

FORM B - BUILDING

Area A	Form no. 22
-----------	----------------

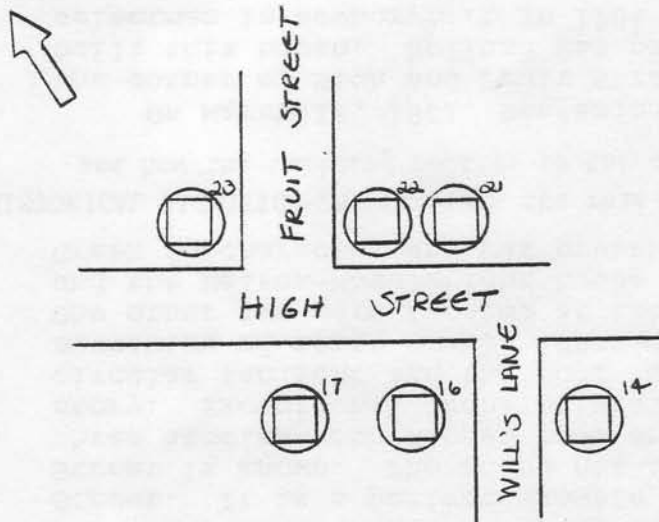
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport
 Address 96 High Street
 Historic Name Nelson-Wheelwright House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Stephen Holland

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

DESCRIPTION:
 Date 1801
 Source Hale "Old Newburyport Houses"
 Style Federal
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) Portico added (mid 19th century)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 18,700 sq. ft.
 Setting on Newburyport's main thoroughfare noted for its excellent example of domestic architecture dating from the Colonial period through the early 20th century.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirkwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 8-11-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This is one of the finest Federal homes on Newburyport's High Street. It is a perfect example of the "square house" for which High Street is known. The house has the characteristic Federal form of three stories with hipped roof and small square windows in the third story. Exceptional architectural features include the door with semi-circular fanlight and the roof balustrade. The balustrade is the only surviving of three nearly identical ones that once graced High Street. The other two were located at the Tenny-Hoyes house at 102-104 High Street and the Nelson-Wheelwright house at 98 High St. The entrance porticos are Greek in character and was probably a min-nineteenth century addition.

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

On March 18, 1801, Benjamin Wyatt sold this parcel of land at the corner of High and Fruit Streets to Stephen Holland who subsequently built this house. Holland was probably a merchant and served as selectman in Newburyport in 1808 and 1809.

In 1824 the property was sold to Greer Sanborn. Sanborn served as selectman in 1825. Sanborn owned interest in several vessels including the Brig "Hampton" built in 1823. Sanborn owned the house until 1828 when it was sold to John Harrod. Harrod owned the property until 1829 when it was conveyed to Sarah Winslow Marquand wife of Joseph Marquand.

Joseph Marquand held a prominent position in the community. He was the collector of customs at Newburyport 1811 to 1821. He was one of those who urged representation of trading interests at the First Continental Congress. He owned several ships commissioned as privateers in the Revolutionary War. One of these was the Ship Lyon. In 1817 Marquand was on a committee to plan the reception of President Monroe who made a visit to Newburyport.

In 1832 the house was sold to John Wills and in 1839 it was sold to Mary Nelson the widow of Jeremiah. He had been a member of the General Court in 1803 and 1804. The property stayed in the Nelson family until 1886 at which time it was sold to Henry B. Wheelwright.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- J.J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D.G. Beers and Co.
1851, 1871 City Directories
Assessor's Records 1890-1980
A. Hale, Old Newburyport Houses, Boston, 1912.
J.M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.