

2415

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

1834

Town Worcester

Address 154 Eastern Avenue

Historic Name Eric Carlson Three-Decker

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1894

Source Worcester House Directory

Style Queen Anne style three-decker

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard and
cut shingle

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

Condition good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Late 19th century, multi-family,
residential street, in a row of similar
three-deckers

Recorded by Michael Steinitz

Organization for MHC

Date December 1988

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

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 19/270000/4683770

USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester North

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Eric Carlson Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant for its association with the Scandanavian, working-class, multi-family residential neighborhood that developed north of Belmont Street in the late 19th century. It is also a remarkably well-preserved, well-detailed, and unusually ornate example of the early forms of Queen Anne style three-decker popular in the city during this period. The Carlson 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, 154 Eastern Avenue is a well-preserved, well-detailed example of the Queen Anne style three-deckers popular in Worcester in the 1890s. The house has the characteristic hip roof, side-hall plan, and side-wall jog. The asymmetrical facade has an end-bay entry which, unlike the neighboring Eastern Avenue houses of the same construction date, has a three-tier porch. The porch retains its spindle friezes and balustrades, and its turned posts. It is flanked by a three-story bay window with flared, shingle-covered skirts between stories. Decorative window caps have sawtooth molding.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

The Carlson Three-Decker, built ca. 1894, was located in an early area of three-decker construction on the hill slope north of Belmont Street, an area dominated during this period by families of Swedish, Finn-Swede, and Finnish extraction. Many residents of the working-class neighborhood were employed at the nearby North Works of the Washburn and Moen Company (later American Steel and Wire), or in other local firms that employed skilled metal workers. The building at 154 Eastern Avenue was part of a row built ca. 1894. The first owner was Eric Carlson, a blacksmith, who also resided here. Tenants in 1894 included N. Olson, an emory wheel maker; and Adrian Dahlquist, a roller. By 1902, the house was owned by Mrs. Loise Robbins. Tenants that year included Austin Bagley, a shoemaker; and T. Rystrom, a cabinetmaker. Mrs. Robbins resided here through the 1920s. Tenants in 1912 included Peter Swenson, a skatemaker; and John Lukko, a laborer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1894, 1902, 1912, 1920, 1930.
L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1896, 1911, 1922.
J. Callahan et al., Worcester Three-Decker Survey, 1981.

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

Worcester MRA (Worcester Three-Decker)

Date Listed

COVER **Substantive Review**

Jon Keeper

Boyd J. Savage
02-09-90

Attest

1. Ahern, Catherine, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

2. Anderson, Ludwig, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

3. Baker, Peter, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

4. Battelle, Marion, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

5. Beaver Street Historic District

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

6. Blodgett, Lydia, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

7. Bostrom, Eric, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

8. Bousquet, Henry, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

9. Carlson, Eric, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene Byers 2/9/90

Attest

10. Crabtree, Thomas, Three-Decker

Entered in the
National Register Keeper

Helene 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: Carlson, Eric, 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: 89002415

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 _____



ERIC CARLSON THREE-DECKER
154 EASTERN AVENUE
WORCESTER, MA
MHC # 1834

Worcester Three-Decker MHA

Eric Carlson Three-Decker
154 Eastern Ave., Worcester
MHC # 1834

WORCESTER, MASS. VOL 3

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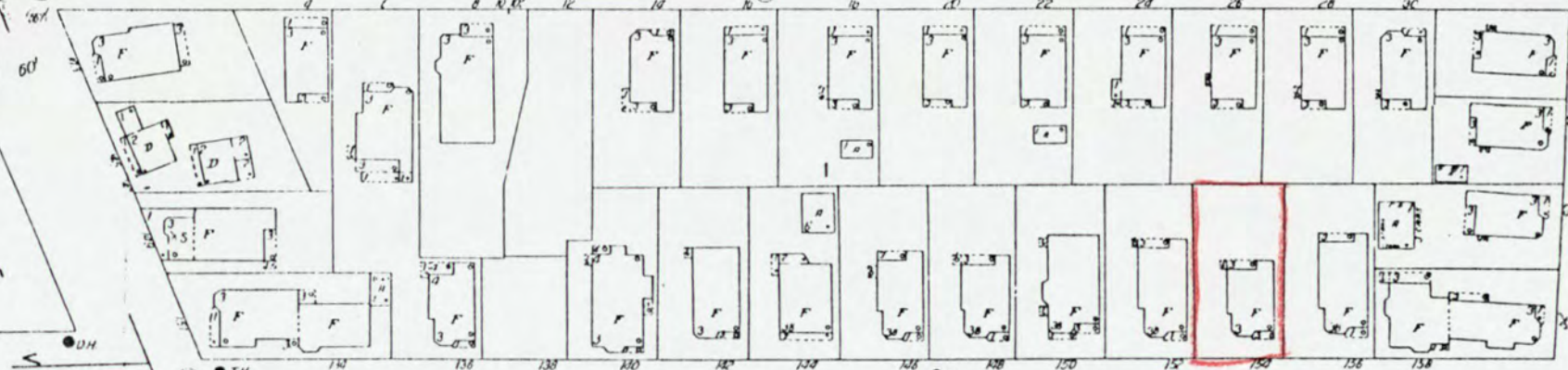
HOOPER

EASTERN

E. KENDALL

RODNEY

CATHARINE



310

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305