

DEC 2 6 1988

FORM A - AREA

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

CU	575-582, 1683
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Town Worcester

Name of Area (if any) Elm Street
Historic District

Present Use residential

General Date or Period 1904-1906

General Condition fair to excellent

Acreage 1.5 Acres

Recorded by Michael Steinitz

Organization for MHC

Date December 1988

* 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 Elm Street Historic District includes 9 residential buildings, a carriage house, and 6 modern garages, most not visible from Elm Street. The boundaries were selected to include the surviving row of three-deckers that face Elm Park between Russell Street and Park Avenue. To the west is a 20th century filling station; to the east is a mid-20th century office building. The southern boundary follows the historic boundaries of the subdivision.

Contributing/Non-contributing Status

Buildings: 8C , 8NC

UTM REFERENCE A 19/267740/4682950
B 19/267740/4682910
C 19/267560/4682930
D 19/267560/4682980
USGS QUADRANGLE Worcester North
SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

Elm Street Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as an unusual, fashionable, park-side row of three-deckers, built as a status rental district for local white-collar professional and managerial families. Built at the beginning of the 20th century at the edge of the city's main high-style residential neighborhood, the Elm Street houses also represent a remarkable group of well-detailed and finely designed Queen Anne style three-deckers. The Elm 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 1904 and 1906, the stylish Elm Street three-deckers face Olmstead-designed Elm Park, from which appear as a picturesque streetscape of varied forms and textures. As a group, these houses are unusual for their large dimensions and for the extent of their multi-tier porching. In their irregular massing and textured surfaces they represent well the Queen Anne forms of three-decker design, and 148 Elm Street represents an unusual, eclectic mix of Queen Anne and Shingle style elements. All the houses have the typical side-hall plan, and most have side-wall jogs and/or side-wall bay windows, as well as the characteristic hip roof. All however lack the usual bay window in the main facade. The following are descriptions of the distinguishing characteristics of individual contributing buildings. (CONTINUED)

Bowker-Bagdikian Three-Decker, 134 Elm Street. This house is notable for the massive, three-tier porch that extends across the main facade and wraps

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

In the second half of the 19th century, the area west of downtown Worcester, particularly along the Elm, Cedar and Williams Street axes, was a primary focus of high-income residential development. By the 1890s, this district had expanded into the area immediately to the east of the Olmstead-designed Elm Park, and this picturesque landscape garden setting attracted a number of subdivisions along its edges. These included, along the southern, Elm Street side of the park, a row of stylish Queen Anne three-deckers, all built between 1904 and 1906 as premium rental properties. Of the the nine houses in the Elm Street Historic District, five were developed and initially owned by Charles W. Bowker, a local merchant who by 1910 owned over two dozen buildings in the city. These fashionable houses, with their park-side location and proximity the the city's main high-status district, attracted a distictly white-collar and managerial group of residents. Members of the Bowker family, including John Bowker, a business manager, and Harold Bowker, a clerk, lived at 132 Elm Street in 1910, as did Frank Roys, an instructor at nearby Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Fred Ricker, owner of a piano dealership. Residents of 134 Elm Street included businessman George S. Boutelle; teachers Elizabeth and Cara Dillingham; and real estate agents Chester and Edith Hendrick. Occupants of 138 Elm Street in 1904 included Reverend I.L. Wilcox of the Park Church, and Charles Adams, a bookkeeper. The earliest residents of 140 Elm Street included Elizabeth Metcalf, a music teacher, and Lewis Muzzy, a public

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

(CONTINUED)

Worcester Directory, Worcester House Directory, 1904, 1906, 1910, 1912, 1920, 1930.

L.J. Richards, Atlas of the City of Worcester, 1911, 1922.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No:
Property Name: Elm Street HD	

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

Architectural Significance(cont)

around the side of the house to the side-wall jog. A second three-tier porch projects from the rear of this side wall. The porches are supported by lathe-turned posts, with solid decorative brackets and open balustrades. A shingle band extends between the second and third stories on the side walls. The first story windows have caps; others have simple surrounds. A small, centered hip dormer projects from the front roof slope. A large ca. 1900 carriage house is located behind the building.

Bowker-Epstein Three-Decker, 138 Elm Street. This house is nearly identical in its features to 134 Elm Street.

Bowker-Harlow Three-Decker, 132 Elm Street. This building is also very similar to 134 Elm Street, with its three-tier, open porches supported by lathe-turned posts. The building has however lost some details with the application of modern siding.

