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940

		326-100
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2. Town NORTHAMPTON

Street address 32 Conz Street

Name Round House (Seth Strong)

Use: original & present Residence

Present owner Fred B. Grinnell

Open to public No

Date 1829 Style Greek Revival

Source of date The Northampton Book

Architect Seth Strong, builder

Architectural reason for inventorying:
earliest round house in New England

OR part of Area # _____

3. CONDITION Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added _____

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material stucco cover

WALL COVER: Wood _____ Brick Stone Other covered with stucco

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard conical
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork _____

CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate

STORIES: 1 2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed _____

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 none PORTICO arched with plain Balcony
columns - side windows

FACADE: Gable end: Front/side Ornament _____

Entrance: Side Front; Center/Side Details: _____

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied _____

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards no corners

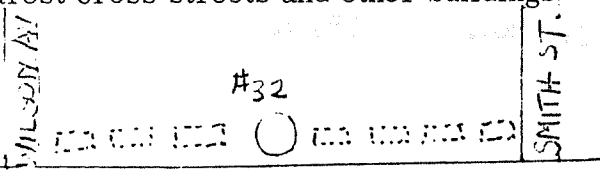
5. Indicate location of building in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings.

6. Footage of structure from street 20
Property has 60 feet frontage on street

Recorder Miriam E. Peters

For Northampton Historical Society

Photo # _____ Date 1970



SEE REVERSE SIDE

received 6/72

7. Original owner (if known) Seth Strong

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 | _____ | | | | |

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

A unique residence in Northampton the Strong House was built during the late 1820's. It was ready for occupancy by Nov. 1, 1828 because Seth Stron reserved the use of the house next north until that date. Seth Strong built both of these houses. He was a prominent local mason of the mid 19th century, employing many workers and described as "the leading master brick builder in this town and region". He spent one year working with Captain Isaac Damon in Bangor, and also worked one season in Baltimore. In this area his major work included U.S. Armory buildings in Springfield, a cotton mill in Florence, and the old County Courthouse in Northampton. Early in his career he served one term as a representative in the state legislature.

The house is two stories, circular, more than 50 feet indiameter built of brick, and plastered on the outside. The plaster was stained a light gray color that gives the appearance of cement. T o the rear is a one-story rectangular ell.

The interior of thehouse is divided by a wide hall running from the front approximatley 2/3 of the way towards the rear. There it meets a brick wall that divides the circle into two unequal segments. There are two rooms on each side of the hall in front of this wall. Two rooms are to the rear of this wall. Each of the six rooms has a fireplace on the outside circular wall with a wide chimney at the edge of the conical roof. The roof rises to a point above the center of the house. The second floor has the same arrangement as the first floor.

At sometime after 1912 a small portico was added to the front of the house.

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

- 1854 and 1860 County Maps. 1873, 1884 and 1895 Atlases.
- Registry of Deeds: Bk. 45-P. 268.
- Forbes Library--Photograph Collection- Konz St. folder and Seth Strong folde
- Hampshire Gazette and Northampton Courier, Jan. 21, 1879.