

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

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

(see attached map)

UTM REFERENCE 19 316780 4620900
USGS QUADRANGLE Fall River, MA:R.I. 1967-79
SCALE 1:25,000

JAN 02 1990

AREA	FORM NO.
F	142

Town Swansea, Mass. MRA
SWANSEA

Address 1129 Gardner's Neck Road

Historic Name Francis L. Gardner

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date 1903

Source Assessors' Records

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Edward I. Marvell

Exterior Wall Fabric Stained shingles

Outbuildings 3-car garage with back workshop

Major Alterations (with dates) Railing about
upper deck removed c. 1950. (at rear)

Condition Excellent with original fabric
intact.

Moved No Date

Acreage One acre or less

Setting Situated on an open flat lot,
this substantial house is well sited in a
prominent neighborhood.

Recorded by Kay Flynn/Ruth Waring, May 1978

Organization Swansea Historical Commission

Date January 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Francis L. Gardner House, 1129 Gardner's Neck Road, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling. It meets criterion A in its association with community development from market gardens to suburbia, and Criterion C as a well-preserved architect-designed Colonial Revival house in early 20th-century Swansea. The house is significant on the local level.

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

This substantial, though not elaborate, Colonial Revival house built in 1903 was designed by a prominent Fall River architect, Edward I. Marvell. The characteristic features of this 2-1/2-story, 3-bay Colonial Revival are its hipped roof with full-width, one-story porch, square plan, two brick chimneys with Tudor Revival design, paned windows in the hipped dormers, 2-story side bay window, and decorative tracery above some of the one-over-one light windows.

The interior has the original oak panelling; oak staircase with carved newel post; oak fireplace with Italian marble tiles. There are leaded glass panels by and over the front door.

The exterior of the house is unchanged except for the removal of the railing on the upper deck of the house. It has been carefully maintained by its present owner and stands as an excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture.

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

This house was built on the site of a large old farmhouse, the home of Leland Gardner, a descendant of the original purchaser of Gardner's Neck. Leland Gardner conducted extensive market gardening on the large farm. The greenhouses used for the propagation of the plants contain fifty thousand square feet of glass. The produce was mainly celery, tomatoes, and cucumbers. Much of it was shipped each evening on the famous Fall River Line boats to New York City where it was served in the best hotels. Mr. Gardner's sons Francis and Chester, continued this thriving business until about 1925 after which much of the property was sold for home sites. The greenhouses have been demolished.

Francis L. Gardner, son of Leland Gardner, had this house designed and built in 1903. It is typical of the more substantial type of development that was being built in the affluent areas in Swansea. The town was evolving from an agricultural to suburban town. F.L. Gardner was a town selectman for many years.

Market gardening occurred in scattered locations in Swansea during the first decade of the 20th century. In addition to F. L. Gardner & Co., other market gardeners were established at Hortonville and Touisset. The Gardner family business appears to have been the only one of its kind operating on the Neck at a time when the area suburban development was flourishing.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessors' records, Swansea, MA.

The Stage Coach, 1976.

Town Reports.

Helen Pierce Interview, 2/88.

1908 Somerset directory (includes Swansea).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Swansea MRA
Bristol County, MASSACHUSETTS

Date Listed

11. First Baptist Church and Society

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

12. Gardner, Francis L., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

13. Gardner, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

14. Gardner, Preserved, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

15. Gardner, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

16. Hooper House

~~Substantive Review~~Keeper Beth L. Sarge 8/8/90

Attest _____

17. Hortonville Historic District

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

18. Johnson, J. V., House

~~Substantive Review~~Keeper Beth L. Sarge 8/8/90

Attest _____

19. Luther House

Substantive Review

Keeper Beth L. Sarge 8/8/90

Attest _____

20. Luther's Corner

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/16/90

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gardner, Francis L., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Swansea MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Bristol

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/13/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/02/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/16/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000077

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 2/16/90 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



