

Area D	Form no. 140
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 90 Prospect Street

Historic Name Captain Edmund Pike House

Original Residence

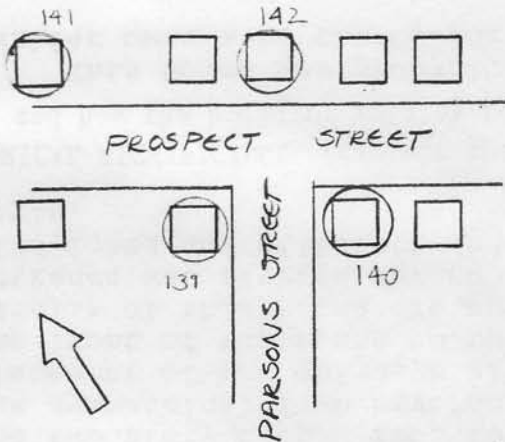
Present Residence

Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date Eighteenth Century

Source

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates) doorways altered (nineteenth century).

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 6,560 sq. ft.

Setting in densely built up area in which the predominant building type is that of eighteenth century single family dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 10-04-80

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

This house was probably built during the late eighteenth century. The two story hipped roof form is typical of the Georgian period, as is the symmetrical five bay facade and the interior endwall chimneys. This placement of the chimneys allowed for a central hallway to extend from the front of the house to the rear in the center bay. The architectural details of this house are very simple except for the front doorway. This entrance was altered during the Greek Revival period and has the flanking sidelights and pilasters and the bold entablature characteristic of that 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 house was probably built during the eighteenth century. The earlier owners of the building have yet to be documented.

In 1851, the house was purchased by Captain Edmund Pike. The previous owner was Micajah Lunt. Both Lunt and Pike were men of the sea. Lunt was born in Newburyport in 1796 and in 1813 he sailed from Boston to France. On the homeward voyage the vessel "Argus" captured one English ship and two brigs.

Lunt was later the owner of several ships and he had a counting room and warehouses on Ferry Wharf. Lunt lived on High Street between 1838 and 1874 when he died. He probably owned this house on Prospect Street as an investment property. Lunt was a prominent member of the community and invested in many ventures, including the Bartlett Steam Mills.

In 1851, Captain Edmund Pike acquired the house. Pike was part-owner of numerous Merrimack-built ships including the "Rosalind" built in 1840, the "Franchise" built in 1848, the "Castillian" built in 1849, the "Josiah L. Hale" built in 1857 and the "Amity" built in 1843.

Pike owned the house for several decades. In 1872 Edmund J. Pike, probably a son, was also in residence. His occupation was master mariner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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- R. Cheney, History of Merrimac River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964.
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, Vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.