Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



CONTINUATION SHEET 62

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 63

- 1. Name: Josephine White Block 2000 0014
- 2. Location: 737-739 Cranston Street, in the West Elmwood section of Providence, R.I.
- 3. Owner: Enza Realty, Inc., 65 Sandy Lane, Warwick, R.I. 02880
- 4. Description: Built c. 1894 for Josephine A. White, a widow who lived several doors up the street, the building at 737-739 Cranston Street is a square, three-story, flat-roofed structure which originally contained two stores on the ground floor and four flats upstairs. The block, which has brick first and clapboarded second and third-story side walls, possesses an elaborately decorated and unaltered 'stamped metal front fabricated by Mesker Brothers of St. Louis, Missouri.' The particular design used here, according to six plates, was patented in 1887.

Photograph 34

- 5. Significance: Because of its well preserved stamped metal facade, 735-737 Cranston Street bears statewide architectural significance. The facade is the only documented local example of a front built by Mesker Brothers of St. Louis, a firm founded in 1881 which supplied metal architectural elements to thousands of customers nationwide in the 1880s and 1890s.
- 6. Acreage: less than 1 acre.
- 7. Plat 42, lot 15.
- 8. UTM reference: 19 297380 4630740
- 9. Level of significance: state