Francis Gardner House (MHC # F142)
1129 Gardner's Neck Road
Swausea, Mass. MRA

1986

View NW

1129 Gardner's Neck Rd



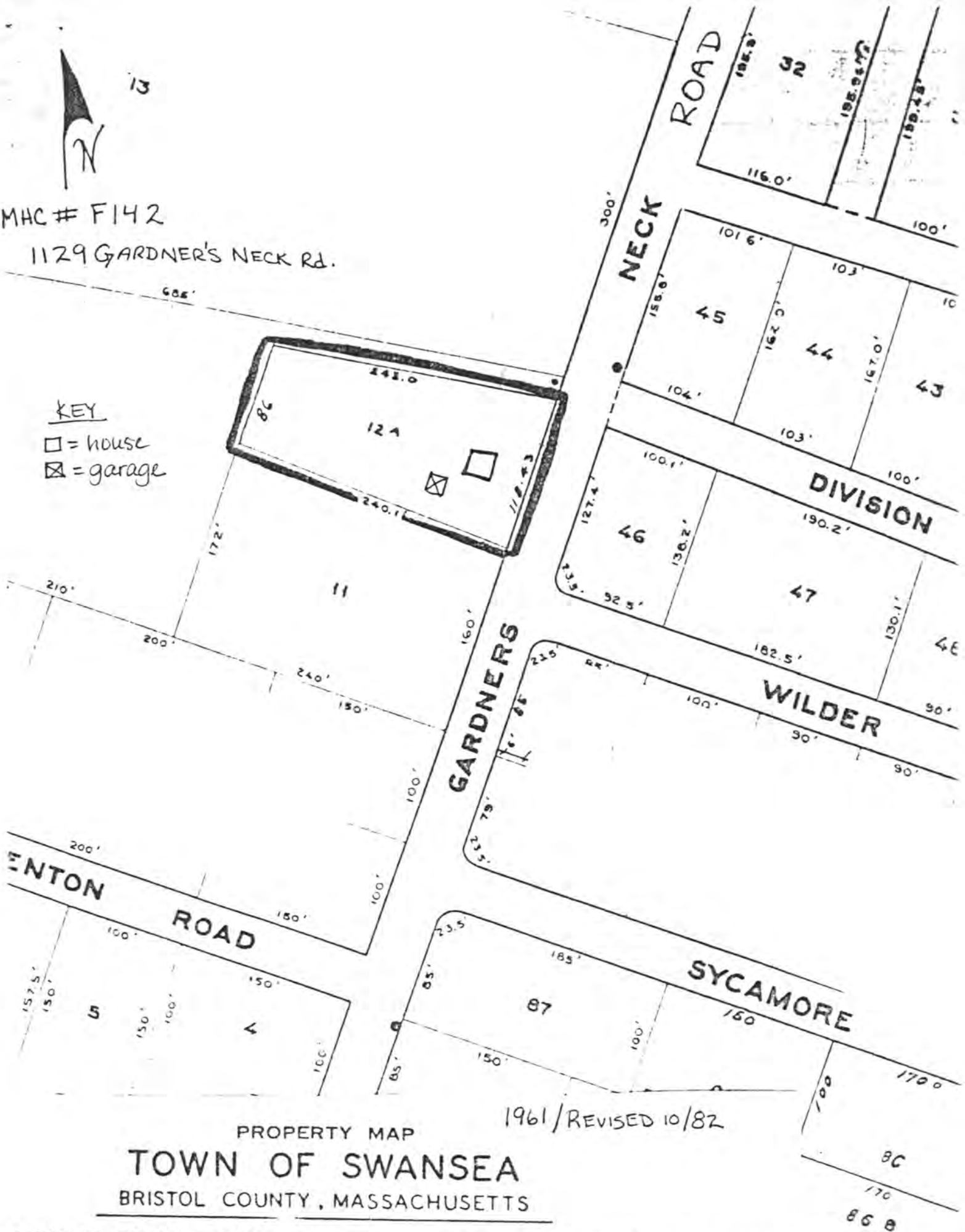
MHC # F142

1129 GARDNER'S NECK RD.

KEY

□ = house

⊠ = garage



PROPERTY MAP

TOWN OF SWANSEA

BRISTOL COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

AMES W. SEWALL COMPTON

SCALE 1 INCH = 100'

OLD TOWN, MAINE

FOR ASSESSING PURPOSES ONLY

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Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000296