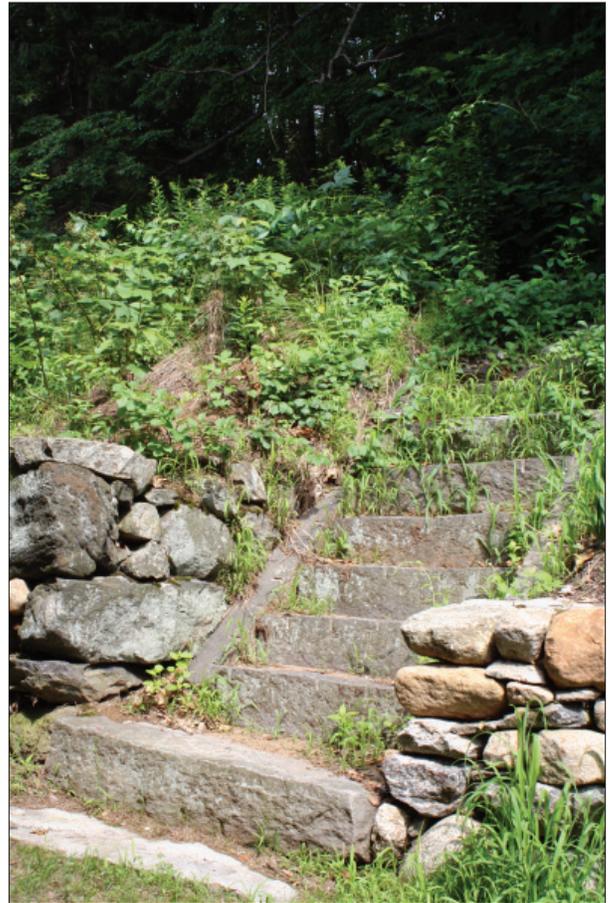


Figure 57. Steps to the terraces from behind the house. The steps and retaining wall on the left date to Alcott period. The steps on the right were added in 2006 to stabilize the steep slope, 2008.

**Figure 58.** View west on ridge above house looking along upper section of the Hawthorne Path, 2008.



**Figure 59.** View east of the Larch Path. Most of the understory consists of Norway and sugar maples, lindens, and poison ivy, 2008.

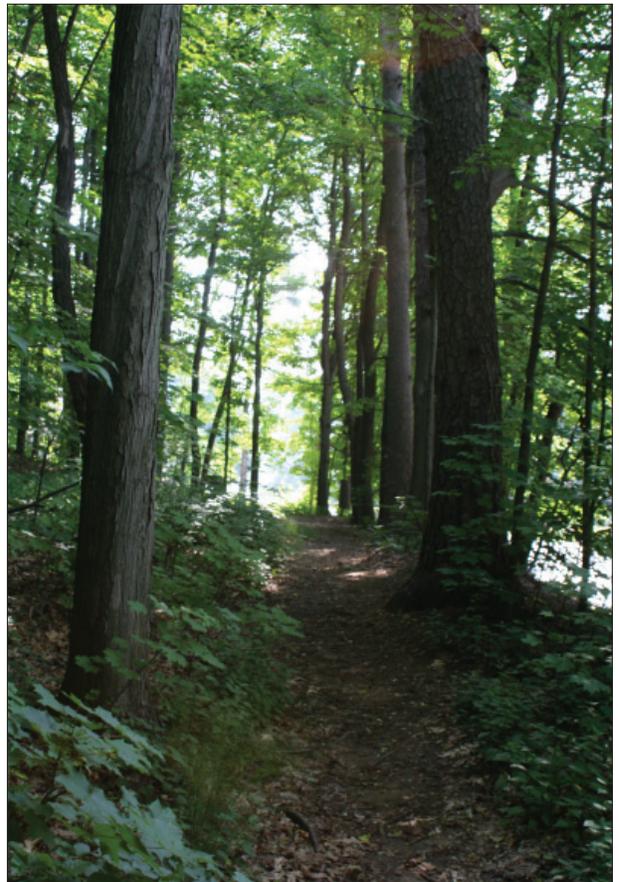




Figure 60. View east of the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder. The Larch Path connects with the Hawthorne via a steep path up the ridge to the left of the boulder. On right in the background are The Wayside house and piazza, 2008.



Figure 61. View east of the house, Hawthorne Tree, privet hedge, and white pine trunk. The planting along the piazza foundation contains sweet mockorange, privet, fern and lily-of-the-valley. A clump of day lilies grows in front of the bay window at center, 2008.



Figure 62. View south toward the remnant of the Emerson Field. This parcel was originally 8 acres and used for agriculture. It is now 0.34 acres is an open field bounded by maples, white pine and Norway spruce, 2008.



Figure 63. View south toward the parking lot parcel. In the foreground is the crosswalk that traverses Lexington Road and connects to the sidewalk on the southern edge of The Wayside parcel. Specimen trees and a split-rail fence line the north (foreground) and east (left) sides of the lot. A stand of quaking aspen and red maples bound the west (right) and south (background) sides of the lot, 2008.



Figure 64. View southwest of the southern parcels taken from the privet hedge in front of The Wayside. The road in the foreground is Lexington Road. Intersecting it is Hawthorne Lane which leads to the parking lot entrance. Across Hawthorne Lane on the left is the .34-acre parcel, 2008.



Figure 65. View east of visitors on The Wayside sidewalk along Lexington Road with multiple traffic signs. The Hawthorne Tree is visible in front of the house at left, 2008.



Figure 66. View northwest of the east lawn, retaining wall, barn, wooden ramp, and the privet flanked path connecting the barn and sidewalk. Note the foliage in the upper right from the Norway maple in the southwest corner of the lawn, 2008.



Figure 67. The Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder rests at the intersection of the Larch Path and a steep connector trail to the Hawthorne Path, 2008.



Figure 68. View southwest down the steep path connecting the Larch and Hawthorne Paths. In the middle of the picture is Alcott Road and just below to the left is the Larch Path. At left is the Norway Spruce next to the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque, 2008.



Figure 69. View north of The Wayside house and piazza. The break in the privet hedge allows access to the stone pathway and house entrance. In the 1800s and early 1900s, the opening in the hedge for the front walk aligned with the bay window, 2008.



Figure 70. View north of the boardwalk connecting the house (left) and barn (right). In the foreground, daylilies flower along the barn foundation. In the background, a stone retaining wall lines the base of the terraced hillside. Perennials and self-sown trees cover the lowest terrace. The stones seen in front of the boardwalk mark a well that is no longer in use.



Figure 71. View west of the stone steps embedded in the ground at center of photograph. Time and lack of maintenance have allowed the lawn to nearly swallow the steps. In the background, standing to the right of the Larch Path entrance, is sign with historic facts about the Larch Path, 2008.

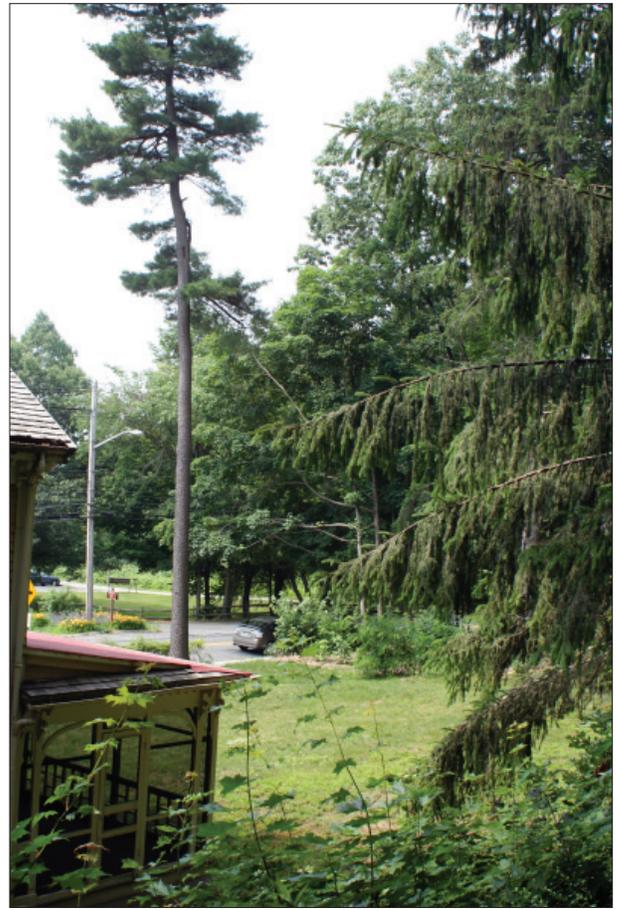


Figure 72. View southwest of The Wayside from the terraced hillside. Note the Norway spruce in the right foreground, the tall white pine tree in the lawn, the corner of the piazza on the bottom left, and the parking lot parcel in the distance, 2008.



Figure 73. View from the Wayside west lawn looking south at the traffic island in the center, the telephone pole and wires, and some volunteer black locusts in the lower right, 2008.



Figure 74. View east of The Wayside house, Hawthorne Tree, privet hedge and signs. A break in the privet hedge allows access to the front door. Located in the opening is the tall white sign labeling the house while the small brown sign near the hedge directs visitors to the east lawn, 2008.



Figure 75. Under the canopy of a Norway maple, a view of the east lawn, information sign and Underground Railroad boulder and plaque. Notice the split-rail wooden fence that bounds the lawn to the south and east, and the retaining wall on the east. The path in the lower left leads to the ramp and barn entrance, 2008.



Figure 76. View northwest of the wood and coal bin, non-historic stone retaining wall (built in 2006), and terrace plantings from left to right, 2008.



Figure 77. View west of the Larch Path. On the middle right, a sign labels the archeological site of the Elphelet Fox house or "Casey's House." The area is covered with poison ivy, 2008.



# Cultural Landscape Report

## Minute Man National Park The Wayside Unit Concord, Massachusetts

### Existing Conditions Map



National Park Service  
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation  
[www.nps.gov/oclp](http://www.nps.gov/oclp)

#### SOURCES

1. Topographic Survey of Wayside Unit, Minute Man National Historic Park, GEOD Consultants, April 8, 2004.
2. Field Documentation, June 2008.

#### DRAWN BY

Debbie Smith and Jacob Tisinger, AutoCAD and Illustrator, 2008

#### LEGEND

- Property Boundary
- Existing Deciduous Tree
- Existing Evergreen Tree
- Field Grasses
- Retaining Wall
- Tree Canopy
- Road or Path
- Agriculture
- Hedge



Drawing 3





# Cultural Landscape Report

Minute Man National Park  
The Wayside Unit  
Concord, Massachusetts

## Existing Conditions Map Detail



National Park Service  
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation  
[www.nps.gov/oclp](http://www.nps.gov/oclp)

### SOURCES

1. Topographic Survey of Wayside Unit, Minute Man National Historic Park, GEOD Consultants, April 8, 2004.
2. Field Documentation, June 2008.

### DRAWN BY

Debbie Smith and Jacob Tisinger, AutoCAD and Illustrator, 2008

### LEGEND

- Property Boundary
- Existing Deciduous Tree
- Existing Evergreen Tree
- Field Grasses
- Retaining Wall
- Tree Canopy
- Road or Path
- Hedge
- Plaque or Boulder
- Sign
- Well



Drawing 4





## **CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION**

This Analysis and Evaluation chapter provides an overview of the historical significance of The Wayside landscape, describes the characteristics and features that contribute to the significance of the landscape, and evaluates the integrity of the historic landscape. The first section reviews the National Register status, areas of significance, and overall integrity of the historic landscape. The second section examines landscape characteristics, such as spatial organization, circulation, and vegetation, and compares the findings from the site history with the existing conditions of the landscape as documented in June 2008. A summary table at the end of the chapter lists all documented landscape characteristics and features. The area documented includes the entire 6.11-acre Wayside Unit, consisting of three parcels, which coincides with the boundary of the National Register Historic District.

### **NATIONAL REGISTER AND NATIONAL LANDMARK STATUS**

This analysis and evaluation is based on criteria and aspects of integrity developed by the National Register of Historic Places Program, which lists properties that are significant to our nation's history and prehistory. According to the National Register, historic significance may be present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association which meet at least one of the following criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history.
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Yields or may be likely to yield information in prehistory or history.

The Wayside, located within Minute Man National Historical Park, was designated a National Historic Landmark on December 29, 1962 for its architectural, social/humanitarian and literary significance—a designation that was reaffirmed on February 4, 1985 because the initial designation was not officially recorded. The boundary for the Landmark designation encompasses 3.25 acres on the north side of Lexington Road including the home, barn, Hawthorne and Larch paths, terraces and associated features.

Minute Man National Historical Park, including the boundaries of the Wayside Unit, was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15<sup>th</sup> of 1966. Documentation was accepted by the Keeper in November of 2002 and amended to include archeological significance in December of 2002. The documentation was amended again in October of 2006 to correct errors and included supplemental listings based on the results of subsequent research. The period of significance for Minute Man National Historical Park Historic District begins in 1655, the date of construction of the Meriam House, the oldest feature in the park for which physical evidence survives. The period of significance ends in 1959, the year the national park was established. The historic district includes the three units within the park—the North Bridge, Battle Road and Wayside units.

Minute Man National Historical Park is significant at the national level under Criterion A in the areas of military and commemoration of the American Revolution, and under Criterion B for association with prominent literary figures of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The park is significant at the local level under Criterion A for its agricultural heritage, Criterion C for Colonial architecture, and under Criterion D for archeology. Overall the site retains historical integrity including its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

#### **EVALUATION OF INTEGRITY**

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. While evaluation of integrity is often a subjective judgment, it must be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance. The National Register identifies seven aspects of integrity.<sup>1</sup> Retention of these qualities is essential for a property to convey its significance, though all seven qualities need not be present to convey a sense of past time and place. Using these seven aspects of integrity, the six areas of significance identified above are described and summarized in Table 1.

#### **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE AND INTEGRITY**

##### **Military Events of April 19, 1775**

The primary significance of Minute Man NHP is under Criterion A at the national level for its association with the military events of April 19, 1775, when the Battle of Lexington and Concord marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War—one of the most significant events in American history. The park was established in 1959 because of its significance as the site of the first battle of the American Revolution. The Wayside Unit was, in part, added to the park in 1965 in part because of its association with the battle. Samuel Whitney, muster master for the Concord Minutemen resided on the property from 1769 to 1778 in the

home later known as The Wayside. The Town of Concord stored artillery for its militia in Whitney's barn just prior to the British Regular's march into Concord on April 19<sup>th</sup> to seize the town's military stores. Extant landscape features that contribute to the military significance of the landscape include the house, barn and the Lexington Road corridor.

The cultural landscape at The Wayside retains sufficient integrity, including location, design, setting, and association, to convey its significance of the landscape at the time of the Battle of Lexington and Concord in 1775. The property retains its association as the home of Samuel Whitney, a witness building at the time of the Revolution, and the basic organization of the house at the base of the hill on the northern side of Lexington Road remains. However, the barn was located on the southern side of Lexington Road in 1775. The locations of additional 1775 buildings, structures, and fence lines are unknown. The property lacks integrity of materials and workmanship because only the house survives and it has been significantly altered. The historic feeling is diminished by the loss or significant alteration of 1775 features and of the open hillside and fields surrounding the house. It is further diminished by the noise and visual intrusion created by heavy automobile traffic on Lexington Road.

