

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
F	189

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Newburyport

Address 234-236 Water Street

Historic Name David Woodwell House

Original Residence

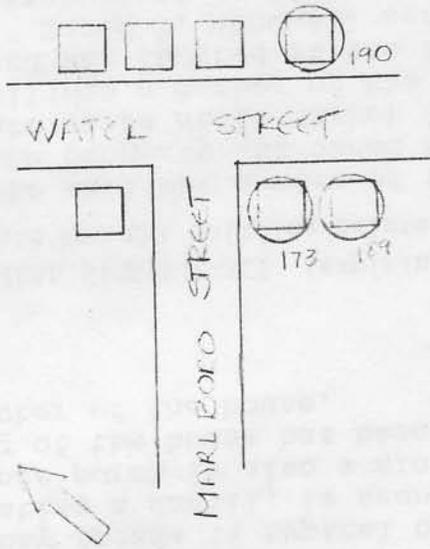
Present Residence

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date Eighteenth Century

Source _____

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Asbestos siding

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) front entrance altered, window sash replaced

addition on Southeast side, building resided, (dates unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 6,000 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area of predominantly eighteenth century

single family dwellings adjacent to the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 10-28-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This two story Georgian house with pitched roof has features of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century styles. The symmetrical five bay facade is typical of the Georgian period. The cornice moulding, simulating a dentil, is seen on several Federal homes in Newburyport. The entrance porch is also a nineteenth century feature. The fenestration and siding of the house has been altered destroying much of the original character of the house.

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

The earliest owners of this house have yet to be documented. In 1872 the property was owned by David T. Woodwell. Woodwell had a hardware store at 11 Market Square and he lived at 11 1/2 Spring Street. Woodwell was a member of the Woodwell shipbuilding clan. The family's shipyard was located at the foot of Marlboro Street for over one hundred years. David T. Woodwell served as representative to the General Court of Massachusetts in 1869 and 1870 and as one of the state senators from Essex County in 1872 and 1873. He also served as alderman in 1854 and 1858.

The house was probably inhabited by another member of the Woodwell family during this period. Before 1884 this property had been sold to H. Dodge.

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.