

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

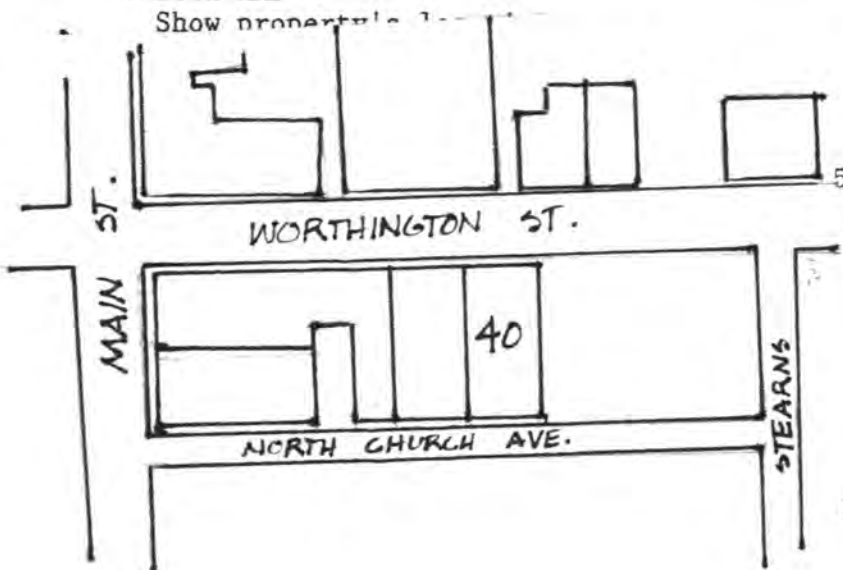
AREA	FORM NO.
3000	40

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Show property lines



Drawn by _____ and ed. by Candace
Jenkins (MHC)
Organization Springfield Historical Commission

Date January 30, 1979

UTM Reference: 18/699060/4663920
Springfield South Quadrangle
Assessor's Map #309

(Staple additional sheets here)

Town Springfield
Address 211-13 Worthington Street
Historic Name Driscoll's Block (DEMPRA)

original owner: J.R. Driscoll

Use: Present commercial

Original Commercial/Manufacturing

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1894

Source SDR 12-29-94 p.10

Style Panel Brick/Romanesque Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) _____

storefronts 1950's+

6.

Moved no Date _____

Approx. acreage one acre or less

Setting urban context; adjacent to vacant lot east and buildings of similar scale and period west.

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

The Driscoll Block is a small scale four story brick commercial block of unusual quality in the survey area. Although its storefronts have received moderate alterations, the upper stories remain intact. The facade features segmental arched windows at the second and third stories, round arched windows at the fourth story and an elaborate corbeled entablature. The upper three stories of the east elevation are completely covered with a unique collection of stencils which post-date 1940 when the adjacent building was demolished.

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

The Driscoll's Block possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. It is significant for its role in the redevelopment of Worthington Street after a major fire and for its associations with several commercial/industrial concerns. Additionally, it is a particularly well designed local example of late 19th century commercial architecture with a unique collection of 20th century advertising stencils on its east elevation. It meets criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Driscoll Block was the first building to be finished on the site of the disastrous 1893 Worthington St. fire. The fire destroyed five large blocks on the southside of Worthington St., from Main St. almost to Stearns Square.

Charles Chamberlain opened a bowling alley in this block in 1895. These lanes were operated, under several owners until 1915, when Fred Smith transferred them to the block next west. Smith had taken over the alley in 1903 and had added a billiard parlor. He acquired 19 pool and billiard tables from the 1905 St. Louis Exposition.

After 1915 a number of manufacturing and warehouse concerns have occupied this block, including U.S. Rubber Co., Collins Electric Co. and most recently Bloom's Photo Supply. For a short period around 1930 it was a Sears & Roebuck department store.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date, and publisher)

Springfield Scrapbook Volume 38 p. 25 & 41.

Springfield Directory 1894 - 1977

Springfield Daily Republican November 21, 1893 p. 1 and December 29, 1894 p. 10

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Driscoll's Block (Downtown Springfield MRA)
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3025

Fed. Reg. Date:

Date Due: 12/9/82 - 12/25/82

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	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ 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

Average of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS Reference _____

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 *Dr. 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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormFor NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Downtown Springfield Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- ✓ 21. Cutler and Porter Block Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- ✓ 22. Produce Exchange Building Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- x 6/22/83 23. Edisonia Theater Block Substantive Review Determined Eligible Keeper Bruce Han Doyl 5/21/83
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest _____
- ✓ 24. Baystate Corset Block Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- ✓ 25. Smith's Building Substantive Review Keeper Bruce Han Doyl 2/29/83
Attest _____
- ✓ 26. Y.W.C.A. Building Substantive Review Determined Eligible Keeper Bruce Han Doyl 12/19/83
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest _____
- ✓ 27. Driscoll's Block Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- ✓ 28. Fitzgerald's Stearns Square Block Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- ✓ 29. Trinity Block Entered in the National Register for Keeper Melvin Byers 2/24/83
Attest _____
- R 30. Kellogg's Envelope Block Substantive Review Keeper S + T
Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Driscoll's Block (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

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

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Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

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☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates

8. Significance

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Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
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- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS 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



BLOOM'S
Kodak

Viewlex
Projectors

GRAPHIC ARTS INDUSTRIAL
WHOLESALE

Belex
Insulated

ZEISS
IKON

RADIA
SCREEN

POLAROID
LAND
CAMERAS
PICTURES
60

Bell
&
Howell
Company
Finest Products
Lowest Prices

Loba
WHERE PERFORMING
COUNTS

BLOOM'S

BLOOM'S PHOTO SUPPLY

BLOOM'S

BLOOM'S

40

Downtown Springfield MRA, Ma

Driscoll's Block

Driscoll's Block #40
211-213 Worthington St.
1"=50' Springfield M&A

