

JAN 02 1990

61

AREA

FORM NO.

110

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)

Town Swansea, Mass. MRA
SWANSEA

Address 90 Milford Road

Historic Name Preserved Gardner House

Use: Present Town of Swansea--Memorial Park & Veterans Benefits Dept.

Original farmstead

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1820

Source visual analysis

Style Federal

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings barn (ca. 1890)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

rear and side ell, porches (late 19th cent.)

Condition good

Moved no Date ---

approximately 2 acres (nominated);
Acreage total property 29½ acres

Setting On a main road with moderate

setback. Later wood post fence (ca. 1970)

at street edge of property. Scattered

residential development surrounding.

Recorded by K. Flynn/K. Valente/K. Broomer

Organization Swansea Historical Commission

Date May 1988/November 1989

UTM REFERENCE 19 317120 4624250

USGS QUADRANGLE Somerset, MA 1987

SCALE 1:25000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Preserved Gardner House, 90 Milford Road, retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association and meets Criteria A and C on the local level. A typical example of an early 19th-century farmhouse that evolved over the years into a summer home, 90 Milford Road is also significant for its association with the locally prominent Gardner family of Swansea.

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

Typical of the dispersed Swansea farmstead in its setting, 90 Milford Road is a 2½-story gabled house with 5-bay, center-entry facade and double-pile plan with double interior chimneys. The recessed entry is flanked by three-quarter sidelights and pilasters with Greek key motifs carrying a plain entablature. Other period details include fluted cornerboards and some 12/12 sash in 2nd-story windows. Late 19th-century additions, which are likely attributed to a change in ownership at that time, include the wrap porch with Doric columns and roofline balustrade, corresponding one-bay entry porch on the east elevation, two-story rear ell and one-story east ell, and 2/2 sash in first floor windows.

Immediately east of the house is a 1½-story gabled barn (ca. 1890) with shingled infill in the gable end and vertical board siding below. Approximately 50 yards west of the house on the same lot, tennis and basketball courts and other public recreational facilities have

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

Arch. Sig. (cont'd): been constructed in recent decades. The house and barn constitute the extent of the nominated property.

This house was built by Preserved Gardner, one of the five sons of Peleg Gardner, descendant of the purchaser of Gardner's Neck. Ira Gardner, son of Preserved, inherited the farm which extended from Milford Rd. south to the Cole's River. He sold to the town the large tract east of the house known as Mount Hope Cemetery. Later the farm was purchased by Thomas D. Cove of Fall River who operated it as a gentleman's farm and made the house his summer home. After World War II the town purchased the property to be used by the town as VeteransMem. Park. This house reflects the increasing financial successes experienced by the Gardners after the family's modest 18th-century beginnings in single-story capes farther south on Gardner's Neck. The house also illustrates an established pattern of building usage in Swansea, whereby the early farmhouses were given over to use as summer homes during the local boom in seasonal residential development in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Prior to the late 19th-century construction of the streetcar line along the present path of U. S. Route 6, Milford Road was part of a primary interior route from Swansea to Warren, Rhode Island connecting Swasey's Corner east of this house to Luther's Corner to the southwest. The present intersection of Milford Road and Oak Street (Route 118) near Route 6 west of the Gardner House was known as Gardner's Crossing.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Swansea Town Records.
Wright. History of Swansea. 1917.
1895 atlas of Bristol County.
Mrs. Helen Pierce, interview, 11/89.

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 Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

12. Gardner, Francis L., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

13. Gardner, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

14. Gardner, Preserved, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

15. Gardner, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

16. Hooper House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

for *Betty L. Sarge 8/8/90*

Attest _____

17. Hortonville Historic District

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 2/16/90*

Attest _____

18. Johnson, J. V., House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

for *Betty L. Sarge 8/8/90*

Attest _____

19. Luther House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

for *Betty L. Sarge 8/8/90*

Attest _____

20. Luther's Corner

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

for *William Byars 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, Preserved, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Swansea MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Bristol

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/18/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/02/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/16/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000061

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
 UTMs boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



90 Milford
Swansea, MA

Preserved Gardner House (MHC #110)

