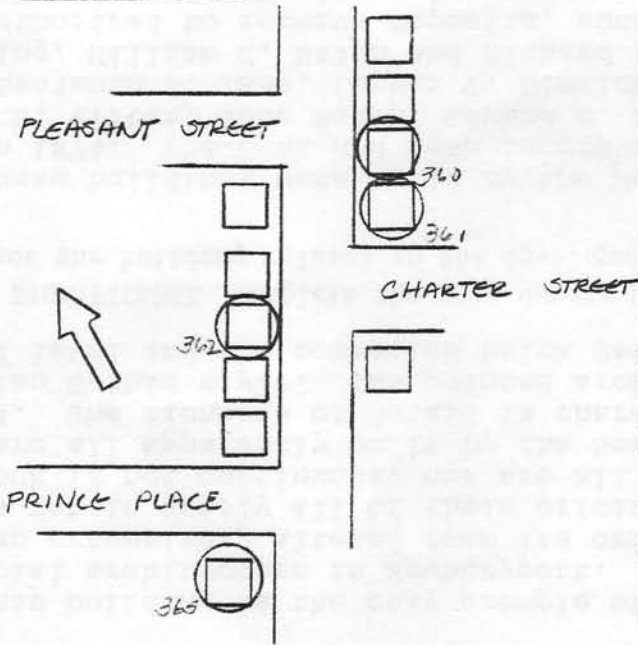


MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport
 Address 70,72-80 State Street
 Historic Name Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank
 Original Bank
 Present Commercial
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Newburyport Five Cent Saving Bank

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1874
 Source Currier, "History of Nbpt."
 Style High Victorian Gothic
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Brick
 Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) Ground level has been altered extensively with the modernization of store fronts (dates unknown), fenestration on second floor of No. 70 altered (1978)

Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 10,502 sq. ft.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 06-30-80

Setting In the central business district adjacent to the Market Square Historic District on Newburyport's main Street, which is primarily Federal in period.

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

This building is the only example of High Victorian Gothic commercial architecture in Newburyport. Although the ground level has been extensively altered from its original form, the upper stories retain nearly all of their original detail and character. The block is not continuous, nor are all of the bays alike. Nonetheless, they were all apparently built by the Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank in 1874. The richness of detail is characteristic of the full blown Victorian Gothic style. The pointed arched windows, the iron cresting at roof level and the corbelled brick detail under the cornice, were all

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

These buildings were built by the Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank in 1874. The bank had been incorporated on April 24, 1854, with Dudley D. Tilton, John Balch, Edward S. Lesky, John Porter, Daniel P. Pike, Benjamin I. Lane, Luther T. Dimmick, Daniel M. Reed, Samuel J. Spaulding, William C. Balch and Richard Plumer as proprietors. They were authorized to receive deposits, sums of as little as five cents. The bank opened for business in rooms over the store of Joseph A. Frothingham on State Street, on June 19, 1854. Later the bank occupied rooms over the Merchants Bank. In 1873, the bank purchased land on the Northwesterly side of State Street. The next year, the building was erected. The bank was located in this building until 1927 when the bank moved across State Street to its present location.

The upper stories of the building have been occupied by the Masonic Temple and by a dance studio. Today the building is occupied by several stores and a variety of offices.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Assessor's Map 1924
J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, Vols. I and II.,
reprint, Newburyport 1977.
Assessor's Records