

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-187



1 Northampton

Address 62 Chestnut St.

Name D. Ranney House

Present use residence

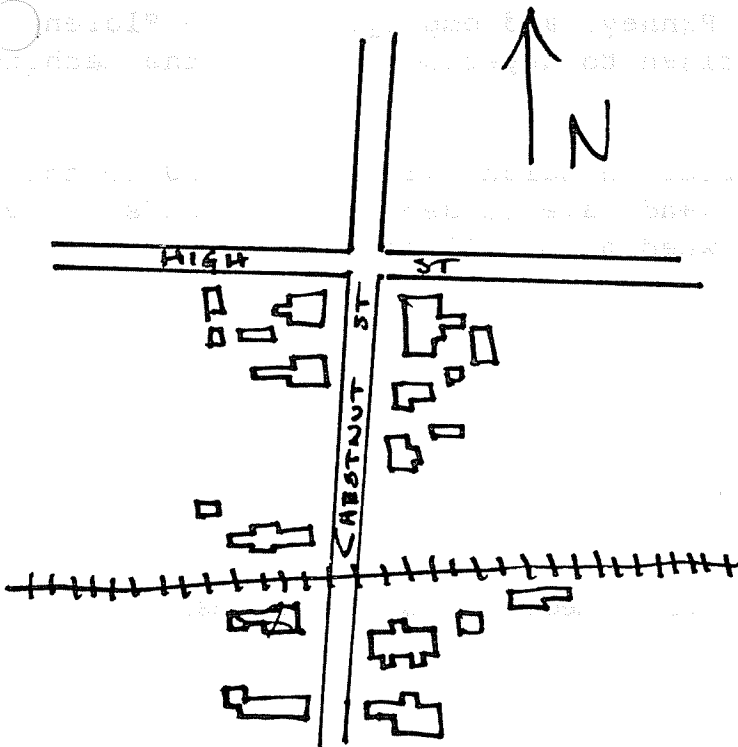
Present owner First National Bank
of Northampton

Year c. 1865

Source Directory and Map

Architect _____

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 enclosed porch Date mid 20th c.

Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:
One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street
30'

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

(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)

Some time before 1854 Chestnut St. was laid out from Main St. to Bridge Rd. An impetus to develop was provided by the expansion of the Florence Sewing Machine Co. on the southern side of Main St. at the intersection of Chestnut St. They built and owned a number of cottages and boarding houses in this area during the 1860's and 1870's.

This cottage is not much different from those owned by the company, and was probably built for them in the early 1860's. The 1873 Atlas shows this house as being occupied by David Ranney, and employee of the Florence Sewing Machine Co., who by 1885 had risen to superintendent of the machine department.

The house is one and a half stories in height with gable end to the street. The windows are six over six, and have molded cornice heads. The doorway has engaged columns and is crowned by a full entablature.

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

- 1860 County Map.
- 1873, 1884, and 1895 Atlases.
- Northampton Directory: 1860-61, 1868-69, 1873-74, 1875-76, 1885-86.