

FORM B - BUILDING

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

ref no 90000492

In Area no.	Form no.
	191-A

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

Roll #12

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

UTM
19/269000/4679460

1. Town Worcester
 Address 36 Butler Street
 Name Larchmont (Old name)
 Present use funeral service
 Present owner Walter Lundin and Stanley Otter
3. Description:
 Date 1858
 Source 1866 photo in owner's possession
 Style Italianate
 Architect Elbridge Boyden? - see #9
 Exterior wall fabric aluminum siding
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features center entrance through pavilion with hooded Palladian window at second storey surmounted by low gable, original side and entry porches, bracketed cornice
 Altered cupola removed ca.1938 Date 1970s
 Moved no Date _____
 Assessor's Book 10, p.43,
 5. Lot size: Lot# 12, 20, 387 sq.ft.
 One acre or less x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 120'
 Approximate distance of building from street
70'
 Recorded by S. Jerome ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
 Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc
 Date November 1977

(over)

155-1

7. Original owner (if known) Ransom Clark Taylor

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates funeral service

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Located on a hillside in what was countryside in the 1850s, Larchmont is a rare survivor of the many Italianate and Second Empire style villas which dotted the hillsides around Worcester in the 1850s and 1860s. Built as the country home of Ransom Taylor, the house is a two-storey frame structure, set on a granite foundation. The building's facade is symmetrical about a slightly projecting central pavilion with a low gable. At the first storey of the pavilion is an original bracketed entry porch (glazing added) and arched entry; at the second storey is a Palladian window with a moulded cap set on consoles; and at the third storey is an oculus. Flanking the pavilion are over-sized windows in moulded frames with caps (1st storey) and windows in moulded frames on consoles (2d storey). Symmetrical porches with brackets and original balustrades exist at either end of the facade. Alterations to the building include the removal of its original octagonal cupola, the addition of a porte-cochere and the installation of aluminum siding (no details were removed for the siding). Despite these alterations, Larchmont remains among the city's finest examples of Italianate architecture.

It seems likely that Larchmont was designed by Elbridge Boyden, architect of Mechanics' Hall, although the reference is somewhat confused. The obituary of Elbridge Boyden notes that Boyden designed the "present residence of R.C. Taylor" (1898). As Taylor's home in 1898 was a house known to have been designed by Elias Carter, see Form 141-F, and built in 1842 for Levi Dowley, it is likely that the

(cont.)

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

1866 photograph in possession of owner.

Crane, E.B. Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs of Worcester County, Massachusetts.
vol. II, pp. 236-237 (Taylor biography)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 191-A
Property Name: Larchmont	

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

9. Historical significance

obituary reference was meant to indicate Larchmont, which was then the residence of R.F. Taylor, son of Ransom C. Taylor. Supportive of a Boyden attribution are details of Larchmont which resemble other known Boyden designs of the 1850s.

Ransom Taylor was born in Winchester, New Hampshire in 1829, and as a child, 1833, moved to Northbridge, Massachusetts where his father was "engaged in the meat business." Around 1851, Taylor moved to Worcester where he lived until his death in 1898. Taylor's first listing in local directories (1853) gives his occupation as "Tripe Manufacturer" in the Quinsigamond area of the city (where Larchmont is located); it seems clear that he also became involved in real estate speculation and development soon after his arrival. According to his obituary, Taylor made a practice of purchasing as much land as he could, and, as the city's population boomed, saw the value of his investments more than double itself. As the city's largest property holder. Taylor reputedly built the city's first seven-storey block, along with many other buildings in the downtown area. From 1858 until 1883 Taylor lived at Larchmont; after 1883 he occupied the Dowley-Taylor Mansion at 770 Main Street (form 141-F).

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

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

Concern with Ames' comments on 102-L-3, 116-CBD-11, 117-E, and 130-CBD-50 and #4. 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 bldgs need to be discussed with State.

With 3 exceptions all properties appear to me to meet the criteria and the forms are adequate. **OTHER**
ALSO 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. VBDS WERE NOT NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE SCALE MAPS AND CLEARLY DELINEATED BOUNDARIES. FURREGE WAS MISSING ON 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 MA - 116 CBD - 11
130-CBD-44 - DOES NOT RETAIN INTEGRITY FOR INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

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

Recommend Listing all properties ^{now} ~~except~~ these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ ^{to discuss further w/NR staff + State. DOB/E}
Return 102-L-3 to state for correction; **BRANCH CHIEF** 3/3/80
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state
3/5/80
DOB/E

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 (eligibility from state) **Goldner** 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**



