

ref no 80000609

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.
130-CBD-
32

1. Town Worcester

Address 390 Main Street

Name Slater Building

Present use commercial/offices

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

Present owner 340 and 390 Main
Street Associates

3. Description: 340 Main Street
Worcester

Date 1907

Source building notice

Style Classical Revival

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

Architect Frost, Briggs & Chamberlain

Exterior wall fabric limestone, granite
base

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features rusticated two-storey
basement, carved stone entry,
colonnade at 9th and 10th stories,
copper cresting

Altered store fronts Date 1970s

Moved no Date Assessors' Book 3, p.31

5. Lot size: Lot 3 19,282 sq.ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre 112'

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street

7'

6. Recorded by S. Ceccacci and B.R.
Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc

Date November 1977

UTM:
19/268840/4682710

7. Original owner (if known) H.N. Slater Estate

Original use commercial/offices

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	☐	Conservation	☐	Recreation	☐
Agricultural	☐	Education	☐	Religion	☐
Architectural	☒	Exploration/ settlement	☐	Science/ invention	☐
The Arts	☐	Industry	☐	Social/ humanitarian	☐
Commerce	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐
Communication	☐	Political	☐		
Community development	☒				

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

Constructed by the firm of Norcross Brothers, the Slater Building was in 1907 the city's "second high building or sky-scraper, commonly called." (The city's first "skyscraper" was the State Mutual Building of 1895-1896 - see Form #116-CBD-23). The Slater Building is a steel-frame structure, ten stories high, and rises from a two-storey base of rusticated granite piers with an ornately carved entry on its Main Street facade. The third to the eighth stories of the building's east, south and north elevations are faced with dressed limestone and have evenly spaced, paired windows. The building's ninth and tenth stories contain a loggia-like arrangement in their center five bays, each of which is framed by two-storey half-columns with Corinthian capitals. At the roofline is a dentilled cornice with modillions, above which is a copper cresting of anthemion. In a description of the Slater Building, The Worcester Magazine noted that "the Indiana limestone (of the Slater Building) is a new material to be used in Worcester to any great extent." Upon completion the building had store fronts along its street frontages, an arcade of stores at the second storey, and offices on the top eight floors. Although windows of the first two stories have been changed, the Slater Building remains substantially intact, one of the city's finest early "skyscrapers".

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

The Worcester Magazine, vol. 10, 1907, p.70.

Engineering Record, vol. 55, March 30, 1907, p.586 (building notice)

Nutt, C. History of Worcester, vol. II, p.1064.

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

HISTORIAN

Call/Accept
Lightner
10.30.79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

ACCEPT
MAY 22/80
2/28/80

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF 3/3/80

KEEPER

Soldner
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

MAR 5 1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



JAN 1978

JAN 1978

by Berkeley

Prestige Prints

30 AUG 1979

130 - CBB - 32

5 later Building

390 Main St.

Worcester MRA, Ma

South + east
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304