

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
3000	99

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 Fred Clark, Ed Lonergan
ed; Margo Webber
Organization Spfld. Historical Commission

Date Jan., 1979; August, 1982

UTM Ref: 18/699280/4664140
Springfield South Quadrangle
Assessor's Map #402

(Staple additional sheets here)

Town Springfield
Address 151-157 Chestnut and 10-20 Winter sts
Historic Name Willy's Overland Block (DSMR)

Ownership: Private Individual

Original Owner: Willy's Overland, Inc.

Use: Present Commercial

Original Auto Sales and Service

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1916

Source Building Permit

Style 20th c. Commercial

Architect Mills, Rhines, Bellman & Nordhof

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings --- none

Major alterations (with dates) none

Moved --- no Date _____

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting Sits directly on street line and forms prominent corner block.

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

The building meets Criteria A and C of the National Register. It is associated with the city's growth as an automobile center, particularly in the Apremont Triangle/Chestnut Street area. It is a four-story block, 12 bays wide and 12 bays deep and faced in buff-colored brick. Considering its industrial use, the design conceals the use behind a facade which looks more commercial in design. The windows are grouped in fours with decorative spandrel panels between stories to enrich the design. The exterior has had minimal alteration since it was completed and retains its integrity of location design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. (cont'd)

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

Willy's Overland Block contributes to the role that Chestnut Street and the Apremont Triangle played as an area for automobile sales and showroom facilities. Until about 1915, the area remained largely residential, but with growing expansion pressures from the downtown, it was transformed to commercial uses. Winter Street, on which one side of the block faces, was developed at the same time for other auto-related uses. The one-story garages and shops on Winter Street originally were all auto-repair shops.

Willy's Overland began as the Overland Co. in Indianapolis in 1905. The firm manufactured one and two-cylinder automobiles. Two years later John N. Willy, an Elmira, NY auto-dealer, acquired the troubled firm and moved it to Toledo, Ohio. Under Willy's ownership, the Willy's Overland Co. became a major manufacturer and by 1915 ranked second only to Ford in production volume. During this period, Springfield was selected for a branch plant because of its high number of skilled craftsmen and ranking as an important automotive center. The new building contained a salesroom, service station and 1000-car garage. The Company distributed Willys-Knight and Overland cars and used their facility as one of the largest commercial garages in the city until the branch was discontinued in 1921.

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

Springfield Union; October 16, 1921, Automobile Section, pp 1-4.
Building Permits
Springfield Street Directories
The Complete Encyclopedia of Motor Cars, 1885-1968.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Springfield

Form No:

99

Property Name: Willy's Overland Block

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd)

It was considered one of the finest buildings of its kind in the East.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Willy's Overland Block (Downtown Springfield MRA)
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3125

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 12/9/82 - 12/25/82Action: ☐ 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. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ altered

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 _____

Geographic name _____

USIT References _____

+ 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 *X 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 Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

425

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Downtown Springfield Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Hibernian Block

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

32. McIntosh Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

33. Willy's Overland Block

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

34. Haynes Hotel Waters
Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

35. Springfield District
Court

Substantive Review

Keeper

Anna M. Boyd 2/24/83

Attest

36. Walker Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

37. United Electric Company
Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

38. Radding Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

39. Springfield Fire & Marine
Insurance Company

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Melona Byers 2/24/83

Attest

40. Guenther & Handel's Block

Substantive Review

Keeper

Anna M. Boyd 2/24/83

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Willy's Overland Block (Downtown Springfield MRA)

Hampden County

MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 11/10/82-3025

Fed. Reg. Date: 8.7.84

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
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ altered

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ 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)

