

FORM B - BUILDING

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

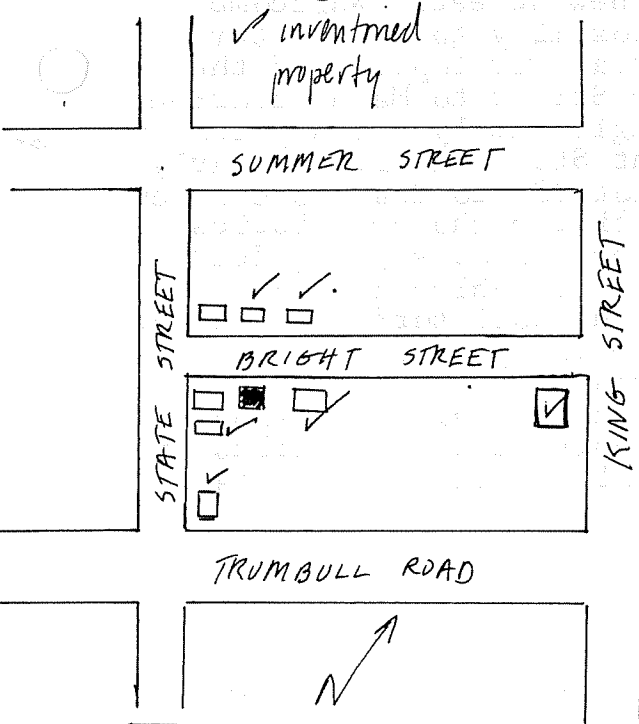
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In Area no.	Form no.
	31B-137



City Northampton
 Address 32 Bright Street
 Name Cottage
 Present use Residence
 Present owner James Shaughnessy
 Description:
1881-1885
Daily Hampshire Gazette
 Source 1/23/1883; 5/15/1883; 6/17/84
Stick style

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. _____

Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric wood boards & shingle
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features sloping roof with
dormer; interior chimneys; framing
and shingling in gable ends
 Altered no Date _____
 Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 70 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street
30 feet

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

(over)

APR 5 1976

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7. Original owner (if known) Parker R. Whitcomb

Original use Residence (rental property)

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

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

Parker R. Whitcomb purchased a large tract of land known as the Bright Estate from Dr. Blodgett about 1881. Whitcomb proceeded to erect a number of cottages on the property. By January 1883, Whitcomb had built several cottages on "Bright Street" and planned to build others; in June 1884, a total of nine cottages had been built along the new street. Whitcomb rented the dwellings whose style and proximity to the center of Northampton made them popular; residential development of the section of State Street south of Summer Street to Main occurred at this time, with brick and wooden single family homes predominating. Whitcomb retained the cottages in Bright Street until the early 1900's; in 1905 he sold #32, known as lot #3, to Charles Chesney.

This cottage is one of three exhibiting characteristics of both stick and shingle styles. The transitional styling features elements of the stick style like framing of gables and the articulation of structural elements in the wall surface. Elements of the Queen Anne are also present: the more placid massing of the structure and the sweeping roof surfaces which enclose porch spaces and include them in the body of the house. Shingling is a prominent decorative element but is confined within gables or small panels and does not flow across wall surfaces as in later fully developed shingle style works.

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

Daily Hampshire Gazette, January 23, 1883; May 15, 1883;
June 17, 1884; December 8, 1885.
Registry of Deeds, Hampshire County, 551,131, 600.252.