

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	10B-93



Leeds (Northampton)

Address Grove Hill --off Florence
and Front Streets
Dimock Estate

Present use Residence

Present owner Samuel Goldman

Description:

1879-80

Source Daily Hampshire Gazette
July 3, 1946

Name "Eastlake"

Architect E. C. Gardner

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) several

Other features brick with stone and
wood trim; tower with mansard;
widow's walk; porch with stick style
supports

Altered no Date _____

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 400 ft on

Approximate distance of building from street Front Street

150 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical
Commission

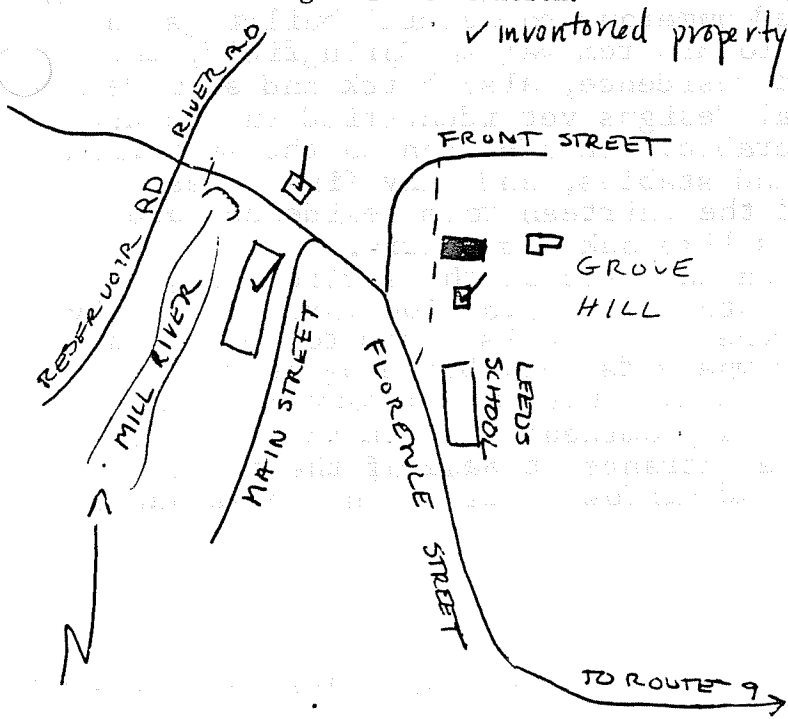
Date August 30, 1975

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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. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Lucius Dimock

Original use Home

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Residential - Apartments

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

This brick residence was designed in 1879 by Springfield architect E. C. Gardner for Lucius Dimock, director of the Corticelli Silk Company. A native of Ashfield, Gardner (1836-1915) began to practice architecture in Florence (Northampton) at the age of 22. Possibly instructed by W. F. Pratt, Gardner settled in Springfield following the Civil War and maintained a practice there until 1911. In 1889 he formed a partnership with son George C. Gardner and George Pyne. Although Gardner designed numerous commercial buildings in Northampton and Florence prior to his removal to Springfield, the Dimock house and one Elm Street residence, also brick and also designed in 1879, are the only residential designs yet identified in the city.

The estate was once considerable: in addition to the Victorian residence a greenhouse, barns and stables, and many fine trees graced the hill. Interiors of the thirteen room residence were finished in unpainted rich woods like oak and cherry.

The Dimock house was built on the site of the earlier Benjamin North homestead. The North homestead was moved 100 yards northerly in 1879. At that time E. C. Gardner was commissioned to design the Dimock residence and the silk company factory building on Main Street, now Leeds Village apartments. Like the factory building the Dimock House includes a tower as a prominent element in the design. Decorative stick work frames the entrance at base of the tower, porch in the southerly facade, and window hoods at in the second and third stories of the tower.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Daily Hampshire Gazette, September 21, 1880, July 3, 1946