

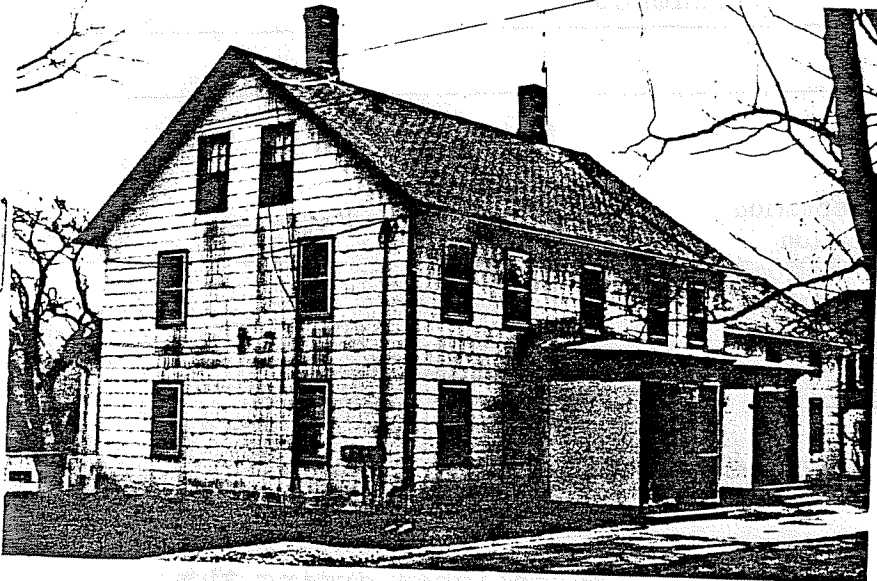
FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-164

103

Town Northampton



Address 81-83 Chestnut Street

Present use Clive Indrus

Present owner _____

Description: _____

Approximate date c. 1870

Source Map and History of Florence

Reference _____

Architect _____

1. Map. Draw sketch in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Exterior wall fabric asbestos

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered sided Date mid 20th c.

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: _____

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

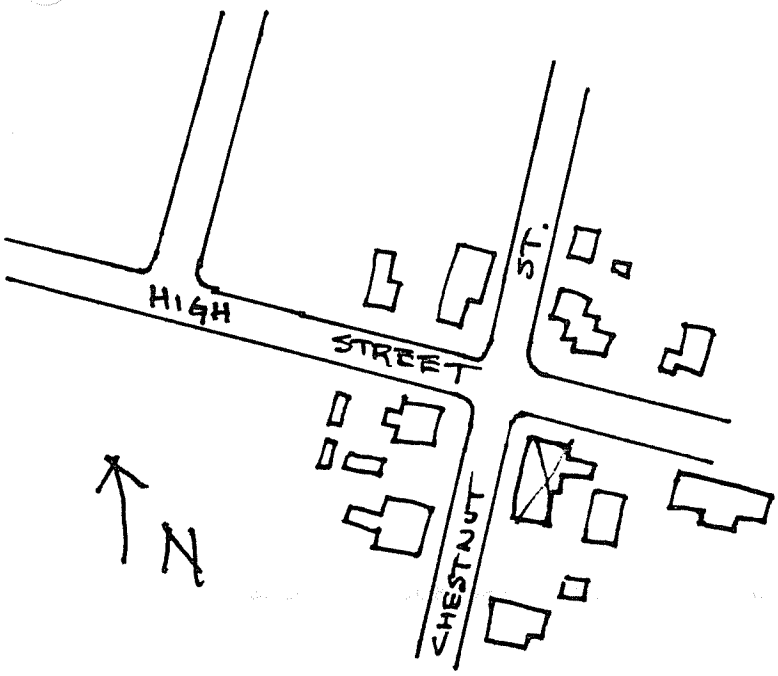
Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date February 1980



(over)

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)

This large tenement house was constructed for workers of the Florence Sewing Machine Co. The Company was established during the early 1860's and had an extensive plant constructed at the corner of Main and Chestnut Sts. During the 1860's the Company had a substantial amount of housing constructed for its workers. Mostly these were cottages, but an 1866 Gazette article does mention three large blocks capable of housing 25 to 30 families (in total) being built. None of the larger blocks remain today.

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

1877, 1894 & 1895 Atlases

History of Florence, ed. by Charles A. Sheffield, 1895.

Hampshire Gazette Oct. 30, 1866.