

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

141-Z

1. Town WorcesterAddress 2 King StreetName The BrightsidePresent use vacant after firePresent owner United Realty Co.589A Park Ave.3. Description: Worcester, Mass.Date 1889Source exterior date plaqueStyle Romanesque RevivalArchitect Fuller & DelanoExterior wall fabric brickone-storeyOutbuildings (describe) commercial blockOther features sandstone trimmings,
elaborate terracotta panels, entryFlanked by sandstone columns with
carved capitalsAltered some windows Date _____Moved no Date _____5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 6, p.26
Lot 19 19,506 sq.ft.One acre or less ☒ Over one acre _____Approximate frontage 60'

Approximate distance of building from street

7'6. Recorded by B.R. PfeifferOrganization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.Date November 19772. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____Exp. 34 Roll 44. Map. Draw sketch of building location
in relation to nearest cross streets and
other buildings. Indicate north.19/267880/4681770
19TM

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) J.B. Buck (building notice); Richard T. Buck (1896
Atlas)
 Original use apartment house
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same (presently vacant)

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)

The Brightside is a four-storey brick apartment house with a symmetrical facade (south). Flanked on either side by semi-circular bays, the central section of the facade contains an entry framed by sandstone columns with spiralled fluting and ornate capitals at the first storey. Above the entry is a balcony with an original iron railing (2d storey) and terracotta panels (2d and 3d stories), one of which bears the name "Brightside". Above the fourth storey is a rock-faced sandstone cornice, brick parapet, sandstone date plaque framed by engaged columns and original iron railings over both bay window stacks. Side walls of the structure are largely undecorated. Although currently vacant following a minor fire, the Brightside is in mostly original condition, and remains Worcester's most ornate early apartment house.

Built during the first wave of apartment house construction in the vicinity of Main Street south, the Brightside was among the most expensive buildings of its type, costing \$40,000 to build in 1888. Further, the building's unique sandstone and terracotta ornament indicate that the building's architects prepared the design to order, unlike a large number of slightly later apartment houses, which appear to have been built according to several standardized plans.

Also located on the Brightside's lot is a one-storey block of stores which are of unrelated history and which have no effect on the Brightside's significance. This one-storey commercial block is included merely because it shares an undivided lot with the Brightside.

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

Engineering and Building Record, vol. XIX, March 16, 1889, p. xi.
 (building notice)

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 bldg need to be discussed with State.

WHAT 3 EXCEPTIONS ALL PROPERTIES APPEAR TO ME TO MEET THE CRITERIA AND THE FORMS ARE ADEQUATE. ~~RE~~ 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
MacDonald
2/28/80

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

HAER

THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE

Inventory _____

- ✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 10 CBD-11
- 130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

Review _____

- ✓ 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 now listing all properties except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ w/NR staff + State. DOBIE
Return 102-L-3 to State for correction; 3/5/80
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from State DOBIE

BRANCH CHIEF 3/3/81

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)

S. Oldham
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____

MAR 5 1980



78

JAN 1978

M

by Berkeley



30 AUG 1979

The Brightside

141-Z

Worcester MA, Ma

2 King Street
West & South
elevations

JAN 1978



BRIGHTSIDE

(36)

Brightsides

2

JAN 1978

by Berkeley

Prestige Prints

30 AUG 1979

JAN 1978

The Brightside
141-2
Worcester MRA, MA
2 King Street
Detail
South Elevation

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304