

## FORM B - BUILDING

Area

Form no.

31/144-20

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

## SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's  
location in relation to nearest  
cross streets and other buildings  
or geographical features.  
Indicate north.

Town Brookline MRAAddress 203 Aspinwall AvenueHistoric Name Winand Toussaint HouseUse: Original residentialPresent residential

Ownership: ☒ Private individual  
Private organization \_\_\_\_\_

Public \_\_\_\_\_

Original owner Winand Toussaint

## DESCRIPTION:

Date 1881Source Tax list

Style ~~MANSARD WITH~~  
Some stick style elements

Architect Probably Winand ToussaintExterior wall fabric clapboardOutbuildings small garage (1927)

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

1926- "General overhauling"Moved NO Date \_\_\_\_\_Approx. acreage 5012 square feetSetting Set in middle of small lot,larger houses on either side of #203;approximate set back from st- 15 feet

South Boston Quadrangle

UTM References: 19/325720/4189030Map #: 4

(Staple additional sheets here)

Recorded by Carla BenkaOrganization Brookline Historical Com.Date Fall 1980

Atlas page-31/144-20

203 Aspinwall Avenue meets NR criteria B and C, being the home of an established architect and furniture designer and a unique example of a mansard style house with stick style detailing

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This unusual house is two stories in height with a mansard roof, topped by a cupola. Brackets, bargeboards, and pendants are evidence of the influence of the Stick Style. Of particular interest is the cupola and clipped or chamfered corners of the house, accentuated by the location of the front door. Most of the neighboring homes, although larger, were built during the 1880's and 1890's. No other house resembles this one in style, however.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Winand Toussaint, the first owner of this house, was born in Belgium and came to the United States in 1854. He had <sup>been</sup> a resident of Brookline for fifty years when he died in 1904 at the age of 77. The 1874 tax lists give his address as Brighton Avenue and cites a factory building and stable.\* The 1875 Boston Directory identifies Toussaint as a furniture manufacturer, and we know from a study of the directories that he was in business with S. Kurtz on Tremont Street in Boston during the 1860's. He moved to Brookline in 1873 and built this house in 1881. During the 1890's, Spencer's Directory listed Toussaint as an architect, thus it is reasonable to believe that he might have designed this house.

His obituary stated that he was engaged in the furniture business, "of late in mercantile pursuits" and practised as an architect with an office in his home. The Museum of Fine Arts possesses a mahogany stand for a statue which has been identified with Toussaint's signature.

Toussaint was a member of the Washington Lodge of Masons of Roxbury as well as a member of the French Society. He was buried from the Church of Our Saviour on Brookline and buried at the Walnut Hills Cemetery, also in Brookline.

\* See xerox copy of 1874 Brookline Atlas for location of Toussaint's factory. By 1874, the border between Boston and Brookline had been changed, thus Toussaint's factory, listed in 1874 in Brookline, had become a Boston property by 1875.

Harriet Woods, in a chapter on local industries, writes: "A chair shop, which employs steam power, has within a year been established on the north side of Brighton Ave. but recent legislation seems to indicate the speedy annexation of this part of Brookline to Boston."

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Brookline tax lists-1874-1880  
Boston Directory- 1860-1874  
Brookline Directory-1896-97  
Spencer's Directory-1896-97  
Brookline Atlas-1874  
Brookline Chronicle Obituary- Feb. 13, 1904

Harriet Woods, Historical Sketches of Brookline, p. 404

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 9-4-85

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic GroupName Brookline MRA  
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. Saint Paul's Church, Chapel,  
and Parish HouseEntered in the <sup>for</sup>  
National Register Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

72. Saint Paul's Rectory

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

73. Sargent's Pond

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

74. Second Unitarian Church

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

75. Spurr, Eliphalet, House

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

76. Standish, James H., House

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/8577. Strathmore Road Historic  
DistrictEntered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

78. Toussaint, Winand, House

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

79. Town Stable

Entered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/8580. Tuckerman, William F.,  
HouseEntered in the  
National Register<sup>for</sup> Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 10/17/85

85003319

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Toussaint, Winand, House (Brookline MRA)

Norfolk County

MASSACHUSETTS

SEP 4 1985

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87

Date Due: 10/3/85 - 10/19/85

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10-17-85

**Entered in the** ☐ RETURN

**National Register** ☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership          | Status     | Present Use |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
|          | Public Acquisition | Accessible |             |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

- ☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

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## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

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## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Toussaint, Winend, House  
203 ASPINWALL AVE  
Brookline (MA) MRA



