



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

This building is vernacular in style with few architectural details that would indicate the date of construction. The cornice is classically inspired and coupled with the building's form would provide evidence that the building was built at mid-nineteenth century. The building was probably built as a utilitarian structure. It was not used as a residence until the end of the nineteenth century. The present doorways are a later addition to the building.

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

This building might have been built as a shoe factory. In 1864 the firm of John D. Pike and Company probably occupied the building. This firm was one of the earliest shoe manufacturers in the City of Newburyport. This apparently was one of the earliest shoe factories.

Prior to the middle of the nineteenth century shoe manufacture in the city was an important cottage industry. Workshops generally accommodated less than four or five workers. In the third quarter of the nineteenth century the shops began to organize. J. D. Pike and Company employed twenty five workers in their factory at what is now 330-332 High Street.

In 1872 Jacob T. Rowe employed about 25 men in the business of shoe manufacture in this structure. Rowe owned the building until the 1920's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905 vols. I and II, reprint, Newburyport 1977.
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1871 City Directory