

Area	Form no.
3000	115

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

✓ Town Springfield

✓ Address 1228-1244 Main Street

Historic Name Walker Building (DSMRB)

Use: Original commercial

Present commercial

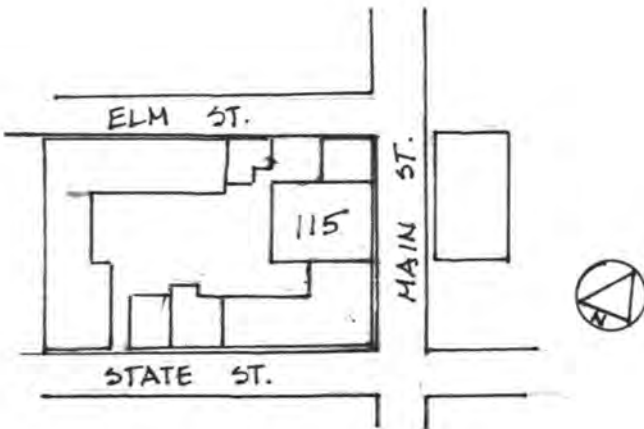
Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization X

Public _____

Original owner T.M. Walker

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1890

Source Building Department Records

Style Richardsonian Romanesque

Architect Fuller & Delano (Worcester)

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Top floor removed.

Moved no Date _____

Approx. acreage Less than 1 acre

Setting Urban context; center building within a row of similarly scaled buildings which form a cohesive block streetscape between State and Elm Streets.

Recorded by Margo Webber

Organization Anderson Notter Finegold Inc.

Date June, 1981

Assessor's Map #307

UTM Ref: 18/699440/4663580

Springfield South Quadrangle (Staple additional sheets here)

Criteria Statement: The Walker Building possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. Constructed in 1890 by a prominent local merchant, it is representative of the intensive development of the downtown area at the turn of the century. Designed by the Worcester firm of Fuller and Delano, it is one of the downtown's best examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style even though it has lost its top floor. It meets criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

The Walker Building is a representative example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style so popular in the late 19th Century. Its adoption to a commercial structure produced a facade of Springfield brick with highly ornamental freestone trim at windows, piers, spandrels, etc. Although the fifth story has been removed, the building retains most of its original surface treatment and relates well in scale, massing and materials to the adjacent Main Street building.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

The Walker Building was constructed in 1890 at a cost of \$75,000 and was designed by the Worcester architectural firm of Fuller and Delano. It was built on the site of the old Exchange Hotel, previously owned by T.M. Walker but which had been built in 1820 by Thomas Sargeant, and which was the first brick hotel building in the city. The building was designed to house four shops at street level, and 14 offices on each of the upper floors. Among early tenants of the stores were Sawtell & Lane, a men's hat store, and Brewer and Coburn Company.

T.M. Walker (1815-1904), original owner of the building, came to Springfield in 1842 from Brookfield, where he had been a painter. Walker successfully started and built up the T.M. Walker Company as a leading manufacturer and dealer in woodwork, painting and builder's supplies. The company was founded in 1820. It moved to several different locations and eventually in 1869 to #31-41 Market Street, where a 6-story building housed the manufacturing plant for paints, plate glass, blinds, doors and other woodworking materials. Walker's success in business prompted him to explore other ventures, such as the Exchange Hotel, and later The Walker Building. The construction of commercial blocks such as this by enterprising local merchants played a key role in the continued commercial growth and development of the downtown in the late 19th/early 20th centuries. Walker was also a generous benefactor of the Springfield Library.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Building Permits
The Graphic, August 19, 1894, p. 19.
Building Records, 1890.
Progressive Springfield, June, 1891

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Walker Building (Downtown Springfield MRA)
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3025
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 12/9/82 - 12/22/82
Action: ACCEPT
 RETURN 12/22/82
 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
 excellent deteriorated unaltered original site
 good ruins altered moved data _____
 fair unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Area 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

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please provide

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

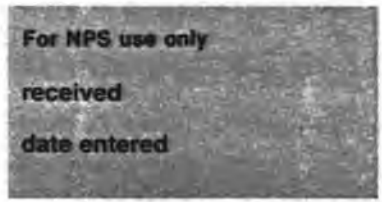
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *W. Byers* Date *12/22/82* Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Downtown Springfield Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
31. Hibernian Block	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
32. McIntosh Building	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
33. Willy's Overland Block	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
34. Haynes Hotel Waters Building	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
35. Springfield District Court	<u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper	<u>Thomas Mac Donnell 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
36. Walker Building	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
37. United Electric Company Building	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
38. Radding Building	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
39. Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Company	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byers 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____
40. Guenther & Handel's Block	<u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper	<u>Thomas Mac Donnell 2/24/83</u>
		Attest	_____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Walker building (Downtown Springfield MRA)

Hampden County

MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3025
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 4/1/83
Action: ACCEPT 2/24/83
 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
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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

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USIT Reference _____

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: 202 272-3500



Downtown Springfield MA, Ma

Walker Building

1228-1244 Main St

Walker Building #115
 1228-1244 Main St.
 1"=50' Springfield MA

