



AREA

FORM NO.

TP

88-4

Town Lowell

Address 649-651 Westford Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1893

Source Water Records

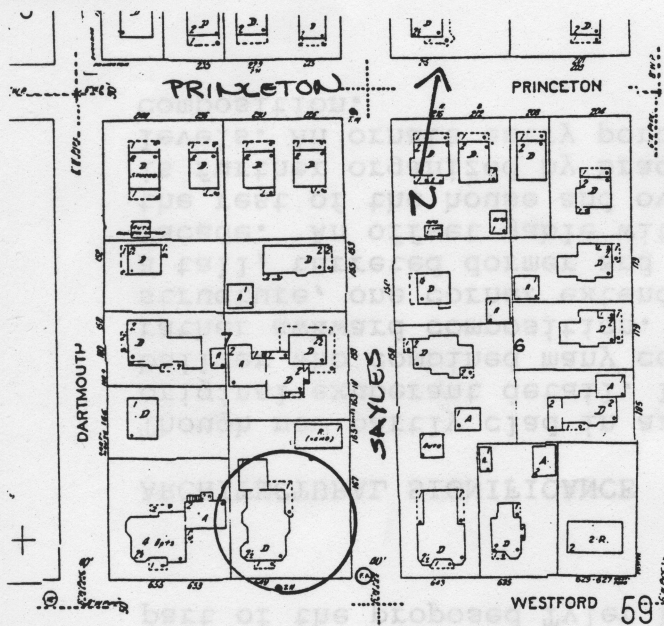
Style Queen Anne

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric asbestos/shingle

Outbuildings attached garage

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



Major Alterations (with dates) _____

artificial siding

Condition fair

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreeage 9,200 sq. ft.

Setting large corner lot in suburban setting

UTM REFERENCE _____

USGS QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization _____

Date December, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT: This building is an integral part of the proposed Tyler Park historic district.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Though now partly clad in artificial siding, this house retains its original exuberant detail. It appears to be the work of a local builder who combined many common Queen Anne elements, a unique but rather awkward composition. Basically a cross gabled 2 1/2 story structure, one corner extends to a 3 story octagonal bay topped with a tall, turreted dormer and finial, giving the front a three story facade. An offset gable with cut out work in the gable field tops the rest of the house and overhangs an octagonal corner. The facade is further organized by bracketed cornices at second and third story levels. An ornate entry porch topped with a balustrade finishes the composition.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This house, like its next neighbor to the east, was built in 1893, either just before or just after the registration of the Tyler Park Lands subdivision. Those parcels were sold with restrictions on the lot running with the deed; the roof must be of incombustible material, usually slate, use must be residential rather than commercial, only one dwelling house is allowed on the lot, dwellings must have at least two stories and set back must be at least 15 feet from the street. The subdivision, intended for middle and upper middle class residences, was developed by William Bent, who hired the famous landscape firm of Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot to plan and landscape Tyler Park as the centerpiece of the development. The park had been given to the town by the Tyler family, who had long owned the then pasture land.

The house appears to have been originally used as a rental property.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lowell Water Records 1893
Lowell City Directory 1893-96
Atlases 1879, 1896