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HISTORICAL RESEARCH REPORT

THE JOB BROOKS HOUSE

Prepared by

Arthur L. Sullivan

Historian

May, 1963

Northeast Region  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia, Pa. - 19106

*Posted  
Prof*

H30

October 3, 1963

**Memorandum**

To: Superintendent, Mount Airy  
Acting Assistant  
From: Regional Director

Subject: Historical Research Report, Job Brooks House

We have read with considerable interest the historical research report on the Job Brooks House submitted with your memorandum of August 9. Park Historian Arthur L. Sullivan is to be congratulated on a very fine "working" report, which shows careful study of the available evidence. Somewhat revised in the light of archeological and architectural evidence, this will make a fine Historical Data Section for the Part I, Historic Structures Report that must in due course be submitted on this structure. By copy of this memorandum, we are sending one copy of the report to the NCR for its use, eventually, in preparing the architectural section.

Murray E. Holligan

Acting Assistant  
Regional Director

cc:  
Director, (w/copy of report)  
Chief, NCR (w/copy of report)

FBarnes/alm  
General  
Daily  
Area



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Minute Man National Historical Park Project  
1400 Post Office & Courthouse  
Boston, Massachusetts, 02109

H30

August 9, 1963

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region  
From: Superintendent, Minute Man  
Subject: Historical Research Report on the Job Brooks House

Enclosed herewith are the original and two copies of an historical research report which has been prepared by Historian Arthur L. Sullivan on the Job Brooks House, also commonly referred to here as the Brooks-Beharrell House, on Parcel 7-U in Concord, Massachusetts.

This report was initiated by Historian Sullivan to serve the purpose of an Historic Structures Report, but in the light of the instructions contained in paragraphs two and four of your memorandum of July 23 on the subject of Historic Structures Report, Part I, The Jacob Whittemore House, the report is being submitted at this time as an historical research report or "working" research report.

*Edwin W. Small*

Edwin W. Small  
Superintendent

Enclosures

*ok, partly full  
arch + copy  
- top ch. of house  
with bar to be made*

*copy W&S  
copy RIDE*

NORTHEAST REGION		Initial and Date
AUG 12 1963		
Reg. Director		
Asst. to RD(PA)		
Program Coord.		
Asst. Reg. Dir. Adm.		
Finance & Prop.		
Personnel		
Safety		
Asst. Reg. Dir. Cu		
History & Arch.	<i>MAN</i>	<i>10/3</i>
Natural History		
Oper. & Maint.		
Ranger Services		
<i>This</i>		<i>9/30</i>
Asst. Reg. Dir. Ep		
N. P. & Rec. Area Pl.		
Plan. Serv.		
Lands & Water		

*Posted  
Small*

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH REPORT

### THE JOB BROOKS HOUSE

#### INTRODUCTION

This report will provide a history of the Job Brooks House together with the house lot on which it stood. In 1775, the house lot was twenty or twenty-five acres. Approximately one-fifth of the lot lies within the boundaries of Minute Man National Historical Park and this portion is identified as 7U, 7V, 7W, 7X, and 7Y on Drawing No. NHP-MM 2004.

As will be seen in the body of this report, the construction date of the Job Brooks House is a matter of conjecture. It may or may not have been part of the 1775 scene. As will also be seen, the same house lot was once occupied by a seventeenth century dwelling and a nineteenth century dwelling. These latter two are no longer part of the scene.

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I HOUSE LOT OWNERSHIP 1666-1794:

The original dimensions of the house lot in question was  $2\frac{3}{4}$  acres. It was owned in 1666 by Joshua Brooks and was bounded on the south by the Bay Road, on the north by Francis Fletcher, on the west by Caleb Brooks and on the east by other land of Joshua Brooks.<sup>1</sup>

Joshua Brooks sold the house lot to Job Brooks on the 11th of November, 1695.<sup>2</sup> It contained, at this time, 17 acres, and was bounded on the south by the Bay Road, on the north by Joseph Fletcher's ditch, on the west by Joseph Brooks and on the east by Noah Brooks.<sup>3</sup>

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Descriptions of lands owned by Joshua Brooks in 1666 are found in two depositories: Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Book 5, p. 3f., and in the Town Records of Concord, Old Vol. II, Folio 18. In 1934, the town records of Concord were transcribed by the Civil Works Administration, under the supervision of Whitney C. Smith. The transcripts are deposited in the Concord Free Library, by volume and page numbers assigned by the CWA. The Joshua Brooks property descriptions are found in Vol. I, pp. 189b-190b. Hereafter, when citing the Concord Town Records, both the old volume and new volume will be given. In 1679, Joshua Brooks purchased all the lands owned by Caleb Brooks, cf. Deed Book 7, pp. 199 ff. For descriptions of Caleb Brook's properties see Concord Town Records, Old Vol. II, folios 18 & 19; Vol. I, pp. 191a-192a. Hereafter all deeds cited will be those recorded with the Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.

2

Deed Book 10, p. 438f.

3

Ibid. We see here that Noah Brooks is the eastern abutter in 1695, whereas in 1666 the house lot was bounded on the east by land of Joshua Brooks. The latter sold the land east of the house lot to Noah Brooks Nov. 11, 1695, cf. Deed Book 12, p. 71f. A portion of this land was later improved by a tan yard. The tan yard was in Lincoln, but the western boundary of tan yard lay partly on the town line which separated Lincoln from Concord in 1754. This firmly establishes at least a portion of the east boundary of the house lot in question. The tan yard and other land east of the house lot will be treated in subsequent reports. The land west of the house lot which was occupied by Joseph Brooks in 1695 (7Z, Drawing No. NHP-MM 2004) later became absorbed into the Job Brooks house lot, at least a portion of it prior to 1775. Further research on this lot, ~~at least a portion of it prior to 1775~~, is necessary to determine whether or not all of that portion of the lot included in the park boundaries became part of the Job Brooks house lot prior to 1775. The northern boundary i.e., the ditch, may still exist in part. Field investigation has revealed traces of a ditch well north of the house lot which might possibly be the original northern boundary. The ditch, of course, is well outside the park boundary.

Job Brooks retained title to the house lot until his death, May 17, 1697.<sup>4</sup>

The property then passed into the hands of Hugh Brooks.

Hugh Brooks enlarged the 17 acre house lot to 20 acres, March 11, 1700, when he purchased an additional three acres from Joseph Brooks.<sup>6</sup>

The three acre addition lay immediately west of the house lot, and it, too, fronted on the Bay Road.<sup>7</sup>

The Size of the house lot remained unchanged for the next forty years during which Hugh Brooks retained possession. Then, on March 24, 1740, Hugh Brooks, "...as a manifestation of my Love and affection..." presented his son Job the 20 acre house lot as a gift.<sup>8</sup>

Job Brooks retained title to the house lot in question until his death, March 3, 1794.<sup>9</sup> The lot then passed into the hands of his son, Asa, as stipulated in Job's will.<sup>10</sup> (Appendix I) We learn, however, from an inventory taken after Job's death,<sup>11</sup> (Appendix II), that the house lot, rather than 20 acres in size as indicated earlier, had grown to 25 acres.

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<sup>4</sup> Concord, Massachusetts, Births, Marriages, and Deaths 1635-1850, Beacon Press, Boston: c. 1891, p. 57, hereafter cited as Concord Register, followed by page number. For inventory of Job Brooks' estate cf., Middlesex County Registry of Probate, Case #2840.

<sup>5</sup> Quitclaim Deed, August 24, 1697, Noah Brooks, Daniel Brooks, Joseph Brooks, Benjamin Pearse, Benjamin Whittemore and Judah Potter to Hugh Brooks, Deed Book 14, p.353. Noah, Daniel, Joseph, Hugh and Job Brooks were brothers and sons of Joshua Brooks.

<sup>6</sup> Deed Book 45, p. 667f.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. Joseph Brooks remained the northern and western abutter of the three acre addition.

<sup>8</sup> Deed Book 45, p.577f. Several additional parcels were also presented to Job Brooks at this time, but are of no concern in this report.

<sup>9</sup> Concord Register, p. 323.

<sup>10</sup> Job Brooks Will, April 7, 1791, Probate Case # 2842.

Sometime, therefore, after 1740, when Job Brooks acquired the lot, but before his death in 1794, Job Brooks secured an additional five acres, if the inventory is correct. In 1747, Job Brooks acquired ~~two parcels~~ two parcels of land, each measuring two acres. <sup>12</sup> However, it is not clear from the deed descriptions whether or not these were additions to the house lot. If they were, then one acre is left unaccounted for. This, of course, could have been a surveying error. The land measurements of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were not as precise as we find them today, and parcels were almost always described as "more or less" of so many acres.

Furthermore, there is the possibility that the 1794 inventory was in error. In this inventory, we find the house lot described in this manner: <sup>five</sup> "twenty acres of Land..." Who inserted the "five" and when? (The "five" appears to be in the same handwriting as the rest of the inventory.) Was it before or after the inventory was probated? Were the persons who took the inventory correct in the first place, listing the house lot as a twenty acre parcel, or was it in fact twenty-five? These are some questions which can not be readily answered. In any event, it is relatively unimportant,

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Deed of Bargain & Sale, Nathaniel Russell to Job Brooks, March 26, 1747, Deed Book 57, p.262f.; Deed of Bargain & Sale, Isaac Brooks to Job Brooks, April 4, 1747, Deed Book 55, p.95f.

for our purpose, whether the house lot was twenty or twenty-five acres, for the larger part of the lot lies outside the park boundaries.

## II - CONSTRUCTION OF JOB BROOKS HOUSE:

From the 1794 inventory we learn that a "Mansion House, barn, and other out houses" stood on the house lot. It can be clearly established that the 1794 "mansion house" is the existing dwelling. Precisely when it was built, however, remains a matter of conjecture.

We know that the house lot owned by Joshua Brooks in 1666 contained a house. When Joshua sold the lot to Job in 1695, we find a dwelling house and barn on the tract. Continuing the title chain, we find a house on the lot in 1697 when Hugh Brooks acquired the property, and when Hugh presented his son Job the house lot in 1740, it contained housing. In all these transactions, is the house mentioned one and the same? Is the house owned by Joshua Brooks in 1666 the same "mansion house" mentioned in the 1794 inventory of Job Brooks' estate? It would hardly seem so for several reasons. First of all, if the 1794 "mansion house" was the same house owned by Joshua Brooks in 1666, the "mansion house" would have been at least 128 years old in 1794 and perhaps several years older than that, for the construction date of the dwelling owned by Joshua Brooks in 1666 is not known. But, according to the 1794 inventory, the "mansion house" was valued at £100, a rather high valuation indicating the structure was undoubtedly sound and of no great antiquity. A dwelling 128 years old or older would certainly not have been valued at £100, as valuations decreased with the age of the dwellings.

There is, furthermore, no structural evidence which would place the construction of the existing dwelling in the mid-seventeenth century. / See Architectural Data Section//

Again, in the transactions of the property in question from 1666 to 1740, the term "mansion house" is not used. The first we find this term is in the 1794 inventory. Although flimsy ground to go on, this at least leads to an opinion, admittedly inconclusive, that the dwelling was constructed by Job Brooks sometime after he acquired the house lot in 1740. As was pointed out in an earlier report / Historic Structures Report-Deacon Joshua Brooks/ we lack sufficient information regarding the term "mansion house", as used in the eighteenth century, which might enable us to distinguish a "mansion house" from other types of dwellings.

In an effort to arrive at an approximate construction date of the dwelling in question, we have compared it with another dwelling.<sup>13</sup> The latter was also termed a "mansion house" and was new in 1781. These two houses are structurally comparable, i.e., generally the same size, building materials, etc. The house used in comparison lies in Lincoln on the south side of the Bay Road, diagonally across the road from the Job Brooks house, and in 1781 was valued at L200, at least this was the price paid for it. The valuation of this "mansion house" dropped from L200 in 1781 to L95 in 1792, or in any event,<sup>14</sup> this was the value placed upon the dwelling by the tax assessor. And, according to the 1794 inventory, the Job Brooks "mansion house" was valued

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<sup>13</sup>"Historic Structures Report-Deacon Joshua Brooks." The dwelling used in comparison is that which Joshua Brooks purchased from his father, Deacon Joshua Brooks in 1781.

<sup>14</sup>Lincoln Tax Records.

at L100, or L5 more than the "mansion house" constructed c. 1781. Since the two dwellings are structurally comparable, and were valued approximately the same within a span of two years, it is tempting to conclude they were constructed about the same time, and quite possible were. However, it should be remembered that the valuations placed upon the two dwellings were done so by two different sources. The c. 1781 "mansion house" was appraised by a tax assessor, and may or may not be an accurate valuation. The valuation placed upon the Job Brooks' "mansion house" in 1794 can be relied upon with a far greater degree of confidence as to accuracy, as the persons appointed by the court to take the inventory of Job Brooks' estate were ordered, "...according to your best Skill and Judgment truly and jutly to apprise..." the estate in question. Furthermore, the executor of the estate was required to take an oath that the inventory and appraisals were true and just.

There is one other assessment available indicating the two structures were approximately equal in value, and that is the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. From this tax we learn that the house lot of Joshua Brooks, containing one-quarter of an acre, along with the house and one out-building /presumably the barn/ were valued by the assessors at \$800.00, whereas the house lot of Job Brooks/owned in 17<sup>98</sup> by Asa Brooks/, containing one acre, the house and one out-building /presumably the barn/ were valued at \$850.00.

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Typescripts of the 1789 Federal Direct Tax can be found in the park files.

Thus, based upon this evidence, we can only conclude that the c.1781 "mansion house" and Job Brooks' "mansion house" were possibly constructed about the same time, that is, within a few years of each other. The Job Brooks "mansion house" could have been built before the c.1781 "mansion house", but it is equally possible that it was constructed sometime after the c.1781 "mansion house". Therefore, the Job Brooks "mansion house" may or may not have been part of the 1775 scene. /Further architectural investigation of the two dwellings might reveal which of the two is the earliest constructed./

### III - DESCRIPTION AND ALTERATIONS OF THE JOB BROOKS MANSION:

Interior and exterior descriptions of the <sup>d</sup>dwelling as it now appears, together with late nineteenth century and current illustrations, are provided in the Architectural Data Section of this Historic Structures Report.

The earliest description we have of any nature relative to the Job Brooks "mansion house", although niggardly, is provided in Job Brooks' will, executed April 7, 1791. <sup>16</sup> By this instrument, Job bequeathed to his wife Anna, "...the free use and improvement of the westerly end of my now dwelling house...with the two cellars under the same..."

Further detail is found in the 1794 inventory. From a listing of the house contents, we discover the structure contained at least five rooms, i.e., forerom, bedroom, kitchen, back chamber, and best chamber, in addition to to cellar.

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Probate Case #2842, loc. cit.

From an 1816 inventory of the house contents, we learn the dwelling then contained: west <sup>front</sup> room; northwest bedroom; east lower room; kitchen; east front chamber; west front chamber; garret; east back chamber; west <sup>back</sup> chamber; and the cellar /See Appendix III/.

Thus we see an apparent alteration in the room arrangement which probably took place between 1794 and 1816, but it is more likely the change occurred between 1798 and 1803, for reasons we will enter into later.

But first we will attempt to explain the alterations and demonstrate that the 1794 foreroom became the 1816 east lower room and west front room; that the 1794 bedroom and 1816 northwest bedroom are one and the same; that the 1794 back chamber became the 1816 east back chamber and west back chamber; that the 1794 best chamber and the 1816 west front chamber are one and the same; and that the 1816 east front chamber was omitted in the 1794 inventory.

In order to explain the apparent alterations we must first present a conjectural room layout as of 1794. /See Conjectural Floor Plans - Architectural Data Section/ It is believed that the foreroom occupied the entire south or front portion of the first floor, a part of which was probably set aside as either a sitting room or dining room, while another section was obviously devoted to sleeping purposes. We say this as the room contained a "Great Chair" along with a table, six additional chairs, and a bed with its furniture. Fireplace equipment in this room is a strong indication that the room also contained a fireplace.

<sup>17</sup>"An inventory of the Personal and Real Estate of Asa Brooks of Concord, deceased; taken pursuant to a Warrant from the hon. James Prescott Esqr. Judge of the Probate of Wills & c in the County of Middlesex as shown by the Executor," dated October 9, 1816 - Probate Case #2790.

It is further believed that the bedroom listed in the 1794 inventory occupied the northwest corner of the first floor. This room was not being used as a bedroom in 1794, at least we do not find any bed furniture listed among the contents. Here we find stored all the pewter, crockery ware, glass ware, <sup>earthen ware</sup> and wooden ware, along with several miscellaneous pieces of furniture. The lack of fireplace equipment in this room, although inconclusive, is an indication that the room was not on the central fireplace. The conjecture that the bedroom was on the first floor is based upon the order in which the inventory was taken. The foreroom was first, the bedroom second and the kitchen third. If, for the sake of argument, the bedroom was on the second floor, this would have meant an unnecessary trip upstairs for the persons taking the inventory, as the foreroom and kitchen were on the first floor, and the chambers, which appear later in the inventory, were on the upper floor. That it was located in the northwest corner we surmise from the 1816 inventory listing of a northwest bedroom, in fact the only bedroom listed in the 1816 inventory. Here again, from the order in which the inventory was taken it would seem that the northwest bedroom was located on the first floor. Fireplace equipment is not found among the contents of the northwest bedroom in the 1816 inventory. Furthermore, a pattern is beginning to unfold which would indicate that any room designated a bedroom was located on the first floor, while any room designated as chamber was located on the upper floor.

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<sup>18</sup> See also, Kelly J. Frederick, The Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut, Yale University Press, New Haven: 1927, 13f.

Continuing our conjectural 1794 floor plan, we place the kitchen behind the central chimney so as to occupy the larger portion of the first floor on the north side of the house. Above the kitchen we place the back chamber, which apparently was a rather small room containing only a <sup>e</sup>bed, some small articles and six shillings worth of lumber. /Neither this chamber nor any chamber listed in either the 1794 or 1816 inventories contained fireplace equipment, a situation which would lead one to conclude that fireplaces were absent on the second floor. Architectural investigation, however, discloses unmistakable evidence that fireplaces were once very much in existence on the second floor./

Also on the second floor was the best chamber, which we place over the fore room and at the western half of the house. This we believe to have been the bedroom of Job and his wife Anna. It is possible, too, that the <sup>best</sup>bedchamber also served as the dining room, as this room contained the most expensive table along with seven chairs in addition to the usual bedroom furniture. We have concluded that the best chamber was located on the west side of the house, for, as was pointed out earlier, Job Brooks stipulated in his will that his widow should receive, "...the free use and improvement of the westerly end of my now dwelling house..." It would seem reasonable, then, that the widow should be granted the best chamber and that this room, therefore, was on the west side of the house.

