

Area	Form no.
	31B-224

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Town Northampton

41 Elm St.

Name E. Clark House

Original residence

Present dormitory

Property: Private individual
 Private organization Smith College

Public _____

Original owner Enos Clark

PERIOD:

early 19th century



cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.
Indicate north.

Source Maps and visual evidence

federal originally, with 2nd Empire ALTERATIONS

Style ~~Greek Revival~~

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings _____

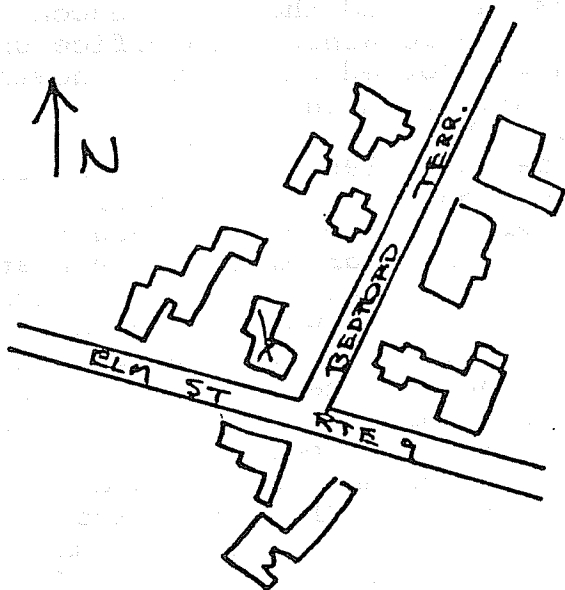
Major alterations (with dates) _____

rear addition

Moved --- Date _____

Approx. acreage one acre or less

Setting _____



Recorded by E. Lincoln and E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date 1978 and June 1980

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

The house is 3½ stories in height with pedimented end to Elm St. The tympanum is covered with flush boarding and has a double 2 over 2 sash window, while the pediment and cornice are supported by modillions. The symmetrical facade has a central entrance with fanlight and flanking pilasters, covered by a one-story pedimented portico supported by chamfered posts. The windows are rectangular with 2 over 2 sashes and plain moldings.

The southern side of the building has a two-story colonnade with attenuated columns with pseudo-Egyptian capitals.

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

This house occupies land that first came into the Clark Family about 1710. Increase Clark established his homestead on this property at the house that formerly stood at the east corner of Bedford Terrace. His son Deacon Elijah succeeded to the homestead and lived upon the place 1730-1791. Elijah's youngest son, Enos was named the 27th deacon of the First Church in 1818 at the age of 39. He retained this office until 1832. At that time the Edwards Church was formed and he was chosen their first deacon, a position he held until his death in 1864.

It seems probable that Enos established his homestead here on a portion of his father's homestead in the early 19th century. After his decease the house passed to his heirs who maintained the property until 1886. At that time the house and lot were sold to Mary L. Southwick. Mrs. Southwick opened the house as a residence for Smith College students living outside the College. In those years it was called Southwick House. In 1916 the newly established Hampshire Bookshop was opened on the first floor and remained in the building until 1918. It was subsequently purchased by the Burnham School which had acquired the Hunt-Lyman House at 45 Elm St. and was for some years a part of the Burnham School complex. In 1968 the Burnham School properties were purchased by Smith College. The house was considerably remodeled and established as the Eleanor Duckett House dormitory, named for Miss Eleanor Duckett, eminent Latin scholar and author, Smith professor 1916-1949. Smith awarded her an honorary L.H.D.; she received her D. Litt. from Cambridge and from the U. of London.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1831 Town Map. 1854 and 1860 County Maps.
1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
Registry of Deeds: Bk. 1533-P. 4, 721-304, 717-523, 404-8 and 10.
Antiquities, Historicals and Graduates of Northampton, 1882, pp. 114-15 and 268-270.
Smith College Archives.