

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	25A-109

373 ✓



Northampton

Address 337 & 339 Bridge Street

Alvah Littlefield Cottage

Present use Residence

Present owner Joseph Bohnak

Description:

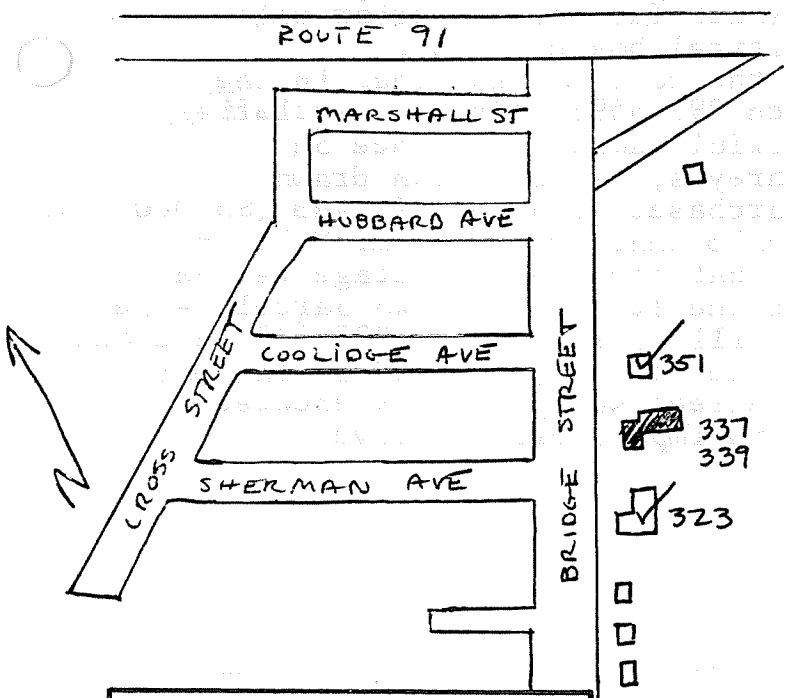
1859

Source Daily Hampshire Gazette
March 8, 1859

Gothic Revival Cottage

Architect Wm. F. Pratt

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



Exterior wall fabric wood-vertical board siding

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features symmetrical facade; 2 ornate chimneys; gable with gingerbread trim and variously shaped windows

Altered no Date _____

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 50 feet

Approximate distance of building from street 20 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date June 1, 1975

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

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(over)
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7. Original owner (if known) Alvan Littlefield of Boston

Original use Summer residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residence

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

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

The second, and most ornate, of a group of three picturesque Gothic cottages on Bridge Street, this residence was built between 1859 and 1868. With the exception of a later dormer, the west (front) facade is perfectly symmetrical. Wooden cornices cover three large rectangular windows; a pair of pointed windows appear in the central gable. A single complex window covered with a heavy wooden molding and "dripstones" appears in the south facade. Exterior wall surfaces are covered with vertical board siding.

The cottage is probably the cottage described in the Daily Hampshire Gazette, March 29, 1859: "Dr. A. Littlefield of Boston is building a beautiful summer residence on Bridge Street, near Mr. Humphrey's, after a plan drawn by Mr. Pratt." Littlefield purchased 10 acres of land (\$3,000) from J. N. Humphreys in 1859; he sold that tract to Wm. Hill in 1864 for \$9,000. It appears that the single cottage was on the land at that time. Hill sold the 10 acres in two parcels—one of a single acre to Winthrop Hillyer for \$6,000 (337-339) and one of 8 or nine acres to S. R. Boies for \$7,000 (323). The more modest cottage at 323 Bridge Street was probably erected by Hill, 1864-1868, but this is impossible to prove.

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

Daily Hampshire Gazette, March 29, 1859.
 Registry of Deeds, Hampshire County, 184.143, 223.61, 254.265, 380.121, 382.453, 448.89, 449.161, 511.85, 705.529, 728.38, 775.242, 783.239, 1543.651.