FORM F - STRUCTURE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. 29

Northampton

Northside Prince Street

Main Entrance

Ent use

Ent owner Comm. of Mass.

Of structure (check one)

Gate

Powder house

Street

tower

tunnel

Wall

Windmill

Other


5. Description

Date 1867

Source Annual Report

Construction material brownstone

Dimensions 2' square, 14' high

Setting

Condition good

6. Recorded by Ed Lonergan

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date February, 1981

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant

MHC Photo no.

(over)

Original use main entrance to State Hospital

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates waiting station (1945)

8. Historical significance.

Originally the main entrance to the State Hospital was located halfway down the hill on Prince Street, and the road wound its way up to the eastern entrance of the main building. To enable the grounds, which commanded the fine eastern and southern prospects, to be of more secluded use of the patients this roadway was moved to the rear of the Main Complex in 1867. These brownstone piers were erected for an entrance to the new roadway. The next year iron gates were hung from these piers, and over the next few years an elaborate iron fence was constructed along the main frontage of the State Hospital property. The fence and gates were removed around the time of World War II.

As traffic increased, as well as the size of vehicles, the entrance between the piers became too narrow, and the roadway was moved just to the west. In 1945 a "waiting station" was constructed between the two central posts.

9. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

Annual Reports: 1868, 1885, 1945

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