We have further surmised that another chamber existed which does not appear in the 1794 inventory. This we believe to have been the room listed as east front chamber in the 1816 inventory, that is, a room on the second floor at the eastern end of the house. We explain the absence of this chamber in the 1794 inventory due to the fact that in 1794 the house was occupied, in addition to Job and Anna Brooks, by their son Asa and his wife Abigail. They undoubtedly occupied their own chamber and very likely

owned their own furniture. In this event, their furniture and the room in which it was located, would not appear in the 1794 inventory.

Now let us examine the rooms as found in the 1816 inventory. We find a west front room and an east lower room, which we believe to have been a division of the 1794 foreroom. The division probably was a result of the widow, Anna, having been granted the use of the western end of the house. In 1816, the west front room was evidently being used as a combination sitting room and sleeping room, while the east lower room was utilized as the dining room. These two rooms contained fireplace equipment.

Also, we find a northwest bedroom, which, as we have already pointed out, was very probably located on the first floor in the northwest corner of the house. In 1816 this room <sup>did</sup> ~~contained~~ bed and bedding along with a few other items. From the contents of this room however, it would seem that the northwest bedroom was relatively small.

The location of the kitchen undoubtedly remained unchanged, i.e., behind the central chimney on the first floor.

Continuing with the 1816 inventory, we find an east front chamber and a west front chamber which, as was already pointed out, were very probably located on the second floor. We believe the east front chamber to have been the bedroom of Asa Brooks and his wife, at least, in 1816, ~~this chamber~~ contained the most expensive bed in the house and the only one listed with a "high post Bedstead". The west front chamber was utilized as a bedroom and apparently as a storage place for linen and bedclothing.

Also we find an east back chamber and a west back chamber

which we believe to have been a division of the back-chamber listed in the 1794 inventory. The only furniture found in each of the back chambers in 1816 is a single bed and bedding, which would seem to indicate that they were very small rooms. A single bed is likewise found in the garret.

And now to offer the reason for the apparent alteration in the room arrangement, which provided additional sleeping room, and why we believe the change occurred between 1798 and 1803.

As we seen earlier, Anna, the widow of Job, was granted the free use of the west end of the dwelling and the cellars underneath, while Asa, the son of Job and Anna, gained title to the remainder of the house as stipulated by the 1791 will. After Job's death in 1794, then, the dwelling was occupied only by Anna, Asa, and his wife, Abigail, whom he married, July, 1792. The other two children of Job and Anna, i.e., Matthew and Anna, having long since married, relocated - Matthew having married Ruth Hunt, October 30, 1766, moved to Littleton - Anna having married Stephen Jones, April 27, 1775, moved to North Concord.<sup>19</sup>

Asa's wife died, September 24, 1795, but on October 10th of the following year he married Mary Lawrence.<sup>20</sup> Asa's mother, Anna, died August 15, 1798. Thus for a time, Asa and his wife Mary were the only occupants of the dwelling. Yet this situation existed for

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<sup>19</sup> Concord Register, et passim. See also 1791 Will and 1794 Inventory.

<sup>20</sup> Concord Register, et passim. See also 1791 Will and 1794 Inventory.

only a brief period. On October 10, 1798, their first child was born, a girl named Mary. Next came twin boys - Asa and Job, born March 3, 1800. On July 8, 1801, Love Lawrence was born and, finally, Nabby Jones entered the world on New Year's Day in 1803.<sup>21</sup> In summary, during the five year span between 1798 and 1803, five children were born to Asa and Mary. It was probably because of the enlargement of the family that the back chamber was divided into two rooms to provide additional sleeping space for the Brooks children. (Much of the above is supposition based upon analysis of the best available evidence. Further architectural investigation of the structure, together with archeological exploration of the house foundations, will, in all probability, uncover new data which will either confirm or refute the conjectures advanced.)

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid. See also, Will of Asa Brooks, October 28, 1813 - Probate Case #2790.

#### IV. BARN AND OUTBUILDINGS:

The construction date of the barn is unknown. We know, however, that it was on the premises in 1695 when Job Brooks, brother of Hugh, purchased the tract.<sup>22</sup>

As was seen earlier, Hugh Brooks acquired the house lot in 1697, and from a settlement of the Bay Road bounds in 1716, we learn that the barn lay fairly close to the road.<sup>23</sup> The Bay Road right-of-way, as it passed Hugh Brooks' house lot, was eight rods or forty-four yards wide. One of the bounds of the eight rod highway, was "...the stone wall by Hugh Brookses Barne on the north of the way..."<sup>24</sup> Thus, the barn could not have been much more than twenty-two yards from the center of the right-of-way.

In the next transaction of the house lot, i.e., from Hugh Brooks to his son, Job, in 1740; the barn is not specified.<sup>25</sup> Rather, the improvements on the house lot were termed "The housing thereon."<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Joshua Brooks to Job Brooks, November 11, 1695, Deed Book 10, p.438f.

<sup>23</sup> "Settlement of Highway Lines of the Bay Road - 1716", Concord Town Records, Old Vol. II, folios 94-96; Vol. I, 357a-362a.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., Old Vol. II, folio 95; Vol. I, 360b.

<sup>25</sup> Deed of Gift, loc. cit., March 24, 1740, Deed Book 45, p. 577f.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

This term probably covered the house, barn and perhaps additional outbuildings.

The next reference to the barn is found in the 1794 inventory of Job Brooks' estate. Whether or not this barn was the same one on the premises in 1697 is uncertain. In addition to the barn, the 1794 inventory mentions "other out houses". The number, nature, function and location of these buildings is not known; they have long since disappeared from the scene.

As can be seen from illustrations included in the Architectural Data Section of this report, a late nineteenth century barn was once located on the house lot, a little west of the dwelling. This barn was destroyed by fire and another built on the same site. The latter barn was also destroyed by fire - the last conflagration occurring in 1936.<sup>27</sup> Today, only the cellar foundation of this later period barn remains. Whether or not this later barn occupied the site of the earlier barn or barns is not known.

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<sup>27</sup> Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keizer, May 23, 1962, conducted by EODC Architect Russel V. Keune, assigned to Minute Man National Historical Park Project.

## V. NINETEENTH CENTURY HOUSE:

As we have already mentioned, the house lot passed into the hands of Asa Brooks upon the death of his father Job.<sup>28</sup> Asa died, August 26, 1816,<sup>29</sup> and, as provided in his will,<sup>30</sup> his estate, with but a few exceptions, descended to his twin sons, Asa and Job, to be divided equally between them.

As part of his share, Asa secured title to the house lot. On February 28, 1827, Asa sold about one-quarter of an acre of the house lot to Alfred Brooks.<sup>31</sup> This quarter acre lay in the extreme southeast corner of the house lot and was bounded on the south by the Bay Road ninety-eight feet. The eastern boundary, beginning at the Bay Road, ran northerly along a stone wall (which still stands today) one hundred and thirty feet, then turned and ran westerly ninety-six feet, thence southerly one hundred and forty feet to the Bay Road. The quarter acre lot was vacant in 1827.

Alfred Brooks retained title to the lot until May 8, 1849 when he sold it to Levina Farwell.<sup>32</sup> In 1849, however, a dwelling was located on the tract which probably was constructed between 1827 and 1830. We say this as we know the lot was vacant in 1827, but a house appears in this location, i.e., west of the

<sup>28</sup> Will of Job Brooks, April 7, 1791, loc. cit., Probate Case #2842

<sup>29</sup> Concord Register, p. 336

<sup>30</sup> Will of Asa Brooks, October 28, 1816, loc. cit., Probate Case #2790. Asa Brooks had extensive holdings in Concord, Lincoln, Bedford, Acton and Princeton, but of course we are interested here only in his house lot.

<sup>31</sup> Deed Book 584, p. 465 f; Deed Book 273, p. 471f.

<sup>32</sup> Deed Book 584, p. 465f.

Job Brooks "mansion house" but east of the Lincoln-Concord line, on an 1830 map of Concord.<sup>33</sup> This dwelling, like many of the structures which once occupied the house lot, no longer exists.

## VI STONE WALLS

The first reference to a stone wall on the Job Brooks house lot is found in the 1716 settlement of the Bay Road right-of-way, already referred to. A stone wall by the barn was one of the several points along the right-of-way delineating the northern limits of the Bay Road. It is now clear, however, whether this wall paralleled the road or led vertically or at an angle from it.

We find in an 1827 deed that the eastern boundary, or at least so much of it, was bounded by a stone wall.<sup>34</sup> Whether or not this wall was in existence in 1775, however, is not known.

The first precise measurements of the house lot in question is found in an 1889 deed<sup>35</sup> (See plat-Appendix IV). This plat includes 7U through 7Y, Drawing No. NHP-MM 2004. The house lot once also included an additional thirteen to fourteen acres, a portion of which is designated as 7Z on the same drawing. Whether latter the/tract was added to the house lot before or after 1775 is presently unknown. Further research is needed here and any new data uncovered will be incorporated in Part II.) The lot,

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<sup>33</sup> This map was published by Lemuel Shattuck and is found in Shattuck's History Of Concord, Boston and Concord: 1835. A photocopy of the map is in the park files.

<sup>34</sup> Deed Book 273, p. 471f.; Deed Book 584, p. 465f.

