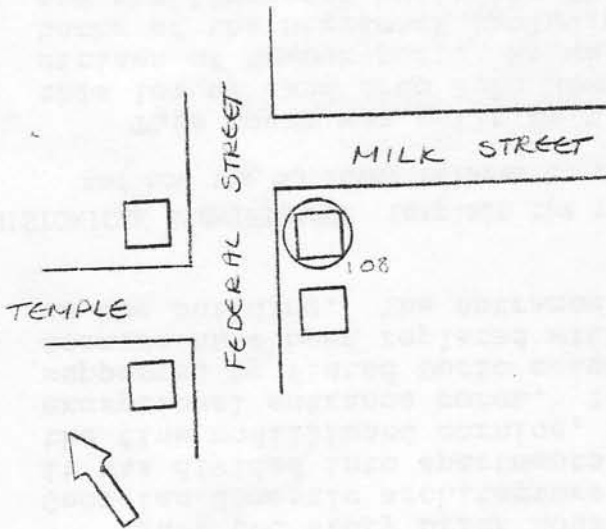


MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport
 Address 43 Federal Street
 Historic Name Nicholas Johnson House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner Nicholas Johnson

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1793
 Source Essex County Registry
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Brick
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) shed dormers added, front entrance altered (dates unknown)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 4,500 sq. ft.
 Setting in densely built up area which the predominant building is that of eighteenth century family dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 10-12-80

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

This two story brick house with hipped roof is a fine example of Georgian domestic architecture. The house was extensively altered when it was divided into apartments. Exceptional features that remain include the fine modillioned cornice, splayed and arched brick window lintels and exceptional entrance porch. The porch is pedimented with Doric entablature supported by fluted Doric columns. The original three Georgian window dormers have been replaced with shed dormers on both the front and side of the building. The entrance has recently been enclosed.

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 built by Nicholas Johnson shortly after he purchased this lot of land from John Newman in 1793. Johnson was a prominent citizen of Newburyport. He was the owner of numerous vessels built on the banks of the Merrimack including the Brigantine "William" built in 1783 and the "Success" built the following year.

Nicholas Johnson was one of the Proprietors of the Locks and Canals of the Merrimack River. He also served as a selectman and as a representative to the General Court. He was also a founder or incorporator of the following organizations, the Merrimack Humane Society in 1802, the Newburyport Wollen Manufacturing Company in 1794, and the Newburyport Marine Insurance Company in 1799. He was also a member of the Marine Fire Society and Marine Society of Newburyport.

The house remained in the Johnson family until the third quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1851 Henry Johnson owned the property. Henry Johnson was the president of the Merchants Bank.

This house is no longer a single family residence having been divided into apartments in the present century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Deed research compiled by present owner, Mrs. Edward Puhl.
J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, Vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.
J. J. Currier, Old Newbury Historical and Biographical Sketches, Boston, 1896.
J. M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.
A. Hale, Old Newburyport Houses, Boston, 1912

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 108
Property Name: Nicholas Johnson Hse.	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. ^{43 Federal Street}

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (CONT.)

- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1872 City Directories

Staple to Inventory form at bottom