

In Area no.	Form no. 588
	31A324

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

Town Northampton

Address Paradise Road, Smith campus

Name President's House

Present use residence

Present owner Smith College

Description:

Date 1919-20

Source Smith College Archives

Style Georgian Revival

Architect John W. Ames of Boston

Exterior wall fabric stucco covered brick

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features adjoining vegetable garden and formal terraced garden to rear, fronting on Paradise Pond.

Altered no Date _____

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

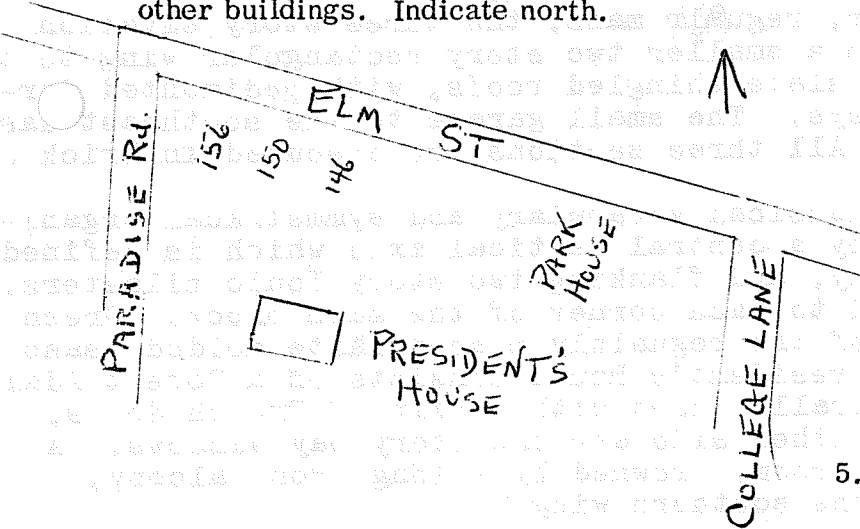
6. Recorded by Ann Gilkerson/ Robin Stroup

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date March 23, 1977



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



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

7. Original owner (if known) Smith College

Original use same as present

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	<u> x </u>	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)

Built in 1919-20 on a sloping hillside site facing Paradise Pond and Mt. Tom, the President's House replaced Gateway House as the official residence of the President of Smith College. Designed by John W. Ames of Boston (who was later a partner in the planning of the Quadrangle complex) in the Neo-Georgian style, the large residence is situated in front of a formally landscaped rear terrace. The largest American elm tree remaining on campus is located within the urn adorned walls.

Consisting of a rectangular, regular mass, the three story elevation of the main section is joined to a smaller two story rectangular wing to the south. Both sections have grey slate shingled roofs, with pedimented gables and massive Georgian chimneys. The small garage to the southeast has a copper covered pitched roof. All three sections are executed in brick surfaced by tan stucco.

Formally Georgian in its classical vocabulary and symmetrical organization, the facade is bisected by a central vertical axis which is defined by the main doorway, iron balcony, and flanking two story Ionic pilasters. These pilasters are also applied to each corner of the main block. Green Colonial shutters enframe most of the regularly placed white molded sash windows. The rear side of the President's House consists of a Robert Adamesque Ionic two story stoa, centrally inset with a pair of French doors, topped by an iron balcony. To either side are one story bay windows. A rectangular glassed in breakfast room, crowned by a long iron balcony, projects from the west side of the southern wing.

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

Smith College Archives