

FORM B - BUILDING

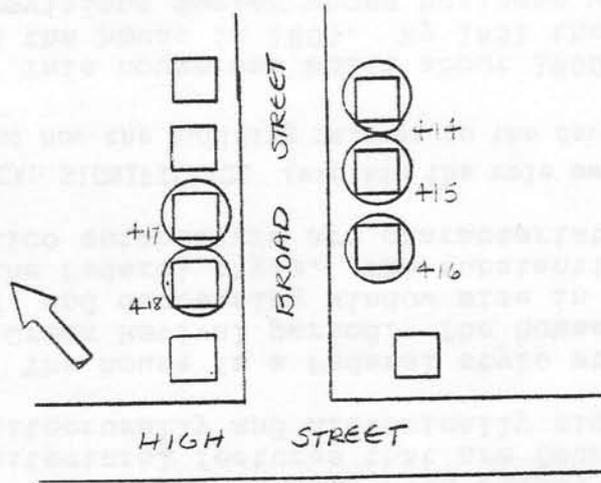
Area	Form no. 418
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport  
 Address 44 Broad Street  
 Historic Name Coker-Pendill  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Thomas Coker

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1800  
 Source Howells, Arch. History of Merrimack  
 Style Federal  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboard  
 Outbuildings Barn  
 Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_  
     Front Portico (1859)  
     Side Piazzas (1859)  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 14,950 sq. ft.  
 Setting In a residential neighborhood of 18th, 19th, and 20th century houses adjacent to High Street.

Recorded by Scott Ackerly  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 7/28/80

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

This house is near High Street and has some of the finer architectural features that are found on the famous houses of that architecturally and historically significant street.

The house is a Federal style structure which was altered during the Greek Revival period. The house has the rectangular shape, hipped roof, and decreasing window size in the upper stories all characteristic of the Federal style. The substantial columns and wide fascia of the portico entablature are characteristic of the Greek Revival style.

(cont.)

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 about 1800 by Thomas Coker. Coker's widow sold the house in 1805. By 1851 the house was owned by Joseph Ackerman, a provisions dealer whose business was located at 5 Liberty Street. John Rand Spring purchased the house in 1859 and lived here until 1862. Born in Newburyport in 1824, Mr. Spring spent most of his life elsewhere. He made a fortune in San Francisco real estate. His will left \$20,000.00 of this wealth to the Newburyport Public Library.

After the death of Mr. Spring, William H. Swasey bought the house. Mr. Swasey was a shipping merchant in the firm of Sumner, Swasey, and Currier at 45 Water Street. In 1874 he was a partner in the Elishia P. Dodge Shoe Company. After 1900 Swasey was the Treasurer for The Towle Silver Company. His charitable contributions included the statue of William Lloyd Garrison in Brown Square and he was the largest contributor to the Atkinson Common Civil War Monument. In 1883 the will of Anna Jaques left he and Francis A. Howe as guardians of the bonds for the establishment of a hospital.

The First Religious Society owned the house in 1924 and Captain Claudius Pendill has owned it since the 1930's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980

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, 1872 City Directories

1884 Atlas

J. M. Howells, The Arch. Heritage of the Merrimack, N. Y., 1941. 20M-2/80

S. Emery, Reminiscences of a Newburyport Nonagenarian, Newburyport, 1879.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 418
Property Name: Coker-Pendill 44 Broad Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

This portico and the roof balustrade as well as the broad piazzas on the rear and sides of the house were added by John Spring about 1860. Also indicative of the Greek Revival style is the trabeated doorway with the oblong light over the door.

At one time a heavy fence similar to the roof balustrade stood in front of the house.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom