

DEC 26 1989

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA

FORM NO.

1827

Town WorcesterAddress 21 Canton StreetHistoric Name James O'Connor-JohnTrybowski Three-DeckerUse: Present residentialOriginal residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1914Source Worcester House DirectoryStyle Colonial RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric Wood clapboard and shingleOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition very good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acreSetting Row of early 20th century three-deckers that face a park.Recorded by Michael SteinitzOrganization for MHCDate December 1988

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

See attached map.

UTM REFERENCE 19/268770/4681000USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester SouthSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The James O'Connor-John Trybowski Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant for its association with the development of the Island neighborhood as a multi-family, working-class residential district, initially an Irish dominated area, but one which saw an influx of Polish and Lithuanian families in the early 20th century. It is also an unusually well-preserved, representative example of Colonial Revival three-decker construction from this period. The O'Connor-Trybowski Three-Decker thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

Architecturally, 21 Canton Street is a particularly well-preserved example of the use of Colonial Revival style elements in local three-decker design in the early 20th century. The building is clad in wood clapboard, with wide shingle bands between stories. It has the characteristic side-hall plan with side-wall jog. On the asymmetrical main facade, the entry bay contains a three-tier porch, supported by heavy, square columns. The porch is flanked by a three-story, curved bay window, a feature usually associated with earlier Queen Anne style three-deckers, but often found on later houses in this neighborhood. Windows have 2/1 sash with heavy casements and simple, bracketed caps. The hip roof has regularly spaced decorative brackets in the cornice overhang.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Built ca. 1914 in the last area of the Island neighborhood to be developed, the O'Connor-Trybowski Three-Decker is one of a row of similar houses built on Canton Street facing Crompton Park, one of two working-class parks created by the city on the East Side in 1886. The first known owners of 21 Canton Street were James and Mary O'Connor, who lived in another three-decker on the north side of the park at 23 Endicott Street. James O'Connor was a gasfitter. Tenants of 21 Canton in 1914 were all of Irish extraction, and employed in unskilled or semi-skilled jobs. They included Michael Layden, a janitor; William Layden, a carpenter; John Price, a chauffer; and Leo Gibney, a plumber. By the early 1920s, the formerly Irish-dominated Island district was increasingly occupied by Polish and Lithuanian families. By 1924, the house was owned and occupied by John Trybowski, an elevator operator for the Norton Company. Two other families living here at that time however were still Irish: that of John Tierney, and that of Mrs. Mary Lambert. By the end of the 1920s however, the residents of the Trybowski house included George Plutz, a carpenter; Victoria Nowicka, an operator; and Leo Kwatkoski, a weaver.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1914, 1920, 1930.
L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1922.
J. Callahan et al., Worcester Three-Decker Survey, 1981.

12/26/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

- Worcester Three-Deckers MRA
Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS
61. Nelson, Christina, Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
62. O'Brien, Richard, Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
63. O'Connor, James, Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
64. O'Connor, James--John Trybowski Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
65. Perry Avenue Historic District Substantive Review
Keeper Bella L. Sarge 02-09-90
Attest _____
66. Petterson, Lars--Adolph Carlson Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
67. Petterson, Lars--Fred Gurney Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
68. Petterson, Lars--Silas Archer Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
69. Petterson, Lars--James--Raidy Three-Decker
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____
70. Providence Street Historic District
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Helene Byers 2/9/90
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY O'Connor, James--John Trybowski Three-Decker
NAME:

MULTIPLE Worcester Three-Deckers MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 12/26/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/09/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/25/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/09/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89002393

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 2/9/90 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Worcester Three Decker MRA
JAMES O'CONNOR / JOHN TRYBOWSKI
THREE DECKER
21 CANTON STREET
WORCESTER, MA
MHC # 1827



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James O'Connor-John Trybowski Three-Decker
21 Canton St., Worcester
MHC # 1827



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Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305