

## WESTFORD ROAD

### I. OVERVIEW

Westford Road is a one-mile stretch of road in the North Quarter/Bateman's Pond area, one of Concord's earliest outlying farming areas. Beginning at Lowell Road—adjacent to Saltbox Farm and across the way from Middlesex School—Westford Road initially heads north, roughly parallel to Lowell Road, before veering west toward Spencer Brook. A small fieldstone bridge—possibly the only one remaining in Concord—carries Westford Road over Spencer Brook and toward Carlisle. Upon entering Carlisle, Westford Road continues as West Street. Notably, Carlisle designated West Street, which bears many similarities to Westford Road, as a scenic road under its Scenic Road Bylaw.

The land surrounding Westford Road was originally granted by the Town in three large parcels to Dolor Davis, Baptise Smedley, and John Jones around 1654 at the Second Division of Concord. The Jones and Davis family names remained in the area for over 200 years, but the land was repeatedly subdivided over time and has included farms of other well-known Concord families including Brown, Melvin, Farrar, and Buttrick.

Westford Road is a winding two-lane road lined by stone walls (nearly in its entirety on its eastern side). Beyond the stone walls, the road is marked by multiple homes of historic and architectural significance, several of which sit close to the road, adding to the road's beauty and historic nature. Over just one mile, Westford Road provides travelers an array of views—from meadows to Spencer Brook to wetlands to mature forest.

### II. HISTORICAL MAPS

In his 1884 book, *Concord in the Colonial Period*, Charles Walcott “construct[ed] a map of Concord as it was in the beginning.”<sup>1</sup> The map, drawn by William Wheeler, was “the result of a comparison of maps, plans, and old records, supplemented by observations made on the ground.”<sup>2</sup> The map labels today's Lowell Road as “Fifty Acre Way.” The location “Fifty Acres” was a roughly defined area located between today's Westford Road and Lowell Road. (Note that in Ruth Wheeler's 1967 book, *Concord: Climate for Freedom*, she includes a revised version of Walcott's map that labels this road as “Fifty Acre Way to Groton.”<sup>3</sup>) Today's Westford Road is shown on the map, but without a name. The unlabeled road splits from Fifty Acre Way near Bateman's Pond, crosses Spencer Brook, and continues across the town line. According to the key, Fifty Acre Way and the unlabeled road that exists today as Westford Road

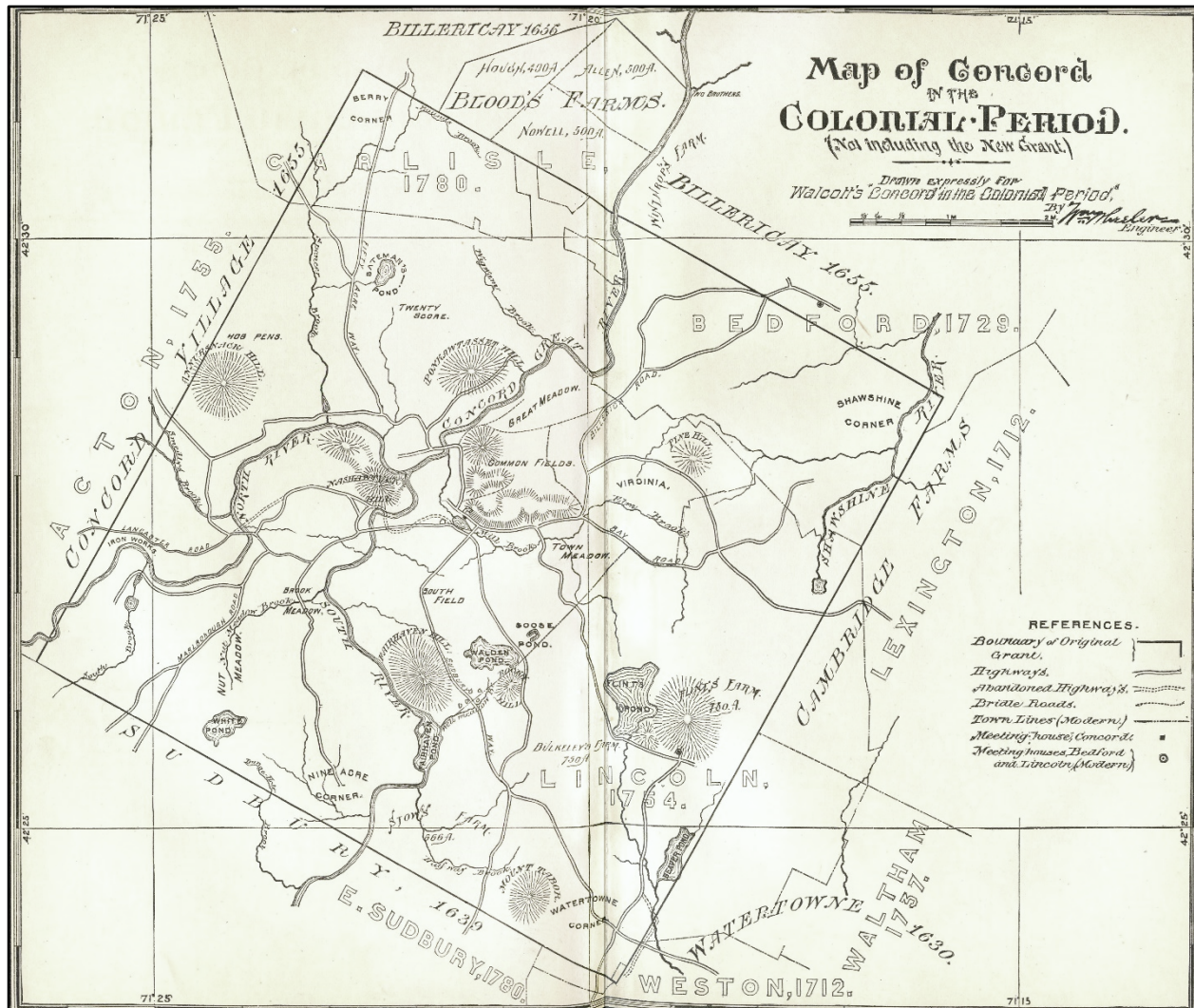
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<sup>1</sup> Walcott, Charles Hosmer, *Concord in the Colonial Period: Being a History of the Town of Concord, Massachusetts, from the Earliest Settlement to the Overthrow of the Andros Government, 1635-1689* (United States: Estes and Lauriat, 1884), 5–6.

<sup>2</sup> Walcott, *Concord in the Colonial Period*, 5–6.

<sup>3</sup> Wheeler, Ruth Winifred Robinson, *Concord: Climate for Freedom* (United States: Concord Antiquarian Society, 1967).