<sup>35</sup> Mortgage Deed, Charles A. & Henry Sawyer to Middlesex

Institute for Savings October 24, 1889, Deed Book 1927, pp. 582ff. Released, January 2, 1891.

at this time, contained 46.11 acres. The southern boundary, along the Bay Road, ran a distance of 689.7 feet, but the deed fails to mention the presence of a stone wall, or any other type of barrier, along this border. There is evidence however, that a stone wall once extended in front of the Job Brooks "mansion house".<sup>36</sup> Today, most of the southern boundary of the house lot is bounded by a stone wall. This particular wall, however, is obviously modern as much of the stone is faced and sections of the wall are bonded by a concrete mortar mix.

In the 1889 deed, we see that the eastern boundary, beginning at the Bay Road, was defined, in part, by a stone wall running north 661.32 feet. The remainder of this boundary was a wall and ditch, extending north another 1628:22'. (The park boundary takes in 400 feet of the eastern boundary. About 330 feet of the stone wall along this boundary is still standing.) As was pointed out earlier, the earliest reference to this wall is 1827. This does not mean, however, that the wall was not there before that date. There, indeed, is a strong possibility that the wall was part of the historic scene, as the land on both sides of the wall had been settled and developed in the last half of the seventeenth century and first quarter of the eighteenth. (The lot immediately east of the Job Brooks house lot was Joshua Brooks' Tanyard, which dates back to at least 1725. This Tanyard will be the subject of a separate report.)

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<sup>36</sup> Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keizer, loc. cit., May 23, 1962

Again, in the 1889 deed, we find the western boundary, beginning at the Bay Road, was defined, in part, by a stone wall running north 855.36 feet. From the stone wall, the boundary extended north another 929.28 feet along a ditch, then turned west, north, east, and north again to the northern boundary. (The park boundary takes in 400 feet of the western boundary. No part of the wall within the park bounds, however, is existing today, but several hundred feet of the wall, north of the boundary, is still extant.) The age of this wall is likewise unknown.

#### VII LAND USE:

This house lot, perhaps from its first occupancy in the seventeenth century, was devoted to farming. From information found in Job Brooks' will and inventory, together with that contained in Asa Brooks' inventory, we learn something of the extent and nature of the farm, although it is not possible to determine how much of the farm or which particular section of it, may have been devoted to a particular crop at a given time.

In his will, Job Brooks made the provision, that upon his death, his widow should receive an annual allotment of ten bushels of Indian corn, ten bushels of rye, two bushels of malt, four barrels of cider, /therefore apple orchard/, one hundred pounds of pork, eighty pounds of beef, ten pounds of flax, and a sufficient quantity of sauce and firewood. Two cows and one horse were also to be kept on the farm year round for the exclusive use of the widow. The will further provided that Job's grandson should receive one yoke of oxen.

In the inventory of Job Brooks' estate, taken in 1794, we find the following farm products, livestock, and utensils among his belongings: twenty bushels of grain; two hundred pounds of pork; one hundred pounds of beef; two meat barrels; one bushel of salt; half a bushel of malt; four cider barrels; six cows; one pair of three year old steers; one stag, one mare; one colt; two swine; half a cart with wheels; plow and plow irons; two ox yokes and irons; old log chain; two draught;

horse takling; shovel; three forks; half of iron-toothed harrow; grind stone; iron bar; half a cider mill; flaxbreak; two scythes and tackling; cart rope; axes; sled; half a crosscut saw; adz; two augers; chisel; and three iron wedges.

The following farm products, livestock, and utensils are those itemized in the 1816 inventory of Asa Brooks' estate: two pair of working oxen; one mare; eight cows; one bull; two sheep; four swine; four shoats; one grindstone; three beehives; forty tons of ship timber; fourteen cords of oak wood; nine cords of pine wood; six bushels of wheat; fifty-two bushels of rye; nine tons of English hay; twenty tons of meadow hay; two tons of stalk; one timber chain; one draught chain; three smoke chains; seven stake chains; two pair of horse troughs; one iron-toothed harrow; four plows; two iron bars; old iron; four barn rakes; scythes and snaths; four old shovels; four old axes; three broad hoes; one dung fork; one bevel and wedges; one ditching knife; lot of old tools; one tenon saw; one saddle; one collar and harness; one ox cart; one ox wagon; one old ox wagon; one horse wagon and harness; four ox yokes; three old ox sleds; one chaise and harness; one sleigh and harness; and one dozen meat bags.

Thus, in synthesizing this evidence, it would appear that the farm was one with a limited number of livestock and the principal crops were Indian corn, rye, English hay and meadow hay. An apple orchard was also very likely located on the house lot. In any event, the larger part of the farm lies outside the park boundary - about five acres of the original house lot lies within the park. Aside from the Job Brooks "mansion house" and the barn foundations, the house lot today is also occupied by a twentieth century dwelling. The latter has been leased by the National Park Service under a life tenancy. Otherwise, that part of the lot within the park is covered by a vegetative growth--grasses, trees of various species, and an apple

orchard going to seed.

It is probable that one, possibly two, large elm trees were part of the historic scene. These would have been located in front of the "mansion house". One elm can be seen in a photograph /Illustration in Architectural Data Section/ taken in the 1880's. It is not possible, of course, to determine the age of the elm from the photograph; it does appear, however, to be of some antiquity. We know of at least one other instance within the park <sup>?</sup>/See Jacob Whittemore Historic Structures Report-Historical Data Section/ where a pair of large elm trees stood in front of a house. These, too, show up in a late nineteenth century photograph and appear to be rather aged. Whether or not it became a general practice to plant elms in front of houses in this area, and if so, when the general practice was initiated, is still undetermined.

VIII -SUBSEQUENT OWNERSHIP OF THE JOB BROOKS MANSION AND HOUSE LOT:

We have thus far traced the ownership of the property in question from 1666 to 1816 when it was acquired by Asa Brooks. Although the size of the house lot varied throughout the years, the subsequent chain of title is as follows:

- Asa Brooks to Emelius Julius Leppleman, June 8, 1847. <sup>37</sup>
- Emelius J. Leppleman to Myrick A Benner, November 23, 1854. <sup>38</sup>
- Myrick A. Benner to Charles A Sawyer, April 1, 1858. <sup>39</sup>
- Levina Farwell to Charles A. Sawyer, July 8, 1858. <sup>40</sup>
- Charles A. Sawyer and Henry Sawyer to Elizabeth P. FitzGerald, May 17, 1890. <sup>41</sup>
- Herbert FitzGerald and Elizabeth P. FitzGerald to Rufus G. and Daniel G. Brown, October 23, 1890. <sup>42</sup>
- <sup>f</sup>Rufus G. Brown et al. to Arthur H. Wilson, June 18, 1892. <sup>43</sup>
- Arthur H. Wilson to William Goodell, December 20, 1905. <sup>44</sup>
- William Goodell to W. Louise Leonard, April 3, 1909. <sup>45</sup>

- 37  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 519, p. 100f.
- 38  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 696, p. 387f.
- 39  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 792, p. 42f.
- 40  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 795, p. 547f.
- 41  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 1973, pp. 393ff.
- 42  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 2006, pp. 361ff.
- 43  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 2125, pp. 108ff.
- 44  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 3204, pp. 329ff.
- 45  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 3426, pp. 103ff.

W. Louise Leonard to Flora B. Keizer, September 28, 1915. <sup>46</sup>

Harold Keizer to Reed O. Beharrell and Nicholas M. Deraney,  
September 21, 1959. 47

Reed O. Beharrell, H. Theodore Beharrell and Nicholas M.  
Deraney to United States of America, April 18, 1962. 48

46  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 4002, pp. 347ff.

47  
Deed of Bargain and Sale, Deed Book 9466, pp. 197ff.

48  
Warrenty Deed, Deed Book 10019, p. 472.

OCCUPANTS OF HOUSE LOT:

In 1775, the house lot was occupied by Job Brooks, his wife, Anna, and their son and daughter, Asa and Anna. In 1775, Asa was twenty-eight years old, three years older than his sister Anna.

Job was a farmer and currier, and undoubtedly worked, at least part of his time, in the tanyard adjoining his house lot, owned and operated by Deacon Joshua Brooks. Asa, too, was a farmer and unquestionably was occupied most of the time in assisting his father in managing and operating the farm and other properties owned by Job Brooks.

