

India Street Neighborhood Study
Gorham Macy House
also known as the Holland House
39 India Street
Nantucket
Nantucket County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MASS-1043

HABS
MASS
10-NANT
75D-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

INDIA STREET NEIGHBORHOOD STUDY
 GORHAM MACY HOUSE
 also known as the Holland House

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Location: 39 India Street (on north side), Nantucket,
 Massachusetts.

Present Owner: Ruth D. Hardie

Present Occupant: Ruth D. Hardie

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement
 of Significance: Example of vernacular Greek revival domestic
 architecture; part of the India Street Neighborhood
 Study (MASS-1013).

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners:

- 1835 -- Gorham Macy bought land from Philip H. Folger
 for \$500.
- 1839 -- George C. Macy by deed from his father, Gorham
 Macy for \$2500.
- 1861 -- William H. Skinner bought from George C. Macy for
 \$400.
- 1882 -- Mary E. Mattocks inherited from her father, William
 H. Skinner.
- 1891 -- Susan W. Tracy bought from Mary E. Mattocks of Lyndon,
 Vermont, for \$1000.
- 1897 -- Edmund B. Fox from Susan W. Tracy.
- 1901 -- William Holland bought from Edmund B. Fox.
- 1902 -- Annie B. Holland by deed from William Holland.
- 1914 -- Ida H. Folger from Annie B. Holland.
- 1929 -- Nathan B. and Mae W. Rogers from Ida H. Folger.
- 1970 to date -- Ruth D. Hardie from Estate of Mae W. Rogers
 (Nathan B. Rogers also being deceased).
 (Abstract: Records at Registry of Deeds, Nantucket,
 Massachusetts.)

2. Date of erection: c. 1836. (Abstract: Book 35, Page 294
 and Book 40, Page 5, at Registry Deeds, Nantucket, Mass.)

3. Architect: None.

4. Original plans, construction, etc.: House was built with an
 unusually high basement, possibly because of the dampness in

this area. Unlike others on the north side of India Street, the gable end faces the street, design influenced by the Greek revival style in vogue at this time.

5. Notes on alterations and additions: Little changed with the exception of shed ells which have been added at the rear. There is now one chimney on the west side; another may have been on the east side originally.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

It would appear that Corham Macy built this house for his son George C. Macy, who bought it from his father a few years later when he married Ann Crosby in 1839. The Macys owned it until 1861 when it sold for only \$400. due perhaps to hard times brought about by the Civil War.

This property is located in that area originally described as the Third Squadron of Wesco Acre Lots. India Street in the early 1800's was largely occupied by the wealthier families, many of whom derived large profit from the East India trade as well as from whaling. According to the Portfolio, written in 1811, it was first called India Row; later it became Pearl Street and still later the name was changed back to India Street. Westminster Street to the north of India Street was formerly called Clay Lane, and Micah's Pond extended from that area to the central part of India Street.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Old Views: Old photograph of Pearl Street in Nantucket Illustrated by A. Wittemann, New York: Albertype Co., 1888.

Prepared by Mrs. Marie M. Coffin
Nantucket, Massachusetts
November, 1970

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of the India Street Neighborhood Study (MASS-1013) made in the summer of 1970 by the Historic American Buildings Survey on Nantucket, Massachusetts. This is the fifth summer project of a continuing HABS comprehensive survey of the early architecture and urban design of Nantucket financed by a grant from the Nantucket Historical Trust.

The project was under the general supervision of James C. Massey, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Director was Professor F. Blair Reeves, A.I.A., of the University of Florida. Historical

information was provided by Mrs. Marie M. Coffin of Nantucket, Massachusetts. Photographs are by Jack E. Boucher of Linwood, New Jersey. The material was edited for deposit in the Library of Congress by Mrs. Constance Werner Ramirez, August 1971.