

Area	Form no.
A	34

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Newburyport

Address 171-173 High Street

Historic Name Stickney-Toppan House

Original residence

Present residential/commercial

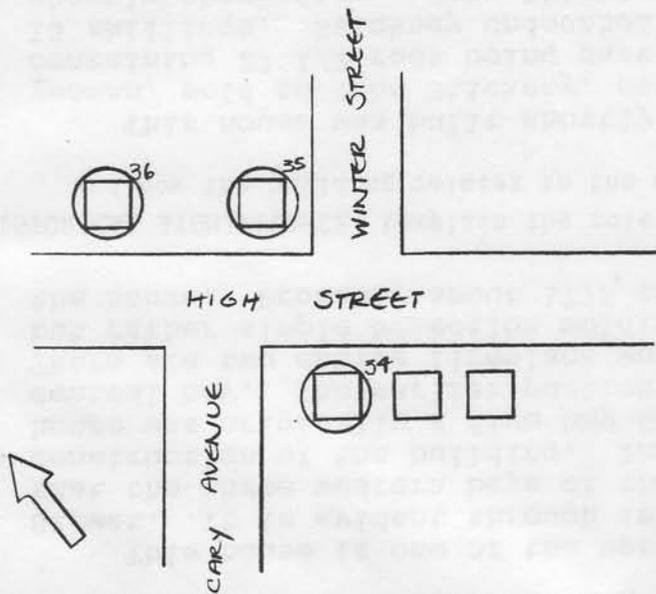
Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public _____

Original owner John Stickney, Jr.

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. 1765

Source Essex County Registry of Deeds

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric asphalt shingles over clapboards

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) Southeastern

bays added (c. 1775), roof dormers

added, addition at rear (dates unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 6,430 sq. ft.

Setting on Newburyport's main thorough-

fare noted for its excellent examples

of domestic architecture dating from

the colonial period through the early twentieth century.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 10-14-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 34
Property Name: Stickney Toppan Hse. 171-173 High St.	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONT.)

The pedimented doorways probably also date from this period. The interior features of this part of the house include mantel pieces that indicate that it was built during the latter part of the eighteenth century. The two story gambrel roofed form of this building is seen throughout Newburyport. The gambrel roof was favored because it provided additional head room in the attic story. Although often associated with mid-eighteenth century, the gambrel roof was built in Newburyport well into the Federal period.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONT.)

Toppan was a linial descendent of Abraham Toppan who came from Yarmouth, England to Newbury in 1637. He was born in Newburyport, June 18, 1765. Toppan had a workshop on one of the wharfs, near the center of town where he made pumps and blocks for householders and shipowners. When business was slack Toppan sold goods from a cart. Toppan was a famous rhyester and many of his sayings were appreciated and published in his time. This house remained in the Toppan family until 1912 when Enoch C. Toppan sold the property to John T. Lunt.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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