

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CHI.499
Historic Name:	Whittier, Rufus House
Common Name:	
Address:	10 Union St
City/Town:	Chicopee
Village/Neighborhood:	Chicopee Center
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	c 1850
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	No style
Use(s):	Multiple Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	CHI.D: Springfield Street Historic District
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (01/25/1991); Local Historic District (09/20/1991)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Brick; Brown Stone; Wood; Wood Clapboard



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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CH1.499

AREA <u>D</u>	FORM NO. <u>499</u>
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FORM B - BUILDING

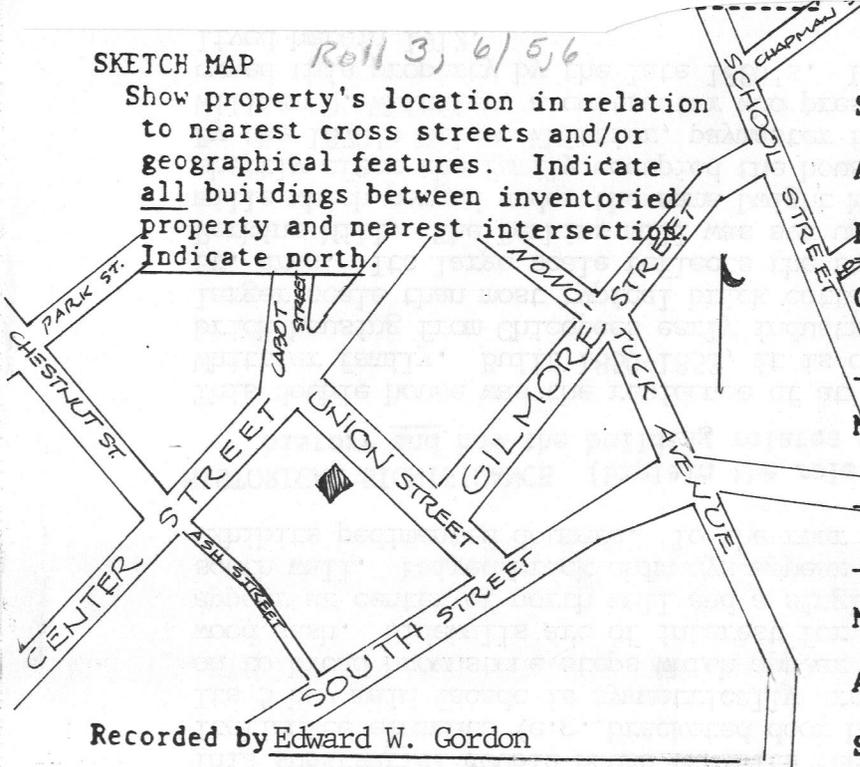
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Chicopee
 s #10 and Union Street
 ic Name Rufus Whittier house
 Present double house
 iginal double house
 RIPTION:
1850-1853

Source Directories
 Style late Federal/Italianate
 Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
c. early 1890's 2 story rear wing

SKETCH MAP Roll 3, 6/5,6
 Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Edward W. Gordon
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date February 1984

Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage less than one acre
 Setting residential enclave of mid 19thc.
brick dwellings

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This substantial double house exhibits Federal massing, roof configurations with Italianate elements (e.g. bracketed door hood part of which is a modern replacement). Its 5 bay main facade is symmetrically arranged around paired entrances which open on to broad brownstone steps which appear to be original. Windows contain 6/6 wood sash. Sidewalls are of interest for curious fenestration - paired windows appear at center of north wall and a single, off center window appears on the south wall. Paired brick chimneys appear at either end of the gable roof which exhibits pedimented dormers. To the rear is a 2 story frame addition .

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

This double house was the residence of at least three generations of the Rufus Whittier family. Built 1850-1853, it is one of the most substantial examples of brick housing from Chicopees early industrial period and is built on a much larger scale than most typical brick cottages of the immediate Union - Gilmore St. area. Its large scale reflects the status of Rufus Whittier, agent for the Perkins Mill. The Perkins mill was set up in the 1840's and was one of three textile mills which merged under the name Dwight Mfg. Co. in 1856. Rufus apparantly died shortly after the family occupied the house as his widow is listed here in 1853/54. By the 1870's Nelson Whittier, paymaster for the Dwight Mfg. Co. owned this property. William D. Whittier, a contractor who presumably built the early 1890's rear addition owned this property by the late 1880's. Louis W. Whittier, insurance collector, lived herein 1912.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

- Maps/Atlases 1835, 1855, 1870, 1894, 1912
- Springfield/Chicopee Directories 1850's, 70's, 90's, 10's.
- The Architectural Heritage of Chicopee - Kristin O'Connell

