

FORM B - BUILDING

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

NR

In Area no. <u>A</u>	Form no. <u>32C-11+12</u>
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928

Northampton
108 Main Street
between 110 & 112 Main Street

Isaac Damon Granite Stores
present use Commercial-Jewelers

women's clothing store
present owner 108-Alexander August
110-Edward J. Gare

description:
1826-28

source see Bibliography
after the style of Alexander
Parris who designed each side of
Paul Hall Market in Boston, 1823

Architect Isaac Damon

Exterior wall fabric Granite

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features 3 stories tall, four bays
wide. Intermediate granite posts
replaced by non-bearing members

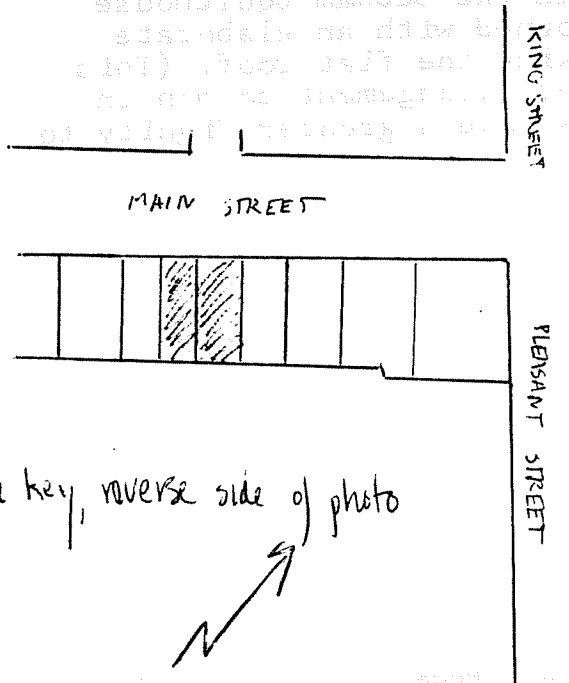
Altered front of one Date c.1970
remodeled
Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
One acre or less Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 15 feet each
Approximate distance of building from street
10 feet

6. Recorded by C. Keith Wilbur
Organization Northampton Historical
Commission
Date April 15, 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) Isaac Damon

Original use Stores

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Stores

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input checked="" 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 present Gare Jewelry Store is located in Isaac Damon's "Granite Stores" (1826-28). It was first the site of the shop of Samuel Stiles, goldsmith, in 1785. Since that time, jewelers have continuously sold their wares here, including General Benjamin Cook, from 1827-1900.

The quarry granite for the stores came from Dedham, and is the same granite as that used in the Dedham Courthouse construction. Both stores are crowned with an elaborate paneled and bracketed cornice masking the flat roof. (This differed from the simple two-slope arrangement common in Boston.) The Northampton cornices gave a greater dignity to the buildings.

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

Merrill, David Oliver, "Isaac Damon and the Architecture of the Federal Period in New England". A Dissertation presented to the faculty of the Graduate School of Yale University: Granite Stores, Northampton (1826-28), p. 207-209, fig. 139. Available at Northampton Historical Society.