

FORM G - STREETSCAPE

In area no.	Form no.
	304



Town Newburyport

Street name Fair Street

Addresses (inclusive) 8, 10, 12, 14-16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100

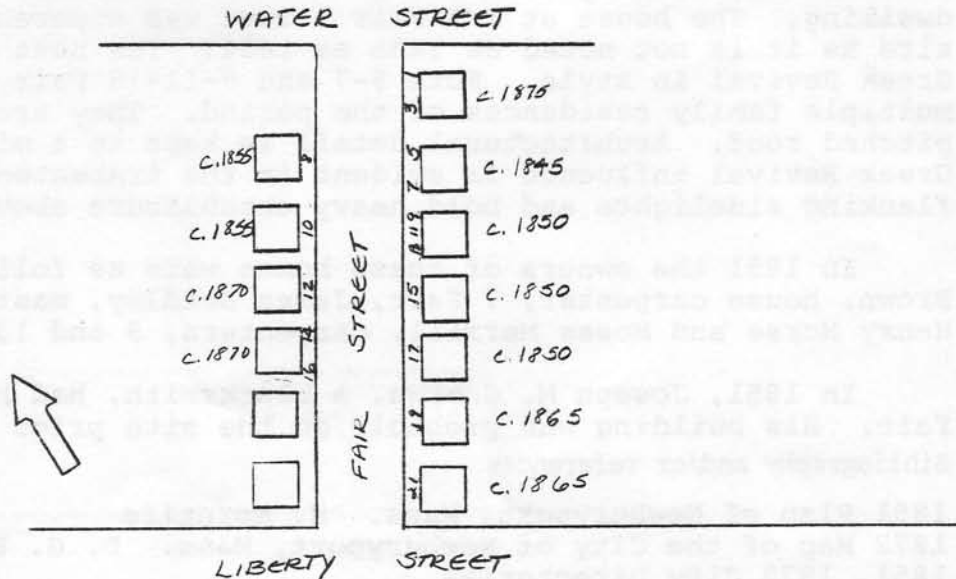
Present use Residential

Description:  
 General date or period mid-nineteenth century.

Predominant architectural styles Greek Revival and vernacular Victorian

Major intrusions None

4. Map. Draw map of street, clearly showing all buildings; indicate street addresses and approximate date for all buildings; identify intrusions by use or type. Indicate north.



5. Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 09-29-80

6. Themes. Check as many as applicable to streetscape

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	X	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community Development	x				

7. Significance. Explain historical and/or architectural significance of streetscape. Include explanation of themes checked.

The buildings presently standing on Fair Street below Liberty Street date from 1840 to 1890. Most were built between 1840 and 1851. The houses at 8, 10, and 12 Fair Street were built during that period and are all similar in style. They are vernacular Greek Revival, with pitched roof with gable facing the street. These houses have been altered and only 8 Fair Street retains a doorway with Greek Revival elements. Number 14-16 Fair Street is a late nineteenth century building with several types of shingles, indicating the influence of the Queen Anne style.

In 1851, the inhabitants of these houses were Captain William C. Vauna at number 8, Samuel G. Swain at 10 Fair Street and Elias Pike at 12 Fair Street. Pike was a pump and block maker and actually had his business here, while his residence was across the street at 11 Pike Street.

The dwellings on the other side of Fair Street range from Greek Revival multi-family residences to a large Italianate single family dwelling. The house at 1-3 Fair Street was apparently moved to the site as it is not noted as late as 1884. The next two buildings are Greek Revival in style. Both 5-7 and 9-11-13 Fair Street are typical multiple family residences of the period. They are two stories with pitched roof. Architectural detail is kept to a minimum although the Greek Revival influence is evident in the trabeated doorways with flanking sidelights and bold, heavy entablature above.

In 1851 the owners of these homes were as follows: Charles H. Brown, house carpenter, 7 Fair, James Bradley, master mariner, 5 Fair, Henry Morse and Moses Merrill, carpenters, 9 and 13 Fair Street.

In 1851, Joseph M. George, a blacksmith, had his business at 15 Fair. His building was probably on the site prior to the present

8. 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, 1872 City Directories
- 1884 Atlas of Essex County, G. H. Walker Company

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 304
Property Name: Fair Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. <sup>8,10,12,14-16, 1-3,5-7,9-11-13,15,17,19,21</sup> Fair Street

7. Significance (Continued)

building which is Italianate in style. The present 15 Fair Street was owned by Jere R. Ireland in 1872. Ireland had a furniture business at 24 Market Square. His business partner, George W. Trefethan lived in the next house, 17 Fair Street.

The homes at 19 and 21 Fair Street were also built between 1851 and 1872. The owners in that year were Samuel Brown, master mariner, and Isaac C. Clement, grocer.

Though vernacular in style the houses along Fair Street provide an excellent nineteenth century streetscape. It remains relatively unchanged since the turn of the twentieth century.

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