FORM F - STRUCTURE

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

1. Town Northampton
Street Northside Prince Street

"1876" Fountain

2. Use


4. Kind of structure (check one)
   pound
   powder house
   street
   tower
   tunnel
   wall
   lighthouse
   windmill
   fountain
   other

5. Description
   Date 1876
   Source Annual Report
   Construction material iron
   Dimensions 6' high
   Setting in front of Admin. Bldg.
   Condition fair

6. Recorded by Ed Lonergan
   Organization Northampton Historical Commiss
   Date February, 1981

(over)

Original use fountain

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates

8. Historical significance.

This fountain was planned early in the 1870's when the State Hospital first made a contract with the Northampton Water Works Co. to have water delivered to the property. A stipulation was made for sufficient water to supply an "out-of-door fountain", but the financial condition of the institution didn't allow this "purely ornamental" work to occur until 1876.

The fountain was built of iron and erected directly in front of the central doorway of the Administration Building. The ground basin is 16' in diameter, with a heavy curb of "hewn Fitzwilliam granite". The fountain, curb and basin are upon a superstructure of solid stone masonry, averaging six feet in height. This height was necessary, in order to bring the fountain to a level with the road and the ornamental grounds. The space around the foundation was mostly filled in with earth, to bring the grounds into proper shape. The total cost was about $1200.

A small, iron, urn-like structure is nearby, on which no information has been found.

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

Annual Report: 1876 Forbes Library