

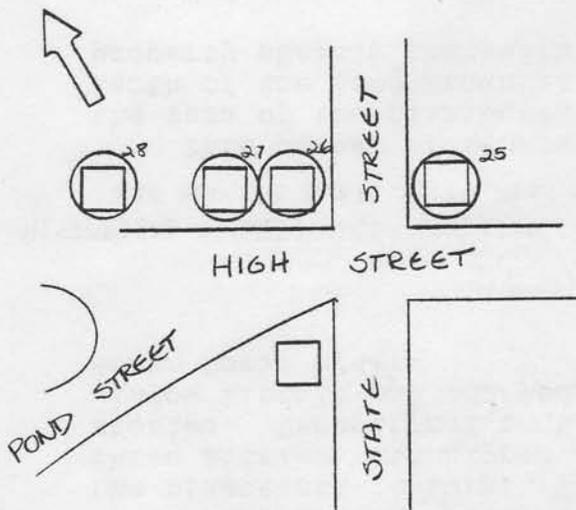
FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
A	28

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Location in relation to nearby cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
Organization Office of Community Development  
Date 8-11-80

Newburyport  
Address 124 High Street  
Historic Name "Sewall Place"  
Original Residence  
Present Funeral Parlor  
Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization  
 Public  
Original owner Charles Hodge

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1814  
Source Hale, "Old Newburyport Houses"  
Style Federal  
Architect Unknown  
Exterior wall fabric Brick  
Outbuildings Garage  
Major alterations (with dates) portico enclosed, oriel windows added, alterations to accommodate funeral parlor (dates unknown)  
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Approx. acreage 16,046 sq. ft.  
Setting across from the Bartlett Mall and the Superior Court house designed by Charles Bulfinch on Newburyport's main residential thoroughfare.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is an excellent example of the Federal homes built by Newburyport's wealthy mercantile class during the early years of the nineteenth century. The form of the house is typically Federal, of three stories with hipped roof and decreasing window size in the upper stories. Exceptional architectural features are the splayed brownstone window lintels and the pedimented entrance portico supported by the Roman Doric order.

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

This parcel of land was owned by the family of Stephen Sewell at the turn of the nineteenth century. In 1806 Charles Hodge acquired one tenth of the land known as Sewall Place. He purchased the rest of the property shortly thereafter and built this house.

Hodge was a merchant and very active in Newburyport's political affairs. He was one of the signers of the petition to set off the "Water side" portion of Newbury as a separate town. In 1773 he was appointed to a committee to cooperate with committee of correspondence in Boston during the trying times prior to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. In 1823 the hay scales for the town were moved to a convenient location near the corner of High and Pond Streets at the Southeast end of the mall. At that time Capt. Charles Hodge, residing close by, was appointed to take charge of the scales.

Charles Hodge and his family owned "Sewall Place" until 1847. Between that year and 1863 the owner was LePrelette Ingraham. Ingraham was a machinist with a machine shop on Fair Street.

Subsequent owners were Ellen C. Kane, Eliza A. Pike, Willard J. Hale, Elisha R. Brown, and Therese Tehmen. Today the building is owned by Todd Woodworth and is occupied by the Woodworth Funeral Home.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D.G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1871 City Directories
- Assessor's Records