

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.
116-D

ref no 80000565

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 25 Harvard Street
Name Otis Putnam House
Present use offices
Present owner Mason Research Institute
21 Harvard St.
3. Description:
Date 1887
Source building notice
Style Queen Anne
Architect Fuller & Delano
Exterior wall fabric brick and shingle
Outbuildings (describe) none
Other features asymmetrical massing,
porches 1st and 2d stories, stained
glass windows, circular bays
Altered no Date _____
Moved no Date _____
5. Lot size: Assessors' Book 2, p.31
Lots 15 & 20 12,493 sq.ft.
One acre or less X Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 75'
Approximate distance of building from street
15'
R. Moore
6. Recorded by ed. B.R. Pfeiffer
Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.
Date November 1977

UTM
19/268820/4683220

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Otis E. Putnam
 Original use residence
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates offices (present)

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)

The Otis Putnam House is a good local example of Queen Anne style architecture, one which retains excellent stained glass. Two and one half stories high, the Putnam House is built of pressed brick, set on a foundation of rock-faced granite laid in a broken course. The house's asymmetrical facade has first and second storey porches with original trim, above which is a high gable with a central oriel and shingles set in an undulating pattern. Side elevations of the house bear the same decorative details. Surrounding the property is an original granite retaining wall. The Putnam House was built on a lot which Otis Putnam bought from the heirs of T.E. Hall. Shortly after the purchase, Putnam had an existing Greek Revival style house moved to the rear of the lot (now #1 Dix Street) and construction began on the present house, which remains unaltered.

Putnam, a native of Leicester, was born in 1831 and began work in 1847 as a clerk in the store of John B. Wyman in Worcester. Putnam remained with the business through several changes of ownership during which the firm name was changed to H.H. Chamberlain & Co. (1850), Chamberlain, Barnard & Co. (1857), and after the admission of Putnam to the firm, Barnard, Sumner & Putnam. In the last quarter of the nineteenth century the business grew rapidly, becoming one of the city's largest department stores. Additional business interests of Putnam's included directorships in the Worcester Electric Light Company, the Worcester and Holden Street Railway Co., and other local businesses.

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

Sanitary Engineer, vol. XVI, June 18, 1887, p.77.

Proceedings: Worcester Society of Antiquity, 1896, pp.

Nutt, C. History of Worcester and Its People, vol. IV, p.557.

Property Worcester Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory)

State MA (Worcester) Working Number 8.30.79.2060

TECHNICAL

Photos 383 + 13
Maps 2, 63

CONTROL

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 Bruce'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. BODS were not necessary because

OTHER

ACCEPT
AKA. DOUGLAS
2/28/80

of the scale maps and clearly delineated boundaries. Address 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 - 116 CBD-11

Review

130-CBD-44 - does not retain integrity for individual eligibility

✓ 102-L-3 I ~~don't~~ ^{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~~ ^{except} these 3. Return 116-CBD-11 to State (not eligible); ~~to discuss further~~ ^{to discuss further} w/NR staff + state. ^{DOUBLE} 3/5/80

BRANCH CHIEF

Return 102-L-3 to state for correction;

HOLD 130-CBD-44 for info from state

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



Prestige Prints

by Darkey

JUN 1979

Prestige Prints

by Darkey

30 AUG 1979

116-D
Pvt. Lang, O+3, House
25 Harvard St.
Worcester MA, Ma
East & North
elevations

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000304