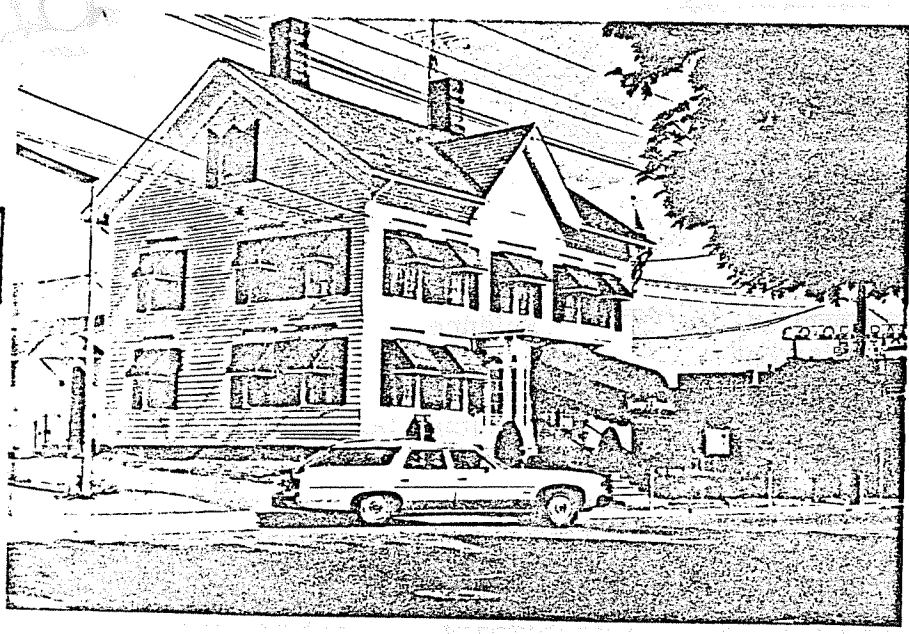


FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no. 85
	32A-121



Northampton

Address 71 King Street (71)

Catholic Society Parsonage

Present use Funeral Home

Present owner G.F. Reynolds Realty Trust

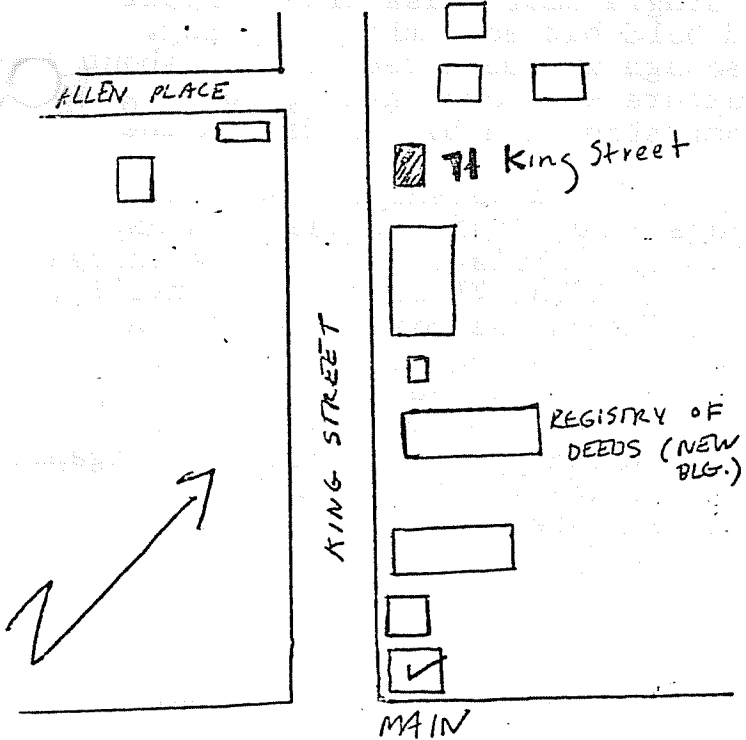
Description:

1866  
Daily Hampshire Gazette  
Source October 30, 1866

Economical Italianate

Architect Wm. F. Pratt

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. \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features single cubic mass w/ central cross gable; bold detailing

Altered no Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 100 feet

Approximate distance of building from street 10 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dubie

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date June 10, 1975

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Catholic Society

Original use Parsonage

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Funeral Home. 1975.

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	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)

Wm. F. Pratt, local architect, drew the plans for this dwelling, the Catholic Society Parsonage, in 1866. The exterior is similar in appearance to a parsonage designed at this time for the First Church on Bridge Street, and to a house remodeled for Henry Lathrop in 1859, also on Bridge Street. Each plan features a single cubic mass with central gable, symmetrical facade, and bold but economical styling. The Catholic Society parsonage was reported to cost about \$4,000. The First Parish structure was more lavish, costing about \$6,000 in spite of the omission of a bay window in the west facade.

The Catholics in Northampton first worshipped on King Street. A church was built there about 1845 and the parsonage in 1866. By the 1870's the Catholic population was large enough for a separate parish to be organized for Florence, Haydenville, and Leeds. In 1880 the Florence church was completed and in 1881 a new church was begun in Northampton on the hill where the Mansion House had stood overlooking the old New Haven-Northampton canal. About 1887 a parsonage was added below the new Gothic church; by this time the Catholic worshippers had begun to organize according to their national backgrounds and the French and Polish Catholics had located in separate places of worship.

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

- Daily Hampshire Gazette, October 30, 1866.
- Beer's Atlas of Hampshire County, 1873.
- The Northampton Book, p. 392.