Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No: CON.106

Historic Name: Garty, James House

Common Name:

Address: 60 Middle St

City/Town: Concord

Village/Neighborhood: Concord Center

Local No:

Year Constructed: 1852

Architect(s):

Architectural Style(s): Greek Revival; Italianate

Use(s): Single Family Dwelling House
Significance: Agriculture; Architecture

Area(s):

Designation(s):

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Building Materials(s): Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard

Foundation: 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

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AREA

FORM NO.

106

MASSACHUSETTS	HISTORICAL	COMMISSION
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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).

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Recorded by A. Forbes

Date ..

Research by Cathie Sur

Organization for Concord Hist. Comm.

July, 1990

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

For its association with the late nineteenth-century residential development of Concord center, and as a well-preserved example of the architecture of its time, this house meets Criteria A and C as part of a National Register district encompassing a town center of 17th- through early 20th-century buildings.

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

Standing by 1856, this house appears to be the second oldest on Middle Street. It is basically a simple 2 1/2-story gable-and-wing Greek Revival building, but its glass-and-panel door with shaped lights, and window- and eave-bracketing are probably alterations of the 1880's. The windows are 6-over-6-sash, very large in scale at the first story. Like some other 1850's Greek Revival houses in the neighborhood, (see e.g. 46 and 49 Sudbury Road,) the eaves are unboxed. The foundation is dressed granite.

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

Middle Street was laid out in 1850. It extended from Academy Lane, (also called both School Street and Cross Street,) to the one-block section of today's Thoreau Street that had been built in front of the Fitchburg Railroad depot. Henry Thoreau made the first plan of the street, showing its division into house lots. Later in the nineteenth century it was called Centre Street; the name was changed by the early part of this century.

#60 is one of the few houses in the neighborhood to have remained in the same family for over half a century. It was built for James Garty, a mason, (according to Keyes,) who was a three-term road commissioner, serving from 1886 to 1896, as chairman for much of that time. During the Civil War he had a government contract that involved timber for ships, and was later a western railroad representative. He was retired by 1885, and established a vineyard and a hothouse, (the present garage,) on the property. He died in about 1900, and his widow, Ellen Garty, lived here until at least 1915. Their son, William, is shown living here in 1905-6; he is listed as a contractor, but was also a freight agent for the C.B. & Q. Railroad. It appears that he had moved from Concord by 1915, but that his widow and her brother, "Mr. Hines", occupied the house in 1930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Walcott. "Concord Roads." 1938.

Keyes.

Town directories.

Maps, plans, and atlases: 1856, 1875, 1889, 1893, 1906; Sanborns from 1903.