

FORM B - BUILDING

NRDIS 8/2/1984

Assessor's number
6-14

USGS Quad
Newburyport

Area(s)
L,U

Form Number
2175

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Town Newburyport

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 33 State Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Commercial

Date of Construction c.1855

Source directories, photos

Style/Form Altered

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Undetermined

Wall/Trim Wood/Granite

Roof Tar

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) c.1920 - alt. to storefront;

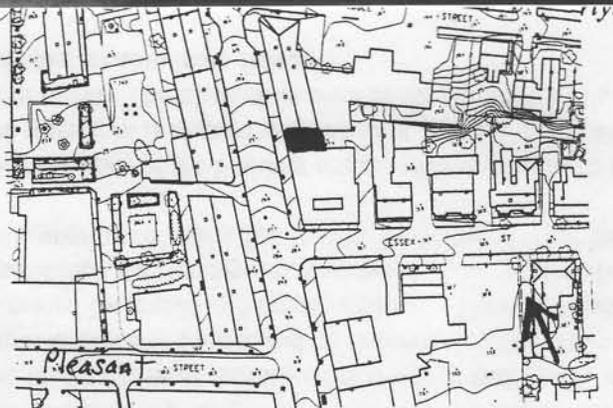
c.1990 - upper story rebuilt after damaged by fire

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1348 SF

Setting central business district



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Date (month/year) April 1999

BUILDING FORM (33 State Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This two-story building is the only wood-frame block in this part of State Street. The building has undergone many changes over the years, most recently after it was gutted by fire in 1990. The upper story of the building is sheathed in wood clapboards and is punctuated by two 9/9 wood windows. The wooden cornice was inspired by late 19th century forms and is decorated by dentils and bullseye panels. The end consoles have raised foliate decoration. Historic photographs reveal that this roofline was changed at least twice. One version shows an elevated rectangular panel at the center with end brackets while another reveals a flat roofline embellished by at least five turned finials.

The first floor of the building retains what appear to be 19th century granite posts and lintels coupled with modern bulkheads. The storefront is aligned with the right wall and has a recessed center entrance with a door consisting of a large glass window set in wood. The tilework in front of the entrance spells out "Chase". The angled display windows date to the 20th century and have an aluminum frame.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

It appears that this building dates to the mid 19th century. In the mid-to-late 19th century the building was known as "Albion Hall" and the upper floor of the building housed an "ambrotype saloon". The first directory listing found for this address appears in the 1856 directory and indicates that Elijah R. Perkins, ambrotype artist occupied the building. Photographer Hiram P. Macintosh apprenticed under Perkins, took over the space in 1859 and continued to work here until 1890. H.P. Macintosh (1830-1907) is considered one of the premier photographers of his day, as well as being a pioneer in the art. He is credited with inventing the "pocket portrait", a small photo placed in a circular tin frame. A prominent local citizen, Macintosh served several terms as chief of the fire department in the early 1870s and was a member of the Masons and Odd Fellows. In 1890 Macintosh apparently gave up his photo practice and was appointed collector of customs by President Harrison. At the time of his death in 1907 he was the senior customs collector in the country (Through the Lens, p. 8).

The first floor space has had various tenants over the years. Druggist James Tilton was located here in the 1850s. In the late 1860s and 1870s Benjamin F. Carter who sold insurance and piano fortes was located here. A confectionery store, founded by George W. Austin in 1871, occupied the building in the late 19th century. The store was later run for over forty years by Austin's grandson, Fred W. Chase. Known for its Christmas ribbon candy and hard candies, Chase's Candy Store went out of business in 1966 after 95 years in business. In later years it was operated by Austin's great-grandson, John M. Chase. Directories also indicate that Constat Porriau, a cigar manufacturer was located upstairs for much of this period. In 1966 the building was bought by Harold Kirsner.

The building was gutted by fire on August 3, 1990 and rebuilt in its present form..

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Newburyport Daily News, July 25, 1966.

Newburyport Directories, various dates.

Newburyport Public Library, photographic collection.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1888, 1894, 1906, 1914, 1924, 1946.

Through the Lens: Early Newburyport Photographers and Photographs. Newburyport: Historical Society of Old Newbury, 1990.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Newburyport

Property Address
33 State Street
Area(s) Form No.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

L,U	2175
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Source: Photographic collection, Newburyport Public Library (S539).

