

FORM B - BUILDING

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

ref NO 80000519

In Area no.	Form no.
	74-A

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

Roll 21

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

1. Town Worcester
Address 2 Brookshire Drive
Name Chamberlain-Flagg House
Present use residence
Present owner Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Grub
2 Brookshire

3. Description:

Date ca. 1725-1775 (?)
Source see reverse #9
Style timber-frame vernacular
Architect probably none
Exterior wall fabric clapboard
Outbuildings (describe) garage
Other features three-window, center-
entry facade, central chimney on
south slope of roof, 12/12 sash
sash added, exterior ca.
Altered chimney & entry Date 1930, 1900
porch added
Moved no Date _____

UTM: 5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 25, p. 26,
19/266340/4685030 Lot 11 24,700 sq.ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 160'
Approximate distance of building from street
60'

6. Recorded by R. Moore
ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc
Date January 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Elisha Flagg - first known 1833

Original use residence - farmhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	☐	Conservation	☐	Recreation	☐
Agricultural	☐	Education	☐	Religion	☐
Architectural	☒	Exploration/ settlement	☒	Science/ invention	☐
The Arts	☐	Industry	☐	Social/ humanitarian	☐
Commerce	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐
Communication	☐	Political	☐		
Community development	☐				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Thought by various historical sources to be among the oldest houses in Worcester, the Chamberlain-Flagg House has an unclear history. The house consists of a rectangular-plan main structure with a central chimney and a two-storey wing on the west wall of the main building. The house's facade is nearly symmetrical with a center entrance flanked by one 12/12 window on either side at the first storey; at the second storey are three 12/12 windows. This arrangement of the facade resembles many houses in Worcester and the surrounding area which have historical associations to the early eighteenth century, the area's first period of permanent settlement. The location of the Chamberlain-Flagg house's chimney on the front slope of its roof, as well as the house's depth, suggest that the present structure was the product of one or more early additions. Details such as the house's Colonial Revival style entry and side porches and an exterior chimney (east) were added in the early twentieth century.

Although most sources refer to the building as the Flagg House, it is identified in Nutt's History of Worcester as the Chamberlain House. As this area of the city was settled by Jacob Chamberlain and his descendants (on land purchased partly from Richard Flagg) after 1742, it is likely that the house's earliest associations are with the Chamberlain family. Marked as the house of Elisha Flagg from 1800 (map of earliest settlers) through 1851, the house may have come into possession of the Flagg family through Flagg's wife, a daughter of William Chamberlain. Until 1930 the house remained in the Flagg family and was renowned for

(cont.)

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

Worcester Historical Society. newspaper clippings (Sunday Telegram, Aug. 25, 1929, Section C)

Nutt, C. History of Worcester, vol. I, p. 146 (photo)

Wall, C. Reminiscences... p. 45.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 74-A
Property Name: Chamberlain-Flagg House	

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

9. the family's live peacocks. In 1930 the property and thirty-seven acres of land were sold to a real estate developer, who had intended to demolish the house; however, the house was instead sold with a large lot and remains intact as a residence. The apparent antiquity of the structure and its well-preserved interior mark it as one of the best remaining eighteenth-century houses in Worcester.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

MAR 5 1961

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Postal 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 deckers). **HISTORIAN**
Call/Accept
Lightner
10-30-79
Opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets. **ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

Concur with Bruce'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. **ARCHEOLOGIST**
DOUBLE

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 bldg 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
MCDONALD
2/28/80
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

OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. ALLEGED WAS MISSING IN 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 - 16 CBD-11

130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~DO NOT~~ ^{UP} NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES

BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~

ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGMENT.

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**
DOUBLE

Return 102-L-3 to State for correction;

HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from State

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 State), 102-L-3 (returning to State for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (filing from State)

Soldner
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



74-A
Chamberlain - Flagg House
2 Brookshire Dr.

west + south
elevations

Worcester MRA, Ma

MAR 5 1980

30 AUG 1979



E 502000
N 462000

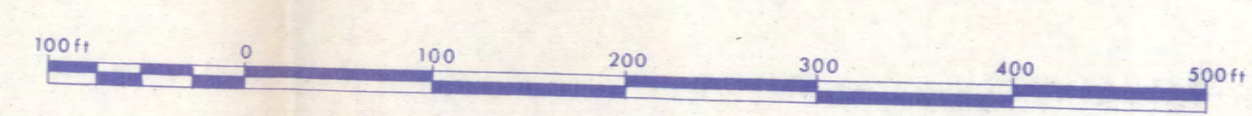
COMPILED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS

moore survey & mapping corp.

CONTROL BY MASS. GEODETIC SURVEY, U.S.C. & G.S., & M.S. & M. CORP.

UPDATED BY _____, DATE: _____

THIS MAP REPRODUCED
FROM MAPPING MEETING
NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY
STANDARDS AT A SCALE
OF 1"=200'



500 FOOT GRID BASED ON
MASS. RECTANGULAR COORDINATE SYSTEM

INDEX		
61	62	63
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85	86	87

CITY OF WORCESTER
MASSACHUSETTS

PLANIMETRIC BASE MAP

PROJECT: M.S.M. 2517

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 4-27-73

SHEET 74 OF 220 SHEETS



21
74 A



Worcester Multiple Resource
Center
9-11-79

TWO BROOKSHIRE ROAD
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01609

(MA)

4P
Dear Mr. Harrington

We would be pleased indeed, to have this wonderful old house listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This house, the Chamberlain-Flagg House, as you know is one of the oldest houses in Worcester and accordingly should be in the official list of Historic Buildings.

We were most complimented to know that our house is being considered for this honor. If there is any information you would like concerning the history of the house we would be most pleased to send it to you -

Sincerely,

Luette Brooks

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Grubb
2 Brookshire Road
Worcester, MA 01609

RE: [Worcester Multiple Resource Area
Chamberlain-Flagg House]

NOV 7 1968

to 11/2