

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	31A-240

550



1 Northampton

Address 55 Kensington Avenue

Owner E. Pease House

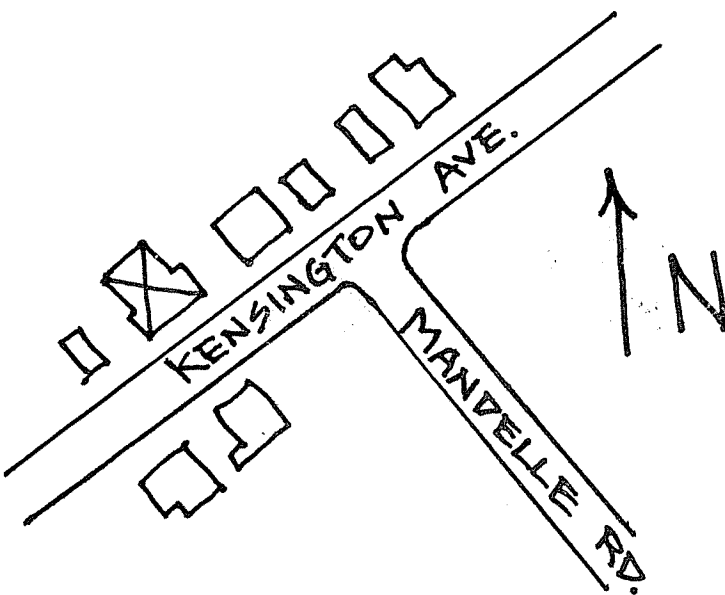
Present use residence

Present owner Anne & William Burgart

Description: 1890-92

Source Reg. of Deeds & Directory

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



Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric vinyl siding

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features 3-story corner tower with pyramidal roof & finial, 2-story entry porch with turned posts and balustrade

Altered sided Date mid 20th c.

Moved --- Date _____

5. Lot size:
One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street 20'

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan & M. Dolin

Organization NHC

Date March 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Esther Pease

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)

This is one of the earliest houses to be constructed on Kensington Ave. The street was opened in 1890 through the Elm St. homestead of Aaron Breck by Charles Crouch. Mr. Crouch was Northampton's most prolific builder of the 19th century, constructing over 150 houses.

The house appears on the 1895 atlas as the property of Esther Pease. Mrs. Pease is first listed at this address in the 1892-93 directory. The house features a two-story bay window capped by a one-story, rectangular tower with flaring base and pyramidal roof with finial, as well as a two-story entrance porch with doubled, turned posts and balustrades.

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

- 1884 & 1895 Atlases
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 442-P. 131
- Northampton Directory: 1892-93