

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

176-186

107



Town Northampton

Address 50 Chestnut Street

Use

Present use

Present owner Richard & Shirley Redmond

Description:

1855-77

Source Map & Atlas

Feature Bracketed

Architect

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features Ornate double bracketed

wide friezeboard, 1 story front porch with post, balusters & "Tudor arch" openings

Altered --- Date ---

Moved --- Date ---

5. Lot size:

One acre or less --- Over one acre ---

Approximate frontage ---

Approximate distance of building from street ---

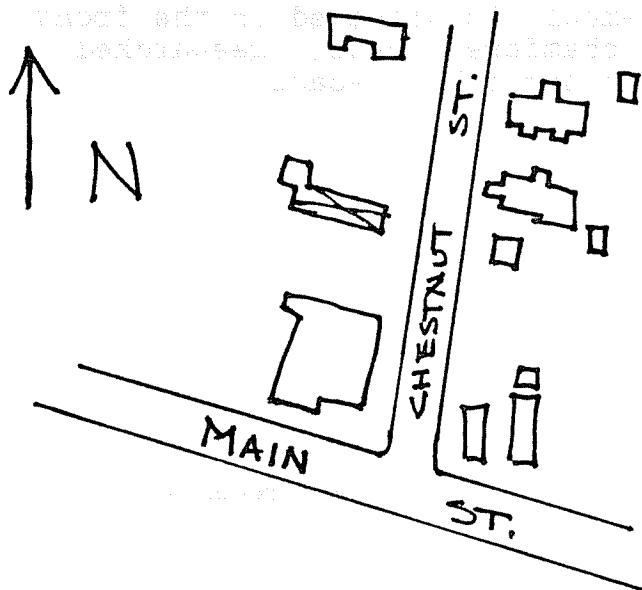
6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date February 1980

(over)

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



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	<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 is the largest and most distinguished of the nine houses on the west side of Chestnut St. which originally were owned by the Florence Sewing Machine Co. This Company was formed during the early 1860's and had a large plant built at the corner of Chestnut and Main Sts. in Florence. The Company had a substantial amount of housing constructed for its workers, mostly of the cottage type, although there were a few larger blocks. The other eight houses on the west side of Chestnut St. are all one-and-a-half story cottages.

This house is two-and-a-half stories in height with gable end to the street and a two-and-a-half story gables projection on the southern side. Ornate double brackets on a wide frieze support the raking cornice, and a round-headed window with hood-mould is situated in the front gable. A one-story porch with flat roof, chamfered posts, ogee-arched opening and a balustrade extends across the three-bay facade.

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

1854 & 1860 County Maps; 1877, 1884 & 1893 atlases

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