

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

BB	1552 - 1562
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Town Worcester

Name of Area (if any) View Street
Historic District

Present Use residentialGeneral Date or Period ca. 1916-1930General Condition poor to excellentAcreage 1.77 AcresRecorded by John CallahanOrganization Clark UniversityDate February 1981

Revised for MHC by Michael Steinitz-12/88

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 View Street Historic District includes 11 residential buildings and 6 garages. The boundaries of the district are defined by the historic subdivision lot lines of the 11 building lots of the district. To the north and south, the district shares the rear lot lines of the subdivisions on Hillside Avenue and Wabash Street, respectively. To the west, the district is defined by the rear lot lines of the Sterling Street subdivision lots. The district's eastern boundary on View Street is defined by the open space of the large lot adjacent to 8 View Street, and marks a transition to a group of residences from an earlier (pre-1910) phase of construction, a group of buildings that has also seen heavy alteration and residing.

Contributing/non-contributing status

Buildings: 14C, 3NC

UTM REFERENCE A 19/269260/4680820
B 19/269270/4680720
C 19/269200/4680730
D 19/169190/4680820
USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester South
SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The View Street Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a representative component of the three-decker subdivisions that swept across the steep hillslope of Vernon Hill in the early decades of the 20th century, subdivisions that attracted a diverse mix of the city's ethnic, East Side population. The View Street Historic District also represents an unusually well-preserved mixture of the typical three-decker styles built during this period on Vernon Hill, particularly those from the later phases of modest Colonial Revival and Craftsman design. The View 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.

Built between 1916 and 1930, the three-deckers of the View Street Historic District represent well the variety of forms these houses took during the last phase of major three-decker construction along the steep western slope of Vernon Hill. Of the 11 three-deckers within the District, two, 9 and 16 View Street have lost their integrity due to the application of modern siding. Of the nine contributing three-deckers, six have gable roofs, two have gambrel roofs, and one has a hip roof. In general, the District reflects well the stylish and structural economies that were often employed in the last phase of Colonial Revival/Craftsman three-decker construction in the city. 10, 11, 14 and 15 View Street all have simple, rectilinear massing with gable roofs, and recessed, three-tier porches in the entry bay of the main facade. The porches are supported by single and paired square columns on the first and second tiers. The third tier has only a simple rectangular opening in the

(CONTINUED)

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

By the second decade of the 20th century, a major wave of subdivision and three-decker construction had begun to extend across the steepest portions of the western slope of Vernon Hill, on streets that extended downslope from Vernon Street, which runs along the hill's crest. These building sites, with their spectacular views of the city, and their modestly fashionable houses, attracted a remarkable mix of the city's East Side ethnic groups, as skilled blue-collar and white-collar families sought the amenities of a hillside residential location. The large, fashionable houses along Vernon Street conferred some status to the area, and electric streetcar service provided easy access to workplaces downtown and in other parts of the city. These qualities drew families of Irish, Swedish, Polish, Lithuanian, and Jewish extraction, all groups that were well-established in the city's East Side by this period. The earliest residents of the View Street Historic District included William Finegold, a salesman, and the first owner of 8 View Street (1916); Adolph Josephson, a woodworker, and first owner of 12 View Street; and James McInerney, a foreman, and first owner of 9 View Street. Earliest known tenants of 8 View Street included Frank Sulkoski, a saloonkeeper; and Dennis O'Brien, a printer. Occupants of 12 View Street included Sven and Rudolph Josephson, the latter a paymaster; Frank Rawson, a shipper, and Axel Stenquist, a clerk. The only tenant of 9 View Street known for 1918 was Robert Mahan, a (postal?) carrier. By 1930, three-deckers had been built on the six remaining View

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

(CONTINUED)

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1916, 1920, 1930.

L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1922.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Form No:

Worcester

Property Name: View Street HD

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

Historical Significance (Cont)

Street hillslope lots. In that year, 7 View Street was owned by John Wolanian, an insurance agent. Tenants included Frank Martin, employed in men's furnishings; Marion Martin, a secretary; and Patrick Higgins, a foreman. Several of the View Street houses were owned by skilled metal workers. In 1930, 11 View Street was owned by Frank Kulesza, a wireworker. His tenants included Walter Gromski, another wireworker; Frank Crotty, an advertising solicitor; and three members of the Cohen family: Louis, a clothes cleaner; Gladys, a clerk; and Ruth, a teacher. Peter McIntyre, a steel foreman, owned 13 View Street. Residents here included James Mahan, a collector; Mary Mahan, a widow; and James Foley, a policeman. Another wireworker, Vincent Kontratowicz, owned 15 View Street in 1930. John and Telka Kontratowicz also lived here; the former was an auto mechanic, the latter an operator. Other residents included Charles Stevens, an assistant foreman; Clarence Doucett, a helper; James Powers, a laborer; and Edmund Powers, an assistant foreman. Harry Cohen owned 17 View Street. Residents included Max Cohen, of the Grand Loan Company; Aaron Gomberg, a cashier; and Isaac Isaacson, a huckster. Built ca.1930, 10 View Street was first owned by Alexander Zdrodowski, a machinist. Residents included Toba Levy, a widow; Blanche Levy, a clerk; Sarah Levy, a bookkeeper; and Stanislaw Kaminski, an upholsterer.

