

FORM B - BUILDING

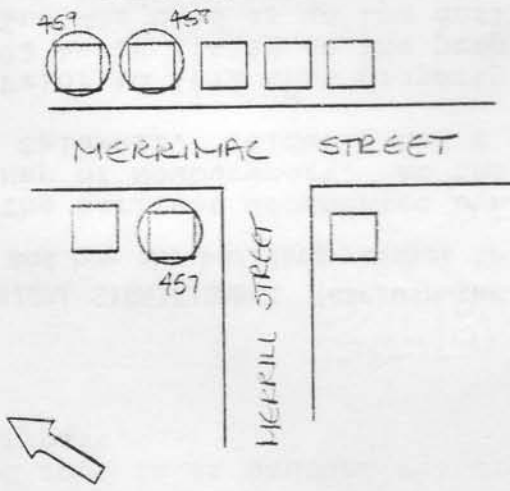
Area	Form no.
	457

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Boston, MA 02108



Town Newburyport
 Address 177 Merrimac Street
 Historic Name _____
 Use: 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 Late Eighteenth Century
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings Garage
 Major alterations (with dates) additions at eastern side (dates unknown)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 4,140 sq. ft.
 Setting in area of mixed residential and commercial uses along the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-15-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Architecturally, this house is a fine example of the Georgian style. The building is two stories with a symmetrical five bay facade and a double hipped roof. The building has several exceptional features. These include the dentil moulding in the cornice, the classically inspired window lintels and the front entrance which is flanked by pilasters. The double hipped roof is an unusual feature seen on several Georgian homes in Newburyport.

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

The earliest documented owner of this house is that noted on the 1851 Map of Newburyport. At that time the house was owned by James Caldwell. Caldwell had a dry goods store at 56 State Street.

Prior to 1872 this property was conveyed to William B. Wentworth. In 1872 he is listed as the proprietor of the Essex House. Apparently this building was used as an inn during this period. This building remained in the Wentworth family until 1919 when Joann Wentworth sold it to Maude Tebbetts.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
1851, 1871 City Directories