

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no. 437
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
222 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 13 Market Street

Historic Name Stephen Frothingham Hse.

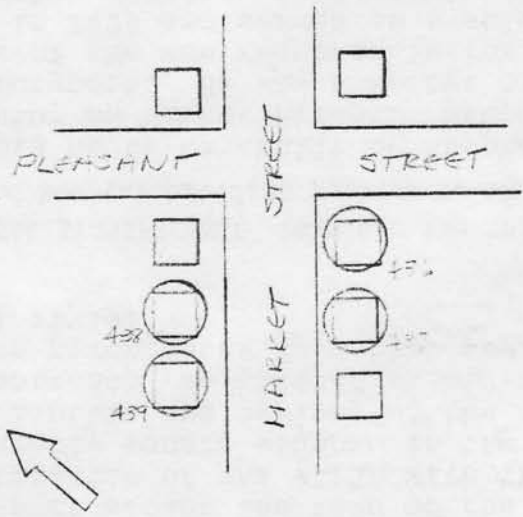
Original Residence

Present Y.W.C.A.

Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization Young Women's Christian Association  
 Public

Original owner Stephen Frothingham

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1790

Source Howells, "Architectural History of the Merrimack"

Style Federal

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) Front entrance altered (mid-nineteenth

century) new addition for Y.W.C.A. athletic facilities.

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

Approx. acreage 23,430 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area of eighteenth and early nineteenth century dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 11-22-80

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

This three story Federal house is like many others built in Newburyport around the turn of the nineteenth century. The form is characteristic of the style with three stories, a hipped roof and small, nearly square windows in the third story. The classically inspired window lintels are typical of the style, as is the simple cornice. The front entrance was altered at mid-nineteenth century and the existing entrance porch dates from that period. It has elements of the Greek Revival 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 built by Stephen Frothingham prior to 1794 when he was living on Market Street. Stephen Frothingham was very prominent in Newburyport. He was a member of the Phenix Fire Society in 1794. He also was one of the men responsible for the construction of the Newburyport Bridge in 1826 and served as a selectman in the town of Newburyport in 1834. Frothingham owned an interest in many Newburyport-built ships.

Before 1851, the house at 13 Market Street was conveyed to Joseph A. Frothingham, son of Stephen. Joseph was a druggist in Salem for several years and about 1832 he opened a drug store in Newburyport. Between 1833 and 1860 he was a dry goods merchant with a store at 40 State Street. This store was later passed onto his son, Joseph A. Frothingham, Jr.

This house was acquired by the Newburyport Y.W.C.A. early in the present century and has served as the home of this organization for over fifty years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- R. Cheney, History of Merrimac River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964
- 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