

In area no.	Form no.
	474

1. Town Newburyport



Street name Oakland Street

Addresses (inclusive) 14-48 Oakland St.

23-51 Oakland Street

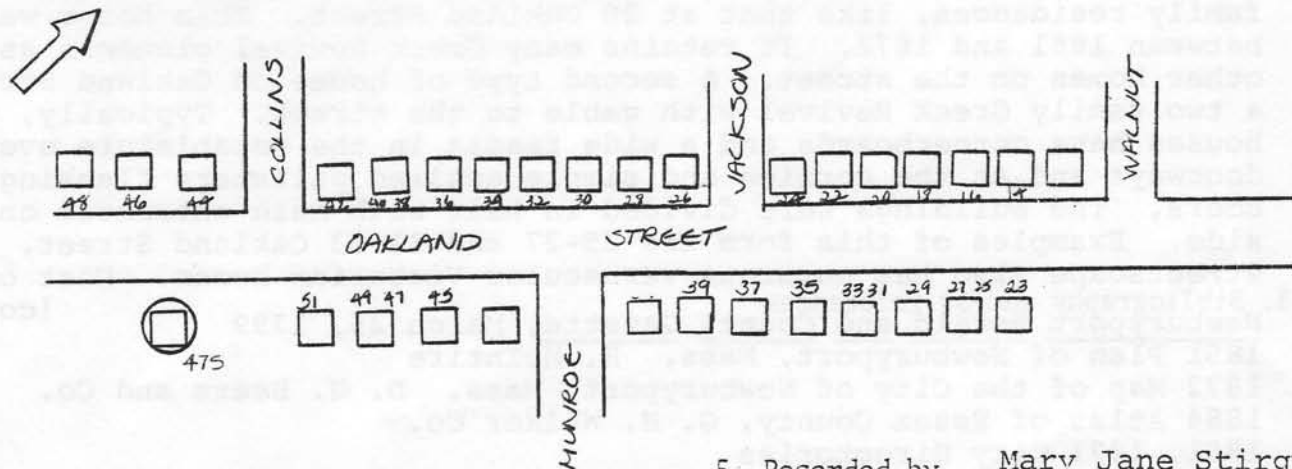
Present use Residential

Description:
 General date or period 1840-1890

Predominant architectural styles Victorian
 Vernacular and Greek Revival

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

Date 7-11-80

Development

6. Themes. Check as many as applicable to streetscape

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

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

Oakland Street between High Street and Merrimac Street was the original western boundary of the town of Newburyport as established in 1764. At that time, it was called North St. There were several houses on North Street at the turn of the 19th century. In 1799, James Kettell, auctioneer, offered to the public, house lots on a new street, now Oakland Street. The lots were described as "Well calculated for young mechanics, and others, who wish, at a small expense, to place themselves and families in a healthy and agreeable situation convenient to business and a market".

The street remained relatively unpopulated until several decades later. It was the development of the shipbuilding industry along Merrimac Street that led to the settlement of Oakland Street. By the middle of the 19th century, most of the shipyards in active operation in Newburyport, were located between Jefferson and Oakland Streets. The shipyard of Eben Manson was at the foot of Oakland Street on Merrimac Street. Because the owners of the shipyards generally lived on Merrimac Street the workers in the yards built their homes on the streets adjoining.

In 1851, Oakland Street was inhabited almost exclusively by families associated with the shipyards. Many homes were built in the next twenty years and in 1872, ship carpenters, blacksmiths, ship joiners, all lived on the street. Most of the buildings were built as single family residences, like that at 20 Oakland Street. This house was built between 1851 and 1872. It retains many Greek Revival elements as do other homes on the street. A second type of house on Oakland Street is a two family Greek Revival with gable to the street. Typically, these houses have cornerboards and a wide fascia in the entablature over the doorways and at the cornice and simple applied pilasters flanking the doors. The buildings were divided in half with main entrances on each side. Examples of this form are 25-27 and 31-33 Oakland Street. The streetscape also has numerous vernacular Victorian homes. Most of them

8. Bibliography and/or references

- Newburyport Herald and County Gazette, March 25, 1799 (cont.)
 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
 1884 Atlas of Essex County, G. H. Walker Co.
 1851, 1871 City Directories
 J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport, 1764-1905, Vols. I and II, reprint, Newburyport 1977.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 474
Property Name: Oakland Street	

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

FORM G - STREETScape (CONTINUED)

have gable roofs with the gable facing the street. They vary slightly in design, but generally have simple Victorian doorways and cornices.

The Bridges family, known for the planking of ships, owned 30 and 32 Oakland Street in 1884. Oakland Street retained its association with shipbuilding until early in this century when shipbuilding and its allied trades, ceased to exist on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom