

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-025-00020 Worcester North C WOR.1770

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 1 Crown Street

Historic Name: Luther M. & Angenette Capron House

Uses: Present: Three Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1862

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

House moved ca. 1885
Rear ell altered

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:** ca. 1885

Acreage: 0.0723

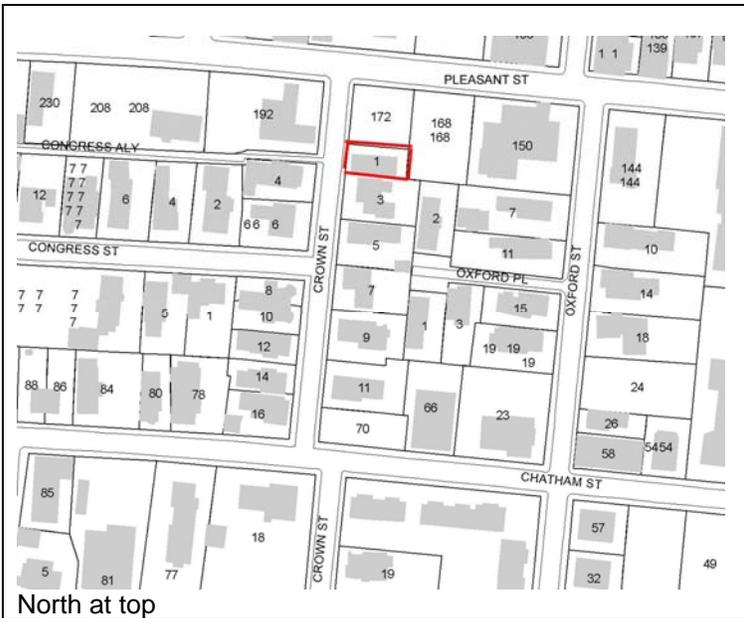
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NW

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

1 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1770
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Luther M. & Angenette Capron House is located on a 0.0723-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street south of Pleasant Street. When the house was built in ca. 1862, it was located on the rear portion of a larger corner lot facing Pleasant Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the 1836 Park Hill subdivision as later amended by Isaac Davis. The house was moved to its current site at the rear (south end) of that lot when a hotel was built on the property about 1885. By 1910 it had been subdivided on its own lot. It is bounded on the south by a house of similar period and on the north by a parking lot on the corner of Crown and Pleasant streets. The property adjoins another large parking lot associated with the Oxford Street School on the east. The two-story wood frame two-family dwelling (now three-family) is sited close to the street, no longer conforming with earlier deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. It is positioned near the south lot line leaving more yard space on the north side of the house, which is where an unpaved driveway enters the lot. A small yard is contained in the rear of the lot; there are no outbuildings.

The two-story wood clapboard main house presents a pedimented three-bay façade to the street. The pediment, as well as the tops of the side walls, is detailed with tall Greek entablatures supported by paneled pilasters at the corners. The entrance is located on the right side of the front façade with a trabeated architrave containing a transom and a pair of doors. A shallow porch with Ionic columns and tall entablature ornaments the entry. Windows have simple surrounds with pointed headers and contain what appear to be original two-over-two wood sash. Side walls reflect a two-story two-family-flat plan with a stair along the window-less front of the south wall. A shed dormer is centered on the north side of the roof. A story-and-a-half kitchen wing is appended to the rear of the house; it has been altered by recent additions.

The Luther M. & Angenette Capron House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century two-family house architecture with distinctive Greek Revival-style decoration, particularly the entrance with its Ionic porch. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in ca. 1862 and moved from its original location facing Pleasant Street on the east side of Crown to the rear portion of its lot, which was later separated by subdivision.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The

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society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The two family house at 1 Crown Street was built about 1862 for woolen manufacturer Luther M. Capron and his family. At that time it faced Pleasant Street on the lot on the southeast corner of Crown; it was addressed 62 Pleasant at the time, later becoming 126 Pleasant Street. Luther Mellis Capron was born March 1804 at Winchester, NH, the son of Otis and Polly Mellis Capron, both of NH, and died in Worcester at age 85 years in August 1889. He may have been making satinets at an early period at a factory in "New Worcester." In 1828 Capron married Henrietta Maria Antoinette Jeannette Branch at Uxbridge, and by 1850 he was living at Griswold CT; by 1860 he's manufacturing woolens in Worcester.

He was a distant relative of the wool and cotton manufacturer and abolitionist Effingham L. Capron, who also lived in the neighborhood (26 Oxford St, WOR.1786); they shared the same great-grandfather, Banfield Capron, Jr. Whether or not the two men associated in business, religious (Effingham L. Capron was a formative member of the Worcester Friends Meeting—see 23 Oxford St, WOR.1069), or anti-slavery activities is not known.

Around 1885, Capron moved to 97 Pleasant Street and sold the house to Harrison S. Prentice who built two masonry buildings on the site moving the Capron house to the rear, or south end, of the lot where it was rented to families. The new corner building used 1 Crown Street as an address, with the Capron house initially designated 1 ½ Crown Street. In 1890 the families of salesman George Cheever and of diemaker F. D. Whitaker lived at 1½ Crown Street.

By 1900 the Worcester realtor Lawrence V. K. Van der Mark owned the hotel and 1½ Crown Street. In that year Celia Richerson, born in Massachusetts in 1861, appears to have run the hotel: her household is shown in the census as including two boarders, two servants, thirteen roomers, and her daughters Eva and Etta Stratton, both working as retail clerks. The Capron house was occupied by the families of organ factory shipping clerk Theodore Barber and of physician George J. Pierce. Barber, born in 1842, lived in the house with his wife Jane and adult daughters Ida, a slipper factory stitcher, and Grace, a bookkeeper. Pierce, born in 1840, and his wife Hannah, born in 1839 in Maine, was supported by their daughter Bessie S. Pierce, who taught public school. The 1900 census also shows New York native Sadie Forehand, her daughter Gladys, and four roomers at the 1 Crown Street address.

George and Hannah Pierce, who had divorced by 1910 but still lived with their daughter in the Crown Street house (back to being referred to as 1 Crown Street), died between 1910 and 1920. Bessie Pierce continued to occupy an apartment in this house through at least 1950, sometimes adding the income of several roomers to her own. By 1910 Van der Mark had sold the hotel—now known as the Hotel Carlyle—and the Crown Street house to Rufus T. Shumway of Orange, and by 1922 clerk Jeremiah R. Downey owned 1 Crown Street. In 1920 Downey worked as a meat cutter and lived with his wife, Catherine, and sister-in-law, Amy Connelly, at 101 Central Street; two years later the three lived at 1 Crown Street with Pierce, the railroad freight clerk Alexander A. Hartigan and his wife, and the widow Ida Hakey. By 1930 the Downeys, Connelly, and Pierce shared the house with Hannah B. Spencer and her teenage sons George and Charles, Jeremiah Downey's cousin Margaret A. Flynn, a stenographer, and, according to that year's house directory but not to the census, the housepainter Corey Morrell. By 1940 the 1 Crown Street property had passed from the Downeys to Connelly and by 1950 to Flynn, who lived there through those years with Bessie Pierce and spindle worker James B. MacKay and his wife Catherine, who lived there after his death (at some point before 1960) and through at least 1970. Flynn's heirs owned the property in 1960 and by 1970 had sold 1 Crown Street to David G. Massad, who owned at that time twelve other properties in other parts of Worcester.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, SD = street directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

1862 Capron L.M. manufacturer, h. 62 Pleasant FIRST INSTANCE
1859CD Capron L.M. manufacturer, h. 2 Trumbull

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- 1870C 1) Beaman Gamaliel S 47 clerk in store b. MA, Augusta 45 keeping house b. MA, Arthur N 14 attending school b. MA, Mary A 10 attending school b. MA
2) Capron Luther M 66 woolen manufacturer --/\$5500 b. NH, A N Angenette 62 keeping house b. MA, Ardenelle E 41 no occupation b. MA, April B 39 works in loom shop b. MA, Angenette B 33 no occupation b. MA, Frank E 24 clerk in store b. CT
- 1870M no house depicted on Crown St., L.M. Capron house at 62 Pleasant St.
- 1880C 126 Pleasant
Capron Luther 76 b. MA, Harriet 72 wife keeps house, b. MA, Ariel 51 son design for paint work, b. MA, Ina S 34 daughtere-in-law b. MA, Ardenal 49 daughter at home b. MA, Annettia 48 boarder work in grocery store b. MA, Livermore George 25 boarder work in clothing store b. MA, Smith Chas 20 boarder b. MA, Lewison Lusy 26 boarder school teacher b. MA
- 1881CD Capron L.M. h. 126 Pleasant
1887CD Capron Luther M. house 97 Pleasant
- 1886M house depicted at rear of 124-126 Pleasant Street and numbered 1 Crown St
- 1890HD *1 ½ Crown*
Whitaker F. D. diemaker 1
Cheever Geo. H. salesman 2 [141 Front St.]
[no owner listed – Hotel at #1]
- 1896M House numbered 1 ½ Crown St; presumably side entrance to 126 Pleasant St numbered 1 Crown
- 1900HD Barber T. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [Theodore, packer, 25 Union, 3 mfging firms at this address]
Barber Grace M. Miss, b. [bookkeeper, 518 Main]
Pierce Geo. J. physician 2 [his office at this same address]
Pierce H. Eliza Mrs.
Pierce Bessie S. teacher, b. [Lake View School]
Van De Mark L. V. K. bld. \$1600; 3168 ft \$3200 (also owned hotel at #1 Crown St. & 8 other properties NOT in this neighborhood)
- 1900C *1 ½ Crown:*
1) Pierce Bessie S b July 1873 MA teacher public school rents, mother Hannah b Mar 1839 ME, father George J b Aug 1840 MA
2) Barber Theodore b Aug 1842 MA shipping clerk organ factory rents, wife Jane b Jan 1851 MA, dau Ida b Feb 1874 MA stitcher slipper co, dau Grace M b Aug 1875 bookkeeper
- 1 Crown: [hotel]*
1) Richerson Celia b July 1861 MA rents, dau Eva Stratton b Sept 1881 clerk dry goods, dau Etta L Stratton b Mar 1882 clerk five & 10 cent store, 2 boarders, 2 servants b Sweden, 13 roomers (RR conductor, hardwood factory mgr, clerks in hardware, dry goods, jewelry, millinery, and cigars, pharmacist, "springbed maker,"
2) Forehand Sadie b July 1867 NY rents, dau Gladys b Jan 1889 MA, 4 roomers
- 1910HD *Now #1 Crown St.*
Huard Gustave A. baker 1 [584 Main, Harry Richardson Bakery]
Pierce George J. physician 2 [same as 1900]
Pierce H. Eliza Mrs.
Pierce Bessie S. teacher, b. [Oxford St. School]
[1½ in real estate record] Shumway Rufus T. (Orange), bld. \$1400; 3151 ft. \$2800 (owns 3 other properties, 1 on Pleasant St. & 1 on West St.)

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- 1910C 1 Crown:
 1) Huard Gustave A ae 29 b ME pars French Can baker bakery rents, wife Martha G ae 35 b ME, children Geo J 10, Hazel D 8, Ruth M 2
 2) Nicholson Susie ae 39 wid b MA laundress at home, dau Annie M ae 20 operator envelop factory
 3) Pierce George J ae 69 divorced b MA clergyman? And minister, dau Bessie S ae 21 public school teacher, boarder Hannah E Pierce 71 divorced
- 1920C 1 Crown:
 1) Bessie S Pierce ae 35 and two female roomers;
 2) Rose Boucher ae 37 widow b MA pars Quebec stitcher slipper factory, sons Arthur 13 and Geo 10, sister Mary Garant ae 48 div spooler thread mill, nephew Edgard Garant ae 19 b RI lab machine shop, sister Anna Daniels ae 39 single dressmaker shop, boarder
- 1922HD Downey Jeremiah R. Mr. & Mrs. [clerk, 19 Winslow –Lee Anderson]
 Connolly Amy F. millinery, b. [milliner, working out of her abode]
 Pierce Bessie S. [teacher Gates-lane School]
 Hartigan Alexander A. Mr. & Mrs. [clerk, 271 Franklin –Boston & Albany Freight House, Charles Firth, gen. agt]
 Hakey Ada Mrs. [Mrs. Ida Hakey – rear]
Downey Jeremiah & Jennie, bld. \$3000; 3151 ft. \$2800
- 1930HD Spencer Anna B. Mrs. [1929 Dir.; cook]
 Downey Jeremiah R. [1931 dir: no occup listed]
 Connolly Amy F. milliner r [1929 dir; milliner working out of her abode]
 Flynn Margaret A. r [1929 dir; clerk, 40 Foster – 1930 St. Dir: Central Supply Bldg, Temporary Post Office]
 Pierce Bessie S [1929 dir: same as 1922]
 Morrell Corey [1929 dir: painter; Eliza; h listed as 39 Highland]
Downey Jeremiah, bld. \$5000; 3151 ft. \$2800
- 1930C 1 Crown:
 1) Downey Jerry R owns \$9000 ae 68 b MA pars Ire retired, sister-in-law Ann S ae 60 m MA pars Ire milliner store, cousin Margaret A Flynn ae 43 wid b MA stenographer;
 2) Pierce Bessie S rents \$35 teacher public school
- 1 ½ Crown:
 Spencer Hannah B rents \$12 b MA housework, son Geo E 15, son Chas H 16
- 1940HD Frende Anthony E [1939 dir: Marion, lab]
 Connolly Amy F.
 Flynn Margt A., r
 O'Reilly Ellen Mrs., r [1939 dir: widow of Thomas]
 Pierce Bessie S. [1939 dir: same as 1922]
 MacKay Jas B. [1939 dir: sp- Mackay; Catherine M.; spindle wkr Johnson & Bassett Inc.]
Connolly Amy F. bldg \$5000; 3151 ft. \$1500
- 1950HD O'Reilly Ellen Mrs. [same as 1939 dir.]
 Flynn Margt A., r
 Pierce Bessie S. [h, 1 Crown]
 MacKay Jas B.[Cath M.; insp]
Flynn Margt A. bldg \$5000; 3151 ft. \$800
- 1960HD Dougall Adjana Mrs. [1959 dir: widow Wm., h 235 Pilgrim av; 1962 dir: here]
 Blanchard Kenneth M. [1959 dir: Kenneth J. Blanchard, student WPI, r 106 Sanford Riley Hall; 1962 pg miss.]

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1 CROWN STREET

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MacKay Cath M. Mrs. [1959 dir: widow Jas B.]

Flynn Dahl & Cornelius J. & Anne E. & Cecilia Crowley, Annie Garvey & Helen Enslin & Esther A. house \$5000; 3151 ft. \$800

- 1970HD Hebden Robt [not listed in 1970 city dir]
 Rogers Fred [wife Bertha; mgr Silton Auto Parts in Framingham]
 MacKay Cath M. Mrs. [widow, James B.]
Massad David G. hse \$5000; 3151 ft. \$800 (he owns 12 other properties – not in immediate vicinity)

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WORCESTER

1 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NW



View from NE

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

1 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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View from SW



Detail of entrance

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-025-00007	Worcester North	C	WOR.1771
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 3 Crown Street

Historic Name: Lorenzo & Mary Harding House

Uses: Present: Three Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1859

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Porch removed from front of wing

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.1414

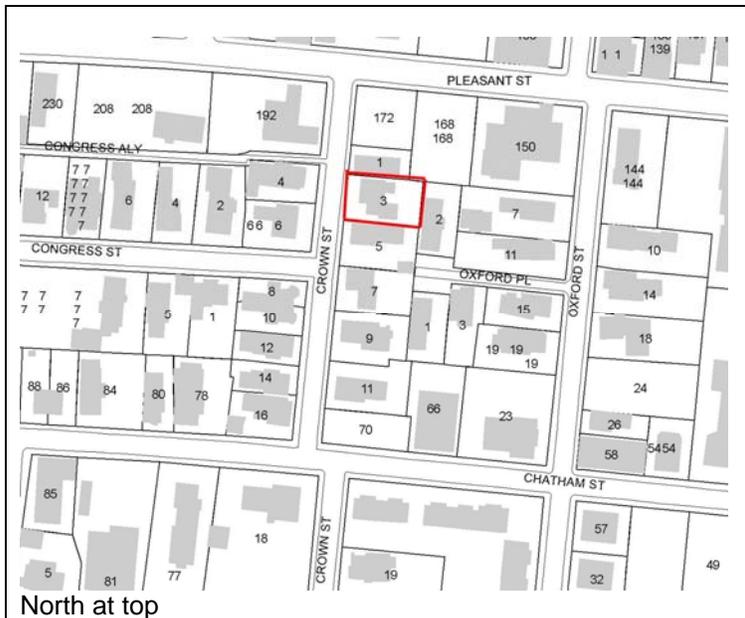
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NW

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

3 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Lorenzo & Mary Harding House is located on a 0.1414-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street south of Pleasant Street. The parcel was laid out when the park planned in 1836 was reconfigured into house lots about a decade later by Isaac Davis. The property is flanked north and south by houses of similar historic period, and it perpendicularly abuts a house on a cul-de-sac at the west end of Oxford Place. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a cross gable roof was built in the Greek Revival style around 1859. It is set back from the street, conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back, and positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house where a large wing is located. There is no driveway or outbuilding. A wood picket fence extends across the front of the lot with two openings for walkways to front and rear entrances.

The cross-wing house presents a front-gable three-bay façade to the street with a three-bay wing set back on the south side. A substantial Greek entablature wraps around the front and side walls of both sections supported by paneled pilasters at the corners. The front pediment has short returns across the bottom. The entrance is located on the left side of the front-gable façade and contains a pair of glazed doors in a simple board surround. Windows are framed by the same simple trim embellished only by a slim cornice at the tops. A one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns spans the front façade. The wing once had a porch across its front façade, probably similar in design to the existing one on the gable front. Evidence of a doorway can be seen where the two sections join; the opening was converted to a window when the porch was removed. Windows contain historic two-over-two wood sash. Two separate additions, each two-stories in height, have been to the rear of the building.

The Lorenzo & Mary Harding House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style cross-wing house was constructed in c.1859 and is an unusual house form in the neighborhood.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was

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WORCESTER

3 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The construction history of this house is unclear and more detailed deed research in the Worcester Registry is needed to verify the original owner and early occupants. Property descriptions contained in deeds associated with 5 Crown Street cite owners of the adjacent north lot (3 Crown) to have been an individual named "Hastings" in 1851 and Franklin Whipple in 1854. No people with those names were living at 3 Crown at that time. Rev. Elam Smally and James Andrews, a grocer, had unnumbered Crown Street addresses in the 1850 and 1851 city directories and are enumerated as heads of households on the same page as Russell R. Shepard, who is documented as living at 5 Crown Street at that time. Either one could have rented a house at what was then 1 and is now 3 Crown Street, but both were gone from the street before numbered addresses came into common use in the directories. The first known residents at 1 Crown Street were Lorenzo Harding, a car builder, who rented one of two dwelling units in the house from 1859 to 1865, and D. Franklin Estabrook, a clerk, who lived there for a shorter time. Both are recorded together in the 1860 census, Harding, 51 years of age, with his wife, Mary (50), teen-age son, Henry, and fourteen-year-old Emma Rice, and Estabrook, age 27 years, with his newly wedded wife Delia (23).

The 1872 street directory records the families of elderly farmer Ephraim Beaman and dentist Asa A. Howland as living in the house. Both were relatively new to Worcester, having moved to the city from rural towns to its northwest. Beaman was born about 1794 in Princeton and farmed there through at least 1860. His second wife, Eliza Miller Beaman, died in Worcester in 1872, the year he is shown as resident of 1 Crown Street. Howland, the son of John Howland of Conway and Nancy Morton Howland of Whately, lived in Barre and practiced dentistry there through at least 1870. Both Beaman and Howland remained in Worcester, dying in the city in 1881 and 1903 respectively, but Howland lived at the Crown Street address only briefly; by 1878 he had moved to West Street. Beaman remained at this address until his death, and afterward his widow Ruth Peckham Beaman moved to Harvard Street.

Francis W. Southgate had acquired the property by 1886 by an as yet unknown instrument. He moved his family into the house, but within a year or two, he bought the house next door at 5 Crown Street and moved there. Francis White Southgate was born in Worcester in 1840, the son of leather and shoe findings manufacturer John P. Southgate (1804-82), who was born in Leicester and first came to Worcester as a journeyman cabinetmaker as a young man. Southgate was then a brush manufacturer in his native town, but by 1834 he had returned to Worcester to establish his business in a building on the site of Horticultural Hall. Three years later he and James H. Wall, as Southgate and Wall, began a shoe, boot, and leather business, and by 1844 he and Thomas M. Rogers had begun a leather and shoe findings factory. Southgate's sons James Stewart and Francis White Southgate began making shoe findings in Auburn and then, as Southgate Brothers, on Church Street (and later Front Street and later still Southgate Street) in Worcester through 1893. According to a brief biography Francis W. Southgate "was of an inventive turn of mind and secured a number of valuable patents on articles and devices having to do with his business. In politics he was a Republican, but he had no taste for public life."¹

In 1877 Southgate married Addie Frances Hay, a native of Dracut then living in Worcester, and the couple had two children—J. Francis, born in 1883, and Grace Louise, who died at the age of fourteen in 1899. After Southgate retired from the shoe business, according to his biography, he "devoted his attention to the care and improvement of his real estate"; in 1900 he owned 3 and 5 Crown Street and 584 Main Street. Southgate rented the property to the time of his death in 1906, at which point his widow and son assumed ownership of the property. They continued to live at 5 Crown Street through at least 1940.

Several of the families who occupied 3 Crown Street were relatively long-term tenants. Bookkeeper William G. Strong, born in Worcester in 1835, lived in the house with his wife Martha E. Wood and daughter Martha from at least 1900 until his death in 1908; afterward his widow and daughter, a bank stenographer, remained in the house until at least 1910; by 1912 they had moved to Dean Street. The widow Margaret Dillon Clark and three of her seven children lived at 3 Crown Street from at least 1918 through at least 1937, and she owned the building by 1922. Born in Ireland in 1830, Margaret Dillon came to the United States in 1850 and in 1857 in Milford married John Clark, also an Irish immigrant who was then living in Southborough. By 1900 the couple was living at 26 Oxford Street in Worcester with their children Catherine, Annie, Margaret, John, Agnes, Teresa, and Martha. Three years later John Clark, a janitor, died at the age of seventy-two. By 1920 his widow Margaret was living at 3

¹ Charles Nutt, *History of Worcester and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1919), 3:351.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

3 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Crown Street with Annie, a private secretary to a minister; Margaret M., a nurse; Teresa, a stenographer; and her sister Elizabeth Dillon, a single woman then seventy years old. Clark rented part of 3 Crown Street to the band musician Peter T. Farrell and his wife and daughter, both named Martha.

Probably about 1937 Margaret Clark sold 3 Oxford Street to Chester R. Dupont, born about 1911; his father Leon was a masonry contractor who came to the United States from Quebec in 1879. By 1930 the family had moved to Oxford and Chester worked as a dry goods salesman. By 1940 Leon Dupont had died, and his widow Josephine and sons Chester and Roy acquired 3 Crown Street and moved there. They shared the house with florist Francis J. Sullivan and his children Rita, born in 1923, and Walter, born in 1926; the widow Nellie E. Brown, and three relatively short-term tenants. Francis J. and Rita Sullivan were still living in the house in 1950, when the widow Christine LaBraque owned it; by 1960 James T. Y. Chin, proprietor of Hoy Toy restaurant in Worcester, and Dong Yet Ming acquired the property; Chin occupied one of its units in 1960 but had moved elsewhere by 1970, when he and Ming still owned 3 Crown Street.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, SD = street directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1851 Deed, 477:494, 1 July 1851, boundary description of 5 Crown Street cites the northerly neighbor as "lands late of Isaac Davis, now Hastings."
- 1854 Deed, 529:87, 25 April 1854, boundary description of 5 Crown Street cites northerly neighbor as "land of Franklin Whipple."
- 1859CD Harding Lorenzo car builder h 1 Crown FIRST INSTANCE
1854 Harding Lorenzo car builder h 32 Elm
1867 Harding Lorenzo h 47 Pleasant
- 1860C 1) Lorenzo Harding 51 [NO REAL ESTATE] car builder b. MA, Mary W 50 b. MA, Henry c 19 clerk b. MA, Emma Rice 14 b. MA
2) D Franklin Estabrook 27 clerk b. MA, Delia 23 b. MA
- 1871CD Beaman Ephraim, h. 1 Crown
- 1872SD 1, ho., Ephraim Beaman;
1, bds., Henry Cummings, bookkeeper, r 564 Main
1, ho., Asa A. Howland, dentist, 387 Main
1, bds., Edmund C. Howland, clerk, 434 Main
1, bds., James H. Howland, Dadmun & Howland, boots & shoes, 434 Main
- 1886M F.W. Southgate
- 1886 Cited as grantee's lot in the deed transferring 5 Crown Street, 1227:465, 9 Oct 1886, Catherine P. Aldrich, widow, Boston to Francis W. Southgate
- 1887CD Southgate Frank W. (Southgate (F.W. & James S.) & Co. shoe findings manufs.), 2 Bigelow court, house 3 Crown
- 1890HD Banfield Wm. E. adv. agt 1
Denny Betsey D. widow [of Edward] 2
F.W. Southgate, bld. \$2200; 6159 ft. \$4300
- 1890CD Southgate Francis W. h. 5 Crown
- 1896M F. W. Southgate #3 & #5

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- 1900HD McClure E. M. Mr. & Mrs. 2 [Edwin M., foreman, 62 Bloomingdale, Graton & Knight Manuf. Co., belt mfr.]
Southgate Francis W., bld. \$2200, 6159 ft. \$4600 (also owns #5 Crown St. & 584 Main)
- 1900C 1) Strong William G b Sept 1835 VT bookkeeper rents, wife Martha b Apr 1849 MA, dau Martha E b Oct 1886,
servant Annie Doyle b Dec 1880 Ire emig 1890
2) McClure Edwin H b Jan 1830 ME foreman leather factory, wife Ann H b Dec 1832 MA
- 1910HD Thompson James A. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [James A. Thompson & Co. Express, 28 Pearl]
Strong W. G. Mrs. 2 [Martha, widow of William G.]
Strong Martha E. Miss, b. [stenographer, 311 Main – Central Exchange Bldg w/dozens of businesses]
Southgate Francis W., bld. \$2200, 6159 ft. \$4300 (also owns #5 Crown St. & 584 Main)
- 1910C 1) Martha E Strong ae 60 wid b MA, dau Martha D ae 23 stenographer bank
2) Thompson James A ae 60 b MA proprietor express co, wife Angelina L ae 36 b MA
- 1920C 1) Farrell Peter T rents ae 41 b MA musician band, wife Martha E ae 35 b MA, dau Martha 6 mo
2) Clark Margaret owns ae 78 wid b MA, dau Annie M ae 42 MA private sect. minister, dau Margaret M ae 41 b MA
nurse, dau Teresa M ae 38 stenographer office, sister Lizzie A Dillon ae 70 single
- 1922HD Farrell Peter T. Mr. & Mrs. [salesman, 60 Shrewsbury – Livingston Motor Co., Ford Agency
Clark Annie M.
Clark Margaret M. nurse, b.
Clark Teresa, b. [Theresa M. Clark, steno 340 Main, State Mutual Bldg, room 810, General Electric Co.]
Dillon Elizabeth A., b.
Clark Margaret, bld. \$4000; 6159 ft. \$4300
- 1930HD Sweeney Daniel F. [1922 dir: plumber – Mr. & Mrs. living at 36 Irving; 1929 dir: plumber, Katherine C.]
Sweeney Frank J. r [1929 dir: clerk, 332 Main – Central Bldg. w/lots of businesses/offices]
Sweeney Katherine M. r [1929 dir: clerk, 512 Main – Richard Healy Co., cloaks, suits, &tc.]
Clark Annie M.
Clark Margaret M. nurse r
Clark Teresa M. r [1929 dir: steno, 185 Commercial – 1930 dir: Charles A. Esty Paper Co., Div. Carter Rice Co.]
Dillon Elizabeth A. r
Clark Margaret, bld. \$5500; 6159 ft. \$4300
- 1940HD Sullivan Francis J. [1939 & 1941 dir: 3 Francis J. Sullivans – none res. on Crown St]
Brown Nellie E. Mrs., r [1939 dir: widow of John F. Brown, res. 102 Richmond av]
Dupont Josephine A. Mrs. [1939 dir: widow of Leon J.]
Dupont Chester R., r [1939 dir: mgr]
Dupont Roy W., r [1939 dir: clk Worcester Market]
Montville Mary S. Mrs., r
Dearborn Alvah E., r [1939 dir: Emma D.; r 923 Main; 1941 dir: M. Emma, r. this address]
Benson Edith, r [1939 & 1941 dir: not here!]
Dupont Chester R., bldg \$3500; 6159 ft. \$2500
- 1950HD Sullivan Francis J. [Francis J. Sullivan, wife Grace K., real estate, h 9 S. Lenox !]
Sullivan Rita A. nurse, r [grad nurse City Hosp, r]
Collins Edw M., r [hotel wkr, r]
Lambert Alf, r
LaBrague Christine Mrs. [widow Emerson, h]
Sullivan Jos, r [kitchen helper Holy Cross, r]
LaBrague Christine C. bldg \$5000; 6159 ft \$1500

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- 1960HD Small Theresa Mrs. [1959 dir: not listed; listed in 1962 here, no occup.]
Houston R. Clay [1959 dir: just Clay, barber VA]
Quick Jas E
Carlisle Margt M. Mrs. [1959 dir: not listed; 1962 dir: widow Jas P.]
Chin Jas [1959 dir: Hoy Toy]
Chin Jas T Y & Dong Yet Ming house \$5000; 6159 ft \$1500
- 1970HD Comeau Leo A. Jr. – no occup listed
Heath Eug [not listed in 1970 city dir.]
Chin Jas T Y & Dong Yet Ming house \$5000; 6159 ft \$1500 (also own 39 Paine & 401 Park)

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WORCESTER

3 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NW



View from SW

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-026-0043	Worcester North	C	WOR.1781
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 4 Crown Street

Historic Name: Henry A. & Elmira L. Lee House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1850

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Henry A. Lee, probable builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood shingle

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage attached to rear

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Wood shingle siding added

Dormers added

Porch restored 1976

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.1084 acres

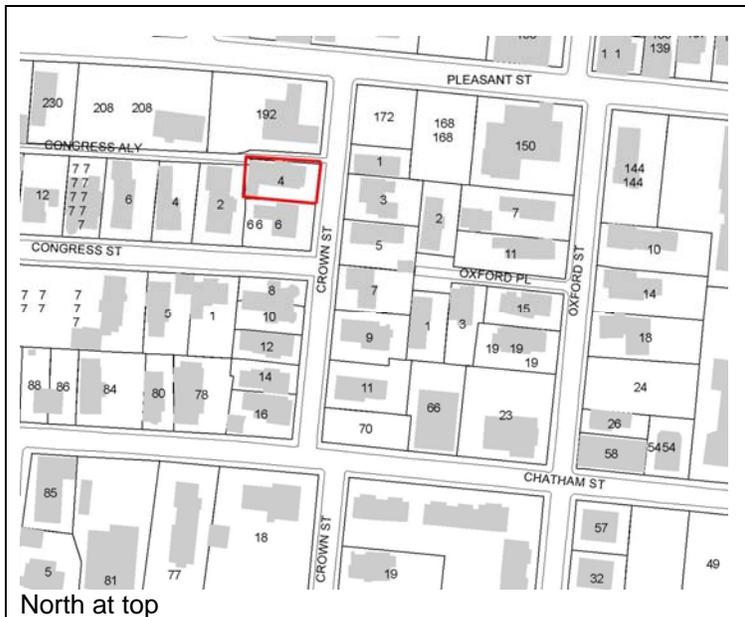
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NE

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

4 CROWN STREET

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Henry A. & Elmira L. Lee House is located on a 0.1084-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street south of Pleasant Street. The parcel was laid out when the 1836 Park Hill subdivision plan was reconfigured about a decade later by Isaac Davis. The property is flanked on the north by an automobile service station and parking lot; between the two parcels is the old right-of-way of Congress Alley, which now serves as a driveway for the house. Houses of similar historic period are located on the south and north, the latter fronting on Congress Street and backing on Congress Alley. The two-story wood frame two-family dwelling with front gable roof was built in the Greek Revival style around 1850. It is set back from the street, conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back and sited on an elevated terrace leveled on the northern slope of Crown Hill. A concrete retaining wall runs along the east and north sides, with a break for steps leading up to the entrance of the house. The house is positioned on the north side of the lot leaving a yard on the south side; Congress Alley functions as the driveway and leads to a garage attached to the rear of the house.

