

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	CON.148
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Foss, Augusta Clark Giles House
<b>Common Name:</b>	Concord Assabet Adolescent Services, Inc.
<b>Address:</b>	148 Walden St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Concord
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Concord Center
<b>Local No:</b>	H9-125-1
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	r 1895
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Queen Anne
<b>Use(s):</b>	Multiple Family Dwelling House; Other Cultural; Other Medical; Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Slate Wall: Glass; Synthetic Other; Wood 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)

This file was accessed on: Friday, October 30, 2020 at 1:50: PM

CON. 148

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H9-125-1

CONCORD

148

RECEIVED

NOV 17 1992

Town CONCORD SECT B

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Concord Center PP

148 Walden Street

ic Name Mrs. Frank Foss House

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

of Construction mid-1890's

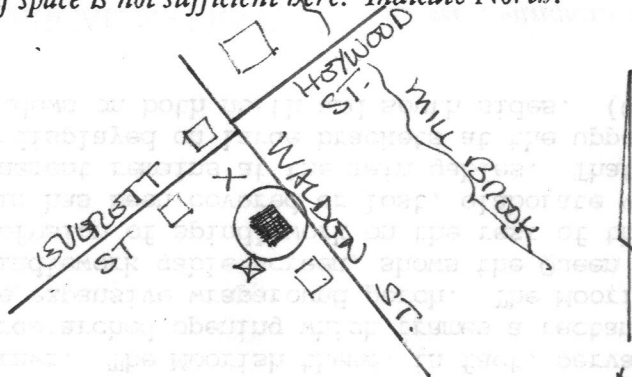
Form Tolman; maps;  
visual assessment  
Queen Anne

ect/Builder unknown

or Material: \_\_\_\_\_

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.



Foundation rubble

Wall/Trim synthetic siding

Roof slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

garage/cottage

Major Alterations (with dates) mid-late  
20th C: dormers changed to louvred  
sunporches; some window replacement,  
some trim elements lost.

Condition fair

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting On small lot, opposite meadow,  
woods, and brook. Rebuilt Victorian  
house to north. In area of 18th- to  
20th-century houses.

Recorded by Anne Forbes  
research by Ann Young

Organization for Concord Historical Commission  
June, 1992

Date (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_

# BUILDING FORM

CON. 148

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

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

Although somewhat altered by synthetic siding, window replacement, and some changes in dormers or balconies, this building is significant as the only example in Concord center of this type of large, rambling Queen Anne house. 2 1/2-stories, it has a high pyramidal slate roof that is animated by a central chimney and a myriad of cross-gabled bays and wings, dormers, and shed-roofed former balconies (now enclosed.) A major focal point is the Moorish octagonal turret at the southeast corner. The Moorish theme, in fact, pervades the building, appearing again in a large arched opening which frames a rectangular bay window at the northeast end of the expansive wraparound porch. The Moorish arch, with its trellised infill and spindlework gable screen, shows the Queen Anne love of lavish detail, as does the profusion of spindlework on the rest of the porch. Although most window and corner trim has been covered or lost, elaborate verge-board with pierced and applied ornament remains at the main gables. That universal Queen Anne motif, the sunburst, is displayed on large brackets at the upper, undercut corners of polygonal bay windows on both north and south sides. (Cont.)

## 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.*

According to Tolman, this house was built by Mrs. Augusta Clark Giles Foss. The widow of Daniel Giles of #170 Walden Street, she was re-married, to Frank E. Foss, in 1891. Although they made their home in this new house, they retained #170, and acquired #174 and #184-190, along with the old farm that stretched southeast to the edge of the Poor Farm. Mr. Foss died in about 1911-12, and Mrs. Foss continued to live here for several years thereafter. Early in this century she sold off and subdivided much of her former land holdings, and in the 1920's she developed the house lots along the lower section of Laurel Street.

Further research will be necessary to discover the next owners of the property. In 1962 the house became known as the inspiration for Jane Langton's children's book, The Diamond in the Window, with the house depicted on the cover. In 1979 it was bought by the Concord Assabet Adolescent Services, Inc., a non-profit organization for teenagers.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Maps, atlases: 1906.  
Keyes/Tolman.  
Town directories and tax files.  
Concord Vital Records.  
Joslin.

☐ 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

CONCORDMrs. Frank Foss House

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

148

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

The windows show the variety of size, shape, and type that is typical of the Queen Anne. Most are multi-pane over single-sash; a pair of stained glass windows with diamond and lozenge panes appears on the facade. The two facade entries have glass-and-panel doors with a single large light and horizontal and vertical paneling.



FORM B - STRUCTURE SURVEY  
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

1. Is this structure historically significant to:  
Town      Commonwealth      Nation

Structure has historical connection with the following themes: (See also reverse side)

Agriculture	Commerce/Industry
Architecture	Science/Invention
Art/Sculpture	Travel/Communication
Education	Military Affairs
Government	Religion/Philosophy
Literature	Indians
Music	Development of Town/City

2. Town Concord

Street 148 Walden

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Original Use Dwelling

Present Use \_\_\_\_\_

Present Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Date very early 20th <sup>earlier</sup> Style (Richardsonian)  
c. 1905 X Queen Anne  
post central heating

Source of Date aw guess

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered \_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANCE of site to area: Great Little None SITE endangered by \_\_\_\_\_

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: fieldstone

WALL COVER: Wood clapboard Brick Stone Other \_\_\_\_\_

STORIES: 1 2 / 3 4 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Cluster Elaborate Irregular

ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed Dependency \_\_\_\_\_ Simple/Complex

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Portico Balcony semi recessed veranda Recessed \_\_\_\_\_

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard primarily hipped intersected by ridge  
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork \_\_\_\_\_

FACADE: Gable End: Front/Side Symmetrical/Asymmetrical Simple/Complex Ornament

Entrance: Front/Side Centered Double Features: also side - simple doors recessed behind  
veranda?

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Obscured partially obscured

OUTBUILDINGS \_\_\_\_\_ LANDSCAPING natural landscaping

5. Indicate location of structure on map below

6. Footage of structure from street 25'

Property has \_\_\_\_\_ feet frontage on street

Recorder \_\_\_\_\_

For \_\_\_\_\_

Photo IV-10  
68 481 5.09.065.1. III

NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form. (See Reverse Side)

FOR USE WITH IMPORTANT STRUCTURES (Indicate any interior features of note)

Fireplace

Stairway

Other

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

Later note: unique architecturally to the town!

Architecturally this is the only example of this style in an area which is predominately 18 to early or mid-19<sup>th</sup> C. Just outside both the Main St + Americanville historic districts, this is important to list as view from Lexington down Heywood to Walden includes this building (vacant land between Lexington + Walden).

(It is new Concord, I'd include it in H.D. because of uniqueness)

Magnificent! ESW

"Diamond in the Window" by Jane Langton, uses this house as its setting

REFERENCE (Where was this information obtained? What book, records, etc.)

# BIBLIOGRAPHY



Original Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Deed Information: Book Number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Registry of Deeds