

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

In Area no.	Form no. <u>401</u>
	25C-182



Northampton

Address 83 North Street

Thomas Pratt House

Present use Residence

Present owner Nancy & Paul Gaffney

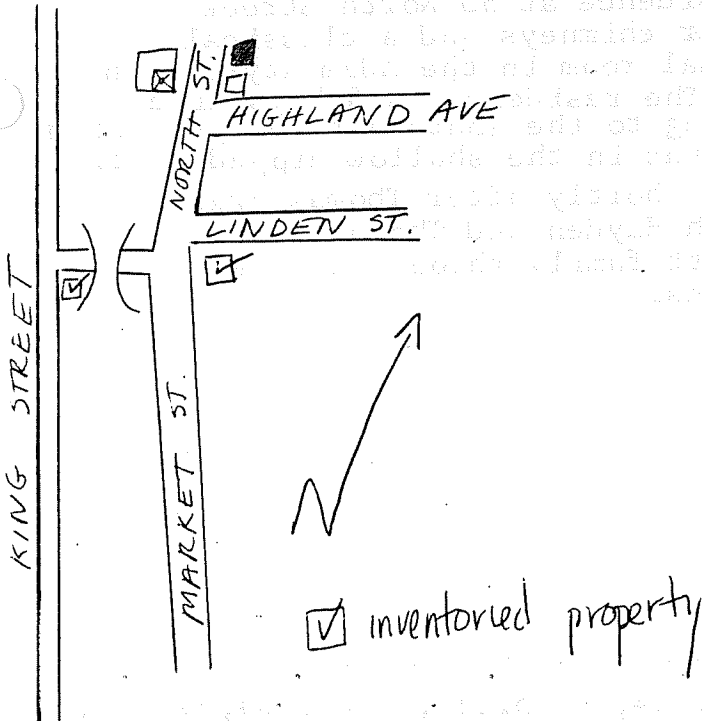
Description:

c. 1812

Source Registry of Deeds, 33.255

Federal

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



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_

MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

Architect Thomas Pratt

Exterior wall fabric shingles

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features hipped roof; pair of interior chimneys; classical cornices in interior-octagonal room with Roman niches

Altered yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 80 feet

Approximate distance of building from street 20 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date March 1976

(over)

MAY 5 1976

7. Original owner (if known) Thomas Pratt

Original use 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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

Thomas Pratt, local architect and designer of numerous Federal and Greek Revival style residences in Northampton, was born in 1784 in eastern Mass. and began his career as an architect and builder in Northampton in 1807. Several substantial monuments remain: Dewey House and Capen House, Smith College, two Greek Revival residences, and the architect's own residence on North Street. William Fenno Pratt his son also practiced the profession, beginning in 1837 with Miss Dwight's gothic seminary, a vigorous exercise in the picturesque.

Thomas Pratt's federal style residence at 83 North Street features a hipped roof, paired interior chimneys and a classical cornice. Interiors include an octagonal room in the Adam style with Roman niches along the short walls. The residence is 5 bays wide and three deep, with the entrance facing to the southeast and protected by a porch. A single chimney now remains in the shallow hipped roof.

The structure was probably built shortly after Thomas Pratt acquired the 1/2 acre tract from Elijah Hayden and Thomas Clark in 1812. The home remained in the Pratt family throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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

Registry of Deeds, 1784.204, 1745.111, 1060.264, 902.147, 344.61, 146.136, 114.53, 102.348, 67.512, 33.255.  
 Obituary of Thomas Pratt, 12/8/1868; article on W. F. Pratt, 12/26/1865, Hampshire Gazette.