



AREA

FORM NO.

TP 100-2

Town Lowell

Address 635 Westford Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1893

Source Water Records

Style Queen Anne

Architect Jacob B. Foss ?

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings shed at rear, may

predate house

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

Condition excellent

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage 7,260 sq. ft.

Setting set close to street, large

side yard, surrounded by picket

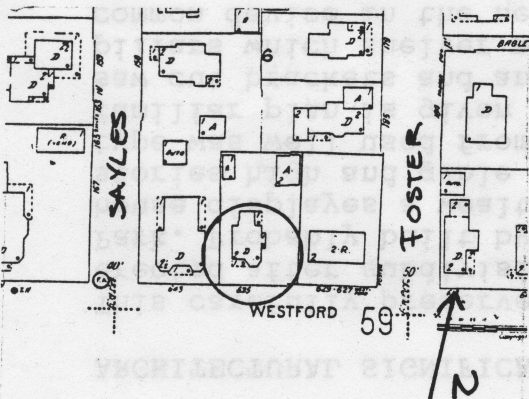
fence.

Recorded by Architectural Preservation
Associates

Organization _____

Date December, 1986

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



UTM REFERENCE _____

USGS QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This carefully preserved Queen Anne house, one of the earliest to be erected after subdivision, is a good example of the genre in Tyler Park. Probably built by its first owner, carpenter Jacob Foss, the house displays a wealth of woodworking craft and ornament. 2 1/2 stories high and gable end to the street with a side hall plan, the type was well used from the 1830s onwards. Here however, the familiar plan is given a Queen Anne look. Eaves are supported on jig saw cut brackets and an octagonal oriel is supported on fluted pillars which shelter a small front porch with spindle screen. A common device in the neighborhood is the cut back or chamfered corner with overhang. A shed in the generous side yard may predate the dwelling.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In 1893 Mary and Susan Tyler gave the 2.74 acre Tyler Park to the City of Lowell. William Bent, a developer purchased part of their family acreage and asked Charles Eliot, partner in the famous Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot landscape firm to lay out the Park in a butterfly shaped subdivision suitable for suburban development. The Tyler Park Lands, as it was called, was intended not "for rich men exclusively, but ...any person of respectability and sufficient means who wants a good home". Development was fairly rapid, and spread from the east along Westford Street following the street rail tracks, and along Foster and a few side streets. Several other carpenters made their homes nearby.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lowell Morning Mail, 2/23/93
Lowell Water Records
Lowell City Directory, 1894
Atlas, 1896
Middlesex County Registry of Deeds
U.S. Census, 1900