

104 110 E0000571  
FORM B - BUILDING

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

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
|             | 116-L-4  |

1. Town Worcester

Address 24 William Street

Name George Cobb House

Present use residence

Present owner Gertrude B. Bombard

3. Description:

Date ca. 1875

Source city atlases & directories

Style Victorian Gothic

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features ogee pointed arch at entry, projecting porch with railing pierced by quatrefoils, central projecting section with tri-partite windows & gable with apron & bargeboards, dormers with bargeboards

Altered no Date

Moved no Date

5. Lot size Assessor's Book 2, p.33  
Lot 47, 4604 sq.ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre

Approximate frontage 60'

Approximate distance of building from street  
10'

6. Recorded by S.Lee, ed. B.R.Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date February 1978

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

Roll 4

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

UTM:  
19/268550/4683060

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) George R. Cobb

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

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/<br>settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science/<br>invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Arts              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/<br>humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commerce              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Military                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Communication         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Political                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |                         |                          |
| Community development | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                            |                          |                         |                          |

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

First occupied in 1875, the George Cobb House is an ornate and unaltered example of Victorian Gothic architecture. The structure is two and one-half stories high, rising from a foundation of rock-faced granite to a slate-covered hip roof with decorative gabled pavilion at its center; set in the first storey of the pavilion is the main entry, framed by an ogee arch and clustered columns. Flanking the entry are three-sided bay windows which are connected by a three-sided open porch with a railing of quatrefoil panels. Above the entry is a tri-partite arched window, capped by a stylized ogee arch. The pavilion's gable is trimmed by an apron pierced with trefoils and by bargeboards which terminate in quatrefoils. Dormers are trimmed with similar decoration. First storey windows on the building's side elevations gabled caps with incised decoration, while second storey windows have moulded caps on consoles and stylized volutes at their bases.

The Cobb House's first occupant was George Cobb, a fish and oyster merchant, who owned the house into the early twentieth century.

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

city atlases & directories

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

Photos 383 + 13  
Maps 2, 63

CONTROL

Excellent multiple resource nomination for the entire city of Worcester. Both the general description & 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-dickers). <sup>Call/Accept</sup> <sup>Lighten</sup> <sup>10.30.79</sup>  
opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

Concur with Bmiller'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. <sup>DOUBLE</sup>

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 bldg need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. ~~Both~~ <sup>both</sup> 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

<sup>ACCEPT</sup>  
<sup>MACDONALD</sup>  
<sup>2/28/80</sup>

of the scale map and clearly delineated boundaries. <sup>ALLEGED</sup> was missing the same properties but <sup>is</sup> now included after the 2/11/corrections.

HAER

The only properties that I do not recommend listing are

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 116 CBD-11

Review \_\_\_\_\_

130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~DO NOT~~ <sup>AM</sup> NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. <sup>BASED</sup>

ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

Recommend Listing all <sup>now</sup> properties ~~except~~ <sup>except</sup> these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~hold state~~ <sup>to discuss further w/NR staff + state.</sup> <sup>DOUBLE</sup> <sup>3/5/80</sup>  
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 & clean from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (listing from state)

<sup>Speedman</sup>  
<sup>3/5/80</sup>

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 5 1980



by Ben  
Prestige  
JUN 15

30 AUG 1979

116-L-4

Cobb, George, House

24 William St

Worcester MA, Ma

South+east elevation

by Ben  
Prestige  
JUN 15

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304