

MAY 22 1989

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791

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

215

Winchester, MA, MRA

Town WinchesterAddress 5 Myrtle StreetHistoric Name O.W. Gardner HouseUse: Present dwellingOriginal dwelling

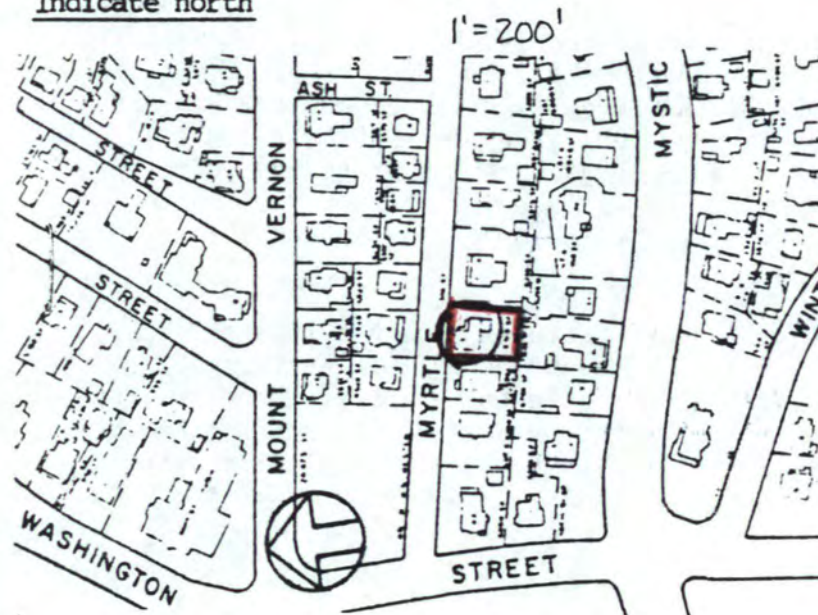
DESCRIPTION

Date c1840Source historic maps; styleStyle Gothic RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) porchadded c1889Condition excellentMoved from site of
Town Hall Date 1889Acreage .13A / 5,756sq / 04-0163Setting tightly developed residentialneighborhood directly east ofdowntown commercial areaRecorded by Carol ElvOrganization Winchester Historical Comm.Date 1/79; 10/87 revised by C. Jenkins

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

UTM REFERENCE 19.324600, 47 01970USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON, MASSSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The O.W Gardner House possesses integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations. It is significant as an exceptionally well conceived and preserved example of the Gothic Revival style, featuring steeply pitched gables trimmed with fanciful scroll-sawn vergeboards, acorn-shaped drops, and lancet windows in some of the gables. As one of the finest representations of the Gothic Revival style in a town noted for its numerous examples of this generally rare style (see forms #230, 171, 172, 443, 429, 276, 232), it meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places. Its move from the town hall (NR: 3/83) site in 1889 has not effected its architectural significance.

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

The Gardner House is a 1½ story, wood-frame dwelling sheathed with clapboards and enclosed by a steeply pitched gable roof with cross gables. It is built on the innovative sidehall plan introduced in the 1830s and 1840s and used until the end of the century. As is the case with many of these other small-scale houses, it is extended by a one story wing. The house displays many of the hallmark features associated with the Gothic Revival style including elaborate scroll-sawn vergeboards, acorn drops, grooved cornerboards, and windows headed by label moldings, and in some cases, pointed arches. Windows generally retain original 6/6 sash. The main entry is simple detailed with sidelights and a gabled hood with its own miniature vergeboard. A second entry with sidelights provides access to the wing. The only alteration to the house, and one which is in keeping with its overall spirit of design, is a Queen Anne style porch that wraps around the wing and was probably added around the time the house was moved in 1889.

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 is one of a pair that once stood on the triangle formed by Washington Street, Main Street and Mt. Vernon Street (see Winchester Center H.D.; NR 1987). It was owned by Oliver W. Gardner while its twin (no longer extant) was owned by Alexis Cutting. Stylistic evidence along with historic maps indicate a construction date of c1840 for both. In 1887 when the town voted to locate its new Town Hall on the site, the Gardner House was moved to its present site on Myrtle Street which was then a rapidly developing residential area. At the same time the house was sold to Charles H. and Abbey Dunham who retained ownership until 1940. The Cutting House remained on the site and was used by the American Legion and later the Red Cross until it was demolished in 1968 to allow for expansion of the Winchester Library.

In addition to its architectural significance, the house reflects a development pattern typical of many Massachusetts communities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Town centers, originally characterized by an eclectic mix of uses were increasingly given over to commercial and institutional uses and became ringed by residential neighborhoods. The moving of the Gardner House in 1887 to make way for a town hall clearly illustrates this pattern.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Chapman, Henry, Smith. History of Winchester, Mass. 1936.
Winchester Archival Center resources.

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

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Winchester MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 21. Gardner, O.W. House | Entered in the
National Register | f Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 22. Ginn Gardener's House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 23. Grover, Henry, House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 24. Hovey--Winn House | Entered in the
National Register | f Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 25. Hutchinson--Blood House | Entered in the
National Register | f Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 26. Johnson--Thompson House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 27. Jones, Marshall W., House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 28. Locke, Asa, House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 29. Mann, James H., House | Entered in the
National Register | ✓ Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |
| 30. Mason, John, House | Entered in the
National Register | f Keeper <u>Shelous Byers 7/5/89</u>
Attest _____ |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gardner, O. W., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Winchester MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/22/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/13/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/29/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/06/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000791

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 7/5/89 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
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Gardner^{On} House
5 Myrtle Street
Winchester MA MRA

1/88

MHC Inv. # 215

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000303