

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.

Town Worcester

Address 90 Vernon Street

Historic Name Peter Baker Three-Decker

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1902

Source Worcester House Directory

Style Colonial Revival (Gambrel)

Architect unknown Three-Decker

Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard and shingle

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition very good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Late 19th/ early 20th century
urban, multi-family residential
neighborhood; in a row of three-
deckers.

Recorded by Michael Steinitz

Organization for MHC

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 19/269370/4680900

USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester South

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Peter Baker Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant for its association with the development of the Vernon Street corridor as a fashionable single- and multi-family hilltop district in the early 20th century, when the area attracted white-collar and skilled blue-collar Irish families. The house is also a well-preserved and well-detailed example of early gambrel roof style three-decker design that would later become very popular on Vernon Hill. The Baker 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, 90 Vernon Street is an unusually well-preserved example of the gambrel-roof variant of Colonial Revival three-decker design. The asymmetrical main facade has an entry bay with a two-tier porch with Tuscan columns and spindle balustrades. The porch is flanked by a two-story, curved bay window. In the gambrel face on the third story are two paired windows with 6/1 sash, and an elliptical light in the gambrel apex. A three-story bay window on the side wall is integrated into the gambrel roof on the third story, where shed dormers also project from the roof. The house is clad in wood clapboard, with shingles on the bay windows. Windows are generally of 2/1 sash. Regularly spaced brackets decorate the gambrel cornice overhang between the second and third stories.

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. 1902, the Baker Three-Decker appears to have been part of a wave of speculative suburban, multi-family residential development on the crest of Vernon Hill, particularly along the Vernon Street electric streetcar corridor. The stylish, hilltop suburbs attracted many of the city's East Side Irish families, who moved here from older, more densely built up neighborhoods adjacent to downtown. The house at 90 Vernon was one of a number in the area developed by Peter Baker, President of the Baker Lead Manufacturing Company, who in 1902 also owned 88, 92, and 104 Vernon Street, and over thirty other city houses. The only known 1902 resident of the house was Edward Joyce, a letter carrier. By 1912, the building was owned by Eleanor Luby. Tenants included Peter O'Dowd, a polisher; William O'Dowd, a chauffeur; Nicholas Fleming, a clerk; and William Ryan, a clerk. In 1920, the building was owned by Mrs. Annie Tranor, and at least five other adult members of the Tranor family lived here. Other residents in 1920 included Patrick Raymond, a clerk; and Michael Mulvehill, a lineman. The Tranor family still resided here in 1930, when the building's tenants included William Kelley, a fireman; William Skahen, a machinist; and Henry Kerig, a machinist.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1902, 1912, 1920, 1930.
L. J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1911, 1922.
J. Calahan et al., Worcester Three-Decker Survey, 1981.

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*Worcester MRA (Worcester Three-Deckers)*
Date ListedCOVER **Substantive Review***Jon* Keeper

Attest

Boyd L. Savage
*02-00-90*1. Ahern, Catherine, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*2. Anderson, Ludwig, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*3. Baker, Peter, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*4. Battelle, Marion, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*5. Beaver Street Historic District **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*6. Blodgett, Lydia, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*7. Bostrom, Eric, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

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*Helene Byers 2/9/90*8. Bousquet, Henry, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

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*Helene Byers 2/9/90*9. Carlson, Eric, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

*Helene Byers 2/9/90*10. Crabtree, Thomas, Three-Decker **Entered in the** *Jon* Keeper
National Register

Attest

Helene Byers 2/9/90

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Baker, Peter, Three-Decker

MULTIPLE NAME: Worcester Three-Deckers MRA

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: 89002445

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
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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic	current
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__ architectural classification
__ materials
__ descriptive text

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SIGNIFICANCE

Period	Areas of Significance--Check and justify below
1960-1969	
1970-1979	
1980-1989	
1990-1999	
2000-2009	
2010-2019	
2020-2029	

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

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____acreage      ____verbal boundary description
UTMs            boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentatio

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Worcester Three-Decker MHA
PETER BAKER THREE DECKER
90 VERNON STREET
WORCESTER, MA
MHC # 1847



Kodalux

Processing Services
MAY 89 N



Kodalux

Processing Services
MAY 89 N

Peter Baker Three-Decker
90 Vernon St., Worcester
MHC # 1847

410

WORCESTER, MASS. VOL. 4

414



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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