



Cow Tavern
274 Salisbury Street | circa 1780

The Cow Tavern is currently private property owned by the Kathryn & Aaron Krock Trust. The structure was built in the Federal style circa 1780. The building is a timber frame with a symmetrical façade, a center entrance, twin chimneys, and granite foundation. The building was operated as a tavern until 1830. The original owner is unknown. The original property included a barn which has been torn down without a permit. There is ample documentation at the Worcester Historical Museum referring to it as an early 19th century tavern, showing that it operated during the 1800's when the surrounding area was farmland with orchards. There is photo documentation showing the building and surrounding areas before Salisbury Street was developed. The house itself is in a state of extreme neglect – with broken windows, holes in the clapboard siding from rot, and critical foundation issues. There are many areas where the house is open to the outside and most certainly causing rot on the inside. It is not possible to judge the condition of the roof but given the overall neglect it would be reasonable to assume it is leaking. The house is currently vacant. In December 2020 a building permit was issued for a project cost of \$160,000. An electrical permit was also issued at that time. It does not appear that any work was done to the property. There are no taxes owed at this time. It was noted that the city has reduced the assessed value of the property several times in the last few years. The city records list the building as 50% good. Without intervention, this property may need to be demolished.





Burncoat Street Walls | circa 1900-1910

The Burncoat Street Walls line the eastern edge of Burncoat Street, from Thorndyke Rd. at the south to Devens Rd. at the northern end. The walls consist of mortared stone, with decorative cast-in-place concrete piers at either side of each of the intersecting streets. The walls are estimated to have been built between 1900 and 1910 to delineate entrances to the orchards and farms atop Burncoat Plain. Today, the walls form a unique separation between the busy thoroughfare of Burncoat St. and the quiet residential neighborhood that developed along parallel side streets to its east. Many portions of the Burncoat walls suffer from spalling, cracking, and general deterioration that not only degrade their appearance, but threaten their long-term structural integrity and viability. While individual homeowners have made diligent efforts to repair sections of the structure, a larger scale repair project has not yet come to fruition.



Barn at Hope Cemetery

Webster Street and Hope Avenue | circa 1882

The Barn at Hope Cemetery was built in 1882, replacing an earlier structure built in 1876. The barn is a fine stick-style structure, characterized by its verticality, angularity, steeply pitched roof and cupola, and overhanging eaves which are pierced with dormers. Elements of Queen Anne style are seen in the shaped shingles on the second floor that wrap around the structure. The building suffers from neglect and deferred maintenance. Old timber frame barns are generally recognized as an endangered building type throughout New England. Preservation Mass, the statewide architectural preservation group, placed barns on their Ten Most Endangered Historic Resources List several years ago and has since formed a Barn Preservation Task Force to promote restoration and maintenance of old barns. Within this context, surviving urban barns are relatively rare. The Barn at Hope Cemetery is further enhanced in value by its location in the cemetery. Hope Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was founded in 1854, when the City of Worcester appointed five Commissioners to act as a governing board. In 1855 with gifts and purchases, a small tract of land east of Webster Street and north of Hope Avenue was laid out for the cemetery. At this time Webster Street was just a country lane. An office building was constructed in 1882 with a vault and machine shop, and continued in use as offices until a new building was constructed in 2000. Two former buildings of note at Hope Cemetery were the Curtis Chapel, designed by Stephen Earle and dedicated in 1891 and taken down in 1961; and the Superintendent's House, erected in 1895 and removed in 1940. This is the Hope Cemetery Barn's fifth appearance on the Most Endangered Structures List, previously appearing in 2005, 2007, 2022, and 2023.





Thomas Anderson House

206 May Street | circa 1892

Built in 1892, 206 May Street was part of the 1890 subdivision plan of a section of May, Chandler, and Courtland streets commissioned by George A. Thayer and drawn up by the civil engineering firm of Fay and Burbank. Mary E. Tenny purchased the 206 lot from Thayer in 1891 but sold the undeveloped lot back to Thayer after her husband's death in 1892. In 1892, Thayer sold the lot to Thomas Anderson, a carpenter, who built the home, likely by himself. Anderson sold the house in 1893 shortly after its completion. Although not considered a "high style" example, the home exhibits the traits of the Shingle Style architecture, which was most popular from 1880-1900. The front-facing gable roof with multi-level eaves appear in less than 20% of all Shingle style examples. The structure retains much of its identifying style of continuous wood shingles. The beautifully intricate shingle work covers the second story without interruption. Based on archival research, the carpenter who was responsible was Thomas M. Anderson. The home has been vacant for years and is deteriorating due to lack of maintenance. Earlier photographs of the property show that the frontmost gable's two narrow double-hung windows were removed and covered by plywood. Additionally, a 6-pane square window was cut out, and the shaper altered and also covered by plywood. Finally, a small square decorative paned window was also similarly removed. The building is currently owned by a management LLC and has been on the market for several years. It appeared on Preservation Worcester's Watch List for a number of years and on the Most Endangered Structures List in 2020.





27 Montague Street | circa 1895

27 Montague was built in around 1895 for Belulah (Perry) and Alexander Foulder. Belulah was a tailoress and was unmarried until the age of 41. She purchased the land for the property in 1885. From the estate of Stephen D. Tourtellot, a Worcester architect. Tourtellot owned several lots which were divided for in the 1870s for development. Belulah, who had been a "spinster" when she purchased the plot, married Alexander Foulder, a Scottish immigrant and cabinetmaker, in 1887, when she was 41. Foulder, who arrived in America in 1864, and was naturalized in 1874, began his career as an organ maker upon arrival. The couple sold the property to Fred W. Prentiss, a machinist, and his wife Juliette in 1913, shortly before Belulah's death. However, Alexander remained a resident until his death in 1930; Fred Prentiss would retain ownership of the property into the 1960s. 27 Montague is considered a Prairie: Vernacular American Foursquare structure. The Prairie Style was most popular between 1900-1920, and the American Four-Square is the most common vernacular form. This example exhibits common examples of the style, such as the hipped roof and dormer and a non-centered front door. However, the front porch entry that only spans half the length is a less typical variation. Although the condition of the building is concerning, the traditional wood clapboard and shingling are still present. Additionally, a stained-glass window and many wood windows appear intact. This property appeared on the 2022 Most Endangered Structures List.



29 Bellevue Street | circa 1900

Built in 1900, this large three-decker provided nine bedrooms in three apartments in a city with a lack of affordable housing and enhanced the neighborhood architecturally. In that regard, it most importantly retained its original wood shingle and clapboard siding and featured a wraparound porch, generous roof overhang with exposed rafter tails, a 3-story octagonal fronted wing, 3 stories of bay windows, ornate framing over what was the 3rd floor porch and front facing roof pediment. The building is located in one of Worcester's older neighborhoods (The nearby one-time Winslow St. firehouse was built in 1873.) and was a shining example of high-quality architectural design on a street that is now plagued with a commercial warehouse on the former site of the Mason Street School and vinyl sided houses bereft of their original identity. Built in 1900, 29 Bellevue suffered from recent substantial fire damage and prior removal of 2nd and 3rd floor porches. It is hoped that the longtime owner, who deserves great credit for largely preserving most of the original design, will choose to rebuild and in such a way as to restore the building's original materials and charm.