APPENDIX I

In the name of God amen, I Job Brooks of Concord in the county of Middlesex, and commonwealth of Massachusetts yeoman, being under some indisposition of Body, but of sound mind and Memory Blessed be God, do this seventh day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and ninety one, Make and publish this my last will, and Testament in the manner following, that is to Say First of all I commend my Soul into the hands of almighty God who gave it me; and Body to the earth from whence it came, in hopes of a joyfull resurrection through the Merits of my Saviour Jesus Christ; and as For that worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to Bless me I Dispose thereof as follows viz-

*Impress* I Give and bequeath to Anna Brooks my Beloved wife the <sup>free</sup> use <sub>^</sub> and improvement of the westerly end of my now dwelling house in Concord, with Liberty of passing, and repassing to and about the Same on all occasions, with the two cellars under the Same, and the use and improvement of my eight day clock that Stands in the end of the house aforesaid, and to remain there and not to be moved during her life or widowhood, and also the free use of the one half of my pew in Concord meeting house - and for her Support during her life, or remaining my Widow, my will is, that my Executor hereafter named Shall bring to her in the house aforeprovided for her year by year,

and every year ten bushels of Indian corn, and ten Bushels of Rie,  
Such part thereof ground into meal as She pleases - two Bushels of  
Malt - Four Barrels of Cyder - one hundred pounds of Pork - Eighty  
pounds of Beef Both well fatted - and ten pounds of <sup>g</sup>Food Flax - and  
a Sufficieient Quantity of ~~same~~ <sup>Sauce</sup> every kind at all seasons of the year  
as She Shall Judge necessary for her - and provide a sufficiency of  
fire wood cut for the fire and carried into her house at all seasons  
of the year - and in case of sickness to procure a Doctor & Nurse and  
pay for them, which Doctor & nurse Shall be according to her wish and  
desire - and to keep two Cows and a horse <sup>o</sup> in the Farm I now live upon  
Summer and Winter for her use, But <sup>if</sup> <sub>A</sub> it should be So ordered by Providence  
She should marry to another man then She Shall not receive the above articles  
and assisstance, So long as She remains in a Married State, not even the  
house rocm above mentioned, but if she should again be a Widow, then She  
may return and enjoy all the privileges as when She was my widow at first -  
and further my will is that my Beloved wife Anna Brooks Shall have all  
my Household Furniture (the eight day clock excepted) and plate, all  
monies due to me on Bonds, notes of hand or others <sup>wise</sup> that I shall die  
possessed of, and two cows out of my stock of cattle, and my horse and  
all my house Furniture, For her Sole use Forever to dispose of as She  
pleases if done in her life time, otherwise to be disposed of as hereafter  
Provided in this my last will --- and after her decease if She Should  
<sup>die</sup>  
be a widow to be Dextently Buried by, and at the discretion of my Executor  
named hereafter

Item I give and Bequeathe To my son Mathew Brooks of Littleton all  
the lands that I shall die <sup>seized</sup> 24 and possessed in Said Town of Littleton

For him, his heirs and assigns to Possess and enjoy forever, and one half <sup>of</sup> my wearing apparil---

Item I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Anna Jones the Free use and uninterrupted improvement of all the Buildings and lands I Purchased of her husband Capt. Stephen Jones during her life and that She, with my Executor, may ~~set~~ <sup>sell</sup> the Same or any part thereof, <sup>if</sup> by them it Shall be though best for her; hereby empowered ~~and are~~ <sup>and are</sup> to give good and sufficient deed or deeds therefor; but if the Said Buildings and Land or any part thereof Should remain after the Decease of my Said Daughter my Will is that the Same be equally divided between her children, and further I Give to my Said Daughter fifteen pound Lawfull money, to 12 <sup>ly</sup> in my executors hands, to be paid <sup>by</sup> him to her or her children, as he Shall think best and most convenient for her, or them, and to be for her and her children's use and theirs only - and if any of the Household Furniture and money I have given to my wife aforesaid, Should remain undisposed of by her at her Decease, my will is that my Daughter aforesaid have the one half of the Same to improve her life time, and at her decease; her Daughters to have Said Household Furniture equally Divided between them, and the money Left at her decease to be equally Divided between her Sons-

Item I Give and bequeath to my Grandson Job Brooks ninety Pounds Lawfull money to be paid him when he arrives to the age of twenty two years old - and one yoke of oxen - and my will is that he have the other half of the money that may be undisposed of by my wife, which I have given her as above

Item I Give and bequeath to my Grand-daughter Ruth Brooks twenty Pounds Lawfull money, to be paid her by my Executor intwo years after my Decease, and the other half of the household Furniture that may be

undisposed of at my wifes decease which I have given her as aforesaid---  
Item I give and bequeath to Asa Brooks, and to his heirs and assigns  
forever all and singular my lands, messuages And tenaments that I have,  
and that I shall die seized and possessed of in the Town of Concord,  
Lincoln, Bedford, and Acton which is not otherwise disposed of in this,  
my last will, and I Give him all my Farming utensils Stock of cattle and  
other creatures, which is not otherwise disposed of, my pew in Concord  
Meeting house and Eight day clock, at my wifes Decease, and also the  
other half of my wearing apparril and all other my Goods & chattles not  
mentioned above, he to pay the legacies ~~of~~ afore Deceased, my Just  
Debts, and funiral Charges - and I Do hereby constitute make and ordain  
my Son Asa Brooks aforesaid Sole executor of this my Last will and Test-  
ament-----

and I Do hereby disallow revoke and Disanull all and every Former  
Testaments wills legacies and bequests and executors by me in any <sup>way</sup> before  
mentioned, willed and bequeathed, ratifying and confirming this, and no  
other to be my last will and Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto  
set my hand and Seal, the day and year above written -

Signed Sealed Published and

Job Brooks

Pronounced and Declared by

the Said Job Brooks to be his

last will and Testament --

in presence of us ---

Joshua Brooks  
Abel Brooks  
Ephraim Wood

APPENDIX II

1794

An Inventory of the Estate Real and Personal whereof Mr. Job Brooks

Late of Concord in the county of Middlesex yeoman, Deceased --

Testate, died Seized and possessed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, viz.--

His money that was on hand	L 7-14-7
Notes of hand left by said Deceased, the Interest on the Same are cast to third of March 1794	
The Treasurer of the Town of Concord	20-0-0
Two notes Signed by Joshua Brooks, Jr.	38-17-11
One by Joshua Brooks	3-12-11
James Barret Jr.	4-13-0
Jacob Brown	14-11-10
Two of Samuel Jones	16-6-0
Timothy Jones	10-11-6
Stephen Barret	20-11-0
Peter Barret	9-5-0
Samuel Davis	20-6-0
Abner Wheeler	6-16-11
Joseph Brown	12-0-0
Abel Davis	6-3-0
Francis Buttrick	5-0-0
Charles Barret and another	<u>8-11-2</u>
One note of John Barker of Acton, Dubious	

State note the face of it	L 48-12-9	
Inter. 7 yrs. & 3 mo.	<u>21-02-8</u>	
	69-15-5	Consolidated by 13/4
		a pound, amounting to.
		46-10-4

WEARING APPARREL

Blue coat and Jackcoat and Britches 39/	Two	
gray coats and Jackcoats 15/		2-14-0
cloth coloured coat and Black Jackcoat 15/	two pairs	
black Britches 12/		1-7-0
Two blue gray Jackcoats --10/	two other Jackcoats 6/	0-16-0
A pair of Deerskin Britches 8/	Beaver hatt 36/	2-4-0
Blue coat 9/	three pair old Britches 2/	Blue Great coat 12/
Gray great coat 3/	pair of Britches not made 3/	Boots
and shoes 6/		0-12-0
Nine pair of Stockings 22/	6 Mittin and Garters 1/	
Woolen caps 1/6		1-5-0
Eleven shirts 52/	Seven caps 1/6	four pair gloves 1/6
Hat case and old hatt 1/6	pair Specticals 1/	

PLATE

One silver cann and four Table Spoons & Eight Tea Spoons		8-0-0
<u>House hold furniture, viz.. in the forerroom</u>		
Eight day clock L 12.	One Bed and its burniture 75/	15-15-0
Oval Table 6/	candle stand 2/	whitechest 2/
Six chairs 9/		0-19-0

Great chair 3/6 Pair of handirons 12/ Tongs and fire shovel 6/ 1-1-6  
 Total 290-5-2

Articles of furniture in the bedroom -- viz.

Desk 18/ chest with two draws 12/ one other chest 2/  
 Table 7/6 ----- 1-19-6  
 Three chairs 4/6 Case with Bottles 6/ reel 2/  
 Clothes horse 3/ ----- 0-15-6  
 Large stone jug 4/ the whole of the Pewter 36/ all  
 Crockery ware 2/ ----- 2-12-0  
 All the glass ware 6/ All earthen ware 10/6 Woodenware 11/ 1-7-6  
 Coffee mill 1/6 Eighteen cotton sheets 28/2 Five tow<sup>do.</sup> 22/6 9-4-6

KITCHEN FURNITURE

Four brass kettles 87/ two brass skilets 16/  
 warming pan 4/6 ----- 5-1-6  
 two brass skimmer 1/ three Iron pots 11/6 Two  
 dish kettles 9/ ----- 1-1-6  
 Frying pan 5/ two Spiders 2/ Tea kittle 4/ Scures 2/ 0-13-0  
 Pair of flat irons 6/ pair of hand irons 3/ Tongs  
 and gridiron 2/ ----- 0-12-0  
 Two toasting irons 3/ Great and small wheel 6/ Tin  
 ware 1/ ----- 0-10-0  
 Kitchen Table 1/6 bed in the back chamber & furniture 54/ 2-15-6  
 Four meal sives 4/6 pillion 4/ Lumber in Said chamber 6/ 0-14-6

ARTICLES IN THE BEST CHAMBER:

The Best Bed and furniture 100/ Case of draws 60/	L 8-0-0
Blank walnut Table 30/ trunk 6/ two chests 3/	1-19-0
Seven chairs 10/6 Eleven pair of Tow Sheets L 6	6-10-6
Two looking glasses 33/	1-13-0

GRAIN AND MEAT

Twenty Bushels of Grain L 5 Two hundred wt. of pork L5	10-0-0
One hundred wt. of Beef 30/ Two meat barrels 4/	1-14-0
Bushel of Salt 3/ half a bushel of malt 2/6 Four cyder barrels 7/	----- 0-12-0
Lumber in the cellar 12/ etc.	0-12-0