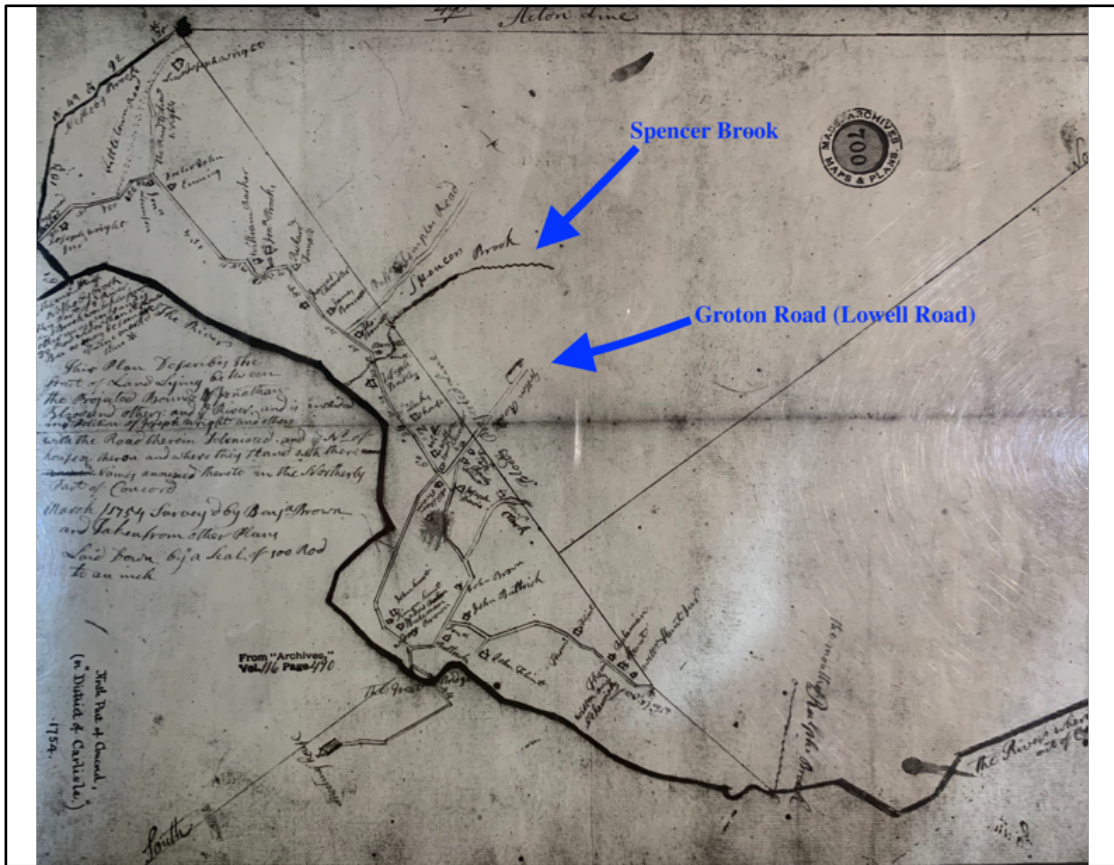
were “Highways,” a term which at the time referred to any traveled road from place to place. Spencer Brook Road, not yet in existence, is not shown on the map.



“Map of Concord in the Colonial Period,” drawn by William Wheeler and printed in Charles Walcott’s, *Concord in the Colonial Period*

From 1754 to 1757, a portion of the north of Concord was temporarily separated as the first “Carlisle District.” To define the new district, two maps of the north were created in 1754. One map depicted the new Carlisle district, and another map depicted the portion of the north of Concord which would remain in Concord. The survey of the portion to remain in Concord, then known as the North Quarter, was made by Benjamin Brown and shows “Groton Road,” which corresponds to today’s Lowell Road.<sup>4</sup> The map also notes the location of Spencer Brook, but does not extend as far as the Bateman’s Pond area.

<sup>4</sup> [CFPL Map Collection](#): *North Part of Concord (or “District of Carlisle”), 1754*. Undated facsimile. Drawn by Benjamin Brown. Shows Concord’s North Quarter. Partial cadastral map showing names of landowners. Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives. 2 copies. 14 x 18 in.; 14.75 x 18 in. NB: A useful transcription of this map appears in Wheeler’s, *Climate for Freedom*.

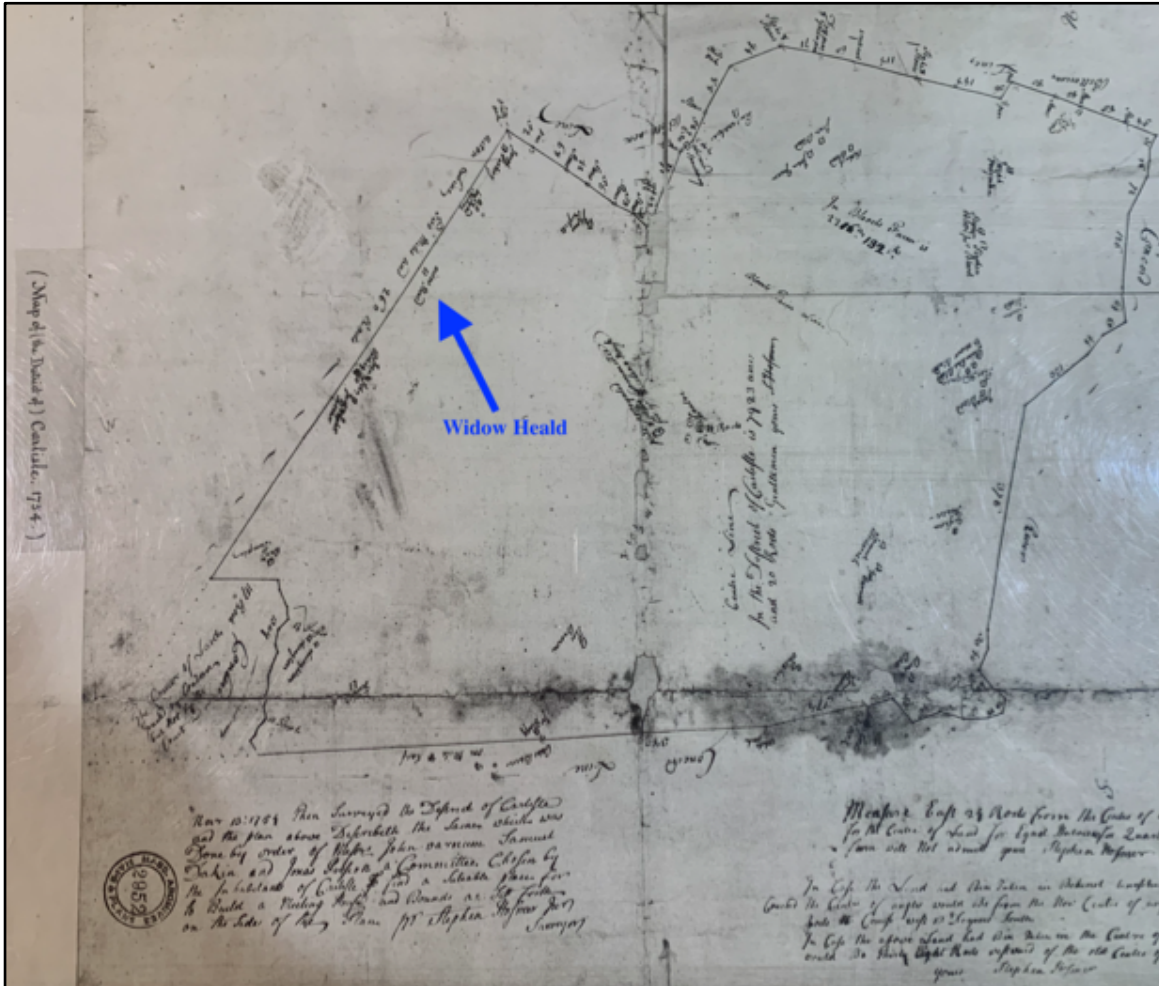


*“North Part of Concord (or ‘District of Carlisle’),” showing the North Quarter of Concord that remained part of Concord upon creation of the first District of Carlisle. Surveyed by Benjamin Brown, 1754. Undated facsimile shown above located in Special Collections of The Concord Free Public Library. Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives.*

During the period from 1754 to 1757, Westford Road was located within the separate First District of Carlisle. The 1754 map of this new district does not depict the roads but does have the home of “Widow Heald” at the location corresponding to Westford Road.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> [CFPL Map Collection](#): *Map of (the District of) Carlisle, 1754*. Undated facsimile. Drawn by Stephen Hosmer. Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives. Shows names of landowners. 17.5 x 20.75 in.

