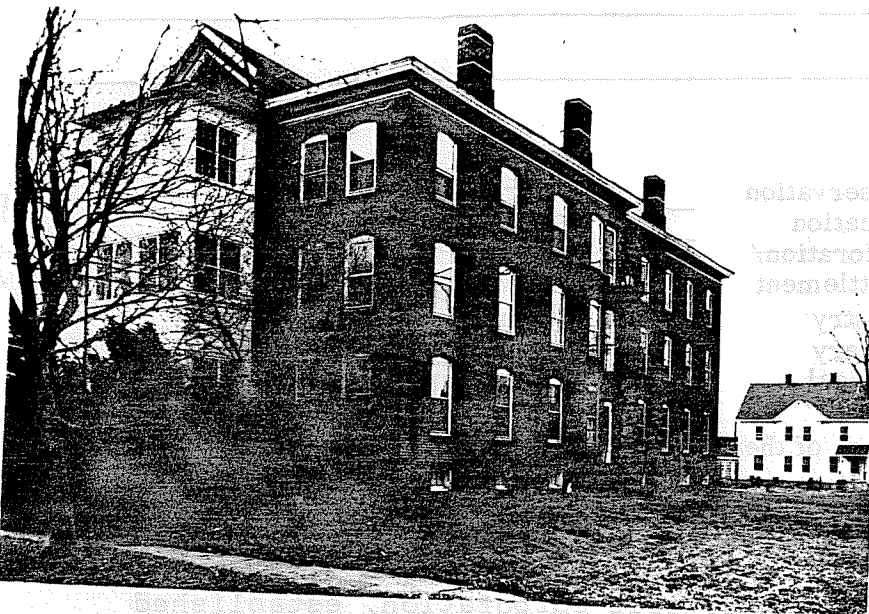


FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	32C-341



1. Town Northampton

Address 41 Williams St.

Name The Belding Tenements

Use residential

Present owner Richard and Robert Abuza

Description:

Year c. 1880

Source Atlases

File

Architect

in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features

enclosed

Altered front porches Date

Moved -- Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less Over one acre

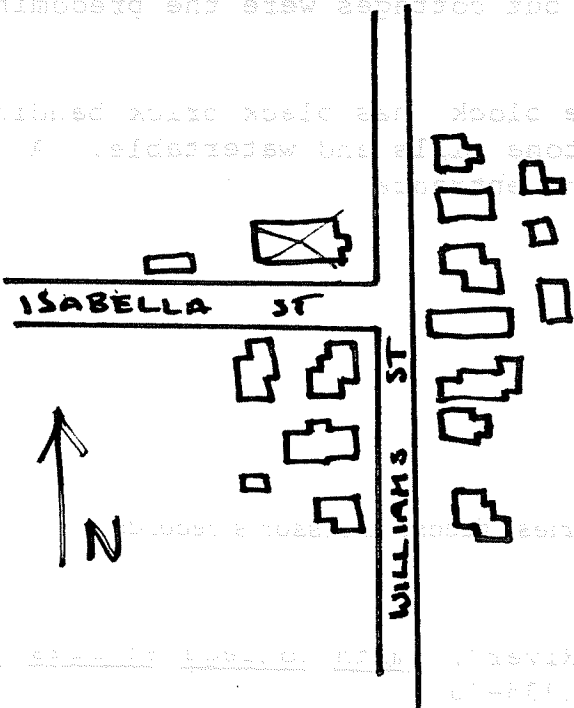
Approximate frontage

Approximate distance of building from street

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Belding Brothers

Original use tenements

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)

This large, brick tenement block was constructed to house workers of the Belding Bros & Co. silk mill, which was located on Hawley St. Belding Brothers, a Connecticut corporation, established a branch plant here in 1876. They were the first large outside enterprise to locate in Northampton.

The block is the only building of its type in this area, and is probably the first to have been built in Northampton. Some row-housing had been constructed in town, but cottages were the predominant building type for the mill workers.

Three stories in height, the block has black brick banding connecting the lintel, and has brownstone sills and watertable. A central wall gable with oculus caps the entrance.

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

1873, 1884, 1895 and 1915 Atlases
 "A Chronicle of Industry on the Mill River", Smith College Studies in History Vol. 21, 1935-36.