

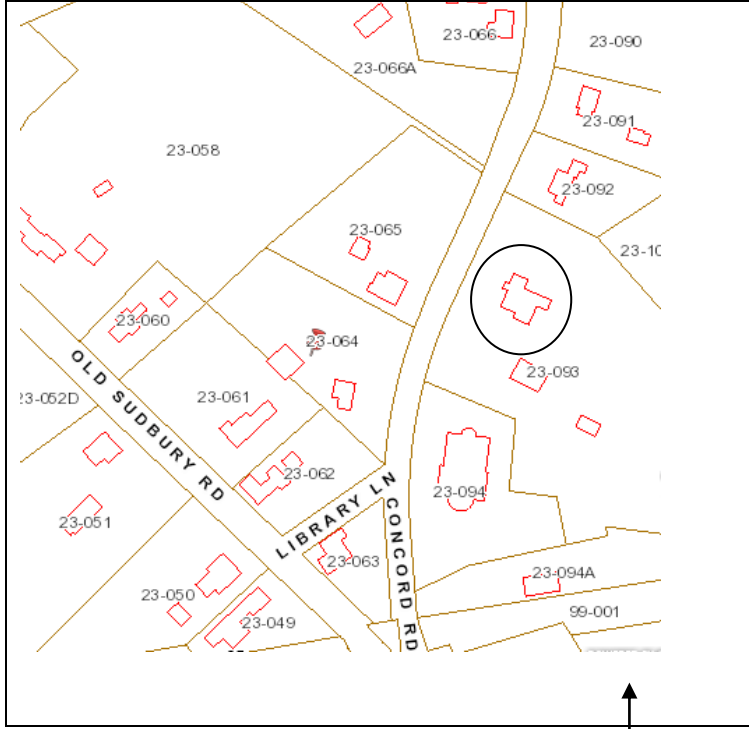
# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Gretchen G. Schuler

**Organization:** for Wayland Historical Commission

**Date (month / year):** September 2012

Assessor's Number    USGS Quad    Area(s)    Form Number

23-093

Natick

WAY.32

**Town:**            WAYLAND

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)

**Address:**            11 Concord Road

**Historic Name:**    Warren Gould Roby House

**Uses:** Present:    single-family residential

Original:    single-family residential

**Date of Construction:** 1888

**Source:**    local histories, photographs

**Style/Form:**            Colonial Revival

**Architect/Builder:**    unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation:    rubblestone w/ mortar

Wall/Trim:        wood clapboard

Roof:                asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** gabled-front  
barn/garage – early 21<sup>st</sup> C.; in-ground pool; small shed

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

**Condition:**            good

**Moved:** no | x |    **yes** |    **Date** n/a \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 4.53 acres

**Setting:** Residential neighborhood at town center, among  
late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> C. dwellings next to 1900 Wayland  
Public Library. Spacious lot with wetlands behind.  
Driveway with stone piers leading to barn at right rear of lot.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WAYLAND

11 CONCORD ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WAY.32

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:** *Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

Situated on the east side of Concord Road, the commodious Colonial Revival house sits up above the road and is set back from the front of the property. A stone retaining wall runs along the front next to the sidewalk and a burning bush hedge lines the top of the wall. The driveway entry is marked by stone piers where the stone wall terminates at the driveway edges. A spacious lawn in front of the house is bisected by a stone path leading from steps at the wall to the front entry. This large two-story, hipped-roof, house is one of the best examples of Colonial Revival architecture in Wayland. It is constructed on a rubblestone foundation, has wood clapboard siding, and an asphalt-shingled roof. The main house is five bays wide by two deep and has a two-story rear ell, an octagonal room added to the south side of the rear ell, and other small ells on the north side of the rear ell. Each end of the main block has a piazza topped with a balustrade lining the flat roof. The piazza on the north side has been enclosed with screening. The open entry porch on the façade has a flat roof with the same balustrade as the piazzas. This porch, surmounted by six wide wood steps, is carried by fluted columns and pilasters (Doric-like) mounted on tall paneled bases. Turned balusters make up the balustrade that stretches between column and pilaster on each side. A short return on each side of the top step of the porch has only a few balusters and a post topped with an urn-shaped finial. The architrave is ornamented with dentil molding and brackets line the cornice of the roof. (The brackets hark back to Italianate architecture and would be replaced by modillion blocks if this house were pure Colonial Revival.) Within the porch is the entry which consists of a paneled door (storm door covering), half-side lights over raised field panels, and flanking square pilasters that carry the denticulated architrave and heavily molded cornice. Windows have 6/6 sash set in slightly projecting molded frames with louvered shutters. Other Colonial Revival elaboration includes: monumental square pilasters that run behind the porch pilasters and frame the central bay; a central pediment over the door and second-story window with a half-round louvered blind fan in the pediment; an ornately decorated cornice with dentil molding and brackets wrapping around the five-by-two bay main block and lining the central pediment on the façade; corner pilasters with caps; and a molded water table. The piazza/porch on the south side that connects to the octagonal room has sausage turned posts and spindle screening along the bottom edge of the cornice. These as well as the bracketed cornice are more similar to Italianate or Queen Anne features – not Colonial Revival – as is the rest of the elaboration. Stairs lead to the side yard from this porch and there is an entry door into the main part of the house (the second bay on this south end). On the roof there are two gable-front dormers each with wide louvers in place of windows. Three chimneys include twin interior chimneys and one exterior tall tapered chimney on the outside end of the octagonal room.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE** *Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This was the site of an earlier Roby house that had burned in 1887. Robys occupied this land from about 1725 when Ebenezer Roby (1701-1772) came to Wayland and built a house on this site. His son Dr. Ebenezer Roby, Jr. (1732-1786) lived at this location in the large Georgian house which also had an office for his medical practice. The old homestead passed to Dr. Roby's son William Roby and eventually to his grandson Warren Gould Roby who came to Wayland in summers mostly. The family homestead burned in 1886 which is when **Warren Gould Roby** (1834-1897) had to rebuild and the result was this commodious and well-appointed Colonial Revival house. Roby used this as a summer residence and came from Boston by train made possible

