

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-227



Northampton

Address 16 North Maple Street

Present use commercial

Present owner Joseph Vinci

Description:

Source

Architect

in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Exterior wall fabric board & batten

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features steeply pitched gable

with frieze board, two-story porch with posts, balusters and decorative arrow

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved --- Date ---

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____

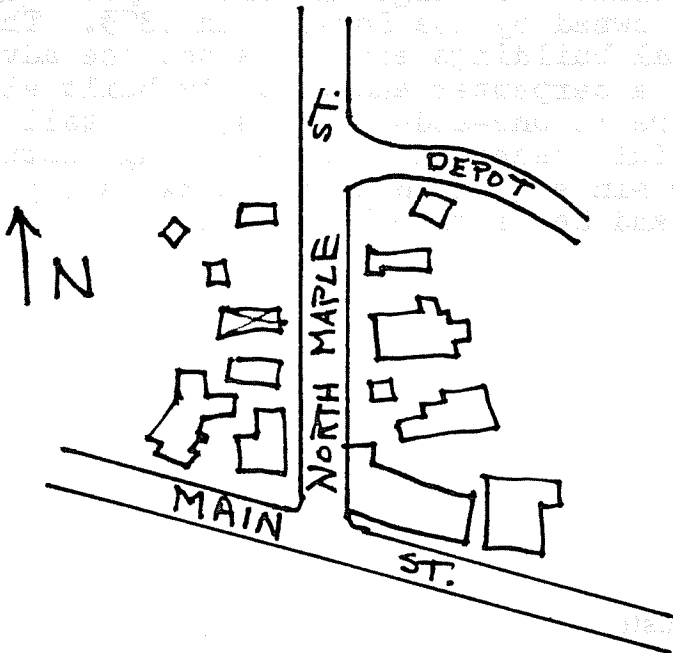
Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date January 1980



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Asa Squires (?)

Original use commercial

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	<u>x</u> _____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>x</u> _____				

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

In 1867 the Williamsburg line of the New Haven and Northampton Railroad opened, connecting the village of Florence to the center of Northampton and the main north-south line located there. The tracks ran parallel to, and just north of Main and North Main Sts. in Florence, and a freight house and depot were built on North Maple St.

This was one of six wood-frame buildings on North Maple St. between Main St and the RR tracks owned by Asa Squires in 1873. These were probably all small commercial buildings erected since the advent of the railroad. Mr. Squires was a carpenter and possibly built all of these buildings. This structure is one-and-a-half stories tall with steeply-pitched gable and a full basement. The building features board and batten siding, six over six sash windows and a two-story porch with posts, stick brackets and decorative balustrade.

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: 1875-76, 1888-89.