

FORM B - BUILDING

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

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
| | 23A-211 |

222



Town Northampton

Address 70 Beacon Street

Name F. Look House

Present use residence

Present owner Edward & Kazmiera Skroski

Description:

Date 1891-92

Source Reg. of Deeds & Directory

File _____

Architect _____

Map. Draw _____ in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

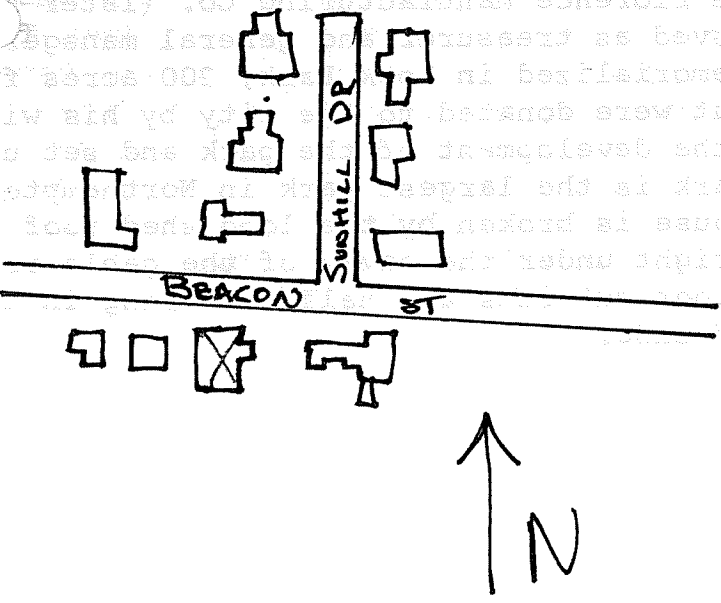
Exterior wall fabric clapboard & shingles

Outbuildings (describe) ---

Other features decoratively cut shingles for 2nd floor, entrance portico, decorative half-timbering in gables, and slate roof

Altered --- Date _____

Moved --- Date _____



5. Lot size:

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 100'

Approximate distance of building from street 25'

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date February 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Frank N. & Fannie B. Look

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)

This turn-of-the-century residence was built for Frank Look, a prominent Florence industrialist, and his wife Fannie Burr Look. Mrs. Look was the daughter of George Burr, one of Florence's leading industrialists, and obtained the land from her mother. The lot is at the river terrace drop-off and across the street from the Burrs. It was the first lot to be developed on the southside of Beacon St. Mr. Look was connected with the Florence Sewing Machine Co. and the Florence Manufacturing Co. (later known as Prophylactic Brush Co.), and served as treasurer and general manager of the latter concern. His name is memorialized in Look Park, 200 acres further upstream on the Mill River that were donated to the city by his wife. Mrs. Look also provided funds for the development of the park and set up a trust fund for its upkeep. Look Park is the largest park in Northampton.

The facade of this 2½ story house is broken by the long shed roof of the entrance portico which starts right under the eaves of the gable roof. A 2½ story projection with first-floor cut-outs and half-timbering in the gable caps the western end of the facade.

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

1884 & 1895 Atlases

Registry of Deeds: Bk.447-P.435

Northampton Directory: 1891-92

"A Chronicle of Industry on the Mill River", Smith College Studies in History vol. 21 nos. 1-4