

FORM B - BUILDING

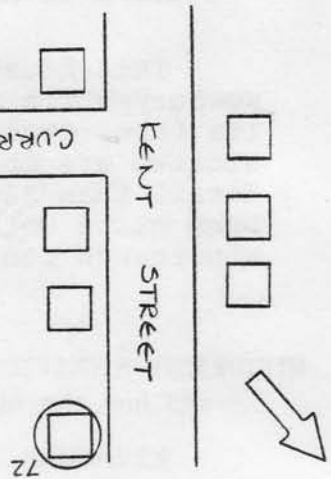
Form no. Area

72 B

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Location in relation to nearest
cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Newburyport
21 Kent Street
Historic Name Boott-Currier House
Original Residence
Present Residence
Partnership: Private individual
 Private organization
Public
Original owner Unknown

Date c. 1800

Source

Style Federal

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates) additional

on South side (date unknown), door

altered (c. 1850).

Moved Date

Approx. acreage 9,490 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area of

predominantly 19th century domestic

architecture adjacent to the industrial

complex originally occupied by the

Ocean Steam Mills.

(Staple additional sheets here)

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirling

Organization Office of Community

Development

Date 7/28/80

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

This house is Federal in form and is typical of the homes built by Newburyport's upper class during the early years of the nineteenth century. Its three stories with hipped roof and decreasing window size in the upper stories are characteristic of the style. The window lintels have greater detail than many examples indicating that the original doorway might have been quite well detailed. The present doorway dates from the mid-nineteenth century and has all of the features of the Greek Revival entrance.

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

Although this house was built at the turn of the nineteenth century the earliest known owner is Butler Abbott. Abbott's heirs owned the property during the 1820's when Kirk Boot lived in the house.

Boott was born in England in 1763 and came to Newburyport in 1825. He then took up residence in this house. Boott was aristocratic in his ways and aroused much curiosity in the town. He undertook no business, however, and facts about him are scarce. At his death in 1838 Boott left his estate to his housekeeper, Miss Elizabeth Spencer. Miss Spencer lived in the house on Kent Street until the property was sold to Albert Currier on December 1, 1845.

Albert Currier was a well known mason and contractor in Newburyport. At a young age he built the large brick factories, Ocean Steam Mills on Kent Street and the Globe Steam Mills on Federal Street. Currier also built and owned much of the mill housing in the neighborhood around the Ocean Mills. One noteworthy example of this is the brick row of workers housing on Munroe Street. Currier built the Town Hall in 1850 and the Immaculate Conception Church shortly thereafter. Currier had interests in shipping and many Newburyport Organizations. He also served terms as mayor of the City of Newburyport and as representative to the General Court.

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
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II, reprint Newburyport 1977.
- J. J. Currier, "Scrapbook of Clippings Relating to Newburyport", Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.