

FORM B - BUILDING

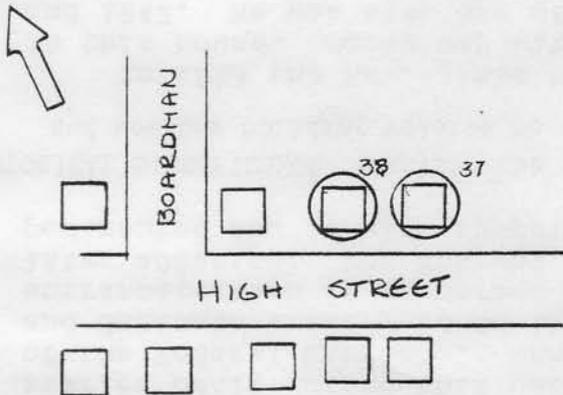
Area A	Form no. 38
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport  
 Address 190 High Street  
 Historic Name Morse-Learned House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:  
 Date pre 1803  
 Source Howells, "Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack"  
 Style Federal  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards  
 Outbuildings Barn

Major alterations (with dates) additions at rear, shed dormer added (dates unknown)

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 34,300 sq. ft.

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

Setting on Newburyport's main thoroughfare noted for its excellent examples of domestic architecture dating from the Colonial period through the early 20th century.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house has several fine Federal features. The form of the building is two stories with deep hipped roof possibly indicating a slightly earlier construction date than the "Square houses" of three stories built during this period. The doorway is an elegant example of the Federal entrance. The semi-elliptical fanlight has elaborate and delicate tracery as do the sidelights that flank the door. The entrance portico is supported by the Roman Doric order and may be a later addition. The doorway on the Southeast side of the house is pedimented and is also supported by the 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)

In 1803 the Rev. James Morse, minister of St. Paul's Church lived in this house. Morse was with the church in Newburyport between 1803 and 1842. He was also one of the organizers of the Merrimack Bible Society, The Newburyport Academy and The Newburyport Athenacum.

The heirs of Rev. Morse owned the house until 1851 when it was conveyed to Enock Williams. Williams was one of the incorporators of the Newburyport Steam Cotton Company established in 1837. The factory was located at the foot of Strong Street "on the wharf next above the Newburyport bridge." This business was in operation only six years and was dissolved in 1843.

In 1836 Williams was one of the Directors of the Newburyport Bank. He served as alderman in the city of Newburyport in 1856 and 1857.

In 1869 Warren Currier purchased the house. He was in business under the firm name of Sumner, Swasey, and Currier at 45 Water Street. He owned the property until 1893. The house was subsequently owned by A. T. Ross. Henry Learned purchased the house in 1918 and it has been in the Learned family since that date.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport, 1764-1905, vols. I and II, reprint, Newburyport 1977.  
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