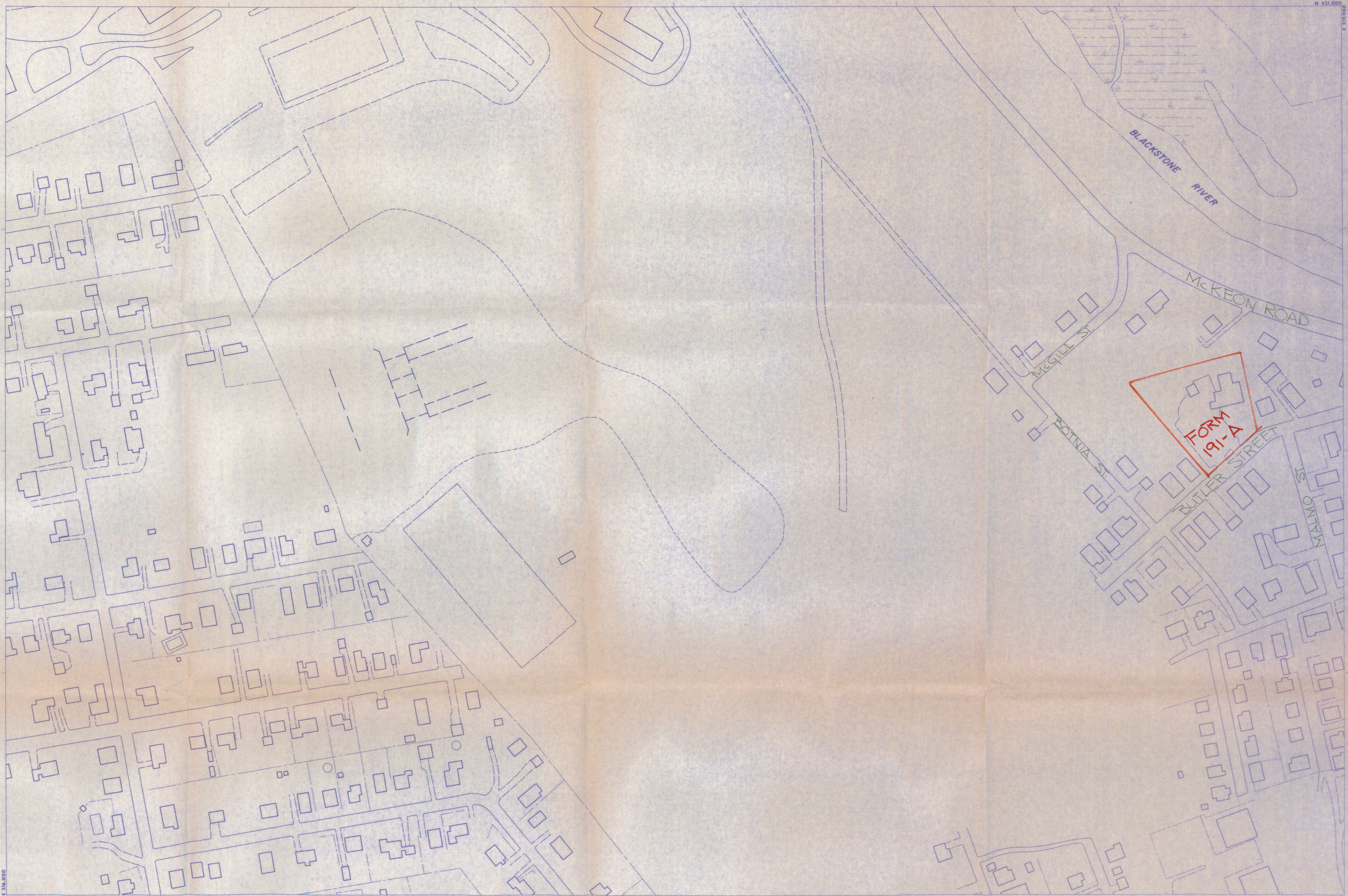
Worcester

191-A

36 Butler St
Worcester, MA

East-north
elevations

30 AUG 1979

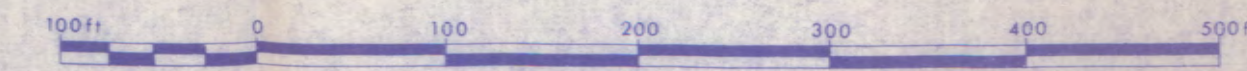


E 316,000
N 449,000

N 451,000
E 319,000

COMPILED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS
moore survey & mapping corp.
 CONTROL BY MASS. GEODETIC SURVEY, U.S.C. & G.S., & M.S.&M. CORP.
 UPDATED BY _____ DATE: _____

THIS MAP REPRODUCED FROM MAPPING MEETING NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS AT A SCALE OF 1"=200'



500 FOOT GRID BASED ON MASS RECTANGULAR COORDINATE SYSTEM

INDEX		
177	178	179
190		192
202	203	204

CITY OF WORCESTER
 MASSACHUSETTS

PLANIMETRIC BASE MAP

PROJECT: M.S.M. 2517 DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 4-2-75
 SHEET 191 OF 228 SHEETS