STOCK OF CREATURES

Three cows which the widow made choice of	13-10-0
Three other cows L 12, a pair of three year old Stears L8 Stag L3	----- 23-0-0
Mare L 3 colt L3 two Swine 3-15-0	9-15-0

HUSBANDRY TOOLS

Half of a cart and wheels 27/ plow and plow Irons 18/	2-5-0
Two ox yokes and Irons 4/ old Loge chain 7/ two Draught 8/	do. 0-15-0
Horse tackling 9/ Shovel 3/ three forks 4/ half of Iron tooth harrow 9/	----- 1-5-0
Groundstone 7/ Iron barr 6/ half a cyder mill 12/ Flaxbreak 4/	1-9-0
Two Scyths and tackling 12/ Cart rope 5/6 axes 4/ Slead 6/	1-7-6
Half a crosscut Saw an adz - two augurs, Chiszel, and three Iron wedges	----- 1-0-0

REAL ESTATE

The Mansion house	L100-0-0
Barn and other out houses	50-0-0
five	
Twenty// acres of Land on and about which said	
buildings stand	300-0-0
Fifteen acres called the home pasture	12000-0
Four acres called Stow meadow L 4 woodland adjoining L12	16-0-0
fifteen acres called Subbubs, L 67-10,	
sixteen acres called Land of Canaan L 72	----- 139-10-0
fifteen acres called Chestnut Fields L 140	
Little orchard L 3	----- 143-0-0
Eight acres of river meadow	24-0-0
Half the Farm called Brooks north part of Concord viz.	
Half the house 30/ half the Barn L 7-10	37-10-0
half the home Lot being in the whole 45 acres	112-10-0
Half fifty acres of Pasture and woodland called Moon Lot	100-0-0
Eight acres of woodland in Acton called a freehold eight	16-0-0
twelve acres pine land in Acton	16-0-0
Eight acres of Tillage land near Cap. Stephen Jones	42-10-0
Thirty acres of Land in Littleton	<u>45-0-0</u>
	Total Real Estate 1262-00-00

Submitted by           Ephraim Wood  
                          Abel Brooks                 committee  
                          Joshua Brooks

Middlesex Jc. Concord in Probate Court, 16 Sept. AD 1794  
Exibited on oath by Asa Brooks, Execütor, before me

## APPENDIX III

An Inventory of the Personal and Real Estate of Asa Brooks late of Concord, deceased; taken pursuant unto a Warrant from the hon. James Prescott, Esq. Judge of this Probate of Wills, etc. in the County of Middlesex, as shown by the Executor.

PERSONAL ESTATES

Money on Hand		\$	8.80	
A Note signed by William Warren, Jr. dated July the 1st 1816 \$31. Interest .47			31.47	
A note Signed by Charles and Foster, dated April 9th 1816. \$150. Interest \$4.50			154.50	
A Note signed by Dr. Grosvener Tarbel dated Feb 28th 1814. \$100, Interest \$9.42.			109.62	
A Note signed by Samuel Dakin and Ephraim Whisler dated June 29th 1813 \$200. present worth			204.00	
A Note signed by Job Brooks, dated April 19th 1808 \$100. present worth of said Note			82.38	
A Note signed by Samuel Barrett, dated Nov. 30th, 1814, \$100, Interest \$5.00. present worth			105.00	
A note signed by Edward Flint, dated April 14th, 1815. \$50. Interest \$1.40.			51.40	
1 Do. signed by Edward Flint, dated Dec. 14, 1814 \$50. Interest \$2.30			52.30	
Due Bill signed by Stephen Minott			4.79	
1 Silver Cane			12.00	804.26
4 Table spoons			6.00	
1/2 dozen Silver teaspoons No. 1			3.00	
1/2 dozen do. do. No. 2			2.50	
1/2 dozen do. do. No. 3			1.33	
1 pr. do. Shoe-Buckles			1.00	
1 do. Knee-buckles			.33	
1 do. Stock Buckle			.40	
1 pr. Shirt Buttons			1.50	21.81
1 fur hat \$3. Do. .75			3.75	
				<u>826.07</u>
1 Black coat No. 1 \$7. 1 Do. No. 2 \$6.00			13.00	
1 Blue Do. No. 3 \$4.			4.00	
1 Black Do. No. 4 \$3.50			3.00	
1 Brown Do. No. 4 \$1.50			1.50	
1 Surcoat \$8. 1 great coat \$4.00			12.00	
1 Woollen Waiscoate No. 1			2.00	

1 Do.	No. 2		1.75
			<hr/>
			863.32
1 Do.	No. 3		1.00
1 Do.	No. 4		1.00
1 Do.	No. 5		.75
1 Do.	No. 6		.75
1 Do.	No. 7		.50
1 Do.	No. 8		.50
3	Flannel Waiscoats		1.50
1 pr.	Cassamere pantaloons	No. 1	4.00
1 pr.	Woollen Do.	No. 2	3.00
1 pr.	Do.	Do. 3	1.25
1 pr.	Do.	Do. 4	1.25
1 pr.	Cotten Do.	No. 5	1.00
1 pr.	Do.	Do. 6	1.00
1 pr.	Sattin Small Clothes	No. 1	4.00
1 pr.	Sattin Lasting Do.	No. 2	2.00
1 pr.	Do.	Do. 3	1.00
1 pr.	Deer Skin Do.	No. 4	1.00
1 pr.	Velvet Do.	No. 5	.50
1 pr.	Flannel Drawers		.50
1	Baizie gown		1.25
1 pr.	Black Woollen Hose.	No. 1	1.00
1 Do.	Mixed Do.	No. 2	.75
1 Do.	Do.	Do. 3	.50
1 Do.	Do.	No. 4	.50
1 Do.	Do.	No. 5	.33
1 Do.	Do.	No. 6	.33
1 pr.	Cotton and Silke Do.	No. 7	1.00
			<hr/>
			15.66
			<hr/>
			894.88
1 pr.	cotton hose	No. 8	1.00
1 Do.	Thread Do.	No. 9 .50 ct.	.50
1 Do.	Do.	No. 10 .50 ct.	.50
1 pr.	Woollen gloves		.25
1 pr.	Mitts .20 ct.		.20
1 pr.	Woollen cap .14		.14
1 pr.	Boots \$4.	1 pr. Shoes \$1.50	5.50
			<hr/>
			902.97
1 pr.	over shoes		1.33
1	Linnen shirt	No. 1	1.50
1 Do.	Do.	No. 2	1.25
1 Do.	Do.	No. 3	1.00
1 Do.	Do.	No. 4	1.00
1 Do.	Do.	No. 5	1.00
1 Do.	Do.	No. 6	1.25
1 Do.	Do.	No. 7	1.25
1 Do.	Do.	No. 8	1.00
No. 9, 10, and 11,	75 cts. each		2.25
1 Silk Hkerchief	No. 1 \$1	No. 2 \$.50	1.50
1 Cotton Do.	No. 3		.33
			<hr/>
			14.66.

1 folio Bible		3.00	
History of the Martyrs		1.50	
Readings of M. Doring		.75	
American Gazeteer		1.00	
Practical Divinity		.50	
Dr. Lathrop's sermons		.25	
Simuu's/?/ Morals		1.00	
1 Psalm Book		.12	
The Whole Duty of Man		.50	
Mason on Self-Knowledge		.25	
Unity of Christ with the Fathers		.25	
1 psalm book		.12	
<u>West Front Room</u>			
1. Eight Day Clock		30.00	39.24
			<hr/> 956.47
1 looking glass		4.00	
1 maple desk		2.50	
1 four-foot table		2.00	
1 small tea table		.50	
1 armed chair		.50	
1 candle stand		.50	
½ doz. goinon chairs		3.00	
BBd No. 1 Bedstead and cords		1.50	
1 Under Bed		1.00	
Feather Bed Bolster and Pillows		16.50	
1 pr. iron Dogs 1.75 Shovels and tongs .50		1.25	
			<hr/> 990.12
<u>North West Red Room</u>			
Bed spread and cord		1.50	
1 Under Bed		1.50	
1 Feather bed		8.00	
1 small chest with drawers		.75	
1 old chest, 40 ct. 3 syrum bottles 18 cts.		.58	
1 Doz. Junk Bottles, 48 cts. 1 Stone jar 50 cts.		.98	
1 stone jar, 12 ct. 1 Do., 12 cts.		.24	
1 Sugar Box		.20	
<u>East Lower Room.</u>			
1 Desk and Bookcase		20.000	
1 looking glass		10.00	
1 Large Dining table		6.00	
1 Arm Chair		1.00	
½ Doz. hurbottem /?/ Chairs		15.00	
4 Tan Back Chairs		2.00	
			<hr/> 67.75

1 pr. Small Iron Dogs		.50
Shoval and Tongs		1.00
2 sts. Decanters		1.34
1 Large Cream Cld. Dish		.50
1 Do. Do.		.10
2 Blue Edged Dishes		1.00
1 Doz. green Edgd. Plates		1.00
1/2 Doz. Blue Do. Do.		.35
2 Soup Dishes		.67
1 Doz. small green Edg. Do.		.50
4 Bastard China Do.		.25
1 Pepper Carton, 67	1 Set China \$4.00	4.67
		<u>11.88</u>
		1069.75

