

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.29
Historic Name:	Torrey and Vialle Garage and Gas Station
Common Name:	
Address:	29-33 Walden St
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	Concord Center
Local No:	H9-836-7
Year Constructed:	1912
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	No style
Use(s):	Commercial Block; Gas Station or Service Station; Parking Garage
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Transportation
Area(s):	CON.DU: Main Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (03/12/1962)
Building Materials(s):	Wall: Brick; Cast Concrete; Wood Clapboard Foundation: Brick



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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

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

H9-836
-7

USGS Quad

CONCORD

Area(s)

Form Number

DU

29

CONCORD

SECT B

Town

(neighborhood or village)

Concord Center

29/31 Walden Street

33 Walden Street

Torrey & Vialle's

garage and filling station
commercial

Present

automobile garage;

Original car agency, gas station

1912-13; 1923; rear

of Construction sections late 19th C.

Tolman; Main Street

Historic District list
utilitarian

Form

unknown

ect/Builder

Exterior Material:

brick

Foundation

brick and clapboard

Wall/Trim

(not visible)

Roof

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

storefronts replaced

Condition

fair

Moved

X

no

yes

Date N/A

less than one acre

Acreage

Setting

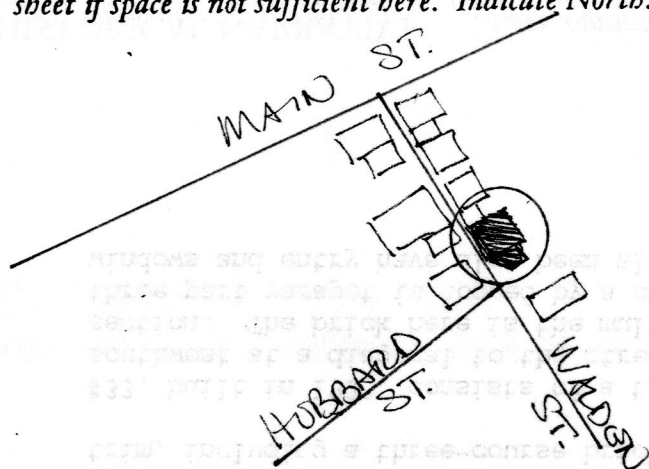
In commercial district,

in line of 19th-early 20th-century

store blocks of varying design.

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.



Recorded by

Anne Forbes

Organization

for Concord Hist. Commission

Date (month/day/year)

July, 1992

COW.29

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

The two parts of this one-story structure were built a decade apart, in 1912-13 and 1923. The earlier northern section, #29/31, is a deep one-story brick building with a flat roof with high parapet front. Its display windows were apparently replaced in the middle of this century, but some of the architectural trim, including a three-course brick cornice, remains.

#33, built in 1923, consists of a triangular brick front section which faces southwest at a diagonal to the street, and a clapboarded, wood-frame rear section. The brick here is the multi-hued type popular in the 1920's, and its three-part parapet is topped by a concrete cap with scroll accents. Its display windows and entry have also been altered.

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.

Along with #14-18 Walden Street, these two buildings are significant as the first constructed at Concord center for the automobile trade. In 1912-13 Albert Black, owner of Black's Block just to the west (#s 17-27 Walden Street,) tore down John Raymond's grain and feed store, (formerly Penniman's livery stable,) which had abutted the rear south wall of #27. In its place he built #29/31 as an automobile garage. The garage proprietors were Torrey & Vialle. The business was successful from the start, and they soon built the larger garage across the street at #14-18, keeping this building as an annex.

In 1923 the corner section, #33 Walden Street, was added, its rear section abutting a small wood-frame "horse-clipping shed", that remained from the former Penniman livery business. That building was used for a repair shop for some years, and demolished sometime between 1927 and 1942. #33 apparently functioned as the office for the Torrey & Vialle car agency, but it was also the office for Concord Center's first filling station, which had its pumps located back from the street just south of the building--hence the diagonal position of the facade. Further research will be necessary to provide information about Mr. Torrey; G. Walter Vialle, (cf. #414 Main Street,) who died in 1943, was an auto dealer here at the center for over thirty years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Keyes/Tolman.
Concord directories.
Maps and atlases: Sanborn maps from 1918.
Street list, Main Street Historic District

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