Minute Man NHP is significant under Criterion A at the national level for commemoration of the Revolutionary War for the period of 1836, when the first monument was constructed on the sixtieth anniversary of the battle, to 1959, when the park was established. There are no commemorative markers located in the Wayside Unit that are associated with commemoration of the Revolutionary War.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Literary Figures and Philosophy (1834 to 1924)**

The Wayside Unit is significant at a national level under National Register Criterion B for its association with prominent literary figures of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, specifically Bronson and Louisa May Alcott—residents from 1845 to 1848, Nathaniel Hawthorne—resident from 1851 to 1852 and 1860 to 1864, and Harriett Lothrop (pen name Margaret Sidney)—residents from 1883 to 1892 and 1924 respectively. In addition, Bronson Alcott and Nathaniel Hawthorne are recognized for their contributions to philosophical schools of thought of their time. The period of significance for the larger Minute Man NHP Historic District in the area of literature starts in 1834, when Ralph Waldo Emerson began his short residence at the Old Manse near the North Bridge and ends in 1924, with the passing of Harriett Lothrop. Extant landscape features within the Wayside Unit that contribute to the significance of the landscape include the house and barn, terraced hillside, stone retaining wall and steps, Larch Path, Hawthorne Path (on the ridge line), patterns of vegetation and some

specific trees and shrubs, the front hedge, lawn, Hawthorne Centennial Plaque, and remnant of the agricultural field on the south side of Lexington Road.

The cultural landscape at The Wayside retains sufficient integrity to convey its appearance during its occupancy by the different authors. The location of the house remains the same and the design of the landscape has been largely preserved. The most significant features still exist, though some of the footpaths have been lost. The general setting of the landscape remains the same, at the foot of the hill and north of the road. Despite passing to several different owners and being hit by the Hurricane of 1938, the landscape preserves its general character—new trees have grown up to cover the hillside again (though they are largely deciduous, not evergreen), the house sits on a small lawn close to the foot of the hill, and is separated from the road by a hedge. The property retains historic materials and workmanship. The house and barn remain (as altered by the Alcotts, Hawthornes, and Lothrop), as do a number of features dating prior to 1924 including several footpaths, the stone retaining wall and stairs, the lawn west of the house, and several trees, all or most of which date to the mid-1800s. Missing features include garden structures, minor foot trails and benches. The feeling of the property remains. Although the hurricane destroyed the hundreds of evergreens planted by Hawthorne that had matured by the early 1900s, the extant mature secondary growth forest reflects the general character of the pre-1924 hillside. The extant view of the property north of Lexington Road (house, hedge, and hillside) from Lexington Road generally reflects the character of the site as depicted in historic photographs. The property also retains its association as the home of authors Bronson and Louisa May Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Harriet Lothrop.

#### **Colonial and Period Revival Architecture (c. 1705 to 1946)**

The Wayside and adjacent barn are significant at a local level under National Register Criterion C for their architecture in the Colonial (1600-1730) and Period Revival (1870-1940) style. The period of significance extends from 1705, when the Meriam House was constructed, to 1946, when the Beatey House was completed, both of which are located in the Battle Road Unit of the park. The core of The Wayside dates to the Colonial period and was possibly constructed in 1715-1716 by Nathaniel Ball, Sr., Nathaniel Ball, Jr., or his son, Caleb Ball. The house was modified by the Alcotts between 1845 and 1852, the Hawthornes between 1852 and 1868, and the Lothrop between 1883 and 1965. The barn was relocated to the north side of the road to the west side of the home by Bronson Alcott in 1845, moved to its present site east of The Wayside by Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1860, and later remodeled by the Lothrop.

The Wayside cultural landscape retains sufficient integrity, including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, to convey its

architectural significance. Some alterations have been made to the house to accommodate modern technologies but they do not detract from the materials or workmanship.

**Agricultural Heritage (c. 1655 to 1951)**

Minute Man NHP Historic District is significant at a local level under Criterion A for patterns of agriculture. The Wayside Unit possesses agricultural significance as it exhibits ties to the development of local agriculture. The period of significance extends from 1655, the date of construction of the nearby Meriam farm house, and ends in 1951, when the Concord farmers—including those with land within the future park—were actively engaged in market gardening and supplying Boston markets with fresh fruits and vegetables. The year 1951 also marked fifty years from when the National Register documentation was initially prepared in 2001. (The National Register typically recommends that properties be evaluated after fifty years to allow for sufficient historical perspective.) Extant Wayside landscape features that contribute to the significance of the agricultural landscape include the barn, terraced hillside, and remnant portion of the eight-acre parcel located across from the house on the south side of Lexington Road, and the Eliphelet Fox House foundation included within the boundaries of The Wayside Unit.

The cultural landscape at The Wayside retains sufficient integrity to convey its agricultural significance up through the mid twentieth century—the end of the period of significance for the historic district. By this time areas that were cultivated by the Alcotts in the 1840s were abandoned and wooded. The property retains its location, design, and setting, as well as its association with the previous owners, who in the 1940s tended the vestiges of the former agricultural landscape, which were used more for relaxation and entertainment. The Lothrop's used the grounds to host events—most notably the 1904 Hawthorne Centenary. Agricultural features include the barn and terraced hillside. However, the site lacks integrity of materials, workmanship and feeling. None of the fruit trees exist, nor is any portion of the landscape under agricultural production. The eight-acre parcel on the southern side of Lexington Road has been reduced to a fraction (0.34 acres) of its original size. Only five of Alcott's original 8 to 12 terraces survive, and they are less defined due to tree blow downs during the Hurricane of 1938 and subsequent erosion. Overall the property has an unkempt feeling rather than a well-tended productive landscape.

**Archeological Sites (7,500 to 500 years B.P., c. 1665 to 1951)**

The Wayside Unit is significant at a national level under National Register Criterion D for archeological sites that likely contain information on the site's early history. The beginning of the period is marked by the Eliphelet Fox House Foundation, which dates to c. 1665. Located to the west of The Wayside,

Eliphilet Fox completed his house in 1666. The house was abandoned 159 years later in 1825 and only the foundation remains.<sup>3</sup> Based on a description by Henry David Thoreau, the Fox house was occupied by Casey, the slave of Samuel Whitney who owned The Wayside property from 1769 to 1788. Upon receiving his freedom at the end of the Revolutionary War, Casey resided in the house until his death in 1822. The end of the period of significance, 1951, represents fifty years from when the National Register documentation was prepared. This time frame also marks the date after which no major alterations were made to the landscape by Margaret Lothrop, prior to transferring the property to the NPS in 1965, while 1959 marks the establishment of Minute Man National Historical Park. The foundation site retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, association, but not its original design or feeling as the house is gone.

The Minute Man National Park Historic District is also significant for archeological resources dating to 7,500 to 500 years ago, including sites dating to the Middle Archaic Period. The Wayside Unit also has the potential to yield information on the prehistoric use of the area. Middle and Late Archaic projectile points have been found between The Wayside Unit and Meriam's Corner, though none specifically within The Wayside Unit.

**TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE INTEGRITY, WAYSIDE UNIT, MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK**

Significance	Overall	Location	Design	Setting	Materials	Work-manship	Feeling	Association
Military, 1775	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Literature and Philosophy, 1834 to 1924	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Architecture, c. 1705 to 1946	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Agriculture, 1635 to 1951	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Archaeology, 1665 to 1951	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

## **EVALUATION OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES**

The evaluation includes a brief description of the characteristic's historic and existing condition in June 2008 as well as a determination regarding the contribution of each characteristic or specific feature to the significance and integrity of the landscape as a whole.

Extant characteristics and features defined as “contributing” are those that were present during the period of significance and retain their historic character. The period of significance for The Wayside ends in 1959, when Minute Man National Historical Park was created. However there are several other significant events in its history, such as the beginning of the Revolutionary War in 1775, the Hawthorne Centenary celebration in 1904, the passing of the prominent author Harriett Lothrop in 1924, the purchase of The Wayside property by the NPS in 1965, and its designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 (reaffirmed in 1985). Landscape characteristics and features from each of these dates remain important to the unique identity of The Wayside today. Some features are described as “non-contributing,” because they were altered or added since the end of the period of significance in 1959. These non-contributing features may or may not detract or alter the historical significance and integrity of the landscape. Table 2 contains a summary of the contributing and non-contributing landscape characteristics. The significance of a feature where its exact history is unknown is defined as “undetermined.”

### **Topography**

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the site was characterized by a ridge running across the northernmost edge and a broad terrace at the toe of the slope where the house was constructed. The southern boundary of the site was marked by a stream. No significant alterations were made to the topography until the 1840s when Bronson Alcott purchased the property and carved eight to twelve terraces into the hillside and cut away portions of the base of the hill to level the ground around the house.

During Hawthorne's ownership of The Wayside, he hired Alcott to plant the terraces and much of the rest of his land on the ridge with Norway spruce, but did not make any effort to change or to maintain the terracing of the hillside. By 1904, when the Hawthorne Centenary was held at The Wayside, the spruces planted by Hawthorne were full-grown. Without any upkeep, the terraces began to erode, a process that was accelerated by the Hurricane of 1938, which uprooted the majority of Hawthorne's spruces, resulting in further erosion of the terraces. Eventually hardwoods grew back on the hillside through natural

succession, and provided some protection for the vestiges of the terraces and the hillside itself.

**Existing Condition:** Since the park began managing the property in 1965 the hardwoods have continued to grow on the hillside, and evidence of five of the original terraces remains. A retaining wall at the base of the hill, behind the eastern side of the house, was constructed in 2006 to control erosion and flooding into the house. This defined the base of the hill, but did not alter the overall topography of the site. Also present is a 15-foot diameter depression north of the eastern Larch Path entrance that may have been the site of the Minot house. The rest of the site's topography has remained largely unchanged.

**Evaluation:** Contributing

The natural and manipulated topography—the ridgeline, flat lawn and remnant agricultural parcel, the terraced slope and retaining walls—contribute to the character of the historic landscape.

#### **Spatial Organization**

**Historic Condition:** Originally, the house was constructed on the north side of Lexington Road on the flat terrace below a forested hill, and the barn was placed on the south side of Lexington Road, on the plot of flat land used for agriculture known as the eight-acre parcel or Emerson Field. When Bronson Alcott purchased the property he cut terraces into the side of the ridge so he could cultivate the hillside in addition to the flat Emerson Field south of the road. He planted evergreen trees between the house and road to screen out noise and dust, creating both a frame and a sense of enclosure for the home (Figure 78). He also moved the barn to the north side of the road, and placed it just to the west of the house. When Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased the property, he soon discontinued agricultural activity on the terraces and moved the barn to the east side of the house. Hawthorne did not invest much in farming the eight-acre parcel south of Lexington Road, but it remained an open space separated from the domestic core of the property on the north side of the road.

Through the Lathrop and Lothrop ownerships, the spatial organization of the property remained essentially unchanged. The social activities were still centered around the house, barn, and piazza (added to the west side of the house in 1887) lying at the base of the ridge, and the land directly across Lexington Road from the house remained largely open and undeveloped, despite the fact that it was under different ownership for many years. From 1867 to 1945, The Wayside and Emerson Field (distinguished by Lexington Road cutting between them) were under separate ownerships, but they were rejoined in 1945 when Margaret Lothrop purchased the eight-acre parcel. The spatial organization of the

property was substantially altered by the 1938 hurricane when many, but not all, of the evergreens were removed.

**Existing Condition:** Since 1959, little about the general spatial organization has changed—the house and barn still lie just south of the ridge, with Lexington Road bounding them on the south. The most notable change is in the amount of evergreen vegetation extant that defines spaces within the property (Figure 79). The eight-acre parcel on the south side of Lexington Road has been greatly diminished in size, and is now only 0.34 acres, and bounded on two sides by houses. This development limits its agricultural quality, but it retains its relationship with the house lot because of its placement across the road, and its characteristic of openness and lack of development.

**Evaluation:** Contributing

The spatial organization of the house, barn, retaining walls, terraces and the flat, agricultural parcel contributes to the character of the historic landscape. The definition of spaces with evergreens has changed but is not entirely lost.

#### **Land Use**

**Historic Condition:** In private ownership for some three-hundred years, the property has been used for agriculture, entertainment, recreation, commemoration and tourism. The earliest Colonial homes were built in the 1660s and changed ownership many times over the next two-hundred years. When Bronson Alcott purchased Hillside (The Wayside) in 1845, he carved terraces into the side of the ridge, laid down sod, and planted fruits and vegetables on them. He also farmed the eight-acre parcel leased from Ralph Waldo Emerson, located across the road from The Wayside.

In 1852 Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased the property. Hawthorne modified the ridge landscape by creating new paths, transplanting trees, and abandoning the gardens that Alcott had created. Hawthorne also purchased the eight-acre parcel across the road from The Wayside and continued farming it for several years, but by 1864 had given up trying to maintain the crops and let the fields lie in disuse. In the fall of 1860, Nathaniel Hawthorne planted the terraces and much of the rest of his land on the hillside with Norway spruce that had been sent from England. Hawthorne enjoyed using the ridge area recreationally and as a retreat for thinking. He and Alcott (whom he had hired as a landscaper) created several paths to provide access to neighbors (the Alcotts to the west) and also to the ridgeline.

Both the Hawthornes and the Lothrop socialized and entertained on the lawn west of the house. During the Lathrop, Pratt, and Lothrop ownerships, tourists (both invited and uninvited) walked upon the landscape. The Lothrop actively

encouraged commemoration of Hawthorne and his association with The Wayside, and hosted the 1904 Hawthorne Centenary celebration. Until her death in 1970, Margaret Lothrop continued to host visitors at The Wayside and share her knowledge of the house and lands, and the famous authors who had lived there. The land to the southwest of The Wayside, much of it quite wet, remained open throughout this period (Figure 80, also see Figure 55).

**Existing Condition:** Today, the NPS continues to welcome visitors to The Wayside, providing interpretive programs as well as caring for the house and grounds. The field on the south side of Lexington Road is still open, though reduced to 0.34 acres, the core house and lawn area continue to serve as the main receiving area for visitors, and some of the paths ascending the ridge are still evident and in use allowing visitors to enjoy the same walks that Nathaniel Hawthorne paced. The land to the southwest was purchased by the park service to serve as a parking area (Figure 81).

**Evaluation:** Contributing

The house, paths, and lawns are still used today for entertainment, passive recreation, commemoration and tourism and contribute to the character of the historic landscape. Agricultural use has ceased.

#### **Circulation**

**Historic Condition:** Bronson Alcott disliked the noise and dust of the Bay Road (Lexington Road) and planted a screen of vegetation to provide separation from the road (see Figures 78 and 79). Alcott relocated the barn to the west side of the house, but Hawthorne subsequently relocated the barn to the east side of the house with an entry drive to the road. Alcott also created several paths on the property to connect the various features and structures he had built. However, most of the major paths popularly associated with The Wayside were created during Hawthorne's ownership. Eager to facilitate communication between his home (The Wayside) and the adjoining Orchard House property owned by the Alcotts, Hawthorne asked Alcott to cut a path through the larches to connect the two properties. This path came to be known as the Larch Path and ran parallel to Lexington Road (Figures 82 and 83). Another path, the "Hawthorne Path," ran along the top of the ridgeline behind the house, and was the area Nathaniel Hawthorne used for pacing, working and thinking. During Hawthorne's time at The Wayside, the vegetation on the ridge was sparse enough to allow expansive views of the surrounding countryside. According to early Hawthorne family writings, a portion of this path was bordered by locust trees. By 1904, the spruce trees that Hawthorne had planted were mature and would have obscured the views from the path at the top of the ridge.

