

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In Area no. <u>A</u>	Form no. <u>31D-144</u>
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779 ✓



Northampton

153-159 Main Street

Todd Block

Commercial

Albert Aube, Jr.

1870

Victorian Commercial

J. M. Miner

brick

none

brickwork cornice, brown-stone arches with keystones above, segmental below

Altered fenestration Date 1911 between and 1945
altered

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 60 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

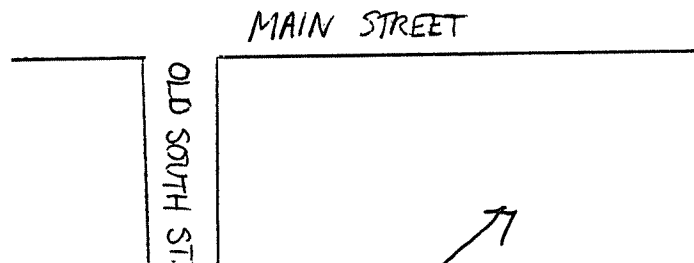
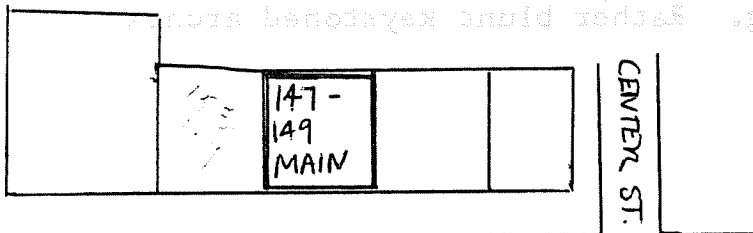
flush with sidewalk

Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date April 1, 1975

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. _____

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7. Original owner (if known) Wm. Todd et al.

Original use Commercial

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Commercial

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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

The Todd block of 1870 replaced an earlier brick building with wooden cornice following the fire of July 1870. The fire destroyed several commercial blocks as well as the Warner House Hotel. The Fitch Hotel (later the Draper) and the commercial blocks built on the north side of Main Street following the fire were the work of J. M. Miner, a Cleveland native who located for a time in Northampton.

Photographs of the Todd Block taken in the late nineteenth century reveal ten identical and evenly spaced windows in the first and second stories of the building. Rather blunt keystone arches top each window opening.

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

Daily Hampshire Gazette, April 18, 1871