

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

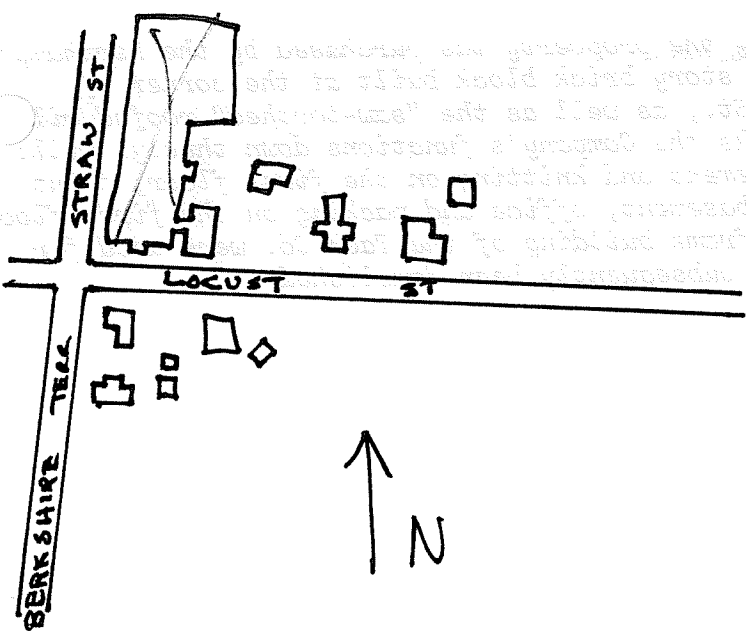
In Area no.	Form no.
	23B-8

234



1 Northampton
 Address 269 Locust St.
Northampton Silk Co. Hosiery Mill
 Present use furniture
 Present owner Danco
 Description:
c. 1910
 Source Atlases and visual evidence

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



Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings (describe) _____
 Other features _____
 Altered large additions Date 20th c.
 Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 200'
 Approximate distance of building from street _____

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

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Northampton Silk Co.

Original use silk hosiery mill

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The Florence Tack Co. was established during the mid 1870's and manufactured tacks and small nails. This was one of the first such concerns in western Mass. and was operated until the early 1890's. At that time the company failed and the shop remained idle.

Early in the 20th century the property was purchased by the Northampton Silk Co., and the present two-and-a-half story brick block built at the corner of Holyoke St. (now Straw Ave.) and Locust St., as well as the "saw-toothed" roofed mill on Holyoke St. A 1915 insurance map breaks the Company's functions down thusly: mill: carding, winding and spinning in the basement and knitting on the first floor; front block: stock room and silk vault in the basement, office and packing on the first floor, and finishing on the second floor. The frame building of the Tack Co. were used for dyeing and other activities. These have subsequently been demolished.

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

1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.

History of Florence, Ed. by Charles Sheffield, 1895.