

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	309

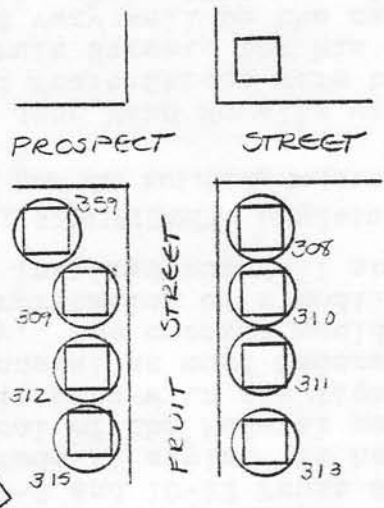
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 100 State Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport  
 Address 2-4 Fruit Street  
 Historic Name Osgood-Brown House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Unknown

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

DESCRIPTION:  
 Date c. 1805



Source \_\_\_\_\_  
 Style Federal  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) addition at rear (late nineteenth century)  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 8-25-80

Approx. acreage 5,200 sq. ft.  
 Setting in a residential area of single and double houses built, for the most part, during the first decade of the nineteenth century. The homes are closely spaced and have little land on the street side. Many are fine examples of the Federal style.

1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.  
 Assessor's Records 1890-1980  
 1851, 1871 City Directories  
 J. M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

John Mead Howells wrote that this house and those at 6-8 and 10-12 Fruit Street were built by Captain Samuel Tenney, who lived at 20 Fruit Street, for his children. This has yet to be documented but could very well be the case. In any case this house was certainly built shortly after 1798 when Benjamin Wyatt and Richard Pike acquired the large tract of land extending from Prospect Street to High Street. These men divided the parcel and sold the lots to individual owners.

In 1851, 2 Fruit Street was occupied by Newman Brown. Brown was a coal dealer. His business was located on Ferry Wharf. At that time Captain Nathaniel S. Osgood lived at 4 Fruit Street. Osgood was an inspector of customs. Captain Osgood lived in the house for several decades. Subsequent owners of 2 Fruit Street include Mrs. Samuel Goodhue who acquired the property in 1866, Lydia Fellows, purchaser of the property in 1873 and Nellie Pike, buyer of the house in 1893. She owned the property until the 1920's.

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

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

This is one of three double houses built on this side of Fruit Street in the early years of the nineteenth century. The other two are 6-8 and 10-12 Fruit Street. This building is a fine example of the Federal style. It has the three story form with hipped roof so typical of the Federal period. The windows in the third story are double hung with six lights in both the upper and lower sections. This is unusual as most Federal homes have small square windows in the third story. The cornice moulding in this building is unusual, a vernacular interpretation of a modillioned cornice. The window lintels are classically inspired but fall short of being a full entablature. The doorways (cont.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 309
Property Name: Osgood-Brown Hse. 2-4 Fruit Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

have semi-circular fanlights. The door at 2 Fruit Street is slightly more elaborate with delicate tracery within the fanlight and Doric pilasters supporting the pediment above.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom