

ref no 80000623

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

141-B-1

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

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

1. Town Worcester
Address 5 Claremont Street
Name John Legg House
Present use institutional residence
Girls' Welfare Society
Present owner of Worcester, Inc.
Independent Living for the
3. Description: Adult Retarded, Inc.
Date 1896
Source building notice
Style Queen Anne
Architect Stephen Earle
Exterior wall fabric synthetic siding
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features profusion of decorative
details, Palladian window, stained
glass windows, decorated consoles,
etc. mid-20th
Altered siding Date century
Moved no Date _____
Assessors' Book 6, p.37,
5. Lot size: Lots 28, 29, 36, 46
29,768 sq. ft.
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 75'
Approximate distance of building from street
30'
W. J. M. Seaman
6. Recorded by ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc
Date December 1977

UTM
19/267570/4681610

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) John Legg
 Original use residence
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates institutional residence

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/ settlement	<u> </u>	Science/ invention	<u> </u>
The Arts	<u> </u>	Industry	<u> x </u>	Social/ humanitarian	<u> </u>
Commerce	<u> </u>	Military	<u> </u>	Transportation	<u> </u>
Communication	<u> </u>	Political	<u> </u>		
Community development	<u> </u>				

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

The John Legg House is an opulent Queen Anne style house, one which remains unaltered except for the application of asbestos shingles over clapboard and wooden shingles. Two and one half stories high, the house is of frame construction and has asymmetrical plan and elevations. Set above street level, the facade is approached by two flights of granite stairs which lead to the pedimented entry bay of the porch. Major elements of the facade include a three-sided bay window with parapet, a gambrel dormer with Palladian window, fanlighted entry, and first and second storey porches. Ornate details appear on all of the house's elevations and include a pedimented oriel window (east), elaborate stained glass (stair hall) windows (west), and Ionic porches (south). Extending along the property's Claremont Street frontage is a retaining wall of rock-faced granite ashlar.

John Legg (b.1851), who occupied the house from 1896 to 1912, was the third generation of his family to be involved in textiles. Legg's grandfather and father, James, had been British weavers. Around 1854 James Legg moved to the United States, settling in Rhode Island. In 1865 James Legg set up his own factory in Burrillville, Rhode Island, where John Legg learned about woolen manufacturing. In 1881 the elder Legg purchased the Worcester Woolen Company which was located at the Lower Junction Shop (Form 165-C). Reorganized as James & John Legg, the firm produced heavy woolen materials, cassimeres and suitings. After the death of James Legg in 1890, a new corporation was formed and John Legg became general manager of the Worcester Mills, a position which he held through subsequent

(cont.)

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

Nutt, C. History of Worcester, vol. III, pp. 24-26

. Washburn, C. Industrial Worcester, p.98.

Property Name: James Legg House

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

9. partnerships. Under Legg's management and ownership, the Worcester Woolen Mills Company became one of the city's largest textile producers, employing more than 300 workers in the first two decades of the twentieth century. After 1912, Legg and his family moved to a new house in Lenox, the new residential park land laid out on "Chamberlin Hill" on Worcester's west side.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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-deckers). Down opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

HISTORIAN

Call/Accept
Lightner
10.30.79

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. ~~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

OTHER

ACCEPT
MURPHY
2/28/80

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

HAER

THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE

Inventory _____

Review _____

✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 116 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 ~~except~~ ^{now} these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~hold~~ ^{to discuss further} w/NR staff + state. DUBIE
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 & demo from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (holding from state)

Soldner
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered MAR 5 1980
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81 Re-submit _____



Prestige Prints

JUN 1979

Prestige Prints

by Jarley

JUN 1979

Worcester MNA Ma

141-B-1⁸⁰

Legg, John, Howe

5 Claremont St

East & north
elevations

AUG 1979

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304