The house presents a front-gable three-bay façade to the street. A substantial Greek entablature wraps around the front and side walls supported by paneled pilasters at the corners. The front gable section is enclosed as a pediment. The entrance is located on the right side of the front façade with a trabeated architrave containing sidelights. A one-story porch with a Greek entablature and Doric columns spans the front façade; the columns were reproduced in 1976. First story windows under the porch extend down to floor level and have pedimented headers. Elsewhere windows are framed by simple surrounds; a window was later added within the pediment. A two-story cross-gable pavilion is centered on the north wall where a two-story rear ell is attached. The ell is in line with the north wall and recessed back from the south wall. A two-story annex is appended to the rear of the ell and contains a garage door on the north side; this section probably originated as an attached barn. Dormers have been added to both sides of the roof, and wood shingles now cover original wood clapboards. Original multi-pane wood sash windows appear to be intact.

The Henry A. & Elmira L. Lee House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style house was constructed in ca.1850 and is the northern anchor of Crown Street's historic streetscape.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The

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Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 4 Crown Street was built about 1850 for the carpenter Henry Augustus Lee (1819-86). Born in Barre, Lee was the son of Zebina Lee (1790-1873) and Submit Lilly, and probably by the mid-1840s both father and son had moved to Worcester. In 1845 Henry Lee married Elmira L. Gleason of Worcester, and by 1849 the couple was boarding on Pleasant Street. The 1850 city directory shows Henry A. and Elmira Lee living at what was then numbered 2 Crown Street. By 1859 Lee had become partners with Samuel B. Dennis in the carpentry firm of Dennis and Lee; he was still listed as a carpenter in the 1860 census and the 1863 directory, but by the latter year Lee had begun to invent and patent machinery for the manufacturing of moldings. He received six such patents from that year through 1871, and by 1870 the census described him as a manufacturer of molding machines.

Henry A. Lee died in 1886. According to city and house directories, his widow Elmira continued to own and occupy the house until her death in January 1906, though she died in Northampton. The Lees rented out at least one unit in the house to other families. In 1890 she rented to the teacher Therese Pabke and her widowed mother, and to the sisters Clara Manly, also a teacher, and Jennie Manly, a dressmaker. In 1900 she shared the house with the family of Samuel B. Haslett, pastor of the independent Congregational Greendale People's Church from 1903 to 1916, which included his wife Cora, daughter Melva, his wife's brother Oscar Jacobs, a tobacco store clerk, and sister Ethel, a shoe stitcher, and one boarder, Emma Hodgkins, a shirt factory folder.

The 1910 house directory shows Elmira Lee as owner of 4 Crown Street despite her 1906 death; the administrators of her estate rented it to the physician Edwin A. Leavitt, a native of Canada who came to the United States in 1888, and to factory foreman Herbert A. Collins and his son Andrew, a civil engineer. By 1920 the property had been sold to wholesale produce merchant James D. Devoy. Born in Quebec about 1879, Devoy came to the United States with his Irish immigrant parents in 1890. By 1920 he was vice president of the Worcester Wholesale Fruit and Provision Dealers Association and owned of James D. Devoy Wholesale Produce Company on Blackstone Street. His wife Agnes was born in Massachusetts, and the couple had one son, Robert, born about 1915. In 1920 their 4 Crown Street household included a live-in domestic servant, Oliver Johnson, and Agnes Devoy's aunt, Catherine F. McNulty, who was sixty-nine years old and managed a church supply company. Devoy also rented an apartment in the house to Marion E. Rose, who taught at the High School of Commerce in Worcester, and her widowed father Alfred, then ninety years old.

The family of James D. Devoy owned and occupied 4 Crown Street through at least 1960 and always rented part of the house to one or two small families. James DeVoy died between 1950 and 1960, and the property passed to his widow Mary, probably his second wife. By 1970 the family sold the property to Micah Housing Corporation of Worcester, which owned seven other properties in the city.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1850CD Lee, Henry A., carpenter, h Crown
1849CD Lee, Henry A. carpenter bds Pleasant
- 1850C Henry A Lee ae 30 carpenter b MA wife Almira L ae 26
- 1860C 1) Henry A Lee 40 carpenter b MA \$6000/800, wife Elmira L ae 37
2) William Mecorney ae 40 tailor \$800 personal est b CT, RL Mecoury 41 female b CT, Chas F ae 12 b MA
- 1870M 2 Lee
- 1870C Lee Henry A 50 manfr of moulding machines \$4500/1500b MA, wife Almira 41, clerk Wm N Randall ae 28 MA

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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- 1872HD 2, ho., Charles H. Harvey, cutter, 329 Main
2, ho., Henry A. Lee, moulding machine mfr., Union, cor. Exchange (See also Dennis & Lee, 199 Union)
- 1880C 4 Crown: Lee Henry A 59 machine builder, wife Elvina L ae 56
- 1886M 4 F. Lee
- 1890HD Pabke Matilda, widow 1
Pabke Therese W. teacher, b.
Lee H. A. Mrs. Widow 2
Manley Clara, teacher, b. [sp. Manly – teacher at Chandler Street School]
Manley Jennie, dressmaker, b. [sp. Manly]
- 1900HD Haslett Sam'l B. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [clergyman]
Jacobs Oscar E. clerk, b. [144 Front St. – H. E. Shaw & Co. tobacconists]
Jacobs M. Ethel Miss, b.
Hodgkins Emma Miss, b. [folder, 34 Southbridge, possibly A. G. Hildreth & Co. overall manufs.]
Lee Elmira Mrs. 2 [Elmira L. Lee, widow of Henry A.]
Tower Emmeline Mrs., b. [Emeline G. Tower]
Lee Elmira L., blds. \$2600; 4732 ft. \$3500
- 1900C 4 Crown:
1) Elmira Lee b Oct 1822 MA widow no children owns
2) Samuel B Haslett b Dec 1865 PA clergyman, wife Cora b Apr 1867 PA, dau Melva b Mar 1899, brother-in-law
Oscar Jacobs b dec 1879 PA tobacco clerk, sister-in-law N. Ethel Jacobs b June 1876 PA stitcher shoe factory,
boarder Emma Hodgkins b June 1872 Eng emig 1893 folder shirt factory
- 1906VR Elmira L Gleason Lee died 20 Jan in Northampton ae 83 widow of Henry A Lee, b Petersham father Curtis Gleason
Petersham mother Luna Hildreth Petersham, informant Mrs JH Leonard
- 1910HD Leavitt Edwin A. Dr. & Mrs. [physician w/office at this address]
Collins Herbert A supt, b. [foreman]
Collins Andrew H., b. [civil engineer, 706 State Mut. Bldg.]
Lee Elmira L., blds. \$2200; 4723 ft. \$3300
- 1911M 4 E.L. Lee
- 1920C 4 Crown:
1) Devoy James D owns free ae 41 b Eng Can emig 1890 pars Ire mgr wholesale produce, wife Agnes M ae 42
b MA, son Robert F 5, maid Olive Johnson ae 20 b MA, aunt-in-law Catherine F McNulty ae 69 single b NY mgr
church supplies
2) Rose Alfred W ae 90 widow rents b NY, dau Marion E ae 58 single b WI high school teacher
- 1922M 4 J. Devoy
- 1922HD Devoy James D. Mr. & Mrs. [producer, 42 Mercantile – bldg VACANT!]
McNulty Catharine F., b. [church goods, 36 Green – “Catharine F. McNulty Church Goods”]
Rose Marion E. [teacher, High School of Commerce]
Devoy James D. blds. \$5200; 4723 ft. \$3300
- 1930HD Devoy James D. [1929 dir: Agnes M.; wholesale produce, 85 Blackstone; 1930 dir: James D. Devoy Wholesale
Produce]

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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C	WOR.1781
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

- 1930C Goyett Gladys G. music teacher [1929 dir: musician 18 Mechanic- Steere's Music Store & Crescent Orchestra & Entertainers; music teacher, 5 Congress, residence do.]
Devoy James D. blds. \$6200; 4723 ft. \$3300
 4 Crown:
 1) Devoy James D owns \$8500 ae 51 b Quebec pars Ire emig 1890 produce dealer owner, wife Agnes M ae 52 b MA, son Robert F 15
 2) Goyett Gladys G rents ae33 b MA musician, 3 roomers, all female, 2 single 1 divorced, 2 telephone ops and one saleslady (Jane Haberzetter, Charltooe H Barton, Jennie L Frohloff)
- 1940HD Devoy Jas D. [1939 dir: wholesale produce, now on 1 Blackstone]
 Devoy Robt F., r [1939 dir: student]
 Brunnell Mary E. Mrs., r [1939 dir:occupational therapist]
 Farrell Martha F., r [1939 dir: student]
Devoy Jas D., bldgs \$5200; 4723 ft. \$2000
- 1950HD Devoy Jas D. [Mary E; treas at James D. Devoy Inc – wholesale produce 1 Blackstone; h]
 Farrell Peter T. [Martha E; salesman Veino Chevrolet Inc.; h]
 Farrell Martha F., r [teacher Lake View School; r]
Devoy Jas D., bldgs \$6200; 4723 ft. \$1200
- 1960HD Devoy Mary E. Mrs. [1962 dir: widow Jas. D.]
 Geer Maybelle V., r [1962 dir: instr Becker Jr. College]
 Geer M. Alice [1962 dir: bkpr Abrasives & Tool]
Devoy Mary E., barn \$200 house \$6000; 4723 ft. \$1200
- 1970HD Comeau Francis J. – no occup listed
 Foster Harold A. Jr. [2 Harold Fosters listed in 1970 city dir, neither a "jr." neither at this address]
Micah Housing Corp of Worcester barn \$200 house \$6000; 4723 ft. \$1200 (owns 7 other properties)

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

4 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

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- The Worcester Almanac, Directory and Business Advertiser*. Worcester: H.J. Howland, 1844-1864. Published annually.
- The Worcester Directory*. Worcester: H.J. Howland, 1865-1872. Published annually.
- The Worcester Directory*. Worcester: Drew, Allis & Co., 1873-1919. Published annually
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- The Worcester Directory*. Boston, then Malden: R.L. Polk & Co., 1939- . Published annually.

The Worcester House Directory. Worcester: Drew, Allis & Co., 1888-1918. Published semi-annually.

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

4 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE



View from SE

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

4 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from NW

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-026-00031	Worcester North	C	WOR.1772
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 5 Crown Street

Historic Name: Russell R. & Elzada E. Shepard House

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1848

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Asa Lewis, probable builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

none

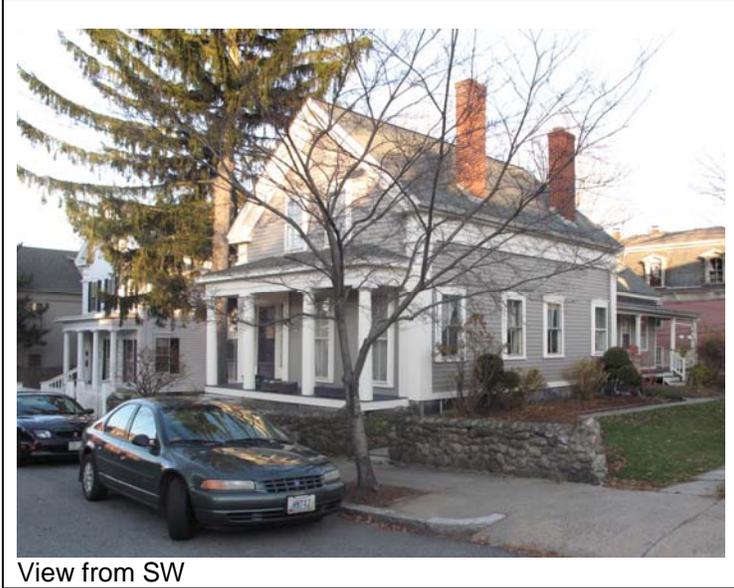
Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.1391 acres

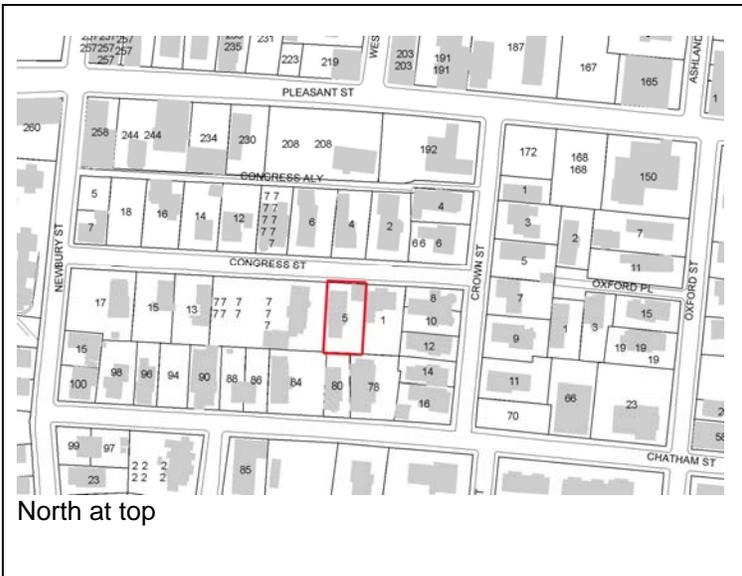
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from SW

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1772
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Russell R. & Elzada E. Shepard House is located on a 0.1542-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street nearly opposite the east end of Congress Street. The parcel was laid out when the park planned in 1836 was reconfigured into house lots about a decade later by Isaac Davis. The property is flanked north and south by houses of similar historic period, and it adjoins the cul-de-sac at the west end of Oxford Place, formerly known as Dove Nest Square. The story-and-a-half wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof was built in the Greek Revival style around 1848. It is set back from the street, conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back, and positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house. A driveway is aligned with the south side of the lot and terminates at a one-car garage in the southeast corner of the parcel. A mortared stone wall has been added across the front of the yard with breaks for the driveway and paths leading to front and rear entrances.

The house presents a front-gable three-bay façade to the street. The plain trim along the raking roof edge is seated on corner pilasters supporting the short frontal returns of the tall Greek entablatures running along the sides of the house. The entrance is located on the left side of the front façade with a trabeated architrave containing sidelights. Windows have board surrounds with pointed headers and contain historic two-over-two wood sash. A one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns spans the front façade. First-story windows extend to the porch floor; two smaller windows are evenly spaced in the upper story. Side walls reflect a two-room-deep side-hall plan with a window at the front of a blank section of the north wall indicating the location of an interior staircase. A short one-story kitchen wing is appended to the rear of the house. Its north wall is aligned with the north wall of the house, with the south wall is thus recessed and fronted by a porch. A one-story wood frame detached garage with a front gable roof was added to the rear of the property.

The Russell R. & Elzada E. Shepard House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in 1848 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

Carpenter Asa Lewis sold this house and lot to Russell R. Shepard in 1851 with a gateway connecting the property to Dove Nest Square on the east side. (It was addressed as 3 Crown Street at the time.) Lewis lived on Chatham Street indicating that he had built the house with the intent to sell it. Shepard, partner in the machine tool firm S.C. Combs & Co., paid \$2,600, had been living at this address since 1848, according to city directories. In 1850 Shepard was 38 years of age and his household consisted of his wife, Elzada, age 30, daughters Ellen (12) and Susan (10), son James (8), and a 22-year-old Irish domestic servant named Mary Neil.

Asa Lewis was born in Dedham about 1781. He had married Elizabeth Ferreter by 1809, the year their son William Dean Lewis was born in Boston. The Lewis family was living in Worcester by 1848 and on Chatham Street by 1850. After Asa Lewis's death his widow and son remained at 18 Chatham until at least 1863, and by 1865 they are shown at 3 (now 5) Crown Street. W. Dean Lewis, as the directories show him, was a clerk for Adams Express Company. Elizabeth S. Lewis died in 1879, and her son was shown as boarding at 5 Crown Street by 1885; he died two years later at the age of seventy-eight.

By 1854 the Shepards had moved to 1 Congress Street (WOR.1035) selling the 5 (then 3) Crown Street house to Rev. Jonathan Aldrich, an agent for the Missionary Union. Aldrich had left his wife a widow by 1863 and she resided at 3 Crown with Elizabeth S. Lewis, the builder Asa Lewis's widow, and her unmarried son William Dean Lewis. The Lewises moved there from their home at 18 Chatham Street. The coincidence suggests that the two women were somehow related. Elizabeth S. Lewis death in 1879 probably led to Catherine P. Aldrich moving to Boston and eventually selling the Crown Street house, which she did, to Francis W. Southgate, in 1886. He and his family had been living only for a short time next door at 3 Crown Street, which Southgate had bought a short time earlier, but by the following year they had taken up residence at 5 Crown, renting the other house for the duration of their ownership.

Born in Worcester in 1840, Southgate was the son of leather and shoe findings manufacturer John P. Southgate (1804-82), who was born in Leicester and first came to Worcester as a journeyman cabinetmaker as a young man. Southgate was then a brush manufacturer in his native town, but by 1834 he had returned to Worcester to establish his business in a building on the site of Horticultural Hall. Three years later he and James H. Wall, as Southgate and Wall, began a shoe, boot, and leather business, and by 1844 he and Thomas M. Rogers had begun a leather and shoe findings factory. Southgate's sons James Stewart and Francis White Southgate began making shoe findings in Auburn and then, as Southgate Brothers, on Church Street (and later Front Street and later still Southgate Street) in Worcester through 1893. According to a brief biography Francis W. Southgate "was of an inventive turn of mind and secured a number of valuable patents on articles and devices having to do with his business. In politics he was a Republican, but he had no taste for public life."¹

In 1877 Southgate married Addie Frances Hay, a native of Dracut then living in Worcester, and the couple had two children—John Francis, born in 1883, and Grace Louise, who died at the age of fourteen in 1899. After Southgate's shoe firm was dissolved in 1893, according to his biography, he "devoted his attention to the care and improvement of his real estate"; in 1900 he owned 3 and 5 Crown Street and 584 Main Street. Southgate died in Worcester in 1906.

Southgate's widow and son John continued to own and occupy 5 Crown Street through at least 1940. An electrical engineer, John (or J. Francis) Southgate was a graduate of Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and owned and operated Southgate Electric Company in Worcester; he also continued his father's realty business. His mother Addie died between 1930 and 1940, and at some point between 1940 and 1943 J. Francis Southgate sold 5 Crown Street to Matthew P. O'Regan, who converted it to apartments and rented three units in the house. By 1960 the property had changed hands again, and in 1970 it was owned and occupied by Doris Carson, secretary in the office of the Massachusetts Heart Association.

¹ Charles Nutt, *History of Worcester and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1919), 3:351.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1849CD Shepard Russell R (S.C. Combs, RRS, M. Lathe & C. Wheelock, mfrs machinist tools), h Crown FIRST INSTANCE
- 1850CD Shepard Russell R (S.C. Combs), h. 3 Crown
- 1850C Russell R Shepard 38 machinist \$3,500 b. MA, Elzada E 30 b. VT, Ellen A 12 b. MA, Susan J 10 b. MA, James 8 b. MA, Mary Neil 22 b. Ireland
- 1851 Deed, 477:494, 1 July 1851, Asa Lewis to Russell R. Shepard, land and house, \$2,600
- 1854 Deed, 529:87, 25 Apr 1854, Russell R. Shepard to Jonathan Aldrich, \$3,700
- 1859CD Aldrich Rev Jonathan, agt. Missionary Union h. 3 Crown
- 1860C Aldrich Jonathan 59 agent \$4000 \$1200 b. VT, Catherine P 47 b. MA, Hellen M 17 b. PA, Barbary Morne 19 domestic b. Ireland
- 1863CD Aldrich Mrs. Jonathan, bds. 3 crown
- 1865CD Lewis Mrs Asa, h. 3 Crown
Lewis W Dean, clerk, 3 Crown
Aldrich Mrs. Jonathan, bds. 3 crown
- 1850C Asa Lewis 69 carpenter \$2000 b. MA. Eliza 63 b. MA, Wm D 41 click b. MA
1863CD Lewis Mrs Asa , h 18 Chatham
- 1870M Mrs. A. [Aldrich]
- 1870C Lewis Eliza 82 keeping house \$4000 b. MA, Lewis William 60 no occupation b. MA
- 1872HD 3, ho., Elizabeth S. Lewis, widow
3, bds., W. Dean Lewis, clerk, 33 Pearl
- 1878CD Lewis Elizabeth S. widow, h. 3 Crown
Lewis W. Dean, clerk, Adams Express, 33 Pearl, boards 3 Crown
- 1886M 5 Mrs. E.S. Lewis
- 1886 Deed, 1227:465, 9 Oct 1886, Catherine P. Aldrich, widow, Boston to Francis W. Southgate, \$6,000
- 1887CD Lewis W. Dean, clerk, boards 5 Crown
- 1890HD Southgate F. W. shoe findings [Southgate & Co., 2 Bigelow Ct.]
F.W. Southgate, bld. \$1400; 6050 ft. \$4200
- 1900HD Southgate F. W. Mr. & Mrs. [real estate, 34 Southbridge – F. W. Southbridge Real Estate]
Southgate Francis W., bld. \$1400; 6059 ft. \$4500 (also owns #3 Crown St & 584 Main St.)
- 1900C Southgate Francis W b Feb 1840 b MA real est agent owns free, wife Addie F b Mar 1852 MA, son John b May 1883

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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- 1910HD Southgate F. W. Mrs. [Addie F. widow of Francis W.]
Southgate J Francis electrician, b. [Southgate Electric Co., 582 Main]
Southgate Francis W., bld. \$1400, 6059 ft. \$4200 (also owns #3 Crown St. &584 Main)
- 1910C Southgate Addie F ae 58 wid b MA, son J Francis ae 26 b MA proprietor electrical contractor
- 1920C Southgate Francis J owns ae 36 real estate, mother but no name shown ae 67 wid
- 1922HD Southgate Addie F. Mrs.
Southgate J. Frances, b. [electrician]
Southgate Francis W., heirs blds. \$2900, 6059 ft. \$4200
- 1930HD Southgate Addie F. Mrs. [1929 dir: same as 1910]
Southgate J. Frances, r
Southgate Francis W, heirs, bld. \$3600, 6059 ft. \$4200
- 1940HD Southgate J. Frances [1939 dir: real estate]
Southgate J. Francis, bldgs \$3600; 6059 ft. \$2500 (owns many more bldgs alone & together w/others)
- 1950HD Boulanger Hidole [Juliette; chauff; h]
Summa Richd [Yvonne W.; actuarial clk, State Mut Life Assurance Co.; h]
Menanson Wm F. [Mary J.; police Precinct 2; r]
O'Regan Matthew P. bldgs \$6100; 6059 ft. \$1500
- 1960HD Smith Alice M. Mrs. [1959 dir: widow Jas. J., clk Sheppard Envelope]
Davis Wm M. [1959 dir: not listed, nor in 1962 dir.]
Breen Francis J., r [1959 dir: r 17 Dean; 1962 dir: whsemn Am Supply]
Breen Richd J. Mrs., r [1959 dir: r 17 Dean; in 1962 dir., no occup.]
Smith Alice M.; garage \$100 house \$6000; 6059 ft. \$1500
- 1970HD Carson Doris [ofc sec Mass Heart Assn]
Carson Doris garage \$100 house \$6000; 6059 ft. \$1500

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1772
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SW



View from NW

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

5 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from SE

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

CO-ND)-00070 Worcester North C WOR.1780

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (neighborhood or village):
Crown Hill

Address: 6 Crown Street

Historic Name: George S. & Emeline B. Barton House

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1865

Source: deeds, historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Second Empire

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: slate shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (with dates):

Converted to condominium apartments, 1976

Condition: good

Moved: no yes Date:

Acreage: 0.1330 acres

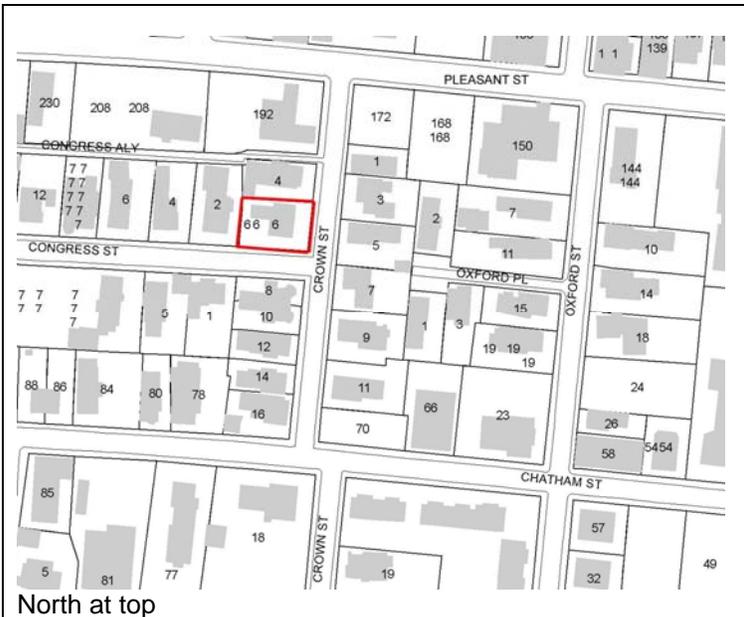
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from SE

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (month / year): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

6 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1780
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The George S. & Emeline B. Barton House is located on a 0.1330-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street and the north side of Congress Street. The parcel was laid out when the 1836 Park Hill subdivision plan was reconfigured into house lots about a decade later by Isaac Davis. When the lot was sold in 1847, Davis sold an additional 15 feet of frontage north of it along Crown to create the present large parcel. The property is flanked north and west by houses of similar historic period. The two-story wood frame single (now multiple) dwelling with a mansard gable roof was built in the Second Empire style around 1865, replacing and, perhaps, reusing the stone basement of an older house. It is set back from both streets behind yards conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back and outlined by granite curbs along the sidewalks. The house is positioned close to the north lot line on a low terrace leveling the terrain sloping down on the north side, where the granite curb on the east side of the lot becomes more of a retaining wall. A break in the center of the wall contains stone steps rising up to a walkway leading to the main entrance of the house. A paved driveway and parking area is located on the southwest corner of the lot between the rear ell of the house and Congress Street. There are no outbuildings.

