

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

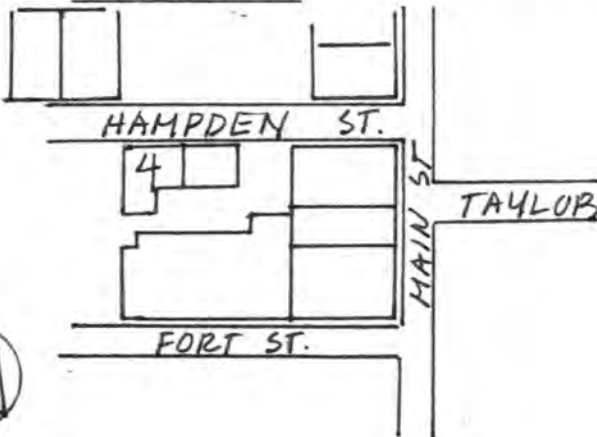
| AREA | FORM NO. |
|------|----------|
| 3000 | 4        |

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

Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Ed Lonergan, ed Margo Webber

Organization Spfld. Historical Commission

Date Feb, 1979; Aug, 1982

Assessor's Map #304

UTM Ref: 18/698900/4663860

Springfield South Quadrangle (Staple additional sheets here)

Hampden Co.

Town Springfield

Address 15-19 Hampden Street

Historic Name Patton Building (DSMRA)

Ownership: Private Individual

Original Owner: William Patton

Use: Present Same

Original Commercial

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1872, 1909 facade

Source Centennial map, Directories

Style Georgian Revival vernacular

Architect B.H. Seabury - 1909 facade

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings --- none

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

1909 - new facade which remains entirely intact.

Moved --- no --- Date ---

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting Set within a row of similar

commercial blocks which line the south side of Hampden Street.

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

The Patton Building meets Criteria A, B and C. It was an integral part of the late 19th c. development of the North Blocks area during which Hampden Street was lined with brick and brownstone blocks used, as this one was, in the wholesale trade. It is associated with prominent local developer William Patton and his son William Jr. and housed the noted local firm of Durkee, White and Towne for over 30 years. Architecturally, the facade is an excellent example of ornate vernacular Georgian Revival design and is virtually untouched from its original appearance.

(Continuation Page)

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

The Patton Building contributes to the downtown's early 20th century growth as a commercial center reflected by its renovation from a warehouse/wholesaling building to first-class office uses in 1909. The new retail shops likewise reflected a transition from wholesaling to retailing during this era. One shop was a showroom for the Springfield Buick Co., since the auto industry had become an important aspect of the city's industry and commerce at this time.

The building housed the real estate offices of William Patton, Jr. on its second floor and the engineering firm of Durkee, White and Towne on the third floor. This firm of civil engineers was regarded as the leading firm in western Massachusetts. It was founded in 1898 and gained a reputation for directing large water projects, sewer construction and building of street railway lines. By 1913 it was said they "have had charge of practically all the important trolley lines in western New England," including the electrification of Springfield's trolley system. By this time they employed a force of 40 engineers in the Patton Building. During the first World War, they designed Camp Devens in Ayer, MA for the U.S. Army, shipyards and housing at Bristol, PA and numerous other military installations. For over 30 years, their offices were located in the Patton Building.

The architectural merit of the building lies in its unique interpretation of the Georgian Revival style by local architect B.H. Seabury. Seabury practiced architecture in Springfield for over 30 years and received many municipal commissions for fire stations and schools. The design of the Patton Building's facade represented a special challenge, successfully accomplished, to adapt an existing commercial block to the latest fashion of the day. The unusual combination of features, materials, area horizontal massings set it apart from most of the downtown's other Georgian Revival blocks which tended to be a larger scale, more vertical in proportions and often faced in light stone such as the Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Building and the Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance Block, both on State Street.

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

Centennial Map of Springfield  
Springfield Directories  
Springfield Scrapbooks, Vol. 24, p. 192; Vol. 37, p. 180.  
Vertical File, Springfield Library, Local History Dept., B.H. Seabury

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Community:<br>Springfield      | Form No:<br>4 |
| Property Name: Patton Building |               |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd)

This is an unusual configuration of Classical Motifs which combine to form a unique Georgian Revival facade unlike any other remaining commercial blocks in the downtown. The massing is horizontal in emphasis with two-story projecting bays with geometric-patterned wood spandrels flanking the three center bays. A modillioned cornice and tall lintel above the storefronts also accentuate the horizontality. The storefronts are original and have leaded glass transoms and a central cast-iron entrance canopy, one of only three iron canopies which survive on downtown buildings.

The Patton Building retains its integrity of location and setting and as a 1909 vernacular Georgian Revival commercial block, the facade fully retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Patton Building (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                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <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  
☐ 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

## X 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

*Please provide VBD.*

## 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 *[Signature]*

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 5

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Downtown Springfield Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Whitcomb Warehouse

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

2. Patton Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

3. Patton and Loomis Block

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

4. Carlton House Block

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

5. Stacy Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Anna Lee May 5/27/87

Attest

6. Springfield Steam Power  
Company Block

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

7. Bicycle Club Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

8. Wells Block

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

9. Worthy Hotel

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Melvin Byers 2/24/83

Attest

10. Smith Carriage Company  
District

Substantive Review

Keeper

Anna Lee May 5/27/87

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

PATTON BUILDING  
(DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD M.A.)  
HAMPSDEN CO  
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

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    |                                    |                                           |

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- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
dates

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Geographic name \_\_\_\_\_

USIT 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: 202 272-3500



4

Downtown Springfield MRA, Ma  
Patton Building

## STREET

FORT

STREET

MAIN

TAYLO

