

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	375

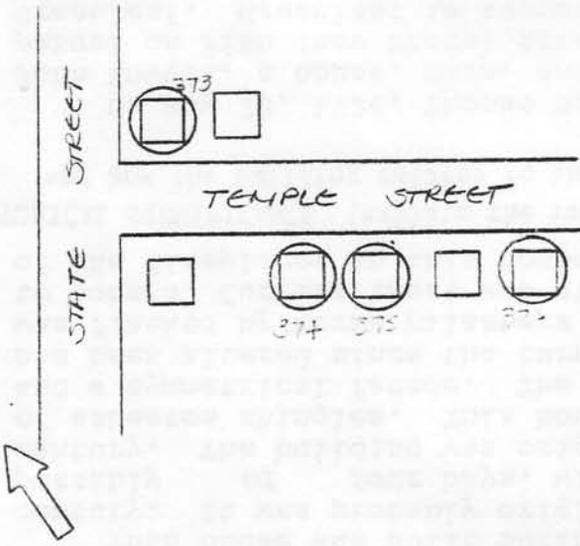
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 222 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



City Newburyport  
 Address 10-12 Temple Street  
 Historic Name Lowell House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Edmund Greenleaf

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

DESCRIPTION:  
 Date pre-1726  
 Source Currier, "Ould Newbury"  
 Style Colonial  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Asbestos Shingles  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) addition at rear (date unknown)  
 Moved Yes Date 1771  
 Approx. acreage 3,512 sq. ft.  
 Setting in residential area of 18th and 19th century houses, adjacent to central business district.



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

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

This house was built during the first quarter of the eighteenth century. It was probably originally constructed as a smaller house, possibly of four bays, with an addition made later in the century. The building was originally clapboarded but now has a covering of asbestos shingles. This house has an early form with a gambrel roof and a symmetrical facade. The present doorway has little detail and has been altered since the turn of the twentieth century, when the door was flanked by Doric pilasters supporting a simple entablature. According to John J. Currier there was at one time a painting in a panel over one of the fireplaces in this house. It depicted a "minister's meeting" and

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

On May 23, 1726, Thomas Brown, Jr. yeoman and butcher, conveyed to John Lowell, a house, barn, and two acres of land in Newbury. This parcel on Fish (now State) Street had previously been owned by Edmund Greenleaf. Greenleaf is supposed to have built the house later acquired by John Lowell.

John Lowell was born in Boston in 1704. He graduated from Harvard in 1721 and at the age of twenty-two he was ordained the first minister of the Third Parish of Newbury. Established in 1726, this parish would be known as "The First Religious Society of Newburyport" after the incorporation of Newburyport in 1764. Reverend Lowell lived in the house on State Street until his death in 1767. At that time Lowell's son John counsellor-at-law occupied the house and continued to do so until 1771 when it was sold to Patrick Tracy, merchant of Newburyport. The younger Lowell then built a large home on High Street now known as the Lowell-Johnson house.

In 1771 State Street was widened and Tracy erected a brick house now the Public Library on the site of the Lowell homestead. The gambrel roofed home was moved to Temple Street at that time.

In 1851 the Lowell house was owned by George Fitz. Fitz was a cooper and owned several houses in the area. Fitz owned the house until the 1870's. It was later owned by Greenleaf Dodge, a carpenter who also owned several houses in the South End. Dodge had a business on Ferry Wharf.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- J. J. Currier, Old Newbury: Historical and Biographical Sketches, Boston 1896.  
A. Osgood, "Recollections of Temple Street", Ms. Historical Society of Old Newbury, Newburyport, Mass.  
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.  
1851, 1871, 1884 City Directories  
1884 Atlas of Essex County, G. H. Walker Co.  
Assessor's Records 1890-1980

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 375
Property Name: Lowell House 10-12 Temple St.	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

a mountain scene. Unfortunately, this panel was removed from the house and sent to James Russell Lowell in Cambridge, Mass.

The house itself remains an exceptional example of Newburyport's Colonial architecture.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom