

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

116-L-15

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.

Roll 30

UTM:
19/268250/4682880

1. Town Worcester
Address 71 Elm Street
Name Francis Dewey House
Present use offices
Present owner Carl R. Schwarzer
3. Description:
Date 1912
Source city atlases and directorie
Style Flemish/eclectic
Architect Little & Brown (Boston)
Exterior wall fabric stucco
Outbuildings (describe) original garage
Other features red slate roof, Flemish
type decorated gables, casement
windows, cast-stone entry
1st storey
Altered window Date 1978
Moved _____ Date _____
5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 3, p.35
Lot 7 20,923 sq.ft.
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 90'
Approximate distance of building from street
30'
S. Lee
6. Recorded by ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.
Date February 1976

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Francis H. Dewey

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates offices (present)

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 Francis Dewey House is a two-and-one-half storey frame house covered with stucco. Asymmetrical in plan and elevation, the Dewey house was built on the site of a ca.1860 house, portions of which (particularly the foundation) may have been incorporated into the present structure. Major features of the house's design are its Flemish gables which contain diamond-pane (wooden) casements. The house's entry porch is made of a fine cast stone forming Tuscan columns, an entablature with triglyphs, and balustrade. Except for the replacement of first-storey windows with thermal-panes, the Dewey House is in original condition.

Designed by the prominent architectural firm of Little & Brown, the Dewey House was one of three different designs for a house presented to Francis Dewey by the firm. Water-color renderings show the other two proposals as being similar in scale to the present house, but of different styles, one being Colonial Revival, the other an English Tudor design. The high quality of the Dewey House's design and its nearly unaltered condition mark it as an important example of the flamboyant "period" houses which were popular between ca.1910 and ca.1930.

Francis Dewey (1856-1933) was a native of Worcester and the fourth generation of his family to serve as a judge. Dewey, in addition to his law practice, had extensive property and business interests in Worcester. From 1898 until his death Dewey was president of the Worcester Consolidated Railway. Dewey was also president of the Norwich & Worcester and the New London Northern Railroad Companies. Dewey served as a trustee

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

of the Worcester Mechanics' Savings Bank, Clark University, and a large number of businesses and charitable organizations.

Carruth, Louise. "Old House Notebooks" at Worcester Public Library.
Masiello & Associates. "History of 71 Elm Street"
Worcester Historical Society. Biographical file (Dewey obituary)
Nutt, C. History of Worcester vol. III. pp. 342-343 (Dewey biography)
Water-color renderings in possession of current owner.

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-dickers). ^{Call/Accept} ^{Lightner} ¹⁰⁻³⁰⁻⁷⁹
Opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

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 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. PBDS were not necessary because

OTHER

^{ALERT}
^{ALERT}
^{2/28/80}

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. Pledge was missing on 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 - 116 CBD-11

Review _____

130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~am not~~ ^{am} not convinced about boundaries

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~

ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGMENT.

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

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 (Eldridge from State)

^{Soldner}
^{3/5/80}

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

MAR 5 1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



Dewey, Frances, Hester

30 AUG 1979

116-L-15

Worcester MRA, Ma

71 Elm St.

West & South elevations

JUN 1979

by day

Presidents

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304