From the late 1800s to the early 1900s, the driveway persisted and was clearly defined throughout the Lothrop's ownership. Historic photographs show changes in the entry paths from the road with breaks in the hedge at the bay window and west just beyond the piazza (see Figures 36, 38, 42 and 43). Historic photographs also show a path that extended from the northwest corner of the lawn (where the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder are now) in a northwesterly direction up the side of the hillside to intersect with the Hawthorne Path (see Figures 18 to 21 and 27 to 31). Another path ascended a set of stone steps in the northeast corner of the west lawn, ran west from the terraces, then descended near the boulder to meet with the previously described path and was mentioned in early 1900s writings. A third path ran north from the stone steps directly behind the house led from the kitchen to Alcott's fruit trees and vegetable gardens on the terraces. In the eight-acre parcel, the Hawthornes maintained a path that was flanked by evergreens and lead down to the brook. Public paths along the road, just outside of The Wayside's hedge and fence, existed at least since the late 1800s (see Drawing 1).

Margaret Lothrop also modified the paths around the house, including moving the path to the front door of the house (some time after 1932) so that it ran straight north to the door from the sidewalk, rather than diagonally east from the front door to a point further along the sidewalk. She did not use the paths around the house, and allowed them to revert to grass.

During the 1938 hurricane, relatively few larches along the Larch Path were lost. The largely unchecked growth of new trees and underbrush after the hurricane reforested the hillside, but also resulted in the poor state of some of the paths, which became overgrown (see Drawing 1).

Existing Condition: Today, Lexington Road remains a busy thoroughfare (see Figures 80 and 81). The entry drive is now seeded as a lawn area (Figures 84 and 85). Visitors continue to use the Larch Path to travel between The Wayside and Orchard House (see Figure 83). The Hawthorne Path remains a point of interest for visitors and is passable today, despite a long period without maintenance. The path now terminates on the ridge in sight of residential properties to the north. The views of the countryside from the ridge are not visible in warmer months, due to the growth of deciduous trees and underbrush. The path running from the northwest corner of the lawn up to the Hawthorne Path is now largely overgrown, essentially ending at the Hawthorne Centenary Plaque. The path continues directly up the steep hillside to the ridge from the Hawthorne Centenary Plaque, but the route is exceedingly steep and the origins of this path are unknown—this part of the landscape is not depicted in the historic photographs. The path leading west from the stone steps in back of the house is still discernable, but is very overgrown. The path up the steps from the northeast

corner of the lawn to the terraces is very overgrown. The paths around the house are gone, though a few steps are barely visible at the northwest corner of the piazza. The entry path has shifted to the west to align with the front door instead of the bay window (Figures 86 and 87). The location of the path from the sidewalk to the west lawn and piazza can be located by close inspection of the hedge, which has a five-foot section of infill at the site of the former path. The path on the eight-acre parcel that ran down to the brook is now largely on lands that are not part of The Wayside property, but a few evergreens mark where it ran on the remaining 0.34 acres. The public sidewalk paralleling Lexington Road along the southern border of the house lot is now paved and graded, but follows in the line of the public path that historically lay there.

The park service created several new circulation features to accommodate visitors. These include the walk and ramp leading up to the side door of the barn (which is now used to receive visitors), the new visitor parking lot on the parcel southwest of Lexington Road, which has a broad sidewalk along its western side that extends from the parking lot to the crosswalk on Lexington Road.

Evaluation: Contributing, Non-contributing, and Undetermined

The Hawthorne Path, Larch Path, path leading north from the steps in the rear lawn, and sidewalk are historically significant and contribute to the character of the landscape. The path leading to the barn entrance, sidewalk bordering the parking lot parcel, and sidewalk leading to the crosswalk are relatively new features and do not contribute to the historic character. From studying historic photographs, it appears that the current direct path from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder to the Hawthorne Path is a recent route, whereas the historic route that cut up the hillside in a northwesterly direction is no longer easy to follow. As part of a field survey, traces of this path were found and mapped.

#### **Vegetation**

Historic Condition: When Bronson Alcott acquired this land in 1845, it was characterized by sandy soils and scrub vegetation. During the three years that the Alcotts lived at Hillside (The Wayside), Alcott worked to transform the landscape in order to grow food for his family and to create a bucolic setting. He created terraces on the hillside in back of the house and grew crops and fruit trees on them, farmed the eight-acre parcel across the street from Hillside, and created “lawns” of grass and clover in many areas including the hillside, perhaps on parts of the terraces, under the orchard on the eight-acre parcel, near the house, and on the front terrace. Alcott planted oats and clover bordering the central walk through the eight-acre parcel. Around the house he planted pear and apple trees, a few elms near the door, and transplanted various species of evergreen trees (possibly in rows) between the house and the road to serve as a screen. Abba and

Bronson Alcott both planted several decorative flower beds around the house, which included bergamot, roses, and quince trees.

In 1852, Nathaniel Hawthorne bought the property from the Alcotts and the eight-acre parcel across the street from Emerson. It was not until 1859, when he hired Bronson Alcott to oversee his landscaping, that Hawthorne made any significant changes to the landscape. One of the first things Alcott did was cut a path through the row of larches to create the Larch Path. In the early 1860s, Hawthorne had 450 Norway spruce trees sent from England, and planted them on the hillside and on the terraces. Also significant to Hawthorne's period of ownership is the Hawthorne Tree, which stands to the west of the front door. The tree, planted by Hawthorne, is an English Hawthorne (*Crataegus laevigata*) and was likely shipped from England. This hawthorn is unique in that one half of the tree blooms with double white flowers and one half blooms with single white flowers with pink stamens. The Hawthornes maintained their yard as a groomed lawn, and used it for entertainment and social purposes. Petunias, morning glories, sweet peas, lilies-of-the-valley, Virginia creeper, queen-of-the-prairies rose, and lilies were some of the plants in the decorative gardens around the house. While Hawthorne had stopped farming the eight-acre parcel by 1864, he maintained an evergreen-lined path leading to the brook where Alcott had planted his willows.

The Lothrop's tried to preserve the property as it looked during Hawthorne's ownership. When the Hawthorne Centenary Celebration was held in 1904, the spruces were mature and the groomed lawn and the buffer of evergreens between the house and the road remained. Also screening the road was privet hedge visible in historic photographs (see Figure 78). Historic photographs also depict a small cluster of lilacs planted just off the northwest corner of the house by 1880 (Figure 88). Daylilies were growing in front of the house by 1904.

The Norway spruces that were planted by Hawthorne in the 1860s were largely destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. While a few evergreens survived, the gradual, natural reforestation of the hillside with deciduous species followed. The hurricane also damaged the double row of evergreens which bordered the inside of the hedge, and which certainly existed in 1904. Several of the remaining evergreens on the eight-acre parcel were cut down immediately following the hurricane for fear that they would fall if a second hurricane passed through.

After the hurricane and through the 1960s, Margaret Lothrop made several alterations to the vegetation around the house, cutting down diseased or dead trees, fertilizing the lawns, and creating several decorative plantings that included daylilies along the base of the stone wall, two lilac bushes on the western side of the lawn, a Norway spruce in the eastern lawn, roses west of the barn and

perhaps southeast of the house, vines on trellises against the house and barn, and daylilies, lilacs, barberry, ferns, lily-of-the-valley, iris, and foxglove in various locations. Overall, the care of the landscape diminished in the 1930s through the 1960s as the Lothrop's used the house less frequently.

**Existing Condition:** The ridge behind the house is now dominated by deciduous trees that have created a general forested character similar in some respects to what existed during the Lothrop ownership period, though notably more open in the winter months. The few evergreens that survived or have grown in are shaded by the deciduous trees (Figure 89). Species on the hillside include Norway spruce, linden, sugar maple, and red oak with understory saplings of beech, Norway maple, linden, and hickory as well as fern and poison ivy. Only one of the evergreens planted between the road and the house remains today—a tall pole-like white pine. In the 0.34-acre parcel, only a few of the trees in the original row of evergreens along the path to the stream remain, though there are some additional extant evergreens once part of the row which are on adjacent properties not under NPS ownership. The evergreens date to at least the time of Hawthorne ownership.

In the yard around the house and barn, the lilac clump off the northwest corner of the house remains, as do the daylilies in the front of the house and along the retaining wall. As part of the erosion and drainage project completed by the park in 2006, herbaceous plants were added above the newly constructed retaining wall between the barn and the east side of the stone steps including periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), lily-of-the-valley and daylilies. These plants were selected because they were likely part of the historic landscape. However, along the terrace wall, the number of common weeds has increased. For example, a 1967 photograph shows milkweed in a flower bed at the front of the house. Milkweed is now common above the retaining wall.

The Hawthorne tree still survives today, and a propagation plan has been instituted which ensures that cuttings from the tree are continually cultivated so that should the tree decline, it can be replaced with a genetically identical specimen. The historic line of the roadside hedge has been altered by the NPS to facilitate visitor circulation and to protect historic paths. It currently consists of privet (*Ligustrum spp.*). The hedge (or parts of it) has been replaced several times since 1904, so it is not known if any original plants remain. In 2006, the park removed the non-historic Norway spruce tree planted by Margaret Lothrop in the west lawn and a cluster of lilacs and daylilies in the southwest corner of the lawn. Some of these lilacs and daylilies have since regenerated.

**Evaluation: Contributing**

A mix of common native and non-native ornamental plants contributes to the character of the historic landscape. Tree species include Norway spruce, white pine, European larch, sugar maple, American elm, hawthorn, black locust and oak. Shrubs that contribute to the character of the historic landscape include lilac, mockorange, privet, spirea, and rose; herbaceous plants include day lilies, iris, foxglove, ferns, and lily-of-the-valley.

**Buildings, Structures and Utilities**

**Historic Condition:** The Wayside house was originally constructed some time between 1688 and 1717. In 1769 Samuel Whitney, a delegate to the Provincial Congress and the muster master of the Concord Minutemen, purchased the property, which included the existing house and barn, though the barn was on the south side of the road. When the British marched into Concord on April 19, 1775, they were looking to seize the town's military supplies and ammunition—a portion of which had been stored in Whitney's warehouse. Fortunately, the stores had just been moved, but the British aggression sparked the first battle of the American Revolution.

When the Alcotts purchased the house in 1845, they added two wings to the house (made with materials from sections of other buildings on the property), closed in the front-entry porch with a parapet, added a dormer over the central porch, and moved the barn from the eight-acre parcel across the street to just west of the house. Circa 1846, Alcott constructed a long stone retaining wall running from the northwest corner of the yard to a set of steps directly behind the house and a second set further west, which may have connected to the barn. These larger set of steps behind the house led from the kitchen up to the terraces, where fruits and vegetables were grown, and connected to a short path. Bronson Alcott built several other rustic structures on the property (including a bridge over the stream, a "summerhouse," a "garden house," a beehive, an arched gateway, and several trellises), but after the Alcotts sold the property these structures fell into disuse and eventually disappeared.

In 1852 Nathaniel Hawthorne purchased the property, and made several changes over the following years, including adding a second story on the west wing of the house, building a writing tower, constructing three additional chimneys, removing the western piazza the Alcotts had added, building a porch in front of the new front entrance, and relocating the barn to the east side of the house.

The Lothrop's owned The Wayside for 82 years (first Daniel and Harriett, then their daughter Margaret). During this time they tried to maintain the essential feel of the structures and the landscape as it was during Hawthorne's time. They made several adjustments to the house and barn, many of them to protect the

integrity of the structures. The largest change was the addition of the piazza on the western side of the house in 1887. The 1938 hurricane, a serious destructive force on The Wayside landscape, also damaged the stone retaining walls and steps constructed by Bronson Alcott. Fortunately, they were not damaged beyond repair.

During the Colonial period, a well was located east of the house. It served as the original source of water from the house and was filled in by the Lothrop's. Its location was discovered between 1965 and 1971 and stones were placed around the hole in the ground and a grate for safety. Also, in 2006, the NPS installed a series of sub-surface drainage pipes to prevent water damage to The Wayside Home.

Existing Condition: Today, the retaining walls and stone steps constructed by Alcott remain. The stone wall running east of the steps in back of the kitchen to the west side of the barn was constructed in 2006 by the NPS in order to stabilize the hillside. There is a set of three stone steps which negotiate a slight rise up to the western lawn and are oriented to facilitate traffic moving between the north side of the lawn and the back of the house. The eastern edge of this rise continues parallel to the piazza, and is defined by the remnants of a low, old stone wall. The construction date of the stone wall and steps in the lawn likely dates to the period when the piazza was constructed in 1887 as they are visible in a c. 1900 photograph.

Up until she sold the property to the National Park Service in 1965, Margaret Lothrop continued to make small alterations to the house to aid in its preservation and to accommodate modern amenities. The NPS then worked to rehabilitate the buildings and make them accessible to visitors. In 1975 the NPS began work to convert the barn into its current use as a receiving area for visitors. The Historic Structure Report on The Wayside Barn written in 1973 by Orville W. Carroll concluded that the barn had been shortened from its original length at some undetermined time. The house and barn are currently in poor condition and in need of extensive rehabilitation work.

Evaluation: Contributing, Non-contributing, Undetermined

The house, barn, retaining wall to the northwest of the house, and low retaining wall, embedded stone steps in the west lawn and well east of the house contribute to the character of the historic landscape. The retaining wall built in 2006 by the NPS and the underground drainage piping NPS are non-contributing. The buildings and structures are in fair condition and in need of rehabilitation.

**Views and Vistas**

Historic Condition: In the 1860s, Hawthorne enjoyed the view from the ridgeline of the neighboring fields and landscapes. However, by the early 1900s the Norway spruces he had planted as seedlings had grown in and obscured most of the views. The view south from The Wayside, through the row of evergreens and across Lexington Road used to be of agricultural fields. As seen in circa 1904 photographs, the view included the non-developed portion of the eight-acre parcel and the open field on the western side of Hawthorne Lane.

After the 1938 hurricane, the majority of the Norway spruce on the hillside had been blown down, and the views were re-opened until natural reforestation (consisting largely of hardwoods and underbrush) once again obscured them. The hurricane also damaged the evergreens that stood between the house and the road. Later, the decline of the elms due to disease would necessitate their removal as well.

Existing Condition: Today, the hardwoods and underbrush that have grown in on the hillside still obscure views out from the ridge. The reduced number of trees between the house lot and the road results in a clear view south, but makes the space feel exposed to the roadway. The eight-acre plot has been largely built up, and only 0.34 acres of open land remain at the corner of Lexington Road and Hawthorne Lane. One of the houses built on what was a part of the eight-acre parcel dates from 1870, and contributes to the historic character of the property. The western side of Hawthorne Lane is now a paved visitor parking lot, which is partially masked by trees planted along its northern and western sides, but is still visible from the house.

Evaluation: Contributing and Non-contributing

Views blocked by vegetation, like those from the ridgeline, are non-contributing, but views of the 0.34-acre and southwestern parcels, as well as those facing the house, contribute to the character of the historic landscape.

**Small-scale Features**

Historic Condition: Small-scale features at The Wayside include signs, plaques and fences. Many of the small-scale features associated with the Alcotts, such as features associated with their gardens, and the Hawthornes, such as benches and platforms associated with recreation, are no longer extant. The Hawthorne Centenary Plaque was placed at the July 4, 1904 Centennial of Hawthorne's birth, to recognize the ongoing importance of The Wayside as Hawthorne's home, and the role that commemoration of Hawthorne's occupancy played in the history of The Wayside. The plaque was a bronze tablet mounted on a natural boulder and read: "This tablet placed/ at the Centennial Exercises/ July 4 1904/ commemorates/ Nathaniel Hawthorne/ He trod daily this path to the hill/ to

formulate/ as he paces to and fro/ upon its summit/ his marvelous romances” (Figure 90).

