

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.341
Historic Name:	Smith, Esther House
Common Name:	McDonald, Rev. Loren B. House - Colonial Inn
Address:	24 Lowell Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	H8-1298
Year Constructed:	c 1888
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Queen Anne
Use(s):	Hotel or Inn; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce
Area(s):	CON.A: Concord Monument Sq-Lexington Road Historic Dist. CON.DV: North Bridge - Monument Square Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/05/1973); Nat'l Register District (09/13/1977)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Asbestos Shingle; Wood Foundation: Ashlar Random Laid; Brick; Granite; Stone, Cut



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

Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Massachusetts Archives Building
 220 Morrissey Boulevard
 Boston, MA 02125

H8-1298

Concord

A DV

341

9/13/77
NR: DIS; LHD 3/5/73

Concord

Neighborhood or village)

Concord center

24 Lowell Road

Name Smith House

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Construction ca 1888

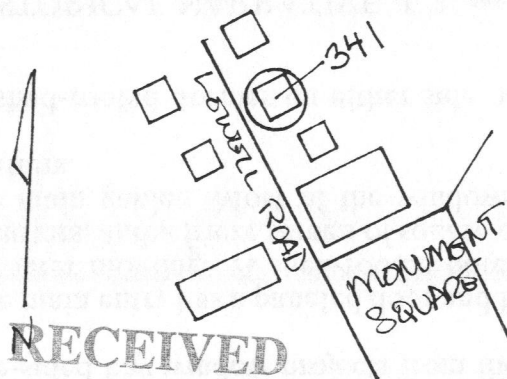
Maps; Tolman

Form Queen Anne vernacular

Architect/Builder unknown

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.



FEB 03 1997

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Recorded by Anne Forbes, consultant
 research by Anne Forbes and Ann Young
 Organization Concord Hist. Commission

Date 11/96

Exterior Material:

Foundation uncoursed granite block; brick at rear

Wall/Trim asbestos

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) siding

Condition fair

Moved [X]no []yes Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting On small, narrow lot near foot of

Lowell Rd. Low bushes in front

BUILDING FORM

CON. 341

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [] *see continuation sheet*

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

This house, though altered by twentieth-century asbestos siding, is a good representative of a simple, unadorned gable-end vernacular house from the Queen Anne era. It is 2 1/2-stories, two bays wide, with two 2-over-1-sash windows on the second story facade, and a wide, shallow polygonal bay window beside the side-hall entry at the first story. Characteristic of the Queen Anne, the bay forms the south corner of the house, with the second story projecting above it. Another shallow polygonal five-sided bay window projects from the southeast side of the building.

The main entry has a paneled door and four-pane sidelights, with a flat-board surround trimmed with an outer molding. A shed-roofed porch across the front of the house has heavy turned posts and balusters, and a frieze screen of square dowels. At attic level, a triple 3-over-1-sash window occupies the main gable. Most of the windows have molded surrounds, and what appear to be original shutters.

A shed-roofed dormer on either side of the roof may each represent a later alteration.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE [] *see continuation sheet*

Explain 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 house, one of the latest on the first block of Lowell Road, was built ca. 1888 for Esther Smith, the mother of Laura Smith Keyes, wife of John Maynard Keyes of 23 Monument Street (see Form.) It stands on what was once the back part of the lot associated with the westernmost part of the present Colonial Inn. Mr. Keyes bought some of the inn property, which had previously belonged for many years to Mrs. Louis Surette, at auction in 1889. He opened a hotel, the Thoreau House, in the first two buildings he bought, and, since this house appears on the map of 1889 before that purchase, this property may have been the first piece of the future inn land that he acquired. (See Form #298.)

Mrs. Smith may have lived here only briefly, until about 1891. In subsequent years she is shown as living in Cambridge, during which time the house was rented out to tenants. From at least 1892 through 1896 the occupant was Carroll Hutchins, a travel agent in Boston. According to Adams Tolman, in about 1919 the tenant was Horton Edmands, a newspaper reporter and later a clerk in Boston.

This house was purchased about 1920 by the **Rev. Loren B. McDonald**, pastor of the First Parish Church from 1895 until his death in 1924. He and his wife, Mary, had formerly lived at 46 Wood Street. Mrs. McDonald subsequently sold the house and managed a tea room in the Wright Tavern for about a year. In the 1960's the house was owned by the Grimes family, owners of the Colonial Inn. They converted it to a two-family house for longer-staying hotel guests. It passed out of inn ownership in 1988, but has recently been reacquired by the current inn owner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES [] *see continuation sheet*

Maps and Atlases: 1889, 1893, 1906. Sanborn maps: 1909, 1918, 1927.

Concord Directories and Assessor's Records.

Keyes/Tolman. "Houses in Concord."

Teele, ed. The Meetinghouse on the Green.

Young, Ann. Interview with former Colonial Inn owners. 1996.

[X] Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places*. *If checked, a completed National Register Criteria Statement form is attached.* *within NR district boundaries.