

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	38C-33

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Northampton

18 Cedar St.

Local Name A. Blechschmidt House

Original residence

Present residence

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Alexander Blechschmidt

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1916

Source Spfld Daily Republican

Style Bungalow

Architect

Exterior wall fabric concrete blocks

Outbuildings small garage of concrete blocks

Major alterations (with dates) partially

enclosed porch- 20th century

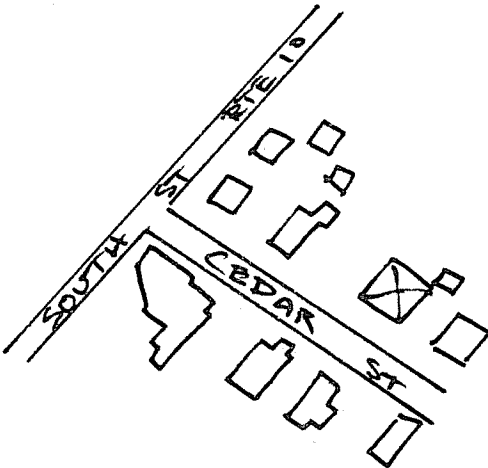
Moved -- Date

Approx. acreage one acre or less

Setting

cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.

Indicate north.



Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date Feb. 1980

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The house is one story in height, square in shape, and capped by a low-pitched hip roof. A full front porch is recessed under this hipped roof. Concrete blocks were used for the exterior walls. The side and rear walls as well as the pedestals for the porch columns have blocks that are decorated to give a "quarry" finish. Blocks, half the regular height and finished to look like sections of taut rope, form a water table which extends around the entire house. The base of the front porch is composed of blocks with a raised, crown-of-laurels design. The pedestals for the columns divide the base into sub-sections, each of which has the "laurel" blocks arranged around a central cross of smooth blocks. Above the water table the porch has two rows of continuous continued

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

This unique, early 20th century cottage was built for Alexander Blechschmidt. Mr. Blechschmidt worked for the McCallum Hosiery Co., whose mill was located on West St. Alexander McCallum had bought 46 looms from Germany, "home of the hosiery business", and had undoubtedly encouraged a number of loom operatives to come along.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
- Northampton Directory: 1915-1918.
- Daily Hampshire Gazette: May 5, 1906.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Northampton	Form No: 38C-33
Property Name: A. Blechschmidt House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

"laurel" blocks, a string course of the "rope" blocks, and a capping row of flat blocks. The porch columns have an Egyptian air about them with their distinctive taper. The capitals are a combination of Ionic volutes and Corinthian acanthus leaves, while the fluted upper half of the shaft is separated from the smooth lower half by a band of concave moldings. The porch is seven bays wide and one bay deep.

The overall sense is one of massiveness, directly tied to the earth. This is added to by the earthy tone of the concrete blocks, and flavored by their decorative designs. The porch is projecting from the front wall of the house, yet inclosed within the all-encompassing roof.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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