

FORM B - BUILDING

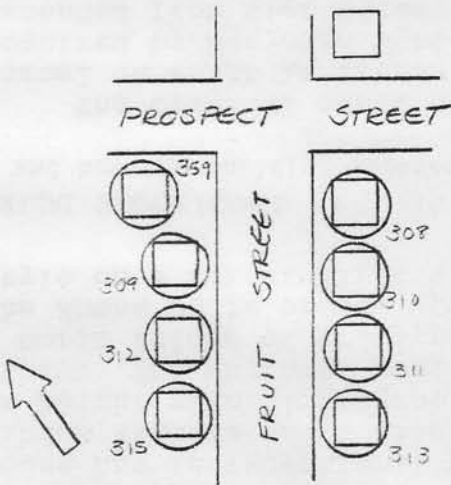
Area	Form no.
	310

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 224 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address 3 Fruit Street
 Historic Name _____
 Type: 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) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 5,310 sq. ft.

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

Setting in a residential area of single and double houses built, for 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.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is a fine example of the Federal style which predominated in Newburyport during the early decades of the nineteenth century. This house has an exceptional modillioned cornice, classically inspired window lintels and a fine entrance portico. The building is three stories in height with hipped roof and small nearly square windows in the third story. The entrance portico is pedimented with fine mouldings including a Doric frieze of triglyphs and metopes. The portico is supported by the Roman Doric order. Overall the house is a fine example of the Federal style on a street lined with similar homes.

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 of this house has not been documented. The parcel on which it stands, however, is part of a much larger tract acquired by Benjamin Wyatt and Richard Pike in 1798. This tract extended from High Street to Prospect Street and Fruit Street was laid out through it between 1798 and 1801. It is safe to assume that this house was built at the same time that the other Federal homes on Fruit Street were built.

In 1851 Michael Titcomb was the owner of this house. In the city directory for that year Titcomb is listed as one of the partners in the firm Titcomb, Lunt and Company. This company made masts and was located at 63 Water Street, the shipyard previously owned by Ralph and Stephen Cross. Titcomb contributed to a fund for the benefit of injured firemen in 1865. He probably lived in this house until his death in 1869.

The house was later owned by the Second Presbyterian Society of Newburyport.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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.
Assessor's Records 1890-1980