

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
A	10

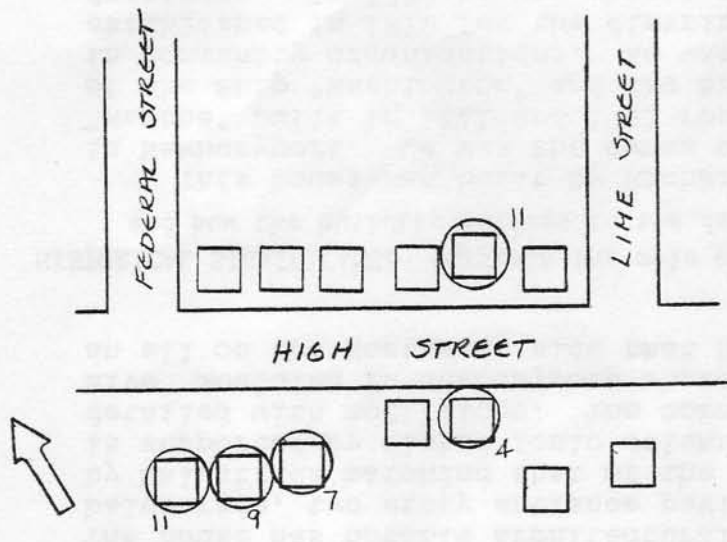
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street



Newburyport
63 High Street
 Historic Name Pike-Cushing-Bachman Hse.
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner Richard Pike

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

DESCRIPTION:
 Date c. 1810
 Source Hale, "Old Newburyport Houses"
 Style Federal
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 1.43 acres
 Setting on Newburyport's main thoroughfare noted for its excellent examples of domestic architecture dating from the Colonial period through the early 20th century.



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

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is an exceptional example of the terraced "Square" house built along High Street in the early years of the 19th century. The house has notable architectural features including the elegant balustrade, two story entrance pavillion with Palladian window surmounted by balustrade matching that of the roof. On the first floor the portico is supported by fluted Ionic columns. The entablature above is elegantly detailed with modillions. The cornice moulding is one called a "bee hive" moulding in Newburyport where it is quite common. The house has an ell on the Northwest side that has arched openings at the door and the
(cont.)

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 Richard Pike a merchant and shipowner in Newburyport. He was the owner of the Schooners "Go Ahead", and "Martha" built in 1811 and 1791 respectively. He was also part owner of the Ship "Washington" and the Brig "Lucy". Pike was also prominent in community organizations. He was a member of the Union Fire Society, established in 1810 for the distribution of the Bible among the poor and destitute. In 1799 he was chosen a director of the Newburyport Marine Insurance Company. Pike was one of the founders of the Newburyport Academy and helped to establish the Newburyport Library Association.

In 1849 this house was purchased by Caleb Cushing one of Newburyport's most prominent and illustrious citizens. Cushing grew up in Newburyport and attended Harvard College and Harvard Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1821 and opened a practice in Newburyport. In 1833 and 1834 Cushing was a representative to the General Court and was elected representative from the Third Massachusetts congressional district in 1834. He was re-elected three times. At the end of his third term he was appointed commissioner to China, a post he held for two years. In 1847 he took command of a regiment organized for service in the Mexican War. Cushing suggested the act annexing areas of Newbury to Newburyport, in 1851. On June 24, 1851, he was elected the first mayor of the City of Newburyport after its incorporation.

In March 1853 Cushing was appointed attorney-general of the United States and he resided in Washington for the next four years. He served as counsel to the negotiations for the Treaty of Washington in Geneva in 1872. In 1874 he was appointed minister to Spain.
(cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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