

8000547

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

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

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
	152-B-1

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

1. Town Worcester
Name of area (if any) Clark University - National Register District

3. General date or period 1887-1910

4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? no (mixed Victorian)
in condition? yes (excellent)
in type of ownership? yes (Clark University)
in use? yes (Clark University)

Rolls 12 & 15

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.

Assessors' Book 8, Page 3, Lot 1

327,167 sq.ft. (607,634 sq.ft. in Tax exempt book)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by W. & M. Seaman ed. E.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.
Date February 1978

(over)

UTM:
19/267110/4681290

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Description: The area included in this nomination has been selected to include the University's pre-World War I buildings, particularly those donated by Jonas Clark, the school's founder and those built during the tenure of G. Stanley Hall, the university's first president. Boundaries have also been selected to include landscaped portions of the original campus which form a central plaza in front of Clark Hall. Land included in the nomination covers approximately 269,000 square feet which is a portion of Lot 1 of Worcester Assessors' Book 8, page 3; for a detailed plan of the nominated area see map 152, which has been submitted with the Worcester Multiple-Resource National Register Nomination. Buildings which stand in the Clark University National Register District are:

1. Clark Hall, built 1887 (Stephen Earle, architect). Clark Hall is a four-storey brick building of symmetrical plan (114' x 204') with a five-storey central pavilion and clock tower. The structure rests on a first storey of rock-faced granite laid in a broken course. Upper stories are largely undecorated except for granite belt courses, lintels, sills and arched window heads (third and fifth stories). Extending around the building above its cornice is an iron cresting. In 1924 the original upper part of the clock tower collapsed; the structure was rebuilt in the manner of the original, but to a slightly lower height. At the time of the rebuilding a granite arch and fanlight were removed from above the three windows at the tower's base.

Nearly astylistic and unlike other local university buildings of its period, Clark Hall was nominally designed by Stephen Earle of Worcester; however, Earle's biography and other sources claim that Earle merely advised Clark in the building's design and that Clark wished the building to be easily adapted to industrial uses, should the school fail. Containing 90 rooms originally, Clark Hall housed the university's main offices, library, gymnasium and classrooms until the early twentieth century, when separate, specialized buildings began to be constructed. Throughout the university's development, Clark Hall has remained the center of its campus.

2. Laboratory Building, built 1888 (Stephen Earle, architect). The Laboratory Building is a brick structure of irregular plan, two and three stories high. Of utilitarian design, the building's trim is limited to stone window sills, and a stone belt course above the building's high

(cont.)

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

Worcester Historical Society. Biographical file (Clark, Earle and Hall obits)
Sanitary Engineer, vol. XV, 4/30/1887, p.588 (building notice Clark Hall)
Engineering and Building Record, vol. XVII, 4/21/1888, p.ix (building notice
Laboratory Building)
Engineering Record, vol. XLIV, 9/28/1901, p.311 (building notice, library)
Administrative Report 1920-1945, prepared by Wallace Atwood, published by
Clark University Library, pp.27-35 (information regarding buildings)
Nutt, C. History of Worcester, vol. II, pp.747-752 (history of Clark
University; vol. III, pp.15-16 (Clark biography); vol. IV, pp.861-862
(Hall biography)
Rice, F. Worcester of 1898, p.194.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 152-B-1
Property Name: Clark University National Register District	

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

7) 2.

basement. During the early twentieth century the Laboratory Building was the site of research in rocketry which was carried out by Robert Hutchings Goddard. Goddard, who is regarded as the inventor of modern high-altitude rockets, was a graduate student at Clark (1908-1911) and was associated with Clark as an instructor after 1914, becoming a full professor of physics in 1919. During his tenure, in 1926, Goddard "successfully fired the world's first liquid fuel rocket" at a site nearby in Auburn, Massachusetts.

3. Academic Building (formerly the University Library) built 1901-1903 (Frost, Briggs & Chamberlain, architects; Norcross Brothers, builders). The Academic Building is a three-storey brick building of Collegiate Gothic design. Trimmed with finely dressed limestone, the building's former facade (Main Street - east) is symmetrical with an arched limestone entry at its center. Above the entry is an ornate oriel with pointed-arch stone tracery and a crenellated parapet. Other windows are framed by limestone quoins and are divided internally by wooden stiles to give the appearance of having transoms. "Modelled after the library of Trinity College at Cambridge, England, designed by Sir Christopher Wren", Academic Hall originally contained thirteen rooms, including a main hall with a book storage capacity of 60,000 volumes and stacks with space for an additional 75,000 volumes.

4. Academic Building Addition (formerly the University Library addition) built 1910 (Frost, Briggs & Chamberlain, architects; Norcross Brothers, builders). Built in the same "English Collegiate Gothic" style as the original library building of 1901-1903, the former library addition is a two and one-half storey brick building of rectangular plan with its major entry on its south wall. The entry consists of a pointed-arch (of limestone) surmounted by a cornice and crenellated parapet. The addition's Main Street facade (east) is slightly asymmetrical, having a bay window at its south end only; otherwise this elevation has symmetrically placed gables and tri-partite windows set in limestone surrounds with transoms. Together, both sections of Academic Hall provide one of Worcester's finest and earliest examples of Collegiate Gothic architecture.

5. Atwood Hall, built 1938-1939 (architect unknown). A two and one-half storey brick and limestone building of Collegiate Gothic design, Atwood Hall is compatible with the neighboring Academic Hall (to which it is connected). While of architecturally high quality, Atwood Hall is of relatively recent construction and shares none of the associations to Jonas Clark, G. Stanley Hall and the university's founding which characterize the foregoing buildings.