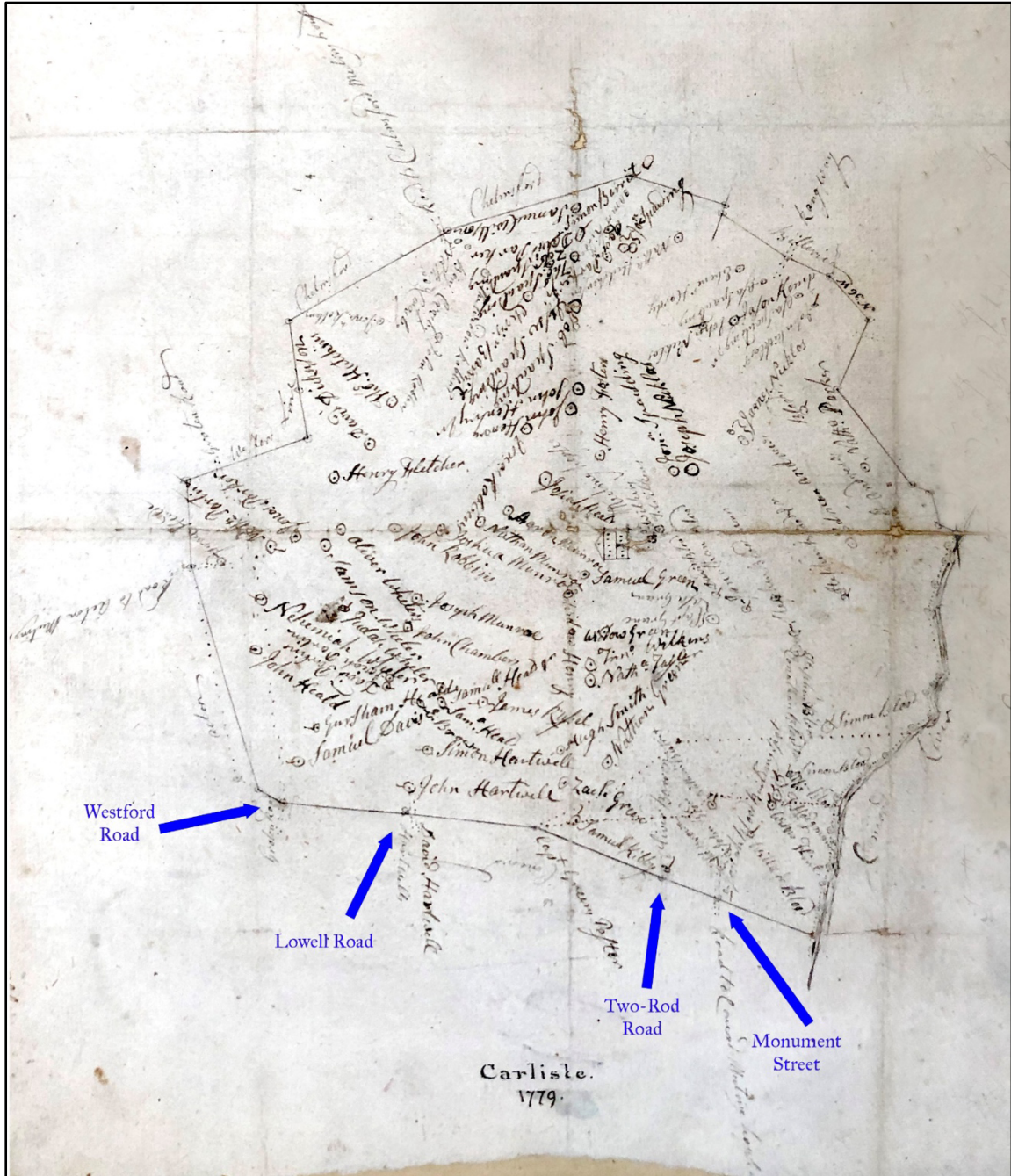


*"Map of (the District of) Carlisle," showing the first District of Carlisle. Drawn by Stephen Hosmer, 1754. Undated facsimile shown above located in Special Collections of The Concord Free Public Library. Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives.*

After 1757, the District of Carlisle rejoined Concord and Westford Road was again within Concord. In 1780, portions of the Towns of Concord, Acton, Chelmsford, and Billerica separated to create a Second District of Carlisle. The boundary of this new district was further north than the 1754 district and this time Westford Road remained in Concord. Isaac Foster Sawyer's 1779 "A plan of land of the Second District of Carlisle" shows four roads leading from the Second District to Concord: Groton Road, an unlabeled road near Hartwell Farms, a second unlabeled road near Oliver Barron, and The Road to Concord Meeting House.<sup>6</sup> Today, these roads are Westford Road, Lowell Road, the Two-Rod Road trail, and Monument Street.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Estabrook Council, "Estabrook Woods at the time of the Revolution," <https://estabrookcouncil.org/Colonial%20History%20of%20Estabrook%20Woods.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*



*"A plan of land of the Second District of Carlisle," drawn by Isaac Foster Sawyer, 1779  
Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives*

A 1794 resolve of the General Court directed the collection of plans of towns in the Commonwealth.<sup>8</sup> The resulting 1795 "Plan of the Town of Concord" by Ephraim Wood identifies the road that exists today as Lowell Road as the "Road from Concord through

<sup>8</sup> Walcott, *Concord in the Colonial Period*, 6.

Westford to Groton.”<sup>9</sup> The road begins in the village by the courthouse and meetinghouse, and leads north across the Concord River and toward Bateman’s Pond. At Bateman’s Pond, the road splits, as it does today. The portion of today’s Lowell Road that extends beyond that fork is labelled, “To Chelmsford.” The portion that is today’s Westford Road is labelled as a continuation of the “Road from Concord through Westford to Groton.” Note this map, as shown below, is unconventionally oriented with north pointing down.

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<sup>9</sup> Wood, Ephraim, *Plan of the Town of Concord*, 1794–95, [www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:2227nm82v](http://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:2227nm82v).



An 1801 map of Massachusetts by Osgood Carleton depicts the path of Groton Road from Concord through Westford to Groton, including passing over the section that is now Westford Road.<sup>10</sup> This route continued northwest beyond Groton and for a time in the 1800s was a stage-coach route from Concord to Keene, New Hampshire, to which a number of Concord families emigrated.



*"Map of Massachusetts proper," drawn by Osgood Carleton, 1801.*

The survey of 1830 by John G. Hales, a portion of which is reproduced below, depicts and labels "Westford Road."<sup>11</sup> The map labels today's Lowell Road as "Carlisle Road." In addition to "School No. 6" at the intersection of Westford and Carlisle Roads, the map identifies four property owners on Westford Road: Mrs. Wood, E. Jones, Peter Jones, and Wm. Melven. This map shows today's Spencer Brook Road, but without a label.

<sup>10</sup> [Map of Massachusetts proper](#), 1801. Drawn by Osgood Carleton. Scale 1:253,440. Shows distance of each town from Boston and the shire town. Original located at The Library of Congress.

<sup>11</sup> [CFPL Map Collection](#): *Plan of the Town of Concord in the County of Middlesex*, 1830. Undated photoreproduction. Drawn by John G. Hales. Scale ca. 1:24,369. Shows roads, churches, landowners, and land features. Original located at the Massachusetts State Archives. Available at [www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:25152p16k](http://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:25152p16k).



"Plan of Concord," by John G. Hales, 1830

H.F. Walling's 1852 map of the town does not label any roads, though Westford Road is shown.<sup>12</sup> The map divides Concord into seven areas. The Bateman's Pond area—Area VI—includes today's Spencer Brook and Westford Roads, as well as the northern portions of Lowell Road and Monument Street. The map notes a "school" at the intersection of today's Westford and Lowell Roads, and four property owners on Westford Road: A.J. Barrett, E. Jones, H. Jones, and W. Melvin.

The 1889 George H. Walker & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County* shows, but does not label, Westford Road.<sup>13</sup> The map labels four properties on Westford Road: U. Derby, H.W. Jones, Ches. Melvin, and J. Wedhley (sp?).

Likewise, Herbert W. Gleason's 1906 map shows, but does not name, Westford Road.<sup>14</sup> The map marks the location of two properties on Westford Road, but does not identify landowners.

<sup>12</sup> [CFPL Map Collection](#): *Map of the Town of Concord, 1852*. Drawn by H. R. Walling. Scales differ. Colored. Shows landowners and land features. Inset of Concord Center.

<sup>13</sup> *Map of Concord and Lincoln*. Scale 1:3400. In: George H. Walker & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County*. [www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/8527/Concord+1++Lincoln+1/Middlesex+County+1889/Massachusetts/](http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/8527/Concord+1++Lincoln+1/Middlesex+County+1889/Massachusetts/).

