FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Northampton
s 137 West Street
ic Name
original residence
resent residence
ship: Private individual
 Private organization
Public Comm. of Mass.
original owner Samuel Day

IPTION:
Date 1850 (circa)
Source Maps & visual evidence
Style
Architect
Exterior wall fabric clapboard
Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved Date
Approx. acreage
Setting at eastern edge of State Hospital property, near Mill River

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 house is 1½ stories in height and set back from West Street along a subsidiary road which runs parallel to the Mill River. The house has a gable roof with main entrance on the southern end. A one-story porch with hipped roof and chamfered posts covers this end. The windows of the house have six-over-six sashes. To the rear of the house is a one-story kitchen ell.

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

This small cottage seems to appear on the 1853 Map of Northampton, and probably dates from shortly before this date. At this time Samuel Day owned most of the land between the Mill River and Hospital Hill on the northern side of West St. Mr. Day occupied the property as a homestead, and operated a working farm, saw mill and black yard here. This is one of eight cottages for employees on the property shown on the 1873 Atlas. All of the others except for 135 West Street have been demolished.

During the mid 1870's Mr. Day's estate was divided, and several of the cottages sold. This house, with a quarter-acre of land, was purchased by George Leonard, who in 1878, sold it to Ellen and Luke Day for $900.00. The Days made this their homestead, and lived here until 1881, when the state purchased the property for $1000.00. At about the same time two other small lots with cottages, and the remainder of the Samuel Day homestead were also bought, thus making the Mill River the State Hospital's eastern boundary.

The cottage was subsequently used as a residence for state employees.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Annual Reports: 1875, 1876, 1883  - Forbes Library
1831 & 1853 Town Maps; 1860 County Map; 1873, 1884, 1895 Atlases - Forbes Library
Registry of Deeds: Bk. 376 P. 465, 345-270