

FORM A - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA. 02108

Form numbers in this area

134, 135, 136

Area letter

C

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

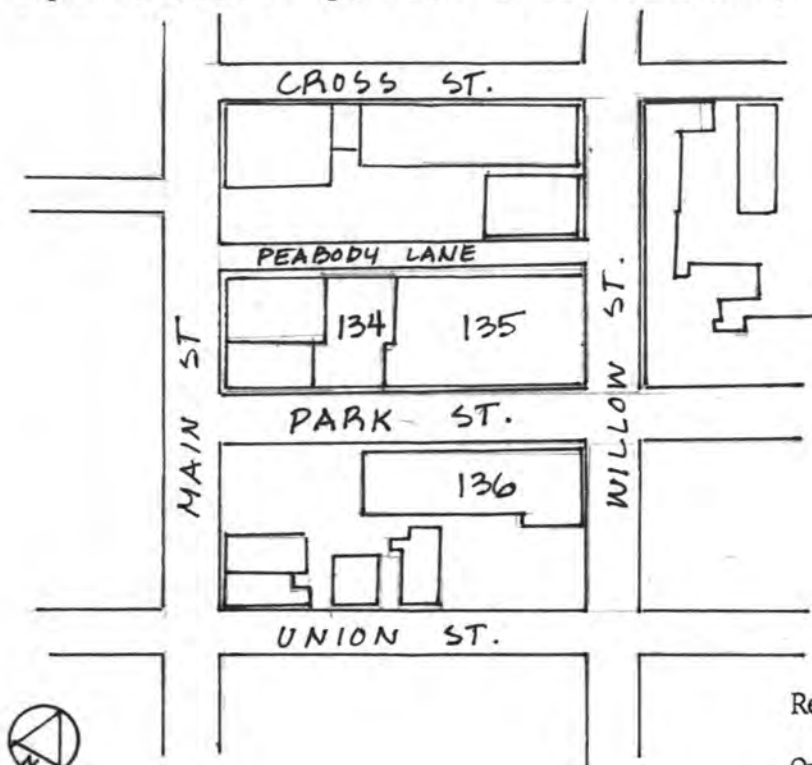
Town Springfield

Name of area (if any) Smith Carriage

Company District (Downtown Springfield MRA), Bounded by Main, Peabody, Willow and Park Sts. (both sides)

General date or period c. 1880 - 1924

Sketch map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)



- 134. 12 Park Street
- 135. 14-38 Park Street
- 136. 11-31 Park Street

Recorded by Margo Webber

Organization Anderson Notter Finegold Inc.

Date June, 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

The district is a densely built up composition of three structures which line both sides of Park Street. All three buildings are industrial in character and were built for the Smith Carriage Company during various periods of expansion by this important local business. The buildings front directly on the narrow street and create a strong sense of an industrial/manufacturing zone.

The earliest structure dates from the late 19th century (#134) and is a three-story brick building, seven bays wide with several broad segmental arched windows and a corbelled brick cornice. This building is typical of late 19th century manufacturing buildings in the survey area, although most of the remaining ones are in the North Blocks section. The two other structures (#135, 136) are typical of 1920's industrial design. They are of steel and concrete construction, four stories high and faced in brick. The facades feature large rectangular bays of industrial sash. At Willow Street, each building drops to two-story height. The brick facades are trimmed with terra cotta coursing and pilaster ornamentation, which is rather unusually detailed.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).

This is part of an area developed for industrial and manufacturing use during the mid-19th century. Among major companies to establish themselves in this part of the downtown were Smith and Wesson, Taylor and Tapley Manufacturing Company, Milton Bradley Company and the Smith Carriage Company. This area was close to the commercial trade center at Main and State Streets and convenient to related wholesalers and distributors in the city. As small companies grew and prospered, they expanded their facilities on adjacent lots, creating a densely-built industrial area.

The Smith Carriage Company was founded on Park Street in 1827 by David Smith, formerly a carriage building apprentice in the Westfield area. He was responsible for building an excellent line of carriages, specializing in light frame carriages. The business also included sales of other carriages. The business was taken over by Smith's son, William H. Smith, in 1873. He first joined the firm in 1856, keeping up with the latest changes in carriage styles to insure a good trade. The firm is credited in supplying the first frame for an automobile to the Stevens Duryea Company. It was actually a second-hand buggy frame that was used.

During the 1910-20 era, the company began to shift its focus to auto body parts, in light of the rapid growth of this new industry. It continued in the auto business until finally closing in the 1940's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Building Permits

City Atlases

Street Directories

Progressive Springfield, 1891, p. 218

Inland Massachusetts Illustrated, 1890, p. 51

Springfield Scrapbook, Volume 17, p. 112.

Springfield Daily News, February 28, 1947

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Springfield	Form No: Area C
Property Name: Smith Carriage	

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

Acreage: 1 acre

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The district includes the three industrial buildings developed by the Smith Carriage Works Company on Park Street at the turn of the century. Boundaries were selected to include the remaining buildings associated with the company. Please refer to assessor's map #312.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Smith Carriage Company District (Downtown
Springfield MRA)
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTSWorking No. 11/11/82-3025

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 12/9/82 - 12/25/82Action: ☐ ACCEPT
☒ RETURN 12/27/82
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐
- resubmission
-
- ☐
- nomination by person or local government
-
- ☐
- owner objection
-
- ☐
- appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments: *Property's significance under criterion A is clear from inventory form under general #8 for continuing contributions to locality in production of And, later, automobiles body parts. Return is for technical reasons.*

Recom. / Criteria Return
Reviewer L. McClelland
Discipline A. Hist
Date 12/27/82
☐ see continuation sheetNomination returned for: ☒ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below1. 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
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ date _____

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

Please provide address

Address of nominated property _____

Geographic name _____

USIT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

x 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 _____

X13. Other

- ☒ Maps *Please indicate boundaries on map.*
- ☒ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

L McClelland

Signed

L McClelland

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 125

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

Ann M. Dwyer 5/27/83

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

Ann M. Dwyer 5/27/83

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Smith Carriage Company District (Downtown
Springfield MRA)
MA, Hampden County

Working No. 11-1082-3025Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/84Date Due: 5/28/83Action: ☒ ACCEPT 5/27/83☐ RETURN☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☒ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION
PROVIDED

Recom. / Criteria ACCEPT / AReviewer MAC DONALDDiscipline A.H.Date 5/27/83☐ 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	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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 Reference _____

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



134

Downtown Springfield M.R.A., Ma
Smith Carriage Company District



Downtown Springfield, Ma
Smith Carriage Company District

135



Downtown Springfield M.R.A. Ma
Smith Carriage Company District

134



Downtown Springfield MRA, Ma
Smith Carriage Company District

136

11

57.77

255.97

40.02

132.52

314

STREET

PARK STREET

136

135
16740

$$\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ \times 533 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

PARK

Smith Courty works Hstor-
ic distict - 8 Area C
1"-50' Springfield MAPA

CROSS

STREET

15.706 31.02 24.71 39.75 63

ABODY 14 12 LANE

ON