

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	10B-24



1 Leeds (Northampton)

Address 11 Mulberry Street

Name Nonotuck Silk Co. House

Present use Residence

Present owner Lawrence McNulty

Description:

c. 1880  
1873 Atlas of Northampton,  
1884 Atlas of Northampton

Queen Anne (after a fashion)

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric brick and stone

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features brick with stone lintels

interior chimneys; ridge roof;

dormers; central gable

Altered no Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 112 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

30 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical

Commission

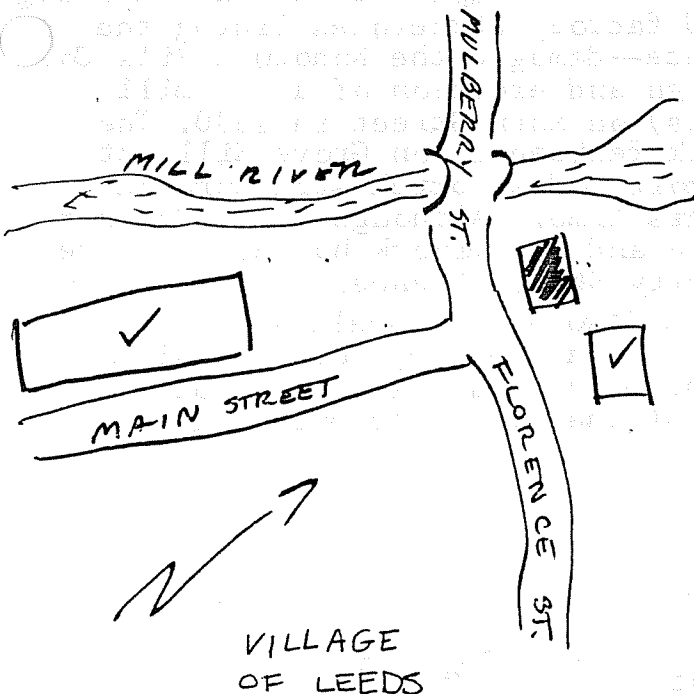
Date September 30, 1975

RECEIVED

APR 3 1976

MASS. HIST. COMM.

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



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

✓ inventoried property

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Nonotuck Silk Company

Original use possibly company boarding house

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residence (private)

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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

This well built brick residence with stone trim was constructed around 1880 for the Nonotuck Silk Company. The Silk Company owned property in Leeds center 1860-1900 and ran a boardinghouse on this site by 1873. The company, also located in Florence, produced sewing silk, crochet, knitting, and embroidery silk and other yarns as well as a few finished products like silk hosiery. Samuel Hill, Samuel Hinkley, A. T. Lilly, and other local industrialists ran the company.

The Mill River disaster of 1876—the collapse of the Williamsburg dam and destruction of residences and factory structures lining the river between Williamsburg and Florence—damaged the Nonotuck Silk Co. holdings in Leeds, prompting the design and erection of a new mill building (now Leeds Village Apartments) on Main Street in 1880. The mill superintendent also built a brick residence, on Grove Hill, at this time and it is likely that the more modest brick structure on Mulberry Street was constructed at this time. Although E. C. Gardner is the architect of the mill structure and the Dimock house, his name has not been connected with the Mulberry St. residence.

The structure was described as a "two and one-half story and basement brick building, formerly used as a boarding house... (with water, electricity, inside toilets, sewer," in a description of properties to be auctioned in 1932. At that time the building contained apartments and single rooms.

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

- Atlas of Northampton, 1873, 1884, 1895.
- "A Chronicle of Industry on the Mill River," Smith College Studies in History, Vol. XXI, Nos. 1-4, 1935-36.