

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

129-A

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

Roll 23

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

1. Town Worcester
Address 372 Pleasant Street
Name Charles Chamberlain House
Present use residential

Present owner Advent Christian Church

3. Description: 370 Pleasant Street

Date ca 1876

Source city atlases & directories

Style Victorian Gothic

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) church on same lot

Other features extremely elaborate orna-
mentation, trefoils, quatrefoils &
pointed arches in gable aprons,

foliate capitals on porch

Altered no Date _____

Moved on same lot Date early 20th,

5. Lot size: Assessor's Book 6, p.8
Lot 48, 7139 sq.ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 60'

Approximate distance of building from street

20'

6. Recorded by B.R.Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date January 1978

(over)

UTM:
19/267780/4682650

7. Original owner (if known) Charles W. Chamberlain
 Original use residence
 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)

Built around 1876, the Charles Chamberlain House is one of Worcester's finest and most ornate examples of Victorian Gothic architecture. The house is two and one-half stories high with a side-hall, gabled facade. Exceptionally fine is the house's decorative woodwork which includes gable aprons (with trefoils, quatrefoils and pendants), bargeboards (with spindles supporting pointed arches), gabled window hoods, vertical sheathing, an open porch (set on thin columns with stylized foliate capitals), etc., all in superb condition. As with so much Victorian Gothic design, Gothic elements of the Chamberlain House are merely decorative rather than structural.

The first occupant of the house, Charles Chamberlain, was an owner of the firm of Copeland & Chamberlain, manufacturers of "Kniffen Mowing Machines & Cook's Extension Dividers." The firm advertised: "All kinds of machines repaired and parts furnished; General Light Jobbing a specialty." After Chamberlain's death, the house became the property of Ellen Chamberlain. City atlases show the building closer to the corner of South Russell Street, suggesting that the house was moved to its present position between 1922 and 1938 to allow construction of the Advent Christian Church on the lot's east end.

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

city atlases & directories
Worc. Illus. Bus. Guide. (1881). p.117 (advertisement).

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). ^{Historian} Call/Accept
^{Lightner} 10.30.79
Opposition is high. Minor problems with some properties are listed on attached sheets.

Concur with Brier'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. ^{Architectural Historian} DOUBLE

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 bps 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} 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. BPS were not necessary because

OTHER

ACCEPT
MACDONALD
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. Acreage was missing on some properties but is 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 - 16 CBD-11

Review _____

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

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~DO NOT~~ ^{AM} NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~

ON ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED - I DEFER JUDGEMENT.

Recommend ^{now} listing all properties except these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ ^{with NR staff + State. DOUBLE}
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 (filing from State)

Soldner
3/5/80

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

MAR 5 1980

Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Re-submit _____



129-A 30 AUG 1979

Wester M R A, Ma

373 Pleasant

Chamberlain, Charles Hesse St

huth + west
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304