

**FORM B - BUILDING**

AREA	FORM NO.
	257

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

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PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)  
staple to left side of form

Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

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**SKETCH MAP**

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

Town North Adams MRA

Address 311-321 River Street

Historic Name Hathaway Tenement

Use: Present apartments

Original tenements

**DESCRIPTION:**

Date ca. 1850

Source 1853 map, 1885 history

Style Greek Revival -vernacular

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) Porches

added between 1908-1914. Original sash replaced, same period.

Moved No .. Date N/A

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting The north side of River Street is occupied by tenements of a variety of ages and sizes. On the south side of the road is the Hoosac River and ten large 19th century mills are sited on the opposite bank.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date July, 1985

North Adams Quadrangle  
UTM References: 18/653980/4729390

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Hathaway Tenement is two stories high with a gable roof. It is divided into six apartments, with porches marking both front and rear entrances. The distinguishing architectural features are the Greek Revival cornice with returns in each gable end, and the Arts and Crafts-style porches. This building is the only known intact example of a pre-Civil War row house for factory workers still standing in North Adams. A twin of this building, constructed on the adjoining lot to the west, was extensively enlarged and remodeled around 1900.

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

This building is one of the few surviving structures in North Adams to be associated with the city's early manufacturing history. River Street was laid out from Eagle St. to a point just west of this site in 1836. In the following ten years, several mills were built along this road near the north branch of the Hoosac River. This section was the heart of the city's growing industrial base.

One of the early mills stood on the west side of Brown Street where the present late 19th century brick mill structure now stands. In 1874, Nathaniel G. Hathaway and Sylvander Johnson purchased that mill from Brown, Harris & Co. Between 1847-1853, Hathaway and Johnson enlarged their holdings, developing the Brown Street mill into a small community with a company store and dwellings. Most of the property comprised an area between the river and the cemetery. It also included a small parcel across the river on the north side of River Street. Two identical tenement houses were erected on this site. At that time the Johnson Company followed the tradition of New England mill communities in which the owners live near their properties, as did the workers.

Hathaway retired early from the partnership and moved into this building. By 1869, he was living in one of the apartments with his wife, who continued to live here after his death. Under Johnson, the Brown Street mill prospered and expanded. New mill buildings were constructed, leaving only this tenement as survivor of the original Johnson & Hathaway enterprise. (continued below)

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)**

History of Berkshire County, Mass., F. W. Beers, N.Y., 1885, W.I.  
Map of North Adams, Mass., John & Thomas Slater, Hoboken, NH, -1853  
Map and Business Directory of North Adams, MA, E.P. Brown, 1869  
Insurance maps, 1908, 1914, Sanborn Map Co., Pelham, NY  
Atlas of the Towns of No. Adams, Adams, and Williamstown, D.L. Miller, NY, 1894

Historical Significance con'td:

By 1894, T. F. Loftus, owner of the Berkshire Monument Works (and later a real estate agent) was owner of both row houses. In 1904 he owned just this building. It was probably he who remodeled the property, adding the small porches on both sides, as well as new window sash.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:	Form No: K 257
Property Name: Hathaway Tenement	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Criteria for Evaluation

The Hathaway Tenement retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. The only pre-civil War multifamily workers' housing surviving in North Adams, the building fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 9/12/85  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name North Adams MRA  
State Bershire County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Hathaway Tenement

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

12. Johnson School

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

13. Johnson Manufacturing  
Company

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

14. Norad Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

15. Sherman, William B.,  
Farm

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

16. Sykes House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

17. Wells House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers 10/25/85*

Attest

18. Phelps House

*S. Remond*

Keeper

Attest

19.

Keeper

Attest

20.

Keeper

Attest

85003415

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Hathaway Tenement (North Adams MRA)  
Bershire County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. SEP 12 1985  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87  
Date Due: 10/10/85 ~~10/27/85~~  
Action:  ACCEPT 10-25-85  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- 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  unaltered  altered  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 \_\_\_\_\_

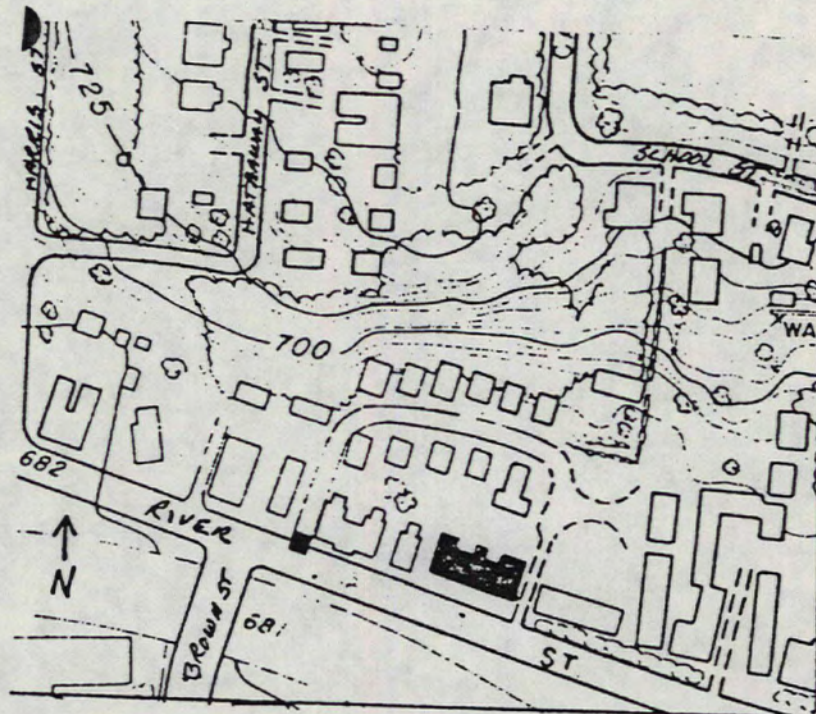
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Hathaway Tenement House  
311-319 River St.  
North Adams, <sup>MRA</sup> Mass.  
Southeast view  
Photo by R.Reed, 1983  
Negative at NAHC



Hathaway Tenement  
 311-321 River Street  
 North Adams MRA  
 North Adams Assessors' Map,  
 ca. 1915 1"=40'



Hathaway Tenement  
311-321 River Street  
North Adams, Mass.  
North Adams MRA

Sketch Map