

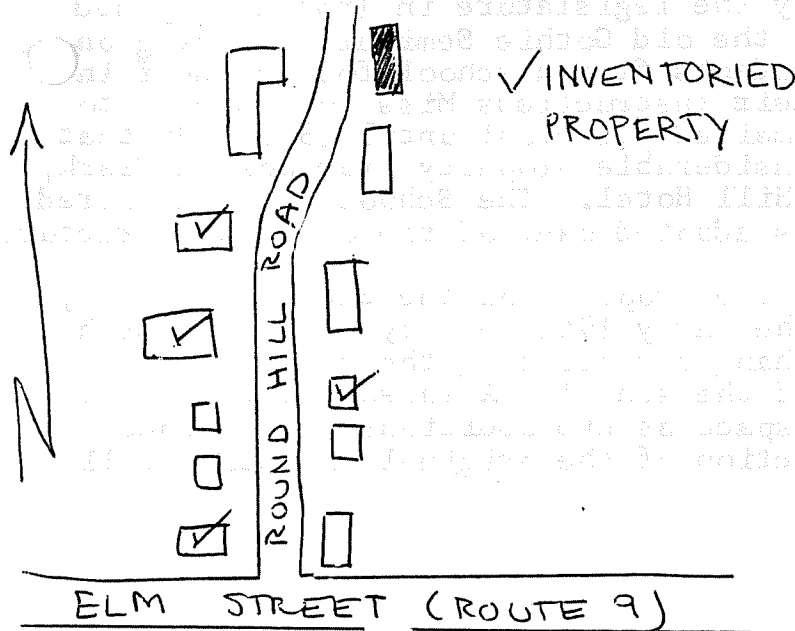
In Area no. <u>C</u>	Form no. <u>313-6</u>
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594



Northampton
Round Hill Road
Rogers Hall
 present use Classrooms/Library,
Clarke School for the Deaf
 present owner Clarke School
 description: early 19th century with later
(Victorian) additions
 source Northampton Book; Gazette
Federal/Second Empire

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



Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features 2 stories w/mansard and
dormers; brick walls; stone lintels
above window openings
 Altered yes Date various
 Moved no Date -

5. Lot size:
 Less than one acre Over one acre x
 Approximate frontage 450 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street
50 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie
 Organization Northampton Historical
Commission
 Date November 6, 1975

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

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(over)

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7. Original owner (if known) _____
 Original use _____ Residence _____
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____ Clarke School _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	<u> x </u>	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ Humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u> x </u>				

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

Round Hill is a small hill northwest of the central business district in Northampton. It has traditionally been the site of innovative social and cultural experiemtns and an exclusive residential area. Historian George Bancroft conducted a school on the Hill in the 1820's and later in the century a water cure and hotel established the hill as a resort for the wealthy.

Clarke School was first conceived by John Clarke who, in 1867, set aside \$50,000 for the creation of a school for deaf mutes. The institution was chartered by the legislature in 1867 and opened that year with twenty pupils in the old Gothic Seminary building on Gothic Street. A handful of students from a school for the deaf in Chelmsford joined the group; their instructress Miss Rogers came to manage the Clarke School and remained principal until 1886. By that time the School had acquired considerable property from Josiah Clark, Harvey Kirkland, and the Round Hill Hotel. The School later acquired the Williston properties and has adapted many of the original structures to institutional uses.

Rogers Hall was originally the property of the Shepherd family, early residents of the hill. The early 19th century residence with soapstone front has undergone changes reflecting the fashion of later periods and the growing needs of the school. A mansard dating from the 1880's increased available space as did additions to portions of the structure. One small section of the original soapstone wall remains.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Hampshire Gazette, 6/4/1867, 7/23/1867, 7/9/1867, 8/1/1871, 7/20/1886, 11/18/1927.
 The Northampton Book, Forbes Library.