<sup>14</sup> [CFPL Concord Maps](#): *Map of Concord, Mass. Showing Localities Mentioned by Thoreau in his Journals, 1906*. Undated facsimile. Compiled by Herbert W. Gleason. Appears in 1906 Walden and Manuscript editions of *The Writings of Henry David Thoreau*. <https://concordlibrary.org/special-collections/gleason/Map>.

### III. HISTORICAL TEXTS

From the texts excerpted below, we learn that today's Lowell and Westford Roads were in place early in Concord's history. In 1673, a committee was appointed to lay out and settle a highway between Concord and Groton.<sup>15</sup> This resulted in the creation of Groton Road, or Old Groton Road, in 1699. Groton at that time was much larger, including portions of what are now Littleton and Harvard. Groton Road was primarily a relocation of old roads already in use in the North Quarter and was, in part, laid out as a County Highway from the Old North Bridge, proceeding along what is now Barnes Hill Road, turning north onto Fifty Acre Way and continuing on today's Westford Road.<sup>16</sup> (Spencer Brook was sometimes called Fifty Acre Brook.)

The texts below contain detailed descriptions of Groton Road's trajectory. Of relevance here, Walcott wrote in his papers that the Old Groton Road "entered . . . Fifty-Acre Way and proceeded northward over that ancient road in a somewhat more devious course than that of the present highway, to the junction of roads at the J.D. Brown farm" and "here off to the left passing by the Melvin farm over Spencer Brook."<sup>17</sup> The Melvin homestead is today's 344 Westford Road. *See* Section V.a.

Wheeler likewise wrote that "the Groton road approached the old Fifty-Acre Way" and "made a triangle with the present Lowell Road," which corresponds to the intersection of Barnes Hill Road and Lowell Road.<sup>18</sup> She continued, "Next were several farms belonging to descendants of Eleazer Brown, one of whom, Abishai, had a tavern at the crossroads on land his wife had inherited from the Chandlers. The Browns had also bought land from the Batemans near the pond. The road took a deep turn to the west, nearly to Spencer Brook, where there was an old Melvin house, before coming to the fork where Westford Road turned from a road to Carlisle. On the latter were old Adams and Hartwell houses. On the Westford Road were Jones, Melvin, Farrar, and Heald farms."<sup>19</sup>

There are other roads related to Westford Road whose histories are known. In 1702, Concord laid out a "road to Heald," which today is the extension of Lowell Road from Westford Road to Carlisle. As the Carlisle area was settled in the 1700s, this portion of road was extended from beyond the Heald farm to Chelmsford and was called Chelmsford Road. After Carlisle formed in 1780, it became known as Carlisle Road, and in the 1800s this road was combined with the portion of Groton Road south of Westford Road as a County Highway known today as

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<sup>15</sup> [Charles H. Walcott Papers](#), [ca. 1875] – 1901, *Notes on land, roads, Concord, Mass. and vicinity, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century*; [Ruth R. Wheeler Papers](#), 1843 – 1971, Notes, clippings, etc., on houses and people: Lowell Road; Westford Road; Estabrook Road; Spencer Brook Road.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*; Walcott, *Concord in the Colonial Period*, 81.

<sup>17</sup> Charles H. Walcott Papers [ca. 1875] – 1901, *Notes on Properties and Roads, Old Groton Road*; *see also* Charles H. Walcott Papers, [ca. 1875] – 1901, *Notes on land, roads, Concord, Mass. and vicinity, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century*.

<sup>18</sup> Wheeler, *Climate for Freedom*, 222–23.

<sup>19</sup> Wheeler, *Climate for Freedom*, 222–23.

Lowell Road. The original highway to Groton relocated to the south through Acton and the Westford Road portion reverted to a secondary rustic road.

A second road related to Westford Road is Spencer Brook Road. This road was laid out by the Town as a “private or bridle way” in 1784 as a way to the farm of the widow of Simon Davis. The Town agreed to maintain a “gate at the entrance of said way from the County Road.” This road is first depicted on the map of 1830 where it leads to the homes of Dudley, Wetherbee, and Legross.

\*\*\*\*\**Please note that the below are unofficial transcriptions*\*\*\*\*\*

**a. Charles H. Walcott Papers, [ca. 1875] – 1901.**

**i. *Notes on Properties and Roads, Old Groton Road.***

Groton was made a town in 1655, and in 1675 a committee was appointed by the County Court to lay out and . . . the highway between that town and Concord. John Flint and John Smedly were the two men who represented Concord on this Committee. Groton and . . . were the nearest settlements & . . . the northwest and west with . . . between. For some reason or other, the work of this committee was not . . . and accepted by the court until Sept 12, 1699 & their report was in fact a relocation of old roads already in use. The road was laid out . . . began at the meetinghouse in Concord and ran as an . . . runs ‘as the way now lyeth’ to and . . . at river bridge . . . minute man, then after running a few rods in the low land next . . . the river it turns sharply to the right and runs ‘up the hill’ to the present road at the . . . Buttrick place, then and the road now runs past the . . . place to Hildreth’s Corner. Near this place it entered . . . Fifty-Acre Way and proceeded northward over that ancient road in a somewhat more devious course than that of the present highway, to the junction of roads at the J.D. Brown farm. These . . . here off to the left passing by the Melvin farm over Spencer Brook and . . . the Paul place and the . . . place. . . . So many changes have been made in later times that no one but an antiquary would think of calling this the north road now or would recognize it by that name, but for a century it was one of the most . . . highways of the town. About the beginning of the present century however, the dismemberment of the old road began.

**ii. *Notes on land, roads, Concord, Mass. and vicinity, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century.***

On Sept. 12, 1699 the Old Groton Road was laid out as a highway by a . . . appointed for the . . . by the County limit on . . . 1673. John Flint and John Smedly were the two Concord men on the . . . . They began at the meetinghouse in Concord and laid out the road ‘as the way now lyeth by the home of Samuel Jones & over the great river bridge & from thence as the way is now used up the hill betwist Thomas Brown . . . & Samuel Buttricks leaving . . . & lands of Samuel Buttricks on the right hand until it comes on the upper end of Thomas Brown . . . his house lot & then running westerly as the fence now standeth & along upon . . . same until

it comes to a small brook keeping the way that now is & running over . . . brook partly norwesterly & 20 . . . up the hill by Lt Davises Barn. Running straight forward as the way now is until it comes into the way commonly called fifty acre way & so along . . . way leaving John Green's land on the left hand until it comes near the northwesterly end of Mr. Withrop's lands & entering when the lands of Thomas Brown . . . .

- b. Walcott, Charles H., *Concord in the Colonial Period: Being a History of the Town of Concord, Massachusetts, from the Earliest Settlement to the Overthrow of the Andros Government, 1635-1689* (United States: Estes and Lauriat, 1884), 81.**

The 'Old Groton Road,' leading over the North Bridge, was not formally laid out until 1699, but the action then taken was in great part a relocation and straightening of the old ways and paths already existing in the North Quarter.

