

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	WEY.281
Historic Name:	Fogg Building
Common Name:	
Address:	4 Columbian St 100-110 Pleasant St
City/Town:	Weymouth
Village/Neighborhood:	South Weymouth
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	Beal, John Williams
Architectural Style(s):	Romanesque Revival
Use(s):	Apartment House; Business Office; Library; Meeting Hall; Speciality store; Theater
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Education; Recreation
Area(s):	WEY.A: Columbian Square
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register Individual Property (3/10/1983)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Copper Wall: Granite; Ashlar Random Laid; Sandstone; Brick; Limestone Foundation: Granite; Ashlar Random Laid; Sandstone



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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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FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

A

281

1. Town Weymouth

Address Columbian Square

Name Fogg Building

Present use Commercial/Apartments

Present owner _____

Description:

Date 1888

Source Weymouth Gazette

Style Richardsonian Romanesque

Architect J. W. Beals

Exterior wall fabric limestone

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features _____

See writer upwrite

Altered interior Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 65'

Approximate distance of building from street
20'

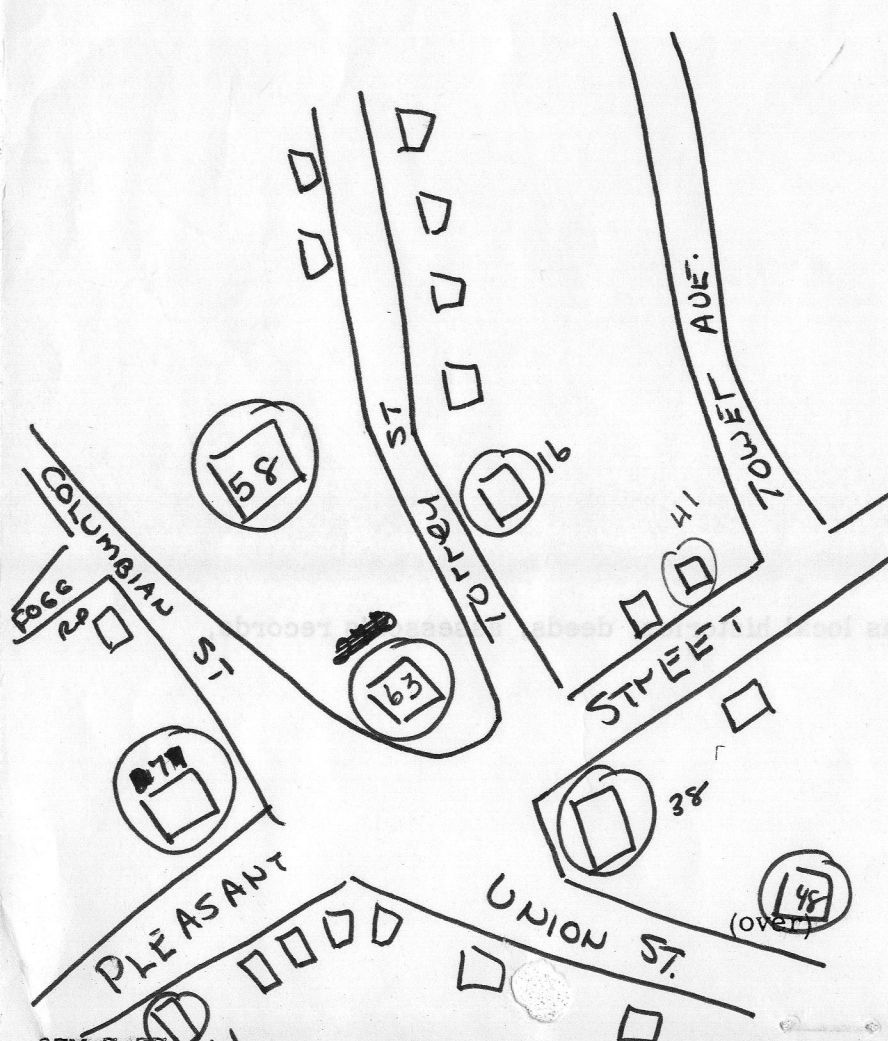
6. Recorded by Sharon Cassani-Clarke

Organization Weymouth Historical Coj.

Date 1/15/79



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



7. Original owner (if known) John S. Fogg - Trustee of Fogg Building

Original use Opera House - commercial shops

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates apartments

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

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

The Fogg Building

Date: 1888

Style: Richardson Romanesque

Architect: J. W. Beals

The Fogg Building is interesting as the interpretation by a little known local architect of the work of H.H. Richardson. That this style was selected is not especially surprising as the building was intended for both public and commercial use. Only the latest style and best materials was the insistence of John Fogg who financed the building. In both its general massing and details the building is very close to the Town Hall in North Easton, Massachusetts. Although the Weymouth site is perfectly flat, the building dominates Columbian Square.

In general it is a single, large block of two or three stories sheltered under a great three-story hip roof. Its main feature is a tall octagonal tower at the junction of the two main facades. Because of structural weakness the dome of the tower was removed in 1926. Although the north and west facades are partially hidden by adjoining buildings, their detailing is of the same style as the fronts. The functional concept originally called for a hall for public use on the second floor and shops and banks on the first to help defray the maintenance cost of the building. The Hall has been converted to apartments but the ground floor has been altered to accommodate commercial enterprises.

The original plan provided for three stores on the south side and two banks facing the square on the east. The second floor provided a Hall, 75' x 65', a stage 35' wide, dressing rooms and retiring rooms for the public. Above was a balcony.

The first floor is constructed of gray granite with red limestone bands and trim. The three shop fronts are composed of great arches each spanning the width of a shop. These are now buried behind additions and alterations to the building. The Square front facing Columbian street is unchanged with large banks of windows and the elaborate entrance to an insurance agency on the first floor and apartments above. Over the arch on the front are the name plates and date in red limestone. Above is a triple colonnetted window. The north side features a massive fireplace and chimney.

Above the first floor the walls are red brick with red limestone trim. The dormers are French in general feeling and composed of red limestone. The largest has rounded corners resting on carved corbels with heavy finials above and small sash topped by a patterned stonework, a steeply pitched roof and a floral finial. The cornice of the entire building consists of a wide band of heavy, roughly cut stone. Above the original roof was of slate but is now asphalt shingles and features a copper hip and ridge cresting of crockets.

The octagonal tower tapers up from a massive base broken only by small openings. The rough stonework here has very carefully cut edges at the corners of the walls so as to preserve the plane of each wall as distinct from the next. The second level has larger windows in rectangular openings. The third have arched openings. The fourth floor consists entirely of large arches set on short columns - the opening filled by small paned sash. Above is a diaper patterned stone band and above the cornice of massive limestone blocks. The roof, now flat was originally helmet shaped, that truly set off the tower and dominated the building and entire site.

WEY. 281

Send to Printer

ZOOM
IN ☒ ☐ ☐ OUT**TOWN OF WEYMOUTH
PARCEL AND BUILDING MAP**

BOSTON SAFE DEPOSIT & TRUST
4 COLUMBIAN ST
MAP: 45 BLOCK: 518 LOT: 23

LEGEND

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parcels | Water |
| Buildings | Streams |
| Other Towns | Parks |
| Subject Property | |

**MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY
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