

FORM B - BUILDING

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

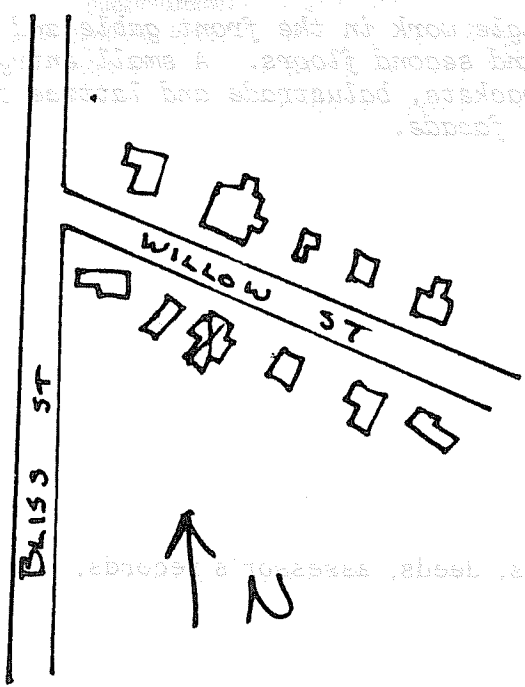
248

In Area no.	Form no.
	23C-77



City Northampton  
 Address 27 Willow St.  
 Present use residence  
 Present owner Margaret and Agnes O'Donnell  
 Description: 1873-84  
 Source Atlases

Sketch a plan showing building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard  
 Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other features \_\_\_\_\_

Altered -- Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved -- Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
 One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_

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

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

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)

Between 1854 and 1860 a bridge was constructed across the Mill River near the silk and cotton mills of Florence. This opened up land on the southern side of the river for residential development. A subdivision plan was prepared and streets laid out. By 1873 Bridge (now Bliss) and Water (now Willow) Streets and their connectors (now Scanlon St.) had been laid out, along with 53 lots and nearly 30 residences. The land had been owned by the Nonotuck Silk Co. and many of the dwellings housed workers for this company or one of Florence's other industries. By the end of the 19th century this had become a small neighborhood.

This house has decorative shingle work in the front gable and also uses shingles as a bettcourse between the first and second floors. A small entry porch has a hipped roof with turned posts, perforated brackets, balustrade and lattice base. A bay window with polygonal roof projects from the facade.

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

1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.  
Northampton Directory: 1884-85, 1888-89.