

Area	Form no.
H	214

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MA 02108

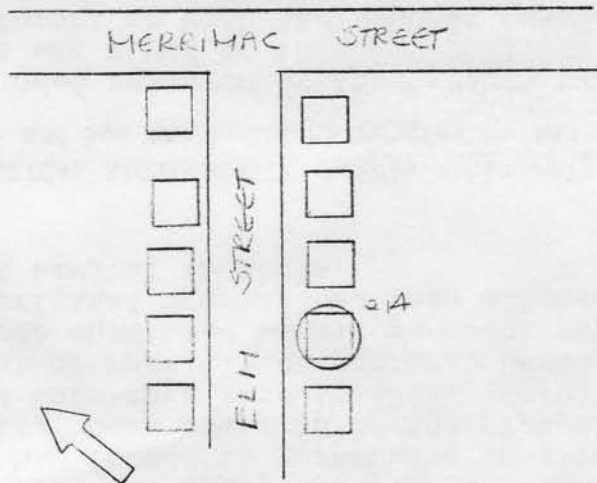


City Newburyport  
 Address 17 Elm Street  
 Historic Name Butler-Rogers House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization  
 Public  
 Original owner Unknown

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

DESCRIPTION:

Date Eighteenth Century  
 Source Building Fabric, Essex County Registry of Deeds  
 Style Georgian  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) front entrance altered (mid-nineteenth century)  
 Moved from Merrimac St. Date 1777  
 Approx. acreage 3,100 sq. ft.  
 Setting in residential area of primarily eighteenth and nineteenth century domestic architecture.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 11-28-80

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

This two story Georgian dwelling with pitched roof and symmetrical five bay facade is vernacular in style with little exterior architectural detail. Deed research by the present owner indicates that this house was moved onto this site in 1777. Originally the house was located on the corner of Merrill and Merrimac Streets. Noteworthy features of this house include chamfered beams, gunstock posts and an unusual cove cornice. The original doorway has been altered and the front entrance is presently Greek Revival in style.

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

Deed research by the present owner of this house indicates that this house was moved to this lot in 1777, by John Butler. Butler was a soldier who fought in both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. He also signed the petition to separate Newburyport from Newbury in 1763. Supposedly the house was cut down by four feet on each side so that the house would fit the new lot.

Later owners of the house included Benjamin Rogers, the founder of the Newburyport Marine Society and Gilman Frothingham, one of the founders of the Mechanics National Bank in 1812. In 1823 Zebulon Titcomb, a shipbuilder, was the owner of this house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980  
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.  
1851, 1871 City Directories  
Deed Research by Mrs. Ellen S. Abbott, Essex County Registry of Deeds.