

Area	Form no.
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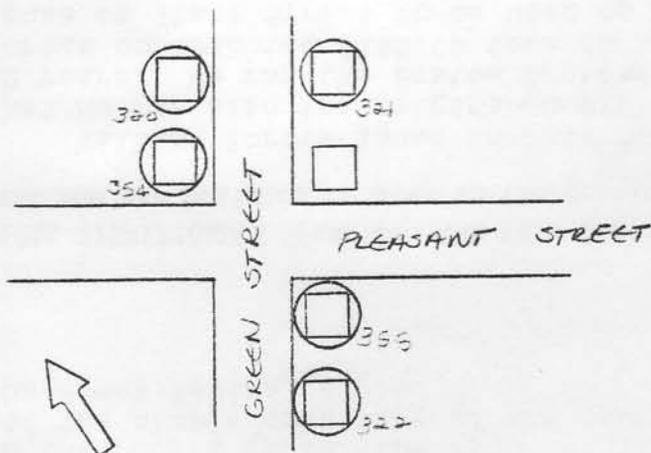
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MA 02102



Town Newburyport
 Address 23-27 Green Street
 Historic Name William Forbes House
 Use: Original Residence
 Present Residential/commercial
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner William Forbes

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 _____
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings Barn - now connecting to rear of house.
 Major alterations (with dates) Several additions at rear of building (dates unknown), bay window (c.1970)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 4,410 sq. ft.
 Setting Mixed residential and commercial area adjacent to central business district and municipal buildings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 6/30/80

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

This building is quite typical of the vernacular Greek Revival homes built in Newburyport between 1840 and 1850. The style is evident in the building's form, with the continuous cornice forming a pediment in the roof's gable. The wide fascia under the eaves, the cornerboards, and the simple treatment of the door and windows are all indicative of the Greek Revival style.

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

William Forbes lived in this house in 1851 and it is quite possible that he was also the original owner. Forbes lived in the house for over 20 years. He ran the Boston Express on State St. In 1863, William Forbes contributed \$100.00 towards the purchase of the Nathaniel Tracy house on State Street to be used as the public library.

A meeting was held in the Forbes home on August 3, 1844 to discuss the establishment of a new religious society and the securing of John E. Emerson as pastor. Six weeks later, the pastor was hired and on Nov. 23, 1849, the Third Congregational Society was incorporated under the name of the Whitefield Congregational Society. The Society later built a church on the corner of State St. and Prospect St., which has been destroyed.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Newburyport Herald, Aug. 3, 1849
1851 Plan of Newburyport, H. McIntire
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, D. G. Beers & Co.
J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport - 1764-1905 Vol II
and Vol. I, reprint, Newburyport 1977.