

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

1637

Town WorcesterAddress 4 Harlow StreetHistoric Name Lars Petterson-James ReidyThree-DeckerUse: Present residentialOriginal residential

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

DESCRIPTION

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

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Early 20th century, urban,
multi-family, residential street;
in a row of three-deckers opposite
Saint Bernard Church

Recorded by Michael SteinitzOrganization Clark UniversityDate June 1980

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 19/269710/4684810USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester NorthSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Lars Petterson-James Reidy 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 and well-detailed example of the gambrel-roof form of Colonial Revival style three-decker design of this period. The Petterson-Reidy 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, 4 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 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-Reidy Three-Decker, like 2 and 6 Harlow Street, was built ca. 1910 as one of a half dozen houses developed in the Harlow Street area by Lars Petterson. A local contractor, Petterson owned more than a dozen houses in the Lincoln Street and Greendale neighborhoods. Petterson owned 4 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 blue-collar employees choosing to live in this modestly fashionable, multi-family residential neighborhood. The earliest known residents of 4 Harlow included Mr. and Mrs. Leon Yatter and Mr. and Mrs. Horace Kendall. Tenants in 1920 included Irving Hunt, a salesman; Walter Cooke, a clerk at American Steel and Wire; and Samuel Papineau, a foreman. By 1924, the house was owned by James Reidy, an electrician, who lived here. Tenants that year included Clarence Smith, an instructor for the Norton Company; and Benjamin Witmer, a manager.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1910, 1912, 1916, 1920, 1924.
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 Service

National 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 Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/2/90

Attest _____

62. O'Brien, Richard, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

63. O'Connor, James, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin 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 Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin Byers 2/9/90

Attest _____

70. Providence Street Historic District

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Melvin 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 NAME: Petterson, Lars--James Reidy 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: 89002376

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

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Worcester Three Decker NRA

LARS PETERSON - JAMES REIDY

THREE DECKER

4 HARLOW STREET

WORCESTER, MA

MHC # 1637



Processing Services



Processing Serv

INTERSTATE ROUTE
WORCESTER EXPRESSWAY

Lars Petterson-James Reidy Three-Decker
4 Harlow St., Worcester
MHC # 1637



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305