

30 Jefferson Avenue (circa 1840-1848)

From Boston Landmark Commission's Charlestown Historic Resources Study 1981 (E. W. Gordon, Consultant)*:

Number 30 Jefferson Avenue is an essentially astylistic diminutive cottage. It has a brick basement, a three bay façade and one bay sidewall, with a rectangular form and center hall plan. The edges are accented by narrow corner boards and there are base and fascia boards. The building has a gable roof with return eaves. It is clad with clapboards and has a replacement front door with simple vertical and horizontal entrance enframements. The northeast wall has a two-story one bay by one bay addition. There are two attic windows per gable with 6/6 wood sash.

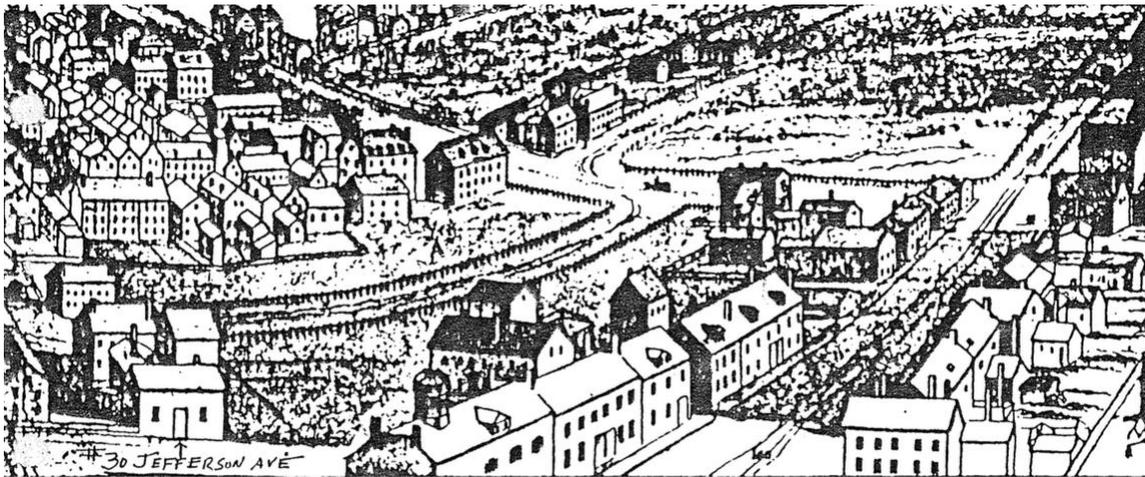


30 Jefferson Avenue

2015

Original owner: unknown

Tucked away behind the houses of Bartlett and Trenton Streets, 30 Jefferson provides a glimpse of a "secret" Charlestown- a world of narrow meandering alleyways and diminutive dwellings. Architecturally, 30 Jefferson Avenue is the most modestly scaled house in the Charlestown historic buildings survey. The 1848 R P Mallory Panoramic View of Charlestown/Boston clearly show that number 30 was never an ell attached to a larger structure, but was from the start a single family cottage.



Essentially astylistic, this clapboard clad dwelling's edges are defined by narrow base and corner boards with entrance enframements limited to simple narrow vertical and horizontal boards.

Jefferson Avenue is the outermost northwest side street on the 115-lot tract owned and developed by the Bunker Hill Monument Association beginning in 1839. In a sense, Jefferson Avenue is a much narrower continuation of Cedar Street. Number 30 Jefferson Avenue probably dates to circa 1840-1848. In 1875 its owner was an R M Hall (occupation?). By

1885 this house was owned by a James Donovan. From circa 1890 until the early 1900s it was owned by a P J Donovan.

Bibliography:

Map-1818, 1852

Atlases-1868, 1875, 1885, 1892, 1901, 1911

Charlestown/Boston directories

Panoramic view of Charlestown/Boston, 1848

*Digitized, and edited without change in content, from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, and with addition of current photographs. In the case of houses that have been altered since the survey, these photographs may not entirely correspond to the architectural description. If earlier photographs of suitable quality are available, these have been included.

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