

FORM B - BUILDING

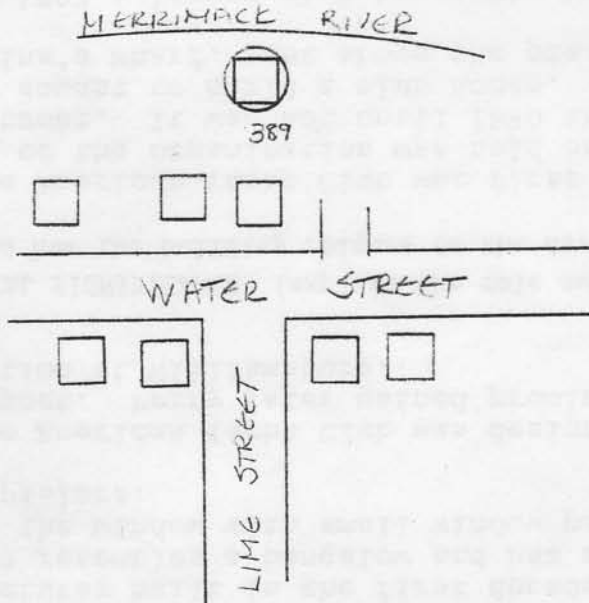
Area	Form no.
	389

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 224 West Street Boston MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address Water Street
 Historic Name American Yacht Club
 Name: Original Yacht Club
 Present Yacht Club
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization American Yacht Club
 Public
 Original owner American Yacht Club

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1908
 Source "The American Yacht Club"
 Style Bungalow Style
 Architect William G. Perry
 Exterior wall fabric Shingles
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 12,280 sq. ft.
 Setting on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirkwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-30-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The American Yacht Club is vernacular in style with elements common to structures built in the first decades of the twentieth century. The building resembles a bungalow and has several interesting features. These include the window with small window panes and the porch supported by simple pillars.

The American Yacht Club was designed by William G. Perry, a resident of Newburyport. Perry later gained prominence as the primary architect of the restoration at Williamsburg.

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

The American Yacht Club was first organized in 1885. The first meeting of the organization was held on May 9, 1885 in room above a bank on State Street. It was not until 1890 that the club was incorporated and its members sought to build a club house. The first such structure was located on Coffins's Wharf, just above the present club house.

In 1897 a larger club house was built on the site of the present building and the old club house was moved to the site for locker space. Both of these structures burned in 1907. Shortly thereafter, William G. Perry, a Newburyport resident, was commissioned to design the present building which remains relatively unchanged. Perry later became a noted architect. He worked on the restoration project in Williamsburg and later urged the preservation of Newburyport's Market Square which was threatened by urban renewal.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980

"The American Yacht Club", typescript, The American Yacht Club.