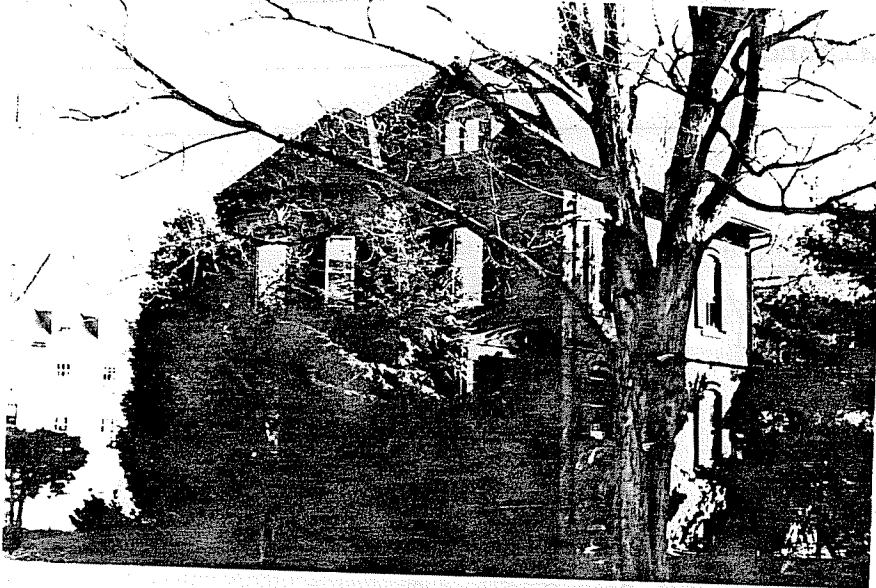


FORM B - BUILDING

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

557

In Area no.	Form no.
	31A-251-1



1. Town Northampton

Address 54 Kensington Avenue

Name G. Traphagen House

Present use residence

Present owner Smith College

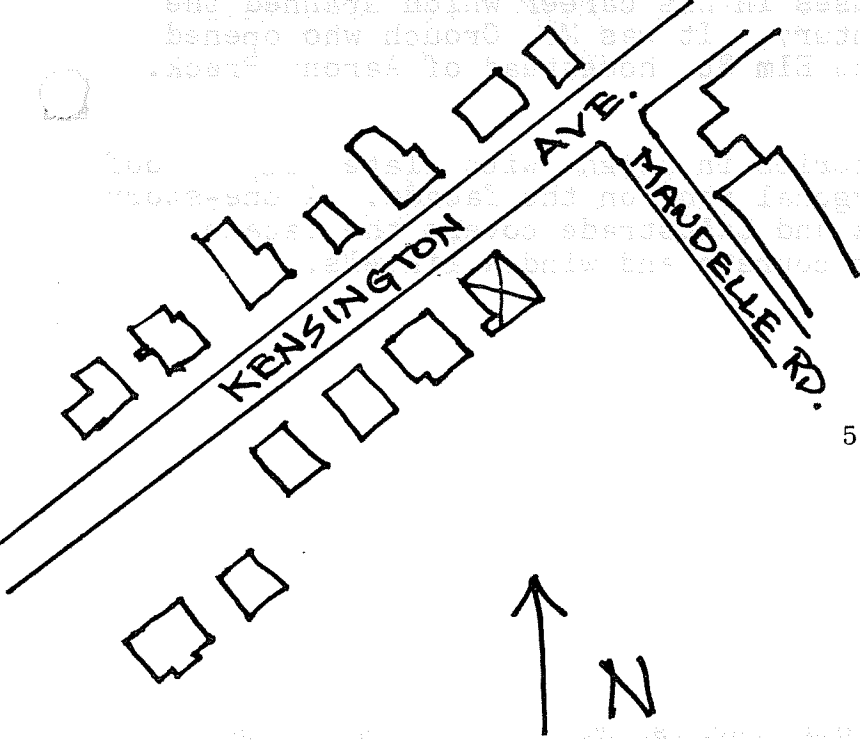
Description:

Year 1897-98

Source Reg. of Deeds & Directory

Architect _____

2. Map. _____
in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features string courses and lintels

of diagonally-laid brick, 2-story

corner tower with polygonal roof

Altered --- Date _____

Moved --- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less X 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) Carrie E. & George W. Traphagen

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Aboriginal | _____ | Conservation | _____ | Recreation | _____ |
| Agricultural | _____ | Education | _____ | Religion | _____ |
| Architectural | _____ | 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 house was built in 1897 for George Traphagen, a dentist. It was one of four brick houses built on Kensington Ave. that year by Charles Crouch. Mr. Crouch was Northampton's most prolific builder, constructing over 150 houses in his career which spanned the entire second half of the 19th century. It was Mr. Crouch who opened Kensington Ave. in 1890 through the Elm St. homestead of Aaron Breck.

The house is two stories in height with slate hipped roof and two-story bay window with polygonal roof on the facade. A one-story porch with shed roof, fluted posts and balustrade covers the facade. Fancy brickwork is used for string courses and window lintels.

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

1895 & 1915 Atlases
 Northampton Directory: 1898-99
 Registry of Deeds: Bk.760-P.223, 498-59
 Spfld Daily Republican Dec. 31, 1897.