

AREA

FORM NO.

TP

73-6

Town Lowell

Address 685 Westford Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1922

Source Water Records

Style Craftsman/Rational Revival

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric shingle

Outbuildings _____

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

Condition excellent

Moved _____ Date _____

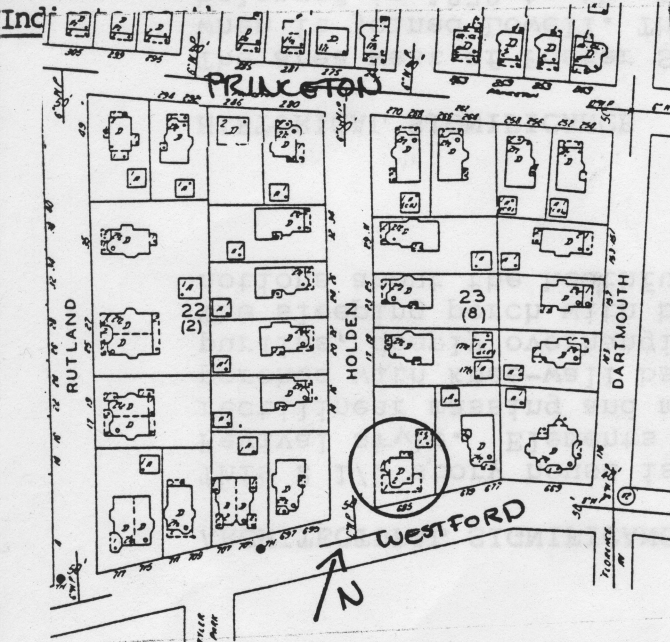
Acreage under one acre

Setting on large corner lot facing
major residential street, large
evergreens in yard

Recorded by Architectural Preservation
Associates
Organization Tyler Park Neighborhood
Association

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).



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 2 1/2 story house is a fine example of the Craftsman/Rational Revival style. Elements of this style include the distinctive rectilinear massing and motifs such as the trellised porch supports, porches with knee-wall balusters, flat window surrounds, exposed purlins, deeply overhanging eaves and dark stained shingle cladding. The sleeping porch with banded windows reflects contemporary notions about the healthfulness of sleeping in the fresh air.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The area west of Foster Street was part of Chelmsford until 1874, when it joined Lowell. The land on which this house was built belonged in 1879 to the Tyler family, who were long time land owners here. After the death of their husbands, Susan and Mary Anne Tyler gave 2.74 acres of their pasture land to the City of Lowell for a public park, and sold off much land for suburban development. William Bent, a local lawyer purchased a butterfly piece of their property, and developed it after 1893 around the park, which he had designed by Charles Eliot, of the landscape firm Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot.

A second piece was purchased by William Holden, a local butcher. Holden held his land until just before the First World War. Between about 1911 and 1924, most of the houses on either side of Holden and Rutland Streets were constructed, often with two family housing.

Charles Drew, who lived here in 1923, was a teamster.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lowell City Directory 1923 Charles W. Drew, teamster
Lowell Water Records 1922 Charles W. Drew
maps, 1879, 1896, 1906, 1924