

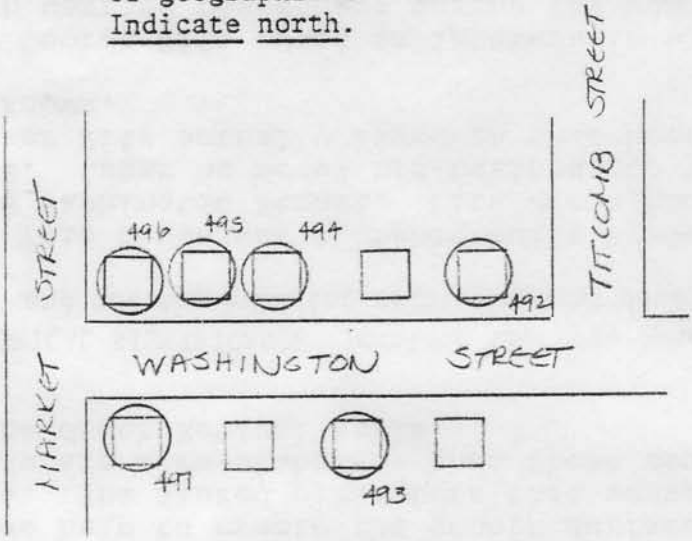
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport  
 Address 16 Washington Street  
 Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner George Fitz

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1845  
 Source 1851, Map of Newburyport  
 Style Greek Revival  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, flush boards  
 Outbuildings Shed

Major alterations (with dates) front entrance altered (late nineteenth century)

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 3,314 sq. ft.  
 Setting in residential area of primarily eighteenth and nineteenth century houses.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 12-08-80

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

This house is a fine example of the Greek Revival style as interpreted in a small domestic structure. The style is evidenced in the placement of the two and a half story house so that the gable faces the street. The continuous cornice helps to create the effect of a pediment on the street facade. The flush boards on the building's facade help to create the smooth surface characteristic of the Greek style. The fluted pillasters that serve as cornerboards on the building's facade are more elaborate than those usually seen on modest structures in the Greek Revival style.

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

This house was probably built by George Fitz, owner of the house at 18 Washington Street. Fitz was a cooper with a business on Brown's Wharf. Later he moved his business to the rear of 58 Merrimac Street. Whether Fitz actually lived in this house or built it for a relative is not known.

George Fitz owned an interest in a small boat named the "Essex" which carried passengers during the summer months to Plum Island and Haverhill. The boat was propelled by horse power and ran on the river for several seasons.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Assessor's Records 1890-1980  
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
372 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.  
J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II.,  
reprint, Newburyport 1977.