

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	31 B 25a

706



1. Town Northampton
 Address 84 Elm Street
 Name Elizabeth Drew House
 Present use Smith College Board of Admission
 Present owner Smith College

3. Description: Brick Colonial
 Date c. 1750-1770
 Source Deeds
 Style Two story Case Colonial

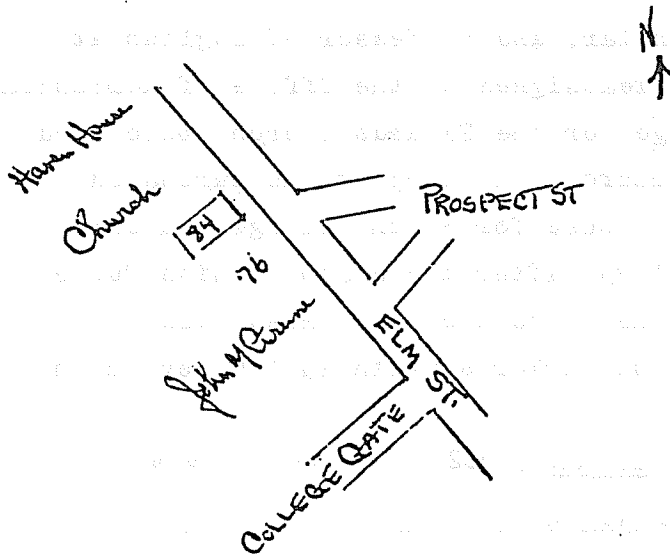
Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric Painted Brick
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features Dormer windows added ?

Altered Dormers. Date _____
 Interior _____
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: Campus
 One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 50 ft.
 Approximate distance of building from street _____
80 ft

6. Recorded by E. T. Lincoln
 Organization Northampton Historical Commission
 Date Oct. 1977

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. _____

(over)

Benjamin S. Lyman original owner and builder; inherite

7. Original owner (if known) by William Lyman an officer in the Revolution who died in 1774 leaving the house to his widow

Original use Homestead

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Residence for students. Tea Room

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

84 Elm Street , Elizabeth Drew House, The Bras : Knocker

The house now called Elizabeth Drew House was acquired by Smith College in 1960. First used by Smith as a dormitory for Graduate Students, it was named for Elizabeth Drew, Author, scholar, and professor of English at Smith College. It has recently been reassigned to the Office of Admission. From 1827 to 1885 it was the parsonage for the Edwards Church, purchased by each succeeding minister of the church. In 1885 it was purchased by Lydia Tucker who ran an off-campus house for Smith College students called miss Tucker's. Purchased in 1895 after the death of Miss Tucker by miss Edith Parker it was renamed The Brass Knocker. Miss Parker ran it as an inn. Purchased after Miss Parker's death in 1960 by Smith College.

In his Reminiscences of Old Northampton, 1902 , Henry S. Gere writes that this house was built by Benjamin S. Lyman. (page 11)

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

Register of Deeds

Books 57/158 1827; 80/574 1837; 104/62 1844; 123/221 1848;
170/313 1857; 186/19 1857; 393/33 1885; 477/3 1895;
1418/343 1960

RELATION OF SURROUNDING TO STRUCTURE

706

1. Outbuildings

Landscape Features: Agriculture Open Wooded Garden: Formal/Informal
Predominant features spare formal planting along street frontage
Landscape architect Smith College

3. Neighboring Structures

Style: Colonial Federal Greek Revival Gothic Revival Italian Villa Lombard Rom.
Venetian Gothic Mansard Richardsonian Modern (College buildings)

Use: Residential Commercial Religious Conditions: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated
college

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

The Smith College Archives give no firmly documented facts concerning this house, but from the references listed it would seem to have been built in the late 18th century by a William Lyman and occupied by that family for some years. In the 1850's it was the "parsonage" (or manse) of a Dr. Gordon Hall, a local pastor, and in the 1880's was used as a residence hall by Smith College and called Tucker House because of the woman who ran it. Later it became a public inn, used largely by visitors to the college; and in still later years and up to the 1960's was called the Brass Knocker and managed by Miss Edith Parker. In 1967 it was purchased by Smith College as a residence for graduate students and named the Elizabeth Drew House in honor of Miss Drew, a visiting lecturer at Smith for over 20 years, until her recent retirement and death.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

Smith College Archives

Daily Hampshire Gazette June 8, 1852
Nov. 27, 1883

Rev. Solomon Clark, Antiquities, Historicals and Graduates of Northampton
Gazette Printing Co, Northampton, 1882

RESTRICTIONS

Original Owner: probably William Lyman
Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, _____ Registry of Deeds

