

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

144-A

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

Roll 24

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

1. Town Worcester
Address 303 & 293 Grafton Street
Name Grafton Street Schoolhouses 1 & 2
Present use schools
Present owner City of Worcester

3. Description:

- Date 1879, 1890, 1899
Source City Documents
Style Victorian
Architect Elbridge Boyden - Bldg. 1
J.W. Patston - Bldg. 2
Exterior wall fabric brick
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features Bldg. 1 - some sandstone
trim, decorative brickwork, black
brick banding; Bldg. 2 - brick
quoining, some sandstone trim

Altered no Date _____Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 4, p.13
Lot 16 51,250 sq.ft.

One acre or less _____ Over one acre xApproximate frontage 240'Approximate distance of building from street
15'

6. Recorded by S. Lee, B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.
Date February 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) City of Worcester

Original use grammar school

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

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)

Located near major Victorian industrial districts, the area around the Grafton Street Schoolhouses underwent nearly constant development in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, gradually changing from a suburban neighborhood to an area of dense "three-decker" construction. Corresponding to this increased population density, the Grafton Street School underwent two major additions in 1890 and 1899. The earliest portion of the present schoolhouses is the southern half of Schoolhouse #1 (see map). Built in 1879 from plans by Elbridge Boyden, this building was designed to contain four school rooms and to replace an earlier, wooden school. Resembling the Winslow Street Schoolhouse (demolished), the 1879 section is a two and one-half storey brick structure of Victorian Gothic design, one of the few school buildings of its type extant. Decoration of this section consists of black brick banding, low window arches with sandstone springers and brick corbelling. In 1890 the northern half of Schoolhouse #1 was added, designed by Elbridge Boyden & Sons in the same style as the original structure.

Development of the schoolhouse property was completed in 1899 when Schoolhouse #2 was built from plans by J. William Patston. A free-standing structure, Schoolhouse #2 is of brick construction, four stories high with a flat roof. The building's symmetrical facade (south) is trimmed by brick quoining and has a projecting pavilion at its center. The entry consists of brick pilasters and Tuscan (sandstone) columns supporting an entablature and cornice. At present both schoolhouses remain substantially intact from the turn of the century.

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

City Documents: #34, year ending 11/30/1879: Report of Superintendent of Public Buildings, pp. 230-231; #45, year ending 11/30/1890: Report of Superintendent of Public Buildings, p.349.
Engineering and Building Record, vol. XII, 5/17/1890, p.xi (building notice)
Engineering Record, vol. XL, 7/29/1899, p.212 (building notice)

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 383 + 13

Maps 2, 63

Excellent multiple resource nomination for the entire city of Worcester. Both the general description & 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-dickers). **HISTORIAN**
Call/Accept
Lightner
10.30.79
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Concern with Bruce's comments on 102-L-3, 116-CBD-11, 117-E, and 130-CBD-50 and #4. Integrity and/or boundaries need to be addressed specifically on individual forms. **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.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. ~~Both~~ **OTHER**
ACCEPT
MacDougal
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. Acreage was missing on some properties but is now included after the 2/11/corrections.

The only properties that I do not recommend listing are

- ✓ 116-CBD-13 - destroyed by fire MD - 116-CBD-11
- 130-CBD-44 - does not retain integrity for individual eligibility

- ✓ 102-L-3 I ~~was~~ ^{now} 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); ~~to discuss further~~ w/NR staff + State. **REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**
Return 102-L-3 to State for correction; **BRANCH CHIEF** 3/3/80
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from State
3/5/80
DUBIE

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

KEEPER

Accept with exception of 116-CBD-11 (official notification of fire & clean from State), 102-L-3 (returning to State for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (fully from State)

Soldha
3/5/80

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

MAR 5 1980

Federal Register Entry

2.3.81

Re-submit



144-A

303 Grafton St

Grafton St. Schoolhouses 1 + 2

South + east

elevations

Worcester MRA, Ma

30 AUG 1979



Grafton St. School

144-A

293 Grafton St.

Worcester MA

South east

elevations

AUG 1979

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304