Architectural Significance (Cont)

building facade. On the first story, a projecting portico with a pedimented gable marks the entry bay. Triple windows flank the porch on each story. In general, winows have 6/1 sash. A shallow, squared, projecting side bay also has triple windows. These houses are clad in wood shingle, with the first and second story side walls covered in wood clapboard. 13 and 17 View Street differ from this form only in the location of a two-story, angled bay window in the main facade. At the eastern end of the district are located two gambrel three-deckers that are more ornate in detail. Shingle-clad 7 View Street features an asymmetrical main facade with a full length first-story porch that rises in the entry bay to three-tiers, with a projecting gambrel over the third tier. The porch on the first tier is supported by shingle-clad piers; the second and third tiers have square posts. The three-tier porch is flanked onthe facade by triple windows. Double and triple windows are located on the side walls, and on the long shed dormer on the gambrel roof. Windows throughout retain 6/1 sash. Opposite this house, 8 View Street has a recessed, two-tier porch supported by slender, paired Tuscan columns, and flanked by a two-story, angled bay window. On the third story, in the gambrel face, a rectangular porch opening is flanked by a triple window. Heavy, regularly spaced brackets mark the gambrel cornice overhang. The house is clad in wood clapboard, with shingle bands between stories and in the gambrel face. Distinct in form from the other three-deckers of the district is 12 View Street, with its hip roof and three-tier porch capped by a projecting pedimented gable. The proch is supported by both square and Tuscan columns, and is flanked by a three-story, curved window bay. An angled, three-story side-wall bay window has a pedimented gable cap. The house is clad in wood clapboard, with shingle bands between stories. The cornice overhang is decorated with regularly spaced brackets.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

DISTRICT DATA SHEET
VIEW 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>
5-41-17	BB1552	Wolanin Three-Decker /garage	7 View Street	c1928	Col.Rev. Shingle*	2C-B
5-36-12&14	BB1553	Moran Three-Decker /garage	8 View Street	c1916	Col.Rev.*	2C-B
5-41-15	BB1554	/garage	9 View Street	c1916	Col.Rev.	2NC-B
5-36-10	BB1555	Zdrodowski Three-Decker /garage	10 View Street	c1930	Col.Rev.	2C-B
5-41-13	BB1556	Kulesza Three-Decker /garage	11 View Street	c1926	Col.Rev.	2C-B
5-36-8	BB1557	Karpowich Three-Decker /garage	12 View Street	c1916	Col.Rev.	2C-B
5-41-11	BB1558	McIntyre Three-Decker	13 View Street	c1926	Col.Rev.	1C-B
5-36-6	BB1559		14 View Street	c1930	Col.Rev.	1C-B
5-41-8	BB1560	Kondratowicz Three-Decker	15 View Street	c1924	Col.Rev.	1C-B
5-36-4	BB1561		16 View Street	c1918	Col.Rev.*	1NC-B
5-41-6	BB1562	Cohen Three-Decker	17 View Street	c1924	Col.Rev.	1C-B

* Indicates Gambrel Roof

TOTAL: 14 Contributing Buildings
3 Noncontributing Buildings

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

12/26/90

Worcester Three-Deckers MRA
Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS

Date Listed

81. Stone, Edward, Three-Decker Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper *for*

Attest

Helene Byers 2/9/9082. Troupes, John, Three-Decker Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Helene Byers 2/9/90

83. View Street Historic District Substantive Review

Keeper *for*

Attest

Beth L. Savage 2/9/9084. Wescott, John, Three-Decker Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Helene Byers 2/9/90

85. Woodford Street Historic District

Keeper

Entered in the
National Register Attest*Helene Byers* 2/9/9086. Zemaitis, Anthony, Three-Decker Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Helene Byers 2/9/90~~87. Holland Towne House~~

Keeper

Attest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY View 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: 89002361

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: Y SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

1 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/9/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Locally important enclave of significant building type, the 3-Decker, associated with historical development of working class housing, particularly in industrial areas for ethnic workers.

See cover form for further contextual information on the significance of the building type.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C
REVIEWER Savage
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 02-09-90

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 _____



VIEW ST. H. D.
WORCESTER, MA

Worcester Three Decks MRA



VIEW ST. H.D.
WORCESTER, MA

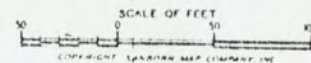
Worcester Three Pecker MRA

413

415

420

View Street Historic District
Worcester



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305