

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	142-M

104 NO 80000538

1. Town Worcester
 Address 108 Beacon Street
 Name Beacon Street Firehouse
 Present use warehouse

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

Present owner Lawrence Sher and Irving Sher

3. Description:
 Date 1901-1902
 Source city documents

Roll 2

Style Renaissance Revival
 Architect George H. Clemence

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

Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features limestone trim, arched
 with alternating brick and stone
 voussoirs, decorative stone panels,
 copper cornice

Altered covered windows Date 1970s

Moved no Date _____
 Assessors' Book 6, p. 28

UTM:
19/268240/4681640

5. Lot size: Lot 5 7,845 sq. ft.
 One acre or less x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 75'

Approximate distance of building from street
15'

6. Recorded by S. Lee, ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
 Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.
 Date December 1977

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) City of Worcester
 Original use firehouse
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates commercial (present)

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> | Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Exploration/
settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science/
invention | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/
humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> | Military | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Community development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

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

Built in 1901-1902, the former Beacon Street Firehouse is a two-storey brick structure of rectangular plan. The building's facade (west) contains three low-arched bays at the first storey, each of which is trimmed with alternating brick and limestone voussoirs. At the second storey each bay has paired arched windows set beneath a semi-circular blind arch trimmed with brick and limestone voussoirs. Above the arches is a continuous limestone moulding surmounted by marble roundels; at the roofline is a copper cornice with dentils and modillions. At the south end of the facade is a doorway framed by limestone pilasters which support an entablature and cornice. On the building's other elevations, first storey windows are rectangular with splayed limestone lintels; second storey windows are rectangular, set in frames with blind arches. At the structure's south-east corner is a three-storey tower.

The Beacon Street Firehouse was built for the city's Engine Company #3, which had been formed in 1835. Although the company provided fire protection for the neighboring Main Street south residential area, it is likely that its major purpose was to provide protection for the extensive industrial area immediately east of the firehouse, including the Junction Shop (Form 142-B). The building was constructed at a cost of \$25,600 by Eli Belisle, a French-Canadian immigrant who was one of Worcester's leading builders. Included in the construction budget was \$925.00 paid to George Clemence for for plans and specifications.

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

City Documents, No. 56 (1901), p.22; No. 57 (1902), pp. 25-26.

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 or 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). ^{Owner} opposition is high. Minor problems w/ some properties are listed on attached sheets.

HISTORIAN

Call/Accept
Lightner
10-30-79

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. DUBIE

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

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 bgs 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. VBS were not necessary because

OTHER

ACENT
Max [unclear]
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. ^{reference} was missing on some properties but ^{is} now included after the 2/11/ corrections.

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

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

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~was~~ ^{am} not convinced about boundaries but believe they could be OK. ^{based} on additional documentation submitted - I defer judgement.

Recommend listing all properties ^{now} except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~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 & claims from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (eligibility from state)

Spedha
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



142-M 30 AUG 1979
Beacon Street Fire house
108 Beacon St.
Worcester NRA, Ma
north + west
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304