

Area	Form no.
I	268

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport  
 Address 320 Merrimac Street  
 Historic Name Moggridge House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                    Private organization  
                    Public  
 Original owner Samuel Moggridge

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



DESCRIPTION:  
 Date Late Eighteenth Century  
 Source Building Fabric, Essex County Registry of Deeds  
 Style Georgian  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Aluminum Siding  
 Outbuildings Garage

Major alterations (with dates) tower added to entrance porch (late 19th century) house covered with aluminum siding (20th century)  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 10.130 sq. ft.  
 Setting in residential area of eighteenth and nineteenth century dwellings on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 12-10-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The house which was originally a Georgian dwelling with pitched roof, symmetrical five bay facade and simple entrance porch, has been altered extensively. A tower was added to the entrance porch during the late nineteenth century, largely obscuring the original character of the house's facade. The building has been covered with aluminum siding and the original window sash have been replaced. This house does retain the original pilasters flanking the front doorway. At one time these pilasters probably supported a classically-inspired 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 Samuel Moggridge, a shipbuilder. Moggridge arrived in what was the part of Newbury in the early eighteenth century to acquire ship masts for the English interests. He and his heirs built ships in this area, called Moggridge's Point for over one hundred years. This house was built during the second half of the eighteenth century. The Moggridge shipyard was finally sold at auction in 1862. Other shipbuilders that worked in the Moggridge yard included Orlando B. Merrill, inventor of the water line model. In 1813 the U. S. Warship, "Wasp" was built by Merrill in Moggridge's Point.

In 1851, the owner of this house was Ebenezer Savory, a schoolteacher. He had a school for Boys in the lower floor of the Newburyport Academy in 1840. The 1872 Plan of the City of Newburyport lists John or Joseph Worthen as the owner. Both men were shipcarpenters living at 2 Woodland Street.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Assessor's Records 1890-1980
- R. Cheney, History of Merrimac River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964.
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.
- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1871 City Directories