- c. Minutes of the Middlesex County Court of Sessions, Sept. 12, 1699, Massachusetts State Archives.**

Whereas at a court of quarter sessions held at Cambridge for the county of Middlesex September 12, 1699: A warrant was granted to the Sherriffe of said county to summons a jury for laying out a convenient highway from Concord to Groton and we the subscribers being persons summoned and sworn according to law for the performance of said services have accordingly done to our best skill and judgment as hereafter followeth: Imprimis: beginning at Concord Meeting house and from thence as the way now lyeth by the house of Samuel Jones and so over the Great River Bridge and from thence as the way now is used, up the hill behind Thomas Brown's house to Samuel Buttricks leaving the housing and land of Samuel Buttrick on the right hand until it comes on the upper end of Thomas Browne, Jr. his home lot and then turning westerly as the fence now standeth and along upon the same point until it comes to a small brook keeping the way that now is and turning over the said brook partly north westerly and so up the hill by Lieutenant Davis's barn running straight forward as the way now is until it comes into the way commonly called Fifty Acre Way and so along said Way leaving Green's land on the left hand until it comes near ye northwesterly end of Mr Winthops land and entering upon ye land of Thomas Browne, Jr. leaving the biggest road on the left hand and taking a bend and old way on the right hand til it comes over a valley and then leaving to ye old way on the right hand and crossing a little brook called Pond Gutter and then comes in to the usual road a little past said gutter keeping said road all along until it comes over the lower land of Fifty Acre Brooke and so between the field of Richard Temple and the land of Jacob Farrar by leaving said Temples house on the right hand and taking the broad road now used over the hill til it comes near ye skirts of a meadow called \_\_\_\_\_ and then leaving said road a little space and crossing a little spong of said meadow and running northwesterly til it meets with the old way and so over near ye road leaving the \_\_\_\_\_ on the left hand and so onwards until it comes now to a tip of meadow

called Arthur's Meadow crossing said meadow a little to the northeast of the way now used quickly coming into ye usual road and so continuing across a brook called by some \_\_\_\_\_ brook and along til it comes to Tasnack Road and so to a stony gutter and then leaving ye road now used on the left hand and going near ye \_\_\_\_ of the plains crossing a little spong of meadow now being Sparks his meadow and then over a hill til it meets the road a little distance from \_\_\_\_\_ called ye hop yard and from \_\_\_\_\_ ground round the end of that swamp in or near ye way now used til it comes through Chelmsford land and along by Captain Prescott's mill to way pond and then taking the right hand way leaving the house of Samuel Ward, Jr. on the left hand keeping the great road now used til it comes to Groton Meeting House as said road is laid out and distinguished by trees marked on both sides of the way all along and whereas there is something of damages done on to the above named Sparks by going over a spong of his meadow we appraise the damages at 10 shillings and to be paid as the law provides on that behalf - \_\_\_\_\_ by Lieutenant Davises barn junior \_\_\_\_\_ signing himself.

October 30, 1699

Signatures:

Timothy Phillips, Sherriffe  
Jonathan Prescott, Forman  
Samuel Spalding  
John Houghton Senr  
Henry Willard Senr  
Joseph Hildreth  
Thomas Brown  
Timothy Spaulding  
John Farnworth  
Thomas Tarbell  
John Wilder  
Simon Stone  
Samuel How

This return approved of by the Court and allowed to be recorded: pursuant to law

Mr. Samuel Phillips, Constable

At bottom, it says:

Order to County \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for a book:

Ordered of the county \_\_\_\_\_ pay Mr James Russell eighteen shillings for a book by him prescribed for ye County use.

- d. **Pulsifer, David (transcribed and edited). *Records of the Town of Concord: Ancient Records Relating to Land Divisions, Highways and Bridges, Vol. 1, 1655-1784, 139.***

From Groton Road to Heald. April 8<sup>th</sup> 1702. We the subscribers hereof, viz Wm Wilson & Thomas Brown . . . . Being appointed by the Selectmen of Concord a committee to lay out an open way two rods wide from Groton Road to . . . Healds now living on . . . lands formerly James Addamses & so onwards into . . . village have accordingly done it on . . . day as followeth, Beginning at the southerly side pond gutter on the northerly corner of Thomas Browns lot, we left Groton Road on the left hand & lay out a way over the gutter where it was formerly used & and onwards over the easterly corner of Joneses farm @ so onwards at the easterly end of Joneses farm between that & Thomas Batemans line till it come to . . . Davises & Richard Temples line & then running in . . . Davises & Richard Temples line . . . one half on one side & . . . other half on the other side . . . line, till it comes near to procters gutter & then over the gutter a little above and usual place of passage over & so onwards . . . Davises land until it comes to an heap of stones which is . . . Davises Corner and then going cross Ebenezer Hartwells Lane along on the brow of the pine hill, heading . . . vaults or . . . & so along on the brow of the hill as near as may be with convenience until it comes near a stony gutter & as going over that where the way is now used along in the road towards the great Brooke & so over the Brooke where there hath been formerly a bridge over the Brooke & so to the easterly corner of healds field, leaving the field on the left hand, and so onwards between the Addamses house & the healds house, onwards between the dwelling places of . . . parling and William Hardy, and the way is now used towards Chelmsford until it comes to the . . . line William Wilson, Thomas Brown.

Concord June 2 1702 The selectman approve of the within way as it was layd out by the committee subscribing & order that it shall be recorded by the Town clerk in the Town Book.

Attests Thomas Brown Town Clerk.

- e. **Shattuck, Lemuel, *A History of the Town of Concord (Boston: Russell, Odiorne, and Company, 1835; Concord: John Stacy, 1835), 204.***

That now most travelled is the great county road from Boston, through Lexington and Concord, to Groton and to New Hampshire.

- f. **Jarvis, Edward, *Houses and People in Concord, 1810 to 1820 (1882).***

WESTFORD ROAD. CARLISLE ROAD. I was not familiar with this road north of the school house. I remember that Dea. Chandler lived near the Carlisle road in the house where J. Melvin, his son-in-law lived. He was a man of great purity of character. He died of cancer, in 1815, aged 64. His widow was very bright and cultivated lady and very highly respected. She died 1829 aged 79. There was only one other house on this road between the school-house and Carlisle on the Westford road beyond the school-house, the house now occupied by Urban Derby

was owned and occupied by STEPHEN BARRETT, He was a tanner as well as farmer. His tanyard was on the opposite side of the road. He died in 1824, aged 74. His son, EMERSON BARRETT, succeeded him on the farm but the tannery afterward ceased. He died in . . . , and his son ABEL became the possessor of the farm, but sold it and went to Vermont to engage in other business.

W. Melvin and Peter Jones owned and lived in two other houses as on the map.

Near the school-house SAMUEL BROWN lived. He was a farmer and shoe-maker. He sent a son, John, to Harvard College who graduated in 1818 and taught the town school one year, 1813, 14. Samuel B. died in 1819 aged 67, and JOSHUA, his son, succeeded him; and he dying in 1855, aged 68, his son JOSEPH took the farm. The house was rebuilt or renovated and the barn and other buildings rebuilt or enlarged on a very extensive scale.

The next house was DANIEL WOOD's, son of Judge Wood, farmer and shoe-maker who died in 1844, aged 83, leaving his son JAMES WOOD in possession. He died in 1880, aged 88, and ALBERT, his son, is now the owner.

The next house was that of JACOB MELVIN who died in 1837, aged 79.

The farm afterwards was sold to WARREN BROWN, who cultivated it until his death, and his son is now in possession.

The next house was that of Abel Davis. He kept a tavern at my earliest recollection and previously. There was not much travel on this road and but little occasion for a public house, yet tradition tells that the house was frequented by frolicking and drinking parties from the village and from Acton. But early it ceased to be open to the public. He died and his son Abel succeeded him in the farm and house.

The next house was on the Plain as it was called, where the widow Wyman lived. The place was sold some years ago to Theophilus (Bob) Mason, who in turn sold it to Charles M. Carter, a rail road man of St. Joseph, Mo. The house has been thoroughly renovated and repaired and is now occupied by George N. White who married Mr. Carter's daughter.

JONATHAN HILDRETH, another son, inherited a part of the farm and cultivated it until his death. He lived in the house with his sister, both unmarried. Jonathan was much trusted by his townsmen. They elected him one of the selectmen and sent him to the Legislature. He died in 1862, aged 77.

A brother, Benjamin W. was educated at Harvard College, became a physician and settled in Marlboro.

On the opposite side of the Westford road was the house of Joseph Clark and also that of Isaac Hurd Dakin.

On the opposite corner diagonally across both roads was a very old house in which Mr. Proctor lived. Tradition said that THOMAS BARRETT lived there before him. Franklin Dakin's house is now on this spot.

Opposite to both Mr. Hildreth's and Mr. Proctor's houses was Abishai Brown's one story house.

There were one or more other houses near this corner before 1815, but I cannot locate them now.

