

FORM B - BUILDING

Area H	Form no. 224
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Street Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 9 Strong Street

Historic Name Joseph Atkins House

Original Residential

Present Residential

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Joseph Atkins

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

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1730

Source Currier, "History of Nbpt."

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates) addition at rear (date unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____

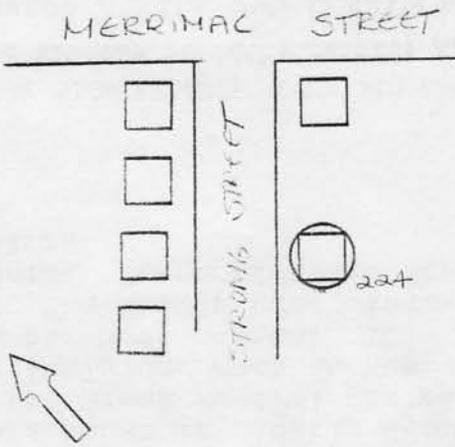
Approx. acreage 6,560 sq. ft.

Setting residential area of

primarily eighteenth and nineteenth

century dwellings adjacent to

Merrimac Street and the banks of the Merrimack River.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 12-10-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is clearly Georgian in style, although it was altered during the Greek Revival period. The two story form with hipped roof is relatively uncommon in Newburyport's Georgian homes. The gambrel roof is far more common. This house has a symmetrical five bay facade. The double hung window sash have nine over six or six over six lights. The doorway is Greek Revival in style with sidelights and bold entablature.

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

Joseph Atkins built this house about 1730. Atkins was born in Sandwich, England in 1680 and came to Newbury, Massachusetts in 1724. His first wife came from England with him. She probably died shortly thereafter, as Atkins was remarried in 1730. His second wife was the widow of Francis Wainwright of Boston and the daughter of Joseph Dudley, governor of the province. The house at 9 Strong Street was built for Mary, his new bride.

In 1738, Joseph Atkins with several other men was granted liberty to build a wharf at the end of Market Street. Atkins later built a distillery and several warehouses on the wharf.

Joseph Atkins was a great benefactor of St. Paul's Church. He donated the land upon which the original church was built in 1741. Atkins died in 1773 and was buried in St. Paul's churchyard.

Prior to 1851 this house was purchased by James M. Cooper. Cooper was a house carpenter. This property was owned by Cooper and his heirs until 1919 when Florence M. Cooper sold the house to Carl S. Walker.

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
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.