



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

This is an unusual house in that it has elements of both the Georgian and Federal styles. It was probably built around the turn of the nineteenth century. The gambrel roof, though generally considered a Georgian form, persists in Newburyport's domestic architecture until about 1810. Other features of this house are clearly Federal in inspiration. These include the splayed window lintels and the stepped splayed lintel over the door. The arched window on the West side of the house is a feature that would be seen in either a Georgian or Federal home.

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 and builder of this house is unknown. It was lived in Mrs. John N. Cushing in 1851. She also owned the property in 1872 but there is no indication that she lived there at that time.

John Cushing, owner of the Cushing House, at 98 High Street was an illustrious citizen of Newburyport. He was the father of Caleb Cushing noted lawyer, politician, and statesman. He owned interest in numerous vessels including the Brig Pocahontas, wrecked on Plum Island in 1839. He served as selectman in 1835 and was one of the founders of the Merchant's Insurance Company and the Merchants National Bank, both organizations in Newburyport.

Apparently this house belonged to Cushing's wife. Whether it was a guest house or investment property, or whether it was her full-time residence is not known.

The house stayed in the Cushing family until 1961. The last Cushing descendent to live in the house was Ellen S. Todd.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D.G. Beers and Co.  
1851, 1871 City Directories  
Assessor's Records 1890-1980