

ref no 80000573

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	116-L-6

1. Town Worcester  
 Address 4 Avalon Place  
 Name Gov. Levi Lincoln House  
 Present use residential

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

Present owner Roland E. & Mary V. Dufault

3. Description:

Date ca. 1834  
 Source A. S. Waite Papers  
 Style Greek Revival  
 Architect Elias Carter  
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard  
 Outbuildings (describe) none  
 Other features hammered granite

Roll 3

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location  
 in relation to nearest cross streets and  
 other buildings. Indicate north.

~~foundation, side-hall plan, pedimented gable, Doric entry porch, original entry with sidelights~~

Altered not significantly Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved from Elm St. Date ca. 1880

UTM: 19/268480/4683000

5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 2, p. 33,  
 Lot 60 5,009 sq. ft.  
 One acre or less  Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 62'  
 Approximate distance of building from street  
10'

6. Recorded by S. Lee, ed. B.R. Pfeiffer  
 Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.  
 Date November 1977

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Governor Levi Lincoln

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residential apartments

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

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

Built in 1834, the Lincoln House is Worcester's earliest example of the side-hall Greek Revival style type of house, a type which dominated local building in the 1840's and 1850's. Exhibiting elements of late Federalist architecture, the Lincoln House rests on a foundation of hammered granite and has narrow eorner boards and moulded window trim.. Characteristic of the Greek Revival style, the house's facade gable is made to appear as a pediment by the extension of a cornice across its length; further Greek Revival elements include the pedimented entry porch with Doric columns and the front doorway with sidelights, a top light, and an original four-panel door.

Levi Lincoln, Jr. (1782-1868) was born in Worcester, the son of Levi Lincoln, a prominent lawyer. Levi, Jr. graduated from Harvard in 1802 and began the study of law under his father, then the Attorney General of the United States. In 1805 he was admitted to the bar, opened an office in Worcester and by 1812 had been elected to the State Senate. In 1814 he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, serving in it for seven of the next ten years. Lincoln was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1825, serving nine consecutive years in that office. After stepping down from the governorship (1834), Lincoln was appointed to fill out a vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives, a position to which he was elected in 1835. Having been active in politics, Lincoln apparently decided to retire to Worcester in 1834 at which time he commissioned Elias

cont'd .

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

American Antiquarian Society. "Waite Papers."

Carruth, Louise. Old Worc. Houses. (unpublished scrapbooks at Worc. Public Library).

Forbes, Harriette. "Elias Carter ..." in Old-Time New England, Vol. XI, no. 2, Oct., 1920, pp. 58-71.

Lincoln, William. Hist. of Worc. (1862). pp. 200-201.

Nelson, J. Worc. County: A Narrative Hist. Vol. II, pp. 812-813.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 116-L-6
Property Name: Levi Lincoln House	

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

9.

Carter, a local architect, to design a mansion for his Elm Street Estate. Number 4 Avalon Place was constructed in the "east garden" of the estate to provide Lincoln with a dwelling during the construction of the main house, which was not completed until late in 1838. After 1838, Lincoln served as the city's first mayor in 1848. (The Lincoln Mansion now stands at Old Sturbridge Village).

Upon moving into the larger house, Lincoln sold this building to John Richardson of Newton, whose son George, a Worcester lawyer, occupied the house for forty years. In 1878, the house and its lot were sold to Jonas Clark who built a house on the site, selling the Lincoln House to Col. William A. Williams who moved it to its present site and converted it into apartments.

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). **HISTORIAN**  
Call/Accept  
Lightner  
10-30-79

opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets. **ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

Concur with Bruce's 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. **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 bldg need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. **OTHER**  
ACCEPT  
MUN. DEPT.  
2/28/80

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 OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. FURTHE WAS MISSING IN SOME PROPERTIES BUT IS NOW INCLUDED AFTER THE 2/11/CORRECTIONS. **HAER**  
Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE  
✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 116 CBD - 11  
130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~DO NOT~~ <sup>AM</sup> NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. **REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**  
ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

Recommend Listing all properties <sup>now</sup> except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ w/NR staff + state. **BRANCH CHIEF** 3/3/80  
Return 102-L-3 to state for correction;  
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state

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

Accept with exception of 116-CBD-11 (official notification of fire & demo from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (holding info from state) **3/5/80**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_ Send-back \_\_\_\_\_ Entered MAR 5 1980  
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81 Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_ **SEE 3/3/80 REPORT**



by Bel



JUN 1979

116-L-6 <sup>30</sup> AUG 1979

Lincoln Gov. Levi, House

4 Avalon Place

Worcester MRA, Ma

West elevation

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304