

FORM B - BUILDING

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|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
| | 38B-83 |

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



Northampton

Address 161 South St.

Name C. Clark House

Present use residence

Present owner Richard and Catherine

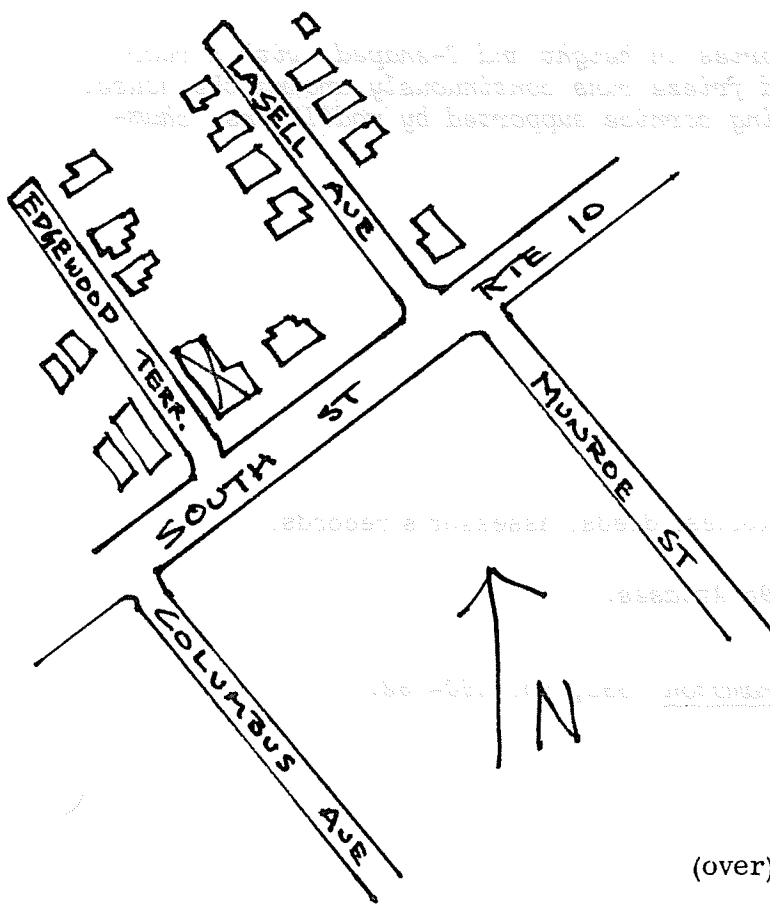
Description: Benoit

c. 1850

Source Antiquities... , p. 182

Bracketed

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



Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric asbestos shakes

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered sided Date mid 20th c.

Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Chauncey Clark

Original use residence

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 | _____ |
| Commerce | _____ | Military | _____ | Transportation | _____ |
| Communication | _____ | Political | _____ | | |
| Community development | <u>x</u> | | | | |

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

This property was originally part of the Deacon Josiah Clark homestead on South St., which was established in 1744. By the early 19th century there were two houses on this homestead, for the two sons of Deacon Clark. The house that was on this parcel of land was removed about 1850 and the present house built. This was for Chauncey Clark, a grandson of Deacon Clark and a prominent person in his own right. For several years he was a member of the State Legislature, twice a State Senator and was appointed to an office in the custom House by George Bancroft. He remained in that office for many years, finally returning to Northampton c. 1850. He lived in this house until his death in 1869. After that the property was bought by James Ellsworth, who was a farmer and also served as the town assessor. Mr. Ellsworth maintained this residence for the rest of the 19th century.

The house is two-and-a-half stories in height and T-shaped, with a rear ell. A double-bracketed cornice with dentilled frieze runs continuously around the house. The entry has a hipped roof porch with projecting cornice supported by modillions, chamfered posts and carved fan brackets.

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

- 1860 County Map. 1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 270-P. 212.
- Northampton Directory: 1873-74, 1895-96.
- Antiquities, Historicals and Graduates of Northampton 1882, pp. 180-182.