- g. **Keyes, John Shepard, (annotated by Tolman, Adams), *Houses & Owners or Occupants in Concord 1885*, 3 volumes (1940; collated by Marian B. Miller).**

WESTFORD ROAD.

1. The first from the Carlisle line is an old yellow house always as far as I remember occupied by William Melvin. He died in . . . and his widow and children are still there. The rheumatic Charles is a son of this William & another son . . . now lives here with his mother.
2. Next east towards the village is an older house by its shape, owned and occupied by Hiram N. Jones. I think his ancestors owned it and Dr. Peter Jones an uncle was a famous character of that location in my youth, and lived in an old wreck of a house near it. . . . Hiram went to California in the early mining days, and came back after the war to this farm where he has a family of children and is succeeding.
3. The next south on the east (west) side of the road is the Barrett house . . . in my youth occupied by Aunt Wood the widow of Stephen and Nathan both, and a sister of Emerson. After Abel J. Barrett left Concord . . . bean Bean owned & occupied it for several years till he removed to the village and had a carriage factory and later was expressman. Urban Derby, brother of Joseph and son of Joseph has lived there since, improving the farm in many ways and building a new barn (unless Bean began it) as he has means through his wife, who was an Atherton of the vicinity of Boston.

- h. **John Shepard Keyes, *Old Roads in Concord* (read before the Concord Antiquarian Society in 1889).**

- i. **Wheeler, Ruth Winifred Robinson, *Concord: Climate for Freedom* (United States: Concord Antiquarian Society, 1967), 222–23.**

Old Roads . . . . As the Groton road approached the old Fifty-Acre Way, it made a triangle with the present Lowell Road. Next were several farms belonging to descendants of Eleazer Brown, one of whom, Abishai, had a tavern at the crossroads on land his wife had inherited from the Chandlers. The Browns had also bought land from the Batemans near the pond. The road took a deep turn to the west, nearly to Spencer Brook, where there was an old Melvin house, before coming to the fork where Westford Road turned from a road to Carlisle. On the latter were old Adams and Hartwell houses. On the Westford Road were Jones, Melvin, Farrar, and Heald farms.

**j. Ruth R. Wheeler Papers, 1843 – 1971, Notes, clippings, etc., on houses and people: Lowell Road; Westford Road; Estabrook Road; Spencer Brook Road.**

**i. Newspaper clipping entitled, “North Quarter Houses,” Jan. 21, 1954**

The north quarter of Concord was the whole west and northwest part of the original six mile square bounding on the south and east by the Assabet and Concord rivers but including east of the river the triangle bounded by Lowell road and the ‘training place’ or Monument square and a straight line running northeast from the training place about where Bedford street begins.

The settlers in this quarter had to maintain their highway with its north bridge and all its branching roads. This main road is now Monument street but in early days it ran above the houses of Humphrey Barrett, John Jones, and James Smedley, (the Teele, Prescott and Fay houses), then turned at a right angle through land of James Blood (the old Manse) to cross the river over the old North Bridge, then swung up Liberty Street where it divided, one branch going over [NB: the east side of] Punkatasset hill, the other branch over Barnes hill road to Hildreth’s corner where it divided again.

Before the first settlers could divide up the territory some large tracts were taken out. There was the Blood grant beyond Punkatasset which became Buttrick land. Four hundred acres (called the 20 score) near Bateman’s pond were at first held undivided [NB: by twenty men]. A tract of 400 acres went with the mill privilege on Spencer brook to Mr. Spencer of Cambridge, who had been one of the preferred stockholders, that is to say one of the small group (Bulkeley, Blood Flint, Willard, and Spencer) who put up the capital with which the town was founded. Spencer never lived here but in 1654, Samuel Adams of Charlestown sold the land in Concord that was Mr. William Spencer’s to Richard Temple, also of Charlestown. [NB: Temple’s land was along what are now Barrett’s Mill Road and Strawberry Hill Road.] Richard Temple sold the house lot (on Liberty street lately of Misses Grace and Marion Keyes) to Thomas Brown in 1671. Richard Temple’s son Abraham had a house west of the mill [NB: Barrett’s Mill], the cellar hold of which was still visible in the last century between the Sheehan and McGrath houses. To his son Isaac, Richard Temple gave 100 acres between Lowell road and Spencer Brook including his own house, which we know as the Eben Corey house, and can thus safely date as having been built in 1671. . . . The Wood house on Westford road (Huggins) . . . also belonged to this period and for comfort, style, harmonious proportions and dignity have not been equaled before or since in Concord house architecture, I believe.

**ii. Newspaper clipping entitled, “Old North Quarter Old Families”**

Land in the northwest corner of Concord belonged first to a good-man James Adams who died in 1707. He owned a mill and farm on the upper reaches

of Spencer brook, called 50-acre brook in those days.<sup>20</sup> This land is on both sides of South street, Carlisle and the mill site is near the little pond beyond the Concord line on Lowell road, which was first known as 50-acre way. The Heald family were long identified with the Concord Military Company. For three generations there was a Captain John Heald at the head of the company and several houses in southern Carlisle were built by one of another Captain John Heald but which generation furnishes quite a problem.

When the towns of Bedford and Lincoln took part of the east quarter of town, the same dissatisfaction made the settlers in this corner of town ask for a separate parish but it was fifty years before they accomplished their purpose and then, instead of getting all the land beyond the Assabet, they were given a smaller town and farmers along the border could choose which town to join. The resulting line of 1780 was full of odd angles until 1894 when the legislature finally straightened it.<sup>21</sup>

The leader of the separatists was a third generation Adams named Joseph whose house was the one, now occupied by Theodore Bartkus. Here the first religious meetings were held and the petitions drawn up for the separation. But Joseph Adams' daughter married Deacon Chandler of the Concord Church who, when the separation was finally made, voted to keep the land with the old church and thus set the boundary further north.

The Adams Chandler farm descended to a daughter who married John Melvin and his heirs lived in it until the present century.

The land opposite was owned by Hartwells who inherited it by the marriage of Sarah Smedley to Ebenezer Hartwell in 1690. It was originally granted to the Smedleys. In 1714, Jonathan Melvin married Sarah Hartwell and they built the house on Westford road on one end of this Hartwell farm. This Westford road farm was known as the Melvin farm down to recent days. The house has been restored to its old charming simplicity.

An earlier Melvin location was south of Westford road on Lowell road, where the house was sold to Daniel Wood whose wife was a Barrett.

The Melvins, Farrars, Hartwells, Joneses, and Healds all served together in the Indian wars and received a grant of land near Suncook in southern New Hampshire to which many members of these families moved.

John Jones of Monument street also had a big farm south of the Smedley-Hartwell land. The western half of this was sold in 1698 to Jacob Farrar, whose father also Jacob, had married Hannah Hayward of Concord. [On Westford] Jacob the father was killed by the Indians in Lancaster in August 1675 and his widow returned to Concord to her father's—George Hayward's. One son George went to work as an apprentice on the Goble farm in what is now Lincoln. The other grew up to marry Mary Reddit and live on what is now the Clayton Greene farm. The old house stood close to Spencer Brook road and a second house was built by a later generation directly across the street on what is now the Perry place but this

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<sup>20</sup> NB: Adams lived in the part of Concord north of Westford Road, which is now in Carlisle. Smedley appears to be the first owner of this land.

<sup>21</sup> This refers to the convoluted boundary between Concord and Carlisle in the northeast of Concord, which can be seen on the 1830 Hales map.

house is torn down and the old Farrar place has been moved back and extensively altered.

**iii. Westford Road, Hoag**

John Jones, the first settler, lived on Monument Street and his grants of land were here in the North Quarter, so the land on which this house stands belonged in the Jones family from the beginning. John's son Samuel and Samuel, Jr. were the ancestors of Peter Jones who built this house.

This old house has sheltered five generations of the Jones family. The first owners were Peter Jones and Peter Jones, Jr. It was next owned by Hiram W. Jones who lived to be 95. He was born in 1825, son of Peter, Jr. and Nancy (Wilkins) Jones (m. 1815). Hiram's son, George E. (the assessor), sold it in 1924. Thore Johnson has recently sold it to Mr. Hoag.

