

FORM B - BUILDING

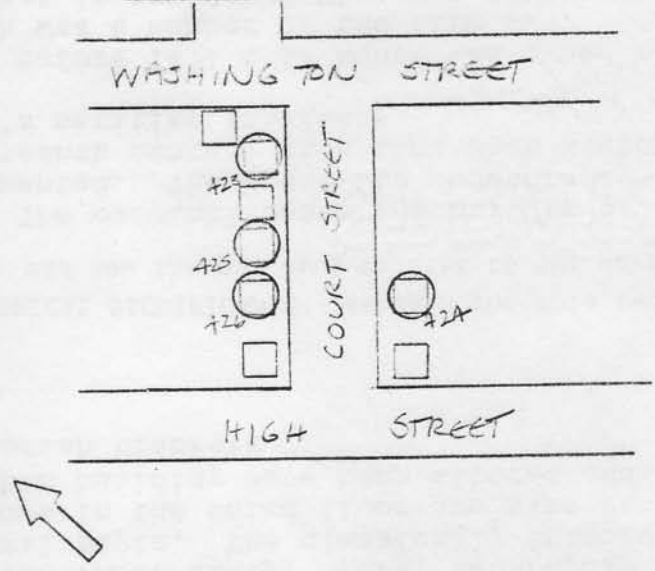
Area	Form no.
	423

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 100 State Street Boston MA 02108



Town Newburyport
 Address 2-4 Court Street
 Historic Name _____
 Use: Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner _____

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



DESCRIPTION:
 Date c. 1810
 Source Building fabric
 Style Federal
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) doorways
have been altered (late nineteenth century.)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 6,470 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area adjacent
to the High Street historic district.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 11-15-80

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

This double house is typical of many of the dwellings built in Newburyport during the early years of the nineteenth century. The house has the three story, nearly square, hip roofed form characteristic of the Federal style. The classically inspired window lintels and smaller windows in the third floor are also common Federal features. The doorways of this building have been altered and are presently ornamented by turned Victorian brackets.

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

The original owner and builder of this house have yet to be documented. The house was undoubtedly built around the turn of the nineteenth century at a time when Newburyport prospered because of the town's maritime interests.

Before 1871 this house was owned by John H. Balch and John E. Piper. Balch was a member of the firm E. P. Dodge and Company, shoe manufacturers, at what is now 21-23 Pleasant Street. Balch and Dodge had been partners between 1868 and 1872. Balch was also an incorporator of the Newburyport Five Cent Saving Bank in 1854. John E. Piper was in partnership with William H. Piper in the firm John E. Piper and Company at 8 State Street. This firm sold hats, caps, and furs.

This house was originally built as a double house and today contains several apartments.

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