

FORM B - BUILDING

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
|             | 38B-166  |

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

Northampton

Address 30 Fort St.

H. Rowley House

Present use residence

Present owner John and Irene Gustavis

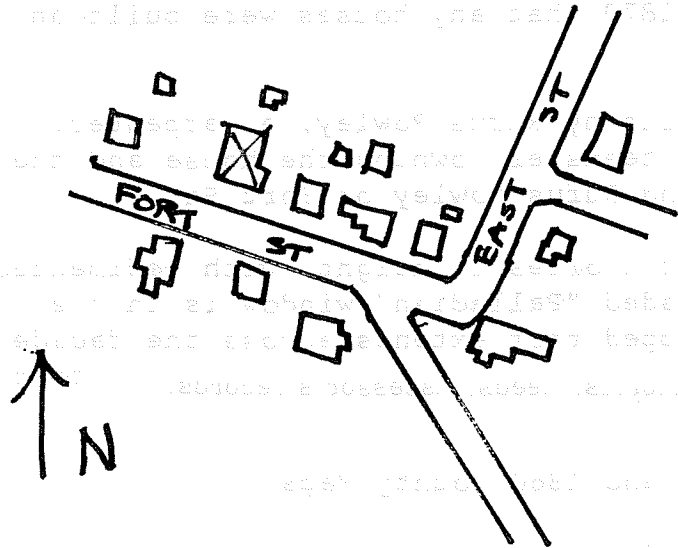
Description:

c. 1870

Source Atlas and visual evidence



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



Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

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

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

Altered -- Date \_\_\_\_\_

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) Henry Rowley (?)

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/<br>settlement | _____ | Science/<br>invention   | _____ |
| The Arts              | _____    | Industry                   | _____ | Social/<br>humanitarian | _____ |
| Commerce              | _____    | Military                   | _____ | Transportation          | _____ |
| Communication         | _____    | Political                  | _____ |                         |       |
| Community development | <u>x</u> |                            |       |                         |       |

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

Fort St. derives its name from Fort Hill, the bluff overlooking the meadows south of the center of town. It was here that the local Indians were allowed to build a fort in 1664. King Phillip's War ended this friendly relationship. Fort St. was the first street to extend southeasterly from South St. It ran over the bluff, into the meadows, staying west of the Ox-Bow, and eventually led to Springfield. The part in the meadows is still referred to today as Old Springfield Rd. At the northern corner of South and Fort Sts. stood a tavern. This dated from at least the late 18th century. The location was important as this marked the split off of the roads to Easthampton and Springfield. During the second third of the nineteenth century two houses were built on Fort St., just over the river bluff, heading into the meadows. However it wasn't until approximately 1870 that any houses were built on Fort St. atop the bluff.

This house was probably built by Rufus Rowley, a carpenter. The 1873 Atlas shows Henry Rowley, a teamster, owning the house and the 1873-74 directory lists both Henry and Rufus Rowley on Fort St.

The house is two and a half stories in height, with pedimented gable end to the street. A round-headed "Palladian" window is in the tympanum. A one-story porch with hipped roof extends across the facade

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

- 1794 and 1831 Town Maps.                      1854 and 1860 County Maps.
- 1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- Northampton Directory: 1868-69, 1873-74.

1060

1060

- INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Community:<br>Northampton      | Form No:<br>38B-166 |
| Property Name: H. Rowley House |                     |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

9. Historical Significance.

and is composed of chamfered posts, a low balustrade, a projecting  
molded cornice and a wide frieze board.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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