

FORM B - BUILDING

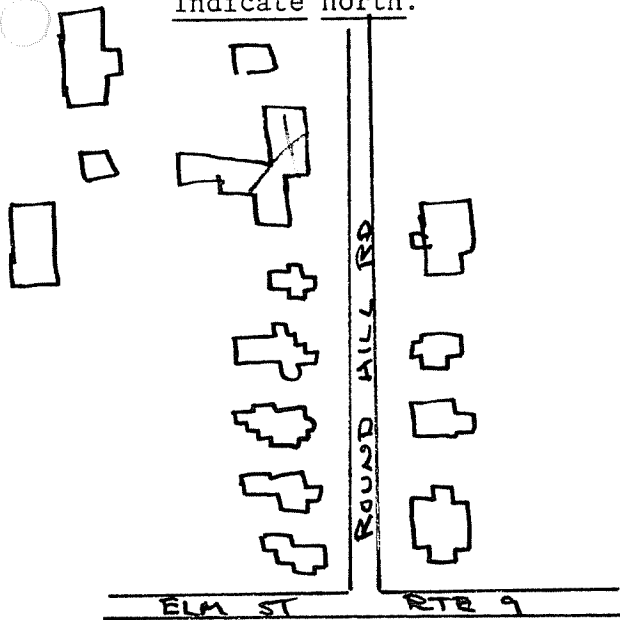
Area	Form no.
	31B-4

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Northampton
 s 46 Round Hill Rd.
 ic Name Gawith Hall
 riginal boys residence
 resent Administrative Building
 hip: Private individual
 Private organization Clark School
 Public
 riginal owner Clark School
 PTION:

Location in relation to cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



Date c. 1870
 Source The Northampton Book
 Style Second Empire
 Architect Ware and Van Brunt
 Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 rear addition- 1960's
 Moved --- Date --
 Approx. acreage _____
 Setting _____

Recorded by E. Lonergan
 Organization NHC
 Date April 1980

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Northampton	Form No: 31B-4
Property Name: Gawith Wall	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical significance

of the school. Dr. Pell served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1883-1893, and as President from 1917-1922.

Caroline Yale, the second principal of the school, came to the school in 1870 as a 22 year old teacher. She made Clarke School her life, and during her 63 years as teacher, Principal and Director of the Teacher Education Department the school achieved international prominence. In 1903 Grace Goodhue was admitted as a student in the Teacher Education Department. After completing her training she remained as a teacher, during which time she made the acquaintance of a young Northampton lawyer, Melvin Coolidge. They soon married and Mrs. Coolidge retained her connections with the Clarke School for the rest of her life. She served as President of the Board of Trustees from 1935-1952.

In the last twenty years the school has erected two large buildings: the Alexander Graham Bell dormitory on Round Hill Rd. (no. 45) and Magna House on Creseent St. (no. 26).

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This building was the first to be built for the Clarke School. It is from designs of Ware and Van Brunt, prominent Boston architects of the latter part of the 19th century. The block is two stories in height, built of brick, and capped by a Mansard roof, which has recently had its slate covered by asphalt. The front of the building has two sections, the southern one set back about twenty feet from the northern one. The end of the block are capped by tower-like projections with tall Mansard roofs and flaring, hipped gable dormers.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

In 1864 Mr. Gardiner Greene Hubbard, a prosperous Cambridge lawyer with a deaf daughter, attempted to persuade the Mass. Legislature to charter and support a school for young deaf children for the purpose of teaching them to speak and read lips. This effort failed and in 1866 Mr. Hubbard assisted Miss Harriet Rodgers in opening a small private school in Chelmsford. Until that time the system of instruction was sign language. The length of instruction was generally six years, beginning about the age of twelve. Miss. Rogers success with her young students in teaching them to speak and read lips encouraged Mr. Hubbard to try again for a state chartered school.

At the same time Mr. John Clarke of Northampton offered the state \$50,000 to establish a school for the deaf in Northampton. The bills incorporating Clarke School were approved June 1, 1867. Mr. Clarke gave his \$50,000, and an additional \$250,000 legacy was left in his will. The school was established in the old Gothic Seminary on Gothic St. In 1870, after Mr. Clarke's death, the school was able to purchase 12 acres of land on Round Hill, south of the Round Hill Hotel. This land included two buildings on the east side of Round Hill Rd. that had been built by the Shepherd brothers, and had been used for the Round Hill School for Boys. A new building, Baker Hall (now Cavith Hall) was built on the western side of the road. This was from designs of Ware and Van Brunt, the prominent Boston architects. It was occupied by the boys, while Rodger's Hall was the girls' residence and Clarke Hall, was used for the school and library. Clarke Hall was replaced in the early 20th century by Hubbard Hall.

In 1871 Alexander Graham Bell came to Clarke School to instruct the teachers in his father's system of Visible Speech. On July 11, 1877 he married Mabel Hubbard, the daughter of Mr. Hubbard, first President of the school.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1860 County Map. 1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
- Daily Hampshire Gazette June 1, 1967.
- Clark School Archives.

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