

FORM B - BUILDING

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

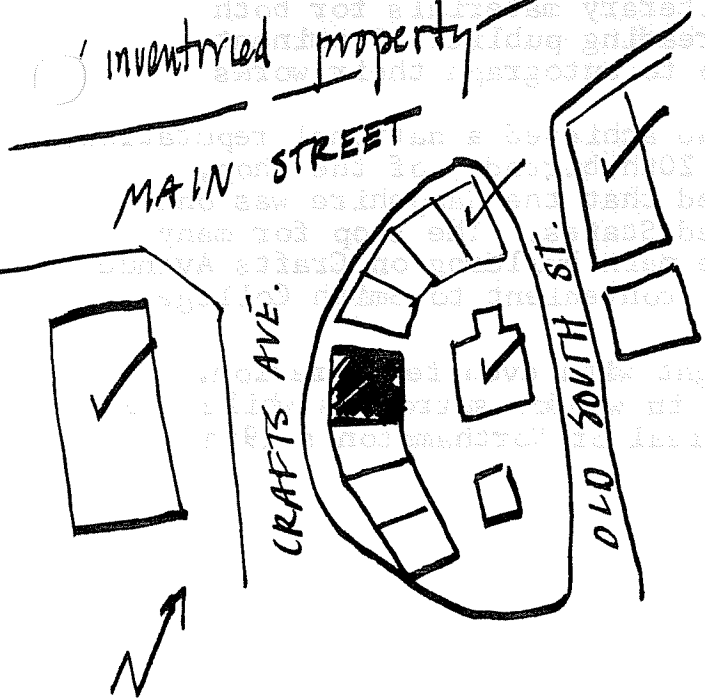
NR 787

In Area no. A	Form no. 31D-157
------------------	---------------------



Northampton  
Address Crafts Avenue  
Hampshire Bookstore Building  
Present use Commercial  
Present owner James E. Lunny  
Description:  
1892  
Source Daily Hampshire Gazette  
8/14/1892  
Architect unknown

in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Exterior wall fabric brick  
Outbuildings (describe) none  
Other features 7 bays wide; 2 stories;  
brick wall surface with stone trim;  
entrance with fanlight  
Altered no Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Lot size:  
One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate frontage 50 feet  
Approximate distance of building from street  
5 feet

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

6. Recorded by C. Dubie  
Organization Northampton Historical Commission  
Date July 30 1975

RECEIVED

(over)

JUN 30 1976

MASS. HIST. COMM.

7. Original owner (if known) Dr. Parsons

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 type="checkbox"/>            | Exploration/ | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science/       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Arts              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | settlement   | <input type="checkbox"/> | invention      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commerce              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Communication         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> | humanitarian   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Political    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

The Hampshire Book Shop, a nationally known bookstore in existence from 1916 to the mid 1960's, was for many years located in this late nineteenth century commercial block. The Book Shop, first located in three rooms at the corner of Elm Street and Bedford Terrace, was a source of literary materials for both Smith College and for the general reading public. Prominent authors often visited the Book Shop to autograph their works for customers.

In twenty years the Book Shop had achieved a national reputation. Robert Frost, special guest at the 20th birthday of the shop, read poetry selections and commented that the Hampshire was one of the best bookstores in the United States. The shop for many years maintained two locations, the main building on Crafts Avenue and a branch store on Green Street, convenient to Smith College personnel.

The block is two stories in height with even fenestration. Brick and rough-face stone are used in window surrounds while the cornice exhibits the brick-work typical of Northampton's 19th century blocks.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Daily Hampshire Gazette, 4/12/1916, 8/22/1922, 7/19/1923, 11/4/1931, 4/17/1936.