

FORM B - BUILDING

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

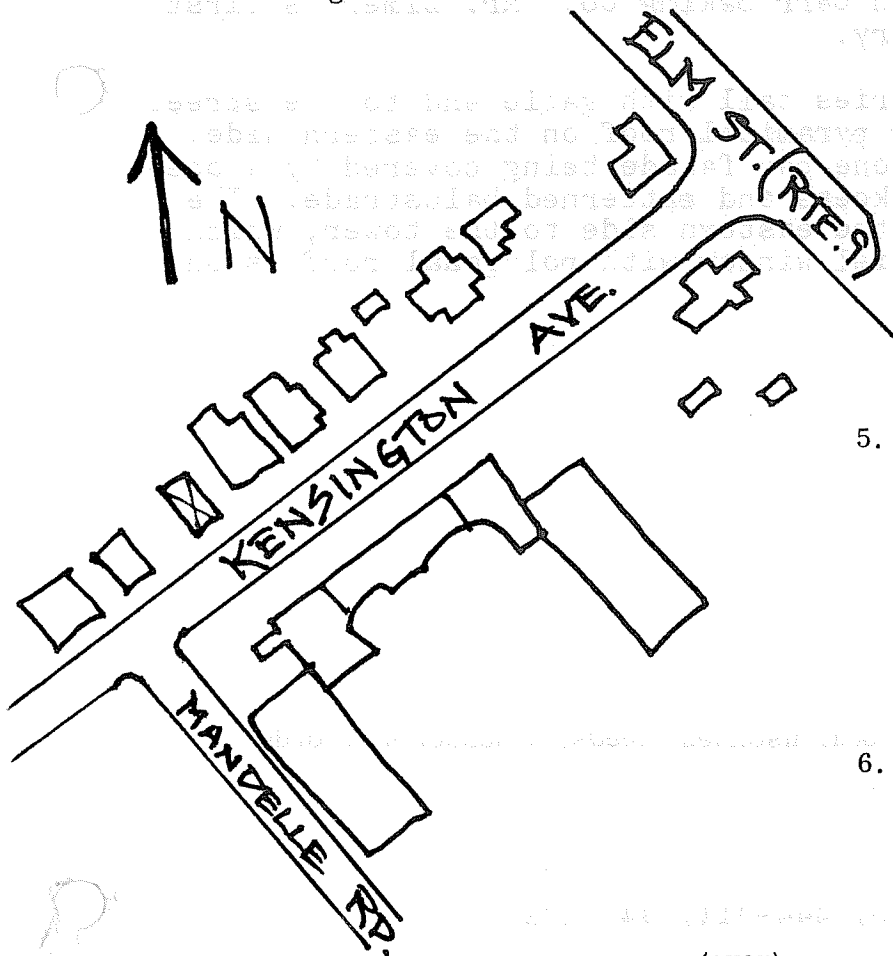
In Area no.	Form no.
	31A-237

548



Northampton
 Address 37 Kensington Avenue
 Name M. Elmer House
 Present use residence
 Present owner Raymond & Esther Morrissey
 Description: _____
1891-94
 Source Reg. of Deeds & Directory
Queen Anne
 Architect _____

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



Exterior wall fabric vinyl siding
 Outbuildings (describe) _____
 Other features 2-story corner tower with flaring hip roof, front porch with turned posts, brackets and stick-work balustrade
 Altered sided Date mid 20th c.
 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 & M. Dolin
 Organization NHC
 Date March 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Myron M. Elmer

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)

Kensington Ave. was opened up in 1890 through the Aaron Breck homestead on Elm St. The street was quickly developed and became one of the most "aristocratic" of city streets. This house was built for Myron Elmer, a driver for the Smith Carr Baking Co. Mr. Elmer is first listed here in the 1894-95 directory.

The house is 2½ stories tall with gable end to the street and a two-story tower with flaring pyramidal roof on the eastern side. The house is very narrow with the one-bay facade being covered by a one-story porch with turned posts, brackets and patterned balustrade. The porch also extends slightly along the eastern side to the tower, which contains the main entrance. An oriel window with polygonal roof is on the second story of the facade.

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

- 1884 & 1895 Atlases
- Northampton Directory: 1894-95
- Registry of Deeds: Bk.686-P.130, 444-311, 442-131