



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

This row of mill workers housing is very significant in that it is the only such brick row in existence in Newburyport today. The buildings are functional in style with little or no original architectural detail. The one attempt to ornament the block long structure is the brickwork at the cornice which forms a dentil molding. Otherwise there is little elaboration of the two story gable roofed building.

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

This row of single family dwellings was built in 1845-46 by Albert Currier for the Ocean Steam Mills. The company itself was incorporated on March 21, 1845, and the four story brick factory that once stood on Monroe Street was begun in that year. The factory was also built by Currier.

Albert Currier was a well-known mason and contractor. He lived at 17 Kent Street and was involved in many of the large building projects in Newburyport during the mid-nineteenth century. At the age of 26 he was the contractor that built the Globe Steam Mills on Federal Street in 1846. He also built the new Mills on Federal Street in 1846. He built the new Town Hall in 1850, now City Hall, and many of the City's schools. He also built the Simpson Annex to the Newburyport Public Library in 1881. Currier served as mayor of the City of Newburyport in 1859 and 1860.

Currier purchased the block of buildings from the Ocean Mills shortly after they were constructed. They housed people associated with the neighboring industry until the early twentieth century. After several decades of slow deterioration the buildings have been recently purchased and remodeled.

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