The main section of the house is elevated slightly on a granite slab basement and sided with wood clapboards. The front (east) façade contains a center entrance with a porch decorated with scroll-sawn braces at the tops of the posts and a bracketed cornice. Windows have simple surrounds. The tall mansard roof is the prominent feature with an octagonal slate shingle façade surmounting a deep bracketed cornice and punctuated by three tall dormers with elaborate pedimented architraves; cornice with a dentil band distinguishes the top edge of the roof. Two-bay side façades reflect the same decorative hierarchy, with two one-story bay windows on the south side. A narrow two-story kitchen ell also has a mansard roof with dormers, stepped slightly lower than the main roof, but with the same degree of architectural detail. A one-story, flat-roof wing bumps out from the rear wall of the main house and overlaps on the rear ell. The two-bay south façade of the ell, facing Congress Street, contains an entrance on the ground floor tucked under a one-story porch spanning the remaining extent of the façade. Both the porch and the rear bump-out have bracketed cornices. What appear to be original six-over-six wood sashes remain intact.

The George S. & Emeline B. Barton House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Second-Empire-style mansard-roof house was constructed in ca.1865 and is an unusual house form in the neighborhood.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

6 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1780
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 6 Crown Street was built around 1860-1865 for George S. Barton at the pinnacle of Crown Hill. It appears that it replaced an earlier house on the property where Russell R. Shepard and his family lived briefly after selling their home across the street at 5 Crown in 1854. During Barton's ownership, the value of the property nearly tripled from \$6,000 to \$16,000, indicating the substantial improvement the large two-story mansard house represented.

George S. Barton was born about 1825 in nearby Millbury. In 1845 he moved to Worcester and became an apprentice at Howe and Goddard, organized in Worcester in 1836 by Vermonter Isaac Goddard and a "Mr. Howe" to manufacture paper and silk machinery. In 1846 Goddard and George M. Rice reorganized the company as Goddard, Rice and Company after Howe's death, and in 1849 Barton became a partner in the firm.¹ In 1851 Barton married Emeline Blake, a native of Chester, New Hampshire, then living in Pepperell. The couple had two children, Georgetta, born about 1853, and Charles Sumner, born in 1857. In the late 1850s the Bartons lived on Southbridge Street, but the 1860 census enumerated them on Crown Street where they had just moved. The Barton household included his mother Nancy Goddard Barton, then seventy-five years old (and whose relation if any to Isaac Goddard is not known) and a domestic servant.

In 1862 Barton's company reorganized again, as Rice, Barton and Company, and then in 1867 Barton, Rice, and Joseph E. Fales organized Rice, Barton and Fales Machine and Iron Company. According to one history, the new company "succeeded to the business of manufacturing paper-making, calico-printing and dyeing machinery for cotton and woolen mills, bleaching, paper-printing machinery, hydraulic presses, architectural iron and other large work." The Crown Street house probably was built during this heyday. In 1892 the company moved from Union to Foster Street and by the turn of the century owned a complex of some eight buildings. "In a machine shop," Charles Washburn's industrial history notes, "the first-class machinists are largely Americans and Swedes. Irish, Finns and Poles are also employed. The foundry employees are largely Irish, although there are a number of Americans." By that time Barton, Rice and Fales had begun to produce commercial laundry mangles and pulp-making machinery, and in the mid-1910s, according to Washburn, it constructed "the biggest paper-making machine, for the manufacture of newsprint, that has ever been made," which weighed roughly 1100 tons and could produce a sheet of newsprint 146 inches wide at a rate of one thousand feet per minute.²

George S. Barton lived at 6 Crown Street (4 Crown in early directories) until 1871 when he moved to Main Street and sold the property to Edward Whitney for \$16,000. (Barton died in Worcester in 1891.) Edward Whitney was the proprietor of a stationery store at 247 Main Street; next door at 245 Main, George C. Whitney, his younger brother, manufactured fancy goods. By 1878 Edward Whitney was reportedly operating a paper warehouse and his brother, George, was making valentines and paper boxes next door. Born in Westminster about 1835, Edward Whitney first worked on his father John Whitney's farm and then by 1860 had moved to Worcester, where he lived with his wife S. Louisa Cutting Whitney, whom he married in Westminster in 1857, and his wife's parents, the cabinetmaker and truss manufacturer Nathan H. Cutting and his wife Mary.

By 1880 Louisa Whitney had died, and Edward Whitney lived at 6 Crown Street with his sons Edward C. and Henry, a domestic servant, and a boarding couple, Joseph W. and Anna Adams. In 1890 Whitney, his second wife Emma Louisa Rice Whitney, and his son Edward, then a student, were the sole occupants of the house. In 1897 Edward Whitney died, and his widow had moved to Chestnut Street by 1900. In that year Edward Whitney's heirs rented the house to Adams Express Company clerk Charles E. Buswell, born in New Hampshire, his wife Serrah, and his daughter Maud, who was a clerk in a trunk store. The Buswells had the income of seven male and female boarders.

In 1903 David A. Matthews, a Worcester police captain, bought 6 Crown Street from Emma L. Whitney. Born in Boston in 1847, Matthews had lived an adventurer's life before his first appointment to the city's police department in June 1873. He grew up in Hopkinton, Southborough, and West Boylston before moving to Worcester when he was sixteen years old. Once in the city he

¹ Charles G. Washburn, *Industrial Worcester* (Worcester: Davis Press, 1917), 249-51.

² Washburn, *Industrial Worcester*, 249-50.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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enlisted almost immediately in the Third Massachusetts Battery, and he served with Ulysses S. Grant's Fifth Army Corps from the time he assumed command of Union forces in mid-1863 until Lee's surrender at Appomattox in April 1865. Matthews was discharged in June, returned to Worcester and worked as a bootmaker for several years, and then in 1867 re-enlisted in the army. Assigned to the Eighth United States Cavalry, Matthews joined the army in Idaho. He was then posted with Troop E of the cavalry in lower California and sent to establish posts in the Cottonwood Mountains near the Colorado River. Through several encounters with Ute and other tribes Matthews earned the reputation as an Indian fighter and was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor in October 1869 for "defending wounded soldiers from an attack from the Indians and bravery in action."³

Matthews was discharged as a first sergeant in June 1872 and had returned to Worcester by the following June. Mayor George F. Verry appointed him to the police department in 1873, but, having just married Irish immigrant Mary A. Sweeney in November 1872, he resigned only to be reappointed by Mayor Edward L. Davis and then again, after another brief period away from the department, by Mayor Clark Jillson in September 1875. He served four years as a patrolman and a year as a "roundsman" before being named night captain of Station 1 in Worcester in 1884. In 1897, after more than a decade at the position, he was appointed a day captain. According to a police department history, "Captain Matthews has always held the respect of the members of the department, is considered a careful and efficient officer, and has been prominently connected with some of the most important arrests in the history of the department. He is peculiarly adapted to police work by reason of his keenness and courage. He has had charge of police drills since they were instituted, and at public exhibitions, drills and parades has been a conspicuous figure."⁴

In 1910 David and Mary Matthews lived at 6 Crown Street with their adult daughter Marietta, a teacher at Abbott Street School, the elderly music teacher Harriet T. Boardman, and the sisters Harriet and Mariah Bixby. In 1916 the Matthews family moved to Woodland Street and sold 6 Crown Street to realtor Simeon Lagasse, who moved in with his family. By 1922 Amanda E. Fitch owned the property and operated it as a rooming house. Born in Canada about 1863, Fitch was the widow of James E. Fitch and had come to the United States in 1920. In 1930 she lived at 6 Crown Street with her daughter Mabel, a nurse, one boarder (the carpenter Albert Moody), and fourteen male and female roomers.

Amanda Fitch died between 1930 and 1940, and the property passed to her daughter Mabel and to Edward B. Fitch, probably her son. Edward Fitch, born in Canada about 1887, came to the United States in 1906, and by 1930 he was a patrolman in the Worcester Police Department and living with his wife Katherine on Shirley Street. By 1940 he too lived at 6 Crown Street, by which point the Worcester house directory lists eight other roomers, as well as Mabel Fitch. The Fitches sold the house in 1946 to Leon J. and Margaretta Langlois owned 6 Crown Street and continued to operate it as a lodging house, but by 1960 the house directory shows the property as vacant. Margaretta Langlois sold the property to the Worcester Heritage Society in 1978, and the house was renovated into condominium apartments.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1847 Deed, 428:48, 24 Aug 1847, Cyrus Adams to Charles C. Coleman, lot corner Crown & Congress, 50x95 ft., \$612
Deed, 428:49, 25 Aug 1847, Isaac Davis to Charles C. Coleman, 15x95 ft. strip on N side of above lot, \$180
- 1848 Deed, 441:280, 15 Aug 1848, Charles C. Coleman to William P. Hastings, 65x95 ft. lot, \$1,000
- 1852 Deed, 473:641, 17 Apr 1852, William P. Hastings to Caleb Dana, lot, \$975
- 1854 Deed, 529:88, 5 May 1854, Caleb Dana to Russell R. Shepard, lot, \$2,000
- 1855CD Shepard Russell R. (S.C. Combs, RRS, M. Lathe & C. Wheelock, mfrs machinist tools), h 4 Crown FIRST INSTANCE

³ Matthews's biography appears in Herbert M. Sawyer, *History of the Department of Police Service of Worcester, Mass., from 1674 to 1900, Historical and Biographical* (2008), 169-71 (quotation 170). Google Books website.

⁴ Sawyer, *Department of Police Service*, 171.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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- 1854CD: Shepard Russell R. (S.C. Combs), h 3 Crown
- 1857 Deed, 587:377, 1 Oct 1857, Russell R. Shepard to Augustus N. Currier, lot with buildings, \$6,000
1859CD: Currier Aug.N., Sec'y Peoples Ins. Co. h 4 Crown
- 1858CD: Shepard Russell R. (S.C. Combs), bds 1 Congress
- 1859 Deed, 607:505, 23 Mar 1859, Augustus N. & Margaretta P. Currier to George S. Barton, lot with buildings, \$6,000
1859CD: Barton George S., Goodard Rice & Co., h 83 Southbridge
- 1860C George S. Barton ae 35 machinist \$6000 b MA, Emma ae 37, Georgetta 7, Charles S 2, Nancy 75, domestic
Margaret Macapoy 22 b MA
- 1860CD Barton George S, Rice Barton & Co, h 4 Crown
- 1870M 4 Barton
- 1871CD Barton George S, Rice, Barton & Fales Machine & Iron Co, Union, h 6 Crown
- 1871 Deed, 855:633, 7 Dec 1871, George S. Barton to Edward Whitney, lot & buildings, \$16,000
- 1871CD Whitney Edward, stationer, 247 Main, h. 6 State
Whitney Geo. C., manuf'r fancy goods, 245 Main, h. 34 Elm
- 1878CD Whitney Edward paper warehouse 395 Main h 6 Crown
Whitney George C., valentines and paper box mfr., 393 Main, h. 74 Elm
- 1880C 6 Crown:
Whitney Edward ae 45 b MA stationer store, son Edmond C ae 10 MA, son Henry J 7 b MA, servant Sarah A Brown
42 b NH, boarders Joseph W Adams 45 b MA bookkeeper, Anna Adams 45 b MA
- 1886M 6 E. Whitney
- 1890HD Whitney Edward, stationer [98 Front St.]
Whitney Edward C. student, b.
Edward Whitney, bld. \$5300; 5092 ft. \$4700
- 1896M 6 E. Whitney
- 1900HD Buswell Chas. E. Mr. & Mrs. [clerk, 125 Front, - 3 express companies located here]
Buswell Maud L. Miss, b.
Mitchell Wm. I. Mr. & Mrs. b.
Roberts S. W. Mr. & Mrs. b.
Whitney Edward, heirs, bld. \$5300; 5902 ft. \$5000 (also 2-7/8 ac. In Bloomingdale \$1400)
- 1900C 6 Crown: Buswell Charles b Aug 1854 NH clerk Adams Express, wife Serrah R b Apr 1856 MA (mother b Greece,
father b ME), dau Maud L b Aug 1878 MA clerk trunk store, 7 boarders (among them 2 dressmakers, one
b Sweden, one VT, 2 male bookkeepers); 2)
- 1903 Deed, 1758:372, 3 Sept 1903, Emma L. Whitney to David A. Matthews
- 1910HD Matthews David A. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [chief of police, 13 Waldo]

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Matthews Marietta teacher, b. [Abbott St. School]
 Bishop Byron A. clerk, b. [tester, 26 Mechanic – but City Dir. has him boarding at 63 Russell]
 Bixby Harriet S. Miss 2
 Bixby Maria A. Miss
 Boardman Harriet T. Miss [music teacher]
Matthews David A., bld. \$4800; 5902 ft. \$4100

- 1910C 6 Crown:
 1) Matthews David A ae 63 b MA pars Ire chief city police owns withmortgage, wife Mary AS ae 59 b MA pars Ire, dau Marietta 36 b MA school teacher
 2) Boardman Harriet T ae 72 b MA
 3) Bixby Mariah S ae 72 b MA, sister Harriet S Bixby b MA ae 62 milliner b MA
- 1911 M 6 D Matthews
- 1916 Deed, 2106:211, 12 Jun 1916, David A. & Mary A.S. Matthews to Simeon Lagasse
- 1922M 6 S. Lagasse
- 1922HD Lagassee Simeon real estate
 Lagasse Bertha D., b. [bookkeeper, 462 Main – John C. MacInnes Co., department store]
 Lagasse Laura A., b. [clerk]
 [Lagasse Ida A. – nurse; Ruth C. – student]
Lagassee Simeon, bld. \$6000; 5902 ft. \$4100 (owns 34 other bldgs/properties)
- 1930HD Fitch Amanda Mrs. [1929 dir: widow of James E. Fitch]
 Fitch Mabel E, r
 Murphy John, r [1929 dir: ins agent]
 Brook Caroline A., r [1929 dir: steno 1 Court House]
 Moody Albert, r [1929 dir: carpenter]
 Pollard William J., r [1929 dir: Amy G.; chef, 484 Main; 1930 dir: Denholm & McKay Co., dept. store
 Russo Mary Mrs., r [not in 1929 dir.; 1931 dir: “rem to Old Orchard Beach Me”]
 Dalton Sydney, r [salesman]
Fitch Amanda bld., \$7000; 5902 ft. \$4100
- 1930C 6 Crown: Fitch Amanda owns \$11000 ae 67 wid b Eng Can emig 1920 housekeeper roomers, dau Mabel E ae 42 b Eng Can emig1904 nurse, 14 roomers, m & fin various trades and service jobs, one boarder Albert A Moody ae 37 b MA carpenter building
- 1940HD Fitch Mabel E.
 Brook Caroline A., r [1939 dir: sten Registry of Probate, r]
 Belknap Charlotte M., r [1939 dir: tutor, r 30 King; 1941 dir. not listed at all]
 Fitch Edwd B., r [1939 dir: police Headquarters]
 Casey Katherine nurse, r [1939 dir: nurse]
 Brunette Jos, r [1939 dir: Jos N, Delia M; shoe wkr; h at 357 Plantation]
 Brunette Lee, r [not listed in 1939 dir; 1941 dir: bkpr Arrow Dental Lab – no residence provided]
 Donaldson Jennie, r
 Moore Lydia Mrs., r
 Townsend Ernest, r [1939 dir: salesman]
Fitch Edwd B. & Mabelle E.bldg. \$5000; 5902 ft. \$2000
- 1946 Deed, 2989:458, 27 Mar 1946, Edward B & Mabel E. Fitch to Margareta Langlois

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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6 CROWN STREET

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- 1950HD Langlois Leon J. lodging house [Margaretta; lodging house 6 Crown; h 8 John]
Langlois Margaretta bldg. \$6000; 5902 ft. \$1500
- 1960HD Vacant
Langlois Margaretta house \$6500; 5902 ft. \$1500 (now also owns 114 Belmont; 45 Derby; 18 Hammond & 25 Harvard)
- 1970HD Langlois Leon J. [wife: Margaretta M.; carp Barletta (no info on this biz found)]
Langlois Margaretta house \$6000; 5902 ft. \$1500 (now also owns 45 Derby)
- 1978 Deed, 6642:394, 20 Dec 1978, Margaretta Langlois to Worcester Heritage Society, Inc.

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

6 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1780
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SE



View from NE

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

6 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from SW

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-025-00009	Worcester North	C	WOR.1773
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 7 Crown Street

Historic Name: Ezra & Eliza W Sawyer House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1854

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
House rehabilitated, 1998-1999
Window sash replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.1382

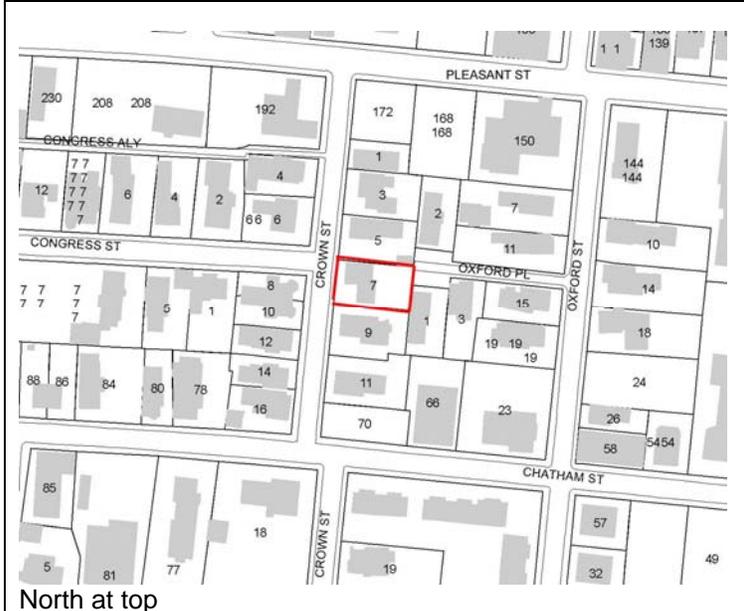
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from SW

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

7 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Ezra & Eliza W Sawyer House is located on a 0.1382-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street opposite the east end of Congress Street. The parcel was laid out when the park planned in 1836 was reconfigured into house lots about a decade later by Isaac Davis. The property is flanked north and south by houses of similar historic period, and it connects on the east to a cul-de-sac at the west end of Oxford Place, originally known as Dove Square. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a cross gable roof was built in the Greek Revival style around 1854. It is set back from the street, conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back, and positioned in the center of the lot, the cross-wing plan extending from side to side. An area on the south side of the lot, in front of the wing, has been paved for parking. There is no driveway or outbuilding. A low stone wall extends across the front of the lot with breaks for a walkway to the entrance and the parking lot.

The cross-wing house presents a front-gable three-bay façade to the street with a three-bay wing set back on the south side. A substantial Greek entablature wraps around the front and side walls of both sections supported by paneled pilasters at the corners. It also spans the front façade of the gable section to create a pediment. The entrance is located on the left side of the front façade with a trabeated architrave containing a sidelights and a replacement door. A shallow porch with Doric columns and pedimented entablature ornaments the entry. The two-story wing has a three-bay front façade with an entrance at the left side and a one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns and Greek entablature. A one-story ell has been added to the rear. Windows have simple surrounds and contain replacement sash.

The Ezra & Eliza W Sawyer House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style cross-wing house was constructed in ca.1854 and is an unusual house form in the neighborhood.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

7 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

The house at 7 Crown Street was probably built in 1854 for the woodworker and machinist Ezra Sawyer. Born about 1816 in Boylston, Sawyer was living in Worcester by 1848. In 1851 he worked for Goddard and Rice, which manufactured papermaking machinery (in 1849 George S. Barton, who by 1860 lived across the street at 6 Crown, was made a partner in Goddard and Rice). In 1851 Sawyer boarded on Chatham Street with his wife Eliza J. Winn Sawyer, a native of Holden, but by 1854 he was living at this Crown Street house, numbered 5 Crown until around 1885. In 1860 the Sawyers shared the house with the druggist Sanford Kendall and his wife Louisa.

In 1870 they had moved to Sterling, Massachusetts renting the Crown Street house various tenants, but for much of the time Dwight Reed, a clerk, lived there. Reed was born in New Braintree about 1818, and he was living in East Brookfield by 1851, when his daughter Susan was born, and in Worcester on Glen Street by 1863. Also in his household were his wife Susan, born about 1817 in Massachusetts and a second daughter Mary. In 1872 Susan E. Reed married the Rhode Island-born dentist L. P. Lawton, and by 1878 Dwight Reed and his wife and other daughter had moved to Silver Street. Little else has yet been learned about him. He died in Worcester in 1889.

By 1878, the year Eliza J. W. Sawyer died, Ezra Sawyer had moved back to Worcester. The 1880 census lists Sawyer as a retired machinist living with his sister Alice at 7 Crown Street with leather store clerk Henry Whiting and his wife Mary as tenants. By 1890 Sawyer is listed in the Worcester house directory as a machinist and metal separator manufacturer, and he and his second wife, Harriet, continued to live at 7 Crown Street until he died in 1906 at the age of ninety. Harriet N. Woodcock Sawyer of Leicester, whom Ezra married in 1881, remained at this address through at least 1913.

By 1922 the siblings Ernest and Edith Nordell acquired the 7 Crown Street property. Born in Sweden about 1866, Ernest Nordell (in early directories shown as Nordahl) came to the United States when he was five years old. By 1892 he was living with his widowed mother Christina and his siblings Charles and Edith in Worcester, and by 1903 he worked as a sawyer. By 1910 the Nordell siblings owned 5 Congress Street, and in 1914 they acquired 1 Congress Street. By 1930 he and his sister Edith 1, 4, 6, 7, and 9 Congress Street and 7, 8, and 10 Crown Street, but their longtime home was this house at 4 Congress. The Nordells rented 7 Crown Street to three families. In 1930 Belle Porteous, who had lived in the house with her husband William, a produce company officer, since at least 1922, lived there with her daughters Hazel, a nurse, and Esther, a typist, and three roomers. Daniel Timlege, who worked at the counter of Park's Diner in Worcester, and his wife Margaret also occupied the house. Henry H. Coopers, who had come to the United States from Nova Scotia in 1916 and was then retired, lived in the third unit with his wife Adelaide, the gas station operator Russell G. Thomas and his wife Stella, and a roomer.

Ernest and Edith Nordell owned 7 Crown Street through at least 1950, and by 1960 the house was owned by Edward G. and Mildred P. Schultz but was vacant. The house was rehabilitated in 1998-1999 by a coalition of the Crown Hill Neighborhood Association, Preservation Worcester and Worcester Community Housing Resources.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1854CD Sawyer Ezra woodworker Goddard & Rice h Crown FIRST INSTANCE
 1850C Sawyer Ezra ae 30 machinist b MA, Eliza ae 29
 1851CD Sawyer Ezra machinist G&R (Goddard & Rice) bds Chatham
- 1859CD Sawyer Ezra woodworker h 5 Crown
- 1860C 1) Sawyer Ezra 44 machinist \$5k/2k b MA, Eliza 42
 2) Sanford M Kendall druggist ae 44 \$2200 pers est b MA, Louisa 46 b MA
- 1867CD Sawyer Ezra wood machinist h 5 Crown
- 1870M D. Reed

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- 1870CD Reed, Dwight clerk h 5 Crown
- 1870C Reed Dwight ae 52 clerk b MA, wife Susan L 53 b MA, daus Susan E 19, Mary E 15
 1870C Sterling MA, Sawyer Ezra 55 machinist \$8000 \$4000 b. MA, Eliza J W 53 b. MA, Emma Hathorn 21 domestic servant b. MA
- 1872HD 5, ho., Calvin M. Chambers, salesman, 317 Main
 5, ho., Dwight Reed, clerk, 6 Pleasant
- 1878CD Sawyer Ezra, patternmaker, 33 Hermon, house 5 Crown
 1878VR died Eliza J Winn Sawyer ae 61 consumption b Holden
- 1880C 5 Crown
 1) Sawyer Ezra ae 64 retired merchant b VT, sister Alice ae 51 b VT
 2) Whiting Henry ae 52 works in leather store b RI, wife Mary 55 b VT
- 1886M Ezra Sawyer
- 1890HD Sawyer E. metal separators 1 [Ezra Sawyer machinist & metal separator manuf. 33 Hermon – see adv. pg. 785]
 Carey Elliot W. clerk 2 [709 Main St.]
Ezra Sawyer, bld. \$2800; 6019 ft. \$4200
- 1896M Ezra Sawyer
- 1900HD Sawyer Ezra Mr. & Mrs. [same as 1890 – his own firm “Ezra Sawyer , Metal Separators]
 Hough Edw. L. Mr. & Mrs. 2 [salesman]
 Batchelor A. stenographer, b. [Arvilla, stenog., Oread Institute]
Sawyer Ezra, bld. \$2800; 6019 ft. \$4500
- 1900C 7 Crown:
 1) Hough Edward b Nov 1867 MA trav salesman drug rents, wife Edna b July 1871 MA, boarder Arvilla Bachelor b Dec 1871 MA bookkeeper
 2) Sawyer Ezra b July 1815 MA special machine mfr owns, wife Harriet b Oct 1831 MA, had no children
- 1906VR Ezra Sawyer died 29 Jan 7 Crown St ae 90 b Boylston father Joseph mother Lucy Kendall of Boylston, ret mfr, informant widow
- 1910HD Sawyer Ezra Mrs. 1 [Harriet N. widow of Ezra]
 Goodwin Calvin L. Mr. & Mrs. 2 [Calvin L. Goodwin & Co. / E. C. Goodwin – turning, etc. 166 Union]
 Tyler Josephine Mrs., b.
Sawyer Ezra estate, bld. \$2300; 6019 ft. \$4200
- 1910C 1) Goodwin Calvin L ae 69 b Eng Can proprietor woodwork factory rents, wife Elizabeth ae 60 b Ire, roomer Josephine Tyler ae 72 wid b VT
 2) Sawyer Harriet N ae 78 wid b MA owns
- 1911M E. Sawyer
- 1922M E.R. & E.P. Nordell
- 1922HD Porteous William A. Mr. & Mrs. [sec. W. H. Blodgett Co., 5-7 Arctic cor Hygeia, wholesale fruit & produce]
 Porteous Hazel A., b. [phone operator]

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Gage Carrie I., b. [Mrs. Carrie R. Gage, dressmaker, works out of her abode]
 Raynes Mildred, b. [manual training teacher, public schools]
 Ironside Elizabeth A., b. [sewing teacher, public schools]
 Metcalf Arthur Mr. & Mrs. [general foreman, B&M freighthouses on Blackstone]
 Metcalf Charles A., b. [student]
 [Gertrude F. Metcalf, student]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. bld. \$5500; 6019 ft. \$4200 (also own #1 & 4 Congress, 8 & 10 Crown)

