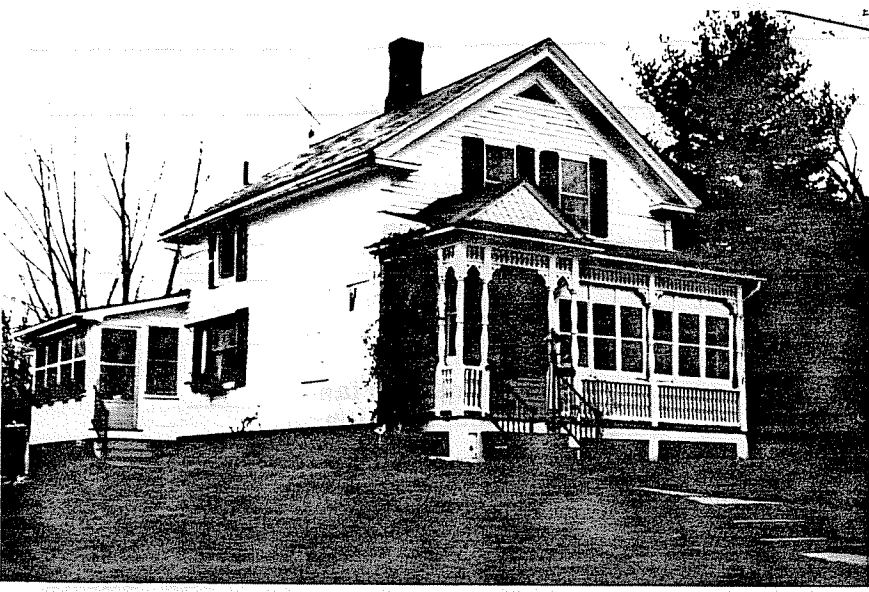


FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	30A-55



1 Northampton

Address 36 Liberty St.

Use residence

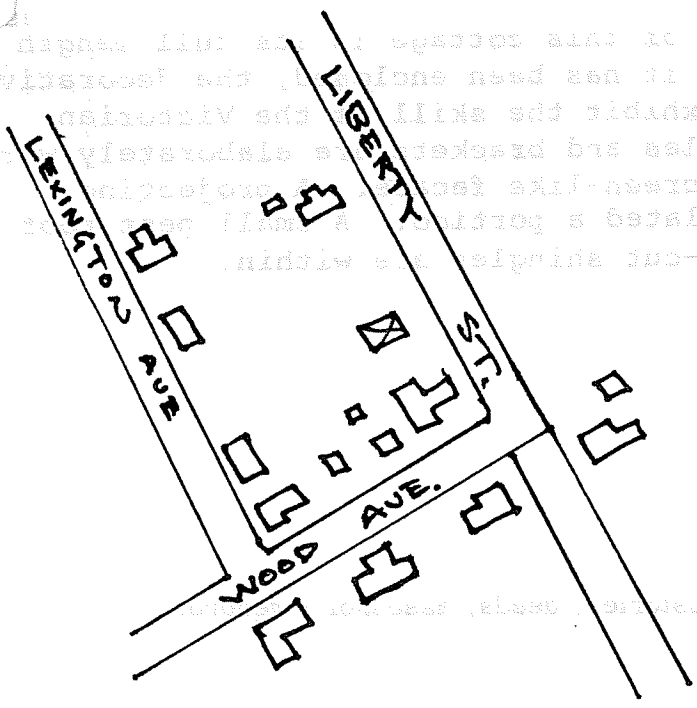
Present owner Winifred O'Brien

Description: C. 1870

Source Registry of Deeds and Atlases

Architect _____

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



Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features very ornate front porch

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 January 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Bay State Hardware Co.

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	_____				

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

This is one of the small one and a half story cottages which were built for employees by the Bay State Hardware Co. The 1873 Atlas shows the house with the name of Brown next to it and lists it as lot #12. In 1882, lot #12 was sold to Martin P. Brown. He sold it the next year to Thomas Cantwell, a mechanic at the Northampton Cutlery Co. (the successor to the Bay State Hardware Co.) and Cantwell lived here for the rest of the 19th century.

The most interesting feature of this cottage is its full length front porch. Although two-thirds of it has been enclosed, the decorative elements have been kept and still exhibit the skill of the Victorian craftsman. Balusters, posts, spindles and brackets are elaborately worked to produce a dense, but animated, screen-like facade. A projecting gabled section at the entrance simulated a portico. A small pent roof encloses the gable and decoratively-cut shingles are within.

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

1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
 Registry of Deeds: Bk 383-P 519, 371-442, 264-183.
 Northampton Directory: 1882-83.