

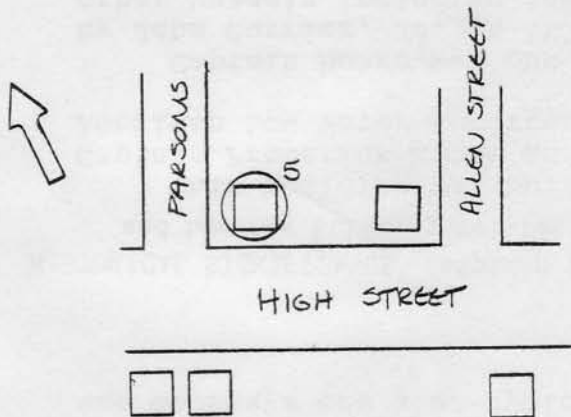
FORM B - BUILDING

Area A	Form no. 5
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



Newburyport
Address 52-54 High Street
Historic Name _____
Original Residence
Present Residence
Ownership: Private individual
Private organization _____
Public _____
Original owner Unknown

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1860
Source 1851, 1872 Maps of Nbpt.
Style Italian Villa Style
Architect Unknown
Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
Outbuildings Garage
Major alterations (with dates) enclosed porch added (date unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____
Approx. acreage 9,230 sq. ft.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
Organization Office of Community Development
Date 8-4-80

Setting on Newburyport's main thoroughfare noted for its excellent example of domestic architecture dating from the Colonial period through the early 20th century.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This building is a vernacular interpretation of the Italian Villa style popular during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The inspiration of the style is evident in the use of simple brackets in the cornice and under the eaves. The brackets are also used to support the window lintels and in the entablature of entrance porticos supported by clusters of columns. Bay windows and the balustrade at the doorways are also typical of the Italianate 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 building was built between 1851 and 1871, and was owned by Captain Frederick Moore and Captain George Lunt, treasurer of the American Low Water Reporter.

Captain Moore was one of the owners of the Ship "Big Bonanza" built by John Currier, Jr. in 1875. Moore also had an interest in several other vessels including the Ship "Charles H. Lunt" built by Currier in 1851 and the Ship "Victorian" built in 1873.

Captain George Lunt was in charge of the Ship "George Griswold" that sailed from New York to Lancaster, England in 1863 with a cargo of flour, pork, beef, corn and rice for the relief of the destitute cotton spinners of that city. At the end of his journey Capt. Lunt was presented with a fine marine telescope by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. In 1867 Capt. George Lunt took the Ship "United States," a vessel of 1200 tons, built by John Currier, Jr. to New Orleans.

The building at 52-54 High Street is a good example of a mid-nineteenth century dwelling built for two sea captains. Although vernacular in style it shows an awareness of the prevailing architectural style and the desire and ability to emulate it.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D.G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1871 City Directories
- J.J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols I and II reprint, Newburyport, 1977.
- R. Cheney, History of Merrimac River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964.