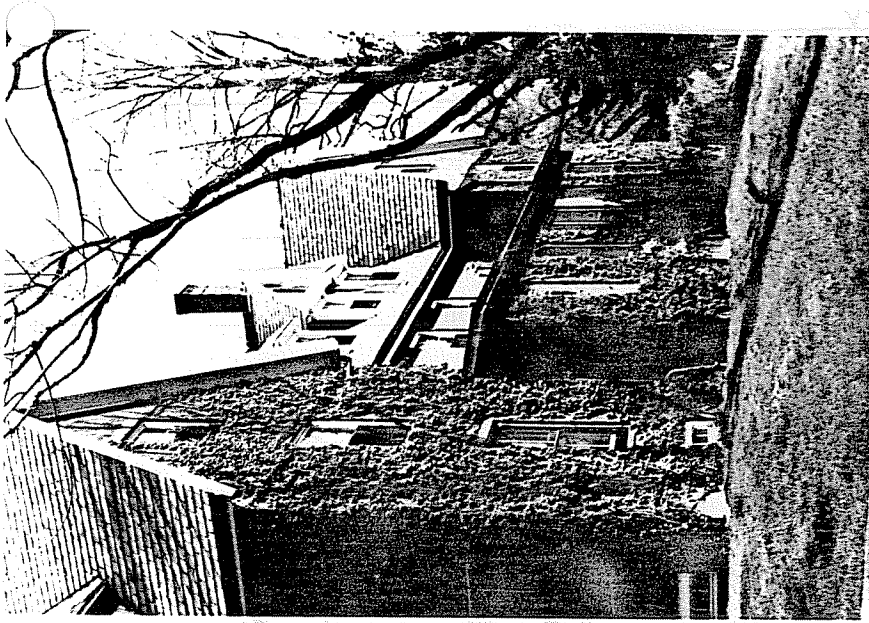


FORM B - BUILDING

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

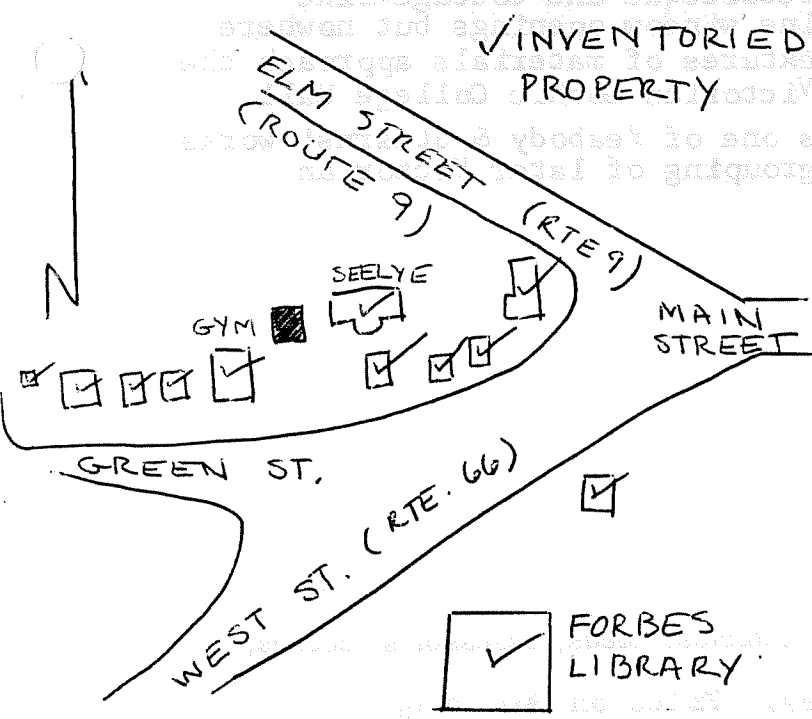
In Area no.	Form no.
	31D-16

742



City Northampton  
 Address Smith College Campus  
 Name Washburn House  
 Present use Residence  
 Present owner Trustees of Smith College  
 Construction date 1878-1879  
 Source Smith College Archives  
 Style Gothic

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect Peabody & Stearns  
 Exterior wall fabric brick  
 Outbuildings (describe) none  
 Other features deep gables; stone trim; dormers with wood framing; decorative chimneys  
 Altered no Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved no (?) Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:  
 Less than one acre \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre x  
 Approximate frontage Smith Campus  
 Approximate distance of building from street  
150 feet

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
 USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
 MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by C. Dible  
 Organization Northampton Historical Commission  
 Date June 9, 1976

(over)

JUN 30 1976

MASS. HIST. COMM.

7. Original owner (if known) Smith College  
 Original use Dormitory  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Dormitory

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Washburn House was named for William B. Washburn (1820-1887), a Governor of Mass. and U. S. Senator who served as a trustee at the College from 1871 to 1887. Washburn was built in the 1870's, at a time when Peabody & Stearns of Boston was the firm designing for the College.

The facade is typical of Peabody & Stearns' work at Smith, with a strong vertical emphasis produced by steeply pitched gables at either end of the building. Dormers and tall chimney stacks are united to achieve a picturesque and cottage-like form. Brownstone is used to define window openings but nowhere does the variety of colors and textures of materials approach the vigorous polychromy of the High Victorian Gothic College Hall. The building is important both as one of Peabody & Stearns' works on the campus and as one of the grouping of later Victorian structures on the campus.

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

Smith College Archives. Files on Buildings; President's Reports.