

80000582

FORM B - BUILDING

In Area no.

Form no.

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

116-L-36

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

1. Town Worcester
Address 16 William Street
Name Marcus Hobbs House
Present use residence
Present owner Gediminas Janula
6524 S. Washtenaw St.
Chicago, Ill. 60629
3. Description:
Date 1849
Source Albert Waite Papers
Style Greek Revival/Italianate
Architect unknown
Exterior wall fabric clapboard
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features Doric porch, arched
window in gable, corner pilasters,
paired brackets
Altered porch extended Date ca.1870
brackets (?)
added (?)
Moved no Date _____
Assessors' Book 2, p.33
5. Lot size: Lot 48 4,417 sq.ft.
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 50'
Approximate distance of building from street
10'
6. Recorded by B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc
Date April 1979

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Marcus Hobbs

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	☐	Conservation	☐	Recreation	☐
Agricultural	☐	Education	☐	Religion	☐
Architectural	☒	Exploration/ settlement	☐	Science/ invention	☐
The Arts	☐	Industry	☐	Social/ humanitarian	☐
Commerce	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐
Communication	☐	Political	☐		
Community development	☒				

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

The Marcus Hobbs House is a two-storey frame house with a side-hall floor plan. The building's gabled facade has a Doric porch (1st storey), over-sized windows (1st storey), corner pilasters, and an arched window in the gable. Apparent alterations to the house (ca.1870) include the extension of the original porch around the building's west side, paired brackets at the cornice, cornice dentils and, perhaps, the gable window. Currently undergoing restoration, the house remains unaltered from ca.1870.

The Hobbs House is located in an area which was developed primarily by carpenters from the late 1840s until the mid-1870s. Located at the eastern end of Bowdoin, William and John Streets, this area has been fragmented by modern highway and parking-lot construction, leaving few examples of the earlier use. The Hobbs House was built in 1849 by Marcus Hobbs, a carpenter, who occupied the property from 1849 until 1861 when he sold the house to Silas Batchellor, also a carpenter. In the 1860s the property changed hands several times until it was sold to Edward Hamilton, a music teacher, assistant treasurer of the Worcester County Institution for Savings and founder of the Mozart Society in Worcester. Following Hamilton's death in 1870, the property was sold to John F. Adams, who sold off the rear portion of the lot to Henry Palmer (a builder) in 1873. Adams seems likely to have remodeled the house slightly, adding its present Victorian features. Adams and his heirs retained ownership of the house well into the twentieth century. In its present good condition, the Hobbs House is an excellent example of mid-nineteenth century, middle-class housing.

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

City atlases and directories
Albert Waite Papers, Box 9

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

HISTORIAN

Call/Accept
Lightner
10.30.79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

Accept
MacDonald
2/28/80

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Soldner
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

MAR 5 1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



JUN 1979



JUN 1979



30 AUG 1979

116-L-36

16 William St

Hobbs, Marcus, House

Worcester MA, Ma

South elevation

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304