

AREA

FORM NO.

TP

13-7

Town Lowell

Address 705-707 Westford Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1911

Source Water Records

Style Colonial Revival

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard/shingle

Outbuildings garage

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

new stair rail

Condition good

Moved _____ Date _____

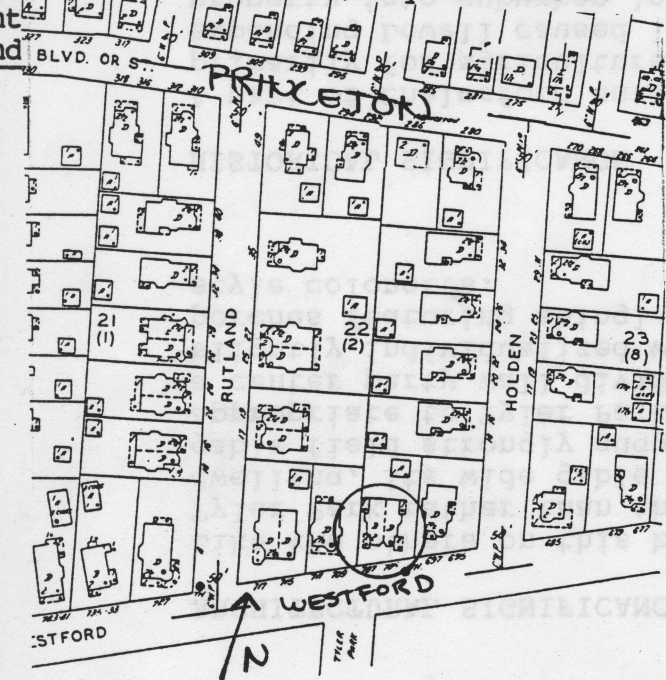
Acreage under one acre

Setting faces Tyler Park on major residential street, oriented to park

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, outbuildings, and property and nearest



Map Reference _____

Map Quadrangle _____

Scale _____

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Like the others on this block, this structure is oriented to face Tyler Park rather than the street. Although built as a two family dwelling, its wide gable roof with single band of windows in the gable field strongly suggests a large single family house appropriate to Tyler Park frontage. Set gable end to the street with a center party wall dividing opposing side hall plans, each side is slightly individualized with differing first and second story porches featuring shingled kneewalls supporting Colonial Revival style colonetts.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

A part of Chelmsford until 1874, this area was rural, its land used primarily for agriculture. However, residential pressure from expanding Lowell caused landowners in the 1880s to subdivide their property into suburban lots for the middle classes. The land on which this house was built belonged to Mrs. William Tyler, whose family had owned land here since the late 18th century. In 1893 Susan and Mary Anne Tyler donated 2.74 acres to the City of Lowell for a public park, and sold much of their pasturage to developers William Bent and William Holden. Bent developed the Tyler Park Lands around the new park, which was designed as a centerpiece for the subdivision by Charles Eliot of Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot in 1893. Holden, a local butcher, did not immediately subdivide his property, which was not developed until between World War I and 1924, when it was nearly solidly built up.

This house was originally owned by Anna Harris, and intended either for rental or sale. It is one of the earliest condominium arrangements. In 1917 it was occupied by John Francis, a superintendent, and Abraham Guslat, a watchmaker.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps 1906, 1924
owner notes Anna G, Harris original owner
Lowell Water Records, 1911
Lowell City Directory, 1917