

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

1681

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

Town WorcesterAddress 27 John StreetHistoric Name Thomas F. Doran Three-DeckerUse: Present ResidentialOriginal Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1894Source Worcester House DirectoryStyle Stick style Three-DeckerArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric wood clapboardOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition excellent

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acreSetting Single- and multi-family,
urban residential street.Recorded by Michael SteinitzOrganization for Mass. Hist. Comm.Date December 1988

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 19/268550/4683130USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester NorthSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Thomas F. Doran Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a representative example of the earliest phase of three-decker development in the middle-class, multi-family, residential area that expanded west of downtown Worcester in the late 19th century. It is also one of the few well-preserved, finely-detailed Stick style three-deckers in Worcester. The Doran 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, 27 John Street is a remarkably well-preserved and exceptionally ornate example of Stick style three-decker construction. The building is clad in wood clapboard, with simple corner boards and moulding strips between stories. It has a hip roof, with regularly spaced brackets and larger corner brackets decorating the cornice overhang. The house has the characteristic side-hall plan, with a jog in one side wall. The asymmetrical main facade consists of an entry bay from which there projects a single-story porch, which is flanked by a projecting, three-story, squared bay window. The bay is capped by a projecting roof gable that contains spindle work in a semi-circular, sunburst pattern. The front bay windows contain floral design stained glass in the upper sash. Other windows contain 1/1 and 2/2 sash, with decorative caps and surrounds. The porch shelters a double-leaf, panelled door. Porch details include chamfered posts, spindle frieze, and curved, decorative support brackets.

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

The Doran Three-Decker is located in the residential neighborhood just northwest of downtown Worcester, an area of early three-decker development in the city. In the John Street area, families were primarily of Irish descent, and wage earners were mostly white-collar or skilled blue-collar employees. Built ca. 1894, 27 John Street was first owned by Thomas F. Doran, a stage manager at the Worcester Theatre, who at that time lived in neighboring 25 John Street. Residents in 1894 included John Black, a clerk at the Sears Ice Company; Josephine Black and Mary Seavey, both teachers; and Albert Strong, a foreman at the Boston and Maine freight house. The Thomas Doran family resided at 27 John Street between 1900 and 1920, when they again lived at 25 John Street, although they continued to own 27 John through 1930. Residents in 1920 included Lucius Holton, a laborer; Fred Farrar, an inspector; Charry Burlingame, a case hardener; and Charles Walsh, who ran a gasoline station and tire shop on Piedmont Street.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1894, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.
L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1896, 1911, 1922.
J. Callahan et al., Worcester Three-Decker Survey, 1981.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

12/26/90

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Worcester Three-Deckers MRA
Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS

Date Listed

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------|
| 11. Crystal Street Historic District | Substantive Review | for Keeper | Beth L. Savage | 02-09-90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 12. Davis, Rodney, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 13. Davis, Wesley, Three-Decker | Substantive Review | for Keeper | Beth L. Savage | 02-09-90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 14. DEan, Mary, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 15. Delsignore, Louis, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 16. Dodge, Helen, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 17. Doran, Thomas F., Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 18. Drew, Elvira, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 19. Duke, Philip, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | Helene Byers | 2/9/90 |
| | | Attest | | |
| 20. Dworman, David, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | for 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 Doran, Thomas F., 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: 89002406

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
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Worcester Three Decker MRA

THOMAS F. DORAN THREE DECKER

27 JOHN STREET

WORCESTER, MA

MHC #1681



DAYTON

37

Thomas Doran Three-Decker
27 John St., Worcester
MHC # 1681

DINGS MARKED WITH AN X
BEEN DEMOLISHED.
REDEVELOPMENT SITE



JOHN

JOHN

BOWDOIN

WILLIAM

39

WEST

—

WILLIAM 37 01

42

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305