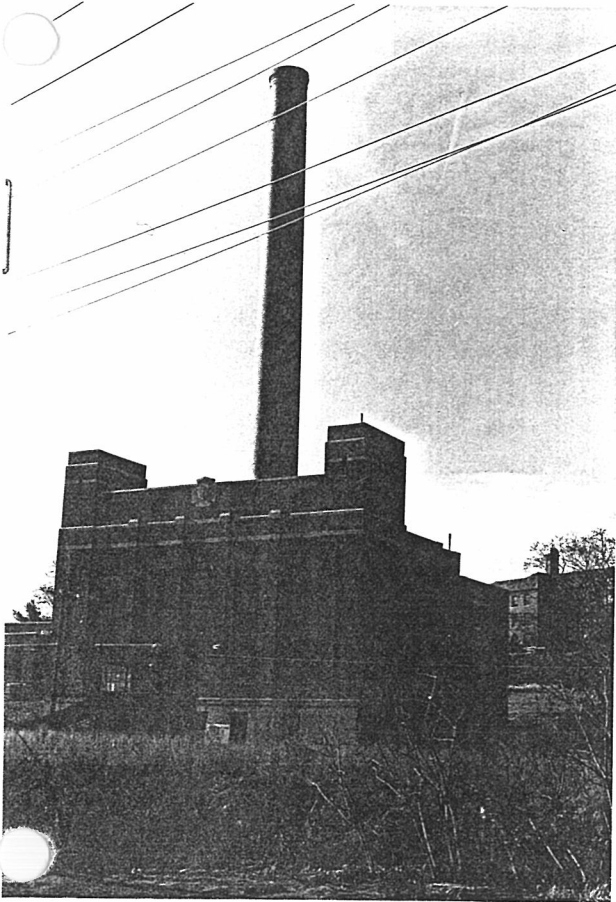


FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	10

JN  
02108



e)

Town Northampton

Address Westside Earle Street

Historic Name Power Plant

Use: Original Power Plant

Present "

Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization

Public Comm. of Mass.

Original owner Comm. of Mass.

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1934-1935

Source Annual Reports

Style \_\_\_\_\_

Architect E.C. Brown Co. - Engineers

Exterior wall fabric brick

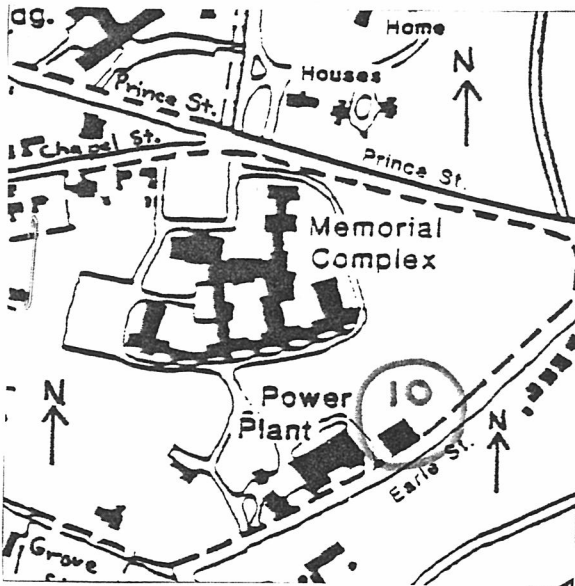
Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting \_\_\_\_\_



Recorded by Ed Lonergan

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date February, 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This building is very "monumental" in scope, with an absence of historical ornament, a fitting expression of its basic and utilitarian nature.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

This Power Plant replaced the 1893 boiler house which had been located near the rear wing of the original State Hospital. The new plant was constructed at a cost of \$377,000, through the Public Works Administration program, a federal project designed to alleviate the effects of the Depression on the construction industry. It was put in operation June 12, 1935. "The entire heat and hot water supply for the institution is derived directly and indirectly from this plant, the steam mains being carried in tunnels that are mostly available for subway travel as well."

Across the street is a small, brick structure housing the conveyor belts which brought the coal under Earle St. to the power plant. A 300 ft. siding from the railroad on the east brought the coal cars to this site. The state had purchased this small lot on the east side of Earle St. early on to provide a drop-off for the coal. At some time during the 1950's the power plant was converted to oil.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Annual Reports: 1934 - 1935 - Forbes Library
- Original Plans: NSH Engineer's Office