

FORM B - BUILDING

ref no 80000538

In Area no.	Form no.
	142-M

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

1. Town Worcester
 Address 108 Beacon Street
 Name Beacon Street Firehouse
 Present use warehouse

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
 Staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

Present owner Lawrence Sher and Irving Sher

3. Description:

Date 1901-1902
 Source city documents

Roll 2

Style Renaissance Revival

Architect George H. Clemence

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features limestone trim, arched with alternating brick and stone voussoirs, decorative stone panels, copper cornice

Altered covered windows covered Date 1970s

Moved no Date Assessors' Book 6, p. 28

5. Lot size: Lot 5 7,845 sq. ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 75'

Approximate distance of building from street 15'

6. Recorded by S. Lee, ed. B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date December 1977

UTM:
19/268240/4681640

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) City of Worcester
 Original use firehouse
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates commercial (present)

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)

Built in 1901-1902, the former Beacon Street Firehouse is a two-storey brick structure of rectangular plan. The building's facade (west) contains three low-arched bays at the first storey, each of which is trimmed with alternating brick and limestone voussoirs. At the second storey each bay has paired arched windows set beneath a semi-circular blind arch trimmed with brick and limestone voussoirs. Above the arches is a continuous limestone moulding surmounted by marble roundels; at the roofline is a copper cornice with dentils and modillions. At the south end of the facade is a doorway framed by limestone pilasters which support an entablature and cornice. On the building's other elevations, first storey windows are rectangular with splayed limestone lintels; second storey windows are rectangular, set in frames with blind arches. At the structure's south-east corner is a three-storey tower.

The Beacon Street Firehouse was built for the city's Engine Company #3, which had been formed in 1835. Although the company provided fire protection for the neighboring Main Street south residential area, it is likely that its major purpose was to provide protection for the extensive industrial area immediately east of the firehouse, including the Junction Shop (Form 142-B). The building was constructed at a cost of \$25,600 by Eli Belisle, a French-Canadian immigrant who was one of Worcester's leading builders. Included in the construction budget was \$925.00 paid to George Clemence for for plans and specifications.

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

City Documents, No. 56 (1901), p.22; No. 57 (1902), pp. 25-26.

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

HISTORIAN

Excellent multiple resource nomination for the entire city of Worcester. Both the general description or statement of significance & the individual inventory sheets are well done. Each type of property included is well justified & reasons are listed for not including others at this time (e.g. 3-deckers).

Call/Accept
Lightner
10-30-79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

Concur with Bm's comments on 102-L-3, 116-CBD-11, 117-E, and 130-CBD-50 and 44. Integrity and/or boundaries need to be addressed specifically on individual forms. DOBIE

ARCHEOLOGIST

116-CBD-11 - Destroyed, cannot be listed.
130-CBD-44 - I am not convinced this has lost integrity. See attached.
102-L-3 - Period of significance and categorization of 1 bays need to be discussed with State.

OTHER

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. ~~Both~~ BOTH TECHNICALLY AND TO DETERMINE SIGNIFICANCE. ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE FORMS DID NOT CONTAIN STRONG STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE THE RESOURCE CATEGORIES WERE THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED IN THE BODY OF THE NOMINATION; THEREFORE SIGNIFICANCE WAS ESTABLISHED. VBDs WERE NOT NECESSARY BECAUSE

ACENT
MURPHY
2/28/80

HAER

OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. AVERAGE WAS MISSING ON SOME PROPERTIES BUT IS NOW INCLUDED AFTER THE 2/11/CORRECTIONS.

Inventory _____
Review _____

THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE
✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 16 CBD - 11
130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~DO NOT~~ ^{AM} NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~ ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

Recommend Listing all properties ^{now} ~~except~~ these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~hold it~~ to discuss further w/NR staff + State. DOBIE
Return 102-L-3 to state for correction;
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state

BRANCH CHIEF 3/3/80

Staff conference 3/5/80 - agreed to action as noted below:

KEEPER

Accept with exception of 116-CBD-11 (official notification of fire & claims from SHRP), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (holding from state)

Spedden
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered MAR 5 1980
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81 Re-submit _____ SEE 3/13/80 REPORT



142-M 30
Beacon Street Fire house
108 Beacon St.
Worcester NRA, Ma
north + west
elevations

AUG 1979

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304