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AMBROTYPES & PHOTOGRAPHS
H. P. MACKINTOSH,
AT HIS ROOMS,
33 State Street, Newburyport.



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AMBROTYPES,
PHOTOGRAPHS,
MELAINOTYPES,
STEREOSCOPES, SPHEROTYPES
AND
PATENT LEATHER PICTURES.

At the shortest notice, and in a manner that he trusts will give perfect satisfaction.

SOMETHING NEW!
8 CARD PICTURES FOR 10.

These pictures are produced by a process which enables us to make and finish them in a very few moments. They are very convenient to send in letters, as they are all fitted for the same size.

12 Photographs for One Dollar!

Particular attention paid to Copying Pictures. Fine Photographs produced from small miniatures, and finished in ink, oil and water colors, as may be desired. Views taken, also pictures of sick or deceased persons when desired. FRAMES OF ALL KINDS FOR SALE AT THE LOWEST PRICES. Having a room which is easy of access (up only one flight of stairs), and a complete set of apparatus, I trust that the pictures produced at my rooms will be found not inferior to those taken at any other establishment. Don't forget the name.

Apollon Hall, 33 State Street, Newburyport.

Source: 1864-5 Newburyport Directory.

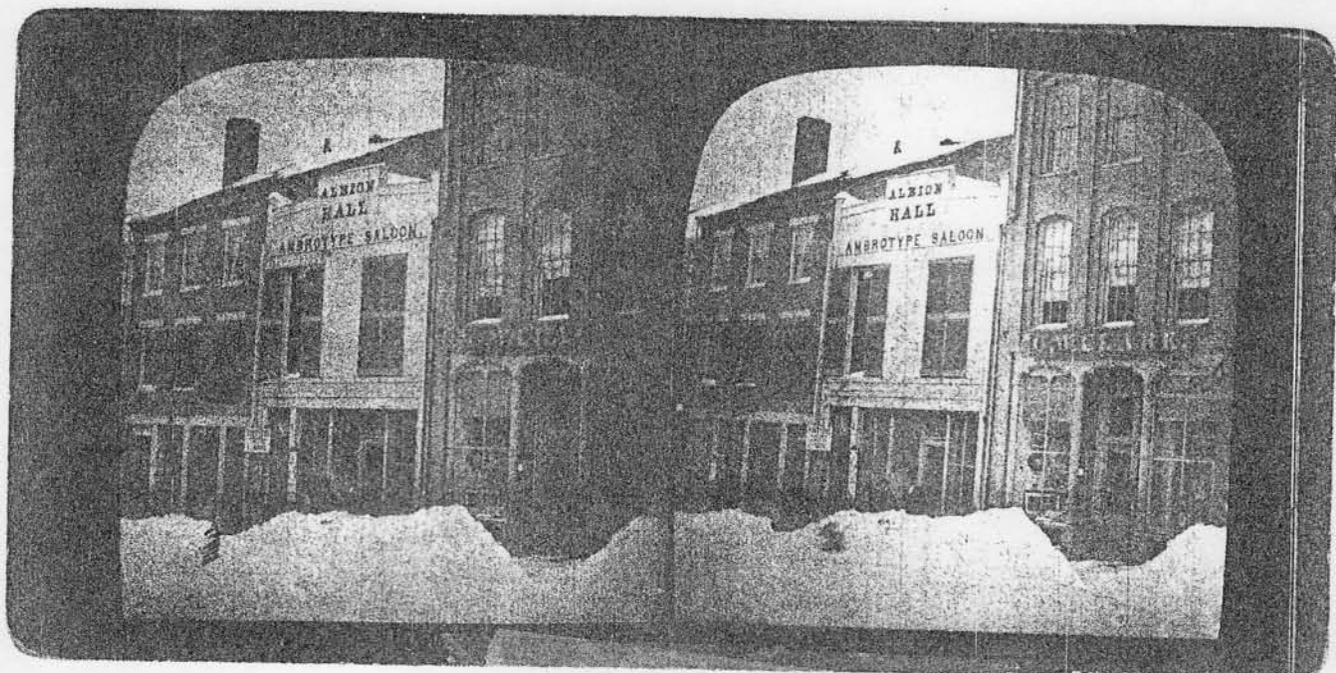
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