

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Town Northampton
 Address 150 Elm St.
 Historic Name _____
 Use: Original residence
 Present dormitory
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization Smith College
 Public _____
 Original owner James C. Ward

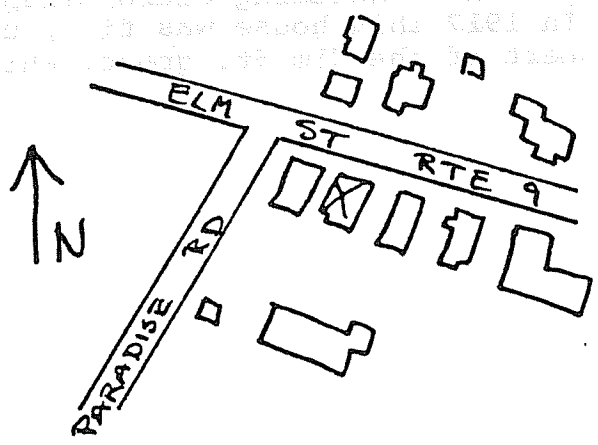
SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.

DESCRIPTION:
 Date c. 1884
 Source Reg. of Deeds and Atlas

Style Victorian Cottage
 Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard
 Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved --- Date _____
 Approx. acreage one acre or less



Recorded by E. Lincoln and E. Lonergan
 Organization NHC
 Date 1977 and June 1980

Setting _____

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

The house is two stories tall with high hipped slate roof. The front slope of the roof has three dormers with inset pediment designs in their gables and brackets. The projecting eaves are supported by brackets on a vertical board frieze. The three-bay facade has a projecting central entrance topped by a patterned balcony. A one story portico with flat roof, chamfered posts and arched openings covers the entrance.

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

In 1865 James C. Ward purchased a large tract of land west of Elm St. and bounded by the Mill River that became known as "Paradise". Paradise Road was soon opened and lots sold for residential development. Mr. Ward built his own house on the street, however, by 1885, Mr. Ward had died and his widow Margaret was making her residence in the house at 156 Elm St. on the corner of Paradise Rd. The 1884 atlas shows both of these houses owned by Mrs. M. Ward, and a mortgage taken on this property in 1884 mentions the "new dwelling thereon".

In 1890 this house and lot were sold to Erma Bonney, who in turn sold the property to Smith College in 1898. The house seems to have been rented by Smith College to a series of persons, including Clara Allen, who ran a small shop on the premises. In 1917 this house was first used as a dormitory for the College and was part of the Elm St. group, which included nos. 146, 150, 156 and 164.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
- Northampton Directory: 1875-76, 1885-86, 1900, 1905, 1915.
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 512-P. 102. 432-215, 393-383, 388-481.
- Smith College Archives.