

FORM B - BUILDING

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

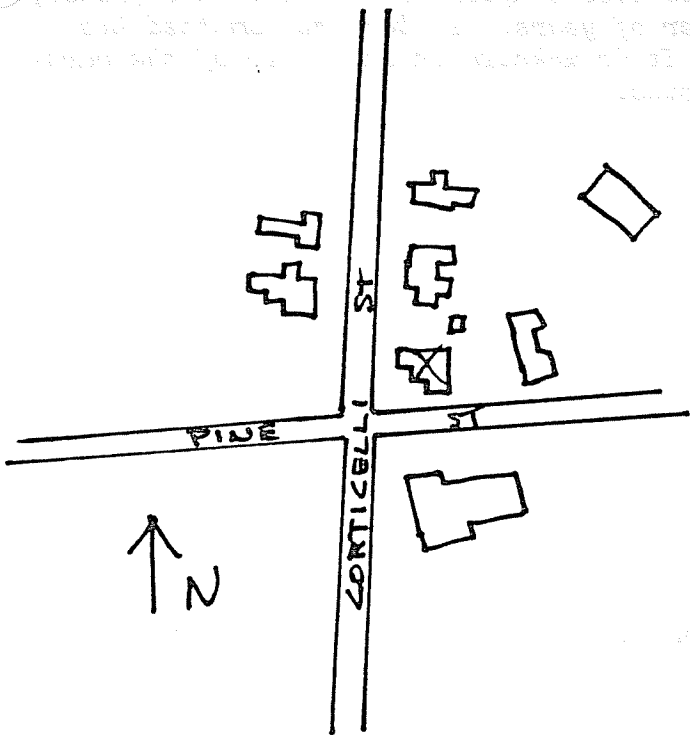
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|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
| | 22B-32 |

149



1 Northampton
 Address 159 Pine St.
 Name S. Porter House
 Present use nursing home
 Present owner Donald P. and James R. Wade
 Description:
 Date c. 1885
 Source Atlas and Publication
 Reference

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



Architect W.F. Pratt and Son
 Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings (describe)
 Other features black brick banding, cut lintels, 3 two-story bays--one with Stick-Style porch and polygonal roof
 Altered 2-story front addition Date mid 20th c.
 Moved -- Date

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less x Over one acre
 Approximate frontage
 Approximate distance of building from street

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

(over)

Original owner (if known) Samuel Porter

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 | _____ | | | | |

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

This large brick house has been very altered with the two-story brick additions to the front of the building, but is still worth documenting for its late 19th century decorative work. Mr. Porter was the superintendent of the Nonotuck Silk Co. and also served as president of the Florence Savings Bank. Thus, he was in a position to have his house designed by the firm of William F. Pratt and Son. Mr. Pratt was Northampton's most prominent and prolific architect of the second half of the 19th century. He began his own business in the late 1830's after working with his father, Thomas Pratt, the master carpenter for a number of years. In 1882 he admitted his son William F. Pratt Jr. into a partnership. It is unknown which member of the partnership played the major role in the Porter House.

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

1360 County Map.
 1373, 1384 and 1895 Atlases.
 Northampton Directory: 1888-89, 1895-96.
Leading Manufacturers and Merchants of Central and Western Massachusetts, 1386 p.303.