

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no. F	Form no. 31A-272
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576



Northampton

Address 23 Dryads Green

G. W. Cable House

Present use Residence

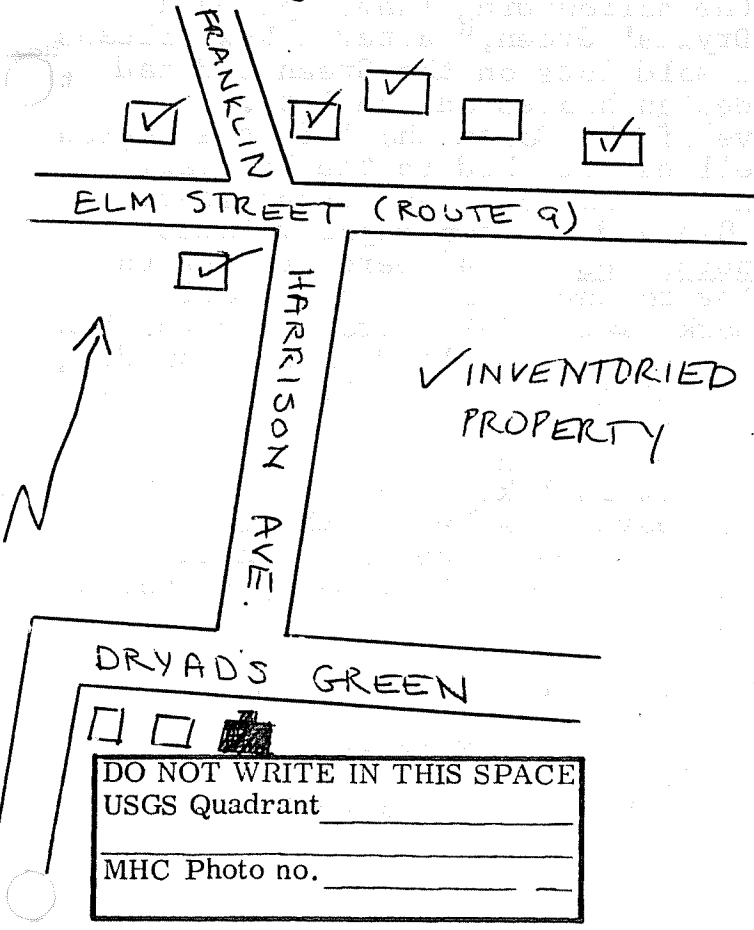
Present owner James & Marjorie Cavanaugh

Description: 18th century farmhouse; 1891 renovation

Source Historical Society, Hampshire Gazette

Colonial Revival

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



Architect Putnam & Bayley

Exterior wall fabric wood

Outbuildings (describe) study-now house

Other features gambrel roof with dormer; projecting section with fanlight; massive chimneys; bays

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

Moved yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
Less than one acre x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 150 feet

Approximate distance of building from street 20 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date June 3, 1976

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JUN 30 1976

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(over)

7. Original owner (if known) D. W. Clark (homestead) ; G. W. Cable-house on  
Original use residence  
Dryads' Green

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 type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Author and lecturer G. W. Cable came to Northampton in 1884. His first home was the brick Averill house, corner of Paradise Road and Dryads Green, convenient to Smith College where Cable intended to educate his five daughters cheaply. In 1891 Judge Hammond, clearing property on Elm Street for his residence, sold Cable the old D. W. Clark place. Hammond and J. A. Sullivan were clearing land for Harrison Avenue and the Clark homestead was moved to the end of that street. Cable, who owned much of the surrounding land, opened a street to which he gave the name "Dryads' Green," after a New Orleans street where he had resided. Cable sold lots on the Green and had the local firm of Putnam & Bayley design houses on the lots.

Cable (1844-1925) was a native of the South who left the region following the Civil War. He was well established in the literary world by the time of his arrival in Northampton: his first story appeared in Scribner's Monthly in 1873 and his two major volumes, Old Creole Days (1879) and The Grandissimes (1884) were written in the following decade. After 1885 the romancer and local colorist toured extensively, at times with Mark Twain. His strong inclination toward Bible study and social reform perhaps resulted in his founding of the Home Culture Clubs (People's Institute) to provide residents with an opportunity for self improvement.

The Cable Residence, "Tarryawhile," is an imposing colonial which has undergone much alteration. It is likely that the rear portion of the dwelling, with ridge roof, is representative of the early farmhouse. The additions—the projecting entrance with fanlight and possibly the gambrel roof itself—were probably made by Putnam & Bayley who designed other houses for Cable.

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

- Hampshire Gazette, 9/15/1885, 12/9/1891.
- Atlas of Northampton, 1895.
- File on G. W. Cable, Northampton Historical Society