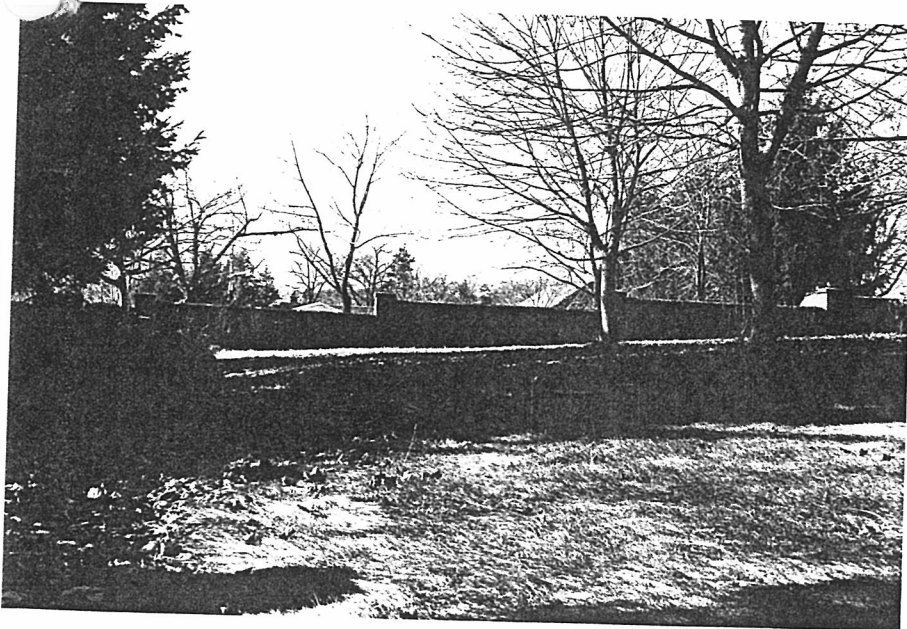


FORM F - STRUCTURE

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	31

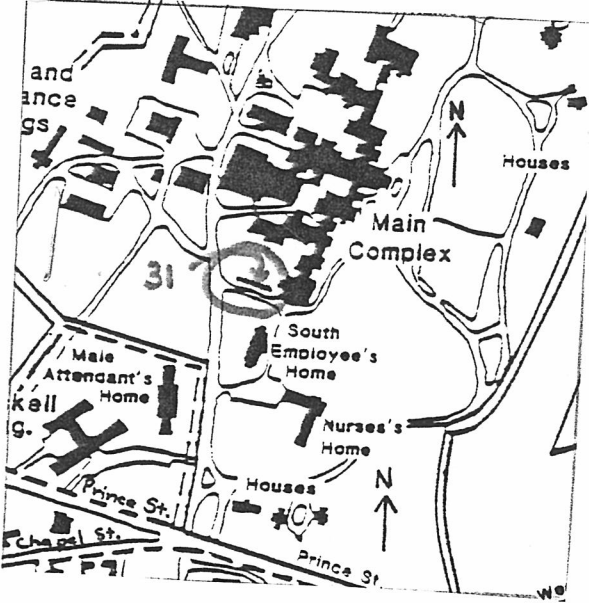


n Northampton  
 ress Northside Prince Street  
 ie Airing Court  
 sent use —  
 sent owner Comm. of Mass.

Use of structure (check one)

- large \_\_\_\_\_ pound \_\_\_\_\_
- al \_\_\_\_\_ powder house \_\_\_\_\_
- i \_\_\_\_\_ street \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ tower \_\_\_\_\_
- gate \_\_\_\_\_ tunnel \_\_\_\_\_
- kiln \_\_\_\_\_ wall \_\_\_\_\_ X
- lighthouse \_\_\_\_\_ windmill \_\_\_\_\_
- other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Map. Draw sketch of structure location in relation to nearest cross streets, buildings, other structures, natural features. Indicate north.



5. Description

Date 1872  
 Source Annual Report

Construction material brick  
 Dimensions \_\_\_\_\_  
 Setting south of South Infirmary  
 Condition fair

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

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
 USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
 MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Comm. of Mass.  
 Original use Airing Court  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Historical significance.

This is a remnant of one of the "airing courts" constructed during 1872. "The Superintendent and the other medical officers of the institution being unanimous in the opinion that one of the greatest defects of the hospital, in a sanitary point of view, was its want of suitable enclosures whereby the patients might be enabled to be in the open air a much larger proportion of the time than is otherwise practicable." Therefore, two courts were built for the patients, one at each end of the third ward. They were constructed of brick, the men's having 9' walls and the women's having 8' walls, and they were capped with brownstone slabs. Every 23' were 20" square brick pilasters, rising 5" above the wall and covered with 2' square brownstone caps.

The North walled court has been totally removed, while only part of the South court remains. The south Infirmary (built 1903) took away the eastern wall, and the 4th Ward South took away the northern and part of the western walls. Today, the walls average 3' height.

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

Annual Report: 1872 Forbes Library