90 Milford Road
Swansea, Mass. MRA

1988

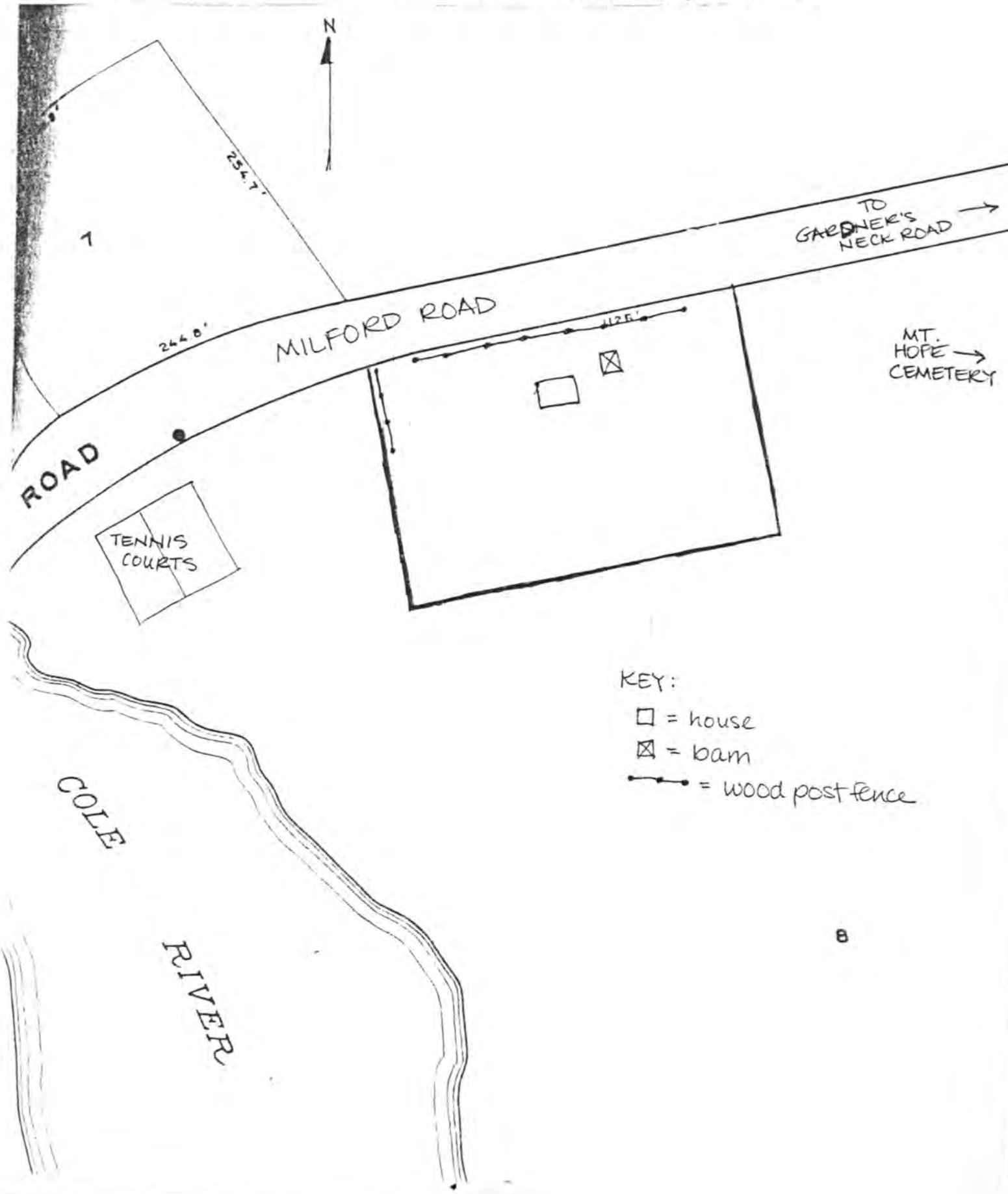
View SW.

TOWN OF SWANSEA 1961
BRISTOL COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS REVISED 10/82

JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY
SCALE 1 INCH = 100 ± FEET

OLD TOWN, MAINE
FOR ASSESSING PURPOSES ONLY

74



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000296