

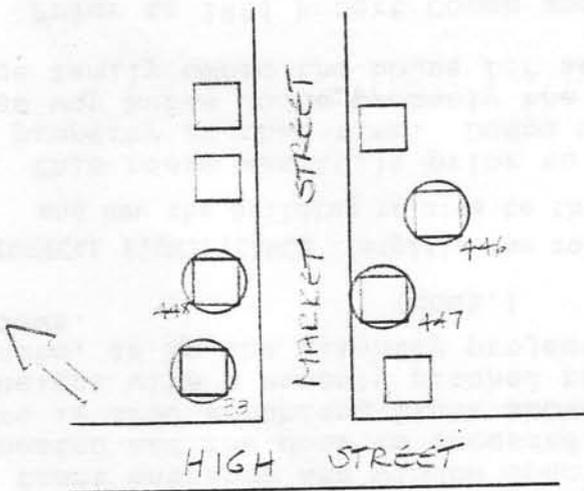
Area	Form no.
	447

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport
 Address 45 Market Street
 Historic Name Silas Dodge House
 Status: Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 Original owner Silas Dodge

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1840
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Brick
 Outbuildings Garage
 Major alterations (with dates) Wooden addition at rear (date unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 3,700 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of eighteenth and nineteenth century building adjacent to the High Street historic district.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 11-28-80

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

This house is vernacular in style with features of the Greek Revival and other mid-nineteenth century styles. The original owner of the house was a mason and it appears that he used it as a showpiece. The front entrance and window openings are simple. The doorway is trabeated and the door is recessed and is flanked with sidelights. There is also an oblong light above the door. The house is two stories in height with a steeply pitched roof. The brick dentil cornice is worthy of note, as is the slightly projecting brick fascia above the second story windows.

(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 prior to 1851 probably by Silas Dodge who owned the property at that time. Dodge was a mason. Also in residence in the house was Rufus Dodge, probably the son of Silas and also a mason. The Dodge family owned the house for several decades.

Prior to 1884 Robert Couch acquired this house. Couch was a prominent politician in Newburyport, serving as mayor of the city in 1870 and 1881. He also served as a representative to the General Court of the Commonwealth in 1872. Couch supported local charities, contributing to the fund to rehabilitate the Tracy House for the public library. At his death he left the house to several charities. Ownership was consolidated once again when the property was sold to Morris Checkoway in 1925.

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.
- 1884 Atlas of Essex County, G. H. Walker Co.
- 1851, 1872 City Directories
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.