

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
F	188

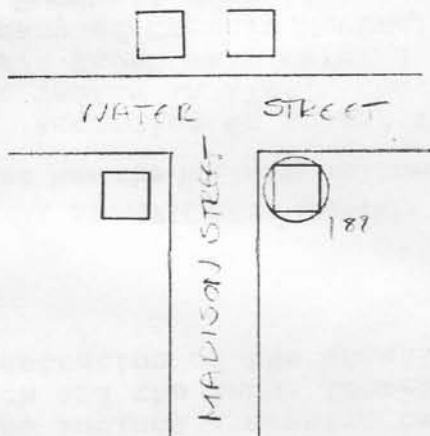
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport
 Address 212 Water Street
 Historic Name Enoch Hale 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.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 10-28-80

DESCRIPTION:

Date Pre -1747
 Source Woodwell, "Joppa"
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings
 Major alterations (with dates) front entrance altered (date unknown)
 Moved Date
 Approx. acreage 4,410 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of predominantly eighteenth century single family dwellings adjacent to the banks of the Merrimack River.

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

This house is one of the fine early houses in the Joppa section of Newburyport. The house was influenced by the Georgian style that led to the formalization of a building. This is evidenced by the symmetrical five bay facade. Notable architectural features of this house include a massive central chimney, a simple enclosed entrance porch and the large lean-to at the rear of the building. The fenestration of the endwall of the house has been altered.

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

According to Roland Woodwell this house was acquired by the Hale family in 1747. Enoch Hale was born in the house the next year. Enoch Hale married a daughter of Gideon Woodwell and in the company of Captain Woodwell and his son, Gideon, built ships in the Woodwell yard at the foot of Marlboro Street. The firm name was Woodwell and Hale. Later Enoch Hale was active in the West India trade. He also built several vessels including the schooners, "Caleb", "Rollo", "Rapid", "Lydia", and "Herald". Hale was a member of the Old South Church. Hale died in 1825.

Enoch Hale had a son, also named Enoch, born in 1793. The younger Hale established a flake yard on the adjacent property between Water and Purchase Street. He was active in the West India trade. He also served as a selectman and as a representative to the Legislature in 1845, 1848, and 1850. Hale also built fish flakes about 1850. These were large frames upon which the fish were dried. There was also a smoke house in the flake yard.

The house at 212 Water Street remained in the Hale family until well into the twentieth century. In 1960 Joseph W. L. Hale left the adjacent land as Hale Memorial Park, in memory of Thomas Hale an early settler of Newbury.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- R. Woodwell, "An Introduction to Joppa", typescript Newburyport Historical Commission.
- 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.