

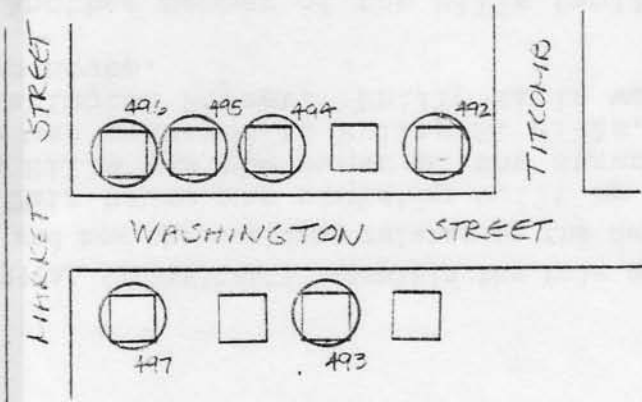
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport  
 Address 19 Washington Street  
 Historic Name Hills House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Unknown

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  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) dormer added (date unknown)  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 5,220 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 Greek Revival in style and like many others in Newburyport. The two and a half story house has a pitched roof with gable facing the street. The continuous cornice helps to create the effect of a Greek pediment. The house also has the cornerboards, heavy entablature and trabeated doorway characteristic of 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 a member of the Hills family. Mrs. Lydia Hills was the owner of the structure in 1851. Prior to 1872 the house was conveyed to Philip K. Hills, who had earlier lived at 17 Washington Street. Philip Hills was a weigher and measurer at the Custom House.

Another member of the Hills family who lived in this house was Laura Coombs Hills, daughter of Philip and Mary. Laura was an artist who designed Christmas cards and valentines. Later she did pictorial illustrations for St. Nicholas Magazine. She studied in Boston and New York. She opened a studio in Boston on Huntington Avenue and later at 66 Chestnut Street. Miss Hills also designed costumes and she specialized in miniatures. She exhibited her work in Boston and abroad. In 1897 she was elected to the Society of American Artists. The Historical Society of Old Newbury has a collection of Miss Hills work.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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