

FORM B - BUILDING

Area E	Form no. 160
-----------	-----------------

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 163-165-167-169 Water Street

Historic Name _____

Original multiple residence

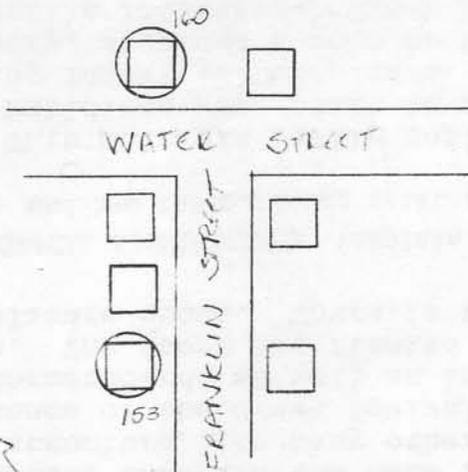
Present multiple residence

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 c. 1845

Source 1851 Map of Newburyport

Style Greek Revival

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, asphalt siding

Outbuildings Garage, shed

Major alterations (with dates) asphalt siding applied to endwalls (date unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 13,176 sq. ft.

Setting in district of mixed residential and industrial uses

centered around the factory complex originally built as the James Steam Mills in 1842.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 11-9-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This structure is typical of the multiple family dwellings built in the industrialized neighborhoods in Newburyport during the mid-nineteenth century. Usually built on speculation, these Greek Revival row houses answered the need for increased housing near the textile mills. This structure, like many others, is simple in architectural detail. The influence of the Greek Revival style is seen in the building's bold cornice and cornerboards, as well as in the front entrance to each of the dwelling units. The doors are flanked by pilasters that support a very heavy entablature above. There is a similar row at 3-9 Charles Street.

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

This multiple family residence was built about 1845 when numerous such buildings were built on speculation to provide housing adjacent to growing industrial complexes. The textile industry, and later the shoe industry, provided a boom to Newburyport's economy after the decline of mercantile interests. Greek Revival row housing is seen in many of Newburyport's neighborhoods. It provided simple but comfortable homes for those associated with the mills and for those providing services to these densely populated areas.

In 1851, this building was owned by four individuals. They included Harvey Kimball and Edward Kimball, partners in a lumber business on Huse Wharf. Captain Samuel Brown, probably a mariner, owned another of the dwelling units.

In 1872 Harvey Kimball was still in residence here. Charles F. S. Brown also lived here. He had a variety store at 119 Water Street. Mrs. Thomas H. Phillips and Albert W. Greenleaf were the owners of the remaining units. Greenleaf was the city treasurer and a bookkeeper at the Merchant's National Bank.

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