Margaret Lothrop made some small changes to the landscape during her ownership, largely for maintenance purposes, such as reconstructions after the 1938 hurricane. She also installed the uncovered drain on the hillside in back of the house some time after 1932.

**Existing Condition:** The Wayside has been recognized as a National Historic Landmark for its literary significance, and a National Historic Landmark Plaque was placed by the front door, under the Hawthorne tree, in 1985. The site has also been recognized as significant to the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom because of the Alcott’s role in sheltering two runaway slaves during the winter of 1846 to 1847. A plaque describing this event has been placed just east of the entry walk to the east side of the barn, a couple yards from the public sidewalk. The Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder remain west of the lawn. A sign describing the Larch Path is inappropriately sited near the plaque and boulder because the Larch Path entrance is closer to the road.

The NPS has installed a few interpretive and direction-related signs which are of no historical significance, but assist visitors. These include a sign in the yard in front of the house identifying the property as “The Wayside,” an informational sign by the walkway to the east side of the barn, an informational sign by the Eliphelet Fox House foundation, an informational sign east of the Larch Path and several parking and directional signs around the parking lot. The NPS has also installed several sections of split-rail fence to the southeast of the barn and along the border of the parking lot.

Associated with the house is a wooded coal bin placed against the northeast corner of the house and painted the same color as the cellar doors.

**Evaluation:** Contributing, Non-contributing

The Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder contribute to the character of the historic landscape (Figure 91). Newer features like the National Landmark plaque, Underground Railroad plaque and boulder, “The Wayside” informational sign, the Eliphelet Fox House sign and features placed by the NPS or Town of Concord do not contribute. The split-rail fences do not date to the period of significance but do not detract from the setting.

**Archeological Sites**

**Historic Condition:** The Eliphelet Fox Foundation (“Casey’s House”) was constructed in 1666 by Eliphelet Fox. The house was abandoned in 1825.

Existing Condition: The remaining evidence of the Eliphelet Fox House is a depression where the house once stood, and segments of the base of the central chimney, which was made of brick and fieldstone. The foundation was excavated in an archeological exploration of the site, and then stabilized in 1968. An interpretational sign near the site refers to it as “Casey’s Home”—based on an unconfirmed description by Henry David Thoreau, who wrote that Casey was a previous slave of Samuel Whitney who fought for his freedom in the Revolutionary War and returned to Concord to live in the Fox House. Documentation to substantiate this series of events has not yet been found.

There is another possible archeological site at the western end of the Larch Path, where there is a depression with a 15-foot diameter. The large semi-square opening may have been the location of the Minot house, which was moved to Concord center in the 1800s.

Evaluation: Contributing, Undetermined

The Eliphelet Fox house foundation and possible Minot House foundation contribute to the character of the historic landscape.

**TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES  
WAYSIDE UNIT, MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**

<b>TOPOGRAPHY</b>				
<b>Characteristic or Feature</b>	<b>Extant 1904</b>	<b>Extant 2008</b>	<b>Contrib- uting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Natural and manipulated topography—house and barn located on relatively flat land, sloping gently south towards Lexington Road, surrounded to the north and the west by hillside terrain rising sixty feet above the house.	Yes	Yes	Yes	The basic layout of the residential landscape surrounded by the wooded hillside dates to 1904 and earlier.
Eight-acre parcel – relatively flat land sloping gently south towards creek.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Only 0.34 acres of the eight-acre parcel is included within the Wayside Unit.
<b>SPATIAL ORGANIZATION</b>				
The house and barn are surrounded by a maintained, residential landscape separated from the road by a hedge.	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Terraces are evident on hillside north of house	Yes (up to 12)	Yes (remnants of 5)	Yes	Bronson Alcott constructed the terraces in the 1840s
<b>LAND USE</b>				
Social/entertainment	Yes	Yes (limited use)	Yes	Both the Hawthornes and the Lothrop's socialized and entertained on the lawn west of the house.
Education/tourism	Yes	Yes (limited use)	Yes	Tourists, invited and uninvited, walked upon the landscape during the Lathrop, Pratt (Wayside School for Girls), and Lothrop ownerships. Bronson Alcott and Harriett Lothrop are known to have shared information with others of how the landscape looked when Nathaniel Hawthorne lived at The Wayside, and how he used the landscape.
<b>VEGETATION</b>				
Forested hillside & terraces	Yes (primarily spruce)	Yes (primarily deciduous )	Yes	Most of the evergreens brought from Europe by Hawthorne and planted in the 1860s were destroyed during the 1938 hurricane. Extant evergreen trees, especially the Norway Spruce, may be seedlings of the destroyed trees.
Row of larch trees	Yes (unknown number of trees)	Yes (6 trees)	Yes	Research indicates the trees were planted before the path was constructed, possibly prior to Hawthorne ownership. Further research (possibly to include archeological investigation) is necessary to accurately determine the number and location of missing larch trees. Preliminary research indicates the trees were spaced 9 to 9.5 feet apart.
Double row of evergreens bordering the lawn.	Yes	1 tree remains	Yes	A double row of evergreens, which may have been planted by Alcott, bordered the inside of the hedge in 1904 along the southern end of the lawn. The remaining tree is one of only a few known survivors of the 1938 hurricane.
Hawthorne Tree	Yes	Yes	Yes	Historic photographs indicate the tree was

				mature in the 1860s. It may pre-date Hawthorne ownership or may have been planted by Hawthorne in the early 1850s, prior to leaving for Europe.
American elms in front yard and along Lexington Road	Yes (3 trees)	No	Missing	One elm stood within the double row of evergreens bordering the lawn, another directly in front of the house, and another along the entry drive, between the house and the barn.
Large evergreens east of the house	Yes (2 trees)	No	Missing	The trees stood along the inside of the hedge, between the entrance walk and the entry drive.
Evergreens on eight-acre parcel	Yes	Yes (two trees)	Yes	A double row of evergreens, which date at least to the Hawthorne ownership, flanked the avenue on the eight-acre parcel leading from Lexington Road to the brook. Only a portion of the western row is located within the Wayside Unit, the remaining trees are located on private property.
Deciduous hedge	Yes	Yes (privet)	Yes	The NPS has altered the historic hedge line to direct visitors to the west side of the barn (visitor center entrance) and to close access to historic paths. The existing hedge includes several varieties of privet ( <i>Ligustrum spp.</i> ). It may not be the same hedge present in 1904, as Harriet Lothrop is known to have replaced the hedge several times.
Large lawn (west of house)	Yes	Yes		The topography of the lawn may have been impacted by a 1969 archeological investigation, in which a significant portion of the lawn was disturbed during excavations to uncover evidence of the pre-1860 location of the barn.  The configuration of the lawn was restored to its c. 1904 appearance in 2005 when non-historic vegetation (large Norway Spruce, several lilacs, and a section of forest) was removed, and the disturbed areas re-seeded.
Lawn (north, south, and east of house)	Yes	Yes	Yes	The lawn in front of the house and in back of the house (west of the stone stairs) appears groomed in historic photographs. Less is known c. 1904 about the service area in back of the house (east of the stone stairs) and on the north and east side of the barn.
Norway spruce west of the lawn	Yes	Yes	Yes	The tree, mature in the 1930s, survived the 1938 hurricane.
American elms on hillside	Yes	No	Missing	Several American elms are known to have grown on the hillside above the lawn in 1904, most notably a large elm just above the retaining wall in the northwest corner of the lawn—a stump remains.
Small clump of mature lilacs (northwest corner of the house)	Yes	Yes	Yes	The lilacs appear in historic photographs as early as 1880.
Daylilies (front of the house)	Yes	Yes	Yes	The Hawthornes are known to have grown lilies and daylilies appearing in front of the front bay window (former front door area) in a c. 1904 historic photograph.

Daylilies (along the base of the stone retaining wall)	Unknown	Yes	No	According to a 1960s NPS interview, Margaret Lothrop stated she planted daylilies at the base of the wall after returning to The Wayside in 1932.
Daylilies (along the eastern side of the barn)	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	Historic photographs of this portion of the landscape have not been found for c. 1904.
Daylilies (on hillside)	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	The daylilies are probably volunteer plants.
Periwinkle (on hillside)	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	The periwinkle ( <i>Vinca minor</i> ) is not mentioned in historic documents or seen in historic photographs and may have been recently planted.
Woodbine/Virginia creeper vines (on the piazza)	Yes	No	Missing	During the Hawthorne ownership, woodbine, or Virginia creeper, ( <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> ) grew on the west side of the house. By 1890s, woodbine covered the piazza, constructed by the Lothrops at the western end of the house in 1887. Woodbine remained on the piazza until removed by the NPS in the late 1960s or early 1970s.
Vines, unknown species (on the front façade of the house)	Yes	No	Missing	Historic photographs as early as 1870 depict vines growing on the front façade of the house. A c. 1904 photograph clearly depicts vines growing from the southwest corner of the old house (c. 1775 portion) across the front façade to the bay window.
Vines, unknown species (on the eastern façade of the house)	Yes	No	Missing	Vines are depicted in a c. 1901 to 1915 photograph on the eastern façade of the house, growing across the façade over the side door.
Lily-of-the-valley (at front entrance)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Lily-of-the-valley is known to have been Hawthorne's favorite plant. In 1887, lily-of-the-valley were located "close by the veranda." Lily-of-the-valley are located today by the front door.
Lily-of-the-valley (on hillside)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Lilies-of-the-valley are known to have been Hawthorne's favorite plant. Lily-of-the-valley are located today above the retaining wall behind the house.
Roses	Possibly	No	Missing	Both the Alcotts and the Hawthornes grew roses. Roses were also present during the Lothrop ownership, including Hawthorne's "sweet briar rose tree" at the southwest corner of the study (pre-piazza), although it is not known if it survived until 1904. Several roses were present in the 1960s, although most if not all were planted by Margaret Lothrop, probably after 1932.

CIRCULATION				
Characteristic or Feature	Extant 1904	Extant 2008	Contributing	Notes
Hawthorne Path	Yes	Yes	Yes	Extant trail is thought to generally follow the original location of the Hawthorne Path, along the ridgeline above the house.
Larch Path	Yes	Yes (larger portion)	Yes (smaller portion missing)	Constructed in 1860, the path connected the Orchard House and The Wayside. Running parallel along Lexington Street, the path followed a row of larch trees and opened to The Wayside lawn.  More recently, the eastern end of the path was blocked from use by secondary forest growth that had encroached onto the lawn. In 2005 the forest growth was removed, allowing passage. However, this section of path remains undefined and unused.
Path leading from northwest corner of the lawn to the ridgeline	Yes	Yes (small portion)	Yes (large portion missing)	The path is mentioned in early guidebooks and depicted in historic photographs from the late 1800s – early 1900s. Only the portion leading to the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque remains. The large section leading from the plaque to the ridgeline was still clearly visible in the early 1970s, but since has become overgrown.
Avenue between the evergreens on the eight-acre parcel	Yes	Yes (remnant)	Yes	Only a small portion of the avenue is within the Wayside Unit, the remaining sections are located on private property.
Path leading west from the stone steps in back of the house	Yes	Yes (remnant)	Yes	The path is mentioned in early 1900s writings and depicted in historic photographs.
Path leading up the hillside from the stone steps west of the house (Alcott beehive area.)	Unknown	No	Missing	The path is depicted in an undated historic photograph.
Path leading directly up the hill from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	The area of the path does not appear in historic photographs.
System of foot paths around the house	Yes	No	Missing	Only a path between the house and barn remains.
Stone path to front door	No	Yes	No	Constructed by Margaret Lothrop, post 1932.
Boardwalks on foot paths around the house	Yes	No	Missing	Boardwalks covering the walkways are clearly depicted in early 1900s photographs.
Entry drive	Yes	No	Missing	The 15-foot entry drive widened to about 40 feet and spanned the area between the house and the garage. The drive surface material was removed by the NPS and seeded as lawn.
Walk leading to the side door of the barn (visitor center entrance)	No	Yes	No	The NPS constructed the walk to lead visitors from the sidewalk to the side door of the barn (visitor center entrance.)
Ramp leading to side door of barn(visitor center entrance)	No	Yes	No	The NPS constructed the walk to lead visitors from the sidewalk to the side door of the barn (visitor center entrance).

<b>BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES</b>				
<b>Characteristic or Feature</b>	<b>Extant 1904</b>	<b>Extant 2008</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Notes</b>
House	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Barn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Moved to current location by Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1860.
Drainage Pipes	No	Yes	No	Installed in 2006
Well	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>VIEWS AND VISTAS</b>				
<b>Characteristic or Feature</b>	<b>Extant 1904</b>	<b>Extant 2008</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Notes</b>
View from ridgeline of neighboring fields and landscapes beyond	Yes (blocked view)	Yes (blocked view)	Yes (Blocked view)	In the 1860s, Hawthorne often gazed at the landscape south of Lexington Road from the ridgeline above the house. By 1904, sparse tree growth along the hillside had grown and thickened (including the evergreen trees planted during Hawthorne ownership) so much that views from the hillside were significantly blocked. After the 1938 hurricane, the views re-opened, similar to those present during Hawthorne's lifetime. Since then, secondary growth trees have re-populated the hillside, once again blocking views from the ridgeline.
View of fields across Lexington Road from lawn	Yes	No		In 1904, views from the lawn west of the house included the non-developed portion of the eight-acre parcel and the open field on the western side of Hawthorne Lane. Today, views of both areas are visible from the lawn; in part due to vegetation clearing that occurred in 2006.  Detracting from the views are the NPS visitor parking lot constructed on the field west of Hawthorne Lane, shrubby vegetation surrounding the lot, and a small house on an eight-acre parcel. Also located on the eight-acre parcel is a house built in 1870 that contributes to the view.
<b>SMALL-SCALE FEATURES</b>				
<b>Characteristic or Feature</b>	<b>Extant 1904</b>	<b>Extant 2008</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Stone retaining wall along base of the hill	Yes	Yes	Yes	Constructed by Bronson Alcott. The stone retaining wall was damaged during the 1938 hurricane and subsequently repaired
Stone retaining wall (2006)	No	Yes	No	Constructed in 2006.
Stone retaining wall (east of barn)	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	Historic photographs of this portion of the landscape have not been found.
Low stone retaining wall west of the piazza	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	The stone wall and steps appear in a c. 1904-1938 photograph. The grade of the lawn depicted in earlier photographs indicates it probably pre-dates 1904.
Steps west of the piazza	Unknown	Yes	Unknown	The stone wall and steps appear in a c. 1904-1938 photograph. The grade of the lawn depicted in earlier photographs indicates it probably pre-dates 1904.
Stone steps in retaining wall along base of the hill (west of house)	Yes	Yes (remnant)	Yes	Constructed by Bronson Alcott
Stone steps back of house	Yes	Yes	Yes	Probably constructed by Bronson Alcott. A bottom stone step or landing was uncovered during 2006 project that stabilized the hillside.

Wooden benches along hillside trails	Yes	No	Missing	Constructed by Bronson Alcott for Nathaniel Hawthorne.
Platform in the large white pine	Yes	No	Missing	Unknown construction date, although believed to be between 1864 and 1882.
Hawthorne Centennial Plaque	Yes	Yes	Yes	The plaque was placed at the foot of the Hawthorne Path in 1904, during the centennial anniversary celebration of Hawthorne's birth.
National Underground Railroad network to freedom plaque	No	Yes	No	The plaque was placed near the barn in 2001, identifying the Alcotts' role in sheltering two run away slaves during the winter of 1846-1847.
National Historic Landmark Plaque	No	Yes	No	The plaque was placed near the front door of the house in 1985 to recognize the designation of The Wayside as a National Historic Landmark.
Uncovered drain on the hillside in back of the house	No	Yes	No	The drain was installed by Margaret Lothrop, probably after 1932.
<b>ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES</b>				
<b>Characteristic or Feature</b>	<b>Extant 1904</b>	<b>Extant 2008</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Eliphelet Fox House foundation	Yes	Yes	Yes	The foundation dates to the seventeenth-century.
Possible Minot House archeological site (western end of Larch Path)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Research indicates large semi-square opening at the western end of the Larch Path may be the location of the Minot house, moved to Concord center in the 1800s.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Seven aspects of integrity defined by the National Register: Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the historic event occurred. Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a property. Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Materials are the physical elements of a particular period, which include plant materials, paving and other landscape features. Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular period. Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period. Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

<sup>2</sup> Commemorative activities have long been associated with The Wayside, though with a focus on Nathaniel Hawthorne, a prominent nineteenth century author who resided at The Wayside in the 1850s and 1860s. The Lothrop family hosted a Centenary event on the anniversary of Nathaniel Hawthorne's birth and other events thereafter to celebrate his contributions to American literature. Extant Wayside landscape features that contribute to the significance of the literary commemorative landscape include the house and barn, Larch Path, Hawthorne Path (on the ridge line), and Hawthorne Centennial Plaque.

<sup>3</sup> For more information on the Eliphelet Fox house site, refer to "Public Interpretation of the Site" in Archeological Collections Management at Minute Man National Historical Park, Volume 3, ACMP Series No. 4, edited by Linda A. Towle and Darcie A. MacMahon, 1986, p. 306.



Figure 78. View east of unidentified man standing in front lawn c. 1905. Note the piazza, Hawthorne tree, numerous evergreens and privet hedge from left to right (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 79. View from the same vantage point as Figure 78, as seen in June 2008. The Hawthorne tree is mature, a single white pine remains in the lawn and the privet hedge is thicker and broader in the full sun.



Figure 80. View southwest of the open landscape from the west lawn in c. 1905. On the right is the eastern entrance to the Larch Path. Mature evergreens partially screen the view. Across Hawthorne Lane on the left is Emerson Field (Everett's Thesis III, HMLFP, box 40 folder 1, MIMA Archives).



Figure 81. View southwest in 2008 from a similar vantage point as Figure 80. The southwest parcel is now a parking lot. Across Hawthorne Lane is a portion of the 8-acre Emerson Field (left). Note the abundance of trees bordering the southwest parcel and a black locust seedling obscuring the original entrance to the Larch Path.

Figure 82. Looking east down the Larch Path, c. 1892. Note the well defined path edges and numerous larches on the south side of the path (right) and Norway spruce overhanging the north side of the path on the left (MIMA archives publication photographs, magazine article, *The Interior*, "Hawthorne at Wayside," Margaret Sidney, Nov. 26, 1896, in scrapbook, 102 and 102A; also in Sidney's *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, 1892).



Figure 83. View east in 2008 from the same vantage point as Figure 82. Note the understory of predominantly maple saplings that line the Larch Path. There are also more deciduous trees creating the border than evergreens.





Figure 84. View northwest of the barn, house, cellar, driveway in c. 1922 (MIMA photographic collection, #24569, MIMA Archives).



Figure 85. View from the same vantage point as Figure 84, as seen in June 2008. The driveway is now lawn, the shutters gone from many windows, the elm removed, and a privet hedge appears in the foreground (right.)



Figure 86. This northerly view shows the unpaved road and sidewalk in the foreground and the piazza connected to the west side of the house c. 1905 (MIMA Library 101).



Figure 87. View north in 2008 from the same vantage point as Figure 86. The road and sidewalk are paved, the elms and Norway spruce have been removed, and the piazza is a much more prominent feature. Also removed is the stone that connected the entrance path to Lexington Road.

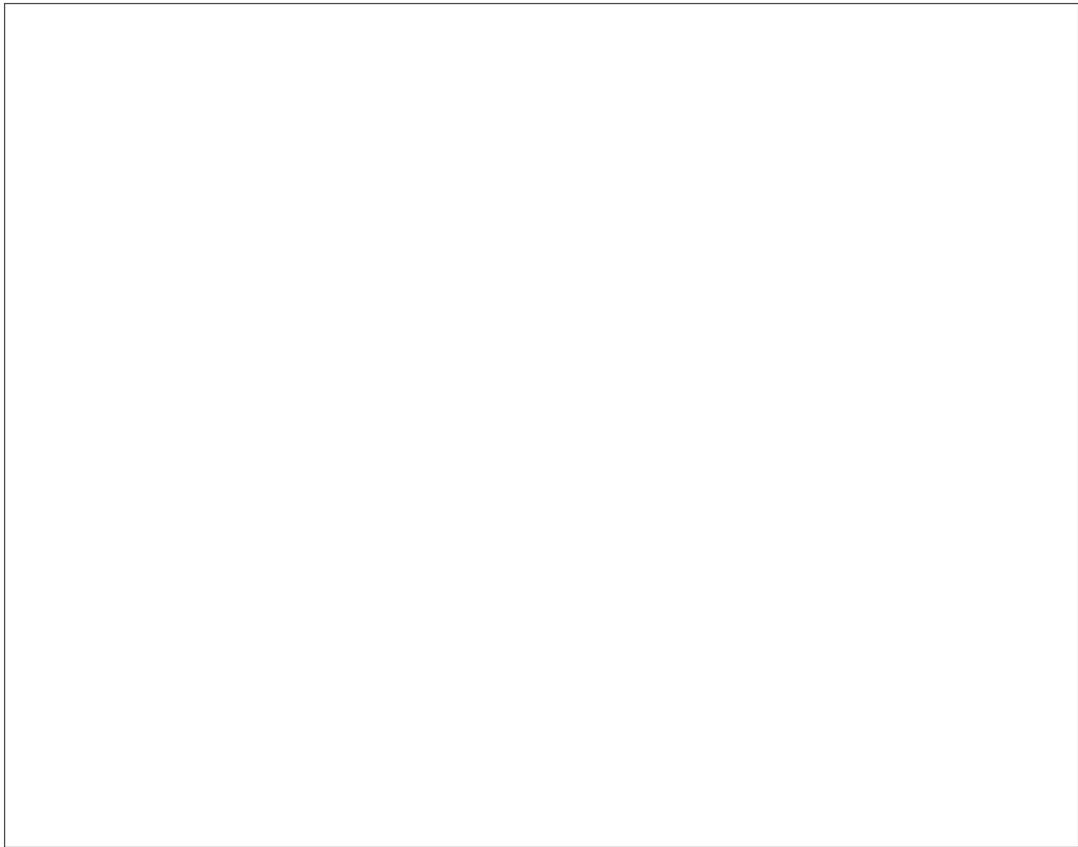


Figure 88. This northeasterly view of The Wayside parcel shows the northern edge of the house (right), the ascension of Alcott's terraces (middle), and the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder (left) c. 1927 (Charles Darling, photographer, courtesy of Concord Free Public Library).



Figure 89. View east in 2008 from similar vantage point as Figure 88. The terraces are now blocked by thick shrubs and trees and the Norway spruce shades the area surrounding the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder.

Figure 90. The Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder and setting as they appeared in 1905. Note the lack of understory vegetation (*Hawthorn Centenary at the Wayside, Concord, 1904*).



Figure 91. The Hawthorne Centennial Plaque as they appear in 2008. Foliage is thicker, trees are more mature and some grass has managed to grow on the slope.





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## CHAPTER FOUR: TREATMENT

This chapter describes the preservation strategy for long-term management of the Wayside Unit cultural landscape based on its significance, existing condition in 2008 and current use. According to National Park Service policy, the cultural landscape report (CLR) serves as the primary supporting document guiding the treatment of a cultural landscape, and is required before any major intervention. For the Wayside Unit property, the treatment recommendations address issues associated with a mature landscape, drainage issues at the base of the steep hillside, visitor circulation and universal accessibility, educational and interpretive objectives, and maintenance requirements. The overall goal of the treatment recommendations is to provide a basis for the sound stewardship of the Wayside Unit landscape as outlined in the National Park Service *Cultural Resource Management Guideline* (1997) and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (1996). The cultural landscape report also provides documentation that supports park consultation responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

### FRAMEWORK FOR TREATMENT

#### RELATIONSHIP TO PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Prior to acquisition by the National Park Service, the Wayside Unit buildings were carefully documented in 1962 by a Historical American Buildings Survey (HABS) team. When the park purchased the property from Margaret Lothrop in 1965, she voiced her opinion that future stewards should preserve the “continuity of history” inherent in the property. She considered The Wayside a “teaching tool” beyond a single era or author, which represented “the history of the best of our country and its development.”<sup>1</sup> The following year, the park completed a master plan, which included the Wayside Unit. The plan called for restoration of the property to its circa 1924 appearance, the year which Harriet Lothrop (penname Margaret Sidney) passed away.

Four documents guided early site restoration work: two volumes of the historic structure report for the home by Robert Ronsheim and Orville Carroll completed in 1968, a historic grounds report by Anna Coxe Toogood completed in 1970, and a historic structure report for the barn by Orville Carroll completed in 1973. These documents described the relatively poor condition of the property and guided improvements that included the removal of post-1924 alterations, with the exception of modern devices for fire protection and safety. Most of the repair work was complete by April of

1971 when the National Park Service held a formal re-opening ceremony for the property. That same year the park prepared an Interpretive Prospectus for the property with the objective to interpret the property as “a family home, altered by the needs of successive family occupations.” Furthermore, interpretive efforts focused on the former occupants as “people living in a changing and growing house within the context of philosophical, literary, and other changes occurring in the Concord and broader national community—the American Renaissance.”<sup>2</sup>

In 1989, the park issued a General Management Plan (GMP) for Minuteman National Historical Park to serve as an update of the 1966 Master Plan. This update recommended that the NPS make no change in the management of the Wayside Unit and to continue to implement the recommendations in the historical structure reports, historic grounds report, as well as the recommendations from a historic furnishings report completed in 1983.<sup>3</sup>

The 1989 GMP is the most up-to-date planning document for the park and continues to set the direction for management for the Wayside Unit. Two more recent documents, a collections management plan completed in 1994 and historic furnishings report completed in 2003, recommended revising the restoration treatment date of 1924 for the home to an earlier date of 1904 for reasons detailed in the next section. As of 2008, an Amendment to the GMP is in progress but it pertains primarily to the Battle Road Unit, which follows the route of the 1775 Battle Road for about five miles from Revolutionary Ridge and Meriam’s Corner in Concord to Fiske Hill in Lexington.

#### **TREATMENT PERIOD**

The character and composition of the Wayside Unit landscape evolved throughout its 304-year period of significance from 1655 to 1959. In order to develop a treatment plan, it is necessary to identify the historic character to which the landscape will be managed. The treatment period provides a reference to guide treatment efforts by identifying a time during the period of significance when the landscape reached its height of development and when it best reflected the characteristics for which it is significant. Further consideration is given to the level of historical documentation and to the existing conditions. The determination of a treatment period is informed by the site’s history, documentation, existing conditions, and interpretive goals.

For the Wayside Unit, the park’s GMP (1989) recommended that the landscape be managed to preserve the character as it had developed through 1924, the year Harriett Lothrop died. More recently, the Collections Management Plan (1994) and Historic Furnishings Report (2003)

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recommended a treatment date of 1904 for the home. The rationale for this earlier date includes:

- There is substantially more documentation for the 1890 to 1914 period. In 1905, Charles Everett completed his Landscape Architecture I thesis that described the landscape and was illustrated with numerous photographs. In October 1914, the Lothrop's completed a room by room inventory for the house and on May 1, 1915 completed another inventory to justify the selection of furnishings for each room.
- In 1904 Harriett Lothrop organized a three-day celebration at The Wayside in honor of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Nathaniel Hawthorne. There is substantial documentation of the site for this time.
- By 1924, the house had been vacant or rented for almost 15 years, while Harriett traveled or lived in California with her daughter. The 1924 appearance was very different from when Harriett lived there full time.
- Focusing on the celebration offered a way to discuss Hawthorne as seen “through the eyes of Harriett and Margaret Lothrop.” Nathaniel Hawthorne is the most significant author, who lived at The Wayside, but the furnishings for the house are almost wholly associated with the Lothrop's. Using the 1904 celebration offered a unique way to bring Hawthorne to life amid the Lothrop furnishings and to understand what Hawthorne meant to the Lothrop's and why Harriett would undertake an elaborate celebration of his life.
- The Lothrop's purchased The Wayside specifically because it had been Hawthorne's home. The anniversary celebration, planned by Harriett, reflected the continuing esteem the Lothrop's had for Hawthorne.<sup>4</sup>

Based on discussions with the park and findings of this report, the recommended approach for the landscape is to manage the property to preserve and interpret the character that existed in c. 1904. A comparative analysis of the c. 1904 period plan with existing conditions allowed a determination of the overall integrity of the site and identification of the landscape's historic features. The c. 1904 date highlights the commemorative activities of 1904 (the Hawthorne Centenary), the fact that much of the character of the landscape in c. 1904 strongly reflected the influences of the famous authors who had lived there, and the wealth of documentation of the property from that time.

**RECOMMENDED TREATMENT: REHABILITATION**

As a federally owned property listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a designated National Historic Landmark, decisions regarding the treatment of The Wayside should be consistent with the 1992 *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. These standards specify four distinct, but interrelated, approaches to the treatment of historic properties, Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration and Reconstruction. Application of these treatments to historic landscapes is further defined in the Secretary's 1996 *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*.

The treatment approach specified for the home in the 1989 is restoration. Based on the extent of changes in vegetation on the property due to the 1938 hurricane, as well as considerations of feasibility, maintenance requirements, interpretation, public access and safety, environmental sustainability, cost, and park operations, the recommended treatment for the 6.11-acre Wayside Unit landscape is rehabilitation.

**Rehabilitation**

Rehabilitation acknowledges the need to meet continuing or changing uses through alterations or new additions while retaining the historic character of the property. It allows for repairs and alterations of the cultural landscape, and for improving the utility and function of landscape features. It is used to make an efficient, compatible use while preserving those portions or features of the property that contribute to its historical significance. For some historic properties, changes are necessary to accommodate visitor use, such as the addition of parking, concessions, and visitor facilities or the modification of circulation surfaces to withstand high use and meet ADA accessibility standards. In other cases, modifications are necessary for sustainable management, such as the reduction of formal gardens or the elimination of agricultural practices. A rehabilitation strategy allows for the replacement of missing features as they existed historically based on documentary evidence, or replacement with compatible features.

**Standards for Rehabilitation**

- A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and relationships.
- The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical

development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historical properties, will not be undertaken.

- Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- Deteriorated historical features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, texture, and where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
- New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historical materials, features and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historical materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
- New additions or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

## **TREATMENT PHILOSOPHY**

A treatment philosophy consists of broad principles derived from the site's significance that help guide decisions and provide justifications for design guidelines, recommendations and specific treatment actions. The treatment philosophy articulates the essential qualities in the landscape that convey its significance and establishes principles intended to preserve those qualities.

The primary park management goals for the Wayside Unit landscape are to protect and preserve the historic landscape features by developing strategies to enhance public use and enjoyment while managing contemporary needs for parking, safe access, and modern utilities. Of particular importance given current financial realities, are identification of sustainable, collaborative approaches to support the maintenance of historical structures and landscapes and to sustain visitor programs and services in the park.

The overall treatment goal for the Wayside Unit is to reestablish the character of the c. 1904 landscape, corresponding with the residence of the Lothrop and the 1904 centennial celebration of the birth of Nathaniel Hawthorne. With rehabilitation as the treatment approach, treatment actions should recognize the continued ownership and use of the property by the Lothrop until 1965 and the parks management present and future goals to sustain visitor programs and services.

## **TREATMENT PRINCIPLES BY AREA**

### **Wayside house and barn setting**

The house and barn landscape consists of the two prominent structures sited upon a relatively flat lawn area and bounded by a hedge to the south along a busy road and stone retaining walls to the east, north and west. During the historic period, notable features in the domestic landscape included mature elms, a screen of evergreen trees, a few perennials and vines, a hitching post out front and a bench in the west lawn. To reflect the historic character of the landscape, the house and barn setting should be preserved as a well-tended domestic landscape setting, which by the early 1900s had also become a popular setting for commemorative gatherings and special events hosted by the Lothrop. As such, the house should be framed by stately elms, walks should be carefully edged, perennial and shrub beds weeded and edged, hedges routinely trimmed, and vines trained to trellises on the structure. Residential features such as the hitching post and bench in the west lawn should be reintroduced to help convey the residential character of the site. As reflected in historic photographs from the early 1900s, the home and surrounding landscape were simple in design, yet

elegant and well maintained—and always ready to receive guests, whether invited or uninvited.

#### **Wayside Hillside, terraces and paths**

The Wayside hillside, terraces and paths are characterized by the steep terrain and contrast with the relatively flat lawn terrace surrounding the home and barn. The character of the hillside has been altered by the loss of Hawthorne's monoculture of Norway spruces, which covered the hillside and framed the buildings and remnant structures in the landscape. Yet, a forested landscape persists, creating the same feeling of contrast between the open public lawn area surrounding the house and a wooded hillside for retreat and contemplation. Treatment should strive to preserve the wooded character of the hillside while actively managing hillside erosion. Evergreens should be encouraged to enhance the contrast of the dark secluded woods with the open bright lawn area. In the early 1900s, numerous well-defined walkways and paths guided pedestrian circulation throughout the property. Existing footpaths should be maintained and, in some cases, rehabilitated. Social paths that exacerbate erosion should be obscured or stabilized with constructed features. Extant paths, notably the Larch and Hawthorne paths should be preserved as walks for interpretation and contemplation in the property's wooded setting. Connections to the Hawthorne Path should be rehabilitated to improve access, encourage exploration of the historic landscape, and minimize erosion.

#### **Eight-acre Parcel Remnant**

While difficult to preserve the feeling of the eight-acre parcel with the .34-acre remnant, maintaining this small area in the manner of an open field contributes rather than detracts from the historic setting and feeling of the property. The remnant parcel should be maintained by infrequent cutting so as to resemble a hayfield.

#### **Visitor Parking lot**

The visitor parking lot is essential for visitor access to the Wayside Unit and simple in layout and character, with numerous NPS signs. Overall the parking lot detracts from the historic setting but is not overly intrusive. The lot is set back from the edge of the property and the screen of shade trees should be preserved and maintained. As much as is feasible the area should resemble a meadow or hayfield. As such, a band of meadow grass, maintained with the same frequency as the remnant of the eight-acre parcel, would enhance the character of the agricultural setting. Numerous mature, native trees lining the edges of the parking lot should be preserved for screening and shade.

## **TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND TASKS**

This section contains a list of treatment recommendations and tasks, which are also depicted in Drawing 5. Several of these recommendations are also identified in Orville Carroll's *Historic Structure Report for The Wayside* (1968) on pages 90 and 91 and Anne Cox Toogood's *Historic Grounds Report* (1970) on pages 149 to 153. Table 3 at the end of the chapter summarizes the recommendations and notes whether the task is a high or low priority based on input from the park and the condition of the resources.

### **SPATIAL ORGANIZATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND LAND USE**

#### **TP-1. Preserve hillside terraces and reduce hillside erosion**

Bronson Alcott regraded the hillside in the 1840s to create a dozen terraces for his extensive gardens and orchard. Five of these terraces are still easily discernable on the hillside. The terraces should be preserved by minimizing erosion—specifically limiting foot traffic, maintaining a vegetative cover and understory, and leaving organic matter and leaf duff in place. If foot paths are reintroduced to the hillside in the vicinity of the terraces, they should run as parallel to the slope as possible so as to minimize erosion (see CR-15). Erosion can be further minimized by placing fallen trees across the slope flush with the ground and allowing them to decay in place. During heavy rains, the logs will help to slow the flow of water down the steep hillside and catch sediment.

#### **TP-2. Monitor the base of the hillside for erosion and maintain trench drain**

By 2005, a substantial amount of soil and organic matter had washed down the hillside and accumulated behind the house and barn. In 2006, the accumulated soil was removed and a retaining wall was built. The park should monitor the erosion of the hillside and remove any excessive accumulation. An open trench drain was installed above the retaining wall between the house and barn. This trench should be cleaned annually to ensure that it continues to collect and redirect water away from the house. The trench drain is most evident in the winter and spring when the plants have died back.

### **CIRCULATION**

#### **CR-1. Rehabilitate sidewalk along Lexington Road**

The sidewalk along Lexington Road is visible in the earliest photographs of the site dating to the 1860s and in all subsequent photos from the historic period with a gravel/compacted earth surface. It is unknown when the sidewalk was paved with asphalt. The sidewalk is presently in poor

condition. The asphalt surface is broken and the edges are eroded and detract from the historic setting. Discussions should be held with the town of Concord to lower the level of the sidewalk. After the level is lowered, the sidewalk should be repaired, resurfaced, and coated with a gravel chip-seal to create a gravel surface walk, which would be more in character with the historic landscape and safer for visitors. Where the slope is steep, turf and retaining stones should be added to hold the steep slope as shown in Figures 15, 16, 24, 36 and 38. As seen in Figure 42 and 43, a granite step could be added where paths to the property intersect the sidewalk.

**CR-2. Shift path entrance from front door to align with bay window then split toward front door and barn**

As shown in Elizabeth Alcott's 1846 sketch, Bronson Alcott's 1847 sketch, and photographs from the 1880s, the path to the front door was originally centered on the gable and bay window (see Figures 10, 15, 24, 36 and 38). The earthen, or fine gravel, path began at the roadway, ascended a granite step, crossed the sidewalk, ascended another granite step, and split in front of the bay window with the path to the left leading to the front door. In the dooryard and near the house, Bronson Alcott laid gravel and sod to establish a clearly defined path.

In about 1902, the Lothrop's installed a wooded boardwalk to connect a path from the sidewalk to the piazza to the front door and barn (see Figures 39, 40 and 43). Shortly after this—in the 1920s or 30s—the Lothrop's eliminated this path to the front door and extended the hedge across the central entranceway. While the boardwalk was subsequently replaced with a less-defined earthen path, the hedge closure persisted through the 1960s and was subsequently opened by the park service when they reestablished the path to the front door and surfaced it with stepping stones. The current path from the sidewalk to the front door aligns with the front door instead of its earlier alignment with the bay window then split to lead to the front door and the barn (see Drawings 4 and 5).

To match the early 1900s appearance, the hedge should be opened in alignment with the bay window and an earthen/fine gravel path should be installed along the front of the house. This reconfiguration of the paths was also recommended by Orville Carroll in the *Historic Structure Report for The Wayside* (1968) so as to portray the historic character of the home entrance. Installing boardwalks similar to those visible in Figures 40 and 43 is discouraged as the narrow boardwalks are likely to be tripping hazards.

**CR-3. Re-establish path from sidewalk to west lawn, front door and back yard**

As early as the 1860s, a path extended from the sidewalk along Lexington Road to the west lawn (Figure 92 and 93). The path split before the house, with one branch leading to the front door and the other extending along the west side of the house and leading around to the back of the house. Historic photographs show the clearly defined and neatly edged paths as approximately two feet in width (see Figures 7 and 8). The paths are visible in photographs through the 1800s, though the piazza, when built in 1887, altered the route of the branch around to the back of the house. These paths likely facilitated the circulation of the many guests that came to the property as shown in Figure 26. A photograph from 1922 shows the path with a granite step (most likely moved from the path to the front door) and a boardwalk (see Figure 43). By the 1960s, the path was no longer clearly defined.

To match the early 1900s appearance, the hedge should be opened and a granite step and earthen/fine gravel should be installed, which is neatly edged as shown in Figures 14, 40 and 43. As noted under CR-2, this path configuration was also recommended in the *Historic Structure Report for The Wayside* (1968). As also noted under CR-2, installing narrow boardwalks is discouraged.

**CR-4. Reset steps in the west lawn**

A set of steps with an associated low retaining wall (see BS-1) ascend the rise in grade in the west lawn just beyond the northwest corner of the piazza (Figure 94). These steps may have been installed in c. 1890 in response to the change in grade when the piazza was built. The walkway described above (see CR-3) connected to these steps but did not extend into the west lawn (see Figure 35). By the 1960s, the path was no longer visible and the steps were bounded to the south by a small bed of perennials (see Figure 52). The steps have shifted and are half covered by turf. The steps should be reset.

**CR-5. Re-establish entry drive**

Hawthorne moved the barn to the east side of the house in 1860 and, until recently, the area to the southeast of the barn has been the entry drive. A 1922 photograph shows the earthen/gravel area as clearly bounded by the front lawn with a mature elm and a woodpile on the eastern end of the house (see Figure 44). The entry drive area should be re-established and clearly delineated to contribute to the domestic character of The Wayside while providing visitors with a clear indication of the site entrance. To prevent vehicles from entering the drive, a chain hung from simple posts should be placed across the drive's entrance.

**CR-6. Retain non-historic NPS walkway to barn**

The park service added a compacted sand and fine gravel walk and ramp to the east side of the barn to enable access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The walk is in good condition, serves as a primary access point for park programs, and should be retained as much as possible after the entry drive is shifted. The ADA ramp should be retained. As described further under Vegetation, the hedges that parallel this walkway are non-historic and can be removed so that visitors can better see the entrance for park programs.

**CR-7. Retain boardwalk between barn and house**

The Lothrop's constructed a boardwalk between the house and barn at some time between 1900 and 1920 to prevent the tracking of mud into the interior of the buildings. The walkway between the barn and house also allows for access between the two buildings without a step or change in grade. The 42-inch wide boardwalk, however, is not used for ADA access to the house because the house has many interior steps. The boardwalk is in character with narrow boardwalks that were installed by the Lothrop's in the early 1900s (see Figures 40 and 43). The boardwalk should be preserved and maintained in good condition.

**CR-8. Preserve Larch Path**

The Larch Path, initially created by Bronson Alcott under the direction of Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1859, runs along trees that had previously been planted by Alcott in 1846. The path has been a key feature in the historic landscape since this time, as it was frequently referred to by the Hawthorne and Lothrop families. The path also became known as the Alcott Path as it connected to their residence to the west. Local residents currently use the paths on the site, including the Larch Path, for daily walking and jogging. The path and corresponding larches (see VG-3) should be preserved though some rehabilitation work is needed at the east and west ends of the path as detailed below.

**CR-9. Re-open original eastern end of Larch Path and preserve the current alignment**

From early narrative accounts and photographs, it appears that the Larch Path originally followed a straighter alignment at its east end, running parallel to the trees along Lexington Road, descending in grade to meet the west lawn as seen in Figures 17 to 20 and Figure 95. However, the eastern end of the path appears to have suffered extensive damage during the 1938 hurricane as shown in Figure 45. By 1950, the southwest corner of the west lawn appears as a perennial bed with lilacs, which were removed in 2006 and

have since regenerated. Vegetation should be removed, and the original alignment of the eastern end of the Larch path should be re-established.

The steep grade of the path from the Centennial boulder to the west lawn has resulted in substantial erosion. The increased amount of foot-traffic on the re-established route will result in a lesser amount of traffic on the current path to the boulder. Overall, less erosion should occur. Stabilizing checks could be added to provide a firmer walking surface and halt further erosion.

**CR-10. Add steps between Larch Path and sidewalk at crosswalk.**

Visitors walking on the Larch Path frequently cut down the steep slope near the crosswalk to the visitor parking lot. The slope should be stabilized with the addition of rough granite steps similar to those found in the retaining walls (see Figure 92). While not historically placed in this location, the steps would improve visitor safety and aid in stabilizing the steep eroded slope. Alternatively, relocate wayside about “Casey’s Home” on the Larch Path so that it is not as visible from the crosswalk and sidewalk. Many visitors see the sign and scramble up the slope from the sidewalk to read the wayside.

**CR-11. Rehabilitate west end of Larch Path**

The west end of the Larch Path is currently overgrown and its intersection with the Hawthorne Path up the ridge is obscured and unclear. Because of the presence of an archeological site, the possible site of the Minot House, any regrading should be done with review by an archeologist and vegetation should be removed without disturbing the soil. Poison ivy in the area should be controlled (see VG-4). To make a safe and resource-sensitive entrance to the Larch Path, the current access from the sidewalk near the intersection of Lexington and Alcott roads should be preserved. A short connector should be improved from the Larch Path, past the potential Minot House site up to the Hawthorne Path. The steep trail section that leads from just west of the potential Minot House site down to Alcott Road should be obscured. Any vegetation blocking views of Alcott Road or safe access to the sidewalk should be trimmed or removed.

**CR-12. Preserve Hawthorne Path**

First noted in an 1853 letter from Sophia to her father, the path on the ridge became a place for Nathaniel Hawthorne to pace to and fro, while working on his novels. The path up the ridgeline from Alcott Road is easy to follow, consists of compacted earth about one foot in width, and is lightly traveled. The path should be preserved though some rehabilitation work is needed at its east and west ends as detailed below.

**CR-13. Establish connection at the eastern end of the Hawthorne Path**

At its eastern upper end, the Hawthorne Path currently terminates in sight of private residences on the north side of the ridge. Ideally one of Hawthorne's paths up the ridge from the terraces would be maintained so that visitors can make a loop around the property (see CR-14 and CR-15). The path should be sited carefully in consultation with trail professionals to ensure that it does not contribute to erosion in this area.

**CR-14. Create connection between west ends of Hawthorne and Larch paths**

The west end of the Hawthorne Path terminates steeply at Alcott Road with no clear connection to the Larch Path. Though there is no historic documentation that the paths were connected, ideally visitors would connect with the Hawthorne Path from the Larch Path rather than descend the steep road cut onto Alcott Road. Because of the presence of an archeological site, the possible site of the Minot House, the connector should skirt the south and west edges of this site and any regrading should be done with review by an archeologist. Poison ivy in the area should be controlled (see VG-4). Any vegetation blocking views of Alcott Road or safe access to the sidewalk should be trimmed or removed.

