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Town NORTHAMPTON
 Street address 134 South Street
 Name Alice H. Drury Homestead
 Use: original & present Residence
 Present owner Mr. and Mrs. John N. Susco
 Open to public No
 Date 1713 (?) Style Colonial
 Source of date Court House Records
 Architect Unknown

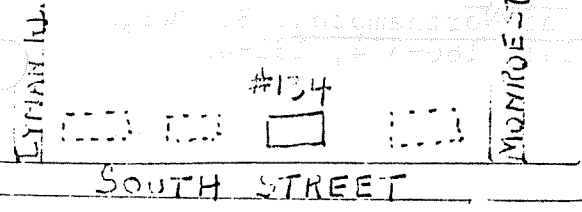
Government _____ religion/philosophy _____
 Literature _____ Indians _____
 Music _____ xOther Architecture
Development of town/city
 Architectural reason for inventorying:
 age _____

----- OR part of Area # -----
 3. CONDITION Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added ell

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material Brick and round fieldstone
 WALL COVER: Wood Brick Stone Other _____
 ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard _____
 Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork _____
 CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate
 STORIES: 1 2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings ELL Shed _____
 PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 plus 2 story porch on ell PORTICO _____ Balcony
 FACADE: Gable end: Front/side Ornament _____
 Entrance: Side Front Center/Side Details: _____
 Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied _____
 Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards _____

5. Indicate location of building in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings



6. Footage of structure from street 25
 Property has 90 feet frontage on street
 Recorders Peter N. Rowe and Miriam E. Peters
 For Northampton Historical Society
 Photo # _____ Date 1970

SEE REVERSE SIDE

received 6/72

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

The house is 2½ stories in height with ridge roof and large central chimney set forward of the ridge line. This last fact, coupled by the very low foundation points to an early 18th century dating with a re-modelling later in the century resulting in the roof being raised to its present level. The symmetrical five-bay facade has a central entrance, flanked by slender pilasters, then sidelights and then another set of slender pilasters. This is capped by an entablature with tin projecting cornice. The windows on the second floor of the facade fit tightly under the eaves, and like the other windows of the house are rectangular with two over two sashes. The sides of the house are two bays wide and there is a 1½ story rear addition on the eastern side.

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

South St. is one of Northampton's earliest roads and today contains the largest number of pre-19th century houses in the city. The street, originally on the western side of the Mill River (changed during a WPA project), was first permanently settled around 1700, and was quickly built up with homesteads lining both sides of the street. Those on the southern side extended back over the river bluff and down into the meadows.

The first known owner of this house was Col. Elisha Strong. He was born in 1779 and died in 1849 and was of the sixth generation of the descendants of Elder Ebenezer Strong, son of Elder John Strong, both of Northampton and among its original settlers. Col. Elisha's grandfather was Sgt. Jonathan Strong (1708-1774) whose homestead on lower South St. remained in the Strong family for five generations. Col. Elisha was born in this earlier house, married Mary Fowler in 1806 and had seven children. He is described as "a farmer, also selectman and county commissioner for many years, several times a member of the Mass. Legislature and a prominent man in the town". We know he was living on this homestead in 1818 when his second child, Elisha, was drowned in the river.

In 1849 Col. Strong died and the house was inherited by his son, Henry Strong 2nd. Henry only held onto the homestead for a few years, and after passing through two other short term owner the property was purchased by George L. Wright in 1863 for \$2500. Until very recently the property remained in this family.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1794 and 1831 Town Maps. 1854 and 1860 County Maps.
- 1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
- Antiquities, Historicals and Graduates of Northampton, S. Clark, 1882, p. 53.
- History of the Descendants of Elder John Strong of Northampton, B. Dwight, p. 116
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 766-P. 75, 209-393, 185-141, 180-374, 131-48.