

Area	Form no. 496
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

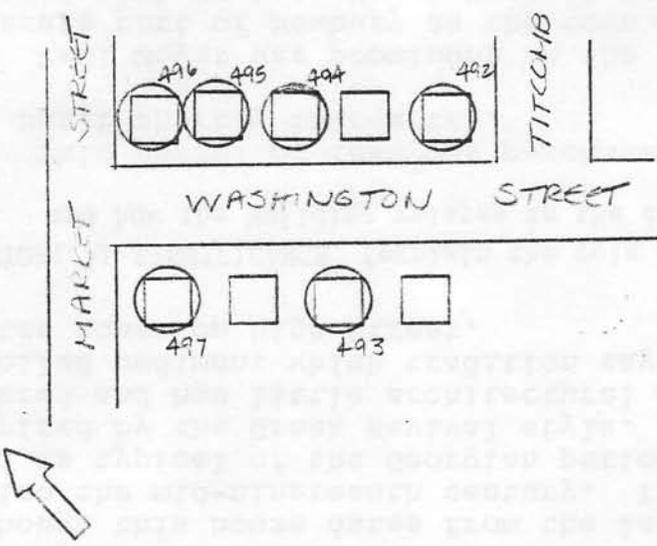
MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address 18 Washington Street
 Historic Name Paul Noyes House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner Paul Noyes

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1769
 Source Currier, "History of Nbpt."
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, flush boards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) house remodeled, dormer added (mid-nineteenth century)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 2,550 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of primarily eighteenth and nineteenth century houses.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-08-80

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

This house is quite unusual in form. It is built along the lines of Washington and Market Streets which do not form a ninety degree angle. Although this house dates from the late eighteenth century, it was remodeled during the mid-nineteenth century. The two and a half story form with pitched roof is typical of the Georgian period. The present window lintels were inspired by the Greek Revival style. The front entrance has also been altered and has little architectural detail except for the ornamental scrolled pediment which tradition says was originally part of the Timothy Dexter house on High 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 parcel of land was purchased in 1769 by Paul Noyes and the house was built shortly thereafter.

Paul Noyes was prominent in the community, a signer of the petition to separate part of Newbury as the town of Newburyport. In 1775, Noyes marched with Captain Moses Norwell from Newburyport to fight the British. Noyes was captured by the British in the brig "Dalton". Noyes and the others on the vessel were later released from Mill prison. In March 1779 Noyes shipped on board the frigate "Alliance", built by William and John Hackett at Salisbury Point. The vessel was one of six commissioned by Congress.

Dr. Francis Vergines de Bonischiere came to Newburyport in 1796. He treated many of Newburyport's citizens when they were felled by an epidemic. The doctor lived in this house for many years, until his death in 1830.

Prior to 1830 this house was conveyed to George Fitz. Fitz was a cooper with a business on Brown's Wharf. He also was one of the owners of a vessel named the "Essex" which carried passengers to Plum Island and Haverhill during the summer months.

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
- J. M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.