**CR-15. Re-establish path to terraces and summer house site and extend to ridge to form a loop path**

Bronson Alcott established his garden terraces on the hillside behind his home in 1846 and 1847. The stone steps and path that led up to the terraces started by the kitchen door (Figure 96). This path is one possible route for connecting to the Hawthorne Path on the ridge, allowing visitors to see the remains of Alcott's terraces and the ridge where Hawthorne contemplated while working on his novels. Unfortunately the direct route is steep and could potentially exacerbate erosion of the hillside and terraces. An alternative route would be wind the path up the slope, first heading west to the possible site of the summer house.

Bronson Alcott constructed a summerhouse on the hillside to the northwest of the house in 1847. Alcott cut a "serpentine walk through locust grove" that may have also led to the summerhouse. Hawthorne family writings described an "avenue of locust trees" leading up the hillside to Alcott's summer house, which was sited "on top of [the] terrace." and in his journal in 1853 Alcott noted his "arbour" was "amidst the locusts and apple trees."<sup>5</sup> Given these two statements, and the location of the locust grove as depicted on Elizabeth Alcott's 1846 drawing, the summerhouse probably stood near the border between the locust grove and the apple orchard on the hillside above the lawn. Julian Hawthorne recalled in 1938 that the summer house

was located halfway up the slanting path. A number of black locust snags are still evident on the hillside, possibly indicating the site of the summer house.

After passing the potential summer house site, the path would then turn east above the extant terraces, then west again to meet the Hawthorne Path at the ridge. This trail connection from the terraces to the ridge should be laid out by trail professionals to ensure that it does not contribute to erosion of the hillside or terraces.

**CR-16. Re-establish short path from west lawn up steps to terraces**

A second set of steps, now in poor condition, leads from the west lawn to Alcott's terraces ending at the path described above (see CR-15). The stones should be reset and the path rehabilitated to allow visitors to explore the Wayside landscape (Figures 97 and 98).

**CR-17. Obscure path from boulder directly up the hillside to ridge**

A steep path for which there is little documentation leads from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and boulder to the ridge. This route is steep and susceptible to erosion. An alternate route, which leads northeast up a hillside route to the eastern end of the Hawthorne Path and east to the terraces is a more suitable route. The path should be blocked with logs or fallen trees.

**CR-18. Do not reopen path from terraces to Hawthorne Centennial Plaque**

A possibly historic utilitarian path used by Alcott traveled along the terraces above the west lawn to the area which later became the site for the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque (Figure 99). This route is steep and uneven and should not be reopened.

**CR-19. Re-establish path running west to ridge from Hawthorne Centennial Plaque**

Traces of a hillside path are apparent running from the Hawthorne Centennial Plaque west to the ridge. This path could be established to connect to the ridge allowing visitors to walk in a loop up to the ridge and to the Larch Path. As this path would meet the ridge path midway up the ridge, it is not as practical for creating a loop as a path that would run east by a hillside route to the eastern end of the Hawthorne Path (see CR-15).

However, the path is evident in many historic photographs and a bench at its upper end (see SF-6) would be in keeping with the continuity of history of the path system initiated by Alcott, used extensively by Hawthorne, and preserved by the Lothrop's. More information on the construction of sidehill trail construction and bench cuts can be found in the *NPS Trails*

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*Management Handbook* (1994) by Lennon Hooper and the *Acadia Trails Treatment Plan* (2006) by Barter et al.

**CR-20. Create natural barrier with logs and hemlocks to screen neighboring property at the top of Hawthorne's Path**

At the top of the ridge, the Hawthorne Path leads toward a neighboring property. A natural barrier with hemlocks and logs should be created so that visitors stay on the loop path and on National Park Service property. The barrier would also contribute to the secluded character of the wooded terraces.

**VEGETATION**

**VG-1. Preserve wooded hillside and add Norway spruce where feasible**

Hawthorne described the hillside in 1853 as covered with young locust, elm, white pine, oak and an orchard of apple trees. Bronson Alcott notes in 1860 that he removed birches from the hillside and planted some of the 450 Norway spruce that came from England. Extant species on the hillside include Norway spruce, linden, sugar maple, and red oak with understory saplings of beech, Norway maple, linden, and hickory as well as fern and poison ivy.

The presence of Norway spruce on the hillside should be preserved, as is feasible, given the current growing conditions. There is concern of trees falling and damaging the house, so trees should be planted in areas where their falling is not a threat to the house. The dense shade cast by mature deciduous trees prevents the replanting of the hillside with Norway spruce without extensive clearing and slope management. Norway spruce can be planted where there is more sunlight—when other trees are removed. For example, a mature red oak on the terraced slope, above the retaining wall and to the northwest corner of the house, is in decline and leaning toward the house. When the tree is removed, it should be replanted in-kind as it is visible in an 1890 photograph (see Figure 11). However, several young Norway spruce can also be planted in this area of the terrace to attain the character illustrated in a 1905 photograph of this area (see Figure 35).

Norway maple (an invasive non-native) should be removed and Norway spruce (non-native but not invasive) should be planted in their place to retain the character of the historic landscape.

**VG-2. Preserve and maintain privet hedge**

The hedge between the house and sidewalk dates to the 1880s or earlier, has been replaced at least once, and was preceded by a picket fence with a hedge

on the opposite side of the road (see Figures 5, 8, 15 and 24). During the early 1900s, the vigor of the hedge was compromised, possibly by the mature pines and spruce that were planted by Alcott between the house and road (see Figure 33). Elm trees planted between the sidewalk and the road had less of an impact on the health of the hedge (see Figure 37). Most of these trees were lost during the 1938 hurricane, allowing the hedge to receive more light and grow more vigorously. Based on historic photographs from the early 1900s, the hedge should be neatly clipped three times a year at a height of 3 feet and width of slightly less than 3 feet (see Figures 36, 37 and 38).

**VG-3. Preserve and replant trees along the Larch Path**

In 1845 and 1846, Bronson Alcott transplanted trees from the hillside in back of the house to the front of the property to serve as a screen from the road. Species included pines, spruce, larch, hemlock, maple, birch, and locust. Fifteen years later in his journal he refers to the larches along the road as the “Larch Row.” The Hawthornes referred to the path along the inside of the row of larches as the Larch Path or Larch Avenue. The Lothropes frequently mentioned the Larch Path in association with Hawthorne. It appears that the row of larches were originally planted nine to ten feet on center and that some of the larches were lost in the 1938 hurricane. Six larches currently stand along the south side of the path. The Larch Path should be preserved. If any mature trees along the row decline and need to be removed, larch trees should be planted in their place if enough sun penetrates the tree canopy. Species that likely grew up or were planted after the 1938 hurricane are still present and include Norway and sugar maple and linden. Once the extant larches decline other trees should be removed and the entire larch row replanted at the same time to reestablish the uniformity that is evident in historic photographs (see Figure 82).

**VG-4. Retain open field character of eight-acre parcel remnant and edge of parking lot parcel**

Ralph Waldo Emerson purchased the eight-acre parcel in 1845 and leased the land to the Alcotts who actively raised crops on the land. Emerson then sold the parcel to Nathaniel Hawthorne in 1852. Although only 0.34 acres of the eight-acre parcel remain, its open character should be preserved by cutting the meadow area two or three times a year (early June, July, late September) with a sickle bar mower, as is done for hay fields—allowing the grasses and wildflowers to attain a height of 12 to 16 inches. More frequent mowing would create an overly manicured landscape that would be inappropriate for the historic setting.

A similar treatment could be applied to a band of lawn along the north and east sides of the parking lot. The edges of the band should be cut short, as is

the current practice to create a manicured lawn surface. However the center of the band should be allowed to grow and be cut two to three times a year with a sickle bar mower—the same times as the .34-acre parcel—to establish more of the hayfield character. This taller grass will also provide a bit more of a screen for the parking lot. Trees along the edge of the parking lot should be retained to provide a partial screen of the cars from the house.

Vegetation along the west side of the parking lot contains numerous non-native invasive species and should be cut two to three times a year. Wet soils in this area may dictate how wide a strip of vegetation is cut and the frequency of cutting.

**VG-5. Replant four elms**

Four elms stood in the The Wayside yard, but all are gone (Figure 100). One elm grew along the sidewalk to the southwest of the house. The V-shaped trunk of the tree, with a fork close to the ground, is visible in 1905 photographs and the spectacular canopy is visible in Figures 45, 48 and 50. As shown in Figure 48, the tree withstood the 1938 hurricane remarkably well as compared to the surrounding evergreens. The tree eventually succumbed to disease.

The second elm stood in front of the southeast corner of the house and is visible or partially visible in many of the historic photographs taken between 1880 and 1922 (see Figures 10, 15, 16, 24, 36, 38, 42 and 43). The tree is quite large in 1880, but by 1922 is showing signs of decline in its canopy and is gone by the late 1930s. Its location between the sidewalk and road is best shown in Figures 15 and 16.

The third elm was located at the edge of the lawn near the driveway. The tree is visible in Figures 15, 16, 37, 43, 44 and 47. Figure 44 best illustrates its location and size at maturity. The tree was likely removed in 1946 when Margaret Lothrop hired an arborist to remove two elms.

The fourth elm stood at the northwest corner of the lawn above the retaining wall. The large stump is still visible.

All four elms should be replanted to enhance the historic setting. Several varieties of elms are now available that are resistant to Dutch elm disease including *Ulmus americana* ‘Princeton,’ *Ulmus americana* ‘Valley Forge,’ and *Ulmus americana* ‘New Harmony.’

**VG-6. Replant selected evergreens south of the west lawn**

Bronson Alcott planted transplanted many evergreens in 1846 to the front of the house in an effort to cut out the dust and noise from the nearby busy road. Eventually the trees matured and towered over the house. In 1938 most of the evergreens were destroyed by the 1938 hurricane, though one pole-like white pine remains on the south side of the west lawn. Once the trees were lost, light returned to the home, prompting Margaret Lothrop to write in her book on *The Wayside*, “I catch myself reflecting that the sunshine which now floods Mrs. Hawthorne’s parlor has changed it from the gloomy place I had always known to the cheerful room Mrs. Hawthorne must have had when the trees were little.” Indeed the trees cast heavy shadow on the home and likely contributed to moisture problems that required a major rehabilitation of the home in the 1960s and 70s. Replanting of the evergreens in front of the home is discouraged for this reason. However, the extant white pine should be removed as it is in poor condition, and be replaced in kind with four white pines as noted on the treatment plan. The replanted trees—set at a distance from the house—would create a greater sense of separation of the west lawn from the busy road, enhancing the feeling of the historic writer’s residence.

**VG-7. Remove invasive species**

Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), is a non-native plant determined to be “of Management Concern” because it spreads into woodland areas and is difficult to control. Indeed, the plant was documented as a foundation plant in the 1960s though its origin is unknown and has spread throughout the woods in the hillside area. Japanese barberry was removed from the foundation planting in 2006 and should be removed from the hillside. However, as there is no documentation regarding the plant’s introduction to the site—it was possibly introduced by birds. Japanese barberry was introduced to the United States in 1875. Photographs from 1904 and 1905 indicate that there were no shrubs in front of the house at this time.

Another non-native plant of management concern is Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), which is currently growing above the retaining wall. The plant was likely introduced by birds and should be removed. The plant should be cut back then spot treated with a systemic herbicide.

A third species that was recently removed from the property is Forsythia (*Forsythia spp.*), which is a non-native but not listed as a species of management concern. There is no documentation regarding the plant’s introduction to the site and it was most likely introduced in the later twentieth century. The plant was removed from the foundation planting in 2006 during the rehabilitation of drainage systems. Forsythia persists above

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the retaining wall and should be removed from this location with day lilies planted in its place, or as noted above, Norway spruce, which will shade the area. As noted by Orville Carroll in the *Historic Structure Report for The Wayside* (1968), trees and shrubs should not be planted too close to the wall as the invading roots can destabilize the wall and steps.

A number of non-native invasive plants are growing in the wet area to the south and west of the parking lot that should be removed including: Oriental bittersweet, bedstraw (*Galium spp.*), honeysuckle, privet, multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), and buckthorn (*Rhamnus spp.*).

#### **VG-8. Maintain groomed lawn**

The presence of a well-groomed lawn—with mixed species—in front of and to the west of the home is reflected in the earliest photographs from the 1860s to the end of its tenure as a private residence in 1965. In the 1840s Bronson Alcott's journal indicates that he sowed his lawns with grass and clover and installed sod and gravel to create clearly defined paths. For the Hawthorne Centenary celebration in 1904 and other special events, the west lawn was typically the focal point for gatherings and speeches (see Figures 27 and 41).

At times during the site's history, the west lawn has been punctuated by first a building, then a succession of trees. Bronson Alcott moved the Barn to the west lawn in 1845 from across the road, but then Hawthorne moved the barn to the east side of the home in 1860. His daughter Rose Hawthorne observed that without the barn, the space was a "large lawn, around which the embowered terraces rose like an amphitheater," foreseeing the suitability of the space for future public gatherings. In the early 1890s the open expanse of the lawn was punctuated by a remnant apple tree stump with shoots, which was removed soon after (see Figure 11). A young sapling, visible in the lawn near the piazza in the 1930s grew quickly to overshadow the house, but was removed by 1967, when only a stump remained (see Figures 48, 49 and 52).

Margaret Lothrop planted a Norway spruce in the lawn west of the piazza in circa 1960. The tree became a dominant feature in the lawn area before it was removed in 2006.

In keeping with its appearance in the early 1900s, the west lawn should remain open and well-tended with mixed species of fescue grasses and clover, though evergreens for screening and an elm should be added to its southern edge (see VG-20). Crabgrass (*Digitaria spp.*) has invaded the lawn in many areas and needs to be removed and monitored.

**VG-9. Preserve annuals, perennials, vines and ornamental shrubs that date to the historic period**

Journal entries, magazine articles and photographs from the Alcott, Hawthorne and Lothrop periods provide insights regarding the perennials, vines and ornamental shrubs that were present during the historic period. These species should be preserved and new species should not be introduced. Annuals include petunias, morning glories and sweet peas. Perennials and ground covers include lily-of-the-valley, wild bergamot, day lilies, iris and foxglove. Shrubs and vines include roses (Queen-of-the-prairies rose), privet, lilac, and woodbine (Virginia creeper). By 1904, however, many of these species were no longer on the property, particularly after the piazza was built on the site of a small garden. Specific locations for species as seen in 1904 and 1905 photographs show day lilies in front of the bay window, lilacs on the northeast corner of west lawn near retaining wall, and woodbine on the southwest corner of the piazza and east side of the house. There were no ornamental plants along the base or on top of the retaining wall due to the overhanging branches of Norway spruce.

After the 1938 hurricane many spruce trees were removed from the hillside, opening the area up to increase sunlight. As a result a mix of evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs dot the hillside. Most recently, the National Park Service built a section of retaining wall between the house and barn in 2006. As part of the project, perennials were planted above the wall. As specified in the planting plan and details, the planting included 130 myrtle (*Vinca minor*), 86 lily-of-the-valley, 10 lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), 17 maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pendatum*), and 16 Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*). Some of these plants remain and should be maintained to cover the sunny area and minimize the establishment of invasive non-natives.

Trees and shrubs should not be planted in close proximity of the wall as their roots can destabilize the dry-laid walls and steps.

**VG-10. Replace day lily and lilac planting at southwest corner of west lawn with Norway spruce and larch**

In addition to reopening the original entrance of the Larch Path evergreens should be planted along the path to retain the character of the landscape as it was in 1904. The lilac, day lilies, and volunteer black locust should be removed from this area. Norway spruce and larch should be planted along the edge of the lawn, though not in the historic Larch Path corridor.

