

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	17C-147

98



City Northampton

Address 29 Keyes Street

Present use residence

Present owner Robert Keyes

Description:

Year 1960-73

Source Map & Atlas

File

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



Architect

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features 1 story front porch with turned posts and decorative brackets ornate bargeboards, side bay

Altered --- 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 February 1980

(over)

Original owner (if known) _____

Original use _____

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)

In 1867 the Williamsburg to Northampton Railroad was opened. The tracks ran parallel to, and just north of, Main and North Main Sts. in Florence and a depot was established on North Maple St. The railroad spurred industrial and residential development north of Main St. in Florence. During this period Fruit St. (now Keyes St.) was laid out. This is one of the earliest houses on the street, first appearing on the 1873 atlas.

The house is one-and-a-half stories in height with gable end to the street. Decorative barge boards adorn the ends of the front gable and there is a one-story, hipped roof porch with turned posts and ornate brackets extending across the three-bay facade. The southern side of the house has a one-story bay window. A two-story barn is attached to the house through two rear ells. Today this serves as a florist shop, with the greenhouse located behind it. The greenhouse was established in the early 20th century by F.D. Keyes, who lived in the house next north to this one.

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

1860 County Map 1877, 1884 & 1875 atlas;
Northampton Directory: 1888-89, 1885-86, 1868-69.