When Hiram Jones inherited the farm it was burdened with debt and there was another heir to buy out, so he embarked in a sailing ship for California, became a 'forty-niner', and sent home enough 'dust' to pay the debts. When he came back in 1852 the farm was his, unencumbered.

**iv. Westford Road, D.A. Baldwin**

This house was probably built about 1798. Lt. Stephen, born in 1750, son of Col. James and Rebecca Barrett, lived in this house and had a tan-yard opposite. Stephen's son, Emerson Barrett, succeeded him on the farm, then his son Abel had it until he moved to Vermont. Then L. Willis Bean owned it and sold to Urban Derby, one of the six famous Derby brothers. His sons, Charles and Fred, owned it for a while.

It now belongs to David A. Baldwin of Middlesex School, whose wife is a Barrett, daughter of Edwin Shepard Barrett (son of Nathan Barrett of Punkatasset.)

**v. Westford Road, Arndt Larsen**

This house, I am told, at one time had the large central chimney and the long, sloping roof characteristic of very old houses. It is on the old road to Westford and may have belonged to the Melvin family who were early settlers (1700). J.S. Keyes refers to it as an 'old yellow house, always, so far as I can remember, occupied by William Melvin and since his death by his widow and children.'

William Melvin, one of nine children of Amos and Anna Melvin, was born in 1800. He married in 1832 Elizabeth Williams, daughter of Jonathan and Huldah Williams.

The house is now owned by Arndt Larsen.

The old road from Hildreth's Corner was called Fifty Acre Way and the Spencer Brook sometimes called Fifty Acre Brook. In 1673 a committee was appointed to lay out and settle the highway between Concord and Groton. Like all the other roads radiating from the village, they began at the Meeting House in Concord. Going past Samuel Jones (Bullet-hole house), over the North Bridge, up

the hill betwixt Thomas Brown, Sr. and Samuel Buttrick, to the upper end of Thomas Brown, Jr.'s house lot, then westerly (toward Hildreth's Corner) over the brook and up the hill by Lt. Davis' barn, until it comes to fifty acre way (now Lowell Road), leaving John Green's land on the left hand until it comes to the northwesterly end of Mr. Winthrop's land and entering the lands of Thomas Brown, Sr., crossing pond gutter (the outlet of Bateman's pond), until it comes over the lower end of fifty acre brook and so between the lands of Richard Temple and Jacob Farrar, leaving said Temple on the right hand and taking the broad road now used over the hill till it comes near a skirt of meadow called Valley back.

The present Spencer Brook Road was a continuation of the old Groton Road, while the road above it was called the new Groton Road in 1788.

- k. **Forbes, Anne McCarthy, *Narrative Histories of Concord and West Concord (Concord, Massachusetts: Concord Historical Commission, 1995), 9.***

COLONIAL PERIOD (1676-1775) . . . TRANSPORTATION ROUTES . . . Regional highways in this period were principally those established in the seventeenth century. A focus of the major through-routes on the town center and the bridge crossings continued, resulting in a radial network of roads extending out from the meetinghouse to the outlying farmland and surrounding communities. . . . Connecting highways include the line of Walden Street leading south, and the Groton Road (Lowell-Westford Roads) to the north.

#### IV. SCENIC BEAUTY

As noted above, Westford Road is a winding two-lane road. Despite being only one mile long, Westford Road's scenic beauty is marked by an array of features. Much of the road is bounded by stone walls, in its near entirety on the eastern side. Beyond the stone walls sit multiple historic homes (*see* Section V.a), several of which are set close to the road. The topography changes drastically over the short length of the road. For example, behind 216 Westford Road lies a beautiful meadow, seen below. Drive on, and you come to an early fieldstone bridge (*see* Section V.b) that traverses Spencer Brook. What follows are stunning views of Spencer Brook surrounded by wetlands. As the road continues and crosses into Carlisle—marked by a rough-cut granite marker—it is surrounded by mature forest.

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View from 216 Westford Road

Ray Angelo's recently completed publication, *Thoreau Place Names: A Guide to Place Names in Concord and Lincoln, MA in the Journal of Henry David Thoreau*, notes an 1854 reference in Thoreau's journal to "Spencer Brook Meadow."<sup>22</sup> He writes, "While there are at least two large meadows along Spencer Brook, one in Concord and the other in Carlisle, Thoreau spoke of crossing the head of this meadow in the vicinity of the Concord/Carlisle town line."<sup>23</sup> The photograph of Spencer Brook from Westford Road embedded below is taken from Angelo's work.



Spencer Brook at Westford Road looking northeast (September 2019), © 2020 Google

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<sup>22</sup> Angelo, Ray, *Thoreau Place Names: A Guide to Place Names in Concord and Lincoln, MA in the Journal of Henry David Thoreau* (last revised Dec. 9, 2021), 178.

<sup>23</sup> Angelo, *Thoreau Place Names*, 178.

## V. BUILT FEATURES

### a. Historic Houses

#### i. 25 Westford Road (1904)

Per the MHC's Form B, "This house is significant as a turn-of-the-century type unusual in Concord, the simple, hip-roofed 2-story block. . . . It is an excellent illustration of the use by an early-twentieth-century private school of buildings outside the main campus. . . . Over the years it has served various functions, originally housing a squash court."<sup>24</sup>

#### ii. 107 Westford Road, Stephen Barrett House (1790)



*107 Westford Road. Image via Massachusetts Historical Commission.*

Per the MHC Form B, "This house is extremely significant for its attribution to master-builder Reuben Duren (1746-1821), who built several high-style late Georgian/early Federal houses in Concord and Bedford in the years following the Revolution. . . . #107 Westford Road is believed to be Duren's only known brick-ended house. . . . In addition to its architectural significance, this house is important for its long association with several farming families of the North Quarter, especially the Barretts."

The Historic Resources Masterplan further notes that 107 Westford has a "[l]arge well-preserved gable-end barn, repositioned on the property, and near a ca. 1790 farmhouse."<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form B, 25 Westford Road, Inventory No. CON.440 (July 1990); *see also* Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 123.

<sup>25</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form B, 107 Westford Road, Inventory No. CON.441 (July 1992); *see also* Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 124.

**iii. 216 Westford Road, Peter Jones House (1710)**



*216 Westford Road. Image via Massachusetts Historical Commission.*

Per the MHC Form B:

Once a common eighteenth-century house-type, due to later expansions the two-story, three-bay ‘half house’ has become rare in most Massachusetts communities. Concord is fortunate to have at least two intact examples, the Flint Half-house at #702 Lowell Road, and #216 Westford Road. A pair of two-story side wings flank the main house here—the east has a one-story ell on its east end, and the west is attached via a modern or rebuilt 1-story section to a large nineteenth-century gable-end ‘New England’ style barn.

Some architectural detail here remains from the eighteenth century, including the treatment of the roof, which projects only at front and rear, and is trimmed with a prominent molding below the front cornice. The windows and doorways, however, were updated during the Greek Revival period, probably in the 1830’s-40’s. The windows are 6-over-6-sash, and the 6-panel door of the main entry is surrounded by full-length sidelights and a high, wide, plain entablature that is typical of those years. A late-nineteenth-century multi-light polygonal bay window appears on the west end.

This is one of the oldest houses in the Bateman’s Pond area, built, according to Ruth Wheeler, in about 1710 by members of the Jones family, descended from John Jones, one of Concord’s original settlers. It remained under their ownership for over 200 years.

