

FORM B - BUILDING

NRDIS 8/2/1984

Assessor's number
5-17

USGS Quad
Newburyport

Area(s)

Form Number
1585

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125



Town Newburyport

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 1 Temple Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Offices

Original Commercial

Date of Construction c.1811

Source Daily News, 9/9/1967

Style/Form

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Stone

Wall/Trim Brick

Roof Asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) c.1900 - front windows
on first floor; 1972 - renovations

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1152 SF

Setting side street to east of State Street in central
business district

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 1999

BUILDING FORM (1 Temple Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Setback from State Street by a courtyard for the adjacent bank, 1 Temple Street is a three-story brick building capped by a low gable roof. The brick is laid in a Flemish bond and was painted at one time. Facing Temple Street, the main entrance is centered and recessed slightly, fronted by wooden steps. Now containing a modern multi-glass door, the entrance is flanked by full sidelights and capped by four transom lights and a dentil molding below a granite sill. To each side of the entrance is a tripartite window consisting of a 8/8 sash flanked by 4/4 windows. An historic photograph at the Peabody Essex Museum indicates that these windows were already in place by 1909. A somewhat wide space separates the first and second story window openings. Both the upper floors of the facade are punctuated by five bays which contain replacement wooden 6/6 sash, protected by storm windows. The windows display painted header brick lintels and wooden sills. (The 1909 photo shows 2/2 windows in the upper stories).

The east gable end of the brick building is painted. The entrance on this elevation is fronted by a concrete stoop and contains a modern door. Fenestration includes modern 6/6 windows on the first floor. A wooden exterior staircase is located on the north side which displays more irregular fenestration. The west wall facing State Street has been faced with new brick, and has only two window openings.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Temple Street was laid out in 1774 and extended from Benjamin Balch's shop on Fish Street to Andrew Hills' house on King Street. According to research by Ron Irving, the building at 1 Temple Street dates to the early 19th century and was erected as an addition to the Wolfe Tavern, which had been removed to the building at the corner of State and Temple Streets, after its previous home at the corner of State Street and Threadneedle Alley was destroyed in the Great Fire in 1811. An article appearing on the Wolfe Tavern in the Daily News in 1967 also states that the building was built after the fire in 1811 when the Wolfe Tavern was operated by Prince Stetson. After the fire Stetson took over Col. Bartlett's house at the corner of Temple and State Streets and built the brick building as a dwelling. The Wolfe Tavern subsequently moved operations to Col. John Peabody's house at the corner of Harris and State Streets in 1814 (no longer extant).

The 1872 map indicates that in that year the building was used as a shoe shop. In 1884 the property was owned by Sophia Richardson who had a millinery shop at 73 State Street and lived at 75 State Street. The Sanborn Insurance maps from 1888 until 1924 show it was occupied as a dwelling although the large first floor windows (which were in place by 1909) suggest that some type of shop used the first floor.

In 1972 the building was rehabilitated according to plans by Edward DesJardins, a Georgetown architect associated with Benjamin Thompson Associates of Cambridge. John Collins served as the contractor. The building was then owned by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Purinton of Byfield and the rehabbed building contained three apartments, a book store and an antiques store (Daily News, 7/14/1972). The building now contains offices.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Newburyport

Property Address
1 Temple Street
Area(s) Form No.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Irving, Ron. Unpublished research on Temple Street.
Newburyport Daily News, September 9, 1967; 7/14/1972.
Newburyport Directories, 1900-present.
Photographic collection, Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.
Sanborn Insurance Maps. Massachusetts State Library, Boston, Massachusetts.
Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: D.B. Beers & Co., 1872.
Plan of Newburyport. Philadelphia: H. McIntyre, 1851.