

FORM B - BUILDING

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

NR 3/5/80

MRA IND
MRA DIS

Pl-Elm Park

In Area no. CY	Form no. 116-L-5 687
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1. Town Worcester

Address 31 William Street

Name John Hastings Cottage

Present use residence

Present owner Thomas P. Brown

Description:

Year ca. 1880

Source city atlases & directories

Style Victorian Gothic

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) garage

Other features gables with pierced
aprons, bargeboards, decorated porch
& window trim, octagonal cupola,

slate (fish scale) roof

Altered no Date _____

Moved no Date _____

UTM: 5. Lot size: Assessor's Book 2, p.39
Lot 38, 3812 sq.ft.

19/268430/4683040

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 60'

Approximate distance of building from street
20'

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

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date February 1978

(over)



EAST AND NORTH ELEVATIONS

7. Original owner (if known) John E. Hastings

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)

A fanciful and ornate cottage, the John Hastings Cottage is a rare example of its period. The house rests on an original foundation of "cast-stone" (concrete) and rises one and one-half stories to a complex hip and gable roof, covered with fish-scale slates. Rising above the roof is an octagonal cupola, one of the few left in Worcester. Other details of the house are pierced aprons in gables and dormers on all elevations, bargeboards, gabled window caps, an original entry porch with pierced brackets bay window and a panelling of strapwork around the base of the first storey. Along the property's William Street frontage is a low wall of "cast-stone" which may date from ca 1880.

The Hastings Cottage was first occupied by John Hastings, a provisioner, who owned the house into the twentieth century.

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

city atlases & directories .