

FORM B - BUILDING

ref no 20000607

In Area no.	Form no. 130-CBD 38
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

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

Roll 29

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

1. Town Worcester  
Address 507 Main Street  
Name Park Building  
Present use commercial & residential

Present owner People's Church Home, Inc  
25 Francis St., Worc.

3. Description:  
Date 1914-1915  
Source Nutt., Hist. of Worc.

Style Classical Revival  
Architect Cross & Cross of New York  
D.H. Burnham

Exterior wall fabric limestone

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features two-storey cast metal  
stone front with classical decoratio  
two storey loggia at 10th & 11th  
stories, cornice

Altered store fronts Date mid-20th c.

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

UTM  
19/268790/4682460

5. Lot size Assessor's Book 3, p. 13  
Lot 1, 9010 sq.ft.  
One acre or less  Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 110'

Approximate distance of building from street  
10'

6. Recorded by S. Ceccacci & B.R. Pfeiffer  
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.  
Date January 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Park Trust Co.

Original use bank/offices

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates commercial & residential (present)

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)

The Park Building is an eleven-storey, steel-frame structure, covered by a facing of dressed limestone. The building's first two stories are enclosed by a metal and plate-glass store front (partially altered) which is decorated with a variety of cast classical motifs; the third storey contains evenly spaced windows separated by carved limestone panels and surmounted by a cornice. The fourth through ninth stories are largely undecorated; at the tenth and eleventh stories are engaged Tuscan columns, designed to appear as a loggia, above which are a cornice and copper cresting.

The largest of several office blocks built by corporations and holding companies in downtown Worcester in the early twentieth century, the Park Building remained the most prominent element of the city's skyline until the construction of Worcester Center in the late 1960s. Characteristic of the increased importance of corporate activity during the city's last major boom, the Park Building was built for the Park Trust Company, rather than for an individual as had been the case with virtually all commercial buildings prior to 1900. The Park Trust Company was formed in 1915 with a capital of \$300,000 which increased to more than \$3,000,000 by 1917. In 1927, the Park Trust Company was merged with the Worcester County Trust Company, which, in 1959, became the Worcester County National Bank. The selection of New York architects Cross & Cross and D.H. Burnham, is also characteristic of the city's large office blocks of 1900-1920, most of which were designed by architects from New York and other cities where skyscraper construction was more widely practiced than in Worcester.

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

Nutt, C. Hist. of Worc., Vol. II, pp. 1013 & 1064.  
Worcester Magazine, 1915, p. 83.

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

**HISTORIAN**  
Call/Accept  
Lightner  
10-30-79

Concur with Amee'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. **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 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**  
ACCEPT  
M.A. ROYAL  
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. PLEASE WAS MISSING IN SOME PROPERTIES BUT IS NOW INCLUDED AFTER THE 2/11/CORRECTIONS.

**HAER**

THE ONLY PROPERTIES THAT I DO NOT RECOMMEND LISTING ARE

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

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

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~am not~~ <sup>am</sup> NOT CONVINCED ABOUT BOUNDARIES BUT BELIEVE THEY COULD BE OK. ~~BASED~~ 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); ~~to discuss further~~ <sup>to discuss further</sup> w/NR staff + state. **DOBIE**  
Return 102-L-3 to state for correction;  
HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state  
3/5/80  
**DOBIE**

**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 & demo from State), 102-L-3 (returning to state for revision - also returning 116-CBD-11) and 130-CBD-44 (holding fruit from state)

Soldner  
3/5/80

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_ Send-back \_\_\_\_\_ Entered MAR 5 1980  
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81 Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>SEE 3/3/80 REPORT</sup>



by Berkeley

Prestige Prints

JAN 1978

by Berkeley

Prestige Prints

JAN 1978

30 AUG 1979

Parle Building  
130-CBD-38  
Worcester MA, Ma  
507 Main St.  
north + west  
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304