*Continuation sheet 1*

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WAYLAND

11 CONCORD ROAD

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

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from 1881 when the Massachusetts Central Railroad opened its route through Wayland Center with the Massachusetts Central Passenger Station (WAY.82) and the Massachusetts Central Railroad Freight House (WAY.2560 built in the same year.

In 1896 Roby donated a half acre of his land and \$25,000 to the town for the purpose of constructing a library that would be as fireproof as possible. (Original survey form has different fact; however it was written five years before Mrs. Emery completed her research for her book – the definitive history of the town which contains these facts regarding date, size of parcel and amount of funding.) The result was the brick Wayland Public Library (5 Concord Road) completed in 1900. By 1900 Roby had died and his widow **Cynthia Roby** (1834-1905) lived here with two servants, Isabelle and Hugens McKenzie (both from Prince Edward Island). The Robys had no children so that after Mrs. Warren G. Roby's (Cynthia) death in 1905, the house passed to Mary Adelaide Roby, daughter of Charles Drury Roby (1847-1904) and Mrs. Eva A. Boyce Roby (1858-1930) and a niece of Warren Gould Roby. There were at least two transactions in which the property was transferred between trustees, Roby and **Daniel Brackett** (1852-1947) in 1906. Brackett was a lawyer and served as the Wayland Town Clerk and as Assessor. Brackett came to Wayland in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and took over the Col. David Heard farm (no longer extant) on Pelham Road and had two Heard sisters Mary A. and Ellen Heard boarding with him.

In 1907 Miss Roby became **Mary Adelaide Brackett** (1873-1922) when she married Daniel Brackett at a ceremony in New York City. Their daughter of the same name as her mother, **Mary A. Brackett** (called Adelaide) was born in 1909 and by 1910 the three lived here with a 70-year old aunt Adelaide Boyce, and two hired men. The Roby land had extended from the library north nearly to Plain Road and also on the west side of Concord Road. All of it stayed in the family and was owned by either Daniel or his wife Mary A. (Roby) Brackett. When Mary died in 1922, her land (on the east side of Concord Road) was inherited by her daughter, who was only eleven years old. Six lots with frontage on Concord Road were sold over the next couple of years by Daniel on behalf of his young daughter. In the 1920s Daniel was assessed for his house valued at \$4,200, a large barn valued at \$1,000, 29 acres of land and a 20-acre river meadow. In 1930 Brackett, who by then was a widower, lived here with his daughter, son-in-law and their infant. Besides being town clerk, Brackett was also listed as a municipal assessor and his son-in law, John Clifford worked as a knitter in an elastic mill. In 1946 Brackett (at the age of 93) gave all of his land in Wayland and elsewhere to his daughter, **Mary A. (Brackett) Clifford**. In 1955 Mary Clifford gave some of the land east of the Library lot and east of the brook to the Town for library use. She remained here until 1960 when she sold this property to **Charles H. and Elizabeth D. Morin** who came to Wayland from Washington D. C.

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WAYLAND 11 Concord Road

Area(s) Form No.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
|  | WAY.32 |
|--|--------|

## National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible      ☐ Eligible **only** in a historic district
- ☒ Contributing to a potential historic district      ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria:    ☒ **A**    ☐ **B**    ☒ **C**    ☐ **D**

Criteria Considerations:    ☐ **A**    ☐ **B**    ☐ **C**    ☐ **D**    ☐ **E**    ☐ **F**    ☐ **G**

Statement of Significance by \_\_\_\_\_ Gretchen G. Schuler \_\_\_\_\_  
*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Warren Gould Roby House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places individually and as part of a Wayland Center Historic District. It was built by prominent Wayland family following the ruin of an 18<sup>th</sup> century family house and at the time that the railroad had become a prominent feature of Wayland Center changing the landscape with the ability to commute to Boston. The property retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling and association.