

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	303

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport

Address 52-54 Fair Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Original Apartment house

Present Apartment house

Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization \_\_\_\_\_

Public \_\_\_\_\_

Original owner John H. Balch, Jr  
Charles A. Bliss  
Michael Cashman

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

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1917

Source Assessor's Records

Style Triple decker

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

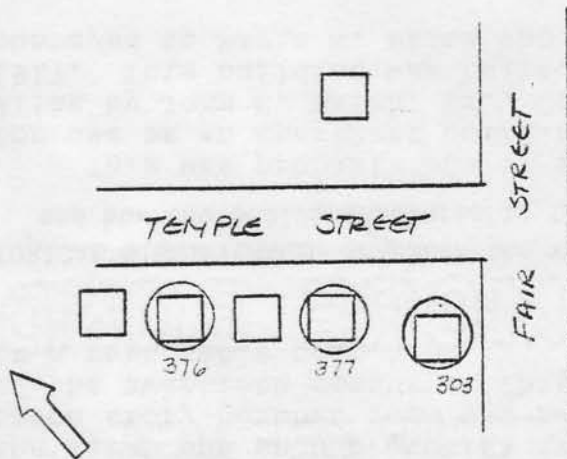
Approx. acreage 12,496

Setting in residential area bounded

by the South End Historic District

the North and by Fruit Street with

fine Federal homes to the South.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 10-20-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This early twentieth century style is quite rare in Newburyport, although it is very common in urban areas. Features that are typical of the neo-classical revival that influenced the triple deckers are the classical columns and cornice moulding. The belt course between the first and second stories is also characteristic of this period. The three story porched form was built extensively during the early decades of the twentieth century. This form provided excellent living accommodations at a reasonable cost.

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

This was probably one of the first buildings built in Newburyport for use as an apartment building. The land was purchased from George H. Bliss by John H. Balch, Jr., Charles A. Bliss and Michael Cashman in 1917. This building was built in that year. In 1925 the property was conveyed to Maria W. Bliss who owned it for several decades.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980