- 1930HD Coops Henry H. [1929 dir: Adelaide; carpenter]
 Coops Mildred L., r [1929 dir: clerk]
 Porteous Belle Mrs. [1929 dir: widow of William A. Porteous]
 Porteous Hazel A., r [1929 dir: nurse]
 Porteous Esther D., r [1929 dir: typist, Duncan Av – Reed & Prince Mfg. Co., screw manufacturers]]
 Timlege Daniel [not in 1929 dir.; 1931 dir: Margaret V.; counterman, 368 W Boylston – Park's Diner]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. bld. \$6500; 6019 ft. \$4200 (also own #1 & 4 Congress, 8 & 10 Crown)
- 1930C 1) Coops Henry H rents \$40 ae 68 b Nova Scotia emig 1914 retired, wife Adelaide F ae 63 b Nova Scotia unknown emig; Thomas Russell G ae 44 b MA gas station operator, wife Stella B ae 27 b MA, roomer Frances M Clark ae 68 b MA registered nurse;
 2) Timlege Daniel W rents \$30 ae 28 b MA counterman restaurant, wife Margaret V ae 23 b MA;
 3) Porteous Rhoda B rents \$45 ae 56 b MA, dau Estha D ae 21 typist manufacturer; 3 roomers
- 1940HD Stowe Minnie J. [h]
 MacFarland Nellie J. Mrs., r
 Arnold Laura, r [1939 dir: r 41 Pleasant; 1941 Laura G. Arnold "r" here]
 Brown Elea M. Mrs. [1939 dir: Mrs. Eldea M., clk]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. & Chas E., bld. \$5000; 6019 ft. \$2500 (also own 4 & 6 Congress)
- 1950HD Walker Herbert E. [Minnie L.; lino opr; h]
 McNamara Jas M. [clk D.A. Schulte Inc.- cigars at 501 Main; h]
 Brown Eldear M. Mrs. [ind nurse; h]
Nordell Ernest R. et al, bldg. \$5500; 6019 ft. \$1500 (also own 4 & 6 Congress)
- 1960HD Vacant
Schultz Edw G. & Mildred P. house unf \$4500; 6019 ft \$1500 (also own 60 Cedar)
- 1970HD Schultz Edw [not listed in 1970 city dir.]
Schultz Edw G. & Mildred P. house unf \$2000; 6019 ft \$1500 (also own 60 Cedar)

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7 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

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7 CROWN STREET

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SW



View from NW

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View from SE

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

03-026-0031A & B Worcester North C WOR.1779

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (neighborhood or village):
Crown Hill

Photograph



View from NE (#8 on right, #10 on left)

Address: 8-10 Crown Street

Historic Name: Fayette H. & Lucy A. Putnam House (8)
Sewell & Mary W. Holbrook House (10)

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1848

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder: Sewell Holbrook, probable builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete block

Wall/Trim: wood shingle

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (with dates):

Porches & decoration added ca. 1910
Wood shingles added ca. 1910
Window sash replaced

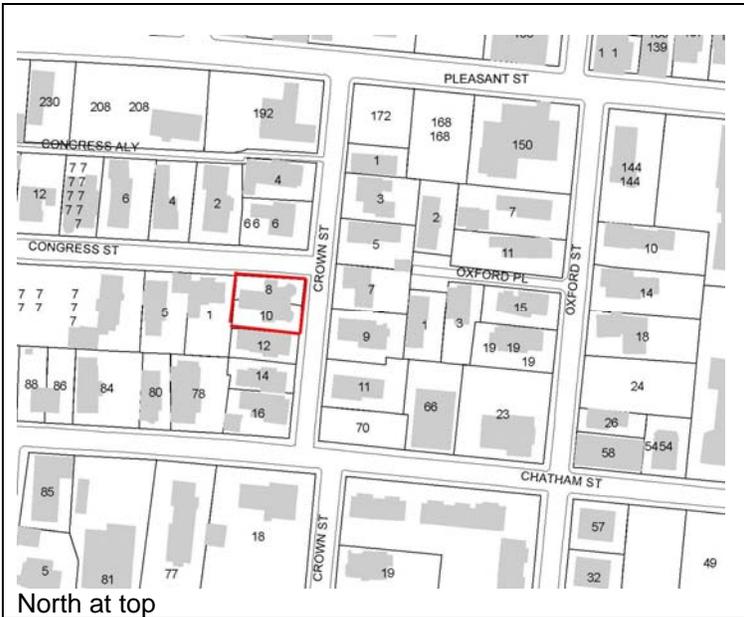
Condition: good

Moved: no yes Date:

Acreage: 0.0690 + 0.0864 = 0.1554 acres

Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (month / year): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

8-10 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/198

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Fayette H. & Lucy A. Putnam– Sewell & Mary W. Holbrook Double House is located on two parcels totaling 0.1554 acre in area on the west side of Crown Street and the south side of Congress Street. The parcel was laid out when the 1836 Park Hill subdivision plan was reconfigured into house lots about a decade later by Isaac Davis. Apparently the builder, probably Sewell Holbrook subdivided the original lot when the double house was constructed. The property is flanked south and west by houses of similar historic period. The story-and-a-half wood frame two-family dwelling was built around 1848 with mirror-image plans sharing a common wall. It is situated on a promontory that may be the apex of Crown Hill, with yard areas on the north and east sides of the house retained by a low mortared masonry wall. The house is centered on the lot to provide equal yard space for each unit, although most of that on the north side has been excavated and paved for parking and exposing part of the basement at grade. There are breaks in the retaining wall on Crown and Congress streets linking entrances on the north and south sides of the house to the sidewalk. There are no outbuildings.

The house has a cruciform plan divided down the middle, east-west, to create two separate living units, each with a long central section with a cross-wing centered on the side façade. Entrances are located on the side walls in front (east) of the cross wing sheltered by a one-story porch. Originally, there probably were porches on the kitchen sections behind the cross wings, but neither appears to exist. The gabled Crown Street façade was ornamented with two one-story bay windows and, possibly, the scalloped verge boards along the raking roof edge. At some later time, probably when the property came under single ownership in ca. 1910, octagonal porches were added to the corners of the Crown Street façade connecting to the existing side porches. These additions have concrete block basements, a material used to repair other basement sections of the house, particularly where it was excavated on the north side of the building. Gable dormers in the front section of the roof appear to be original, although shed dormers on the cross wings are likely later additions. During the other early 20th-century renovations, wood shingles were added over the original clapboards. Window sash have been replaced more recently.

The Fayette H. & Lucy A. Putnam– Sewell & Mary W. Holbrook Double House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The double house was constructed in ca.1848 and is an unusual house form in the neighborhood.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill

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Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The double house at 8-10 Crown Street was built by 1848 probably by the carpenter Sewell Holbrook, who lived at 10 Crown Street until his death in 1894. Born in Hebron, Maine, about 1812, Holbrook's mother, Polly Miller, was from Worcester, and he had moved to the city by 1837, when he married Mary W. Porter. The 1848 city directory shows Holbrook as a carpenter living on Crown Street, numbered 8 Crown by 1859 but by the late 1870s 10 Crown. In 1850 he lived in the house, valued in the census at \$1600, with his wife, his three children Warren, Caroline, and Elery (Frank in the 1860 census), two single women born in Ireland and Canada who may have been boarders or domestic servants, and the daguerreotypist A. B. Rugg. By 1860 the Holbrooks had three more children—Clara, Ida, and Minnie—and in 1861 their last child, William B., was born. The 1890 house directory shows Sewell Holbrook as owner of the house, then valued at only eight hundred dollars.

It seems likely that upon completing the double house Sewell Holbrook sold the northern half to Fayette H. Putnam, an optician, eyeglass manufacturer, and jeweler born in Sutton. In 1848 Putnam is shown as living on Crown Street, and he is enumerated in the 1850 census just before Sewell Holbrook. The Putnam household included his wife Lucy, sons George and Charles, the trader John H. Thompson, and his wife and young daughter, both named Charlotte. Fayette Putnam had moved to Congress Street by 1857, and he died that year at the age of thirty-eight. His heirs apparently sold 8 Congress to the printer Daniel Seagrave. Born in Uxbridge about 1831, Seagrave had moved to Worcester by 1851 and was working as a printer at the office of the *Worcester Spy*. In 1860 he lived in the half-house with his wife Delia, who was born in New Hampshire but about whom little else is known.

In 1861 Seagrave became partners with the Universalist minister Albert Tyler, also from Uxbridge, and as the firm Tyler and Seagrave they bought the *Spy* printing office. It was in these offices at 442 Main Street that the Worcester Society of Antiquity, now the Worcester Historical Museum, was founded in 1875. Created to supplement the American Antiquarian Society by focusing more closely on local history, the new society aimed to "give opportunity for other citizens of Worcester and vicinity to engage in historical study and research" and to preserve and exhibit "relics of the past, especially those bearing upon the history of the City and County of Worcester."¹ Daniel Seagrave was a founding member of the society as well as its first secretary and clerk, and the collections were deposited in the Tyler and Seagrave offices until the organization purchased a room for them at the Bank Block on Foster Street. In 1881 the firm of Tyler and Seagrave dissolved, but Daniel Seagrave continued to work as a printer and proofreader at 442 Main. The 1900 census lists him as a printer and genealogist.

Sewell Holbrook died in Worcester in May 1894, and by 1900 this half of the house had been sold to Albert H. Stone.² Stone rented 10 Crown Street to the sisters Fanny M. Paige and Adaline, Clara, and Jennie Manly, whose father Lilly S. Manly was a farmer in Hardwick. Daniel Seagrave died in 1902 at the age of seventy-one, and by 1907 the bookkeeper Clark Stedman was living at 8 Crown Street.

By 1910 both parts of the house were owned by Frank M. Ensworth, who moved into 10 Crown with his family. Ensworth was proprietor of a restaurant named for him on Front Street as well as a lunchroom on Spring Street. By 1922 the siblings Ernest R. and Edith L. Nordell had acquired the property; they already owned neighboring properties at 1 and 5 Congress Street. Born in Sweden about 1866, Ernest Nordell (in early directories shown as Nordahl) came to the United States when he was five years old. By 1892 he was living with his widowed mother Christina and his siblings Charles and Edith in Worcester, and by 1903 he worked as a sawyer. By 1930 he and his sister Edith owned 1, 4, 6, 7, and 9 Congress Street and 7, 8, and 10 Crown Street, but their longtime home was this house at 4 Congress. The Nordells rented 10 Congress to numerous tenants, most of whom lived there for less than a decade. In 1920 the widow Theresa M. Hicks ran a lodging house at 8 Crown Street. Among the five

¹ Ellery Bicknell Crane, ed., *Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memories of Worcester County, Massachusetts* (New York Lewis Publishing Co., 1907), 1:xi-xiv.

² The 1902 city directory shows two men by this name, one a cashier at Mechanics National Bank and the other a machinist.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

8-10 CROWN STREET

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roomers were Charles W. Milliken and his wife Gertrude, who remained tenants at 8 Crown Street through at least 1940. Milliken was born about 1873 in Maine and worked as a musician in a local theater.

By 1940 the Nordells sold 8-10 Crown Street to Garrie H. Stroup, who worked at machinery manufacturer Reed-Prentice Corporation, and his wife Mary. The Stroups owned the building through at least 1970. House directories show the family living at 10 Crown in 1950, 8 Crown in 1960, and again at 10 Crown in 1970.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1848CD 6 Putnam FH spectacle manufacturer 175 Main h Crown
8 Holbrook Sewell carpenter h Crown
- 1850C [6] Fayette H. Putnam 32 optician \$1600 b MA, Lucy A 28 b MA, Geo S 7, Charles F 5; John H Thompson 26 trader b MA, Charlotte Thompson 24 MA, Charlotte 2d 2 b MA
[8] Sewell Holbrook ae 37 carpenter \$1600 real b ME, Mary W Holbrook 35 b MA, Warren S 8, Caroline A 6, Elery M 1, Mary Kennedy ae 25 Ireland, Dolly Pinckham 22 Candaa, AB Ruggs 23 daugarian b MA
- 1854CD 6 Putnam FH optician and jeweler 219 Main h Crown
8 Holbrook Sewell carpenter h Crown
- 1859CD Seagrave Daniel printer Spy office h 6 Crown
1854CD: Seagrave Daniel printer Spy office bds 23 Exchange
Holbrook Sewell carpenter h 8 Crown
- 1860C [6] Daniel Seagrave 33 printer \$2,000 real b MA, Delia 24 b NH
[8] Suell Holbrook 48 carpenter \$2,000 real b MA, Mary 35 b MA, Warren S 18 b MA, Caroline A 16 b MA, Frank S 11 b MA, Clara C 8 b MA, Ida 4 b Ma, Minnie M P 2 b MA
- 1865CD Seagrave Daniel Tyler & Seagrave (printers) h 6 Crown
Holbrook Sewall, carpenter, Heywood's building, Central, h 8 Crown
- 1870C [6] Seagrave Daniel 38 printer \$3000 real \$4000 pers b MA, Delia E 37 b NH
[8] Holbrook Sewell 58 carpenter \$2500 real b ME, Mary W 55 b MA, Ida M 14 MA, Willie B 9 b MA
- 1886M 8 D. Seagraves
10 S. Holbrook
- 1890HD 8 Seagrave Daniel, printer [proofreader]
Mrs. Daniel Seagrave, bld. \$800; 2922 ft. \$2200
10 Holbrook Sewell, carpenter
Holbrook William B. clerk, b. [3 Allen Ct.]
S. Holbrook, bld. \$800; 3880 ft. \$2700
- 1894VR Sewell Holbrook died 23 May ae 82 carp res Worcester b Hebron ME pars Benj Holbrook no pob shown and Polly Miller of Worcester
- 1896M 8 Mrs. D. Seagrave
10 S.W. Holbrook

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

8-10 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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- 1900HD 8 Seagrave Daniel, genealogist
Seagrave Delia, bld. \$800; 2922 ft. \$2300
- 10 Manly Adaline Miss
Manly Clara, teacher
Manly Jennie, dressmaker
Paige Wm. Mrs. b. [Mrs. Fanny M. Paige]
Stone Albert H., bld. \$600; 3880 ft. \$2900
- 1900C 8 Crown: Seagrave Daniel b Sept 1831 MA printer genealogist
- 1902VR Daniel Seagrave died 21 Nov ae 71 b Uxbridge pars Daniel Seagrave of Uxbridge and Mary Weld of Charleton; res Worcester
- 1907CD Clark Stedman bookkeeper 12 Salem h 8 Crown
- 1910HD 8 Clark Stedman Mr. & Mrs. [clerk, 65 Tainter, Rice Barton & Fales Machine and Iron Co.]
Ensworth Frank M. & Lillie G., bld. \$900 2922 ft. \$2200
- 10 Ensworth Frank M. Mr. & Mrs. [restaurant, 150 Front – Frank Ensworth Restaurant & 6 Spring – Frank Ensworth Lunchroom]
Ensworth Frank M. & Lillie G., bld. \$900; 3880 ft. \$2700
- 1911M 8 & 10 F & L. Ensworth
- 1920C 8 Crown
Hicks Theresa M rents 58 wid b MA keeper lodging house, 5 roomers—Chas Milliken 47 musician theater b ME, wife Gertrude 40 b VT, Clois Ball (crossed out; possibly Milliken?) 17 lab gear shop b VT, Winthrop M Safford 26 salesman wholesale candy married b MA, Edmund Pierce 52 married house painter b MA
- 10 Crown: Clark Ewen rents 67 b Can emig 1894, wife Annie ae ? b Can emig 1894, dau Tryphenia 33 single stenographer printing shop b Can emig 1894, 3 roomers: Helen R Jacobs b MA, Malcom Camberson 32 clerk leather foundry b MA pars Quebec, Catherine Cameron 29 clerk real est office b MA
- 1922M 8 & 10 E.R. & E.L. Nordell, connected to 1 and 5 Congress
- 1922HD 8 Milliken Charles W. Mr. & Mrs. [musician]
Ball Clois H., b.
Ball Ruth A., b. [clerk, 54 Commercial, Burgess-Lang Bldg; 6 companies housed there]
Smith Kathleen nurse, b. [Kathleen L. Smith, nurse]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. bld. \$2500; 2922 ft. \$2200 (also own #1 & 4 Congress, 7 & 10 Crown)
- 10 Clark Ewen C. Mr. & Mrs.
Clark Tryphenia P., b. [steno, 25 Foster, Graphics Arts Bldg]
Atwood Grace, b. [Grace H.]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. bld. \$2500; 3880 ft. \$2700 (also own #1 & 4 Congress, 7 & 8 Crown)
- 1930HD 8 Milliken Charles W. [1929 dir: Gertrude G.; musician]
Buyers Jessie E., r [1929 dir: nurse]
Cawley Bessie, r [not in 1929 dir; 1931 dir: clerk, 37 Harvard –Worcester Electric Light Co. service dept.]
Walker Bernice, r [1929 dir: clerk]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. 8 & 10 Crown bld. \$7000; 6802 ft. \$4000 (also own #1 & 4 Congress & 7 Crown)
- 10 Prentice Harold B. [1929 dir: Lillian L; clerk 400 Main – Ware Pratt Co., clothiers]
Prentice Ruth W.[1929 dir: student]
McGowan H. Mabel [1929 dir: kindergartener, Harlow St. School]
Nordell Ernest R. & Edith L. 8 & 10 Crown bld. \$7000; 6802 ft. \$4900 (also own #1 & 4 Congress & 7 Crown)

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- 1930C 8 Crown: Milliken Charles W rents \$45 ae 55 b ME musician profession, wife Gertrude G ae 50 b VT, 3 roomers
Jessie A Byers ae 64 single b Scotland nurse emig 1890, Bernice M Walker ae 20 b MA clerk office, Bessie
Cawley ae 39 b C an emig 1915 clerk office
- 10 Crown: Prentis Harold B rents \$45 ae 45 b MA buyer clothing store, wife Lillian L ae 47 b MA, dau Ruth W 23
MA, son Marian B ae 17, sister Harriet M McGowan ae 53 single school teacher
- 1940HD 8 Milliken Chas W.[1939 dir. same as 1929]
Cheney Mae B., r [1939 dir: clk, Heywood Boot & Shoe Co.; r]
Newcombe Lois, r [1939 dir: clk]
Stanton Cora, r [1939 dir: teacher, Providence Junior High School; r 682 Main; 1941 dir: r here, same occup.]
Stroup Garrie H. & Mary D. 8 & 10 Crown bldg. \$5000; 6802 ft. \$2700
- 10 Stroup Garrie H. [1939 dir: Mary D.; bridge wkr]
Brennan Beatrice L. Mrs. nurse, r
Dowd Jas A., r [not listed in 1939 dir; 1941 dir: lab]
Dowd Johanna Mrs., r [not listed in 1939 dir; 1941 dir: widow of Dennis]
Holmes Albert, r [not in 1939 dir; 1941 dir: Albert J. Holmes, Eunice A.]
McDonald Bruce, r [not in 1939 or 1941 dir]
Simmons Jas, r [not in 1939 dir; 1941 dir: "rem to Framingham]
[ownership: SEE # 8 CROWN, ABOVE]
- 1950HD 8 Ruell Genevieve L. Mrs. [emp Reed-Prentice Corp-machinery mfg; h]
Ruell John W., r [emp Reed-Prentice Corp-machinery mfg; r]
StPeters Grace Mrs., r
Stroup Garrie H. & Mary O. [sp.?] 8 - 10 Crown bldg. \$6500; 6802 ft. \$1700
- 10 Stroup Mary D Mrs. [no additional info]
Wright Walter, r [Sadie; auto mech; r]
[ownership: SEE # 8 CROWN, ABOVE]
- 1960HD 8 Stroup Mary D. Mrs. [1959 dir: listed as wife of Gary Stroup, eng Raymond's, h 60 Chatham; 1962 dir: not listed]
Stroup Carrie H. [sp.?] & Mary D. 8 - 10 Crown house. \$6000; 6802 ft. \$1700
- 10 Lovieno Louis J. [1959 dir: not listed, nor in 1962 dir.]
[ownership: SEE # 8 CROWN, ABOVE]
- 1970HD 8 Hodge Harold C. [wife Heidi; mach, James Burry – no info found on this person or company]
Stroup Garrie H. & Mary D. 8 - 10 Crown bldg. \$6000; 6802 ft. \$1700
- 10 Stroup Gary [wife, Mary D.; no occup listed]
Stott Robt E. [wife Carol A.; mgr Smithfield Ice Cream]
[ownership: SEE # 8 CROWN, ABOVE]

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8-10 CROWN STREET

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE (#8 on right, #10 on left)



View from SE (#8 on right, #10 on left)

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View from NW

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-025-00010 Worcester North C WOR.1782

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 9 Crown Street

Historic Name: Fannie C. Fales House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1850

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Additions on north side and rear
Vinyl siding added
Window sash replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acres: 0.1569

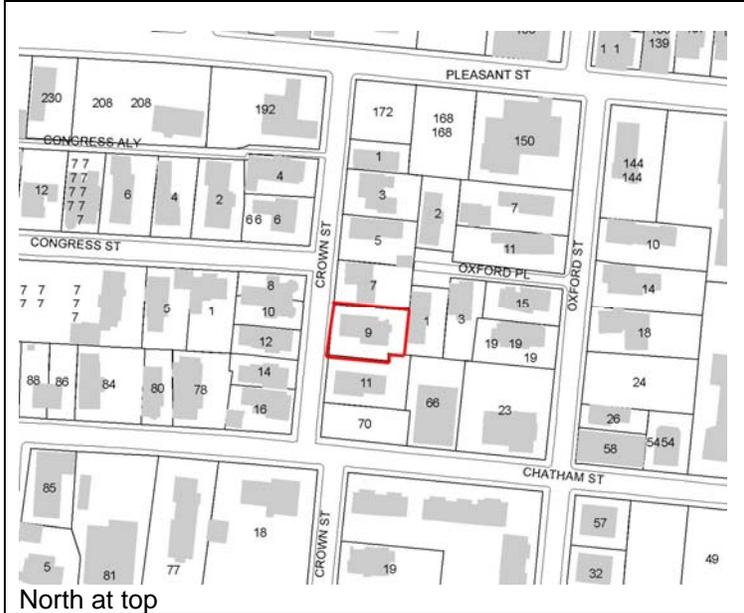
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from SW

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Fannie C. Fales House is located on a 0.1569-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street north of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out when the 1836 Park Hill subdivision plan was reconfigured about a decade later by Isaac Davis. The property is flanked on the north and south by houses of similar historic period, and it backs up on another historic building fronting on Oxford Place. The two-story wood frame two-family dwelling with front gable roof was built in the Greek Revival style around 1850. It is set back from the street, conforming with deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back and sited at street level along the crest of Crown Hill. The house is centered on the lot leaving space for a yard on the north side and a paved driveway and parking area on the south side. A small rear yard has been reduced by an addition. There are no outbuildings.

The house presents a front-gable three-bay façade to the street. A substantial Greek entablature wraps around the front and side walls supported by paneled pilasters at the corners. The front gable section is enclosed as a pediment. The entrance is located on the left side of the front façade with a trabeated architrave containing sidelights. A one-story porch with a Greek entablature and Doric columns spans the front façade; it was extended northward when a wing was added later to that side. First story windows under the porch extend down to floor level and have, along with the entrance, pedimented headers. Elsewhere windows are framed by wide board surrounds; a window is centered in the front pediment. A two-story flat roof wing was added to the southeast corner of the house around 1890 when a second dwelling unit was created. It has a brick basement and extends beyond the rear wall of the house. In the mid-20th century a two-story addition was built on the north side of the house to provide a second entry; the front porch was extended and wrapped around the north side to reach this entrance. Window sash have been replaced

The Fannie C. Fales House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style house was constructed in ca.1850 and is essentially intact in spite of additions, vinyl siding and replacement windows.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was

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listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The Greek Revival architecture of this house associates it with other buildings on Crown and Oxford streets constructed in the late 1840s and early 1850s. However, the original owner has not been identified yet, and further deed research in the Worcester Registry is needed to complete a history of the house. Sashmaker Samuel N. Whitney lived here briefly in the early 1860s after moving from 2 Oxford Place, and by 1865 the dwelling was occupied by the widow Fannie C. Fales, who had moved to Worcester from Westbrook, Maine. Her long tenure in the house is recognized in the name now given to it.

Born in Frances C. Newton in Warner, New Hampshire, about 1824, Fannie C. Fales had married by 1850 and was living in the Hampden County town of Russell with her husband, Marshall N. Fales, and probably her sister and brother—Mary Newton, age eighteen, and John Newton, age twelve, also born in New Hampshire. Marshall Fales was a paper manufacturer, and by 1860 he had moved the family to Westbrook, where he was an agent for the paper company Grant Warren and Company, later S. D. Warren Paper Mill Company. Marshall Fales must have died in Maine, for by 1865 Fannie Fales is shown in the city directory at 9 Crown Street. The 1870 census shows her there with her daughter Nellie M., born about 1857 in Portland, Maine. In 1880 Fannie and Nellie Fales rented part of the house to dry goods clerk Charles Upton and his daughter Lizzie.

In 1885 Nellie Fales married Addison B. Clemence, born in Worcester about 1858 and a 1877 graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. In 1881-82 he taught chemistry at Lafayette College, and by the 1910s he was chief chemist at the Worcester District of American Steel and Wire Company.¹ In 1890 Nellie and Addison Clemence lived at 9 Crown Street with her mother and the Upton family, but in the same year her mother died at the age of sixty-eight. The house passed to Nellie Clemence, who owned it through at least 1930. In 1900 she and her husband lived at 9 Crown with her widowed sister Ella C. Whittemore and the seamstress Fannie M Templeton, who like Fannie Fales was born in New Hampshire. Fannie Templeton lived in the house for as long as Nellie Clemence owned it. Clemence also generally rented space in the house to one other family—that of New Hampshire-born dentist Roscoe Hall in 1900, and of grocer Thaddeus A. Arnold in 1910.

By 1940 the Clemences had sold 9 Crown Street to Everett N. Barker, a civil engineer who probably then lived in Dedham. Barker rented the house to the family of James J. Fell, who owned and operated Fell's Olde Grille on Chatham Street, and Nils V. Olson, who with his wife Ida ran Nils V. Olson Antiques on Pleasant Street. Born in Sweden about 1876, Olson emigrated in 1883; he married Ida Baily of Livonia, Michigan, about 1901, and moved to Worcester by 1906, when the couple's son Raymond C. Olson was born. By 1930 Raymond was also an antique dealer. By 1950 Raymond Olson owned 9 Crown Street and was owner and operator of Belmont Confectioner. By 1960 the 9 Crown Street property had been sold to Philip G. St. Martin, a driver for the Worcester Telegram Publishing Company, and his wife Joanne, who owned and occupied an apartment in the house through at least 1970.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

1857M pictured on map

1860C 1) C C Williams 46 Bapt clergyman b NY, Marana C 53 b Canada, Sarah E 23 b NY, Louisa L 14 b NY
2) S N Whitney 53 sash maker \$4600 real \$400 pers b VT, Elvina N 42 b NY, Emma F 17 b MA
1859CD: Whitney Samuel N sash and blind maker 4 Oxford Place (Oxford Ct. in 1851)

1862CD Whitney Samuel N, sash maker, h 9 Crown

1865CD Mrs M N Fales, h 9 Crown

1870M M Fales

¹ John Franklin Stonecipher, comp., *Biographical Catalogue of Lafayette College, 1832-1912* (Easton, PA: Chemical Publishing Co., 1913), 20; "Alumni Notes," *Journal of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute* 20, 1 (November 1916): 63.

