

Area F	Form no. 179
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Street Boston, MA 02108

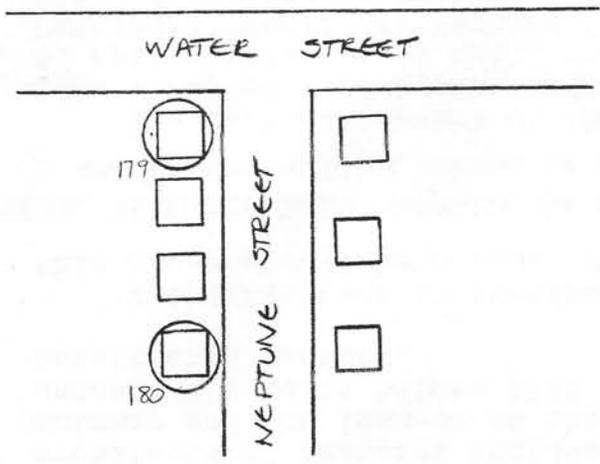


Newburyport
 Address 2 Neptune Street
 Historic Name Pettingill House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

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

DESCRIPTION:

Date Early eighteenth century
 Source Building fabric
 Style First Period Colonial
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, shingles
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) possible addition of two bays at Southern end (date unknown)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 1,620 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 Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 10-27-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This early house is one of the most interesting in the Joppa district. It is presently five bays wide but was probably originally built as a half house with the Northern three bays. Interesting architectural features include the stone foundation, the massive central chimney and the lean-to at the rear of the building. This house was undoubtedly built before 1725 and a portion of it could date from the seventeenth century.

The difference in treatment of the Northern and Southern parts of this house should be noted. The Southern two bays are in a state of (cont.)

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 1851 a map of Newburyport indicates that the property was owned by B. Pettingill. It is quite possible that the house was originally in the Pettingill family as Neptune Street was known as Pettingell's Court until the mid-nineteenth century. This house could very well date from the seventeenth century. It is one of the earliest houses in Joppa, Newburyport's earliest maritime settlement.

Between 1851 and 1871 this house was purchased by George Thurlow. In the city directory of 1871 Thurlow is listed as a fisherman, living at 2 Pettingell's Court. Also in residence was John Thurlow.

This property remained in the Thurlow family until the mid-twentieth century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records

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 Co.

1851, 1871 City Directories

J. M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 179
Property Name: Pettingill House 2 Neptune Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: (CONT.)

deterioration. The Northern three bays are well maintained. This is the result of a practice, quite common in Newburyport, by which a house title is divided between two deeds. Although many individuals own both sections of a once divided house, there are many cases in the city where the property is divided resulting in cases such as this one.

John Mead Howells dates this house to about 1680. He also notes that the cellars walls are constructed of planks.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom