

FORM B - BUILDING

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

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|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
| | 32A-267 |

926



Northampton

Address 2-6 Graves Ave.

Use residence

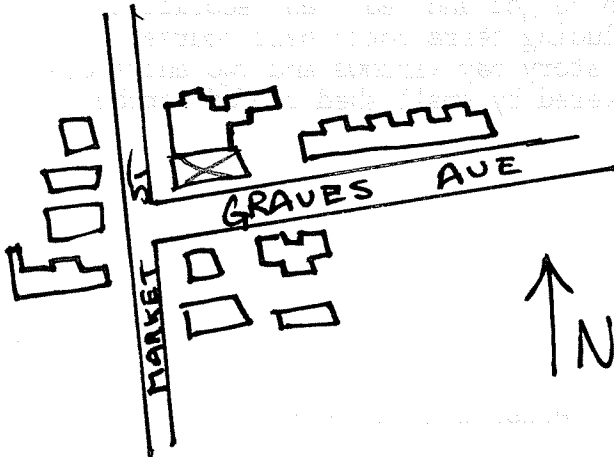
Owner Joseph Caruso, et al - Trustees

Year 1890-95

Source Reg. of Deeds and Atlas

Architect _____

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



Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered -- Date _____

Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 80'

Approximate distance of building from street 10'

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Avon and Henry Mathews

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

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 | <u>x</u> | | | | |

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

Graves Ave. was laid out in 1884 through the Graves homestead on Market St. The street was quickly developed residentially, and by 1895 fourteen of the present fifteen structures had been constructed. There were a variety of residential types including single-family, double and rows. This large block seems to have been built to contain nine flats.

In 1890 Avon and Henry Matthews bought lot no. 1 of the subdivision plan from Silas Cooley. Mr. Cooley had purchased lot 1, 3, and 5 in 1886 and had a eight unit brick row built on lots 3 and 5. In his deed to the Matthews Bros. there was a restriction on placing any new building with 15' of his block. The Matthews were prominent builders, masons and carpenters, and maximized thier investment by erecting this large block.

The building is three stories in height and features decorative masonry techniques of the late 19th century, including terra cotta belt courses and corbelled cornices. The facade has three 3- story bay windows and two entrances, one single and one double. The entrances are covered by small shed roofed porches with decorative brackets.

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

- 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 431-P. 409, 399-12.
- Northampton Directory: 1893-99.