FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Northampton
23 Laurel Street

ic Name: Braman House

Original residence

Present residence

ship: [ ] Private individual

Private organization

Public Comm. of Mass.

Original owner: Curtis Braman

ATION:

cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.

Date: 1850 (circa)

Source: Registry of Deeds

Style

Architect

Exterior wall fabric: clapboard

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved: Date

Approx. acreage

Setting

Recorded by: Ed Lonergan

Organization: Northampton Historical Commission

Date: February, 1981

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

This 1½ story house is set gable-end to the street. The facade, which is on the southern side of the house, is very plain with a central entrance flanked by a single six-over-six sash window on each side. To the east is a kitchen ell connecting to a modern two-car garage.

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

This house was originally built for Elias Braman, a farmer and brother of Curtis Braman, the owner of 219 Earle Street. In 1849 Curtis bought five acres of land between Earle Street and Locust Street on "Pancake Hill". His own house was constructed that year, and it's probable that Elias's house was built soon thereafter. It is shown on the 1860 map.

In 1905 the state purchased the two houses and five acres from the Bramans as part of a general expansion on the southern side of Prince Street. During the 1920's this became the site for the Memorial Group, however the small farm houses were kept for staff use.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Registry of Deeds: Bk. 127-P.121 & 173

1831 Town Map; 1860 County Map; 1873,1884,1895 Atlases - Forbes Library
Annual Report: 1905 - Forbes Library