

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Boston, MA 02108

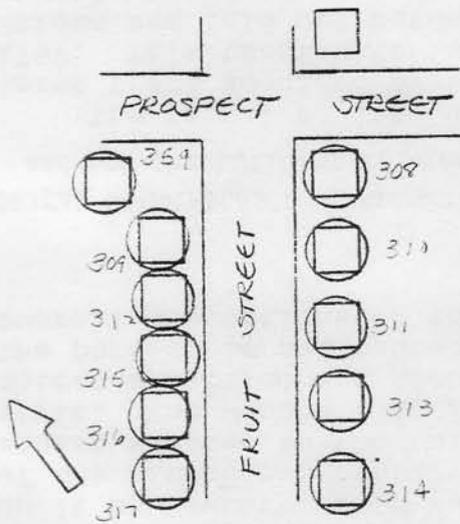


City Newburyport  
 Address 9 Fruit Street  
 Historic Name LeBreton-Wright House  
 Original Residence  
 Present Residence  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
                   Private organization \_\_\_\_\_  
                   Public \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original owner Joseph Noyes

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

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1805  
 Source Essex County Registry of Deeds  
 Style Federal  
 Architect Unknown  
 Exterior wall fabric Shed  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 25,400 sq. ft.  
 in a residential area of single  
 Setting and double houses built, for  
 the most part, during the first decade  
 of the nineteenth century. The homes  
 are closely spaced and have little  
 land on the street side. Many are fine  
 examples of the Federal style.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwalt  
 Organization Office of Community Development  
 Date 8-25-80

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

This house is a fine example of the three story Federal homes built by Newburyport's wealthy mercantile class during the early years of the nineteenth century. The house has the hipped roof and small square windows in the third story so often associated with the Federal style. The window lintels and modillioned cornice, as well as the entrance portico, are also features that are characteristic of the style. The portico is pedimented and is supported by the Roman Doric order. The overall proportions of this house makes it a fine example of the style.

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

The parcel of land upon which this house was built was part of a large tract acquired by Benjamin Wyatt and Richard Pike in September, 1798. This tract extended from High Street to Prospect Street. Fruit Street was laid out between 1798 and 1801 and the parcels along the street were sold to individuals who built the Federal homes on Fruit Street today.

On July 11, 1805, Joseph Noyes purchased this parcel of land. Noyes was a painter and he owned the property until April 13, 1807 when it was sold to Peter LeBreton, Jr. LeBreton was the son of a shipmaster and shipowner. The younger LeBreton was also a successful merchant in Newburyport.

In 1813 this house was sold to Abraham Wheelwright and in 1819 it was conveyed to John Wells, Jr. LeBreton repurchased the house in 1825 and lived there until his death in 1829. The heirs of LeBreton's estate owned the house until 1865 when it was sold to Newman and Susan Brown. Brown was a coal dealer and his business was located at 13 Water Street.

In 1890, 9 Fruit Street was purchased by John T. Young. In 1916 the property was sold to Moses and Ira Wright. The Wright family owned the property until 1973 when it was sold to the present owners Mr. and Mrs. Frederick B. Barclay.

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
- J. M. Howells, The Architectural Heritage of the Merrimack, New York, 1941.
- Deed research by Frederick B. Barclay, Essex County Registry of Deeds, Salem, Mass.