

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

1638

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.

Town WorcesterAddress 2 Harlow StreetHistoric Name Lars Petterson - Fred Gurney Three-DeckerUse:^a Present residentialOriginal residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1910Source Worcester House DirectoryStyle Colonial Revival (Gambrel)
Three-DeckerArchitect possibly Lars PettersonExterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard and shingleOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition very good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage Less than 1/4 acreSetting Early 20th century, urban,
multi-family, residential street,
in a row of three-deckers opposite
Saint Bernard ChurchRecorded by Michael SteinitzOrganization Clark UniversityDate June 1980UTM REFERENCE 19/269740/4684810USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester NorthSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Lars Petterson-Fred Gurney Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a representative residence of the middle-class, streetcar suburb that developed along the Lincoln Street axis in the first decades of the 20th century. It is also an unusually well-preserved, well-detailed example of the gambrel-roof form of Colonial Revival style three-decker design of this period. The Petterson-Gurney 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, 2 Harlow Street is a remarkably well-preserved, well-detailed example of the early form of gambrel-roof, Colonial Revival style three-deckers popular in Worcester. The house has the characteristic side-hall plan, and is clad in wood clapboard, with shingles in the gables. The first and second stories exhibit typical local Colonial Revival details. A two-tier entry porch on the asymmetrical main facade is supported by square posts and has open balustrades. The porch is flanked by a shallow, two-story bay window. A second, shallow bay window projects from the side wall. The third floor of the house is defined by the gambrel roof. On the main facade, the porch is defined by a semi-circular opening, and is flanked by a triple window that takes the place of the bay window on the lower stories. Large, double cross-gable dormers project from the roof on the side elevations. The roof cornice overhang shelters modillion blocks.

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

The Petterson-Gurney Three-Decker, built ca. 1910, was one of a half dozen houses developed in the Harlow Street area by Lars M. Petterson, a contractor who owned more than a dozen buildings in the Lincoln Street and Greendale neighborhoods. Petterson owned 2 Harlow Street through the early 1920s. The northern part of the Lincoln Street area was developed in the first decades of the 20th century as a middle-class, streetcar suburb, with many white-collar and skilled-craft employees choosing to live in this modestly fashionable neighborhood. The earliest known residents (1912) of 2 Harlow included Horatio Richardson, a bookkeeper; Norman Holter, a draughtsman for the Norton Company; and Arthur Evans, a salesman. By 1924, the house was owned and occupied by Fred Gurney, a yard superintendent for American Steel and Wire. He and other family members resided here through 1930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1910, 1912, 1924, 1930.
L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1911, 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

Date Listed

61. Nelson, Christina, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

62. O'Brien, Richard, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

63. O'Connor, James, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

64. O'Connor, James--John Trybowski Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

65. Perry Avenue Historic District Substantive Review

Keeper Bella L. Sange 02-09-90

Attest _____

66. Petterson, Lars--Adolph Carlson Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

67. Petterson, Lars--Fred Gurney Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

68. Petterson, Lars--Silas Archer Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

69. Petterson, Lars--James--R. B. Bidy Three-Decker

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

70. Providence Street Historic District

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper 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 Petterson, Lars--Fred Gurney 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: 89002368

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

LARS PETTERSON - FRED GURNEY

THREE DECKER

2 HARLOW STREET

WORCESTER, MA

MHC # 1638



INTERSTATE ROUTE
WORCESTER EXPRESSWAY

7

Lars Petterson-Fred Gurney Three-Decker
2 Harlow Street, Worcester
MHC # 1638



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305