

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.2
Historic Name:	Garty's Block
Common Name:	
Address:	3-13 Main St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Milldam; Concord Center
Local No:	H9-842
Year Constructed:	c 1870
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Victorian Eclectic
Use(s):	Commercial Block; Meeting Hall; Other Recreational; Other Road Related
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Politics Government; Recreation; Social History; Transportation
Area(s):	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
Building Materials(s):	Wall: Brick; Granite; Sandstone; Wood Foundation: Granite



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H9-842

CONCORD

DU

2

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NOV 17 1992

Town

CONCORD

neighborhood or village

Concord Center: the Milldam

3-13 Main Street

7-2

ic Name

Garty's Block

Present

store and office
building

Original

commercial

of Construction

late 19th century
(early 1870's)

maps; Keyes; visual
assessment

Form

Victorian eclectic

ect/Builder

unknown

or Material:

Foundation

granite

Wall/Trim

brick

Roof

(not visible)

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

20th C: top floor removed; display
windows changed at first story.

Condition

fair

Moved

☒

no

☐

yes

Date

N/A

Acreage

less than one acre

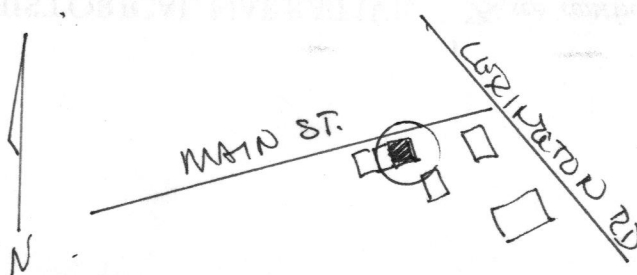
Setting

In commercial district

line of stores built ca. 1830-
1959.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Anne Forbes

Recorded by

for Concord Hist. Commission

Organization

June, 1992

Date (month/day/year)

CON.2

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

This building, which has been greatly changed over the years, was originally three stories high, with a mansard roof. Today it has been reduced to two stories, with a flat roof. The fenestration at street level is modern, but at the second story the original segmental-arched window openings remain. Four windows occupy the main facade, with a pair in the center. The trim over the second floor windows is brick; their sills are granite. Over the first story windows and doors the detailing is wood and sandstone.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☒ see continuation sheet

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.

The first block of Main Street, today still called "the Milldam," occupies the earliest true commercial center of Concord, where by the eighteenth century a bustling trade was carried on. Near the old mill on the Mill Brook that had begun grinding grain in 1639-40, artisans' shops, offices, and stores actually stood on the mill dam itself. In 1828 the Milldam Company was incorporated by a group of local entrepreneurs including Daniel Shattuck, Cyrus Stow, Ephraim Merriam, Abel Moore, John Keyes, and Nehemiah Ball. With a capital stock of \$20,000 they bought up the property on both sides of the dam, drained the pond, (which had developed great waste-disposal problems,) built a wide gravel road where the dam had stood, and sold lots for business buildings on both sides of the street. In the process, most of the former buildings were torn down; a few were moved to other locations. The Milldam Company constructed some buildings here itself; others were put up by individual owners, and several here today are later replacements. This first block of Main was called "Exchange Street" in the latter part of the nineteenth century. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1889, 1893, 1906. Sanborns from 1887.
Keyes/Tolman.
Concord directories.
Wheeler.
Concord Free Library photo file.
Concord Chronicle.

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD

Garty's Block

Massachusetts Historical Commission
No.
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form

2

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

This building was built by James Garty, and for years was known as "Garty's Block." The upper section was originally a large meeting hall, occupied first by the Masons, later by the Grand Army of the Republic, and in the early twentieth century by the Knights of Columbus and the Elks Club. In the presidential campaign of 1884 both upper floors were used for political headquarters, with the Democrats on the second and Republicans on the third. In the mid-1880's the building had a meat market at the east end and a millinery shop in the west part; by 1892 the latter had become a bakery. On the second floor at that time there was a restaurant, and on the third a skating rink. After the streetcar line was built at the turn of the century, the main waiting room at the center was located in this building. A fire destroyed some of the interior early in this century. By 1915 the second floor had been divided up into small areas, one of which was occupied by dentist Philip Flavin.

After James Garty, the building was owned for a short time (by 1889) by J.C. Friend, and later by blacksmith-turned auto mechanic Patrick W. White, who lived behind the building at #10 Lexington Road, and had his repair shop in what is today the rear parking lot.

CON-2

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

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JUL 15 1993

Community
CONCORD

Property Address
7 (9-13) Main Street

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Area(s)	FormNo.
	2

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 Anne McCarthy Forbes
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

In spite of the removal of its upper story, Garty's Block meets the criteria for listing on the National Register as part of a nineteenth- early-twentieth-century commercial district at Concord center. It is eligible under Criterion A for its role in the development of the town's commercial core, and under Criterion C for its distinct contribution to the architectural character of the Milldam. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, feeling and association.