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- 1870C Fales Fannie C ae 48 \$9000/10,000 b NH, Nellie M Fales 13 b ME
- 1871CD Mrs MN Fales h 9 Crown
- 1872HD ho., Mrs. M.N. Fales
- 1880C 9 Crown:1) Fales Fannies 55, dau Nellie 23; 2) Upton Charles ae 60 dry goods clerk, dau Lizzie 23
- 1886M Mrs. Fales
- 1890HD Fales Fannie C. widow 1 [w. of Marshall N.]
Clemence A. B. chemist, b. [Addison B.]
Upton Charles A. clerk 2 [salesman, 327 Main]
Upton Charles H. clerk, b.
Mrs. N. M. Fales, bld. \$2800; 6836 ft. \$4800
- 1900HD Clemence A. B. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [chemist, 94 Grove – Amer. Steel & Wire Co.; Washburn & Moen Dept.]
Templeton Fannie M. Miss, b.
Whitmore Ella D. C. Mrs. b.
Hall Rosoe Dr. & Mrs. 2
Clemence Nellie M., bld. \$3000; 6836 ft. \$510
- 1900C 1) Clemence Addison b June 1857 MA no occup owns free, wife Nellie M b June 1856 ME, sister Ella C
Whittemore b Mar 1847 MA, boarder Frances M Templeton b Sept 1858 NH seamstress
2) Hull Roscoe H b Dec 1870 NH dentist, wife Harriet b Aug 1875 Nova Scotia emig 1889
- 1910HD Clemence A. B. Mr. & Mrs. 1
Templeton Fannie M. Miss., b.
Arnold Thaddeus A. Mr. & Mrs. 2
Clemence Nellie M., bld. \$2500; 6836 ft. \$4800
- 1910C Clemence Anderson B 53 b MA chemist wire mill owns, wife Nellie M ae 53 b ME, boarder Fannie M Templeton
51 b NH dressmaker store
- 1922HD Clemence Addison B. Mr. & Mrs. [chemist]
Templeton Fannie M., b. [dressmaker]
Durkee Martha A. Mrs. [widow of Frank L. Durkee]
Clemence Nellie M., bld. \$5000; 6836 ft. \$4800
- 1930HD Clemence Nellie M. Mrs. [1929 dir: widow of Addison]
Templeton Fannie M. dressmaker, r
Ironsides Elizabeth E. [1929 dir: teacher, Junior High School]
Raynes Mildred A., r [1929 dir: drawing teacher, public schools]
Clemence Nellie M., bld. \$5500; 6836 ft. \$4800
- 1940HD Fell Jas J. [1939 dir: Alida M.; Fell's Olde Grille, rest, h 70 Chatham; 1941 dir: same info, now here]
Olson Nils V. [1939 dir: Ida A.; antiques - 219 Pleasant "Nils V. Olson Antiques"]
Olson Adella A., r [antiques; r]
Barker Everett N & Mary E., bldg \$3500; 6836 ft \$2700
- 1950HD Olson Nils V. [Ida A.; h]
Olson Raymond C., r [conf; 88 Belmont – Raymond C. Belmont Confectioner; r]

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Moran Mary A. [teacher High School of Commerce; h]
Olson Raymond C. bldg \$4500; 6836 ft. \$1700

1960HD Burkhardt Harry W. [1959 dir: wife, Eliz. M., stage hand, Capitol Theatre]
 StMartin Phillip G. [1959 dir: wife, Joanne V., driver Worc Telegram Publ Co.]
St Martin Philip G. & Joanne V. house \$4500; 6836 ft. \$1700

1970HD Saint Martin Philip G. [wife Joanne; no occup listed]
 Velasquez, Carmin – no occup listed
 Castillo Hernando [not listed in 1970 city dir]
St Martin Philip G. & Joanne V. house \$4500; 6836 ft. \$1700

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SW



View from NW

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View from SE

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	WOR.1019
Historic Name:	Greenleaf, William House
Common Name:	
Address:	11 Crown St
City/Town:	Worcester
Village/Neighborhood:	Piedmont
Local No:	130-O-1
Year Constructed:	C 1851
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Abandoned or Vacant; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	WOR.C: Oxford - Crown Historic District
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (5/6/1976); Nat'l Register DOE (8/1/1975)



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 12:12 PM

FORM B - BUILDING

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

NTR 5'6-76 ←? not in state register, nor on DDS in MBAC

In Area no. 130-0	Form no. 130-0-1
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1. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Town Worcester

Address 11 Crown Street

Name William Greenleaf House

Present use vacant

Present owner Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Description:

Date ca. 1851

Source city atlases & directories

Style Greek Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features side-hall floor plan, Doric porch, over-sized windows at 1st floor, pilasters, pedimented gable, bay window

Altered no Date _____

Moved from 12 Bowdoin St. Date Aug. 1977

5. Lot size:

One acre or less Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 80'

Approximate distance of building from street 15'

6. Recorded by S. Lee, ed. B. R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date February 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) William Greenleaf

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Aboriginal | _____ | Conservation | _____ | Recreation | _____ |
| Agricultural | _____ | Education | _____ | Religion | _____ |
| Architectural | <u>X</u> | 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)

First occupied by William Greenleaf, a "collector", in 1851, the Greenleaf House is a good example of a popular Greek Revival style house-type with its Doric porch, pilasters, pedimented gable and oversized first floor windows. Until August 1977, the house stood on its original lot at 12 Bowdoin Street. Its planned demolition resulted in the building's move to a vacant lot in the Oxford Street-Crown Hill area.

Although little is known of Greenleaf, his portrait was printed in Citizens of Worcester in 1870 (one year after his death). According to Caleb Wall's Reminiscences... William Greenleaf was the son of Daniel Greenleaf, a printer, and the grandson of General William Greenleaf, sheriff of Worcester County from 1778 to 1788. Wall further states that Greenleaf's grandmother (Sally Quincey Greenleaf) was the sister-in-law of Governor John Hancock. After Greenleaf's death, his widow occupied the house. By 1886 the Greenleaf house had been sold to H. R. Hammond and by 1896 to Charles E. Burleson.

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

city atlases & directories.
 Peckham. Citizens of Worc. (1870). P. 12 (portrait).
 Wall, C. Reminiscences... p. 365.

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-026-00039	Worcester North	C	WOR.1778
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 12 Crown Street

Historic Name: Horace H. & Delia M. Dayton House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1855

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

none

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.0845

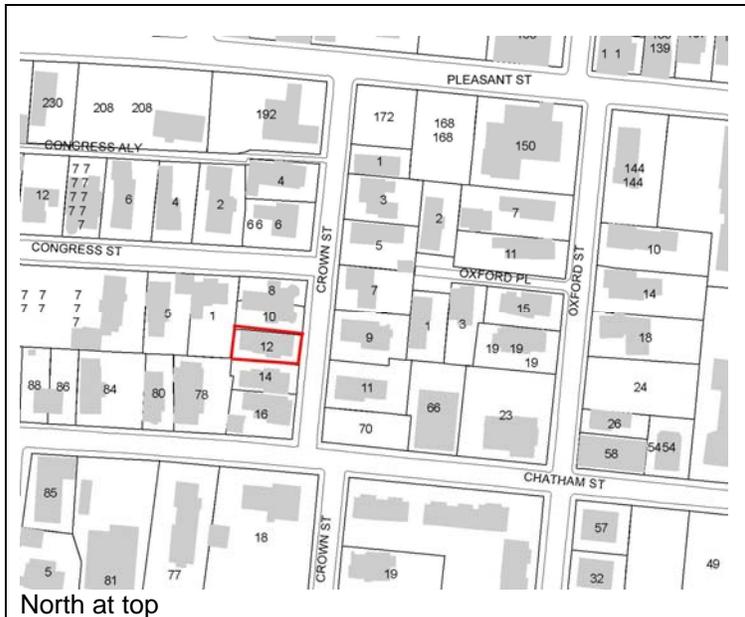
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from SE

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1778
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Horace H. & Delia M. Dayton House is located on a 0.0845-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street north of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the Park Hill subdivision in 1836. It is bounded on the north by a house of similar period and on the south by a house of identical design. The property abuts the backyard of 1 Congress Street on the west. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof was built in a late-Greek Revival style around 1855. It is set back from the street on an elevated terrace leveling the southeast slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house. A low stone wall delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk; the wall probably replaces earlier granite curbing typical in the neighborhood. Two breaks in the wall with stone steps link to walkways to the front and rear of the house. There is no driveway or outbuilding.

The two-story wood clapboard house presents a three-bay façade to the street. A substantial cornice and frieze following the raking edges of the roof spring from the returns of Greek entablatures spanning the tops of the side walls and supported by wide paneled pilasters at the corners. The entrance is located on the right side of the front façade with a plain board architrave containing a transom and sidelights. A one-story porch spans the façade with a tall entablature and hollowed board posts (representing pillars) decorated with scroll-sawn braces and pendants. First-story windows extend down to the floor level of the porch; like the entrance, windows have simple surrounds. Original six-over-six wood sash windows appear to remain in place. Side walls reflect a two-room-deep side-hall plan with a stair along the window-less section of the north wall. A kitchen wing is appended to the rear of the house, flush with the side walls of the front section. A two-story cross-gable pavilion is centered on the south wall. The ell has been extended by a two-story addition.

The Horace H. & Delia M. Dayton House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in 1855 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development. The house reflects a transitional design with the diminishment of Greek Revival features, such as front pediments and Doric porches and the introduction of lighter Gothic decorative elements, such as the scrolled braces on the porch.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 12 Crown Street was built by 1855 and owned and occupied in that year by Horace H. Dayton, who owned and operated a fancy goods store on Main Street. Born about 1826 in South Glastonbury, Connecticut, Dayton married Delia Munsell from Winchester or Westmoreland, New Hampshire, in Glastonbury in 1848.¹ After their marriage the Daytons moved to Worcester, where their daughter Emma Louise was born in September 1849. At that time the family lived on Portland Street, and between 1854 and 1859 they moved to 12 (then numbered 10) Crown Street. The 1860 census shows Horace and Delia in the household with Emma, then twelve years old, another daughter, Nellie F., born in 1857, and the family of clothing merchant Avery Davis. By 1870 the Daytons rented part of the house to the family of retired teacher William E. Starr, who was then the clerk and treasurer of the Boston, Barre, and Gardner Railroad Company.

In 1872 Emma Dayton married wholesale produce merchant Birney J. Heslor, a native of Marion, New York, who ran Jacob Heslor and Company, a firm begun by his father in Marion. The 1880 census shows both Horace and Delia Dayton and their daughter Nellie, a dry goods clerk, sharing the house with their daughter, son-in-law, their children Harry, Frank, and Alice, and a domestic servant. Heslors either sharing the 12 Crown Street house or living next door to Emma Dayton's parents. They remained in the house together until at least 1893, when Delia Munsell Dayton died at the age of sixty-nine. Horace Dayton had retired from his dry goods business in 1870 and by the 1890s was working as a salesman.

By 1900 12 Crown Street was occupied by the widowed Horace Dayton, then a book salesman, his daughter Nellie, who in 1885 had married the draftsman Charles A. Earle of Worcester, Nellie's husband and her in-laws Clark and Emma Earle, and a boarder, Connecticut native Mary E. Wheadon. Charles Earle worked for the contracting firm Norcross Brothers; his father was a stairbuilder for the same company. By 1903 daughter Emma Dayton Heslor and her family had moved to Germain Street; she died in 1808 and he in 1910.

Horace H. Dayton died in 1907 at the age of eighty-one, and by 1910 the hairdresser Margaret E. Mullaney acquired 12 Crown Street. The daughter of James and Hannah Mullaney, Margaret Mullaney either came to the United States from New Brunswick in 1871, when she was two years old, according to the 1900 census, or was born in Massachusetts according to the 1910 census. In 1910 she lived at 12 Crown Street with her mother, who had emigrated from Ireland in 1864, the roomer Philip Drake, a foreman in the city street department, and the family of George Lough, a foreman in the sewer department. Lough and his wife Flora also had a roomer, Louise Pierce, who was fifty-one years old and did social settlement work.

Margaret Mullaney owned and occupied 12 Crown Street through at last 1950 and rented parts of the house to from three to seven tenants at any given time over those years. By 1960 John J. Coffey, who operated Wintergreen Café, acquired the property and lived there with his wife Mary and son John. Coffey rented space to three other individuals in 1960, but by 1970 he is shown as sole occupant of 12 Crown Street.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

1855CD Dayton HH fancy goods 124 Main h Crown
 1854CD: Dayton H H fancy goods 126 Main h 25 Portland
 Davis Avery, acct. 3 Flaggs block h 10 Crown

1860C 1) H H Dayton 36 merchant \$5k/1k b CT, wife Delia M 37, Emma L 12, Nellie F 3
 2) Avery Davis 40 merchant \$3400 pers est p MA, Lydia G 35, Teresa J 15, Avery S 9

¹ Frank Munsell, *A Genealogy of the Munsell Family in America* (Albany, NY: Joel Munsell's Sons, 1884), n. p.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

- 1870C 1) Dayton Horace H 44 dry goods merchant ret. \$8k/3k b CT, wife Delia M 47 b NH, Emma L 22, Nellie F 13, b MA
2) Starr William E 58 retired teacher master of RR? \$700 pers est b CT, Pamela 53 b MA, Daniel B 20 b MA clerk
ins office
- 1872HD 10, ho., Horace H. Dayton, fancy goods, 280 Main
10, bds., Daniel B. Starr, clerk Bay State Fire Ins. Co., 352 Main
10, ho., William E. Starr, clerk & treasurer, Boston, Barre & Gardner RR Co, 11 Foster
- 1880C 1) Dayton Horace ae 55 clk in store, Delia 59, dau Nellie E dry goods clerk
2) Barney Hesler ae 33 wholesale produce, wife Emma 332, children Harry J 6, Frank 4, Alice E 1, servant Bridget
Connely b MA
- 1890HD 12 Crown
Dayton Horace H. canvasser 1 [salesman]
Heslor Birney J. produce 2 [J. Heslor & Co. 551 Main]
H. H. Dayton, bld \$2400; 3707 ft. \$2600
- 1900HD Earle Chas. A. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [draughtsman, 10 E. Worcester – Norcross Brothers, contractors]
Dayton Horace H. books [salesman]
Earle Clark Mr. & Mrs. 2 [stairbuilder, 10 E. Worcester]
Wheadon Mary E. Miss, b.
Dayton Horace H., bld. \$2400; 3707 ft. \$2800
- 1900C 12 Congress
1) Dayton Horace H b Oct 1825 CT wid, son-in-law Charles A Earlie b Apr 1864 MA trav building contractor, dau
Nellie D Earlie b Sept 1857 MA, servant Dellia Kenney b Dec 1867 Ire emig 1889
2) Earle Clark b Jan 1840 MA stair builder, wife Emma b Mar 1844 NY, boarder Mary E Wheadon b Sept 1835 CT
- 1910HD Lough George B. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [foreman, 20 E Worcester]
Mullaney Hannah M. Mrs. 2 [widow of James]
Mullaney Margaret E. hairdresser, b. [339 Main]
Fallon Bessie A. hairdresser, b.
Mullaney Margaret E., bld. \$2200; 3707 ft. \$2600
- 1910C 12 Crown
1) Mullaney Hannah N 77 wid b Ire emig 1865; dau Margaret E 25 b MA proprietor hairdressing, roomer Philip
Drake 40 b MA foreman street dept;
2) Lough George 40 b NY foreman sewer dept, wife Flora 38 b CT, roomer Louise Pierce 51 b MA settlement work
- 1922HD McIntyre John M. Mr. & Mrs. [paperhanger]
Ravine Florence, b. [not in City Dir.]
Campbell Jennie, b. [weaver]
Gillis Thomas, b. [helper, Portland cor Myrtle]
Mullaney Margaret E.
Mullaney Margaret E., bld. \$4000; 3707 ft. \$2600
- 1930HD McIntyre John M. [1929 dir: same as 1922]
Campbell Jennie, r [1929 dir: same as 1922]
Taylor Herbert, r [unclear in 1929 dir.; here in 1931 dir. (no occup.)]
Mullaney Margaret E., bld. \$5000; 3707 ft. \$2600

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

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- 1940HD Campbell Jane [not listed in 1939; 1941 dir. h 12 Crown]
Baldauf T. Amelia Mrs., r [1939 dir: widow Frank; r]
Benson Ralph, r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: lab; r]
Wright Myrtle Mrs., r
Mullaney Margt E. [1939 dir: beauty shop; 390 Main, rm 415; h]
Daley Wm A., r [1939 dir: student]
McKelligett Marguerite C., r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: teacher State Teachers College, r 39 School, Warren]
Mullaney Margaret E., bld. \$4700; 3707 ft. \$1500
- 1950HD Moore Walter C. [Albina; lab St Dept; h]
Mullaney Margt E. [same as 1939]
Champagne Eva Mrs., r [teacher; 507 Main, rm 419 Park Bldg – Kath F Dolan acct; Standard Service Bureau auditing systems]
Kenney Mary A., r
Mullaney Margaret E., bld. \$5000; 3707 ft. \$900
- 1960HD Coffey John J. [1962 dir: wife, Mary F., Windtergreen Café]
Perry John, r. [1959 dir: not listed; 1962 dir – unclear if listed “12 Cronin”]
Annis Jos, r [1962 dir: no occup. listed]
Bok Edw, r [1959 dir: not listed; listed in 1962, no occup.]
Bowes Jeffry, r [1959 dir: r 6 State; listed in 1962, no occup.]
Coffey John J. & Mary F. house \$5000; 3680 ft. \$900
- 1970HD Coffey John J. [ret'd]
Coffey John J. & Mary F. house \$5000; 3680 ft. \$900

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

C	WOR.1778
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES*Maps & Atlases*

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- 1833 Stebbins, H. *Map of Worcester, Shire Town of the County of Worcester*. Boston: C. Harris.
- 1844 "Plan of the Village of Worcester, 1844." *The Worcester Almanac, Directory and Business Advertiser*. Worcester: H.J. Howland, 1844.
- 1851 Walling, Henry F. *Map of the City of Worcester*. [Boston?]: Warren Lazell.
- 1857 Walling, Henry F. *Map of Worcester County, Massachusetts*. Boston: Wm E. Baker & Co.
- c1860 Ball, P. *Map of the City of Worcester, Massachusetts*. [Worcester?]: Smith & McKinney
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- 1886 *Atlas of the City of Worcester, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins.
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- 1922 *Richard's Atlas of the City of Worcester, Massachusetts*. Springfield, MA: L.J. Richards & Co.
- 1936 *Insurance Maps of Worcester, Massachusetts* (4 vols.) New York: Sanborn Map Co. Revised in 1977.

Directories and Census

- The Worcester Almanac, Directory and Business Advertiser*. Worcester: H.J. Howland, 1844-1864. Published annually.
- The Worcester Directory*. Worcester: H.J. Howland, 1865-1872. Published annually.
- The Worcester Directory*. Worcester: Drew, Allis & Co., 1873-1919. Published annually
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- The Worcester Directory*. Boston, then Malden: R.L. Polk & Co., 1939- . Published annually.

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The Worcester Society Blue Book; Elite Family Directory and Club Membership. New York: Dau Publishing Co., 1902-1924. Published annually.

Population Schedules of the Federal Decennial Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives of the United States, 1790-1910. Microfilm.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

12 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1778
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SE



View from NE

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-026-00038	Worcester North	C	WOR.1777
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 14 Crown Street

Historic Name: Ephraim C. & Ella L. Tainter House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1855

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

none

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.0828 acres

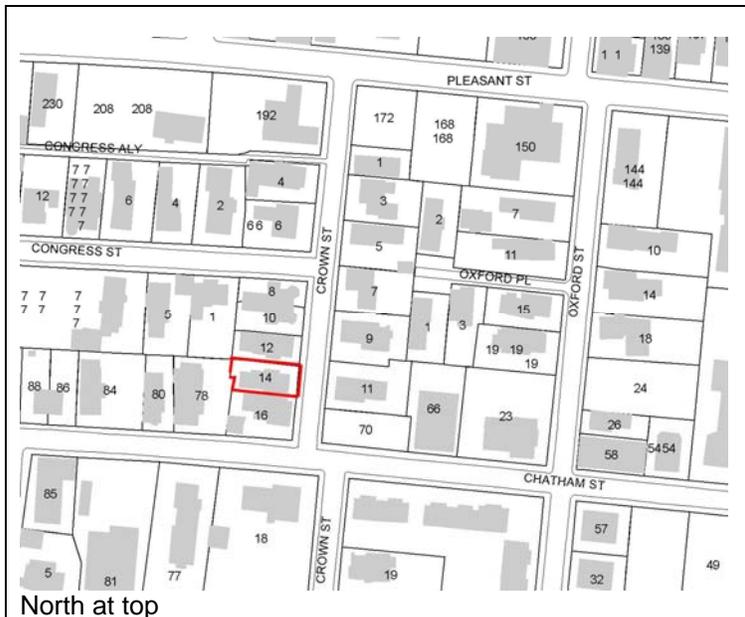
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NE

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

14 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

C	WOR.1777
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Ephraim C. & Ella L. Tainter House is located on a 0.0828-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street north of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the Park Hill subdivision in 1836. It is bounded on the south by a house of similar period and on the north by a house of identical design. The property abuts the side yard of 78 Chatham Street on the west. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof was built in a late-Greek Revival style around 1859. It is set back from the street on an elevated terrace leveling the southeast slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the south lot line leaving more yard space on the north side of the house. A low stone wall delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk; the wall probably replaces earlier granite curbing typical in the neighborhood. Two breaks in the wall with stone steps link to walkways to the front and rear of the house. There is no driveway or outbuilding.

The two-story wood clapboard house presents a three-bay façade to the street. A substantial cornice and frieze following the raking edges of the roof spring from the returns of Greek entablatures spanning the tops of the side walls and supported by wide paneled pilasters at the corners. The entrance is located on the left side of the front façade with a plain board architrave containing a transom and sidelights. A one-story porch spans the façade with a tall entablature and hollowed board posts (representing pillars) decorated with scroll-sawn braces and pendants. First-story windows extend down to the floor level of the porch; like the entrance, windows have simple surrounds. Original six-over-six wood sash windows appear to remain in place. Side walls reflect a two-room-deep side-hall plan with a stair along the window-less section of the south wall. A kitchen wing is appended to the rear of the house, flush with the side walls of the front section. A two-story cross-gable pavilion is centered on the north wall. The ell has been extended by a two-story addition.

The Ephraim C. & Ella L. Tainter House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in 1859 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development. The house reflects a transitional design with the diminishment of Greek Revival features, such as front pediments and Doric porches and the introduction of lighter Gothic decorative elements, such as the scrolled braces on the porch.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

14 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 14 Crown Street probably was built by 1855, the earliest year an occupant is recorded living in its twin at 12 Crown Street. The first known occupant at 14 Crown was Ephraim C. Tainter, who moved in with his family in 1860. Born in Leicester about 1823, Tainter began his working life as a cabinetmaker and was living in Springfield in 1848, when he married Elvira L. Park, a native of Harvard, in Shirley. In that year he moved to Worcester, where he worked as a cabinetmaker at planing machine manufacturer Ball and Rice. By 1852 Tainter began the manufacture of the so-called "Daniels Planers" at Worcester's Junction Shops, and by 1853 the firm of J. A. Fay and Company, founded in Keene, New Hampshire, in 1836, and soon afterward in Worcester, acquired Tainter's business.¹ The 1859 city directory shows Tainter as employed by J. A. Fay and living at 5 Oxford Street, but by 1860 his order in the census establishes that he was living at 14 Crown Street. He is shown with no occupation, and his household included his wife, their one-year-old daughter Mary, the machinist Samuel F. Bond, and Bond's wife Fannie.

Tainter moved to Congress Street by 1865, and in 1867 14 Crown Street (then numbered 12 Crown) was owned and occupied by George L. Newton, an accountant at the wholesale produce firm of L. M. Learned. Born in Brimfield about 1832, Newton was living in Monson when he married Elizabeth M. Shepard, who was born in Norwich, Vermont, and lived in Worcester with her parents Constant and Sabra Shepard. The 1870 census shows Newton as a wholesale grocer. He lived at 14 Crown Street with his wife, his wife's parents, and her sister Emma. Constant Shepard then worked as a bill collector.

Like Tainter, Newton was a relatively short-term occupant of 14 Crown, but he owned the property until at least 1910. By 1881 the Newton family had moved to 45 Harvard Street, and Newton rented 14 Crown to numerous tenants, including the painter George W. Amidon, who lived there from at least 1900 to 1910. By 1922 picture frame maker Harry E. Fogerty, who worked for Crocker Art Company, acquired 14 Crown Street and lived there with his wife Evelyn, the family of shoemaker Harry DeWare, the machinist William M. Hine (a roomer), and one other family who cannot be located in the city directory. The DeWare family—Harry and his sister Blanche and Charlotte, both dressmakers working from this house—still lived at 14 Crown Street in 1930 with another sister, the widow Genevieve Pratt, a store salesperson, and Hine. By that time the fireman Patrick J. Mitchell and his wife Catherine had acquired 14 Crown and lived there as well. Mitchell owned it in 1940 but no longer lived there. By 1950 Matilda M. Blanchard had acquired the property. Among her tenants was the family of Alfred Roy, who worked for Grosvenor Shoe Company and remained at this address through 1970, by which time Blanchard had sold 14 Crown to Alphaena Lange.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

1855 [year when identical house at 12 Crown was occupied]

1860C [enumerated after HH Dayton at 10 (now 12) Crown]
 1) EC Tainter ae 35 no occup b MA, Ella L 32 MA, Mary E 1;
 2) Samuel F Bond 24 machinist b MA, Fannie M 23

1861CD Tainter Ephraim C Junction shop h 12 Crown FIRST INSTANCE
 1860CD: Tainter Ephraim C, J.A. Fay & Co (mfrs woodworking machines) Junction shop h 5 Oxford
 Shepard Constant, agt & collector, h 12 Crown
 1859CD: Shepard Constant, agt & collector, h 4 Charlton

1867CD Newton Geo L accountant At LM Learned's h 12 Crown
 Shepard Constant, agent & collector, h 12 Crown

¹ Abijah Perkins Marvin, *History of Worcester County, Massachusetts* (Boston: C. F. Jewett and Co., 1879), 2: 663.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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14 CROWN STREET

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- 1870C 1) Newton George L ae 37 grocer wholesale \$8k/10k b MA, wife Elizabeth 33 b VT
2) Shepherd Constant ae 69 bill collector \$1000 pers est b MA, Sarah 68 b MA, Emma J 24 b MA
- 1872CD 12, ho., George L. Newton, Learned, Newton & Co., wholesale grocer, 3 Allen Ct.;
12, ho., Constant Shepard, agent & collector
- 1890HD Bicknell E. P. expressman 1 [driver, 18 Mechanic]
Messer J. M. expressman 2 [driver, 30 Front]
Sawyer C. L. music teacher, b. [Carrie L. widow of Frank W.]
G.L Newton, bld. \$2400; 3608 ft. \$2500
- 1900HD Amidon Geo. W. Mr. & Mrs. 2 [painter, 32 Waldo]
Amidon Alice F. Miss, b.
Amidon Ralph C. student, b.
- 1910HD Duntley Charles W. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [carpenter]
Aldrich Ira E. Mr. & Mrs., b. [shoemaker]
Amidon George W. Mr. & Mrs. 2 [painter, 359 Pleasant – Wm. H. Hamlet Blacksmith & carriage painter]
Amidon Alice F. Miss, b. [operator]
Newton George L., bld. \$2200; 3608 ft. \$2500 (also owns 45 Harvard St.)
- 1922HD Deware Blanche E. [Blanche DeWare]
Deware Charlotte H., b. [Charlotte H. DeWare, dressmaker]
Hine William M., b. [machinist, 306 Shrewsbury – American Card Clothing Co.]
Fogerty Harry E. Mr. & Mrs. [picture frame maker, 27 Waldo – Crocker Art Co.]
Bernis Thomas Mr. & Mrs. [not listed in City Dir.]
Fogerty Harry E. & Evelyn L., bld. \$6000; 3608 ft. \$2500
- 1930HD DeWare Blanche E. [1931 dir: dressmaker, working from her abode]
DeWare Charlotte H., r [1929 dir: same as 1922]
DeWare Harry F., r [1929 dir: Goodyear welter]
Hine Willie M., r [1929 dir: same as 1922]
Pratt Genevieve Mrs., r [1929 dir: widow of William H.]
Mitchell Patrick J. [1929 dir: Catherine; fireman]
Morrison Jessie Mrs., r [not listed in 1929 dir.; here in 1931 dir.]
Mitchell Patrick J. & Catherine A., bld. \$6000; 3608 ft. \$2500
- 1930C 14 Crown
Deward Harry F rents \$50 56 b ME inspector shoes, sister Blanch E 51 b ME dressmaker home, sister Charlotte H
40 b MA dressmaker home, sister Genevieve H Pratt 60 widow b MA saleslady store, roomer Willie M Hine 77
wid b MA
- 1940HD Hastings Danl J. [1939 dir: Anna J; insp; h]
Hastings Ann P., r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: stud, r 230 Pleasant]
Hastings Danl J jr., r
Hastings Gerald P., r
Hastings Mary M., r [1939 dir: saleswoman]
Cummings Earl F. [1939 dir: Mabel K; cabt wkr Belmont Hosp; h 39 Plantation;
Raney Alexina Mrs. [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: "Alex died Mar 13, 1930"; no other listing]
Seretto Katherine E., r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: Kathryn, r 17 Irving]
Seretto Phyllis, r [1939 dir: not listed 1941 dir: r 17 Irving]
Mitchell Patk J. & Catherine A., bldg \$4500; 3608 ft. \$1500

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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14 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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- 1950HD Lawrence Wm I [Hattie; chauf; h]
Kelly Thos [opr; h]
Fitzgerald, Wm F. [Margt R; h]
Deedy Helen P [h]
Loughlin Frank T., r [mason furnace bldr, Wyman-Gordon Co.- drop forgings for automotive and aviation industries]
Roy Alf L. [Anna F; slipper ctr; h]
Roy Helen J., r [switchboard opr Geo Motor Co.]
Roy Lorraine A., r [asmlr]
Roy Richd A., r
Blanchard Matilda M. bldg. \$6000; 3608 ft. \$900
- 1960HD Smith Rose Mrs. [1959 dir: Rose H. Smith widow of Benj.]
Roy, Alfred [1959 dir: "Alf L. Roy" emp C.A. Grosvenor Shoe Co.]
Roy Lorraine [1959 dir: Lorraine A., asmlr, Genl Elec.]
Cook Patricia [1959 dir: not listed; nor in 1962 dir.]
(14a Crown) StGermain Bernadette M. Mrs. [1959 dir: "Bernadette St. Germain"]
(14½ Crown) Blanchard Mathilda M. Mrs.[1959 dir: "Matelda M." widow Pierre X]
Blanchard Matilda M. house \$6000; 3608 ft. \$900
- 1970HD Audette, Bernard – no occup listed
Roy, Alf – no occup listed
(14a Crown) Blanchard, Mathilda M. Mrs. [corrected spelling, otherwise same as 1960]
(14 Crown) Perkins Anthony [not listed in 1970 city dir]
Dorsey Joseph [2 Joseph Dorseys in 1970 city dir, neither at this address]
Lachance Bernard [not listed in 1970 city dir]
Vacant
(14a Crown) Vacant
Lange Alpha house \$6000; 3608 ft. \$900

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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14 CROWN STREET

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14 CROWN STREET

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE



View from SE

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-026-0037	Worcester North	C	WOR.1776
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 16 Crown Street

Historic Name: Samuel R. & Harriet M. Heywood House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1854

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Porch added & enclosed
Entrance and window sash altered
Windows added to pediment

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

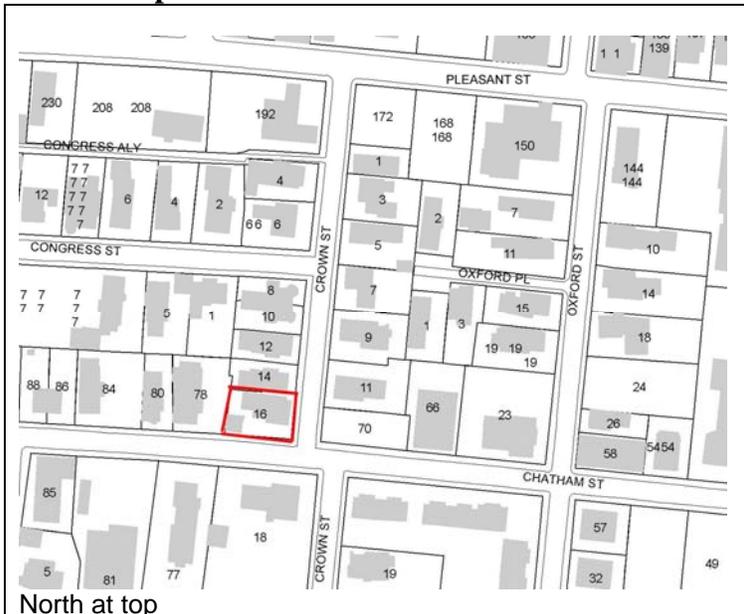
Acreage: 0.1238 acres

Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

16 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Samuel R. & Harriet M. Heywood House is located on a 0.1238-acre corner lot on the west side of Crown Street and the north side of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the Park Hill subdivision in 1836. It is bounded on the north and west by houses of similar period. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front gable roof was built in a late-Greek Revival style around 1854. It is set back from the street on an elevated terrace leveling the southeast slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south (Chatham St.) side of the house. A low concrete retaining wall delineates the front edges of the lot along the sidewalks; the wall probably replaces earlier granite curbing typical in the neighborhood. A break in the Crown Street wall with concrete steps links to the front entrance. A larger break at the west end of the Chatham Street frontage provides access to a detached garage located in the southwest corner of the lot.