- _____ 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 _____

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

NO
PARKING
HERE
FROM
CORNER



99 Downtown Springfield MA, Ma

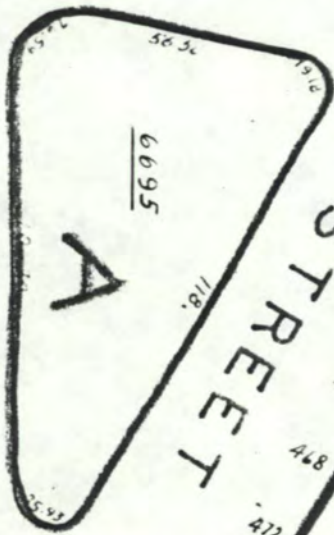
Willy's Overland Block

Willy's Overland Block #79
151-157 Chestnut St.
1"=50' Springfield MEA

313

BRIDGE

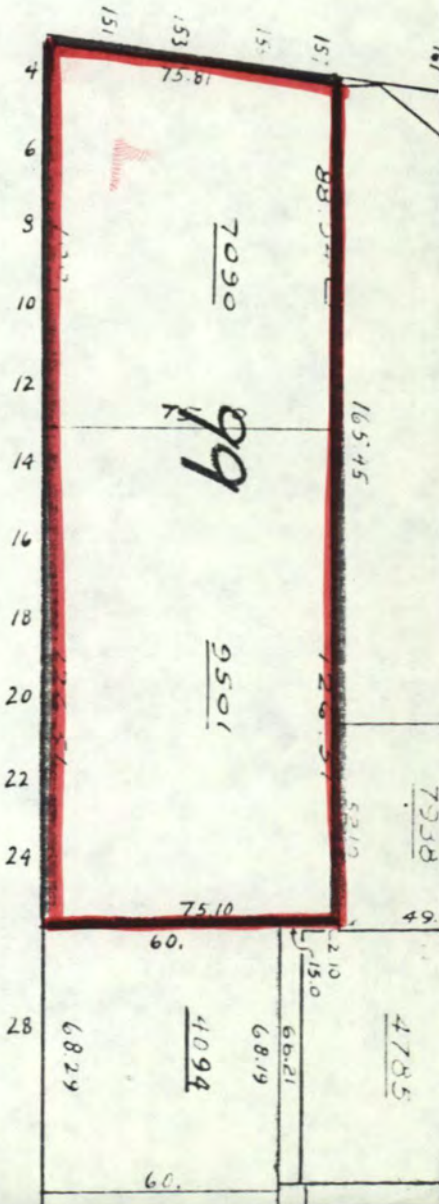
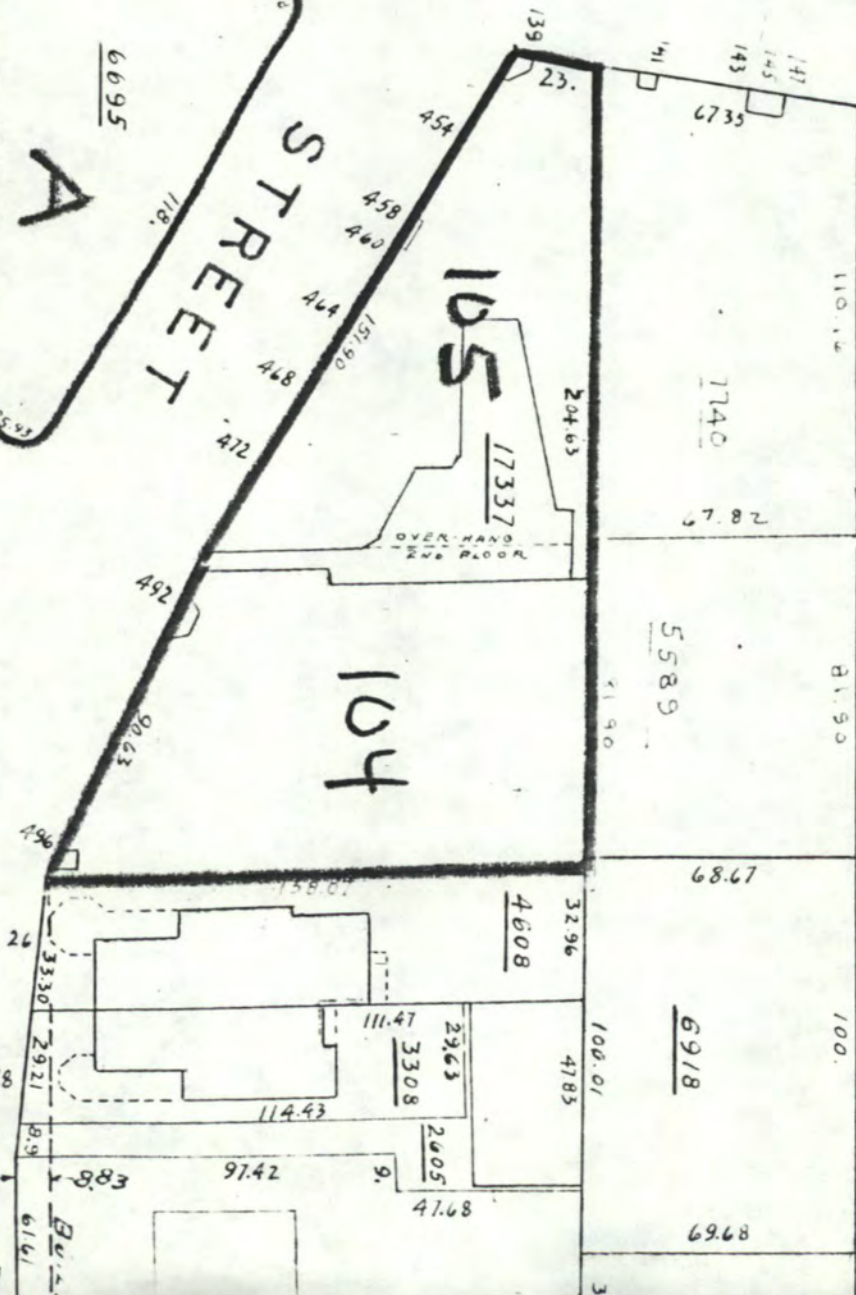
CHESTNUT



STREET

105

104



WINTER

PEARL