

FORM B - BUILDING

Area F	Form no. 166
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Newburyport

Address 37 Bromfield Street

Historic Name Ambrose Wells House

Original Residence

Present Residence

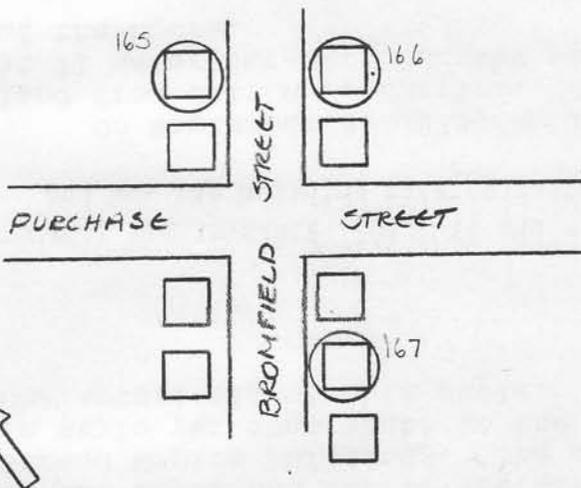
Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Calvin E. Currier

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. 1870

Source Assessor's Records

Style Second Empire

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 4,680 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area of predominantly eighteenth century

single family dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

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)

The hallmark of the Second Empire style is the mansard roof seen in this building. The variety of roof shingles is also common to the style and the dormer windows seen here occur on almost all Second Empire buildings. The brackets and cornerboards are vernacular in style yet contribute to the bold, three-dimensional effect that is characteristic of this style.

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

On September 3, 1879, Ambrose H. Wells purchased this parcel of land from Calvin E. Currier. Currier was a carpenter with a business at 71 Water Street. Currier was probably the original owner and builder of the house.

Ambrose H. Wells owned this house until 1918 when the property was conveyed to Julia Tingley who subsequently sold it to Orin B. Gerrish.

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 Directory