

FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.	Form no.
	23A-214

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



City Northampton

Address 42 Beacon Street

Name W. Cordes House

Present use residence

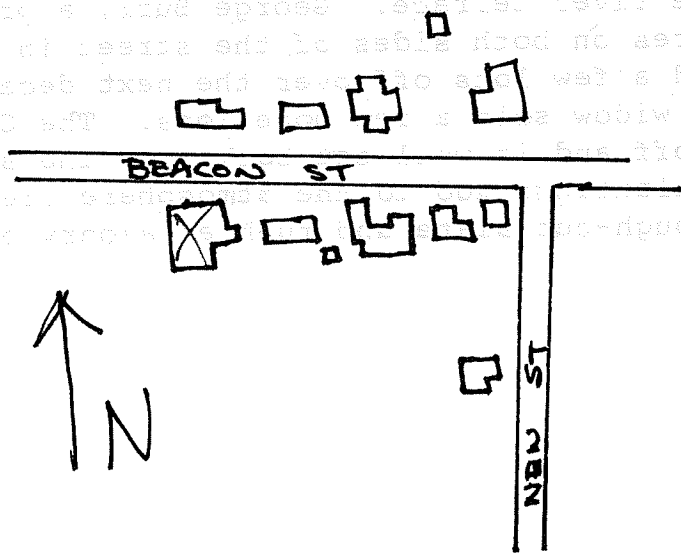
Present owner Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield

Description: 1907-08

Source Reg. of Deeds & Directory

Style Tudor Revival

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



Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard & stucco

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features slate roof, 2-story bay front porch with piers of rubble masonry, swept corner

Altered --- Date _____

Moved --- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date February 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) William & lola Cordes

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 large turn-of-the-century residence was built for William Cordes Cordes was a prominent local businessman at this time working for the Florence Manufacturing Co. He worked his way up from sales manager to general manager and treasurer, and then became president of the company in the early 1920's. Mr. Cordes also served as president of the Florence Savings Bank.

Beacon St. was laid out during the 1860's, and connected Pine and South Main Sts. along the top of the river terrace. George Burr, a prominent Florence industrialist bought 8½ acres on both sides of the street in 1868, had his own homestead built and sold a few lots off over the next decade-and-a-half. After Burr's death his widow sold a few more lots. The Cordes house backs up to the terrace drop-off and is well set back from the street. Flagstone walks and low foundation plantings add to the atmosphere created by the stucco and half-timbering, rough-cut slate and rubble masonry of the house.

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

- 1895 & 1915 Atlases
- Reg. of Deeds: Bk. 621-P.361
- Northampton Directory: 1909-1940