

AREA

FORM NO.

TP

74-9

Town Lowell

Address 769 - 771 Westford Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Present multi family dwelling

Original multi family dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1908

Source Water Records

Style Queen Anne/Colonial Revival

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard/shingle

Outbuildings garage

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

balcony and porch balustrades

Condition good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage under one acre

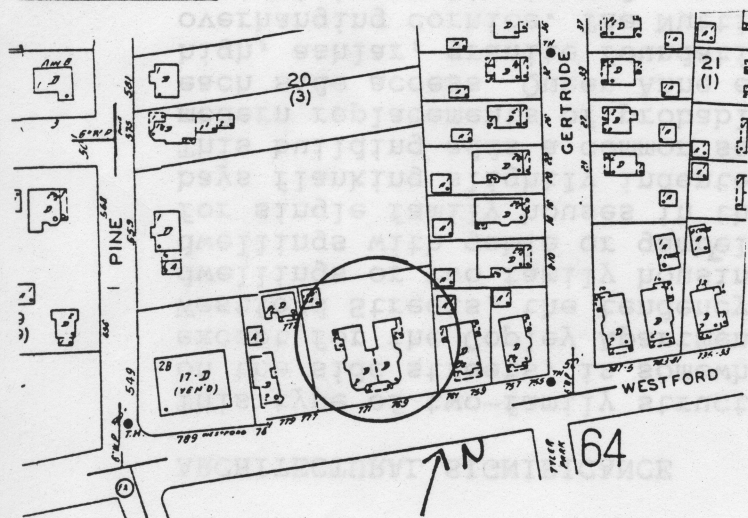
Setting on a major residential street,
lot falls away to rear, hedge and
mature plantings

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). Indicate north



TM REFERENCE _____

SGS QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This type of two-family structure, though built with some frequency on the side streets, is somewhat unique on Westford Street, where, except for the Copley Apartments on the corner of Tyler Park and Westford Streets, the tendency was to build either single family dwellings or two family housing designed to resemble single family dwellings with gable or gambel roofs. The form, however, is common for single family houses in the area, with symmetrical octagonal bays flanking slightly indented entries at a first floor porch. This building adds a common second floor porch (columns appear to be modern replacements of probably more ornate originals), and gives each side access. Queen Anne elements common to the area include the high, ashlar, granite foundation and the chamfered corner with overhanging cornice. The Nutting windows however, are Colonial Revival in stylistic reference.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Before 1874, the area west of Foster Street was part of Chelmsford. It was primarily agricultural, with a few scattered farms on the open and wooded land. By the late 1880s however, pressure from expanding Lowell caused the subdivision of the land into suburban house lots. The wide strip north of Westford and east of Pine Streets however, the property of the Damon family, remained relatively open. Two houses appear on the map of 1896 on Westford St. were owned by the Ryan family, which had lived in the neighborhood since 1885. This structure, built in 1908, was probably intended as a rental property. In 1917 it was occupied by Daniel and James Foye, a hotel worker and conductor, John Walsh, conductor and Edwin Sleeper, who worked at the U.S. Cigar Co.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Plan Books
Lowell Water Records, 1908
maps, 1879, 1896, 1906, 1924
Lowell City Directory, 1917