Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No: CON.150

Historic Name: Derby, Nathan House

Common Name:

Address: 174 Walden St

City/Town: Concord

Village/Neighborhood: Concord Center

Local No: H9-236 Year Constructed: r 1835

Architect(s):

Architectural Style(s): Second Empire

Use(s): Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House; Workers

Housing

Significance: Agriculture; Architecture; Industry

Area(s):

Designation(s):

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Building Materials(s): Wall: Wood; 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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Pl. CONCORD

FORM NO.

150

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 80 BOYLSTON STREET BOSTON, MA 02116



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

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SCALE	or were additioned the first		

36	CONCORD
ess	174 Walden Street
oric Name	Nathan Derby cottage
Present	dwelling
Original	
	830's and later maps, construction
е	Mansard cottage
itect	unknown
	ricclapboard
Outbuildings	garage
Major Alterations	(with dates)
1-story addition	n at rear1981
Condition	excellent

Moved	no Date N/A		
Acreage _	less than one acre		
Setting	Opposite woods and		
fields,	in neighborhood of 18th- and		
19th-century houses			

Recorded by _	A. Forbes
Organization	Research by Mary Chapman for Concord Hist. Comm.
Date	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.

Although portions of this house appear to date to ca. 1830-40, it is significant today as one of Concord center's most intact examples of the little Mansard cottage, a modest derivative of the Second Empire style which was fashionable largely from the 1860's through the early '70's. In addition to its style, the brick foundation, which is typical of the 1870's-80's, points to a major rebuilding at that time.

The roof is particularly high for a mansard, with one chimney. The windows are 2-over-2-sash, with molded surrounds; the dormers are flat-roofed. The main entry has a double-leaf, glass-and-panel door with frosted glass, sheltered by a vestibule. The facade veranda, with spindle-work posts, was added after 1921.

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

Although assessor's records, along with framing evidence and the presence of a beehive oven point to a date of ca. 1830-40 for at least part this little house, it is today significant as an example of a type of cottage occupied by farm- and slaughterhouse workers in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Its small lot was originally part of the 17th-century Billings farm, (later the Heywood Farm--see 188 Walden Street,) which was bought by 1852 by John Bent, who farmed the land until about the mid-'50's. Although the 1856 map shows the farm under the name of Clark, it was soon purchased by Nathan Derby, a butcher who ran a slaughterhouse on the property. He appears to have operated a fairly large business, which included general provisions, dairy products, and eggs, with partners, (the company was Derby and Smith in 1875,) salesmen, and other workmen living in at least three houses on the premises. According to Keyes, #174 is the small cottage "fitted up" both for tenants and Derby's workers, probably ca. 1870, a date that would correspond with the style of the house. The property passed to Nathan Derby's brother, Benjamin, in 1896, who sold this house and lot to Augusta Foss, (the Foss family owned the property just to the west,) in 1899. From 1916 to 1921 it was the property of C. Frances Keese, who sold it to Annie M. Hayes, who owned the property until her death in 1961.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Deed research.
Town directories.
Maps, plans, and atlases: 1852, 1856, 1875, 1889.
Keyes, II/290-1.
Wheeler. Concord, Climate for Freedom.