6. Science Building, built 1957 (architect unknown). The Science Building is a two-storey brick building of undecorated modern design. Located between Clark Hall and the Laboratory Building, this structure lacks the historical associations which characterize the campus's earlier buildings.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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7)

An especially fine landscape feature of the campus is its simple cast-iron fence set into granite posts (Main and Downing Street).

SIGNIFICANCE:

The second graduate school to be founded in the United States, Clark University was opened in 1889 and, until the establishment of Clark College in 1902, offered only graduate education. The school was founded by donations from Jonas G. Clark, one of the city's wealthiest citizens. Clark (1815-1900) was a native of Hubbardston, Massachusetts, who began his financial career as a carriage maker. Gradually in the 1840s, Clark became involved in the manufacture of hardware and furniture, owning stores in Lowell and Milford. In the early 1850s, Clark went to California where "he laid the foundation of his great fortune through dealing in miners' supplies." Upon his return to the east coast, Clark took up residence in New York City where he remained until around 1881 when he moved to Worcester and invested heavily in local real estate.

During the 1880s Clark "became convinced that this country needed an institution of learning where research and investigation would be encouraged to a greater degree than was possible in other American universities, where the time of the professors was devoted largely to instruction." To this end Clark hired Granville Stanley Hall, later the university's first president, to make a tour of European universities to gather ideas and information for the organization of the new school. Hall, who was a well-known scholar, had served variously as professor of psychology and English at Antioch, Harvard and Williams Colleges and at Johns Hopkins University. A founder of the American Journal of Psychology and an editor of numerous other psychology-related publications, Hall was responsible for inviting the then controversial Sigmund Freud to lecture at Clark University in 1909, Freud's only visit to the United States. Impressed by the German university system, Hall used it as a model for part of the university's curriculum. Hall, who served as university president (1889-1920) determined much of the school's academic development by assembling a staff of professors who shared some of his more advanced ideas about university education and particularly about psychology, a then controversial study. Hall's initial staff remained intact from 1892 to 1913. Among psychological studies produced by Hall during his tenure at Clark are Adolescence (1904), Educational Problems (1911) and Jesus Christ in the Light of Psychology (1917)

In 1887 Jonas Clark purchased eight acres of the present Main Street campus and a board of trustees was established to operate the school. Clark's initial founding gift included a \$300,000 construction fund, a \$100,000 library fund and a general endowment of \$600,000. Clark also donated an additional \$500,000 in real estate and \$500,000 for the support of three or more professorships. Active in his support of the school until his death, Clark made additional large donations including \$750,000 to increase the library fund and to pay for the construction of a library in 1900. After the settling of Clark's estate around 1900-1901, further donations brought his contribution to the school to over \$4,000,000.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

Excellent multiple resource nomination for the entire city of Worcester. Both the general description or statement of significance & the individual inventory sheets are well done. Each type of property included is well justified, & reasons are listed for not including others at this time (e.g. 3-deckers). Opposition is high. Minor problems w/ some properties are listed on attached sheets.

HISTORIAN
Call/Accept
Lightner
10.30.79

Concur with Amers' comments on 102-L-3, 116-CBD-11, 117-E, and 130-CBD-50 and 44. Integrity and/or boundaries need to be addressed specifically on individual forms. **DOBIE**

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

116-CBD-11 - Destroyed, cannot be listed.
130-CBD-44 - I am not convinced this has lost integrity. See attached.
102-L-3 - Period of significance and categorization of 1 bps need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. ~~Both~~ ^{both} technically and to determine significance. Although some of the forms did not contain strong statements of significance the resource categories were thoroughly discussed in the body of the nomination; therefore significance was established. VBDS were not necessary because

OTHER
ACCEPT
M. R. [unclear]
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. Heritage was missing on some properties but is now included after the 2/11/ corrections. THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

- ✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 10 CBD-11
- 130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~am not~~ ^{am} NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES BUT BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~ ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Recommend listing all properties ^{now} except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~hold ok~~ to discuss further w/NR staff + state. **DOBIE**
Return 102-L-3 to state for correction;
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state

BRANCH CHIEF 3/3/80

Staff conference 3/5/80 - agreed to action as noted below:

KEEPER

Accept with exception of 116-CBD-11 (official notification of fire & claims from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (listing from state)

S. [unclear]
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered MAR 5 1980
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81 Re-submit _____



Prestige Prints
by Barney

JUN 1979

Prestige Prints
by Barney

Clark University
152-35-AUG 1979
Academic Bldg.
Addition
South + east
elevations





JUN 1979



by Bentley

JUN 1979

80 AUG 1979

Worcester MA, Ma
152-B-1
Clark University
Academic Bldg.
South east
elevations



152-379-1
AUG 1979
Clark Hall
Clark University
West elevation
Worcester MA, MA



JUN 1979



by Berkeley

JUN 1979



by Berkeley

152-B-1 AUG 1979

Clark University

Clark Hall

Westchester, MA, MA

East Chatham



352-B-1
30 AUG 1979

Laboratory Clerk V. Wood
Building
Worcester, MA, USA
South-east elev



152-B0-AUG 1979

Clark University

Science Building

Worcester MA, Ma

East elevation



152-B-1

30 AUG 1979

Atwood Hall

Clark University

West elevation

Worcester MA, MA

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304