3 Qt. Bowls, 50 ct.	2 butter bowls, 50 ct.	1.00
2 pickle Dishes .25	2 mugs .25	.50
1 pitcher .25	1 glass sugar-bowl .67 ct.	.92
1/2 Doz. Wine glasses .50	2 Tumblers ct. 3	.63
2 Cup Salt, .25	Tea waiter .75	1.00
1 small waiter .12	2 Bra ss candlesticks \$2.00	2.12
2 Brass Do. \$1.25	2 portraits .25	1.50
1 Pembroke Table \$2.00		2.00
1 Carpet \$3.00	1 Door Lock .75	3.75
1 parchment Pocket Book .30		.30
4 pr. spectacles .17 pr.		.68
		<u>1084.15</u>

Kitchen Furniture

1 old brass kettle		3.50
1 old Do. \$8.	1 Do. \$6.00	14.00
1 Do. Do.		1.25
2 Brass Skillets	175 each	1.50
1 Do. Skimmer		.12
2 Iron Pots \$1. each		2.00
1 Bake Pan \$.50	1 small pot .50	1.00
1 Dish Kettle .75	1 small Do. .25	1.00
1 tea Kettle .60	1 Iron Dish .25	.85
1 Spider .25	small skillets .25	.50
1 gridiron .50	1 Do. .10	.60
1 toaster .25	Iron Mortar .25	.50
7 pails 1 Do. .2		1.29
1 Butter Box .10	2 Trays 2 Dippers .34	.64
		<u>48.75</u>
5 Cheese Hoops and Followers .75	1 tin Kitchen .75	1.50
1 Cheese Press		1.00
Cheese Tub No. 1 \$1.	No. 2 .75 No. 3, .40 ct.	2.15
Do. No. 4, .30	No. 5 .12 No. 6 .33	.75
1 Wash Board .40	1 Bbl. Churn \$1.50	1.90
1 Common Churn .50	3 Butter Boxes .75	1.25
1 1/2 Doz. Earthen Milk Pans .10		1.80

4 Cream Pots at 8 cts and 6 ct	.68	
Weights and scales .25 1 pr. wrought andirons 1.50	1.75	
2 pr tongs and 1 shovel \$1.50	1.50	
1 pr. Wrought andirons \$1.25	1.25	
1 flip Iron	.12	
1 Doz. kitchen Chairs	2.00	17.65
		<hr/> 1150.55
1 pine table .75 1 Small Do. .25	1.00	
1 pr. Sutyards /?/	.40	
3 large pewter platters \$2.	6.00	
3 small Do. Do.	2.50	
2 Worn-out Do.	.67	
17 pewter plates at .20 ct. each	3.40	
1 large pewter Bason .50 2 Do. .6	1.40	
1 pint Bason Do. .20 lot tin Ware .50	.70	
2 Tea Canisters .25 Flax Comb .50	.75	
		<hr/> 1167.07
1 old copper tea Kettle .25	.25	
1 tin coffee pot .25 1 1/2 Doz old spoons .10	.35	
1 1/3 Dozen Cream Cob Small Plates	.80	
1 Doz. blue and spotted Cups and saucers	.50	
1 Tea pot .7 Creamer and sugar bowl .20	.37	
4 cups and saucers .12 2 qt. Bowls .12	.24	
1/2 Doz. knives and forks	.83	
1 Lot of Do. Do.	.50	
1 Clothes Horse .50 2 irons Candlesticks .20	.70	
1 basket .20 1 large spinning wheel	2.20	
1 linnen wheel \$2.50 o pr. cotton cards .75	3.25	
1 pr Wool Do.	.34	10.53
		<hr/> 1177.60
<u>East front Chamber</u>		
1 high post bedstead and sacking	6.00	
1 feather Bed \$14.50 1 Do. \$16.65	31.15	
Bed curtains and counterpane	6.00	
1 Under Bed Tick	1.50	
1 Bed Tick \$1. 1 carpet \$3.50	4.50	
1 case of Drawers \$6.00	6.00	
1 chamber Table \$1.50 looking glass \$4.00	5.50	
1 Rocking Chair \$1.25 1 arm Do. .50	1.75	
1/2 Doz Joiner Chairs at \$3.	3.00	
1 small looking glass .50 1 Trunk \$2.00	2.50	
2 tanned Sheepskins	.67	
<u>West front Chamber</u>		
Bedstead and cord No. 1	1.50	
feather bed \$9.00 under Bed \$1.00	10.00	
Chest No. 1 \$1.50 No. 2. No. 3 .75	3.50	
1 Do. No. 4	.83	81.40
		<hr/> 1259.00

Bedstead and cord to Bed. No. 2	1.50
1 feather bed \$12 Under bed \$1	13.00
1 table .50 1 looking glass .50	1.00
1 yarn cover No. 1	1.75
1 do. do. No. 2	1.25
1 do. do. No. 3	1.25
1 Woollen Bed Quilt No. 1	3.00
1 Do. Do. Do. No. 2	2.00
1 Do. Do. Do. No. 3	1.25
1 Do. Do. Do. No. 4	1.00
1 patch Do. No. 1	3.00
1 Do. Do. No. 2	1.00
	<hr/>
	1299.00
1 Do. Do. No. 3	.75
1 Do. Do. No. 4	.50
1 pr. Woollen Bed Blanket No. 1	7.00
1 pr. Do. $\frac{1}{2}$ Do. No. 2	7.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 3	6.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 4	5.00
1 Homespun Do.	4.00
1 pr. Woollen Do. $\frac{1}{2}$ No. 5	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 6	5.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 7	3.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 8	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 9	3.00
1 single Do. No. 10	1.25
1 Checked Do. No. 11	4.00
	<hr/>
	53.00
1 pr. Cotton and Wooll Sheets No. 1	3.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 2	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 3	1.50
9 Yards checked Blanketing	4.50
8 Do. cotton fustian	3.34
13 lb. cotton Warp 4.00	7.00
50 Skins linnen yarn	8.00
150 Do. tow Do,	12.00
5 lb. Cotton Do.	3.50
2 wt. combed flax	.67
12 lb. carded wooll	7.00
	<hr/>
	53.51
	1396.54
<u>Sheets</u> 1 pr. tow Sheets No. 1	2.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 2	2.00
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 3	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 4	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 5	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 6	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 7	2.25
1 pr. Do. Do. No. 8	2.50
1 pr. Cotton Do. No. 9	4.00
	<hr/>
	1419.26

1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 10	1.50
1 pr. Tow. Do.	No. 11	2.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 12	2.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 13	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 14	2.50
1 pr. Cotton Do.	No. 15	2.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 16	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 17	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 18	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 19	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 20	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 21	4.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 22	3.00
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 23	2.50
		<hr/>
		42.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 24	3.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 25	3.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 26	4.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 27	3.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 28	4.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 29	4.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 30	4.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 31	3.00
<u>Pillow Cases</u>	No. 1	.50
1 pr. Do.	No. 2	.50
1 pr. Do.	No. 3	.50
1 pr. Do.	No. 4	.75
		<hr/>
		32.25
		1494.01
1 pr. Do.	No. 5	.75
1 pr. Do.	No. 6	.75
1 pr. Do.	No. 7	.75
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 8	.50
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 9	.50
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 10	.50
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 11	.50
1 pr. Linnen Do.	No. 12	.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 13	.50
1 pr. Cotton Do.	No. 21	1.75
1 pr. Tow Do.	No. 22	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 23	1.00
		<hr/>
		1501.01
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 24	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 25	1.00
1 pr. Do. Cotton	No. 26	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 27	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 28	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 29	1.00
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 30	.50
1 pr. Do. Do.	No. 31	.50

Table Linnen

Table cloth	No. 1	.60
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Do. Do.	No. 2	.75	
Do. Do.	No. 3	.75	
Do. Do.	No. 4	.60	
Do. Do.	No. 5	.60	
Do. Do.	No. 6	.60	
Do. Do.	No. 7	.60	
1 Deaper Do.	No. 8	1.00	
			13.50
1 Do. Do.	No. 9	.50	
1 Do. Do.	No. 10	.75	
1 Do. Do.	No. 11	1.00	
1 Do. Do.	No. 12	1.00	
1 Do. Do.	No. 13	2.00	
1 Do. Do.	No. 14	1.50	
1 Do. Do.	No. 15	1.50	
1 Do. Do.	No. 16	3.00	
1 Do. Do.	No. 17	3.00	
5 Roller Towles	No.-	1.67	
5 small Do.		.62	
6 towels from No. 1 to No. 6		1.00	17.54
			1532.05
6 diaper towels from No. 6 to 12		2.00	
6 Do. from No. 12 to No. 18		2.50	
6 Do. from No. 18 to No. 24		2.52	
9 old towels		.50	
<u>Furniture in the Garret</u>			
Bedstead, cord and underbed		1.00	
1 Feather bed		8.00	
1 Do. Do.		4.00	
<u>East Back Chamber</u>			
1 Bed Stead and Cord		.50	
Under Bed		1.00	
1 Feather Do.		10.00	
<u>West Back Chamber</u>			
Bed Stead and cord		1.00	
Under Bed		1.00	
Feather bed		10.00	
1 Chest		.50	
			1576.59
<u>Articles in the Cellar</u>			
18 casks		3.06	
2 40 galls casks		.50	
1 half Hhd.		.50	
5 dry		.25	
3 paork Bbls.		.75	
1 Cheese Chest		.25	
1 Vinegar Cage		.25	
50 wt. Pork at 9 lbs.		6.25	
2 Bbls. Soup		8.00	
3 Meat Tubs		.60	
4 Half Bbls.		1.75	
100 Bushels 1/6		25.00	
			47.16

