

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.1798
Historic Name:	deForest, Dr. Gideon K. House
Common Name:	
Address:	315 Garfield Rd
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	G14-3461-1,2
Year Constructed:	1935
Architect(s):	Shaw, Thomas Mott
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial Revival
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle 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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Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Massachusetts Archives Building
 220 Morrissey Boulevard
 Boston, Massachusetts 02125

G14-

3461-1,
3461-2

Concord

1798

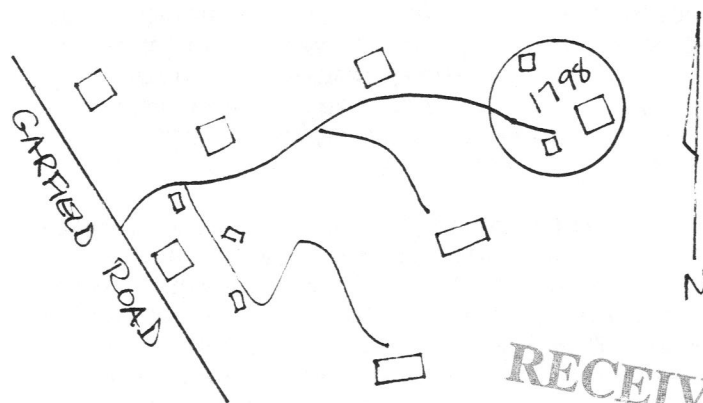
Town Concord

(neighborhood or village) _____

Address 315 Garfield RoadHistoric Name Isabel and Gideon deForest HousePresent dwellingOriginal dwellingDate of Construction 1935-1936Source deeds; directoriesStyle/Form Colonial Revival/CraftsmanArchitect/Builder Thomas Mott Shaw

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.



Exterior Material:

Foundation small-scale granite blockWall/Trim wood clapboardRoof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

small clapboard barn--moved 1980's;2-car garageMajor Alterations (with dates) 1960's: sheddormer over SW garage; 1988-89: garage converted to kitchen, exterior chimney added;former north kitchen converted to master bedroom.Condition goodMoved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/AAcreage 2.94 acresSetting Set back on long drive in grassed andwooded setting, w. swimming pool; circulardrive in front. Shaw estate to west.Recorded by Anne Forbes, consultant

research by Karen McQuillan

Organization Concord Hist. CommissionDate 11/96

RECEIVED

FEB 03 1997

BUILDING FORM

CON. 1798

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

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

In contrast to the 1909-1910 Tudor/Cotswold/Craftsman stucco buildings on the main part of the Shaw estate, the 1 1/2-story cottage that Thomas Mott Shaw designed for his daughter in the mid-1930's, though retaining some of the simplicity of the Craftsman approach, illustrates a subdued use of his later Colonial Revival style. Although the main, central section of the house has a steeply-pitched, front-facing gable that is reminiscent of his earlier English sources, the clapboard siding, pilastered entry, cross-gabled north wing with a diminutive pair of gabled dormers, and a gambrel-roofed section extending to the south are more consistent with a New England tradition. An open veranda along the wing, on square posts, with a square-dowel balustrade, has the same association. Projecting forward from the south section is a large cross-gabled former garage, possibly a mid-century addition, that has been converted to a kitchen.

The main, side-hall entry in the central section has a 6-panel door with a surround of flat pilasters, and a molded, projecting lintel. A second door in the facade of the north wing has nine glass lights over four panels. The original windows of the house are 6-over-6-sash with flat surrounds; those in the dormers are 4-over-4-sash. The house has narrow cornerboards and a shallow, molded and boxed cornice trimmed with a bed molding below; there is no roof overhang at the gable ends, which are trimmed with a molding along the rakeboards.

Thomas Mott Shaw (1878-1965) received his diploma from l'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris in 1905. On his return to the United States he worked for a few years as a draftsman for Guy Lowell in Boston before opening his own office in 1908. In 1919 he entered a partnership with Andrew Hepburn, another Concord resident (see Form #241 [NR]-8 Barrett's Mill Road), which became Perry, Shaw, & Hepburn in 1923 with the addition of William Graves Perry. The firm is best known for its twenty-year role in the design and restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, VA, beginning in 1928. Shaw himself designed many buildings over his long career, including several early-twentieth-century buildings at Harvard and Brown Universities, and specialized in restorations and additions to historic buildings.

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.

Along with the surviving buildings at 297, 309, 317, and 345 Garfield Road, (see Forms 295, 296, and 297 [NR]), 315 Garfield Road is significant as part of the Shaw family compound designed by architect Thomas Mott Shaw on 108 acres of land from Garfield Road to the Sudbury River between 1909 and the late 1930's. Over that period, three generations of the Shaw family established homes on the property. In 1909, architect and designer George Russell Shaw gave his son, Thomas Mott Shaw, his first major commission when he asked him to design the "twin" houses at 317 and 319 Garfield Road and a third at 345. George Shaw and his wife originally lived at 317, Thomas and his family at 319, and Thomas's sister, Isabel Shaw Lowell and her husband at 345.

#315 represents the third generation of the family. It was designed by Thomas Mott Shaw in 1935 for his own daughter, Isabel, and her husband, Dr. Gideon K. deForest, apparently as a wedding present. (As newlyweds, they had formerly lived in Connecticut and on River Street in Concord.)

Either Dr. deForest died, or he and his wife were divorced, sometime before 1946. In that year Isabel is listed as Isabel J. Rowe (Mrs. H. Livingston Rowe), and was apparently living alone in the house. She left Concord sometime afterward; in 1954 she was living in Rye, New York.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Concord Assessor's Records.

Concord Directories.

Concord Free Library: obituary files.

National Register nomination for Thomas Mott Shaw Estate, Concord, 1987.

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, a completed National Register Criteria Statement form is attached.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community

Property Address

Concord

315 Garfield Road

Area(s)

Form No(s).
1798

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Individually eligible ☒ Eligible only in a historic district
☒ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by Anne Forbes
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The deForest House meets Criteria A and C of the National Register as a contributing part of the family compound designed by architect Thomas Mott Shaw beginning in 1909. It meets Criterion A ~~for~~ as a representative of the third generation of the Shaw family to establish homes on the 108-acre parcel originally purchased by George Russell Shaw. As an illustration of the later, Colonial Revival work of Thomas Mott Shaw after he and the firm of Perry, Shaw, and Hepburn had embarked on their twenty-year involvement in the design of Colonial Williamsburg, it also meets Criterion C.

The property retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.