

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	13

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Northampton

Northside Prince Street

Club House

recreation building

Present

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public Comm. of Mass.

Original owner Comm. of Mass.

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: _____
cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.

Date 1931-1932

Source Annual Reports

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Gordon Robb

Exterior wall fabric brick

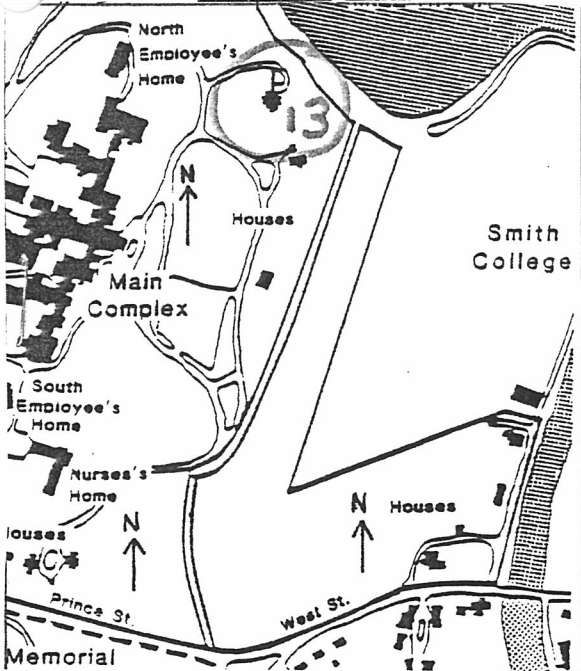
Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage _____

Setting northeast of Main Complex



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)

Gordon Robb was a Boston architect who designed ten buildings at this State Hospital during the 1920's and 1930's. These included six ward buildings, a cafeteria, and two dormitories, as well as this structure.

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

Recreation had been an early concern at the State Hospital, and a "bowling alley" was constructed in 1861. However, this building was taken down in 1881 for a workshop and storage building. Not until 1907 was another "recreation pavilion" built. This structure was a gift of Mrs. L.D. James in memory of her husband, a trustee at the State Hospital from 1879 to 1903. It contained a billiard room, bowling alley, smoking and card room with fireplace, and a room for the caretaker.

The James pavilion was destroyed by fire in 1922. In 1930 the State Legislature appropriated \$10,000 for the construction of a new recreation building. This was built on the same site, a grove northeast of the Main Complex, and was completed in 1932. It contained bowling alleys, a general assembly room for cards and billiards and a "canteen". The building was used by patients during the day and by employees at night.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Annual Reports: 1861,1885,1907,1930-1932 - Forbes Library
- Original Plans: August 27, 1930 - NSH Engineer's Office