

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

CS	1899 - 1903
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Town WorcesterName of Area (if any) Woodford Street  
Historic DistrictPresent Use residentialGeneral Date or Period ca. 1926General Condition good to excellentAcreage .67 AcresRecorded by Michael SteinitzOrganization for MHCDate December 1988

Photos (3"x3" or 3"x5" black  
& white) Indicate on back  
of each photo street addresses  
for buildings shown. Staple to  
left side of form.

Sketch Map. Draw a general map of the  
area indicating properties within it.  
Number each property for which individual  
inventory forms have been completed.  
Label streets including route numbers, if  
any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate  
sheet if space here is not sufficient).

See attached map.

The Woodford Street Historic District includes 5 residential buildings and 5 period garages. Its boundaries follow the historic subdivision boundaries of the five building lots of the district. To the south, the district is bounded by the terminus of Woodford Street at Koping Street. To the east and west, the district shares the rear lot lines of the subdivisions on Wabash and Providence Streets, respectively. The buildings to the north on Woodford Street represent a mix of period building types distinctly different from the three-decker grouping in the district.

Contributing/non-contributing status

Buildings: 10C, 0NC

UTM REFERENCE A 19/269800/4680380  
B 19/269800/4680340  
C 19/269710/4680330  
D 19/269710/4680380

USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester South  
SCALE 1:25,000

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Woodford Street Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a representative suburban subdivision of stylish three-deckers built in the late 1920s, and as a neighborhood initially occupied by middle-class Jewish families who relocated here from older, inner-city neighborhoods. The houses of the Woodford Street Historic District also represent a remarkably well-preserved group of buildings notable for a fine use of Craftsman and Colonial Revival design elements which were popular during the last phase of local three-decker construction. The Woodford Street Historic District 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 areas within the community.

The five three-deckers of the Woodford Street Historic District, all built ca. 1926, represent an unusually well-preserved and well-detailed group of residences from the last local period of three-decker construction. Built in an eclectic, Colonial Revival/Craftsman style, the houses all have similar characteristics. All have gable roofs with pediments in the main facade, and four-window ribbons in place of the front bay window. All are clad with wood clapboard on the first story, with wood shingle on the second and third stories. All have three-tier porches with different shaped openings on each tier, wide roof cornice overhangs which shelter regularly-spaced brackets, and shallow, squared, three-story side bays with triple windows. On 35 Woodford Street, the three-tier recessed porch has semi-circular, peaked, and basket-handle openings, with short, square support columns. A recessed triple window is located in the gable pediment. The sequence of porch openings on 37 Woodford Street is

(CONTINUED)

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community:

By the third decade of the twentieth century, three-decker suburb development extended south along the Providence Street corridor and into a group of subdivisions east of Providence Street in the area east of the Vernon Hill Playground. Here in the late 1920s, amid the single- and multi-family houses of an automobile suburb, groups of three-deckers were built on Woodford, Washburn and Loxwood Streets. Many middle-class Jewish families relocated here from the established Jewish neighborhood on the northern slope of Grafton Hill along Providence Street. All built, ca. 1926, the three-deckers at the southern end of Woodford Street attracted a group of Jewish businessmen and their families. The first owner of 35 Woodford Street was Karl Chafitz, a grocer, who also lived here. Tenants included Samuel Wolkowich, who worked at the Modern Clothes Shoppe; and Samuel Seiden. Pauline Fischer was the first owner of 37 Woodford Street. Occupants in 1926 included Benjamin Gottlieb, a painter; Rachel Sadowski, a widow; Hyman Fistel, treasurer of the Commonwealth Garage; and Jacob Jaffe, a confectioner. Jennie Bassmore, who owned several local buildings, owned 39 Woodford Street in 1926. Tenants that year included Isaac Bassinov, a provisions merchant; Joseph Wolkavich, also of the Modern Clothes Shoppe; and Harry Kramer. Max Katz owned 38 and 40 Woodford Street. Katz was president and treasurer of the City Brick Company, and owner of 8 other Worcester houses. He lived at 40 Woodford Street, which he co-owned

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

(CONTINUED)

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1926, 1930.

J. Callahan et al., Worcester Three-Decker Survey, 1981.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No:
Property Name: Woodford St. HD	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical Significance (Cont)

with Rueben Dodin, a carpenter, who also resided here. Other residents included Bessie Saltman, a tailoress; and John Morin. Tenants of 38 Woodford Street included Abraham Davidson, a real estate agent; Daniel Dworkin, vice-president of the Worcester Curtain Company; and Louis Rosenblum, a novelties merchant.

Architectural Significance (Cont)

different, although it includes the same three shapes as 35 Woodford, and an overhang marks the break between the first and second stories. Neighboring 39 Woodford Street is nearly identical to 37 Woodford Street. Both 38 and 40 Woodford Street have full-length, first-story porches which rise to three-tiers in the entry bay, and which are capped by projecting, pedimented gables. Windows on 35, 37 and 39 Woodford Street in general retain 6/6 sash. Those on 38 and 40 Woodford Street have 6/1 and 8/1 sash. Small garages, built in the same period as the residences, of cinderblock wall construction, are located at the rear of each lot.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

DISTRICT DATA SHEET  
WOODFORD STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

<u>MAP-BLOCK-LOT</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>STATUS-RESOURCE</u>
35-25-25	1899	Chafitz Three-Decker /garage	35 Woodford St.	c1926	Craftsman	2C-B
35-25-26	1900	Fisher Three-Decker /garage	37 Woodford St.	c1926	Craftsman	2C-B
35-25-27	1901	Bassinov Three-Decker /garage	39 Woodford St.	c1926	Craftsman	2C-B
35-25-40	1902	Katz Three-Decker /garage	38 Woodford St.	c1926	Craftsman	2C-B
35-25-41	1903	Katz Three-Decker /garage	40 Woodford St.	c1926	Craftsman	2C-B

Total: 10 Contributing Buildings

12/26/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Worcester Three-Deckers MRE  
Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS

Date Listed

81. Stone, Edward, Three-Decker Entered in the  
National Register

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 2/9/90

Attest

82. Troupes, John, Three-Decker Entered in the  
National Register

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 2/9/90

Attest

83. View Street Historic District Substantive Review

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 02/09/90

Attest

84. Wescott, John, Three-Decker Entered in the  
National Register

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 2/9/90

Attest

85. Woodford Street Historic District  
Entered in the  
National Register

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 2/9/90

Attest

86. Zemaitis, Anthony, Three-Decker Entered in the  
National Register

*[Signature]*  
Keeper

*[Signature]* 2/9/90

Attest

~~87. Holland Fowne House~~ ~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Attest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Woodford Street Historic District  
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: 89002365

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



WOODFORD STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WORCESTER, MA  
MHC #'s 1899 - 1903

Worcester Three Pecker MRA





WOODFORD STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WORCESTER, MA

MHC #15 1899-1903

Worcester Three Pecker MRA





WOOD FORD STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WORCESTER, MA  
MHC #15 1899-1903  
Worcester Bee Decker MRA.

Processing Service

Kodak

Processing Service

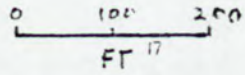
Kodak

Woodford Street Historic District  
Worcester

415

415

420



PROVIDENCE

415

HOLCOMBE

WOODFORD

WABASH

LOXWOOD

DILLON

TAUNTON

BRIDGEPORT

CHELFORD

BOLTON

KOPING

STONELL

GRANITE

12

10

W. STONELL ST.

W. STONELL ST.



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305