

CONTINUATION SHEET 1

Significance (continued)

The duplex is a good example of midwestern vernacular Greek Revival architecture. Buildings with similar stylistic and typological sources were extremely popular in Quincy during the 1850's and 1860's. The two-thirds double pile plan was in fact the commonest local two-story housing type prior to and during the Civil War. By doubling the plan and carefully controlling the scale and placement of stylistic detail, the builders endued this ordinary type with grandeur and monumentality. Its grandiose appearance is accentuated by pedimented dormers paired at the center of the facade and the clustering of the entries at the center. The many elements of Greek Revival style are kept small in scale, further accentuating the massiveness of the overall design. Restricting the dormers to a single pair and breaking the cornice at the center accentuates the individuality of the two living units and forms a counterpoint to the general themes of unity and monumentality.

Little is known of Boeker or Helferink or the work they did in Quincy. The 1859 city directory lists Boeker and Helferink as "Beker and Helfring, carpenters and builders," but that is the only known year of their partnership. Helferink's first appearance in local documents is a listing as a carpenter in the 1850 census; his last is as a carpenter in the 1864/65 city directory. Apart from the 1859 directory, the only local listing of Boeker is the 1860 census.

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