

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

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

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Continuation sheet 97

Item number 7

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RFE  
P.W.

NAME: ~~The~~ Linton Block (W.M.R.A.), (Figures 68 and 69)

LOCATION: 3-5 Monument Square

OWNER: Richard Plante  
3 Monument Square  
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895

CONDITION: Good; altered; original site

DESCRIPTION:

The 1888 Linton Block is a 3½-story, Richardsonian/Queen Anne style brick building in Woonsocket's old central business district. Measuring 86-by-32 feet, it was designed to accommodate two street-level stores; twin, double-parlored apartments on the second and third floors; and rooms for rent in the fourth-floor attic story. Upper-floor access was gained by exterior lateral galleries--now largely demolished--and a pair of extant, half-round, 2-story, shingle-clad oriels containing circular staircases connecting the second and third floors on the north side of the building. The side and rear walls are built of common brick and have segmental-head, 2/2 and 2/1 double-hung sash. Three double dormers are located on each side of the gable roof. The upper floor interiors are very plain and, though derelict, are largely intact. The ground-floor store spaces have been remodelled and contain a barroom.

As in most nineteenth-century commercial buildings, the Linton Block's street facade is its chief embellishment. And, as was common in the 1880s and '90s, the facade displays a great variety of materials--pressed brick, rock-faced granite, slate, terra-cotta and pressed sheet metal. The street front terminates in a high flat parapet clad in molded sheet metal. It is pierced by a small, central gable faced in red slate and crowning a terra-cotta lunette. Alternating pressed-brick and rock-faced granite voussoirs surround the lunette, which bears the building's name and date of construction. The second, third and fourth stories have tall, vertically oriented windows grouped in pairs and triads and fitted with 1/1 double-hung sash. The organization of the windows, their continuous sills and lintels executed in rock-faced granite, and the vertical brick piers create a complex and highly abstract compositional interlace further enlivened by bands of tessellated brickwork between the third- and fourth-story windows and panels of terra-cotta tiling in the spandrels between the second- and third-story windows.

The original street-level, cast-iron storefronts are thought to be largely intact beneath the 1940s Bakelite, ribbed-aluminum and glass-block facing which encases them.

(See Continuation Sheet #98)

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AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Commerce  
PERIOD: 1800-1899  
SPECIFIC DATE: 1888  
BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Unknown  
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Linton Block was built by Robert F. Linton in 1888 and housed his pharmacy. It is a prototypical late nineteenth-century, small-scale, mixed-use commercial building. It is the finest survivor of this type in Woonsocket which, when the Linton Block was built, was a regional commercial center. As an exercise in street architecture design, the building's Monument Square elevation has considerable merit.

ACREAGE: less than 1 acre.  
BOUNDARIES: Woonsocket Assessor's plat 14-A, lot 279.

UTM: 19 291850 4653210

(See Continuation Sheet #99)