

FORM B - BUILDING

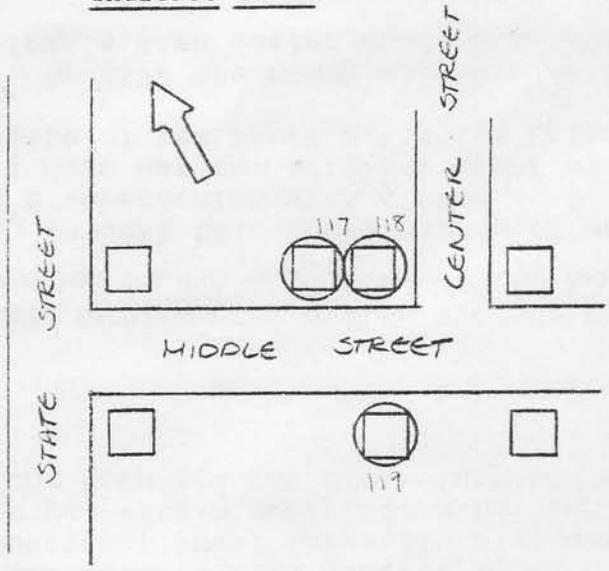
Area	Form no.
D	118

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport  
 Address 23 Middle Street  
 Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residential/commercial  
 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 Early nineteenth century  
 Source \_\_\_\_\_  
 Style Federal  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Brick  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) fenestration altered (twentieth century)  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 2,272 sq. ft.  
 Setting Adjacent to central business district in area in which the predominant building type is that of eighteenth century single family dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 09-20-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Architecturally, this building is of interest because it appears to be transitional from the Federal to the Greek styles. The building is two stories with gambrel roof. The gambrel roof was popular in Newburyport until the early nineteenth century. The doorway is Federal in style with a semi-elliptical fanlight within the arch. The keystone in the arch and the Greek-inspired window lintels are unusual features.

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

In 1851 this house was owned and occupied by Enoch Huse. Huse was a tobacconist with a shop at 41 Water Street. It is quite possible that Huse was the original owner of this house. In 1834 Huse was a trustee of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Newburyport.

By 1872 the house had been sold to G. Plummer. Plummer was a wholesale fish dealer whose business was located at 24 Liberty Street.

Throughout the nineteenth century the address of this building was 16 Center Street. Today 23 Middle Street is occupied by residential and commercial uses. The first floor serves as an antique shop.

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.
- 1884 Atlas of Essex County, G. H. Walker Company
- 1851, 1872, 1884 City Directories