

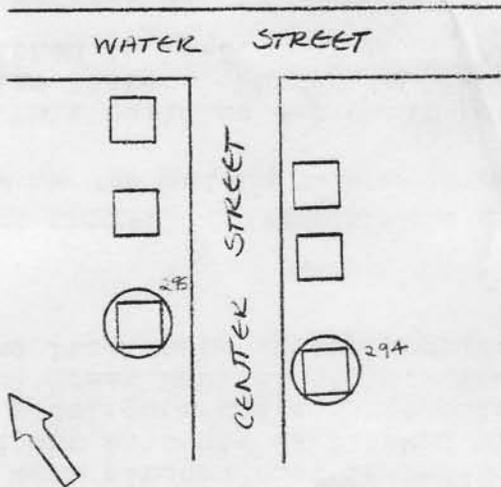
FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	294

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 224 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



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



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt
 Organization Office of Community
Development
 Date 9-28-80

Newburyport

Address 5 Center Street

Historic Name _____

Use: Original Residence

Present Residence

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Unknown

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1860

Source 1851, 1872 Maps of Nbpt.

Style Vernacular Victorian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 2,073 sq. ft.

Setting adjacent to the Market Square

Historic District and Newburyport's

Water Street which runs along the
banks of the Merrimack River.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This building is vernacular in style exhibiting features of several mid-nineteenth century styles. The building's two story form with pitched roof is reminiscent of the Greek Revival style. The front entrance is flanked with pilasters and originally had both sidelights and a large oblong light above. These are also features of the Greek Revival style. The brackets under the eaves are inspired by the Italianate styles popular during this period.

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

This building was built between 1851 and 1872, probably by William Porter. Porter is listed as a teamster in the city directory published in 1872.

In 1860 William Porter made arrangements to sprinkle several streets in the city center with water during the summer months. He collected a small sum weekly from the people whose houses or businesses he passed. Mr. Porter continued this service until his death in 1885.

Porter purchased several lots on Center Street during this period and built the adjacent houses on the odd side of the street, apparently on speculation.

Today this house remains, as it was originally, a single family residence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 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 of Essex County, C. H. Walker Co.