**VG-11. Remove sections of privet hedge along visitor entrance to barn**

The privet hedges in the east lawn bordering the entrance walk to the barn are not historic and should be removed to increase visibility of entrance.

**VG-12. Plant vine and rose adjacent to house and piazza**

Many vines grew on the house during the Hawthorn and early Lothrop periods, though most were trained on the west side of the house prior to the construction of the piazza in 1887. Thereafter, vines (most likely Virginia creeper, also known as woodbine) were trained to the posts of the piazza as depicted in Figure 26 dating to 1895. Also evident in historic photographs is a vine trained over the east wing door and window (see Figure 37). To restore the vine over the east side door and windows, a detachable trellis should be secured to the house as described under small-scale features (see SF-9). An appropriate vine to train onto the trellis would be Virginia creeper. A trellis would not be necessary to reintroduce the sweet briar rose (*Rosa eglanteria*) mentioned in 1890s accounts that may have been present on the site in the early 1900s (see deciduous plant on southwest corner of piazza in Figure 33). The rose would be best planted by one of the southwest facing posts of the piazza, where it would receive ample sun, or on the west side of the barn, in the location of a former trellis structure depicted in a 1965 HABS photograph of the southwest corner of the barn. The fragrant rose grows to a height of 6 to 7 feet.

**BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES****BS-1. Preserve retaining walls**

There are four sections of stone retaining walls and three sets of stone steps on the property which require monitoring and repairs. The retaining wall that extends around the west lawn dates to the Alcotts residence when Bronson Alcott reconfigured the area to relocate the barn and establish garden terraces. The wall was damaged during the 1938 hurricane when the Norway spruce growing above it were blown over. The wall was subsequently repaired and is currently in fair condition with some bulges. The wall sections should be monitored, particularly in the spring, and repairs made as needed so that major sections of the wall do not collapse.

A low retaining wall in the west lawn near the piazza is covered with turf. This section should be uncovered and the steps reset.

A section of wall runs east from the barn and along the east property line. This stone wall is in fair condition. The wall should be monitored and the stones reset as needed.

The park service added a new section of wall in 2006 which is compatible yet distinguishable from the historic wall. This wall is in good condition and should be monitored for signs of bulging and erosion. Plantings were also installed as detailed in VG-9.

**BS-2. Monitor and maintain sub-surface drains**

Site rehabilitation work in 2006 included the repair of sub-surface drains at the base of the hillside and in the vicinity of the house that were no longer functioning. The drains should be monitored and maintained to protect historic resources.

**VIEWS AND VISTAS**

**VW-1. Establish partial view of the house**

In the 1840s Bronson Alcott transplanted many evergreens to the front of the house creating a screen. Four elms also grew around the home creating a canopy and frame for the house. These trees eventually towered over the house, but most of the evergreens fell over during the 1938 hurricane and the elms all succumbed to diseases. Consequently the house is more visible from Lexington Road than it was during the historic period. As detailed under Vegetation (see VG-1 and VG-2), the elms and selected evergreens should be replanted, creating a partial screen of the house from the road.

**VW-2. Preserve vista along Larch Path**

Saplings are growing up along the edges of the path and narrowing the vista down the straight path corridor. Saplings should be removed if they grow into the path. When the existing European larch decline, any remaining trees should be removed and the allee of trees should be replanted with evenly spaced larch as depicted in Figures 17 and 82.

**VW-3. Preserve views of open parcels to the south**

Views to the open landscapes of the parcels south of Lexington Road should be preserved.

**VW-4. Preserve screen of trees along parking lot edges**

Preserve screen of trees along parking lot edges to obscure view of cars from The Wayside.

**SMALL-SCALE FEATURES**

**SF-1. Retain non-historic signs but improve appearance**

Interpretive and directional signs throughout the property should be retained. The sign in the east lawn holding brochures needs to be replaced with a more refined sign to match the domestic setting and set at a lower height.

**SF-2. Mark a loop path**

Mark a loop path for visitors to explore the more secluded wooded portions of the property as Hawthorne used the hillside. Use a small marker, such as a 3-inch diameter colored disk on trees to mark a loop trail that would include the path from the steps behind the home, up the terraces and past the summerhouse site to the ridge, Hawthorne Path to Larch Path back to west lawn.

**SF-3. Preserve three plaques in the landscape**

There are currently three plaques on the property, one that dates to the historic period and two that are more recent. The Hawthorne Centenary Plaque placed on a boulder in the woods just beyond the west lawn dates to 1904 and should be preserved. Site work is needed to stabilize the eroding slope around the site as recommended above under Circulation (see CR-9). The National Historic Landmark plaque was placed in c. 1985 by the front door and should be retained. The National Underground Railroad to Freedom plaque was placed southeast of the barn in 2001 and should be retained.

**SF-4. Retain split-rail fence**

Very little documentation was found for the split rail fence at the southeast corner of the property. The fence may be retained to delineate the corner of the NPS property or removed.

**SF-5. Preserve wood and coal bin and cellar doors**

The cellar doors and wood and coal bin are visible in historic photographs and should be preserved.

**SF-6. Add benches to the landscape that evoke the character of the Hawthorne and Lothrop benches**

During the Hawthorne and Lothrop periods there were numerous places to sit in the landscape. Presently there are none. The lack of seating diminishes the feeling of the property as a residence. The addition of seating would provide a place for visitors to rest. Benches in the style of those present during the period, such as those captured in 1890s photographs, including the bench on the west lawn and the seats between the trees (see Figures 11, 21 and 22), should be added.

**SF-7. Do not reconstruct viewing platforms**

Two viewing platforms were present along the Hawthorne Path in the late 1800s and early 1900s (see Figures 23 and 29). Built of wood and somewhat whimsical, these structures would be difficult to maintain and would

potentially be considered hazardous. The structures should not be reconstructed.

**SF-8. Restore hitching post**

A hitching post appears in photographs from the turn of the century south of the sidewalk bordering the west lawn (see Figures 42, 43, and 86). According to Orville Carroll, author of historic structure reports for the house and barn, the hitching post was moved to be used as a barn step (as noted in a May 24, 1971 memorandum to the Park Manager). The hitching post should be relocated to the front of the house, though on the inner side of the sidewalk so as not to be hit by street snowplows.

**SF-9. Install detachable trellis on east side of house**

In the early twentieth century, vines grew on the home and piazza as detailed in VG-12 and depicted in Figures 33 and 37. To restore the vine over the east side door and windows, a detachable trellis should be secured to the house as described in *Preservation Tech Notes*, Site Number 1, "Restoring Vine Coverage to Historic Buildings," by Karen E. Day (October 1991). An appropriate vine to train onto the trellis would be Virginia creeper. A trellis would not be necessary to reintroduce the sweet briar rose (*Rosa eglanteria*) on the southwest corner of the piazza.

**ARCHEOLOGICAL FEATURES**

**AR-1. Preserve well site**

The well between the home and barn is protected by an iron grate and should be preserved.

**AR-2. Preserve Eliphelet Fox home site**

The foundation of the Eliphelet home should be preserved.

**AR-3. Preserve potential Minot home site**

Archeological review is needed before improving the path circulation in this area as recommended in under Circulation above (see CR-11 and CR-14). Further research and field investigations are needed to validate the Minot House site, and a wayside similar to the one placed outside the Eliphelet Fox home site should be installed.

<b>TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS, WAYSIDE UNIT, MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK</b>		
<b>Rehabilitation Task</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Priority for Action</b> 1 - high priority 2 - medium priority 3 - low priority, but requires ongoing monitoring 4 - no action
<b>SPATIAL ORGANIZATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND LAND USE</b>		
TP-1. Preserve hillside terraces and reduce hillside erosion		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
TP-2. Monitor the base of the hillside for erosion and maintain the trench drain		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
<b>CIRCULATION</b>		
CR-1. Rehabilitate sidewalk along Lexington Road	To be carried out in collaboration with the Town of Concord	2 - plan for future action
CR-2. Shift path entrance from front door to align with bay window then split to front door and barn		1 – high priority for action
CR-3. Re-establish path from sidewalk to west lawn, front door and back yard		1 – high priority for action
CR-4. Rehabilitate steps in the west lawn		1 – high priority for action
CR-5. Re-establish entry drive		1 – high priority for action
CR-6. Retain non-historic NPS walkway to barn		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
CR-7. Retain boardwalk between barn and house		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
CR-8. Preserve Larch Path		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
CR-9. RE-open original eastern end of Larch Path and preserve current alignment to boulder	Larch Path will fork at east end with one branch leading straight to south lawn and other branch leading to boulder	1 – high priority for action
CR-10. Add steps between Larch Path and sidewalk at crosswalk	Alternatively, relocate wayside so it is not visible from the crosswalk and sidewalk. To be carried out in collaboration with the Town of Concord	1 – high priority for action
CR-11. Rehabilitate west end of Larch Path		1 – high priority for action
CR-12. Preserve Hawthorne Path		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
CR-13. Establish connection at the eastern end of the Hawthorne Path		2 - plan for future action
CR-14. Rehabilitate west end of Hawthorne Path		2 - plan for future action
CR-15. Re-establish path to terraces and summer house site and extend to ridge to form loop path	Task will require professional trail crew to lay out and construct path to minimize erosion	2 - plan for future action
CR-16. Re-establish short path from west lawn up steps to terraces	Short-term task to create interpretive walking loop for the terraces	1 – high priority for action

CR-17. Obscure path from boulder directly up the hillside to ridge		1 – high priority for action
CR-18. Do not reopen path from terraces to Hawthorne Centennial Plaque		4 - no action
CR-19. Re-establish path running west to ridge from Hawthorne Centennial Plaque		1 – high priority for action
CR-20. Create natural barrier to screen neighbors		2 - plan for future action
<b>VEGETATION</b>		
VG-1. Preserve wooded hillside and add Norway spruce where feasible		2 - plan for future action
VG-2. Preserve and maintain privet hedge		1 – high priority for action
VG-3. Preserve and replant trees along the Larch Path		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
VG-4. Retain open field character of eight-acre parcel remnant and edge of parking lot parcel		1 – high priority for action
VG-5. Replant four elms		2 - plan for future action
VG-6. Replant selected evergreens south of the west lawn		2 - plan for future action
VG-7. Remove invasive species		1 – high priority for action
VG-8. Maintain groomed lawn		1 – high priority for action
VG-9. Preserve perennials that date to historic period		1 – high priority for action
VG-10. Replace day lily and lilac planting at southwest corner of west lawn with Norway spruce and larch		2 - plan for future action
VG-11. Remove sections of privet hedge along visitor entrance to barn		1 – high priority for action
VG-12. Plant vine and rose adjacent to house and piazza or barn		2 - plan for future action
<b>BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES</b>		
BS-1. Preserve retaining walls and reset steps in wall		1 – high priority for action
BS-2. Monitor and maintain sub-surface drains		1 – high priority for action
<b>VIEWS AND VISTAS</b>		
VW-1. Preserve partial view of the house		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
VW-2. Preserve vista along Larch Path		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
VW-3. Preserve views of open parcels to the south		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
VW-4. Preserve screen of trees along parking lot edges		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
<b>SMALL-SCALE FEATURES</b>		
SF-1. Retain non-historic signs and improve appearance		1 – high priority for action
SF-2. Mark a loop path		2 - plan for future action

SF-3. Preserve three plaques in the landscape		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
SF-4. Retain split-rail fence		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
SF-5. Preserve wood and coal bin and cellar doors		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
SF-6. Add benches to the landscape that evoke the character of Hawthorne and Lothrop benches		2 - plan for future action
SF-7. Do not reconstruct the viewing platforms		4 - no action
SF-8. Restore hitching post	To be carried out in collaboration with the Town of Concord	2 - plan for future action
SF-9. Install detachable trellis on east end of house		2 - plan for future action
<b>ARCHEOLOGICAL FEATURES</b>		
AR-1. Preserve well site		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
AR-2. Preserve Eliphelet Fox home site		3 - requires ongoing monitoring of condition
AR-3. Preserve potential Minot home site		2 - plan for future action

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Lothrop noted that “After facing and overcoming the hardship of settlement and establishment of a nation, the people were able to turn their attention to ‘thoughtful living.’” Ronsheim report, no date, attached to Small to Herbert Kahler, 16 November 1962, 1, File MIMA Legislation, NRHE Files, pp. 2-6. In Joan M. Zenzen, “Bridging the Past: A History of Minute Man National Historical Park,” December 2007, p. 108.

<sup>2</sup> Allen Kent and Douglas Scovill, MIMA Interpretive Prospectus, 1971, 23-24 (includes quotes), File IP, NPS Reports Files, Park Library, MIMA. In Joan M. Zenzen, “Bridging the Past: A History of Minute Man National Historical Park,” December 2007, p. 152.

<sup>3</sup> National Park Service. General Management Plan. September 1989, p. iv, 51.

<sup>4</sup> Terrie Wallace, Ph.D., Curator, “Introduction to the Historic Furnishings Plan, Wayside Unit, November 2006.

<sup>5</sup> Sophia Hawthorne to Mother, June 13, 1852, as quoted in HGR p. 117; Alcott Journal, May 7, 1853, as quoted in HGR p. 119.



Figure 92. View looking southeast showing walks surrounding the southwest, west and north sides of the piazza and home in c. 1890 (MIMA Archives, WE-7an DE and 24502).



Figure 93. View looking northeast in c. 1890 showing remnant apple tree at far left and walks on the west and south sides of the piazza (MIMA Archives, WE-30an-1a).



Figure 94. View west of steps and low retaining wall at northwest corner of piazza leading onto west lawn, c. 1900 (MIMA Archives, 30781).



Figure 95. View west of the original entrance to the Larch Path. Note the elm tree visible on the left side of the tree-lined corridor, c. 1890 (MIMA Archives, 30750).



Figure 96. Looking north at steps behind house leading to Alcott's terraces, c. 1905 (MIMA Archives, 30779).



Figure 97. Looking northeast at steps at the northeast corner of the lawn in c. 1905. Note the erosion and exposed roots of the nearby Norway spruce. The shrubs to the right may be lilac shoots (MIMA Archives, 30786).



Figure 98. View looking southeast of path from steps at back of house up to Alcott's terraces, 1937 (MIMA Archives, 24555).



Figure 99. View northeast of Hawthorne Centennial Plaque and path leading northeast then east to terraces also thought to be Alcott's serpentine walk above the barn, c. 1930 (MIMA Archives, 30776).



Figure 100. View looking northeast of two of the mature elms surrounding The Wayside, 1945. The elm in front of the house is gone and the elm in the west lawn (left foreground) and by the barn (right) remain. The fourth elm on the northwest corner of the lawn is not visible from this vantage point (MIMA Archives, 24613, SW-12an).



Treatment Plan



National Park Service  
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation  
www.nps.gov/oclp

SOURCES

1. Topographic Survey of Wayside Unit, Minute Man National Historic Park, GEOD Consultants, April 8, 2004.
2. Field Documentation, 2008.

DRAWN BY

Debbie Smith and Jacob Tisinger, AutoCAD and Illustrator, 2008

LEGEND

- ▬▬▬ Property Boundary
- Existing Deciduous Tree
- ⊕ Replant Deciduous Tree
- Existing Evergreen Tree
- ⊕ Replant Evergreen Tree
- Field Grasses
- ▬ Retaining Wall
- Tree Canopy
- ▬ Road or Path
- ▬ Hedge
- Plaque or Boulder
- Sign
- ⊙ Well





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