203 Aspinwall

15

Aspinwall NSA

lower tho/lawrence

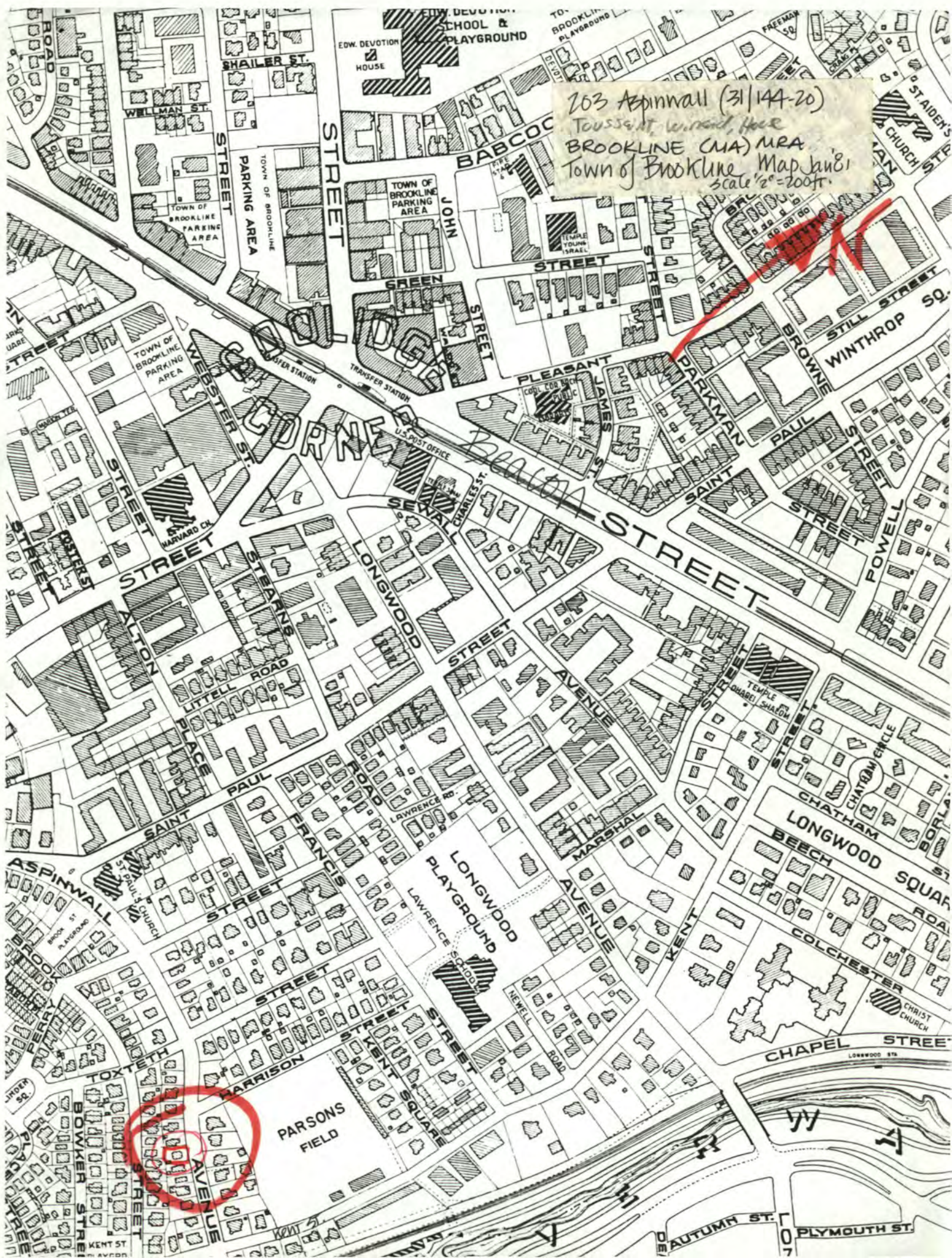
Neighborhood Analysis ~~Elm~~

Brookline (MA) MRA

Toussaint, Wind, Horse



203 Aspinwall (31/144-20)  
Toussaint, W. Ward, Har  
BROOKLINE (MA) MRA  
Town of Brookline Map book  
scale 1" = 200ft.



ton.  
ston.  
ES,  
aw,  
uare.

Probate Business and the management of Property.

AUGUSTUS T.  
Counsellor,  
15 Pemberton Square, Boston.

