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## MARK WHITE, JUNIOR

White's Tavern, Acton, Massachusetts 1756

Mark White, Junior was born at Charlestown, Massachusetts 12 April 1716<sup>88</sup> and died at Acton, Massachusetts 24 July 1798 as Deacon<sup>89</sup>, son of Mark and Eliza (Mousell) White. He married 14 May 1642 Anna Chamberlin "of Westford" who died in 1775.

Mark White built his house on (#272) Great Road, Acton, now State Road 2A,<sup>90</sup> around 1737 when he purchased the land. The original house had a center chimney and four rooms, two up and two down. A cooper by trade, he took out a license in 1755 as a retailer of spirits and held an innholder's license from 1756 to 1772 (perhaps longer but records for 1773-1790 have been lost).

Mark White, Junior turned out with the Minutemen of Acton to serve at Concord Bridge on the nineteenth of April in 1775.

In 1815 William Stearns owned the tavern and made major changes to the property which was licensed from 1815 to 1828. He moved the original chimney and added another while doubling the size of the house. the upstairs addition was probably just one room, possibly a ballroom. The Acton Historical Society has a print from a glass plate negative showing the property as it was in the 1880s.

The structure was given to the Acton Historical Society in 1986 by a local developer. They were, however, unable to sell it locally or restore it on the site. In order to save what remained, it was sold for a nominal figure to John Lyons of Boxborough who dismantled it and moved it to Boxborough in 1988.<sup>91</sup>

Donald Gray Robbins 96-03

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<sup>88</sup> Thomas Bellows Wyman, *The Genealogies of Charlestown, Massachusetts 1629-1818*, (reprint: New England History Press, 1982), 1016.

<sup>89</sup> *Acton, Massachusetts Vital Records to 1850*, 307.

<sup>90</sup> Acton Historical Society, *A Brief History of Acton*, (P O Box 389, Acton, Massachusetts, 1974), 30, 31.

<sup>91</sup> Harold R. Phalen, *History of the Town of Acton*, (1954).