

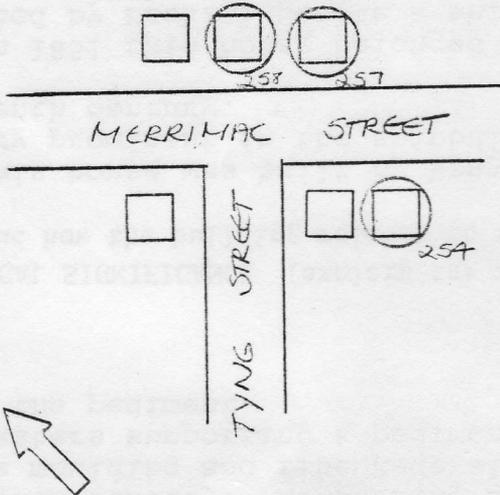
Area	Form no.
I	254

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Boston, MA 02108



City Newburyport
 Address 233-235 Merrimac Street
 Historic Name _____
 Use: Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Benjamin Choate

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1800
 Source Merrill, "North End Papers"
 Style Federal
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) addition on southern side (date unknown)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 10, 190 sq. ft.
 Setting in area of mixed residential and commercial use along the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-15-80

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

Architecturally, this three story house with hipped roof and symmetrical five bay facade, is an excellent example of the Federal "square house" built extensively in Newburyport around the turn of the nineteenth century. Noteworthy features of this house include a simple cornice moulding and fine Federal entrances. The doorways are flanked by pilasters supporting a pediment above. There is also a fanlight within the pediment.

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

This house was built by Benjamin Choate in 1800. The Choate family was very prominent in the shipbuilding in the North End during the nineteenth century.

In 1851 this house belonged to Choate's estate and was apparently inhabited by Ezekiel Choate a ship carpenter. This house remained in the Choate family until the end of the nineteenth century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- O. B. Merrill, "North End Papers", Newburyport Daily News, July 28, 1906.
- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1872 City Directories
- Assessor's Records 1890-1980