The two-story wood clapboard house presents a three-bay façade to the street. A substantial cornice and frieze following the raking edges of the roof spring from an entablature spanning the façade at tops of wide paneled pilasters at the corners. The entrance is located on the right side of the front façade; it contains a doorway installed in the early 20th century. A one-story porch spans the façade and wraps around on the south side of the house. It also was reconstructed and enclosed with kneewalls and windows in the early 20th century. Windows around the house have simple surrounds and most contain two-over-one wood sash apparently associated with the entrance and porch renovation. A kitchen wing is appended to the rear of the house, flush with the north wall and recessed from the south wall. A two-story cross-gable pavilion is positioned at the rear of the south wall of the main section and serves as the terminus of the porch section on the south wall. A one-story bay window is centered on the first story. A one-story wood frame garage with a hipped roof and two overhead doors fronts on Chatham Street.

The Samuel R. & Harriet M. Heywood House is a distinctive example of mid-19th-century domestic architecture in the city of Worcester and a significant component of the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in 1854 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development. Altered in the early 20th century with new wrap-around porch, entrance and windows, the house still largely retains its Greek Revival features.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 16 Crown Street was built by 1854 when carpenter George H. Maynard was recorded in the city directory as boarding there. A more detailed deed search in the Worcester Registry is needed to determine its construction history. By 1859 the house was owned by Samuel R. Heywood (1821-1913), one of Worcester's principal boot manufacturers. Born in Princeton, Heywood began his working life with the boot and shoe firm of E. D. and E. A. Goodnow in his native town about 1841 and in 1848 became partners in Heywood and Warren in Hubbardston. In 1855 he moved into Worcester and became partners with E. A. Goodnow, by then also in Worcester, as the wholesale and retail boot and shoe firm of Goodnow and Heywood. In 1856, when the partnership dissolved, Heywood took control of the retail part of that business until 1864, when he began to make boots and shoes on his own. According to one biographical account, "The Heywood boot soon came to be known as the best product in its line, from what was for many years the leading city in the country in this class of manufacture." As tastes changed Heywood began to produce a "lighter and more dressy style of foot wear" which had a global market. In 1879 Heywood built a factory of Winter Street and in 1884 incorporated as Heywood Boot and Shoe Company.¹

The 1859 city directory shows Heywood as a partner in Clapp and Heywood, which sold hats, boots, and shoes at 223-25 Main Street and living at 14 (now 16) Crown Street. Also in the household was his wife, Harriet Butler Milliken, a native of Maine whom he married in Chelsea in 1856, their son Frank Everett, born that year, probably Heywood's siblings Mary and Delia, and the Irish immigrant domestic Margaret Finland. At some point between 1867 and 1871 the Heywoods moved to Elm Street and by 1870 the house was owned and occupied by John Reynolds Greene, a clerk at G. S. and A. J. Howe, a manufacturers' supply firm on Foster Street. Born in Rhode Island about 1811, Greene lived at 16 Crown with his wife Emeline Noyes Greene, their twenty-five-year-old son Stephen, a bookkeeper at the Howe Company, his wife's sister Elizabeth Noyes, and Catherine Hill, a domestic servant born in Ireland about 1830. Greene died in 1873 at the age of sixty-one, and his widow remained at 16 Crown with her sister and, sometimes, a domestic servant through 1900, when Emeline Noyes Greene died in Worcester. Elizabeth Noyes died in 1901, and the 16 Crown Street property passed to her heirs Frances Eliza, Sarah Maria, and Emmeline Green Noyes; residents of St. Louis, Missouri, since at least 1880, they were the daughters of William A. Noyes, born in Massachusetts in 1820 and probably Emeline and Elizabeth Noyes's brother. In 1910 the sisters rented the house to Charles P. Buck, a shoe factory sole cutter, his wife Annie, and their six children, four of them employed adults.

By 1920 the Noyes sisters sold 16 Crown Street to Herman Kaffenan, who had been born in Hungary about 1876 and came to the United States in 1893. Kaffenan was the owner of Kaffenan Brothers, which manufactured ladies' clothing. His wife Bertha was born in New York State, as were his eldest children Helen, Arnold, and Emily; the four youngest children were born in Massachusetts beginning in 1905. By 1930 Kaffenan was shown in the census as a garment jobber; his daughter Pearl, then twenty-one, lived with her parents until 1931, when she moved to New York City; their son Milton, who operated Reliable Fur Shop in Worcester, is shown at 16 Crown Street in the 1930 house directory but not in the 1930 census.

By 1950 the property was owned and occupied by the family of Otto W. Mustonen. Born in Finland in 1910, Mustonen came to the United States as an infant in that year; his mother Amanda (Minnie in her son John's birth record) had emigrated to the United States in either 1894 or 1900 with her husband John, a carpenter; a passenger manifest for the *S.S. St. Louis*, which arrived at New York from Southampton, England, in the fall of 1900, shows the couple as found for Hibbing, Minnesota. However, the couple's eldest child, Ouni (in later censuses Owen) was born in Worcester in 1905 and their next, John, in Worcester in 1908. Probably in late 1909 the family returned to Finland, and the couple's youngest son, Otto, was born there in 1910. In September 1910, eight-month-old Otto, his two brothers, and his mother returned to the United States on the *S. S. Ivernia* from Liverpool; the passenger manifest for this vessel states that the four were bound for Worcester to meet the boys' father, then living at 103 Hanover Street, though the 1910 city directory documents that he, too, had returned for a time to Finland. Between 1913 and 1918 John Mustonen died, and the 1920 census shows the widowed Amanda Mustonen doing domestic work to support her three sons. In that year, according to the census, 2,175 Finns were living in Worcester and composed 4.1 percent of the local population. By 1930, when only two other counties in the United States had greater Finnish

¹ Ellery Bicknell Crane, ed., *Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memories of Worcester County, Massachusetts* (New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1907), 1:61-62; Charles Nutt, *History of Worcester and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1919), 3: 266-67.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

16 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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populations than Worcester County, Owen and John Mustonen worked in a worsted mill and Otto as a laborer in a steel warehouse.

Otto W. (sometimes shown as William O.) Mustonen was a member of the Worcester Police Department by 1950, and he lived at 16 Crown Street with his wife Helene, his mother Amanda, and his brother Ouni and his wife Elizabeth. By 1960 Amanda Mustonen had probably died, and only the Otto Mustonen family is shown in the household with one boarder, the legal secretary Glenda M. Williams. Otto Mustonen owned and occupied 16 Crown Street through at least 1970.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1854CD Maynard Geo. bds. Chatham cor. Crown
Maynard Geo. H. & Co. (Geo. M.) carpenters, bds. Chatham cor Crown
- 1859CD Heywood S. R. Clapp and Heywood hats, boots & shoes 223-25 Main h 14 Crown
- 1860C Samuel R. Heywood ae 36 merchant \$4k/3k b MA, Harriet 30 b ME, Mary 32 MA, Delia 24 MA, Frank 2 mos MA
Margaret Finland ae 23 domestic b Ireland
- 1867CD Hewyood S. R. Houghton and Heywood boot mfrs Lincoln Square h 14 Crown
- 1870C Emmeline N Greene 43 b MA, John R 59 clerk in store \$8k/2k RI, Stephen E 25 bookkeeper RI, Noys Elizabeth
42 no occup b MA, Hill Catherine 40 domestic servant 40 Ire
- 1872CD 14, ho., John R. Greene, at G. S. & A. J. Howe's, mfrs. supplies, 15 Foster
14, bds., Stephen E. Greene, bookkeeper, 15 Foster
- 1873VR died 1 Apr John Reynolds Greene 61 merchant b RI pars Wm and Abigail both RI
- 1880C 16 Crown: Greene Emeline ae 44 b MA, Noice Elizabeth 35 boarder at home, Callery cate 22 servant b MA
- 1890HD Greene J. R. Mrs. [Mrs. John R. Greene]
J. R. Green, est. bld. \$2600; 5394 ft. \$4900
- 1900HD Greene John R. Mrs.
Noyes Elizabeth Miss, b.
Greene Emmeline N., bld. \$2600; 5394 ft. \$5400
- 1900VR died 12 Apr Emeline Noyes Greene widow of John R ae 70 res Worcester b Dedham parents Saml Noyes of
Pembroke and Elizabeth Morrill no pob
- 1910HD Buck Charles P. Mr. & Mrs. [cutter, 5 Barton – E. M. Bliss Co., lambs' wool soles]
Buck Walter H. trimmer, b. [18 Eaton Pl., F.E. Sessions Co. – burial caskets]
Buck Nellie M. stenographer, b.
Buck Amy S. bookkeeper, b. [501 Main – Collins & Southworth shoes etc.]
Buck Frederick C. clerk, b.[clerk, 94 Grove – Amer. Steel & Wire Co.]
Buck Herbert W. student, b.
Noyes Frances Eliza, Sarah Maria Noyes & Emmeline Green Noyes (St. Louis, Mo.), bld. \$2400 5394 ft. \$4300
- 1910C Bruck Charles P ae 57 b MA sole cutter slipper factory rents, wife Annie 55 b MA, dau Ellen M 33 b MA
stenographer wire mill, son Walter H 23 MA casket maker casket shop, Frederic C 22 MA clerk wire mill,
Herbert W 20 no occup, Arthur J 12 no occup, Amy S 28 bookkeeper shoe store

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

16 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

- 1920C Kaffeman Herman owns ae 44 b Hungary emig 1893 mfr ladies clothes factory, wife Betha 38 b NY, children Helen 19 NY, Arnold 17 NY salesman dry goods store, Emily 15 NY, Milton 13 MA, earl 11 MA, Monroe 10 MA, Edward 1 MA
- 1922HD Kaffeman Herman [Kaffeman Brothers & Arnold, 9 Bartlett, clothing manufacturers]
Kaffeman Herman, bld. \$5200; 5394 ft. \$4000 (owns 6 other bldgs/properties, incl. 95 Pleasant St. & 2 on Chatham)
- 1930HD Kaffeman Herman [1929 dir: Bertha G.; same empl. As 1922]
Kaffeman Milton, r [1929 dir: Ann; Reliable Fur Shop, 285 Main]
Kaffeman Pearl T, r [1931 dir: rem to NY city]
Kaffeman Herman, bld. \$7700; 5394 ft. \$4000 (SEE #11 Crown St for addition properties held by Kaffeman)
- 1930C Kaffeman Herman owns ae 52 b Mhungary jobber garments, wife Bertha 49 NY pars Hungary, dau Pearl T 21, son Edward I 11
- 1940HD Smith Jos F. [1939 dir: Mary B; h]
Smith Jas F, r [1939 dir: Alice; clk Worc Market]
Tutty Ida Mrs., r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: rem to NYC]
Smith Mary B., bldg \$4000; 5394 ft. \$2500
- 1950HD Mustonen Otto W. [Helene J; police Precinct 2; r]
Mustonen Amanda W., r [wid John]
Mustonen Onni W., r [Eliz A; printing dept Wore Envelope Co.]
Mustonen Otto W & Helene J. bldgs \$4500; 5394 ft. \$1400
- 1960HD Mustonen, Wm O. [1959 dir: "Otto W. Mustonen", wife Helene J., police]
Williams, Glenna M. Mrs. [1959 dir: "Glenda M. Williams, priv sec Yagjian, Toscano, Lian & Zarrow – lawyers, Room 500, Park Bldg 507 Main St.]
Mustonen Otto W & Helene J. garage \$500, house \$4000; 5394 ft. \$1400
- 1970HD Mustonen Otto W. [policeman, City Police Dept., no wife listed]
Gouddreau Blanche [aide Memorial Hosp]
Mustonen Otto W. garage \$500, house \$4000; 5394 ft. \$1400

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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16 CROWN STREET

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

16 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from SE



View from S

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

16 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from E

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

03-024-00020 Worcester North V WOR.1049 WOR.2997

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (neighborhood or village):
Crown Hill

Address: 18 Crown Street

Historic Name: Rev. Elam & Louisa J. Smalley House & Barn

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1850

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Domestic barn

Major Alterations (with dates):

Window sash & some windows replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no yes Date:

Acreage: 0.5567 acres

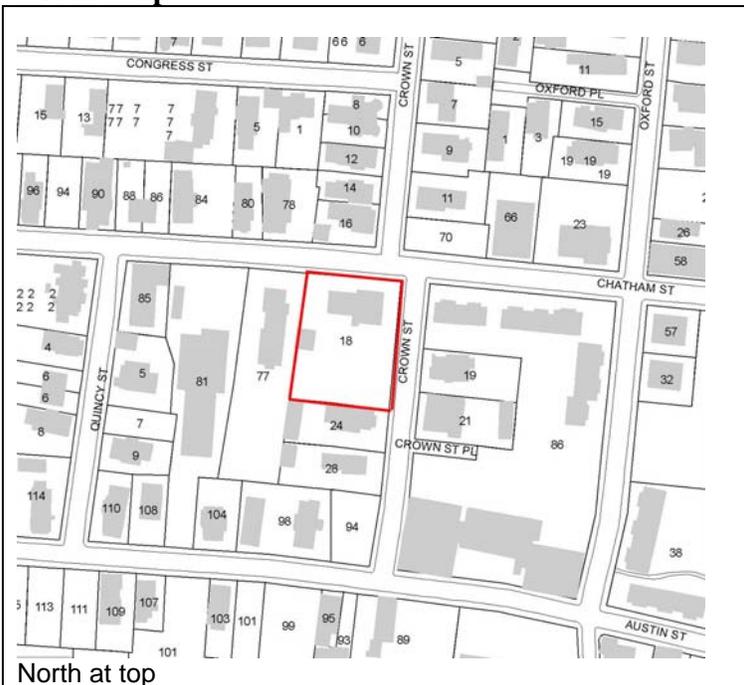
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NE

Locus Map



North at top

Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (month / year): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

V	WOR.1049
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Rev. Elam & Louisa J. Smalley House & Barn are located on a 0.5567-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street and the south side of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out probably as two lots in Isaac Davis's revised plan for the 1836 Park Hill subdivision. It is bounded on the south and west by houses of similar period. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a gable roof was built in an Italianate style around 1854. It is set back from the street on an elevated terrace leveling the southern slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the north lot line of a half-acre parcel leaving a large yard space on the hillside south of the house. Granite curbs topped by iron fencing delineate the east edge of the lot along the Crown Street sidewalk. A break in the fence links to a walkway leading up to the front entrance of the house. The curb and fence probably continued across the Chatham Street (north) side of the lot, but there is no evidence of it now. A paved driveway enters the property in the northwest corner where a paved parking area and a small wood frame barn are located.

The two-story wood clapboard house presents a three-bay façade to the street with a center entrance surmounted by a gable wall dormer. A substantial cornice and frieze ornaments the roof-line on the front, as well as all other sides; it is decorated with hefty, closely-spaced brackets and dentil band in a Renaissance manner. Quoins detail the corners. The central entrance contains a pair of doors and a simple surround; it perhaps has been altered, as the windows flanking it are small replacements of what probably once were large windows extending down to the porch floor. The one-story porch is a distinctive feature having paired posts with arches in between and a tripartite arched entry with a pediment in the Venetian style. The porch entablature is simpler than that at the roof, with brackets only at the posts. Second story fenestration is also altered, but the pediment above the replaced center window, echoing the angles of the dormer above, is a survivor along with the outside windows with their cornices. The north gable end has a two-story bay window positioned in the center of the wall; a piazza on the south end, overlooking the lawn, has been enclosed as a room. A long kitchen ell extends west from the back of the house and is ornamented just about as richly as the main section. The street side contains two entrances, one apparently added, and a porch spans the south side, to which a second story recently has been added. A mix of original, altered and added windows distinguish the walls.

A two-story wood frame gable-roof barn is located on the west lot line where it evidently was moved from the west end of the 25 ft.-wide parcel annexed to the south side of the lot in 1927. Its east façade contains a vehicle bay, now in-filled with a human-sized doorway, surmounted by a mow door. The vertical flush board siding is a more recent addition.

The Rev. Elam & Louisa J. Smalley House & Barn are components of a distinctive mid-19th-century urban property. The double lot and substantial Italianate villa reflect the taste of Worcester's more affluent class of merchants and manufacturers. The elegant wood frame house was constructed in ca.1854 and represents the transition from the prominent Greek Revival architecture in the neighborhood to the more ornamental and picturesque expression of the Romantic era. In spite of insensitive alterations made when converting the house to apartments, the house is a significant architectural landmark.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The substantial and elegant house at 18 Crown Street was built for Rev. Elam Smalley and his family in 1850. He was minister of the First Church in Worcester. Born in Norfolk in Franklin County in 1806, he married Louisa Jane Washburn in Middleborough, Plymouth County on 1 May 1831. They were living on 13 Pearl Street in Worcester in 1848 and moved to 9 High Street after selling the Crown Street house to dry goods merchant Martin Stowe in 1853. By 1857 Elam Smalley had relocated to Troy, New York. Born in Massachusetts about 1814, Martin Stowe had married Charlotte C. Marshall of Boston and was living in Worcester by 1843, when the couple's first child George was born and died at the age of four months. Their daughter Charlotte Augusta Stowe was born in Worcester in 1845, and another son, Edward, was born and died in 1848. The Stowes had two other children, Martin A., born in Massachusetts about 1847, and Frederick J., born in Worcester in 1854. The Stowe family occupied the house for 25 years; hence the house has been named for them.

Martin Stowe died in 1861 at the age of forty-seven, and his widow became head of household. In 1870 Charlotte C. Stowe is shown in the census with real estate valued at \$25,000; her sons Frederick and Martin were both boot and shoe workers—Martin in the firm Stowe and Tainter—as was her son-in-law Coridon C. Whitcomb of New Hampshire, who married Charlotte A. Stowe in 1868. In 1878 the family moved to Vernon Street and sold the 18 Crown property to Thomas B. Eaton, who like Martin Stowe was a dealer in gentlemen's dry goods. Born in Worcester in 1840, his parents Thomas B. and Sally F. Bond Eaton were both natives of Worcester. Eaton began his career as a clerk for dry goods merchant Josiah H. Clark, advanced to bookkeeper by the time of the Civil War, and was made partner by the end of the war. He and Clark remained partners until 1885.¹ In 1864 he married Charlotte M. Gill, also a Worcester native. The couple lived at 18 Crown Street until 1900 with their daughters Mary Fiske and Emily Brown Eaton; the 1900 city directory shows Emily, not Mary, in the household, while the census of that year shows only Thomas and Charlotte Eaton in the household with two Irish immigrant domestic servants.

By 1910 the sisters Margaret A. and Mary J. Carroll owned and occupied 18 Crown Street with their ninety-five-year-old father David, their widowed sister Julia C. Moriarty (whose husband Eugene, an Irish-born journalist, drowned accidentally in 1907), and their cousin Mary T. Berth. David Carroll left Ireland for the United States in 1840 and is shown in the 1848 Worcester city directory as a carpenter living on the corner of Southbridge and Madison Streets. By 1880 he and his wife Margaret Purcell Carroll, also born in Ireland, lived on Central Street; their son John was a boxmaker, daughters Margaret and Julia both dressmakers, and daughter Mary a housekeeper. Margaret Purcell Carroll died in 1897. The Carrolls purchased a 25 ft. wide right-of-way along their southern boundary from their neighbor at 24 Crown Street in 1927.

The Carroll family owned and occupied 18 Crown Street, as well as 75 Chatham Street, through 1960. Margaret, the eldest daughter of David Carroll, died between 1920 and 1930; Julia Moriarty and her sister Mary probably died between 1940 and 1950. By the latter year Mary T. Berth is shown as owner of 18 Crown Street and 75 Chatham in 1950 and lived there with the widow Victoria Duquette. Both still lived there in 1960, along with Thomas F. Berth, whose relation to Mary Berth is not yet known. By 1970 Mary Berth sold 18 Crown Street to Nesor Motels, Inc., which converted the house into four units.

¹ Charles Nutt, *History of Worcester and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1919), 4:755.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1850CD Smalley Rev Elam, h. Crown
- 1850C Elam Smalley 44 C Clergyman \$10,000 b MA, Louisa J 41 b. MA, Louisa J 18 b MA, Sarah E Eaton 26 b MA, Marian Eaton 23 b MA, Catherine Haraghy 18 b Ireland
- 1853 Deed, 508:500, 8 May 1853, Elam Smalley to Martin Stowe, 145 x174.5 ft. parcel, \$3750
- 1853CD Stowe Martin dry goods Flagg block h Crown cor Chatham
1851CD: Stowe Martin dry goods Flagg block h Goddard's Court
1854CD: Smalley Rev Elam 9 High
- 1859CD Stowe Martin dry goods 261 Main h Crown cor Chatham
- 1860C Martin Stowe 46 merchant \$16,200/\$8000 b MA, Charlotte C 44 b MA, Martin A 18 clerk b MA, Lotty A 14, Frederick J 6, Betsy 57
- 1861VR died Martin Stowe (image not available)
- 1862CD Stowe Mrs Martin h Crown cor Chatham
- 1870C Stowe Charlotte C 55 \$25,000/600b MA, Fredk J 16 works in B&S factory, Martin A 25 works in B&S factory, Mary N 25 no occup, Coridon C Whitcomb 23 male works in b&S factory b NH [1868 dau Charlotte married Coridon C Whitcomb b NH res Worcester bootmaker]
- 1871CD Stowe Mrs Martin h Crown cor Chatham
- 1878CD Stowe Charlotte C widow h 18 Crown
Stowe Martin A Stowe & Tainter boot & shoe mfrs h 18 Crown
Stowe Fred J bootcutter bds 18 Crown
- 1880C 18 Crown: Eaton Thomas B 40 dry goods merchant b MA, wife Charlotte M 37 MA, dau Mary F 10, Emily B 5, mother Sallie F 79, aunt Louise Gibbs 75, servant Mary Shea ae 27 b Ire
- 1890HD Eaton Thomas B.
Eaton Sally, widow, b. [Sally F. widow of Thos. B Eaton]
Gibbs Louisa, widow, b.
T. B. Eaton, blds. \$6800; 24248 ft. \$15800
- 1900HD Eaton Thomas B. Mr. & Mrs. [Walter B. Eaton, music teacher 19 Hawley; b. 18 Crown]
Eaton Emily B. Miss, b.
Eaton Thomas B. \$7300; 24248 ft. 17000
- 1900C Eaton Thomas B b Jan 1840 MA no occup, wife Charlotte M b Apr 1843 MA, two Irish servants
- 1910HD Carroll David carpenter
Carroll Mary J. Miss, b.
Carroll Margaret J. [or A.] dressmaker, b.
Berth Mary [T.] Miss, b.
Moriarty Julia C. Mrs., b. [widow of Eugene M.]
Carroll Margaret A. & Mary J., blds. \$6300; 11766 ft. \$7500

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

- 1910C Carroll David ae 95 wid b Ire own income emig 1840, dau Margaret A 53 single, dau Mary J 51 single, dau Julia C Moriarty ae 49 wiow, cousin Mary T Berth
- 1920C Carroll Margaret A owns ae 59 no occup, sister Mary J ae 57 MA, sister Julia C Moriarty ae 55 wid, cousin Mary T Berth ae 30 none employed
- 1922HD Carroll Mary J.
Carroll Margaret A., b.
Berth Mary T., b.
Moriarty Julia C., b. [same as 1910]
Carroll Margaret A. & Mary J., blds. \$7800; 14842 ft. \$7800 (also owns: "Crown 9406 ft. \$3800")
- 1930HD Carroll Mary J.
Berth Mary T., r
Moriarty Julia C Mrs., r [1929 dir: same as 1910]
Carroll Mary J. & Julia C. Moriarty, (together w/ 75 Chatham) bld. \$9000; 11732 ft. \$5900 (also owns: Crown; 9406 ft. \$3800 & Crown, bld. \$300; 3110 ft. \$1600)
- 1930C Carroll Mary J owns \$15k ae 66 b MA pars Ireland, sister Julia C Moriarty ae 63 wid, cousin Berth Mary T ae 41 b RI housekeeper
- 1940HD Carroll Mary J
Berth Mary T., r
Carroll Mary J. et al (together w/75 Chatham) Bldgs \$5800; 24248 ft. \$6000)
- 1950HD Berth Mary T.
Duquette Victoria L. Mrs., r [wid Louis]
Berth Mary T. (together w/75 Chatham) Bldgs \$6300; 24248 ft. \$3500)
- 1960DH Berth Mary T. [1959 dir: r 75 Chatham, no occup.]
Berth Thos F., r [1959 dir: r 75 Chatham, no occup.]
Duquette Victoria Mrs., r [1959 dir: r 75 Chatham, no occup.]
Berth Mary T. (together w/75 Chatham) barn \$300, house \$6000; 24248 ft. \$3500)
- 1970HD Vacant
Ekeland Jeffrey K [wife Barbara K; inside sls Advance Bearing & Sup]
Goulets Roy [not listed in 1970 city dir]
Besthca James J. [not listed in 1970 city dir]
Nesor Motels Inc. (together w/75 Chatham) barn \$300, house \$6000; 24248 ft. \$3500)

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

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- The Worcester Directory*. Worcester: Drew, Allis & Co., 1873-1919. Published annually
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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE



View from SE

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

18 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

V	WOR.1049
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from NW (partial view of barn on right)



View of barn from NE

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

03-023-00011 Worcester North V WOR.1047

NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 19 Crown Street

Historic Name: Granville A. & Elizabeth B. Longley House

Uses: Present: Single Room Occupancy Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1870

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Second Empire

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: vinyl clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Vinyl siding added

Window sash replaced

Asphalt shingles added to mansard

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.1777 acres

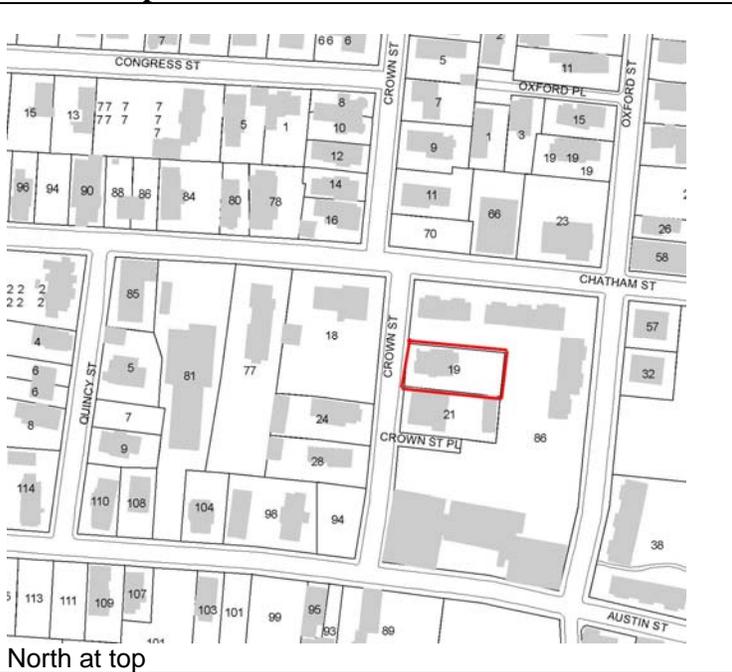
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NW

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

19 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

V	WOR.1047
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Granville A. & Elizabeth B. Longley House is located on a 0.1777-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street south of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the Park Hill subdivision in 1836. It is bounded on the south by a house of similar period and on the north and east by the parking lot of recently-constructed townhouse housing. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a mansard roof was built in a Second Empire style around 1870. It is set back from the street on a low terrace leveling the southern slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house. A granite curb delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk. Two breaks in the curb with stone steps link to walkways to the front and rear of the house. There is no driveway or outbuilding.

