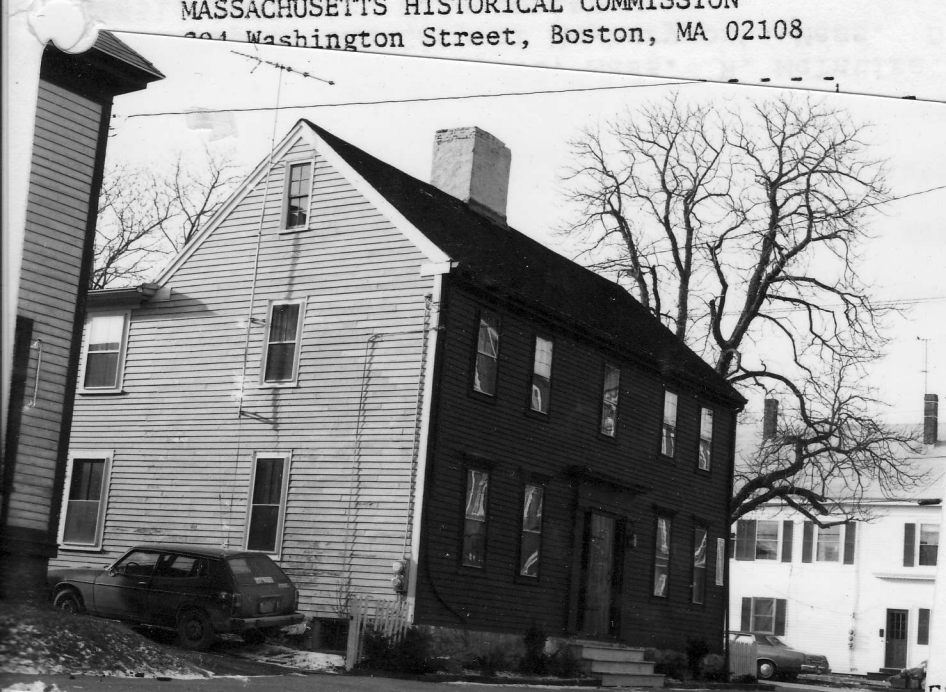


FORM B - BUILDING

Area I	Form no. 253
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
201 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 225-227 Merrimac Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Original Residence

Present Residence

Ownership: ☒ Private individual  
Private organization \_\_\_\_\_

Public \_\_\_\_\_

Original owner Unknown

DESCRIPTION:

Date Mid-Eighteenth Century

Source Building Fabric

Style Georgian

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

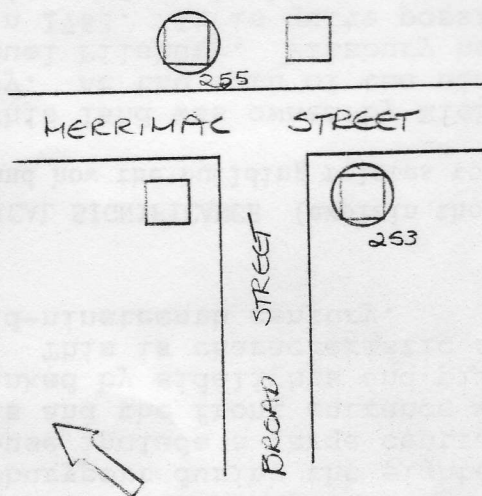
Major alterations (with dates) front  
entrance altered (mid-nineteenth  
century)

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 3,300 sq. ft.

Setting in area of mixed residential  
and commercial uses along the banks of  
the Merrimack River.

location in relation  
cross streets and other buildings  
or geographical features.  
Indicate north.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwalt

Organization Office of Community  
Development

Date 12=27=80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This two story house with pitched roof and symmetrical five bay facade is a good example of the vernacular domestic architecture built in Newburyport during the eighteenth century. Noteworthy features of the house include a large central chimney. Classically inspired window lintels and the front entrance which has been altered. Today the doorway is flanked by sidelights and pilasters supporting a bold entablature above. This is characteristic of the Greek Revival style, popular during the mid-nineteenth century.

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

This land was owned by Richard Kent during the mid-eighteenth century. At the turn of the nineteenth century the property was owned by Samuel Pilsbury. Pilsbury had married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Kent in 1763. It is quite possible that the land was given to Pilsbury at that time and that the house was built shortly thereafter. Samuel Pilsbury was a boatbuilder. He sold the house to William Hovey, mariner, in 1800.

Between 1838 and 1871 this property was owned by the Merrill family. In 1851 Henry Merrill was in residence. He was a wood dealer with a business at 174 Merrimac Street.

In 1871 Lizzie and John L. Merrill sold this house to Phebe and David Atkinson. The Atkinson's owned the house for several decades.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980  
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.  
1851, 1872 City Directories  
Deed Research compiled by Susan E. Squires, Essex County Registry of Deeds.