

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	32A-239

917



Northampton

SS 2 Pomeroy Terrace

Draper House

nt use For sale, was funeral

pr _____

nt owner for sale

ption: _____

1895

Daily Hampshire Gazette

ce 8/21/1895

Queen Anne

18 th century French Chateau

ect Curtis G. Page

or wall fabric wood

ildings (describe) garage

features numerous gables; tower

orner; porte-cochere;

balustrade
red removed Date ?

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size: _____

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 150 feet

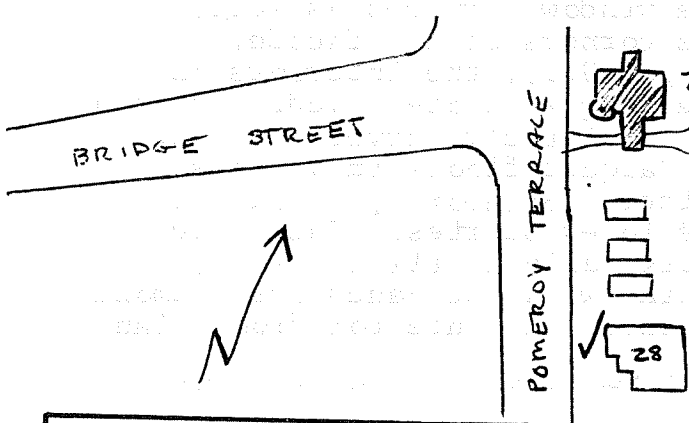
Approximate distance of building from street

30 feet

6. Recorded by C. Dible

Organization Northampton Historical Commission

Date June 1, 1975



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

RECEIVED (over)

SEP 30 1975

MASS. HIST. COMM.

3.A-33

7. Original owner (if known) John Draper

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Funeral Parlors c. 1950-1975

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>				

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

This magnificent Queen Anne residence was built in 1895 for John L. Draper, owner of the Mansion House (later Draper Hotel), the major hotel in Northampton. Well sited at a bend in route 9 (Bridge Street), the large dwelling presents a many gabled facade to the north and west. A massive three story tower is appended to the southwest corner of the main mass of the house. To the rear of the tower rises a splendid decorative chimney of Longmeadow stone and red brick. The entire surface of the structure, its tower, and gables is covered with thin clapboards. The decorative elements are, like the clapboarding, small in scale and flow across wall surfaces, unifying various sections of the facade. Chains of garland and swag appear in a decorative frieze on the main roof, the roof of the tower and the roof of the veranda. This light embellishment is carried on the window cornices as well. Attenuated pilasters define the corners of the facade.

At the time of this writing (1975), the interiors on the main floor of the house are very well preserved. The main rooms have fine fireplaces and exquisitely carved mantels, cabinets, and other woodwork. Parquet floors in various patterns have been well maintained. Sycamore and oak are the principal woods used in the lower stories. The third story contains a large hall, originally a billiard room, and numerous small rooms with windows whose panes are diamond shaped. As indicated by the facade, the interior floor plan is complex.

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

Daily Hampshire Gazette, August 21, 1895,
August 5, 1895.

* Curtâs Page, architect of the Draper residence, was also responsible for the design of the Hampton (Plaza) Hotel (1896) still standing at 79-83 Pleasant Street. These are the only Page works in Northampton known of at the time of this writing. Page arrived in Northampton in 1893 and maintained an office in the city until 1899, although Page himself moved to Springfield by that year.

Draper House, 2 Pomeroy Terrace

The residence was designed under what were, for Northampton, unusual circumstances. J. L. Draper held a competition; each of the three local architects submitted a plan and from these Draper made his selection. Such competitions were rare occurrences in Northampton. The final design for public buildings like schools and churches were often selected from a number of submissions: in 1876, eleven designs for the new First Church were presented, in 1894, eight plans were offered for the new High School building. In 1895, Draper received plans from H. R. Hayden, Putnam & Bayley, and Curtis Page. The designs undoubtedly differed greatly: Hayden, successor to W. F. Pratt & Son, had a primarily residential and well-rooted traditional clientele; Putnam & Bayley designed commercial, residential, and industrial buildings and had since 1893 captured the lion's share of the architectural work in Northampton and often secured commissions in surrounding towns. Page was a bit more mysterious. Although listed in town directories as residing in Northampton, Page's name seldom appears in the Gazettes of the nineties. The Gazette also credits him with few designs at a period when residential building was considerable. That which Page did design was monumental and rich. By 1899, Page was residing in Springfield and had probably transferred his business interests there where development of the suburbs made architecture more interesting and lucrative. As Eage & Hayes, Page maintained an office in Northampton.