The two-story vinyl clapboard house presents a two-bay façade to the street; paneled corner pilasters have been preserved intact. The entrance containing a pair of glazed doors occupies the northerly side surmounted by a single window; a two-story bay window with beveled corners occupies the southerly side. A projecting cornice and frieze distinguishes the top of the facade, wrapping around the top of the bay window; it has been encased in a vinyl covering. The mansard roof is seated on the cornice and contains two pedimented dormers, also covered with vinyl materials. The original slate roof covering has been replaced with asphalt shingles. The side walls are fenestrated in a regular pattern of a two-family house. A two-story bay window is centered on the south wall and a shallow two-story mansard pavilion bumps out at the rear of the north wall. The brick basement is largely exposed by the sloping terrain on the south and east sides. Wood frame porches span all stories on the rear (east) façade. Vinyl siding covers original wood clapboards; window sash have been replaced.

The Granville A. & Elizabeth B. Longley House is an altered example of post-Civil War Era domestic architecture in the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Second Empire-style wood frame house was constructed in 1870 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development. The house reflects the variation and evolution of design occurring in the neighborhood during late-19th century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 19 Crown Street was built about 1870 for the clothing merchant Granville A. Longley. Born in Boylston in 1837, Longley was the son of farmer Otis Longley, who died in 1848, and Lydia Patch Longley. His widowed mother had moved to Jackson Street in Worcester by 1854, and by 1859 both Granville and his brother James were also living there. In Warren, Rhode Island, in 1864 Granville Longley married Elizabeth L. Buffington, a native of Swanzey, Massachusetts, and by 1867 the couple were living on High Street; at that time Longley was partners with H. W. Bigelow in the Main Street clothing store Bigelow and Longley. His 1870 household included his wife, two young daughters, Geraldine and Bertha, and his mother Lydia, then seventy years old.

The 1872 house directory shows Granville Longley at 19 Crown Street, where he and his family remained until at least 1900. His mother died in 1878. In 1900 his 19 Crown household included his wife; his daughter Bertha, who taught at English High School; his daughter Helen, who taught in the kindergarten at Thomas Street School; his daughter Mary, then twenty-two years old and not in the workforce, and the domestic servant Louisa Lundgren, who had come to the United States from Sweden a year earlier.

By 1904 the Longley family had moved to Blaine Avenue, and the 19 Crown Street house was owned and occupied in part by Felix A. and Agnes Belisle. Felix Belisle was an attorney born in Quebec; when he came to the United States is not clear, but by 1900 he was living in Shrewsbury with his wife Agnes, who was born in Ireland in 1867 and emigrated in 1882. Felix Belisle died in 1905 at the age of forty-seven, and his widow then began to take in boarders. In 1910 she had four, three of them single women who worked as department store clerks and the fourth a single man employed as an office clerk. She also rented part of the house to the family of widow Elizabeth A. Feeley. Three of Feeley's adult children worked—William as foreman at the piano hardware firm of M. S. Wright Company, Grace as a machine tender in an envelope factory, and Webster as a plumber's apprentice—and Feeley also had two boarders—George S. Bennett, a woolen mill finisher, and his son Arthur, a machinist.

By 1920 Agnes Belisle had sold 19 Crown Street to Ida Benoit, the wife of barber Rudolph M. Benoit, who had emigrated from Quebec in 1871. Ida Benoit was second-generation French Canadian. The couple had seven children between the ages of one and twenty-two; the eldest, Edna, worked in a piano factory, and Armand, nineteen years old, was a machine shop laborer. Ida Benoit also had nineteen roomers in 1920—male and female, single and married, native and foreign born; among them were an electrician, factory laborers, stenographers, salespeople, a tailor, and an insurance agent. The Benois owned (and occupied a unit in) 19 Crown Street through at least 1950, and judging from house directories most tenants were not long-term residents. By 1960 the property belonged to Joseph A. and Theresa Y. Desautels, who also ran a lodging house there through at least 1970. The 1960 house directory shows at least fifteen tenants.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1870M house pictured, no name or number
- 1872HD ho., Fred. A. Chase, Joseph Chase & Co., grocer, 375 Main
ho., Granville A. Longley, Bigelow & Longley, clothing, 388 Main
bds., Lydia Longley, widow
- 1890HD Longley Granville A. clothing 1 [Bigelow & Longley, 388 Main]
Townsend Almon F. dentist 2 [Almond F., 438 Main]
G.A. Longley, bld. \$3800; 7740 ft. \$4300
- 1900HD Longley G. A. Mr. & Mrs. [same as 1890]
Longley Bertha E. Miss, b. [teacher, English High School]
Longley Helen M. Miss, b. [kindergartner, Thomas St. School]
Longley Mary B. Miss, b.
Longley Granville A., bldg. \$3800; 7740 ft. \$4300

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- 1900C Longley Granville b Dec 1837 MA, wife Elizabeth b Dec 1836 MA, dau Bertha b April 1870 RI teacher public school, dau Hellen N Aug 1871 MA teacher public school, dau May B b April 1878 no occup, servant Louisa Lundgren b Sept 1877 Sweden emig 1899
- 1910HD Feely Lizzie A. Mrs. 1 [widow of Thomas T.]
 Feely William B. foreman, b. [machinist, 49 Hermon – M.S. Wright Co. piano hardware]
 Feely Webster J. plumber, b.
 Feely Grace M. Miss, b. [envelope maker]
 Bennett Arthur S. machinist, b.
 Bennett Geo. S. finisher, b. [ft. Sutton Ln]
 Belisle Agnes C. Mrs. 2 [widow of Felix A.]
 Getty Henry [A.] manager, b. [clerk 94 Grove – Amer. Steel & Wire Co.]
 Champney Mary E. dressmaker, b.
 Cooney Margaret clerk, b. [not in city dir.]
 Cooney Elizabeth clerk, b. [not in city dir.]
Belisle Felix A. & Agnes C., bld. \$2500; 7740 ft. \$3900
- 1910C 1) Feeley Elizabeth A ae 56 wid b MA pars Ire, son Wm B ae 22 b MA foreman machine shop, dau Grace M 25 MA machine tender envelope shop, son Webster J ae 19 plumber apprentice, boarder Bennett Arthur S ae 40 MA machinist machine shop, boarder Geo S Bennett ae 67 wid b MA shearer woolen mill;
 2) Belisle Agnes C ae 44 widow b Ire emig 1881 owns, 4 boarders—Marie P Gibbs ae 35 b CT dept store clerk, Elizabeth Cooney ae 27 b MA dept store clerk, Margaret W Cooney ae 29 MA dept store clerk, Leon A Carpenter? ae 18 b MA office clerk
- 1920C Benoit Rudolph owns ae 48 b Quebec emig 1871 barber barber shop, wife Ida bae 35 b MA pars Quebec lodging house, children Edna 22 b MA lb piano factory, Armand 19 lab machine shop, Ora 17, Rose 16, Raymond 7, Edmund 4, Lawrence 1, and 19 roomers, male & female, single & married, electrician, gas works lab, salespeople, shoe shop manager, tailor, insurance agent, machine op, stenographers, labs, clerks, saleswoman (among them Mildred Paine ae 17 b MA doesn't know where parents are born lab woolen mill), two from Greece, one from Poland, one Canada
- 1922HD Benoit Rudolph Mr. & Mrs. [Rodophe C. Benoit, barber, 476 Main, Taylor's Bldg. rm 202, R.C Benoit Barber]
 Martin Joseph, b. [not in city dir.]
 Paine Mildred, b. [not in city dir.]
 Watson Frank Mr. & Mrs., b. [not in city dir.]
 Dearborn Mary Mrs., b.
 St. Pierre Henry, b. [automobile chains, rear 12 Jackson; listed as living at 45 Mason]
Benoit Ida, bld \$4500; 7740 ft. \$3900
- 1930HD Benoit Rodolphe C. [1929 dir: Ida; otherwise same as 1922]
 Benoit Edna B., r [1929 dir: opr]
 Burke William, r [numerous Williams in 1929 dir; none on Crown St; 1931 dir: not listed]
 Dubois Harold, r [not in 1929 dir.; 1931 dir: Florence; salesman]
 Lacouture Felix, r [not in 1929 dir.; not in 1931 dir.]
 St. Pierre Henry, r [1929 & 1931 dir: pres & treas StPierre Chain Corp. at 50 Frank]
Benoit Ida, bld \$6000; 7740 ft. \$3900
- 1940HD Benoit Rodolphe C. [same as in 1929 dir]
 Benoit Jeannette I., r [1939 dir: not listed]
 Benoit Raymond A., r [1939 dir: Violet M; salesman; h 72 Austin; 1941 dir: Violet V.; salesman; r 19 Crown]
 Bailey Geo F., r -
 Breen Annie M. Mrs., r [1939 dir: not listed; nor in 1941]
 Cofsky Alf, r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: "died Sept 9, 1940]

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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- Gonneville J. Adrien, r [1939 dir: not listed
Keavan John L., r [1939 dir: not listed – nor in 1941]
Lavallee Alf, r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 dir: Mildred E; wire wkr; h 36 Florence]
Lietunikas Isabelle Mrs., r [1939 dir: not listed; 1941 cook; r]
Benoit Ida, bldg. \$4500; 7740 ft. \$2500
- 1950HD Benoit Rodolph C. [same as 1929 & 1940]
Bachon Delia Mrs., r
Cunningham Cath Mrs., r
Hughes Wm, r [watchman, M.J. Whittall Assoc.-carpet mfgs]
Holland Mary, r [stitcher, Brewer & Co, Inc.-wholesale drugs & heavy chemicals]
Heywood Nellie, r
Moore Grayce, r [saleswoman]
Wright Janis W., r [clk W.H. Sawyer Lumber Co.]
Benoit Ida, bldg. \$5500; 7740 ft. \$1900
- 1960HD Fitzgerald Helen A. – no occup. listed
Bowker Anna, r – no occup. listed
Bujuilis Mary Mrs., r [not listed in either 1959 or 1962 dir]
Cousin Gertrude Mrs., r – no occup. listed
Cassavan Judith W., r [not listed in either 1959 or 1962 dir]
Fontaine Alice Mrs., r [not listed in 1959 dir; 1962 dir: stitcher, r738 Main apt 7]
King Matilda Mrs., r [not listed in either 1959 or 1962 dir]
Kososyka Joane, r [not listed in either 1959 or 1962 dir]
Leanno Geo, r [1959 dir: Geo. M. *Leanna*, wife Phyllis J., emp Standard Foundry Co. h 21 Ormond; 1962 dir: wife
Phyllis *D.*, hlpr Stand. Fdy, r19 Crown]
Ware Evelyn, r [1959 dir: not listed; 1962 dir. listed, no occup.]
Wright Jeanette, r. – no occup listed
Johnson Harry, r [1959 dir: Harry E. Johnson, wife, Gladys, no occup listed]
Monroe Mary E., r – no occup listed
Monroe Nora L, r [1959 dir: Nora T Mrs. – no occup listed]
Riall Mary, r [1959 dir: Mary C. Riall; clk Denholm & McKay (The Boston Store)]
Desautels Jos A. & Therese Y house \$5500; 7740 ft. \$1900
- 1970HD Desautels' lodging hse
Desautels Jos A. & Therese Y house \$5500; 7740 ft. \$1900

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19 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NW



View from SW

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

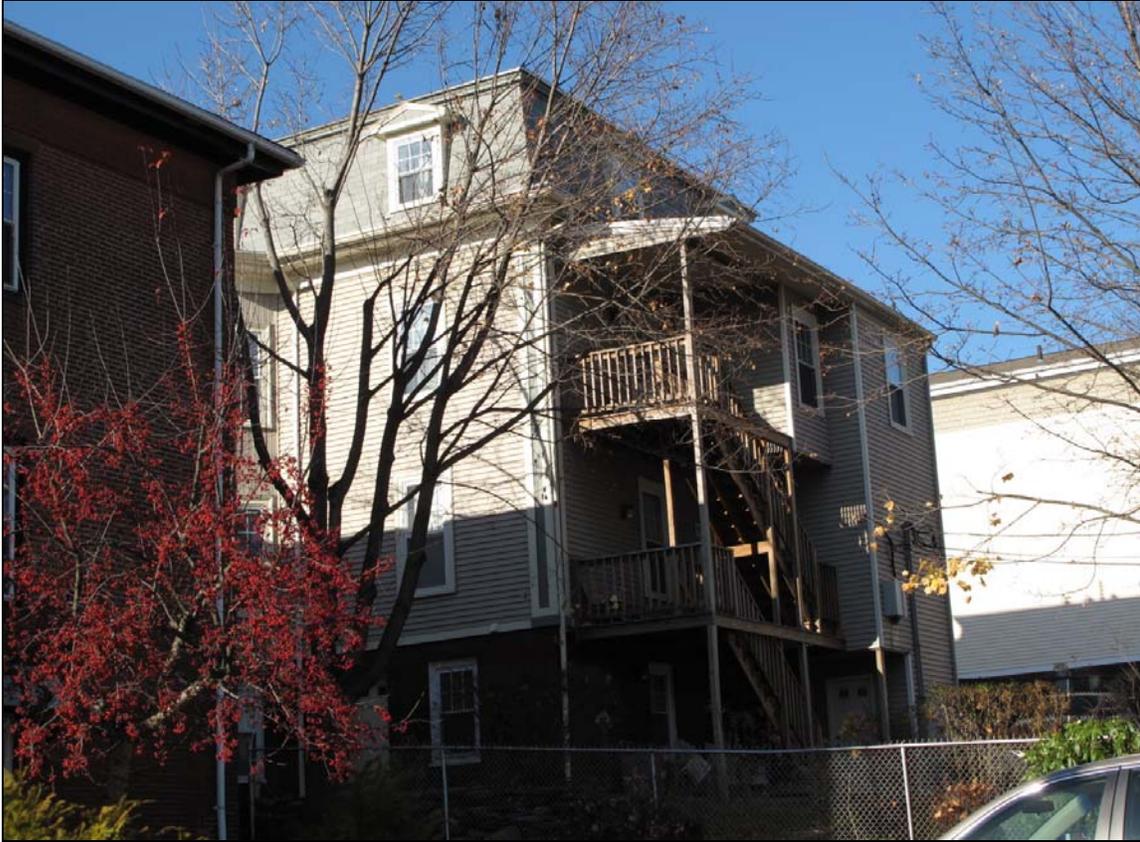
19 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980



View from SE

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

03-023-09+10	Worcester North	V	WOR.1048
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 21-23 Crown Street

Historic Name: Carter & Emily A. Whitcomb Double House

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residential

Original: Two Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1855

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: brick / brownstone

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Window sash replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.0202

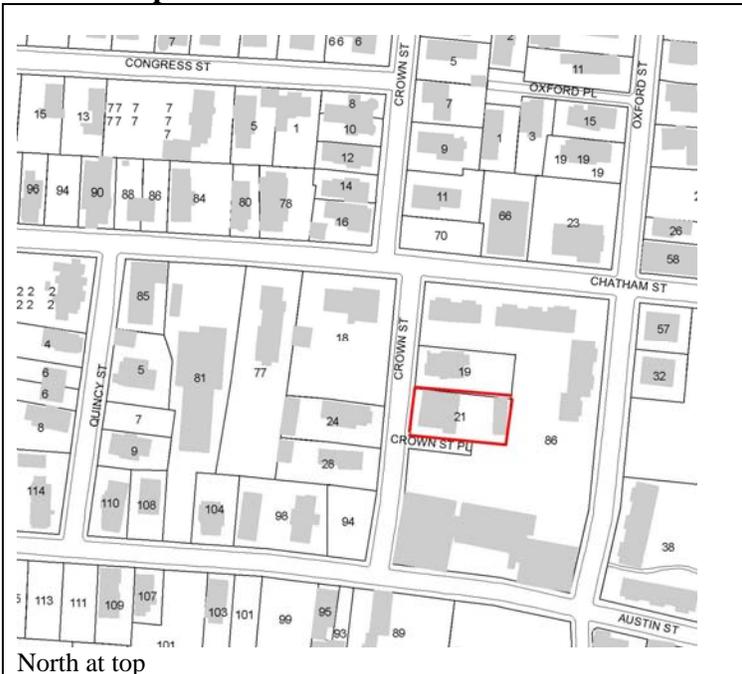
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NW

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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21-23 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

V	WOR.1048
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Carter & Emily A. Whitcomb Double House is located on a 0.0202-acre lot on the east side of Crown Street south of Chatham Street. The parcel was laid out as part of the Park Hill subdivision in 1836. It is bounded on the north by a house of similar period and on the south and east by recently-constructed townhouse housing. The two-story brick duplex with a hipped roof was built in a late-Greek Revival style around 1855. It is set back from the street on a low terrace leveling the southern slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The wide house occupies most of the front of the lot. A granite curb delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk, on which a chain-link fence has been mounted. Two breaks in the curb with stone steps link to walkways to the front and rear of the house. A paved driveway enters the southeast corner of the parcel from an old right-of-way (Crown Street Place) along which Crown Street was routed when the house was built. A multi-car garage is located on the rear (east) lot line.

The two-story double house presents a six-bay façade to the street three each for the vertically divided dwellings with double-door entrances paired in the center. A recent porch with fluted columns now covers the entrances, but visual evidence on the walls indicates that the roof of the original porch spanned the entire front façade; tall first floor windows are another relic of the feature. The pressed brick walls have characteristic thin mortar joints, and windows are decorated with brownstone lintel and sills. The hipped roof projects deep overhangs over the walls, the tops of which have a tall brick frieze, which once may have been decorated with brackets. The 1878 bird's-eye view of the city shows the house with a large lantern centered in the roof. Side walls each contain six bays of windows in a regular pattern; all windows have brownstone lintels and sills to match the front. A wood frame first-floor addition, mounted on posts, on the south side of the house contains an auxiliary entrance. The sloping topography exposes most of the basement on the north side of the house. There are two doors and two windows at the basement level and four windows in the upper stories. With three sides constructed of molded rock-faced concrete block, the front vehicle bays have been walled over for an alternative use. Window sash have been replaced.

The Carter & Emily A. Whitcomb Double House is an unusual and distinctive example of brick multi-family housing in the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Greek Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in ca. 1850 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill

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Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

Based on its design and distinctive pressed-brick exterior, the double house numbered 21-23 Crown Street was probably built in the 1850s, a supposition confirmed by its depiction on the 1857 map of the city. The 1878 bird's-eye view of the city shows a lantern on top of the hipped roof. The building's first owner is still unclear and requires further deed research in the Worcester Registry to verify its construction history. Rawson's (later Goddards') boot factory is located at the foot of Crown on Austin Street, and its presence may have been a factor in the appearance of this distinctive house in an otherwise remote location.

The only tenant so far identified is the widow Salome D. Beal who was living with her family in one half of the house in 1859, shortly after their arrival in Worcester from Milton in Norfolk County where husband and father Benjamin Beal was a farmer. Apparently, Salome's daughter and namesake had married George R. Spurr, who had been proprietor of a Main Street drug store since 1851. Spurr owned \$1,400 of real estate in 1860, but it likely represented his investment in his store, not the house, particularly the 1860 census lists his mother-in-law as the head of household. From who Beal was renting is still unknown, although a suggestive coincidence is that her son Walter married the daughter of the next known owner, Carter Whitcomb, by 1880 and lived in his 23 Crown Street household. Salome D. Beal had moved her family to Sandwich by 1870, where they lived with an elderly Salome Gibbs, probably her mother.

Industrial press manufacturer Carter Whitcomb owned and occupied half of the house by 1872. Born in 1820 in Rockingham or Saxton's River, Vermont, Whitcomb came to Worcester by 1848, where his older brother Alonzo had worked as a machinist for S. C. Coombs and Company since 1845. In 1849 the brothers bought the copying-press factory of George C. Taft, and by 1852 the company was known as C. Whitcomb and Company.¹ In February 1850 Carter Whitcomb married Emily A. Spring, a native of Uxbridge living then with her parents Luther and Nancy Spring in Worcester. During the 1850s the couple lived on Irving and later Portland Streets, and by 1863 Whitcomb had moved from Portland to 23 Crown Street. The 1860 census shows Whitcomb as a master machinist in a household with his wife Emily, his children Ida Francena and Henry Carter Whitcomb, and the couple Joseph and Harriet Dusenberry; Joseph Dusenberry, a machinist, probably worked for Whitcomb. By 1880 the Whitcomb household included only Carter, his wife Emily, and their eighteen-year-old son Frank.

In 1871 Carter Whitcomb retired, and by that time he was renting the other half of the Crown Street house, numbered 21, to William H. McClennan. Born in Massachusetts about 1824, McClennan first worked in Worcester as a clerk for the hatter Jonathan H. Knight. When Knight died in 1862 he and John Kendall, also a clerk for Knight, bought the business and named it Kendall and McClennen. The firm sold hats, caps, and furs through 1875, when McClennen retired.² By 1870 his household included his wife Lucy, four children, and an Irish-born domestic.

By 1878 the McClennen family moved to Main Street, and Whitcomb rented 21 Crown to fruit and produce merchant Thomas Rand Norcross. Born about 1812 in Shrewsbury, Norcross lived for some time in the 1840s in Richmond, Virginia, where his children Catherine and Thomas R. Jr. were born, and from at least 1850 to at least 1860 he was a farmer in his native town. His son Thomas moved to Worcester by 1859, and by 1862 Norcross had also moved to the city. By the late 1860s the family lived on Providence Street and by the late 1870s on Main Street. In 1888 Thomas Norcross died at the age of seventy-six, and his family left the Crown Street house.

In December 1880 Carter Whitcomb died at the age of eighty, and his widow, daughter Ida, and her husband Walter G. Beal, a commission sugar merchant born in Milton whom she married in 1872, lived at 23 Crown. At that time they rented 21 Crown to the stationer Charles H. Banister of Putnam, Davis and Company on Main Street. By 1900 Emily Whitcomb no longer lived at 23 Crown, but her husband's heirs owned the building through 1900. In that year the tinsmith John A. Chamberlain, born in Vermont

¹ Ellery Bicknell Crane, ed., *Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memories of Worcester County, Massachusetts* (New York Lewis Publishing Co., 1907), 1:426-27.

² James H. Bancroft, "History of the Central Exchange from 1804 to 1896," *Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity* 17 (1900): 355.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

21-23 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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about 1851, lived at 21 Crown with his wife Frances, their daughters Villa and Lottie, both bookkeepers, and the printer Moody Lincoln and his wife Gladys. Twenty-three Crown was occupied in 1900 by the family of David F. Smith, who ran a restaurant on Front Street.

By 1910 the Whitcomb heirs sold 21-23 Crown Street to Osiase C. Harpin, the wife of dentist Adelard Harpin, who was born in Massachusetts in 1875. Both had French Canadian parents, and in 1910 Harpin's mother Exeline, who came to the United States in 1870, lived with the couple and Harpin's cousin, Florida Demers, at 23 Crown Street. The Chamberlains continued to tenant 21 Crown. By 1922, however, they had moved, and after that date few tenants listed in a given house directory remained at 23 Crown ten years later. The same was true of 21 Crown Street.

