

FORM B - BUILDING

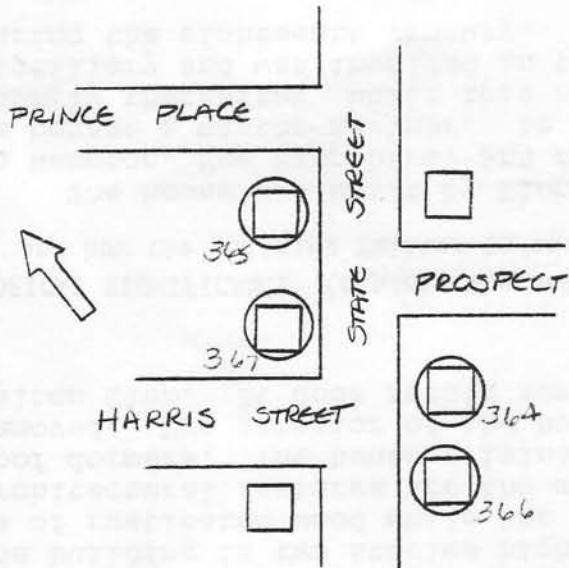
Area	Form no.
	366

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Boston, MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address 95 State Street
 Historic Name Dalton House
 Original Residence
 Present Dalton Club
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization Dalton Club
 Public
 Original owner Michael Dalton

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1746-1747
 Source National Register Nomination
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric clapboards, facade-rusticated wood
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 9,080 sq. ft.
 Setting on Newburyport's main commercial thoroughfare in an area of significant residential and civic buildings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 9-20-80

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

The Dalton house is the finest Georgian house in Newburyport. It rivals the finest Georgian domestic architecture in the United States. The building is two stories high with a slate gambrel roof. The facade is of rusticated wood while the other sides are clapboarded. Important architectural features are the modillioned cornice, the five pedimented roof dormers. The house originally had a roof balustrade which has been removed. The interior of the house has been altered to accommodate the Dalton Club. It does retain some excellent woodwork and paneling.

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

The house was built by Michael Dalton about 1747. Dalton was born in Hampton, New Hampshire, and came to Newbury to engage in seafaring. He became a master mariner. In 1735 he married, became a merchant and, shortly thereafter built this house. Michael Dalton owned a wharf and distillery and was involved in the import-export trade that prospered during the eighteenth century.

In 1764, Michael deeded the house to his son Tristram. Tristram had attended Harvard and later married the daughter of Marblehead's wealthiest merchant. Tristram studied law and joined his father's business. Upon his father's death Tristram Dalton inherited his father's estate.

The younger Dalton served in many public positions. He was a delegate to the Provincial Congress, a representative to the General Court, Speaker of the Massachusetts House and a delegate to the ratifying convention of 1788 in Massachusetts. In March 1776 Dalton, as chairman of the local Committee of Public Safety, was ordered by the Massachusetts legislature to fit out two ships for raids on British ships. In 1778 Dalton attended a convention in Ipswich that helped to frame the Massachusetts constitution. After the Revolutionary War, Dalton was chosen Junior Senator. He proceeded to New York with Newburyport's mercantile interests at heart.

While Tristram Dalton owned this house it was visited by many illustrious men. These included George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe and Marquis de LaFayette.

(cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980

By-Laws of the Dalton Club, Newburyport, Mass. 1971

J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport, 1764-1905, Vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport, 1977.

National Register Nomination Form, Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1977.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 366
Property Name: Dalton House	

95 State Street

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

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

Tristram Dalton and his wife lived in this house until 1792. At that time it was sold to Moses Brown, another prominent Newburyport merchant. In 1827, the property was willed to William and Sarah Bannister. The property changed hands on several other occasions before it was purchased by the Dalton Club in 1897. The Dalton Club is a men's club that continues to own and occupy the Dalton House.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom