

FORM B - BUILDING

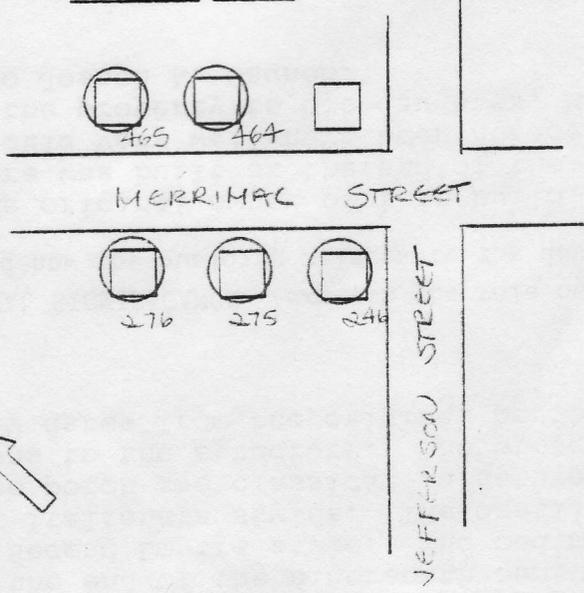
Area	Form no.
	464

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Street Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport
 Address 420 Merrimac Street
 Historic Name _____
 Original Residence _____
 Present Residence _____
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:
 Date c. 1880
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Vernacular Victorian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 4,648 sq. ft.
 Setting in area of mixed residential and commercial uses on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office Of Community Development
 Date 12-15-80

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

This one and a half story house with mansard roof is vernacular in style. It exhibits features of several of the Victorian styles popular toward the end of the nineteenth century. The mansard roof is characteristic of the Second Empire style. The pedimented dormers were inspired by the popular Italianate styles. The dentil cornice, bay window, and simple entrance porch are classical in nature and may be early twentieth century additions to the structure. The octagonal cupola is worthy of note and probably dates from the original period of construction.

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

The original owner of this building has yet to be documented. The structure was built at the end of the nineteenth century. The original owner could very well have been Horace A. Hawkes. At his death Hawkes willed the property to his daughter, Mary A. Gooch. In 1927 she sold the house to Joseph A. Gagnon.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.