

T.P. National Register District

AREA FORM NO.

TP 89-29



Town Lowell

Address 84 Florence Avenue

Historic Name _____

Use: Present single family dwelling

Original single family dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1924

Source 1924 atlas & directory

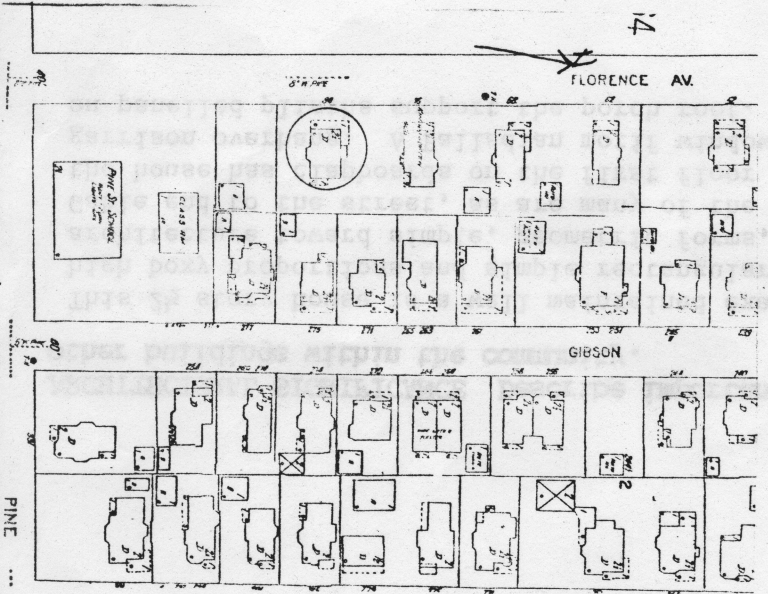
Style Colonial Revival

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard, shingle

Outbuildings none

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) room added

on east

Condition good

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting Faces west on a slightly raised lot.

MAP REFERENCE _____

QUADRANGLE _____

SCALE _____

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Assoc.

Organization Tyler Park Neighborhood Assoc.

Date December, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

This house is an integral part of the proposed Tyler Park Historic District.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 2½ story house is a well maintained example of the late Colonial Revival style. Its high boxy proportions and simple rectangular plan are indicative of the trends in architecture toward simple, geometric forms, yet the ornament is Colonial Revival. Gable end to the street, as are many of the houses in the neighborhood from the period, the house has clapboards on the first floor and shingles above, divided by a slight garrison overhang. A Palladian motif window is located in the gable end and colonnettes on panelled plinths support the porch roof.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

This is one of the later houses to be built on Florence Avenue. In 1870 the farm and open pasture land which included this lot was annexed to Lowell from Chelmsford and it remained a rural area until the 1880s when investors began buying and selling in the area preparing for residential development. As Lowell's industries expanded to compete with other textile manufacturers, its population increased and the demand for middle class housing in the 80s at the city's margins increased as well. One of the early investors was James W. Bennett who like most of the area's investors was a local businessman. Bennett was a carpenter and gravel roofer. But developments frequently changed hands and this was no exception with Charles E. Goulding owning it by 1906. In 1924 lawyer John M. O'Donoghue lived in the house and was probably its first owner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

ATLASES

- 1879 - land of Mrs. Moore
- 1896 - lots owned by James W. Bennett
- 1906 - lots laid out and owned by Chas. E. Goulding
- 1924 - lot empty
- 1936 - John

DIRECTORIES

- 1896 - James W. Bennett carpenter and gravel roofer
- 1924 - John M. O'Donoghue, lawyer, h. 84 Fl. Ave.