

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-159



1 Northampton

ess 78 Chestnut St.

e _____

sent use residence

sent owner James and Irene Russell

ription: _____

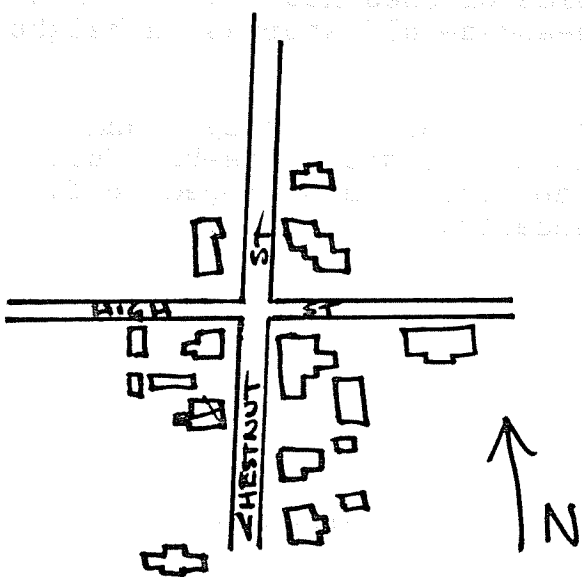
: c. 1870

ource Map and Atlas

e _____

hitect _____

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



Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered -- Date _____

Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date June 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Florence Sewing Machine Co.

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	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)

The Florence Sewing Machine Co. was formed in the early 1860's, and a large factory constructed on the corner of Main and Chestnuts Sts. in Florence. The Company owned a substantial amount of land in the vicinity of their plant and had workers' housing built. Most of these were cottages, but a Gazette article does mention three large blocks, capable of housing 25 to 30 families (in total), which were built during 1866.

Chestnut St., which first appears as a road on the 1854 map, remained undeveloped until the Company cottages were built. The 1873 atlas shows nine cottages on the west side of Chestnut St., north of Main St. All, except for one, were one-and-a-half stories in height with a side-hall plan.

This house is representative of the Company's cottages and features a one-story porch which extends across the three-bay facade and halfway along the southern side. The porch has a hipped roof, turned posts and brackets with small pendants.

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

- 1860 County Map. 1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- History of Florence, ed. by Charles Sheffield, 1895.
- Hampshire Gazette Oct. 30, 1866.