

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
I	266

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



town Newburyport

Address 317 Merrimac Street

Historic Name Paul Lunt House

Original Residence

Present Residence

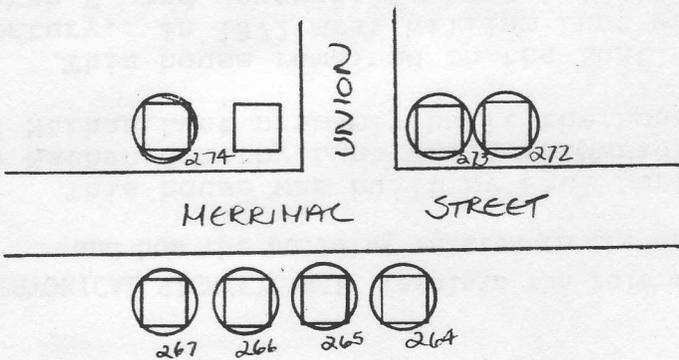
Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Paul Lunt

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1800

Source Essex County Registry of Deeds

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) front entrance altered (mid-eighteenth

century), porch added (late nineteenth century)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 8,480 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area along the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 12-26-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This two story house with hipped roof and symmetrical five bay facade is typical of the vernacular homes built at the turn of the nineteenth century. Noteworthy features of the house include the central chimney and the front entrance. The door is flanked by pilasters and sidelights. There is a bold entablature above. These are all features of the Greek Revival style and this doorway was probably added during the mid-nineteenth century.

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 Paul Lunt on a parcel of land previously owned by Nathan Somerby. Lunt was a shipwright. He married Mary Somerby, daughter of Nathan. Lunt probably built the house for his new wife.

This house remained in the Lunt family for the entire nineteenth century. In 1872 Mrs. William Lunt was the property's owner. In 1920 Sarah F. and Gertrude S. Lunt sold the house to Christine H. Curtis.

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.
1851, 1871 City Directories
Deed Research compiled by Mrs. Nancy Flynn and Mrs. Kathy Horden.