

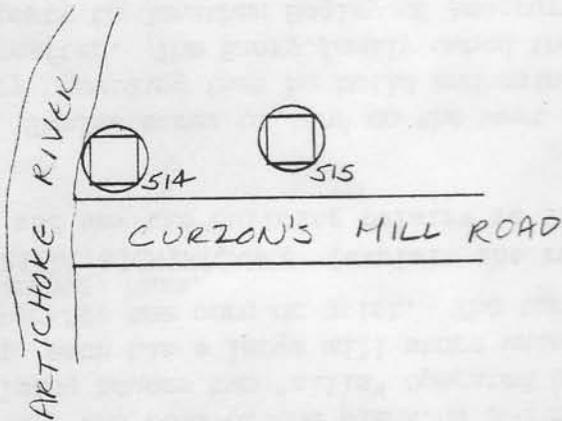
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Town Newburyport
 Address Curzon's Mill Road
 Historic Name Curzon's Mill
 Name: Original Mill House
 Present _____
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner John Emery

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1678-79
 Source Currier, "Ould Newbury"
 Style _____
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Shingles
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) exterior largely rebuilt following fire (1840)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 3,100 sq. ft.
 Setting on the banks of the Artichoke River on the Marquand Estate

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwalt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date April 11, 1981

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

The mill on the banks of the Artichoke River is utilitarian in style. The building is two stories in height with a pitched roof. There is an addition at one side. The building suffered a fire during the mid-nineteenth century and the exterior was extensively rebuilt in 1848. According to information provided by the present owner, the foundation of the structure dates from the seventeenth century and some of the planking and mill machinery is also of an early date. The building houses two "mills" operated by a turbine water wheel housed below the mill room; each has a large mill store under a wooden housing over which there is a wooden hopper for the corn or grist. The turbine water wheel was made by the Rodney Hunt Co., of Orange, Mass.

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

Twelve acres of land on the west side of Artichoke River was granted to John Emery providing that he build and maintain a corn mill. The mill was built shortly thereafter. The Emery family owned the mill until 1761 when Stephen Emery sold the property to Jonathan Bagley of Amesbury. The mill was used to grind corn for Newbury residents throughout this period.

In 1786, the executors of Bagley's will sold the mill to Stephen Hooper of Newburyport. In 1800, William Dandridge Peck acquired the property. Peck was chosen Professor of Natural History at Howard College while he was the owner of the mill. On August 7, 1820, Peck sold the land to Samuel Curzon of Newburyport, merchant, with a grist mill, saw mill house, barn, etc. Since that date the mill has remained in the hands of Samuel Curzon and his descendants.

The descendants of the Curzon family have included such illustrative figures as John P. Marquand, noted twentieth century novelist. Marquand used the mill as a study during the 1920's. Today the property is owned by Christina Marquand Welch, daughter of the author.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

J. J. Currier, Ould Newbury: Historical and Biographical Sketches

J. P. Marquand, "A Hearsay History of Curzon's Mill,": The Atlantic, November, 1957, pp 84-91.