

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
I	270

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Newburyport

Address 334 Merrimac Street

Historic Name Caleb Brown House

Original Residence

Present Residence

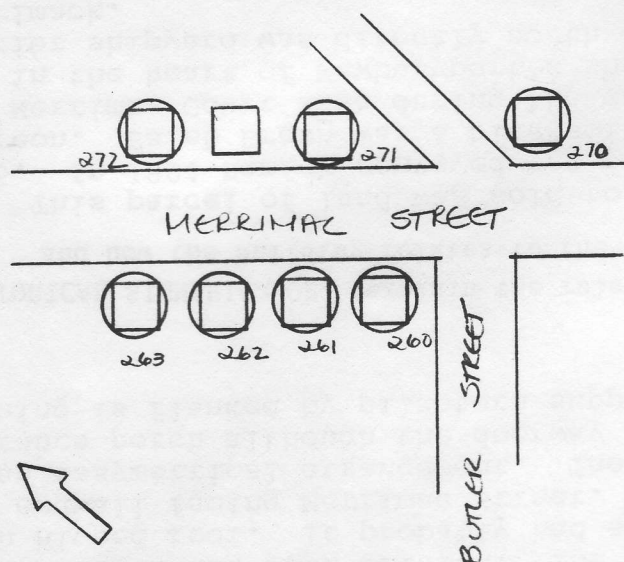
Ownership: ☒ Private individual  
☐ Private organization

Public

Original owner Samuel Remick

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1795-1804

Source Essex County Registry of Deeds

Style Federal

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Asbestos siding

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates) front

entrance and fenestration have been  
altered (date unknown)

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

Approx. acreage 11,150 sq. ft.

Setting in residential area of  
eighteenth and nineteenth century  
dwelling on the banks of the  
Merrimack River.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwort

Organization Office of Community  
Development

Date 12-12-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house has several significant features of the Federal style although the building has been covered with asbestos siding and the fenestration has been altered. The house is three stories in height with hipped roof. It probably had a symmetrical five bay facade with three bay endwall facing Merrimac Street. Today the facade has but five windows in an asymmetrical arrangement. The house does retain its original projecting entrance porch although the doorway is now filled in with siding. The door opening is flanked by pilasters supporting a pediment above.

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

This parcel of land was sold to Samuel Remick by Ebenezer Savory in 1795. In 1804 Remick conveyed the property to Caleb Brown with the house thereon. Caleb Brown was a blacksmith. He owned much of the property in the Merrimac Court area during the early nineteenth century. This area was in the heart of Newburyport's shipbuilding district. The John J. Currier shipyard was directly north of this property on the banks of the Merrimack.

In 1847 this house was purchased by Abner Kenniston an ironworker in the shipyard. Kenniston lived at what is now 313 Merrimac Street. He purchased this house for his daughter, Elizabeth, who lived here until 1879.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- R. Cheney, History of Merrimack River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964.  
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, 1871 City Directories  
Deed Research compiled by Mrs. Nancy Flynn and Mrs. Kathy Horden.