

FORM B - BUILDING

Area A	Form no. 27
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 120-122 High Street

Historic Name _____

Original Residence

Present Residence

Ownership: Private individual
Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Charles H. Coffin

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1855

Source 1851, 1872 Maps of Nbpt.

Style Greek Revival

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings _____

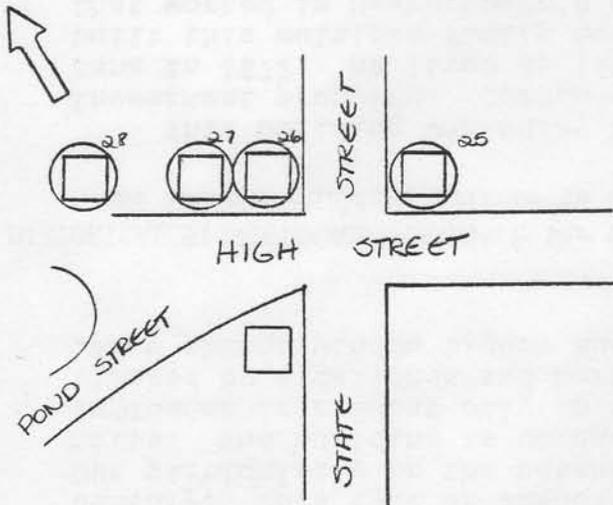
Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage _____

Setting adjacent to the Bartlett Mall
and the Superior Court house designed
by Charles Bulfinch, on Newburyport's
main residential thoroughfare.

Indicate cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 8-11-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This building is typical of the multiple family row housing built in Newburyport during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. This type of structure can be seen throughout the city but particularly in the neighborhoods built around the textile mills. The building is vernacular Greek Revival in style. The Greek influence is evident only in the doorways which are trabeated and are flanked by sidelights and Doric pilasters. The doorways also have large oblong window lights and heavy Greek entablatures above.

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

This building was built by Charles H. Coffin, undoubtedly as an investment property. Coffin was the president of the First National Bank in 1872. He lived at 168 High Street at the time and probably built this multiple family dwelling to rent to the families of men that worked in Newburyport's growing textile industry. It is unlikely that this building would have housed workers but rather the management level employees of the Bartlett Steam Mills and the shoe manufacturers located in the industrial area just several blocks away.

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, 1871 City Directories