

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no. 31B-188
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665



Northampton

Address 76 Gothic St.

Name A.S. Abell House

Present use residence

Present owner Elizabeth Porada

Description: c. 1839

Source Registry of Deeds

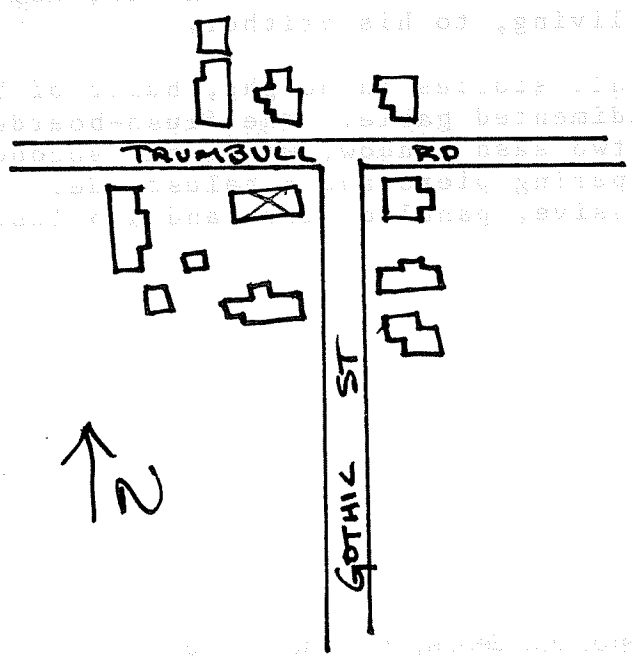
Architect \_\_\_\_\_

in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features \_\_\_\_\_



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

Moved -- Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by E. Loneragan

Organization NHC

Date March 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Asahel S. Abell

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

In 1839 Asahel Abell, a local carpenter, purchased a half acre of land from the trustees of the Northampton Female Seminary. In the deed the land is described as that on which Mr. Abell "recently erected a dwelling house". Mr. Abell and his brother Ansell operated a combination saw and planing mill on lower Pleasant St. during the 1840's, but little else is known of their business practice. In 1842 Ansell sold the home, on which both he and his brother were living, to his brother.

The house is two-and-a-half stories in height, built of brick with a two-story portico capped by a pedimented gable. The flush-boarded tympanum contains a "Gothic" two over two sash window, while the second floor of the portico consists of paneled, tapering piers and a balustrade. The first floor of the portico has more massive, paneled piers and a balustrade. The doorway is topped by a transom.

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

- 1831 Town Map.
- 1854 and 1860 County Maps.
- 1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 227-P. 81, 205-278, 170-459, 96-329, 84-13.