

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	454

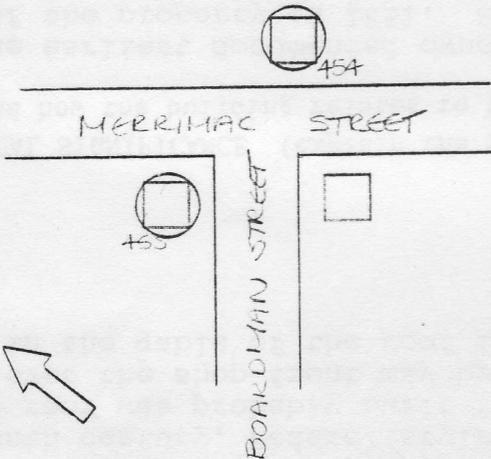
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Boston, MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address 140-142 Merrimac Street
 Historic Name _____
 Original Commercial
 Present Commercial
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

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

DESCRIPTION:
 Date Early Nineteenth Century
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Federal
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Brick
 Outbuildings _____



Major alterations (with dates) Facade and fenestration have been altered, (dates unknown)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 10,600 sq. ft.
 Setting in area of mixed residential and commercial use on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-11-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This building is simple, yet exhibits several features of the early nineteenth century, Federal style. The two story brick building with pitched roof was probably built for commercial purposes. The large granite lintel over the shop front may be an original feature. The semicircular window in the gable of the roof is a noteworthy Federal feature.

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

The earliest documented owner of this building is Jacob A. Balch, owner of the property in 1851. Balch was a grocer. In the City Directory for the year 1851, his store is listed as located at 32 Washington Street. It is quite possible that he also had a store or warehouse in this building.

Prior to 1872 Dudley T. Batchelder acquired this building. Batchelder was a boot and shoe dealer. His business was located at 140 Merrimac Street.

This building has been converted into a single family residence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
1851, 1871 City Directories