

FORM B - BUILDING

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

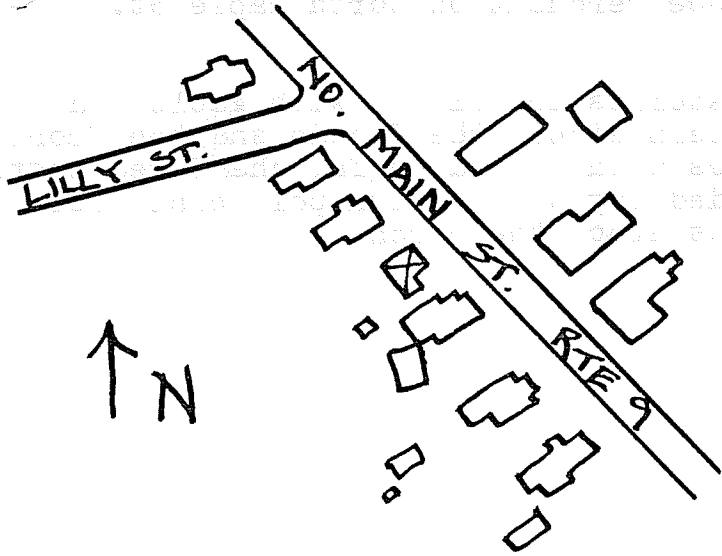
In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-262

127



City Northampton  
 Address 84 North Main Street  
 Name C. Torrey House  
 Present use residence  
 Present owner Craig & Marcia Nehring  
 Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 1886-1888  
 Source Registry of Deeds & Atlas  
Directory

4. Map. Draw sketch of building 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 65'  
 Approximate distance of building from street 25'

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_

MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan  
 Organization NHC  
 Date January 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Clarissa and Calvin Torrey

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)

In 1872 John Eager bought a 1/4 acre lot on North Main St. for \$500. This was the old "road to Williamsburg", and in the section between Bridge Road and the center of Florence the street runs close to the terrace drop-off into the Florence Meadows through which the Mill River runs. During the last third of the 19th century this street became lined with modest residences of the Florence working class. Mr. Eager, who never seems to have lived in Northampton didn't develop his lot and sold it in 1886 for the same \$500 to Calvin and Clarissa Torrey. The 1888 directory lists Mr. Torrey on North Main St and describes him as a boot and shoe merchant on North Maple St. in Florence.

The house is one-and-a-half stories in height, with gable end to the street and an ell on the southern side. The facade and the front of the ell both have one-story porches with hipped roofs, chamfered posts and decorative brackets. A three-sided bay window with polygonal roof projects from the front gable and sits atop the porch.

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

1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.  
 Registry of Deeds: Bk. 405-P. 63, 293-409, 264-255.  
 Northampton Directory: 1888-89.