

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.374
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Martell House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	15 Union St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Concord Center
<b>Local No:</b>	G10-345
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	c 1895
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Queen Anne
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	CON.X: Herringville
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Stone, Uncut



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

PO. CONCORD  
USGS CONCORD  
SEA-B

AREA

X

CON.374

FORM NO.

374



CONCORD

15 Union Street

S

Martell House

ic Name

dwelling

Present

dwelling

Original

PTION

ca. 1895-7

resident; maps

vernac. Queen Anne

unknown

Architect

clapboard

Exterior Wall Fabric

garage

Outbuildings

Major Alterations (with dates)

none

Condition

excellent

Moved

no

Date

N/A

Acreage

less than one acre

Setting

On small lot on

at corner of Union and Willow; in

neighborhood of late-19th- and

early-20th-century houses.

Recorded by

A. Forbes

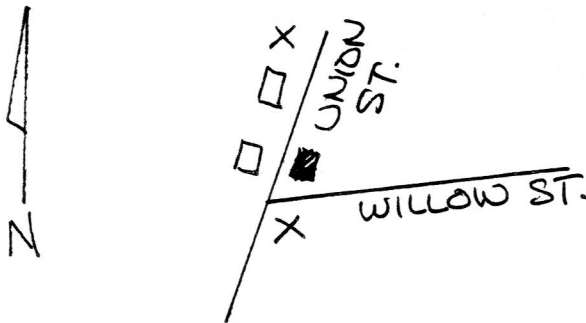
Organization

Research by Ted Shidler  
for Concord Hist. Comm.

Date

July, 1990

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE Parcel G10-345

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

This house is one of the most intact representatives of a little two-story Victorian house-type, examples of which are scattered throughout Concord center's turn-of-the-century neighborhoods. A companion house, in fact, stands just across the street at #14 Union Street. All of these houses are modest, with only minimal Italianate, or, as here, Queen Anne detailing at the entries or porches. The house's most distinguishing feature is the wide through-cornice gable at the center facade, which usually contains a paired window. Otherwise the facade is three-bay, with a center entry, here with a two-light glass-and-panel door. The eaves of these houses are unboxed, and the cornerboards are narrow. This particular house has a T-plan, with a central 2-story rear wing. The windows are 6-over-6-sash with plain surrounds; the foundation is the rubblestone just becoming popular in Concord in the 1890's.

For other examples, see upper Belknap Street and Davis Court.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

#15 was the first house built on the east side of Union Street, and it stands on land formerly owned by lumber-dealer and real-estate developer James B. Wood, who by 1893 had bought up the land both east and west of upper Hubbard Street. Wood died soon afterward, and much of his property was acquired by builders Andrew S. Lowden and Richard L. Wilson. They took over Wood's lumber yard west of the railroad tracks, eventually acquiring Benjamin Brown's former coal and grain business on Sudbury Road, and established the business that was to become, by 1918, Wilson Lumber Co. They set up their carpentry shop at the head of Willow Street just southwest of this house, and built several houses in the "Herringville" neighborhood. It is thus quite likely that they, (or A.S. Lowden alone,) were the builders of #15. The house was either built for members of the Martell family, or acquired by them shortly after it was built.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Garrellick and Bailey, Concord in the Days of Strawberries and Streetcars.  
Town directories.  
Maps and atlases: 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1909.  
Interview with resident, 1990.