Jasper-Friedman Three Decker, 148 Elm Street. The most unusual house in the row, this building represents a mix of Queen Anne and Shingle styles. The house features a corner turret with conical cap. The main structure has a gambrel roof into which the third story is integrated. A cross gambrel is located at the rear of the house, and three-tier front and side porches are sheltered by smaller, projecting gambrels, with the third-tier openings located in the face of the gambrels. The porches have open central balustrades with geometric pattern rails, and arched openings in the third tier. A curved bay window projects from the side wall. The house is clad in wood shingle. Most windows have 2/1 sash, and the house retains several geometric and floral pattern stained-glass lights.

Bowker-Mailman Three-Decker, 140 Elm Street. This house is notable for its three-story corner turret with conical cap. Opposite the turret on the main facade is a three-tier, two-bay entry porch, sheltered by a projecting shed roof with a gable dormer. This porch is supported by lathe-turned posts, and has open balustrades and an arched, lattice-work opening on the third tier. Shingle bands are located between the stories on the turret and side walls.

Bowker-Chase Three-Decker, 142 Elm Street. This house is nearly identical in its features to 140 Elm Street. However, a three-tier side porch (mid-20th C) has been added by the side-wall bay window.

Rawson Three-Decker, 144 Elm Street. The smallest, and most simply designed of the Queen Anne three-deckers in this row, this house has a hip roof, a three-tier entry porch, and wood shingle siding.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No:
Property Name: Elm Street HD	

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

Historical Significance (cont)

accountant and auditor. Occupants in 1910 of 142 Elm Street included William Durham, a sales manager; Fred Waring, an auditor; and Ethel Waring, a teacher. In 1910, 148 Elm Street was owned by Morris Jasper and Simon Friedman. Tenants in that year included Joseph Dapper, a real estate agent; Noah Goodhue, a salesman; and Clarence Abbott, a district manager for New England Telephone and Telegraph.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

DISTRICT DATA SHEET
ELM 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>
6-2-9	575	Bowker-Harlow Three-Decker /garage	132 Elm Street	c1904	Queen Anne	1C-B 1NC-B
6-2-8	576	Bowker-Bagdigian Three-Decker /carriage house	134 Elm Street	c1904	Queen Anne	2C-B
6-2-10	577	Bowker-Healey Three-Decker	136 Elm Street	c1904	Second Empire	1NC-B
6-2-42	578	Bowke-Epstein Three-Decker /garage	138 Elm Street	c1904	Queen Anne	1C-B 1NC-B
6-2-13	579	Bowker-Chase Three-Decker /garage	140 Elm Street	c1904	Queen Anne	1C-B 1NC-B
6-2-51	580	Bowker-Chase Three-Decker /garage	142 Elm Street	c1904	Queen Anne	1C-B 1NC-B
6-2-14	581	Rawson Three-Decker /garage	144 Elm Street	c1906	Queen Anne	1C-B 1NC-B
6-2-14A	582	Rawson House	146 Elm Street			2NC-B
6-2-41	1683	Jasper-Friedman Three-Decker /garage	148 Elm Street	c1906 Anne	Shingle/Queen	1C-B 1NC-B

TOTAL: 8 Contributing Buildings
9 Noncontributing Buildings

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

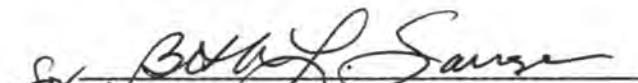
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89002374 Date Listed: 02/09/90

Elm Street Historic District Worcester MA
Property Name County State

Worcester Three-Deckers TR, Worcester MRA
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

02-09-90
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Correct counts of contributing and noncontributing resources:

- 8 C building
- 9 NC buildings
- 0 C structure
- 0 C object
- 0 C site

The count indicated on the district data sheet is correct, not the total indicated on page #1 of the inventory form.

This information was confirmed with Ann Tait, MASHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ~~OWNER OBJECTION~~ *NOMINATION*

PROPERTY Elm Street Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE Worcester Three-Deckers MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 12/26/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/09/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89002374

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/09/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA *Accept A+C*
REVIEWER *Sars*
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

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



ELM ST. H.D.

WORCESTER, MA

Worcester Three Decker #24

Processing Services

Kodak



Processing Services

Kodak





ELM ST. H.D.

WORCESTER, MA

Worcester Three Decks, MA





ELM ST, H.D.,
WORCESTER, MA

Worcester Three Decks MA





ELM ST. H.D

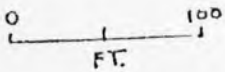
WORCESTER, MA

Worcester Three Peckers USA

THE ORIGINAL
Kodak

Elm Street Historic District, Worcester

35



MARKED WITH AN X
DEMOLISHED
COMPONENT SITE



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000305