

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	142 N-277

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number PFNR-1-13

1. Town Fall River, Mass.
Address 252 High Street
401 Cherry Street
Name W. C. Davol, Jr. House
Present use Residence
Present owner Patricia & Robert Desrosiers

3. Description: Large 2½-story w/steep mansard

Date 1876

Source Water Dept. Records

Style Stick Style

Architect Attributed to Hartwell & Swazey

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard w/stickwork

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features Steep slate mansard, copper coping & finials, trussed entrance porch, original doors

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 6,466 sq. ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 80'

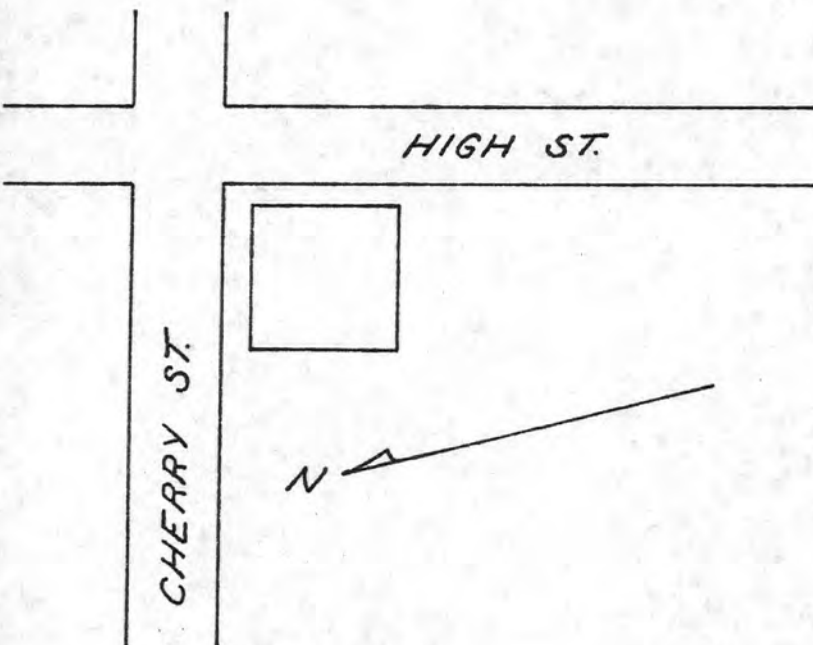
Approximate distance of building from street
15'

6. Recorded by Patricia Giza/Pam Fox

Organization FROHP

Date 2/17/81

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



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) William C. Davol, Jr.

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>x</u>				

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

The Wm. C. Davol, Jr. House is among the city's finest examples of the picturesque Stick Style, which came into use in the 1870's and is identified by the stickwork and cross bracing used to suggest or symbolize the unseen structural frame. The house has the characteristic asymmetrical massing and irregular silhouette and retains its peaked entrance porch, original carved double-leaved entrance doors, stained glass window, slate roof and copper coping and finials. The interior is richly embellished with Minton tiles and Eastlavian trim and sports an original water-power elevator.

Erected in 1876, the house is located on the fringe of the fashionable Highlands residential neighborhood just outside the Highlands Historic District. By tradition, the design has been attributed to Hartwell and Swazey, a Boston firm responsible for several Ruskinian Gothic structures erected in Fall River during this period including the Academy Building, Central Congregational Church, and several fire stations. Henry Walker Hartwell (1833-1919) worked in partnership with Albert E. Swazey, Jr. from 1869 to 1877. Most of their commissions were in areas south of Boston, particularly Fall River and vicinity. In 1882 Hartwell formed a more lasting partnership with Wm. Cummings Richardson in a firm which became one of the most popular in Boston during the 1880's and 90's.

The original owner, Wm. C. Davol, Jr., was the son of Wm. C. Davol, a major figure in the development of the Fall River textile industry. The younger Davol was treasurer of the Davol Mill, which was named for his father, and was also chief engineer of the Fire Department for the first two decades of the 20th century. He was well-known throughout New England for his skill in and knowledge of fighting fires and made several important inventions and improvements in equipment. Adjacent to the house is Davol's former fire barn (now a residence) where he kept Fire Department equipment. As an outstanding example of the Stick Style and a major city landmark, the Wm. C. Davol, Jr. House meets Criteria C of the National Register individually.

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

Atlas 1895 - Shown
1883 - Shown, W. C. Davol, Jr.
1877 - Birdseye, shown
1871 - Previous house, J. M. Dean shown

Water Dept. - Wm. C. Davol, Jr. 6-14-1876 - App. #1204

Directory - 1878 - William C. Davol, Jr., treas. Davol Mills, also Chief Engineer,
Fire Dept. h. 24 High, corner Cherry, previously at 20 Winter between
Locust and Cherry

Phillips' History of Fall River, Fascicle III

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

11/5/03

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Fall River Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Coughlin School

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

32. Crescent Mill

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

33. Davol School

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

34. Davol, William C., Jr., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

35. Downtown Fall River Historic District

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

36. Durfee Mills

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

37. Earle, John M., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

38. Fall River Bleachery

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

39. First Baptist Church

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

40. Flint Mills

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *Deloris Byers*

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Davol, William C. Jr., House (Fall River MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 115/83-15
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 2/16/83
Entered in the ☐ RETURN
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
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT References

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: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Fall River MRA, Ma

PFNR-1-13

William C. Darol Jr. House
252 High St.



WILLIAM C. DAVOL, JR. HOUSE
252 HIGH ST
FALL RIVER, MA

PAMELA FOX (1982)

FALL RIVER OFFICE OF HIST PRES
1 GOVERNMENT CENTER
FALL RIVER, MA 02722
(PFNR 1-14)

WILLIAM C. DAVOL, JR. HOUSE - FRONT
FACADE, LOOKING WEST

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279