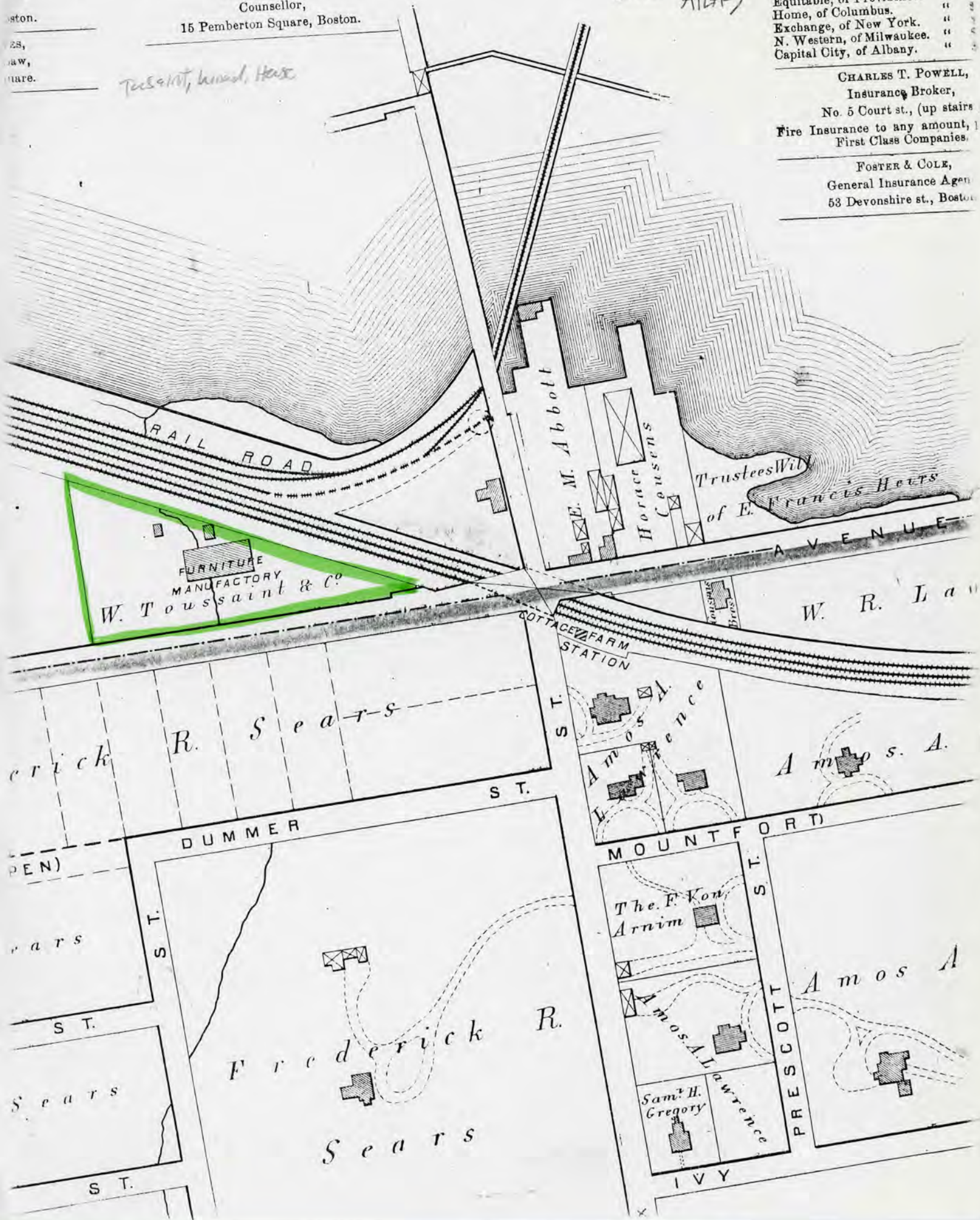
*Tenement, land, House*

1874  
BROOKLINE  
ATLAS

53 Devonshire st., Boston  
Atlantic, of New York. Capital,  
Atlantic, of Providence. "  
Equitable, of Providence. "  
Home, of Columbus. "  
Exchange, of New York. "  
N. Western, of Milwaukee. "  
Capital City, of Albany. "

CHARLES T. POWELL,  
Insurance Broker,  
No. 5 Court st., (up stairs)  
Fire Insurance to any amount, 1  
First Class Companies.

FOSTER & COLE,  
General Insurance Agents,  
53 Devonshire st., Boston



1874