Adelard and Osiase Harpin owned 21-23 Crown Street and occupied 23 Crown through at least 1940. Frank B. Tymosko owned the property in 1950, and by 1870 Harry Pappas owned it and rented the house to wool waste dealer Robert Emery of Winstein and Sons.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1859CD Beal Mrs S, h 21 Crown
1854CD: Beal not listed
1851CD: Spurr (Geo. R.) & Sibley, drugs, 140 Main, bds Worcester House
- 1860C 21 Salome D Beal 50 \$3800 pers b MA, Salome J Spurr 22 b MA, Mary A Beal 18 b MA, Walter G Beal 13 b MA
Nathan G Beal 11 b MA, George R Spurr 32 druggist \$1400 real \$7000 pers b MA, Mary L Spurr 2 b MA,
Mary A Bitlidy 30 domestic b Ireland
23 unoccupied
- 1872HD 21, ho., William H. McClennen, Kendall & McClennen, hats, caps & furs, 315 Main
1872HD 23, ho., Carter Whitcomb, C. Whitcomb & Co., machinist, 81 Exchange
- 1880C 21 Crown: Norcross Thomas R 68 produce merchant b MA, wife Catherine W 60 NY, Mary L 30 school teacher
b MA, grddau Alice Clark 13 MA, dau in law Louisa B Norcross 34 b MA, grandson Geo B Norcross 4 NY
23 Crown: 1) Whitcomb Carter 60 retire mfr of machinery VT, Emily A 53 wife, son frank L 18 at school
2) Joseph Dusenberry 20 machinist \$700 pp NY Harriet Dusenberry 20 NY
- 1890HD 21 Whitcomb Emily A. widow [w. of Carter]
Beal Walter G. sugar
23 Banister Charles H. stationer [Putnam, Davis & Co., 389 Main]
C. Whitcomb, hrs. blds. \$4800; 8800 ft. \$4800
- 1900HD 21 Chamberlain J. A. Mr. & Mrs. [John A.; tinsmith, 564 Main]
Chamberlain Fred J. clerk, b. [529 Main]
- 1900HD 23 Smith David F. Mr. & Mrs. [eating house, 107 Front]
Smith Marian E. Miss, b.
Smith Agnes F. Miss, b.
Whitcomb Carter heirs blds. \$4200; 8800 ft. \$4800
- 1910HD 21 Chamberlain J. A. Mr. & Mrs. [John A.; tinsmith, 274 Main]
Chamberlain Villa M. Miss, b. [bookkeeper, 310 State Mutual Bldg.]
Chamberlain Lottie L. Miss, b. [clerk]
23 Harpin Adelard J. Dr. & Mrs. [dentist, 98 Front St.]
Harpin Exeline Mrs. [widow of Augustus]
Harpin Osiaze C. blds. \$4000; 8800 ft. \$4400

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- 1910C 21 Chamberlain John A 59o b VT tinsmith rents, wife Frances M 55 NY, dau Villa M 23 b MA bookkeeper broker's office dau Lottie M 21 bookkeeper mill; 2) Moody Lincoln F ae 21 MA printer, wife Gladus? B ae 17 b MA
23 Adlard J Harpin ae 33 b MA dentist owns with mortgage, Osiasa C wife ae 32 b MA pars French Canada, mother Exeline 60 wid b Quebec emig 1870
- 1922HD 21 Mahoney James H. Mr. & Mrs. [plumbing inspector, 6 City Hall]
Demers William F. Mr. & Mrs. [timekeeper]
Demers Anna R., b. [bookkeeper, 9 Neponset – Sanford Riley Stoker Co., mechanical stokers]
23 Harpin Adelard J. Dr. & Mrs. [same as 1910]
Harpin Exeline Mrs., b. [same as 1910]
Harpin Osiaze C. blds. \$5300; 8800 ft. \$4400
- 1930HD 21 Maloney Hattie G. [1929 dir: widow of Seward; laundress]
Maloney Edna M., r
Maloney Rita E., r
Longeway Louis L. [1929 dir: Diana F.; leather worker; h 26 Clayton]
23 Harpin Adelard Joseph Dr. [1929 dir: wife-Osiaze C.; dentist 98 Front St.]
Harpin Exeline Mrs., r [1929 dir: same as 1910]
Demers Anna R., r [not in 1931 dir.]
Harpin Osiaze C. blds. \$8600; 8800 ft. \$4400
- 1940HD 21 Long Carrie Hart Mrs. [1929 dir: lawyer, 390 Main, rm 313; res. At 70 Chatham [1939 dir: lawyer, 390 Main, rm 428, h 21 Crown]
23 Marsolais Georgette Mrs. [1939 dir: widow of George E.]
Marsolais Geo E., r [1939 dir: clk, City Messenger, r]
Harpin Adelard Jos, r [1939 dir: Dentist 98 Front St, rm 9; r]
LaClair Anita, r [1939 dir: typist, r]
Senecal Ida Mrs. drsmkr, r [1939 dir: working out of her abode]
Lajoie Aldor P., r [1939 dir: chiropractor, 88 Front St.]
Harpin Adelard J. trus, bldg. \$7200; 8800 ft. \$3000
- 1950HD 21 Kilmer Henry R.
Senecal Ida Mrs.
Larsson L. Oscar, r
23 Mosko Frank B
Dolon Rose, r [sp: Dolan]
O'Rourke Cath A., r
Tymosko Frank B bldgs \$5900; 8800 ft. \$1900
- 1960HD 21 Goldschmidt Ella M. Mrs.[1959 dir: Mrs. Ella W. Goldschmidt, no occup listed]
23 LaFerriere Ernest A. [1959 dir: wife Eunice; hlpr E.D. Lawless Inc./ Ed Lawless Cadillac Inc. 231 Shrewsbury]
LaFerriere Ronald E., r [1959 dir: USN]
Murdock Frances E.[1959 dir: teller Worc County Natl Bank]
Appleman Alfretta J. Mrs. [1959 dir: widow Fayette]
Murdock Sandra L, r [1962 dir: student]
Chrzanwoski or Chanowki Josef & Ruth & Max & Tosia Jakubs garage \$900, house \$5000; 8800 ft. \$1900
- 1970HD 21 Emery Robt [wife, Florence E.; lab Winstein & Sons – wool waste dealers]
23 McNutt Harold [not listed in 1970 city dir]
Cuth John M. [student]
Pappas Harry garage \$900, house \$5000; 8800 ft. \$1900

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NW



View from SW

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View from SE



View of garage from SW

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

03-024-00021	Worcester North	V	WOR.1050
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 24 Crown Street

Historic Name: Elijah F. & Mercy W. Brooks House II

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1866

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

none

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

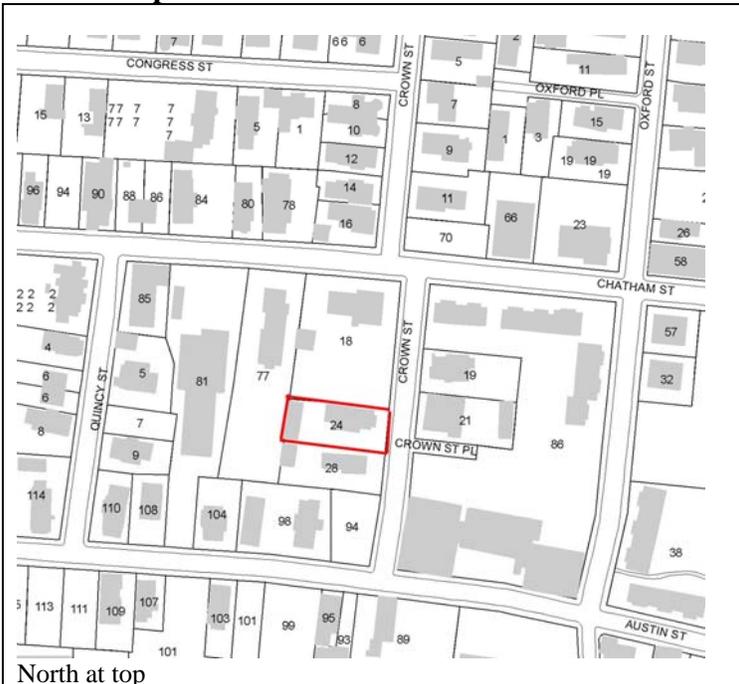
Acreage: 0.1947

Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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24 CROWN STREET

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Elijah F. & Mercy W. Brooks House II is located on a 0.1947-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street south of Chatham Street. The parcel was subdivided from the large property on the southwest corner of Crown and Chatham streets (18 Crown) in 1866. It is bounded on the south by a house of similar period and on the north by the large yard of 18 Crown Street. On the west it backs up on the long rear lot of 17 Chatham Street. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front-gable roof was built in an Italianate style in 1866. It is elevated on a high terrace leveling the southern slope of Crown Hill. The siting is consistent with the original deed restrictions requiring a minimum 12-foot set-back. The house is positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house. A granite curb delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk. A paved driveway follows the south lot line to the rear of the property where a detached multi-car garage is located. A break in the curb in front of the house links with stone steps and a walkways leading to the front entrance.

The two-story wood clapboard house presents a three-bay façade to the street; corner pilasters with arch-topped panels resonate with the Italianate taste. These echo the arched tops of windows in the gable, which retains Classical entablatures along the raking edges, yet with the base of the pediment interrupted. The entrance is positioned on the right side of the façade and contains a pair of glazed doors in a simple architrave. The two adjoining windows are of standard height. A one-story porch spans the front façade with pillars supporting a tall unembellished frieze and cornice. Windows are symmetrically arranged on the side walls with a tall frieze and cornice decoration the roof edge. A two-story cross-gable pavilion is centered on the south wall. A two-story kitchen wing is attached to the rear. A long one-story garage extends across the entire rear property line. Constructed of concrete block on three sides, it has multiple bays, some with original swing doors, others in-filled or altered.

The Elijah F. & Mercy W. Brooks House II is an intact example of post-Civil War Era domestic architecture in the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Italianate-style wood frame house was constructed in 1866 on a lot laid out for the original Park Hill development. The house reflects the variation and evolution of design occurring in the neighborhood during late-19th century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The

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Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

The house at 24 Crown was built about 1866 for Elijah Flagg Brooks, who purchased the lot in that year from Charlotte C. Stowe, widow of Martin Stowe, and resident of the adjoining property at 18 Crown Street. Brooks was born in Worcester in August 1820, and by 1850 he was boarding at 15 Thomas Street and working as a clicker. In 1853 in nearby Princeton he married Mercy Woodward, a Princeton native then living in Worcester, and by 1860 the couple was living at 7 (now 19) Oxford Street with their sons George W., six years old, and Frederick, less than a month old, and an African American domestic servant named Mary Durkins, born in New Jersey. In 1866 Brooks had sold the Oxford Street house and moved his family to 24 Crown, numbered 20 Crown through at least 1880. By then Elijah Brooks was no longer in the household (no death record has yet been found for him), and Mercy Brooks lived there with her son George W. Brooks, a clerk, and a boarder, the seamstress Eveline S. Johnson. By then Mercy Brooks rented part of the house to Charles H. Harvey, a tailor born in Connecticut about 1828; he lived there with his daughters Ella and Mary.

By 1890 Elijah Brooks's heirs owned 24 Crown Street, and Mercy Brooks is shown as a widow in that year's house directory. She shared the house with Charles and Ella Harvey through 1900; in that year Harvey's sister-in-law Hannah Boyden also lived at 24 Crown. In 1906 Mercy Brooks died, and four years later Charles Harvey died at Worcester's "Home Farm." The 1910 census shows the house occupied by George W. Brooks and his Lelia F. Howe, whom he married in 1885, their daughter Bertha M. (shown in the house directory as B. Mildred), and the single sisters Isabelle M. and Miriam Skinner, the latter a dressmaker; the Sinners had two female boarders, a nurse and a widowed dressmaker. At that time George W. Brooks managed an envelope factory at 35 Water Street in Worcester.

By 1920 the Brooks family moved to Lenox Street and sold the 24 Crown property to the First Methodist Episcopal Church, which established a parish hall called Trinity Hall in the building; Trinity Church deaconess Bessie Carty also lived there in 1922. By 1930 the church sold the property to the widow Emily B. Fontaine, who lived there with her son Louis A. Fontaine had the income of three roomers, all first- and second-generation French Canadian as she was, and she rented two units to the families of Walter D. Carpenter and Olla Anderson. Carpenter, born in Maine, supervised a scrap factory and lived there with his wife Helen, two young children, and his wife's mother Mary H. Smith, who came to the United States from England with her daughter in 1906. Anderson, born in Denmark about 1874, emigrated in 1891 and worked as a leather factory foreman; his wife Caroline emigrated in the same year, and the Andersons had one roomer, Raoul J. Letiecq, an architect and builder who came to the United States from Quebec in 1909.

Emilie Fontaine and Letiecq occupied 24 Crown Street through at least 1940, and by 1950 Fontaine sold the building to Frank S. DeNubila and Carl L. Esinhart. They rented units to at least eight individuals and families. Avila J. and Aurore B. Guertin bought 24 Crown Street in 1960 and occupied one of its units. By 1970 Avila Guertin had died. Aurore Guertin continued to live at 24 Crown but sold or transferred title to the building to Wilfred J. and Clara R. Guertin by 1970.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

- 1866 Deed, 749:51, 25 April 1866 Charlotte C. Stowe to Emily R. Luther, makes reference to "land on this day conveyed to Elijah F. Brooks"
- 1867CD Brooks Elijah F clicker h 20 Crown
1865CD: Brooks Elijah F clicker h 7 [now 19] Oxford
- 1871CD Brooks Mrs Elijah F h 20 Crown

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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- 1880C 20 Crown
1) Harvey Charles H ae 52 tailor b CT, wife Lucy A 53 b MA, dau Ella M 27 MA, dau Mary M 13 MA
2) Brooks Mercy W ae 63, son Geo W 26 clerk MA, boarder Eveline S Johnson 50 seamstress b MA
- 1890HD Harvey C. H. clothing cutter 1 [456 Main]
Brooks Mercy W. widow 2 [w. of Elijah F.]
Whitcomb M. Ella, student, b.
E. E. Brooks, hrs. bld. \$2800; 8482 ft. \$4200
- 1896M E. E. Brooks heirs
- 1900HD Harvey Charles H. cutter 1 [303 State Mutual bldg.]
Harvey Ella M. Miss, b.
Boyden John Mrs. b.
Brooks Mercy W. Mrs. 2
Brooks E. F. heirs, blds. \$2600; 8482 ft. \$2200
- 1900C 24 Crown: Brooks Mercy W b Mar 1817 MA widow, owns; Harvey Charles b Dec 1826 CT widow cutter tailor,
dau Ella M b Sept 1859 MA, sister-in-law Hannah M Boyden b Feb 1817 MA

1900C Lincoln St: Geo W Brookes b Mar 1854 bkkpr, wife Lilia F b June 1861, dau Bertha M b May 1889
- 1910HD Brooks George W. Mr. & Mrs. 1 [manager, 35 Water]
Brooks B. Mildred Miss, b.
Skinner Belle [M.] Miss 2
Skinner Miriam Miss
[Skinner Minnie A., dressmaker]
Brooks George W., bld. \$2600; 8482 ft. \$3800
- 1910C 24 Crown:
1) Brooks George W 56 MA manager envelope factory, wife Illie F 47, dau Bertha M 20, servant Ella Harland 21 b MA
2) Isabelle M Skinner 51 b NY, sister Marian A Skiner 45 b NY dressmaker, boarders Cathrine J Graber 30 b CT nurse,
Harriet M Faye 66 wid b NH dressmaker
- 1920C 18 S Lenox: Geo W Brooks ae 65 manager envelope co, wife Lillia F 58
- 1922HD Trinity Hall
Carty Bessie deaconess [Trinity Church]
The First Methodist Episcopal Church, bld. \$5000; 8482 ft. \$3400
- 1930HD Carpenter Walter W. [1929 dir: Helen P.; salesman]
Garner Harriet Mrs., r [1929 dir: mach opr]
Smith, Mary Mrs., r [1931 dir: "Mrs. Michael (Mary) Smith died May 3, 1930 – unclear if this is her]
Fontaine Emily B. Mrs. [1929 dir: widow Louis H.]
Letiecq Raoul J. architect, r [1929 dir: carpenter & builder, 22 Arthur, res do SEE ADV. pge C ; 1931 dir. now
working & living at 24 Crown St.]
Gould Mary Mrs. [1931 dir: Mary A. Gould, widow of George H. Gould, lives at 87 Pleasant – uncertain if this is her]
Fontaine Emilie B., blds. \$8800; 8482 ft. \$3400 (also owns 400 Park Ave.)
- 1930C 24 Crown:
1) Carpenter Walter D rents \$50 b ME supervisor scarp mfg, wife Helen P ae 27 b Eng emig 1906, dau Elenor M 3,
son Walter W mos old, mother Mary H Smith ae 56 b Eng emig 1906
2) Fontaine Emily B ownsQ\$18000 ae 45 wid b MA pars Quebec, son Louis A 16b MA, 3 roomers, two from Quebec

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and one VT with Quebec pars; 3) Anderson Olla L rents \$35 ae 56 b Denmark emig 1891 foreman leather factory, wife Caroline N ae 56 b Denmark emig 1891, roomer Radul J Letieco b Quebec emig 1909 contractor building

- 1940HD Fontaine Emily B. Mrs. [1939 dir: wid Louis H, h]
Letiecq Raoul J. architect, r [1939 dir: architect, h, working out of his abode]
Fontaine Emilie B., bldg. \$5800; 8482 ft. \$2500
- 1950HD Pennell Vincent M. [Mary E; auto mech Demers Bros, Inc. – auto dealers]
Belhumeur Alf E. [Helen; mach; h]
Everts Franklin R. [Jeannette; shipper]
Gambini Albert [Ossie; formn; h]
Davin Eliz Elvira Mrs.
McMahon Mary Mrs.
McMahon Helen M. Mrs. [wid Jos; r]
Fortin Roland [Seraphine; mach; h]
Reno Chester L. [Emma M.; chauff; h]
DeNubila Frank S. & Carl L. Esinhart bldg \$7600; 8482 ft. \$2100 (also own 52 Bowdoin & 260-268 Pleasant)
- 1960HD Guertin Avila J.
McLiednan John J. [not listed in either 1959 or 1962 dir]
Carlson Emma Mrs. [3 Emmas listed in both 1959 & 1960 dir, none at this address;
Guertin Avita J & Aurora B. garage \$600, house \$5000 8482 ft. \$2000
- 1970HD Guertin Aurore B Mrs. [widow, Avila J.; retd]
Hudson Winona Mrs. [landscape gardener]
Cunningham Carl G [retd]
Guertin Wilfred J. & Clara R. garage \$600, house \$5000 8482 ft. \$2000 (own 3 other properties)

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INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

24 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

V	WOR.1050
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE



View from SE

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

03-024-00022	Worcester North	V	WOR.1051
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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Town/City: Worcester

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Crown Hill

Address: 28 Crown Street

Historic Name: Edward P. & C.S. Drury House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1860

Source: historic maps & directories

Style/Form: Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder: Edward P. Drury, possible builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Window sash replaced

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreeage: 0.1966

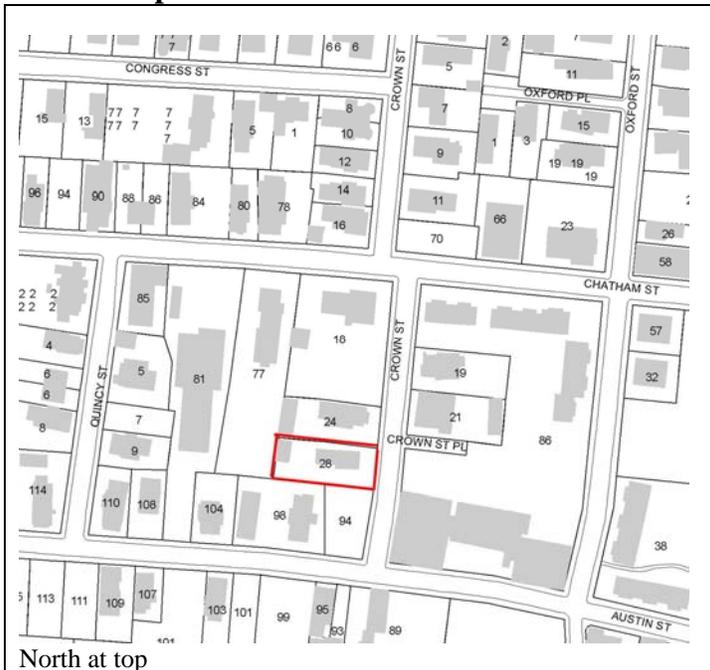
Setting: The Crown Hill neighborhood is situated on a promontory west of downtown Worcester. It has an irregular street pattern characteristic of its mid-19th-century origin with tight streetscapes of mostly wood frame single-family dwellings. Commercial, religious, school, industrial and multi-family residential buildings are located at the margins.

Photograph



View from NE

Locus Map



Recorded by: Neil Larson & Kathryn Grover
Larson Fisher Associates

Organization: City of Worcester Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WORCESTER

28 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Edward P. & C.S. Drury House is located on a 0.1966-acre lot on the west side of Crown Street south of Chatham Street. The parcel was subdivided form large on the southwest corner of Crown and Chatham streets (18 Crown) in 1860. The property is at the southern limit of the 1836 Park Hill subdivision. It is bounded on the north by a house of similar period and on the south on the rears of properties fronting on Austin Street. On the west it backs up on the long rear lot of 17 Chatham Street. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a front-gable roof was built in a Gothic Revival style in 1860. It is elevated on a high terrace leveling the southern slope of Crown Hill. The house is positioned near the north lot line leaving more yard space on the south side of the house. A mortared cobblestone retaining wall delineates the front edge of the lot along the sidewalk; it was constructed in the early 20th-century. A paved driveway is follows the north lot line to the rear of the property where a detached multi-car garage is located. A break in the stone wall provides access to concrete steps leading up the front entrance of the house; cobblestone pillars frame the opening. Overgrown spruce trees obscure views of the house.

The story-and-a-half wood clapboard house contains an entrance and two windows on the first story. The entrance is framed by sidelights and a simple architrave. The two windows are of standard height, and a one-story porch hollowed board pillars and scroll-sawn braces spans the front. The Classical entablatures typical of Greek Revival house in the neighborhood are conspicuously absent along the roofline, rather scroll-sawn vergeboards in the Gothic Revival taste distinguish the raking edges of the front façade. At some later point the south wall was raised to two stories, pivoting the roof up on that side, although the verge board was preserved on the front. Two windows are evenly spaced in the upper story. A story-and-a-half kitchen ell attached to the rear has been in sections. A long one-story garage extends across the entire rear property line. Constructed of concrete block on three sides, it has multiple bays, some with original swing doors, others in-filled or altered.

The Edward P. & C.S. Drury House is a relatively intact example of transitional domestic architectural design in the Oxford-Crown Historic District. The Gothic Revival-style wood frame house was constructed in 1860 and illustrates the diminishing use of Greek features in the neighborhood. The 20th-century cobblestone retaining wall at the sidewalk is a noteworthy modern feature,

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Crown Hill neighborhood is significant in the city as a mid nineteenth-century residential development area that is still distinguished by its original street and subdivision plans and period domestic architecture. The neighborhood was originally part of land owned in the early 1700s by Major Daniel Ward that extended west from Main Street to what is now Newbury Street between Pleasant and Austin Streets. In 1818 Benjamin Butman bought this 30-acre hillside tract from John Bush and his sons Jonas and Richard and hired the Boston engineer R. H. Eddy to survey it. Eddy's 1836 subdivision plan for "Park Hill," named for the park laid out in the middle of block between Oxford and Crown Streets, featured 30 x 150-foot lots along three new streets—Irving, Oxford, and Crown—running between Pleasant and Chandler streets. Lot sales ranged from \$85 to \$260, but the area was slow to develop. During the panic of 1837 Butman's business failed, and Park Hill was sold off in numerous parcels. Isaac Davis, Worcester's mayor and president of the State Mutual Insurance Company, became the largest property owner in the area. He revised the 1836 plan by removing the park and intensifying the lot coverage, but not until the 1850s did the neighborhood begin to build up with the large and ornate homes of Worcester's middle class. Industrialization expanded and diversified the city's population, a change reflected in the course of Crown Hill's history. The neighborhood felt the decline of Worcester's fortunes in the twentieth century and in the 1970s became the target area for an ambitious revitalization project, one of the first to use the funding from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Coordinated by the Crown Hill Development Committee, a façade project was instituted to reverse the deterioration and abandonment of historic buildings in

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the neighborhood. The city invested community development funds to stem the decline of buildings and infrastructure. The Worcester Heritage Society (now Preservation Worcester) created a revolving loan fund to support rehabilitation work. The society also began to purchase abandoned buildings to stabilize and resell with covenants. The core of this neighborhood was listed as a historic district on the National Register of Places in 1976, and the district was expanded in 1980. The effort has resulted in the renaissance of this significant grouping of mid nineteenth-century architecture in Worcester.

Edward P. Drury was identified as a carpenter in the 1860 deed by which Martin Stowe, who owned the large parcel on the southwest corner of Crown and Chatham streets, conveyed the lot on which the house at 28 Crown Street was built, possibly by Drury himself. The 1869 census enumerates Drury, then with the occupation of teacher, and his wife, entered only as C.S., as residents of the street, and in the city directories of that period, he is living at the Crown Street address with the occupation of box maker. Edward P. Drury was born in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire in 1834, son of farmer Moses Drury and his wife, Sarah. He arrived in Worcester around 1855.

Emily R. Luther bought the house from Drury in 1865; but 1870 he was known as a builder and living at 511 Main Street. She was the wife of clothing dealer Jonathan Luther, about whom little is yet known. Born about 1816 in Massachusetts, Luther was living in Worcester by 1843, when he married Emily Carroll of Webster. The couple's first child Charles Carroll Luther was born in Worcester in 1847; another child, Edward, was born early in 1850. In 1848 Luther was in business as the clothing firm of Luther and Freeland, apparently a short-lived partnership. In the 1850s Luther lived on Pleasant Street, and his household included Benjamin S. Luther, then nineteen, also in the clothing business, and probably Jonathan's brother; and his wife's mother Sarah Crosby Carroll, then seventy-four years old. The Luthers lived at 10 Irving Street from at least 1859 to 1865 when they had moved to 28 Crown Street. The 1872 house directory identifies him as a patent dealer, and he is called a "patent solicitor" in the 1880 census. By then the Luthers' son Charles had become an evangelist for the Baptist church; according to a brief online biography Charles C. Luther was ordained in 1866 and served as a pastor in Bridgeport, Connecticut, briefly in the early 1890s but "pursued evangelistic activities most of his life." He also wrote some twenty-five hymns.¹ He died on Long Island in 1924.

What became of Jonathan Luther is unknown, but his wife Emily died in Worcester in 1893. By 1900 28 Crown Street had become the property of Jacob M. Talamo, born in Russia in 1869. According to the 1900 census, Talamo's father was born in Pennsylvania but his mother in Russia, and he emigrated in 1881. In 1893 he was living in New York City when he married, in Worcester, Fanny E. Feingold, whose father Abraham is said to have been one of the first Jewish people to settle in Worcester after the Civil War;² he claimed in 1900 to have emigrated in 1879. Talamo either manufactured or dealt in woolens, and 28 Crown household in 1900 included his wife, his three children Joseph, Haskell, and Clara, his father-in-law Abraham Feingold and Feingold's wife Paulina (or Lena), his sister-in-law Jeannette Feingold, and a German-born domestic servant.

By 1910 the Talamo family had moved to Chesterfield Road, and Talamo was the manager and treasurer of Empire Woolen Company. He owned 28 Crown through at least 1922. By 1930 the property was owned by Robert J. Samuel, a masonry contractor born in Rhode Island of Quebecois parents. He and his wife Dora converted the house to two rental units and lived in one of them throughout the time he they owned the house, at least to 1970.

SELECTED RESEARCH DATA

(CD = city directory, HD = house directory, M = map, C = census)

1860 Deed, 625:395, 16 Apr 1860, Martin Stowe to Edward P. Drury, carpenter, lot, \$1450

1860C [enumerated with other Crown Street residents]
Edward P Drury 26 teacher \$3000 real \$400 pers b NH, C S Drury 25 b CT

1862CD Drury E.P., boxmaker, h. 28 Crown

¹ See Christianity.com website, <http://www.christianity.com/Birthdays/0517/>.² Charles Nutt, *History of Worcester and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1919), 1:340.

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- 1865 Deed, 710:543, 26 Oct 1865, Edward P. Drury to Emily R. Luther, \$3500
- 1867CD Luther Jonathan h 28 Crown
1865CD: Luther Jonathan h 10 Irving
- 1872HD ho., Jonathan Luther, patent dealer, 333 Main
bds., Charles C. Luther
- 1880C 28 Crown: Luther Jonathan 64 patent solicitor b MA, wife Emily \$ 62 b CT, son Charles C 33 evangelist MA
- 1890HD Luther Jonathan [real estate]
Emily R. Luther, bld. \$1300; 8565 ft. \$3900
- 1900HD Talamo Jacob M. salesman [dry goods, 123 Green]
Feingold Abraham, salesman
Talamo Fannie E. bld. \$1300 8565 ft. \$3900 (also owns property at 85 & 89 Austin)
- 1900C 28 Crown: Talamo Jacob W b Apr 1869 Russia father b PA mother b Russia emig 1881 woolen mfg, wife Fanny b Aug 1872 Russia father pars b Germany emig 1881, son Joseph Sept 1894 MA, son Haskell b Apr 1896 MA, dau Clara b Aug 1899, father-in-law Abraham Feingold b June 1846 Russia emig 1879 buyer dress? Goods, mother-in-law Paulinena [*sic*] b Oct 1841 Russia emig 1881, sister-in-law Jennette Feingold b June 1878 Russia pars Germany emig 1881; servant Julia Freidman b Mar 1877 Germany emig 1891
- 1910HD Higman Richard M. & Mrs. 1 [printer, 5 Austin – Trinity Advertising Co., signs]
Higman Sarah Miss, b.
Higman R. Ernest Mr. & Mrs. 2 [Higman Richard E., clerk, 36 Front – B.F. Arnold & Co., grocers]
Talamo Jacob M, bld. \$1200; 8565 ft. \$3900
- 1910C 28 Crown
1) Higman Richard D ae 73 b Eng emig 1891 printer, wife Jane C ae 68 b Eng emig 1891, dau Srah J 48 emig 1891, boarder Alexander King ae 51 b Eng servant emig 1907
2) R Ernest Higman ae 45 b Eng emig 1891 clerk grocery store, wife Emma J 44 Eng emig 1891, dau Violet E 15 b MA, son Harry B 13, dau Margaret A 4
- 1922HD Gibson Arthur S. [carpenter]
Talamo Jacob M, bld. \$2000; 8565 ft. \$3400
- 1930HD Robert Samuel J. [1929 dir: Dora; foreman]
Berger Carrie B. Mrs. [1929 dir: dressmaker, h 84 Madison; not in 1931 dir.]
Robert Samuel J. & Dora S., bld. \$4000; 8565 ft. \$3400
- 1930C Samuel J Robert owns \$4000 b RI pars Quebec mason contractor
- 1940HD Robert Saml J. [1939 dir: Dora; foreman; h]
Robert Herve S., r [1939 dir: salesman, Veino Chevrolet Inc., r]
Yelle Edgar Z. [1939 dir: Mary M.; crossing tender NY&NH&H, r 69 West; 1941 dir: r 10 Oswald]
Robert Dora S., bldgs \$4100; 8565 ft. \$2500 (also owns 401 Bridle path & "Bridle path")
- 1950HD Robert Saml J. [same as 1940]
Guyan Henry C. [asmlr, Crompton & Knowles –mfgs of textile machinery & looms for every woven fabric]
Robert Dora S., bldgs \$5300; 8565 ft. \$2100 (also owns 401 Bridle path & "S Bridle path")

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- 1960HD Robert Saml J. [1959 dir: wife Dora; no occup listed]
 Trueworthy Lloyd V., r [1959 dir: wife, Stella M.; lab]
Robert Dora S., garage \$800, house \$4500; 8565 ft .\$.2100 (also owns 401 Bridle path & "nes Bridle path")
- 1970HD Robert Saml J. [wife Dora S.; retd]
 Trueworthy Lloyd [wife Estelle; railroad wkr]
 Korastynski Allbert M.[not listed in 1970 city dir]
Robert Dora S., garage \$800, house \$4500; 8565 ft .\$.2100

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28 CROWN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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NRDIS 5/6/1976 & 3/5/1980

PHOTOGRAPHS (Neil Larson, 2009)



View from NE



View from SE

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View from NE, garage background left