2 lb. candles	4.42
3 wooden bottles=	60
1 Bread Tub	.50
292 lb. cheese at 6 ct.	17.52

Stock and Tools

1 pr. work ng oxen	60.00
1 Do. Do.	60.00
1 Mare	30.00
	<hr/>
	1623.75
Cow No. 1	10.00
Do. No. 2	11.50
Do. No. 3	11.50
Do. No. 4	12.00
Do. No. 5	10.50
Do. No. 6	8.00
Do. No. 7	12.00
Do. No. 8	2.00
1 Bull	9.00
2 Sheep	3.00
4 Swine	44.40
4 Shoat	9.00
1 grindstone	2.00
	<hr/>
	1775.65
3 Bee-hive	2.00
40 Tons Ship Timber Moon lot	120.00
14-Cords. Oak Wood	14.00
9 Do. pine Do . . .75	6.75
6 Bushel Wheat	10.50
52 Bushels Rye	65.00
9 Tons English Hay	225.00
20 Do. Meadow Do.	200.00
2 Do. Stalks	30.00
1 timber chain No. 1	3.50
1 Draut Do. No. 2	11.50
1 small Do. No. 3	1.50
1 Do. Do. No. 4	1.25
1 Do. Do. No. 5	1.25
	<hr/>
	682.25
7 stake Chains	3.50
1 pr. haorse traces	1.50
1 Do. Do.	1.50
1 Iron toothed Harrow	3.00
Plough No. 1	4.50
Do. No. 2	1.25
Do. No. 3	.50
Do. No. 4	.75
1 Iron Bar	3.00
1 Do. Do.	.75
Old Iron	2.00
5 hay Forks	1.25

4 barn Rakes	.50	
Scyths and Snaths	1.50	
4 old Shovels	1.00	26.50
		<hr/> 2484.40
4 old axes	1.50	
3 Broad Hoes	.75	
1 Dung Fork	.75	
1 Bevelle and Wedges	1.00	
1 Ditching knife	.75	
Lot of old tools	1.25	
1 tenon Saw	.75	
1 saddle	1.50	
1 collar and harness	1.00	
		<hr/> 2493.65
1 ox cart	8.00	
1 Do. waggon No. 1	55.00	
1 Do. old Do. No. 2	35.00	
1 horse Do. and harness	40.00	
8 ox yokes	6.00	
3 old ox sleds	5.00	
1 chaise and harness	100.00	
1 sleigh and Do.	5.00	
1 Doz Meat Bags	4.50	
1 gun No. 1 \$3. 1 Do. No. 2 \$2.	5.00	

Personal Property on the Capt. Farm so called

1 ton English Hay \$25.	25.00	
3 tons Meadow Do.	30.00	
71 Bushels Barley \$7.50 4 Do. Rye	22.50	
1 Cow No. 1	12.00	
1 Do. No. 2	10.00	
half-ton Stalks	7.50	
1 2-year old steer	6.00	
2 2-year old heifers	16.00	
3 yearlings	18.00	
		<hr/> 401.50

Cattle at Princeton Brooks Oxen No. 1

Wheeler Do.	No. 2	64.00	
Weatherbee Do.	No. 3	71.00	
Fiskes Do.	No. 4	73.00	
Foster Do.	No. 5	70.00	
White Do.	No. 6	74.00	
1 pr. three yearsold steers		27.00	
1 yearling Bull		5.00	
1 Beef Cow		23.00	
1 three year old heiffer		13.00	
12 Do. Do.		10.00	
1 Horse		30.00	
1 yearling colt		25.00	
			<hr/> 551.00
			3445.15

REAL ESTATE

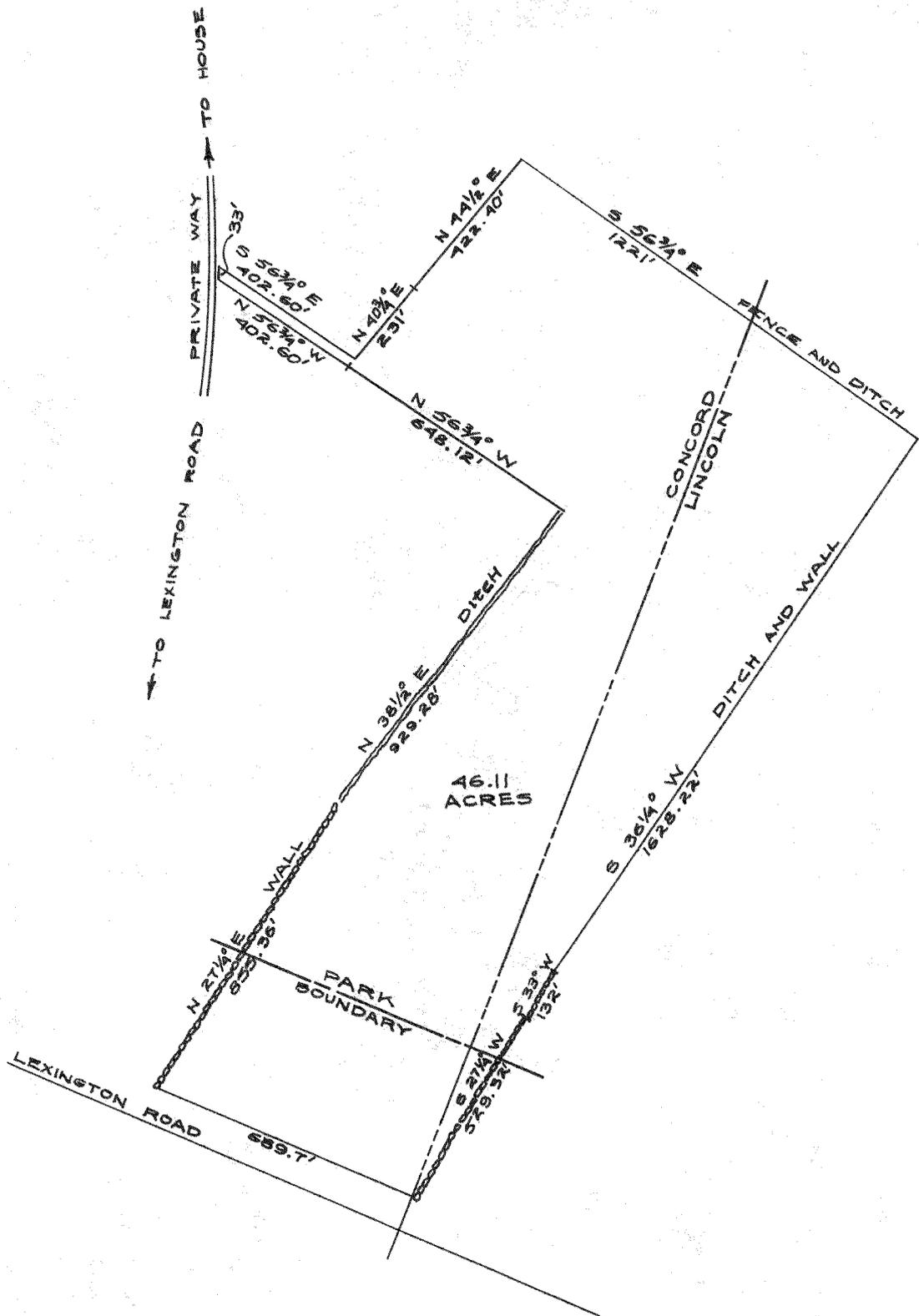
Home lot, supposed to 40 acres, with the buildings thereon standing	\$5000.00	
Home pasture, so called, 18 acres	640.00	
Rocky pasture so called, 10 acres	150.00	
The Suburbs, so called 12 Do.	144.00	
Stow pasture so called 4 Do.	70.00	
Stow meadow, so called 4 Do.	20.00	
The School House Lot so called 1½ Do.	40.00	
Little Orchard So called ¼ Do.	15.00	
Taylor Lot, so called 13 Do.	520.00	
Widow Brook's orchard so called 6 Do.	270.00	
Chestnut field <del>lot</del> so called 18 Do.	540.00	
Land of Cannan, so called 12 Do.	180.00	
River Meadows Containing 8 Do.	120.00	
Cedar Swamp, in Bedford 1 A more or less	2.00	
		<hr/> 7,711.
The Capt. Farm, so called with the Bldgs. thereon standing, in the N part of the Town, supposed to contn 75 A	2000.00	
The Moon Pasture, so called 40 Do.	1000.00	
3/10 of the Home lot of the Lawrence Farm	573.00	
3/10 of the Oliver Meadow so called	68.40	
5¼ acres, of undivided Land, lying in Common, with the Heirs of the late Rev. William Lawrence, of Linc., dec'd, and Samuel Rass, Esq.	105.00	
3/10ths of the 10½ acres of land lying in common with the above described land	63.00	
Acton lands 12 A \$8 per acre	96.00	
Pastures in Princeton 64 A	1500.00	
1 Pew on the lower floor in Concord Meeting House	100.00	5505.40
		<hr/>
	\$13,216.40	

Joshua Brooks  
Daniel Brooks                      Appraisers  
Nehemiah Cheney

Submitted at a Court of Probate, Middlesex County  
October 9, 1816

APPENDIX IV

Plotted from descriptions contained  
in 1892 and subsequent  
deeds.



SCALE:  
1" = 400'

