

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

1286

Town Worcester

Address 79 Florence Street

Historic Name Levi Flagg Three-Decker

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1901

Source Worcester House Directory

Style Stick/Queen Anne style Three-Decker

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric wood clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Late 19th/early 20th century

urban, multi-family residential neighborhood

Recorded by W.&M. Seaman/B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worcester Heritage Pres. Soc.

Date February 1978

Revised by Michael Steinitz for MHC - 12/88

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 19/266820/4681250

USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester North

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Levi Flagg Three-Decker possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a representative example of early 20th century three-decker construction in the Main South area, a period of building that coincided with expansion of employment opportunities both in the neighborhood and in Worcester in general. It is also an unusually well-preserved and well-detailed example, with an atypical configuration of Stick and Queen Anne style details. The Flagg 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, 79 Florence Street possesses an unusual combination of Stick and Queen Anne style details, which survive in remarkably well-preserved form. The house has the characteristic side-hall plan, although the three-bay, asymmetrical facade is more often found on three-deckers built a decade earlier. The building is particularly rich in ornament. It is clad in wood clapboard and has a hip roof, with paired decorative brackets regularly spaced in the cornice overhang. The main facade has a full-length, Stick style porch with turned posts and decorative brackets, and a double-leaf, panelled entry door. The house is also unusual for its two side-wall bay windows, both of which extend upward the full three stories. These have bracketed window overhangs between stories. Windows have 1/1 and 2/2 sash, and are capped by bracketed hoods with decorative, saw-tooth molding.

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

Built ca. 1901, 79 Florence Street was part of a pattern of scattered three-decker development in the Florence-Maywood Street area in the early 20th century, as streetcar suburbs developed along the western fringes of the fashionable Woodland Street area. The house was first owned as a rental property by Levi Flagg, a realtor who at the turn of the century owned 16 other buildings in the city. The Flagg family owned 69 Florence until 1920, when the owner was Israel Greengus, another local realtor, who owned over two dozen Worcester properties. In 1924, the house was owned by Archibald and Catherine McLeod, who lived in neighboring 81 Florence. By 1928, the building was owned and occupied by Wilfred Paradis, a machinist. The earliest known residents of the house (1902) included Ezra Bennett, a wireworker; Henry Robbins, a blacksmith; and Frederick Freshett, a clerk. Residents in 1920 included Ellsworth Phillips, a secretary for the Worcester City Missionary Society; Otto Carlson, a wireroller; and Elmer Ormsby. In 1930, tenants included Michael Mina, an inspector; and Frank Winters, a wireworker.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1900, 1902, 1912, 1920, 1928, 1930.
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

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 21. Elm Street Historic District | Substantive Review | Keeper Shelton Byers 1/1/90 | |
| | | Attest <u>Barry Savage 02/09/90</u> | |
| 22. Erikson, Knut, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 23. Euclid Avenue--Montrose Street Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 24. Fay Street Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 25. Flagg, Levi, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 26. Fontaine, George, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 27. Friberg, Andrew, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 28. Giguere, Thomas, Three-Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 29. Gullberg, Evert, House -Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |
| 30. Hadley, Gilbert, House -Decker | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Shelton Byers 2/9/90</u> | |
| | | Attest _____ | |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Flagg, Levi, 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: 89002362

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 _____

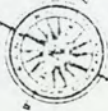
Signed _____ Date _____



Worcester Three-Decker MRA
LEVI FLAGG THREE DECKER
79 FLORENCE STREET
WORCESTER, MA
MHC # 1286



Levi Flagg Three-Decker
79 Florence ST., Worcester
MHC # 1286



209

MAYWOOD ST

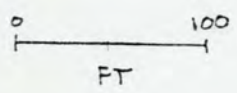
TENNIS COURTS

207

FLORENCE

BEAVER

AUTO BODY REPAIR



OLIVER

ALL PEOPLES TABERNACLE

CLEMENT

DONNA KAY REST HOME

3

M.C. 1286
(20)

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305