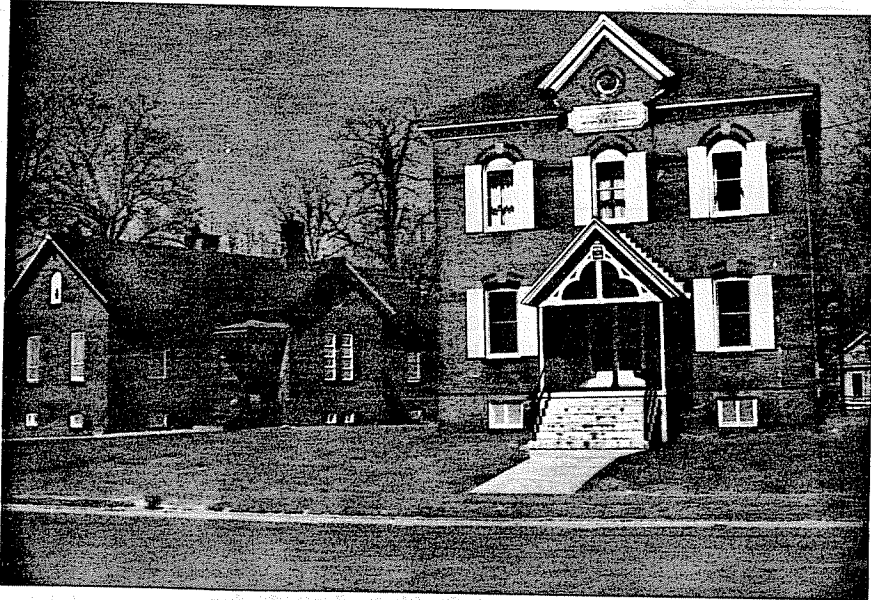


FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	23A-169

211



Florence (Northampton)

ess Pine Street

Temperance Hall

ent use now called Annunciation

1

ent owner Annunciation School Assoc

ription:

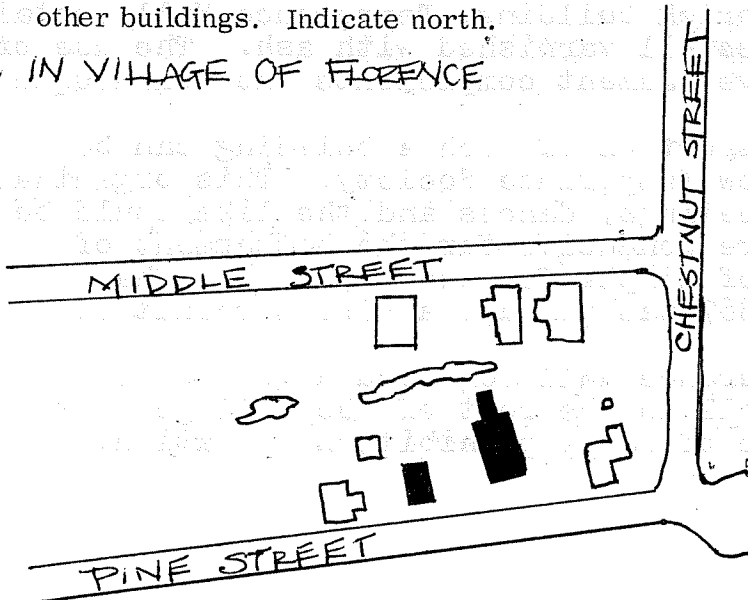
1884

source Daily Hampshire Gazette
December 23, 1884

Romanesque Revival

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

N.B. IN VILLAGE OF FLORENCE



Architect W.F. Pratt

Exterior wall fabric Brick

Outbuildings (describe) small brick adjac.

Other features Hip roof, black poly-

chrome, Romanesque arches, yellow

trimwork

Altered no Date

Moved no Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre

Approximate frontage 80 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

15 feet

6. Recorded by L. Komaromi

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date February 26, 1976

RECEIVED

MAY 5 1976

HIST. COMM.

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

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use Village Temperance Society

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	<u> x </u>
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	<u> x </u>
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	<u> x </u>	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	<u> x </u>	Political	_____		
Community development	<u> x </u>				

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

Temperance Hall known today as Annunciation Hall was designed by W. F. Pratt, a noteworthy architect in the Florence area. At the time of its conception in 1884, Florence held the lead in building construction; eighteen dwellings having been erected in this single year.

Essentially a two story brick building, Temperance Hall contains four ante-rooms, a ticket office all varnished with ash. The use of black polychrome as a decorative element complements the Romanesque type structure.

The impetus for the construction of such a building can be attributed to the Father Matthew Temperance Society. This organization sought a place where society meetings, dances and the like could be held. It pondered an atmosphere conducive for the betterment of morals as well as an increase of simple fun and pleasure. The Easter Ball held in April of 1887 was perhaps a direct result of the latter.

We can surmise that Temperance Hall rendered a great service to the Florence Catholics as well as the rest of the village. It is also significant as the site of early prohibition agitation.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Daily Hampshire Gazette: December 23, 1884, April 11, 1887.