

## FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

401

Form no.

~~N-18-51~~

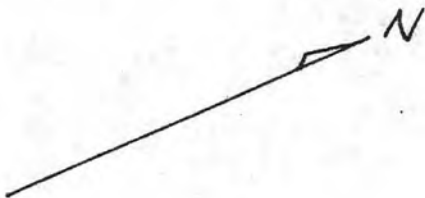
2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

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

ANAWAN ST.



SOUTH MAIN ST.



1. Town Fall River, Mass.  
Address 91-111 South Main Street  
Name A. J. Borden Building  
Present use Commercial  
Present owner Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.
3. Description: 3-st. brick commercial bldg.  
w/stone & cast metal trim.  
Date 1889  
Source Building Permit #120  
Style Late Victorian Commercial  
Architect Joseph M. Darling  
Exterior wall fabric Red pressed brick  
Outbuildings (describe) None  
Other features Stamped metal cornice,  
punched windows (now blind) set between  
horizontal belt courses.  
Altered Addition 1892  
storefront Date 1950  
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
5. Lot size: 90,251 sq. feet  
One acre or less  Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_
6. Recorded by Kenneth Champlin  
Organization F.R.O.H.P.  
Date 11/3/80

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Andrew Jackson Borden

Original use Stores & Offices

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

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	<u>X</u>	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>X</u>				

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

A handsome late Victorian commercial building, second only to the Academy Building (1876, already listed in the National Register) located directly opposite. An important survivor, the A. J. Borden Building escaped the 1916 Fire which devastated much of Fall River's downtown commercial building stock of the late-nineteenth century.

A three-story structure, distinguished by its red pressed brick facade and restrained cast iron ornament; the original entrance to the building was through the narrow central bay between two cast-iron storefronts. The building was designed by Joseph M. Darling, Fall River's most prolific architect of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The storefronts were occupied by dry-goods department stores until 1931 when the J. J. Newberry Company located a dime store here. They remodelled the storefront at that time, again in 1935; the present storefront facade dates from 1950. The upper floors were at various times occupied by several local business colleges.

The building was erected for Andrew Jackson Borden and bears his name. A. J. Borden amassed a fortune as a member of Borden & Almy, undertakers. After retirement, he devoted his attention to real estate until his murder in 1892. The double-murder of Borden and his second wife has become one of the most celebrated crimes in U.S. history. Acquitted of the murders, his daughter Lizzie held the property until her death in 1927.

The property meets Criteria A & C of the National Register and was deemed eligible April 1, 1981. It is presently undergoing re-use -- the facade will be restored to its original pre-dime store appearance.

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

Atlas 1895 shown, A. J. Borden Bldg.  
1883 shown, Wood & Raymond (previous bldg. on site)

Bldg. Dept.: Andrew J. Borden #120, 5/27/1889, brick stores & offices,  
70x90'9", 3 st., steam, \$35,000.

Estate of A. J. Borden, 1892, brick addition, 40' X 50',  
2 st., \$3,000. (Demolished 1981)

Fall River Herald News 3/18/18 - Obit. Joseph M. Darling

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Fall River, Mass.	Form No: 401 N-18-51
Property Name: A. J. Borden Building	

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

10. Bibliography

La Mode Clothing Co. #343, April 26, 1923, glass and copper (105-107 So. Main) remodel storefront, \$9000, S. Nurie.

A. J. Borden Bldg. #212, 4/14/1924, wood & sheet rock (109 So. Main) change basement to salesroom 31 x 44 \$1700, Jos. M. Darling.

Schult United Co. #295, 7/8/1929, wood & metal (107 So. Main) remodel store 20x14, 1 st. \$2000 Blat & Baust, Inc., 45-38th St., Long Island City, N.Y. Bldg. 120x60.

J. J. Newberry #271, 7/10/1931, glass, copper, granite, brick (107 So. Main); remodel storefront, remove 2 6x8 cast-iron columns & install 3 5½" Lally columns & 2 15" steel beams inside store. Also built up floor in store 13", \$1500, W. J. Handley Co., 280 South Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

J. J. Newberry #344, 11/5/1934, (107 So. Main St.) cut 3 openings from present store to adjoining store. Take away stairway leading from first floor to basement, floor over opening \$150, R. E. Runnels Const. Co.

The Borden Family of Fall River - A Documentary History 1638-1900, prepared by Patricia Tracy & Staff of History 186, Univ. of Mass., Amherst, Aug. 1973.

Fall River and Its Points of Interest, 1896-p. 25

Fall River Herald News, Souvenir Edition, Oct. 17, 1978

Fall River of Today, 1906 - p.44, p.56.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received 1/15/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page # of 10

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area

State Massachusetts Bristol County

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Algonquin Printing Co.

Substantive Review

Keeper

2/16/83 Ronnie Lee Boyd

Attest

2. American Printing Co. and  
Metacomet Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

3. Anthony, David M., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

4. Ashley House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

5. Ashworth Brothers Mill

Substantive Review

Determined Eligible  
Keeper

2/16/83 Ronnie Lee Boyd

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest

6. Barnard Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

7. Belmont Club/John Young House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

8. Blossom, Barnabus, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

9. Boguslavsky Triple-Deckers

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

~~10. Borden, A. J., Building~~

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Melrose Byers

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Borden, A. J., Building (Fall River MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

01058315

Working No. 115/83-15  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84  
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 2/16/83  
 RETURN  
Entered in the National Register  REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



CUSTOMER PARKING  
for Validating Merchants  
←  
ESTACIONAMENTO DE CARROS  
Estacionamento Gratuito - Quando  
Vale Validar Com Vosso Comerciante  
LOT OPERATED BY RAY LICENSE FROM N.J.

NEWBERRY

J. J. NEWBERRY CO.

ANAWAN ST

White station wagon

Two people standing on sidewalk

NAME: A. J. Borden Building  
LOCATION: 91-111 South Main Street  
Fall River, Mass.  
PHOTO CREDIT: Doug Gamage (1981)  
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Doug Gamage  
26 Glen Street  
Riverside, R. I. 02915  
IDENTIFICATION: A. J. Borden Building  
3/4 View, looking north-west

*photo 1 of 2*

PHOTO BY  
**DOUG GAMAGE**  
26 GLEN STREET  
RIVERSIDE, R. I. 02915  
401-433-2874

MAR. 9 1981



CUSTOMER PARKING  
for following merchants  
←  
ESTACIONAMIENTO DE CARROS  
para comercios de  
Barrington Drive - Roma  
West State - La Mesa - Commercial  
and Washington - 10th - 11th - 12th St.

J. J. NEWBERRY CO.  
ESTABLISHED 1858

12th Street

91-111 South Main St.  
A. J. Borden Building  
Fall River, Mass.  
MRA

PHOTO BY  
**DOUG GAMAGE**  
26 GLEN STREET

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279