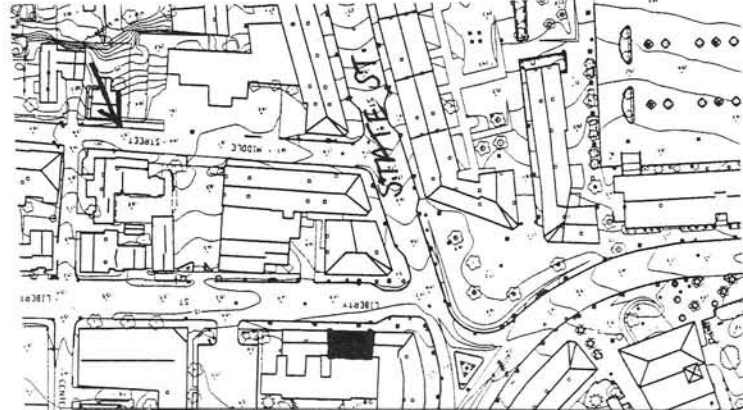


FORM B - BUILDING

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125



Date (month/year) June 1999

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

NRDIS 8/2/1984
Assessor's number 9-25Y

USGS Quad Newburyport

Area(s) L,D

Form Number 1585

Town Newburyport
Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 5-7 Liberty Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Commercial

Date of Construction c.1832

Source visual inspection

Style/Form

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Stone

Wall/Trim Brick

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) c.1970 - building rehabbed
and first floor reconstructed

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Average 28,276 SF (with other adjacent properties)

Setting side street to east of State Street in central
business district

BUILDING FORM (5-7 Liberty Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The building at 5-7 Liberty Street is a three-story brick block capped by a gable roof and separated from the adjacent properties by gabled firewalls with brick chimneys. The brick is laid in a Flemish bond and the building was originally five bays across but the center bay of openings has been bricked-in.

The storefronts were totally reconstructed c.1970 and the first floor brickwork is visually distinguishable from the upper stories. The first floor is divided into two storefronts with an additional entrance leading upstairs. Each storefront consists of a six-panel door capped by a fanlight with an adjacent 3 x 3-light display window set into the brick wall. The second floor windows consist of 6/6 replacement windows with rectangular stone lintels and wooden sills. The third floor windows are slightly smaller and are without lintels. The tops of the windows extend nearly to the brick dentil course.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Liberty Street was laid out in 1769 from Federal Street to Centre Street. In 1832 it was extended to Market Square and the present building at 5-7 Liberty Street was probably constructed at about that time.

Early directories indicate that S.B. Tappan, an auctioneer, was located at 7 Liberty Street in 1855. John Q. Adams operated a provisions store at 5-7 Liberty Street from about 1860 until about 1890, although in later years he split the space with C.E. Adams & Co., provisions, occupying the storefront at 7 Liberty Street. At the turn-of-the-century, the tenants included Fred Silloway, a harness maker. John J. Connor, undertaker, was located at #7 from about 1900 until c.1950. The Log Cabin liquor store was located at #5 by the 1930s and remained here until the 1960s.

Initially scheduled for demolition as part of Urban Renewal, the building was rehabbed in the 1970s.

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Maps

Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: D.B. Beers & Co., 1872.

Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Boston: George H. Walker, 1884.

Beck & Paul. *City of Newburyport*. Framingham, Mass.: Bigelow and Hazen, 1880.

Plan of Newburyport. Philadelphia: H. McIntyre, 1851.

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*