

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.
130-CBD-45

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

Roll 27

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

1. Town Worcester

Address 586-596 Main Street

Name Colton's Block

Present use commercial

586-592-Emanuel J. Leo
Al Laprade

Present owner 594-596 Kenneth Stan-
hope
600 Main St.

3. Description:

Date ca. 1860-1870

Source city atlases

Style elements of Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features corbelling suromunted by
bracketed cornice (wood), each unit
of row has four-window-wide facade
partially painted

Altered windows #596 Date _____

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size Assessor's Book 3, p. 19
Lots 8, 9 & 10--6,250 sq. ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre _____
75' - total

Approximate frontage 25' - each unit

Approximate distance of building from street
10'

6. Recorded by B. R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc

Date November 1977

(over)

UTM:
19/268650/4682320

7. Original owner (if known) (Samuel Horton Colton?)

Original use commercial

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Colton's Block is a four-storey row of brick buildings, containing three vertical units divided by fire walls. The facades of the three units are each four bays wide containing storefronts at the ground floor, corbelling (above the fourth storey) and a wooden cornice supported by paired brackets. Windows of the second, third, and fourth stories are set in undecorated frames with rectangular stone sills and lintels, except for the southern-most unit which has had display windows added to its second storey (ca. 1900). Originally Colton's Block contained a fourth unit at its north end (584 Main St. - now demolished). Storefronts occupy their original positions, although remodelled with modern materials. The scale, design and details of Colton's Block are characteristic of a number of commercial rows built in Worcester between the 1850s and the early 1870s, although Colton's Block is the only one extant.

It is likely that the row was built for Samuel Colton (1804-1875) who was a co-owner of the Worcester Spy (newspaper) until bad health forced his retirement in 1845. After 1845 he "engaged in the plant nursery business at the corner of Main and Austin Streets" and, later, became active in real estate development. Unfortunately, none of the original occupants of the row are, as yet, known. The row's individual units appear to have been sold separately in the 1870's; the earliest known occupants are: #586, Worcester Agricultural Ware House and Seed Store (building owner: C.B. Eaton); #592, Henry Houghton, "dealer in Flour, Grain and Feed" (building owner: B.D. Cheney); #595, Aaron Hammond, "Wholesale & Retail Dealer" in meat, dairy products and vegetables (building owner: Aaron Hammond).

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

Worcester Illustrated Business Guide (1880).

Worcester Columbian Tribute (1892). p. 54 (row shown in background of photo).

Nutt, Charles. Hist. of Worc. & Its People. Vol. IV, p. 476 (Colton bio.)

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

CONTROL

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**

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 bps need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. **OTHER**
ACCEPT
MURPHY
2/28/80
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. BIDS WERE NOT NECESSARY BECAUSE

OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. PLEDGE 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 - 16 CBD-11
- 130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ 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.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Recommend Listing all properties ^{now} except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~hold 116-CBD-11~~ to discuss further w/NR staff + State. **BRANCH CHIEF** 3/3/80
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 (eligibility from State)

Soldner
3/5/80

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

2.3.81

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

MAR 5 1980



30 AUG 1979

Cotters Block

130-CBD-45

Worcester MRA, Ma

586-596 Main

St.

East elevation

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304