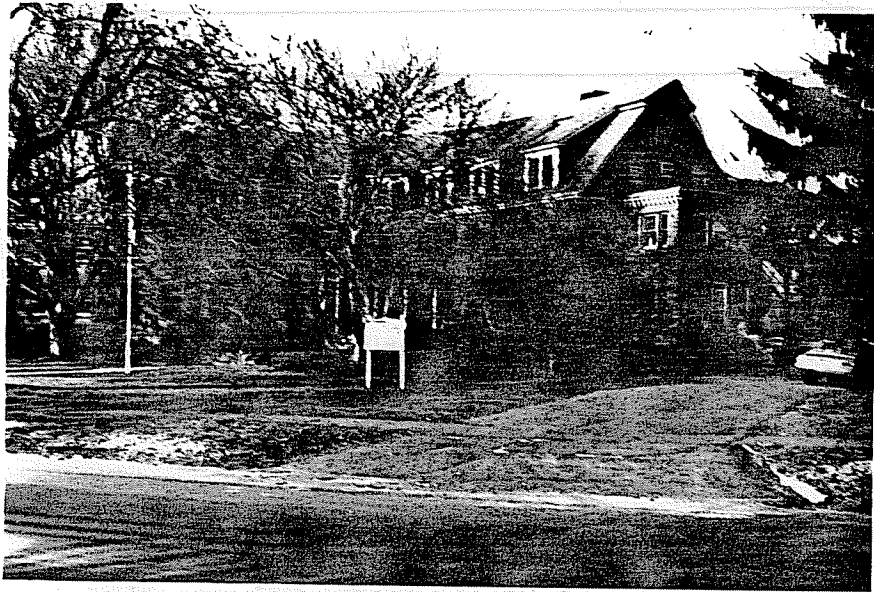


FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.	Form no.
	38B-75

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



Northampton

Address 215 South St.

Name Lathrop Home

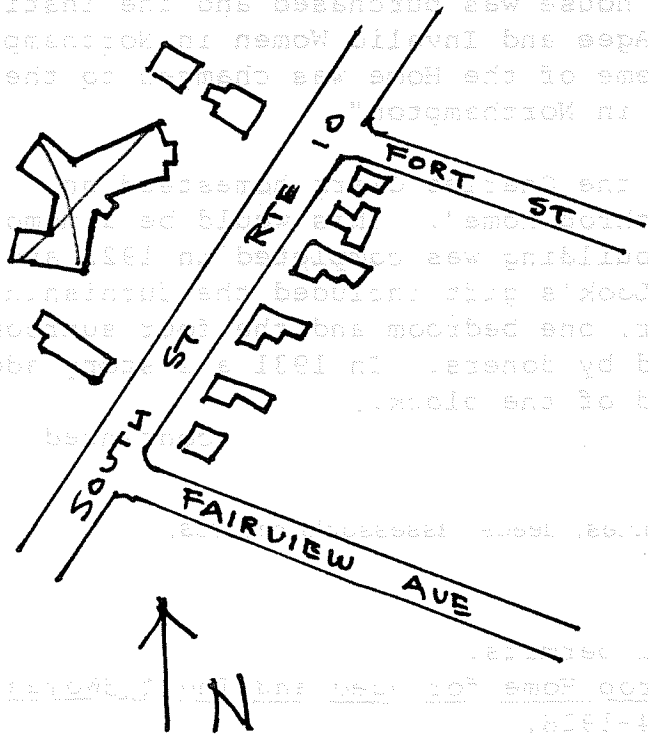
Present use home for aged and infirm women

Present owner Lathrop Home for Aged and Invalid Women

Description: 1920-21

Source Building Permit

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features \_\_\_\_\_

Altered 2-story addition Date 1931

Moved -- Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less      Over one acre     

Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate distance of building from street 100'

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Lathrop Home for Aged and Infirm Women in Northampton

Original use home for aged and infirm women

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	<u>x</u>
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>x</u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The "Lathrop Home for Aged and Infirm Women in Northampton" had its start in the "Home for the Sick", which was established in 1884. This was the first private charitable organization in Northampton and was the idea of Mrs. Clara Lathrop. A house on the corner of South and Olive Sts. was rented for \$250 a year. The house was furnished by the area churches. With the opening of the Dickinson Hospital in 1886 the problem of adequately caring for sick and injured people was settled, and the "Home for the Sick" was changed to minister too a different need, women too aged or infirm to make a home for themselves. In 1887 the house was purchased and the institution was incorporated as the "Home for Agee and Invalid Women in Northampton". After Mrs. Lathrop's death in 1908 the name of the Home was changed to the "Lathrop Home for Aged and Invalid Women in Northampton".

In 1920 Mrs. Frank Look purchased the Charles Clark homestead on South St. for a new building for the "Lathrop Home". This would be a memorial to her mother, Mrs. Sarah M. Burr. The building was completed in 1921 and first occupied on Sept. 22, 1921. Mrs. Look's gift included the furnishing of the kitchen, dining room, hall, parlor, one bedroom and the four sunrooms. Thirty-one of the bedrooms were furnished by doners. In 1931 a 2-story addition was constructed on the southern end of the block.

continued

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

- 1915 Atlas.
- Northampton Building Dept.: 1920 amd 1931 permits.
- A Short History and Handbook of the Lathrop Home for Aged and Invalid Women in Northampton, Mass., 1884-1928.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Northampton	Form No: 38B-75
Property Name: Lathrop Home for	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. Aged and Infirm Women.

9. Historical Significance.

The property is well landscaped, with the building set back about 100' from South St. Two and a half stories in height, the building is built of brick with a slate gable roof. The north and south wings are angled towards the street from the central entrance, which has a curved portico of the Tuscan order. Shed dormers with double sash windows pierce the roof, and are centered over the recessed wall panels. Each panel is defined by brick quoining and contains two bays. The windows have brown-stone sill and flat, segmental brick lintel, with projecting brick keystones. The walls are finished off with a molded cornice and modillions.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

