

LOWELL CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION 169 WORTHEN STREET MAP SHEET # 7

1) CURRENT OWNER Sophia Giavis OWNER OCCUPIED no

2) HISTORIC NAME Hadley's Stable

3) CURRENT NAME Hadley Block (George's Tailors)

4) PROPERTY TYPE commercial 5) ZONING CLASSIFICATION B3

6) TAXES: PAYMENTS current STATUS clear

7) WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF LHPD, City Hall HD

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1877

SOURCE documented: date appears in 1880 Lowell Business Directory ^{advertisement}

2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER unknown

3) HISTORIC OWNER J. H. Hadley

4) ORIGINAL USE: GF commercial UF unknown

5) PREVIOUS BLDGS ON PROPERTY yes DATE ca. 1830s-1870s

SOURCE circumstantial: 1832 and 1850 map

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

2) PRESENT USE:
GF commercial
UF residential

3) NO OF STORIES 3

4) PROP SQ FT part of 10,569

5) PLAN rectangular

6) ROOF flat

7) STRUCTURAL SYSTEM load-bearing masonry

8) OUTBUILDINGS none

9) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION not visible

FACADE all sides: red brick in stretcher bond

TRIM cast iron storefront

10) NOTABLE SURFACE & LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS none



VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC. good
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES n/a
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF intact with evolutionary alterations
UF intact with evolutionary alterations
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROP'S HIST SETTING moderately disrupted historic setting
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROP TO HIST SETTING integral to character

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

This three-story, red brick structure is a fine example of the Italianate style's final manifestation in late nineteenth century Lowell. An advertisement in the 1880 Lowell Business Directory features an illustration of the present building when its Worthen Street facade was approximately twice its present length. The building in the illustration bears the date 1877.

Notable architectural elements include a wide overhanging cornice with heavy brackets (probably cast iron) which feature the letter "H" in raised relief. The "H" refers to J. C. Hadley, the original owner. Also, there is a largely intact cast iron storefront at the Market and Worthen Streets corner. This building is one of three architecturally interesting buildings (the Gates Block and Harmon Hardware) which occupy three of the four corners of the Market and Worthen Streets intersection.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A building has occupied this corner lot since the early 1830s. In 1832 and 1841 an irregularly shaped building was located here. In 1850 a large square structure occupied this site and bears the label "Hadley" on the map. The Hadley name also appears on the 1850 map on a building on the east corner of the Worthen-Market Streets intersection, directly across from the present 169 Worthen Street. That building on the east corner is listed as J. C. Hadley's Livery Stables in the 1851 Business Directory. The mid-century uses of the structure on the north corner, the present 169 Worthen Street site, are unknown.

Information on the present building from early sources is rather contradictory. An advertisement in the 1880 directory illustrates Hadley's Stable, showing a structure over twice as long (on Worthen) as the present building, labeled "1877" and "Hadley Block." (See illustration.) The left portion of that block corresponds to the extant structure; the right portion appears to be the stable itself, with a wide doorway. However, the 1879 atlas shows a wooden building on the corner lot, attached by a central ell to two stables north of the corner on Worthen. Either the 1877 date on the advertisement is a few years early, or the 1879 atlas presents inaccurate or out-of-date information.

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The 1896 atlas shows a large brick block on the corner lot, with a brick facade extending across the north half of the lot as well, in front of a frame structure. Probably the stable proper was wooden, behind a unifying brick facade. The 1906 atlas, on the other hand, shows the whole structure as brick, suggesting either a rebuilding or another error in the atlases. John Hadley owned the property in 1896 and 1906.

In 1924 the building housed the J. H. Sparks Automobile Supply Company, a shift in orientation followed by other stables in the vicinity. The stables portion of the Hadley Block was demolished in 1948 or 1949. It was listed as vacant in 1948 and does not appear at all in the 1949 directory.

Sources

1832, 1841, 1850 maps.

1878, 1880, 1924, 1945-1950 Lowell Business Directories.

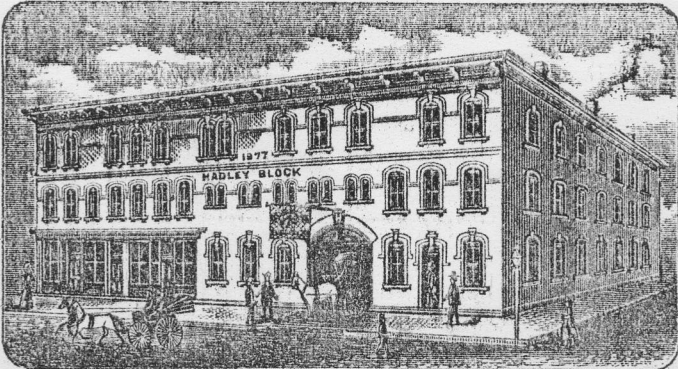
1879, 1896, 1906, 1924 atlases.

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMENT

The northern portion of this lot is partially paved, and partially open and undeveloped. This area probably contains subsurface remains of the stable which stood there from the 1870s.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT. 565

Hadley's Boarding, Sale, Livery & Hack Stable.



A carefully selected Livery Stock of all styles of turnouts. Headquarters for Vermont and Eastern Sale Horses. Unsurpassed accommodations for Boarding and Transient Horses, of which I make a specialty. The above Stable in its location and all its appointments is said to be the finest in this part of the country.

CARRIAGES WASHED IN A FEW MINUTES AT REASONABLE RATES.

J. E. HADLEY, Proprietor.

Cor. WORTHEN and MARKET STS., LOWELL.