

FORM B - BUILDING

172/ no 80000596

In Area no.	Form no.
	117-E

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

1. Town Worcester
 Address 40 Laurel Street
 Name Borden-Pond House
 Present use residential apartments

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

Present owner Martin M. Surabian

3. Description:

Date 1856-1859

Source city atlases

Style Second Empire (altered)

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric granite
~~former stone stable~~

Outbuildings (describe) converted to house

now a separate property

Other features curved double entry
stairs with cast-iron balustrade
railing, granite quoining, cornice
with heavy modillions

Altered roof squared, early 20th
porches Date century

Moved enclosed
no Date _____

Assessors' Book 1, p.29
 5. Lot size: Lot 35 14,175 sq.ft.

UTM:
 19/269660/4683200

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 110'

Approximate distance of building from street

25'

W. & M. Seaman

6. Recorded by ed. B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date January 1978

Roll 21

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

(over)

Lucius W. Pond (first known 1868)

7. Original owner (if known)

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/ 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 type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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

Built between 1856 and 1859 and (perhaps) completed in the early 1860s, the Borden-Pond House is an early, important example of Second Empire style architecture, one which retains architectural significance despite alteration. The front (original) section of the house is constructed of granite rubble with dressed quoins and window trim. The house rises from a high basement two stories to a modillioned cornice, above which the original concavely curved mansard has been squared out to create a full third storey. The house's facade (south) is approached by two symmetrical, curved granite stairways which retain extremely fine cast-iron railings. At the facade's center is a two-storey pavilion in front of which is an entry porch with arched openings (now glazed). Flanking this pavilion are two porches, now enclosed by modern siding which covers original trim. Located on the west slope of Chandler Hill, the Borden-Pond House is among Worcester's few remaining stone "villas" of the 1850s and 1860s, although a large number of them (both in Italianate and Second Empire styles) once stood on the hills which surround the city's center. The high quality of the house's construction, remaining details and historical associations warrant its restoration.

The Borden-Pond House was built for (and perhaps by) John Borden, who is listed variously in city directories as a mason, stucco worker, and as a mastic and stucco worker. Borden only occupied the house until 1860-1861. Local tradition suggests that in building #40 Laurel Street Borden intended to outdo the opulence of the nearby Merrifield House (now demolished). Further, it is believed that Borden could not afford

(cont.)

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

Carruth, L. . Scrapbooks of Worcester Houses. Worcester Public Library City atlases and directories
Worcester Historical Society. Biographical file (Pond obituary)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETMASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 117-E
Property Name: Borden-Pond House	

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

9.
to complete the house and that it was sold, unfinished, to Lucius Pond in 1861.

According to local directories, Lucius Pond (1826-1888) lived in the Borden-Pond House from 1868 until 1875 when he was sent to prison. Pond was a native of Hubbardston, Massachusetts who came to Worcester in 1846. Having "learned the machinist's trade of Samuel Flagg", Pond entered into partnership with Flagg between 1847 and 1849. In 1859 Pond became sole owner of the business, which was moved in 1859 to the Merrifield Building where Pond manufactured engine-lathes, planing machines and other heavy equipment. During this period Pond became an important local machine manufacturer, owning some of the most advanced equipment of the time such as a 37' long screw-cutting lathe and the city's largest (37' long) planing machine. At the outbreak of the Civil War Pond invented the "Ellsworth Gun" (a cannon capable of shooting an 186z ball three miles) which he manufactured for the Union Army.

In 1858-1859 Pond was a member of the common council, in 1862 an alderman and in 1866-1868 a state senator. He was an early member of the Laurel Street Methodist Church and became known for his financial generosity. Pond was a director of the Central National Bank from 1866 to 1875 when rumors of the insolvency of his business led to his departure from Worcester on a nominal business trip. Travelling to New York by steamship, Pond left the ship in disguise, leaving belongings in his cabin in such a way as to suggest suicide by having jumped overboard. After a lengthy search Pond was arrested in San Francisco as he was about to board a boat to Australia. Having been brought back to Worcester, Pond was convicted of forging dates on bank notes and sentenced to a fifteen-year prison term. Despite the widespread losses caused by Pond's fraud, petitions on behalf of his parole were circulated until he was released from prison in 1882.

Upon his return from prison, a number of Pond's friends purchased the Powell Machine Company, re-naming it the L.W. Pond Machine Company, and offered Pond the job of superintendent. Although he never recovered his earlier business prominence, Lucius Pond regained much of his earlier popularity and at his death in 1888 was the subject of laudatory obituaries.

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 & 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). Opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

HISTORIAN
Call/Accept
Lightner
10-30-79

Concur with Bruce's comments re 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. **DOBIE**

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 bays need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. ~~Both~~ **BOTH** TECHNICAL 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
ACCEPT
MURPHY
2/28/80

OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. REFERENCE WAS MISSING ON SOME PROPERTIES BUT IS NOW INCLUDED AFTER THE 2/11/CORRECTIONS. THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

- ✓ 116-CBD-13 - DESTROYED BY FIRE MD - 116 CBD - 11
- 130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~am~~ ^{am} NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES BUT BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~ ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Recommend listing all properties ^{now} ~~except~~ these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ w/NR staff + state. **DOBIE**
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)

Soldner
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**



Bord

Borden - Pond House

Worcester MA, Ma

90 AUG 1979

117-E

Borden

40 Laurel St

South & east
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304