According to Wheeler, the first owner was Peter Jones, followed by his son, Peter Jones, Jr. By 1852 it had passed to his son Hiram W. Jones (b. 1825), who owned it into the twentieth century. He and all his sons appear to have farmed the surrounding land. One of them, George, later town assessor, is listed as a cattle dealer in 1886. Hiram Jones was one of several young Concord men who went to California during the gold rush. He accumulated enough ‘dust’ to pay the debts on the farm, came back to Concord, raised his family, and died in 1919. The property passed to his son George E. Jones, who sold it in 1924. It was subsequently the

property of one of Bateman's Pond's many Scandinavian-American farmers, Thore Johnson. In 1937 he sold it Francis W. Hay.<sup>26</sup>

**iv. 229 Westford Road, Arthur C.H. Jones House (1890s)**



Per the MHC Form B, "This house was apparently built in the 1890's as a cottage on the old Jones family farm. It belonged to Arthur C.H. Jones, a son of Hiram W. Jones of 216 Westford Road whose farmhouse stands directly across the road. Arthur was also a farmer, and is . . . here in both the atlas and street directory of 1906. The house later belonged to Russell Clark."<sup>27</sup>

*229 Westford Road. Image via Massachusetts Historical Commission*

**v. 344 Westford Road, John Melvin – William Melvin House (ca. 1697–1710)**



*344 Westford Road. Image via Massachusetts Historical Commission.*

Per the MHC Form B:

In spite of some alteration, including a large 2-story wing across the rear, #344 Westford Road is one of the best examples in the Bateman's Pond area of a 2 1/2 - story vernacular farmhouse of the eighteenth- to early nineteenth century. Today it has one tall rear chimney remaining on the west end. (The house formerly had

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<sup>26</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form B, 344 Westford Road, Inventory No. CON.442 (June 1991); *see also* Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 124; Forbes, Anne McCarthy, *Narrative Histories of Concord and West Concord* (Concord, Massachusetts: Concord Historical Commission, 1995), 13 ("Two Colonial two-story three-bay 'half-houses' remain relatively intact at 702 Lowell Road (ca. 1750) and at 216 Westford Road, apparently a mid-century enlargement of a house built ca. 1710.").

<sup>27</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form B, 344 Westford Road, Inventory No. CON.444 (June 1991); *see also* Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 124.

both a large central chimney and rear leanto.). Its most curious feature is the slight overhang of the attic story at the gable ends, an architectural treatment that was largely discontinued by 1710. Otherwise, it is a typical five- by one bay building with a 1-story ell projecting from the rear west corner. The windows are 6-over-6 sash, most with plain surrounds, although those under each main gable are molded. The entry has a plain, narrow surround, fitted with large shutters. . . . Typical of its time, the house trim is restrained, with narrow cornerboards, a sill board or 'water table' at the foundation and a boxed cornice with a well-formed molding below.

Early in this century a long veranda stretched across the front of the house. Wagon and woodsheds connected its northeast corner to a large shingled gable-end barn.

This house is significant as the homestead for many generations of a branch of the Melvin (Melven or Melvel) family, one of the four main families, along with the Joneses, Farrars, and Healds to settle the Bateman's Pond area in the late-seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The patriarch, John Melvin, had come to Concord by 1700, and in 1717 several Melvins are listed here, three of whom had moderate real estate holdings. The most likely to have built the earliest sections of this house is John himself, with it passing after his death to his son David Melvin, who married Mary Farrar. Both David and his brother Eleazer were involved in the Indian wars of the eighteenth century, David eventually as a Captain. Both took part in Capt. Lowell's raid into Indian territory in 1725, and were at the assault on Louisberg in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence during the French and Indian War.

According to Keyes it belonged to William Melvin . . . for much of the nineteenth century. (Maps show him as the owner from 1830 to at least 1856.). He was survived on the farm by his widow and children, of whom his son Charles Melvin inherited the house. He owned it through at least 1889, but by 1906 it was the property of one of the Bateman's Pond area's many Scandinavian farmers, Arndt Larson.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form B, 229 Westford Road, Inventory No. CON.443 (July 1992); *see also* Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 124; Forbes, Anne McCarthy, *Narrative Histories of Concord and West Concord* (Concord, Massachusetts: Concord Historical Commission, 1995), 13 (noting that 344 Westford Road has "rare surviving hewn gable-end overhangs, a feature that largely disappeared from house construction by 1710").

**b. Fieldstone Bridge Over Spencer Brook (or Fifty Acre Brook)**



*View of Spencer Brook and marshlands from the fieldstone bridge*



*View from bridge, looking toward Carlisle*

Just north of the intersection of Westford and Spencer Brook Roads, a stone bridge carries Westford Road over Spencer Brook. According to MHC Form F, this bridge is “[a] rare example of a small fieldstone bridge, and possibly the only one remaining in Concord.”<sup>29</sup> The bridge is “about 25 feet long” and “built of rough fieldstone. . . . Of undetermined age, and probably repaired many times, it could date to at least the middle of the nineteenth century.”<sup>30</sup>

*Note for further research:* The Form F states that the road “was in existence as a road from ‘Blood’s Farms’ . . . as early as 1717, and known eventually as Westford Road.”<sup>31</sup> Likewise, Concord’s Historic Resources Masterplan states that “[t]his road from Blood’s Farm

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<sup>29</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form F, Stone Bridge, Inventory No. CON.925 (June 1991).

<sup>30</sup> *Id.*; see also Concord Historical Commission, *Masterplan*, 124.

<sup>31</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form F, Stone Bridge, Inventory No. CON.925 (June 1991).

existed as early as 1717.”<sup>32</sup> This description appears inconsistent with any other known references. Westford road has no clear relation to these farms. There were many other large farms and landholdings in between Westford Road and Blood’s Farms including Hartwell, Smedley, Green, Bateman, Melvin, and others. There is no path to Blood’s Farms from Westford Road. The roads to Blood’s Farms are well-documented in historic records as being what are now Monument Street and the Two-Rod Road path within Estabrook Woods. There is no known relation of Westford Road and the Bloods in any known historic document or the work of any historian.

**c. Road Stone at the Concord-Carlisle Town Line**



*Stone Marker at Concord-Carlisle Town Line*

The MHC Form C contains the following information about the stone marker at the Concord-Carlisle town line:

The rough cut granite marker is located on the east side of West Street at the town line with Concord. It stands part way down a bank, near a stream and on the other side of a guard rail. The granite boundary marker, known as a road stone, stands about four feet high and is a little less than 8 inches square. The road stone has uniform drill marks (evenly spaced) that are one-half round sections on one vertical corner of the guidepost. Near the top of the south side the letter “C” is cut into the granite face indicating the Concord side; and near the top on the north side the letter “C” is cut into the granite face indicating the Carlisle side of the boundary marker. Black paint has been applied to the two Cs on the stone.

Boundary indicators are found in cities and towns across the Commonwealth. They are in the form of corner monuments, road stones, and other boundary markers. Those identified in Carlisle are made of granite posts. Carlisle’s

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<sup>32</sup> Concord Historical Commission, *Historic Resources Masterplan of Concord, Massachusetts* (2001), 124.

boundary indicators were surveyed in 1907 as part of a Middlesex County-wide survey that described and located boundary lines and corner monuments. Although the survey was published in 1907, the fieldwork was completed in 1894 under the direction of Eugene E. Peirce and James B. Tolley. In 1903 the bounds were confirmed, additional points were located and the topographical descriptions were revised by a committee of three including Mr. Peirce, William C. Hawley and Henry B. Wood. A diagram of the location of each of 20 corner monuments was included in the 1907 Atlas. Some of these diagrams also showed the location of road stones which were similar in design to corner monuments and marked the boundary line along the side of Carlisle's roads. Other road stones not expressly noted in the 1907 Atlas are also located at Carlisle's boundary. Due to similarities in design and labeling it is likely that the road stones and corner monuments were installed in the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century except for the one on River Road which dates to 1903 when that boundary was finalized.

The boundary line between Concord and Carlisle that crosses West Street was established by Chapter 42 of the Laws of 1779-80, which also incorporated the Second District of Carlisle. This road stone probably replaced an earlier marker that may have been a tree or a rock that marked the boundary in the original description, and did not appear in one of the diagrams as a road stone in the 1907 Atlas. The uniform drill marks process began in New England quarries in ca. 1830 and was termed "plug and feather" method.

Selectmen confirm the locations of boundary markers and road stones every five years. In some years Selectmen have painted the number of the year to indicate that the monument was checked.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission, Form C, Carlisle-Concord Road Stone, Inventory No. CON.9052 (Oct. 2009).