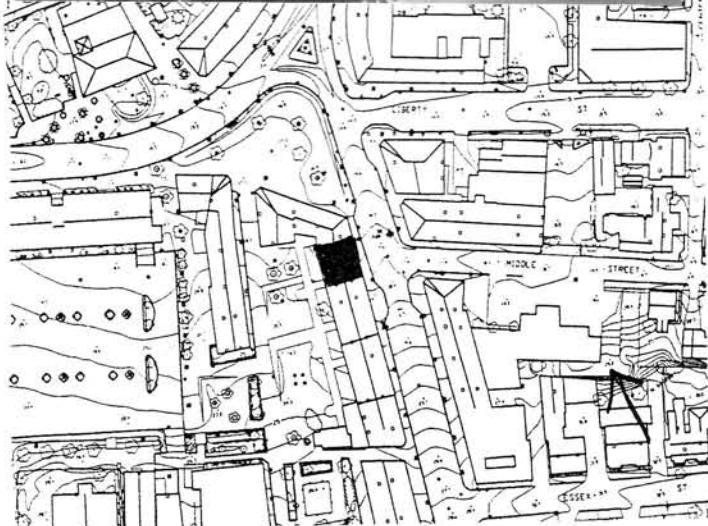


FORM B - BUILDING

NRDIS 8/2/1984

Assessor's number
4-30DUSGS Quad
NewburyportArea(s)
L,UForm Number
2201

Massachusetts Historical Commission



Town Newburyport

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 4-8 State Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Commercial

Date of Construction c.1811

Source visual inspection

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Brick/Sandstone

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) 1973 - rehabilitation
including new first floor and windows

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 1892 SF

Setting commercial business district just south of
Market Square

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 1999

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

BUILDING FORM (4-8 State Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The building at 4-8 State Street is a three-story block capped by a low gable roof and constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond. The upper stories of the facade are organized in a pattern of 1 -2 - 2 -1 bays and contain modern 6/6 wooden sash with spalling splayed sandstone lintels and sills. Considerable patching of the brick is noted in the top four courses of the building including the dentil course. Similarly the first floor of the building is a 1973 reconstruction. Two of the first floor storefronts are constructed using a trabeated system with granite sills and lintels framing 3 x 2-light display windows. The remaining storefront has three arched openings cut into the brick.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Like its neighbors, this building is thought to have been constructed shortly after the Great Fire of 1811 wiped out much of what is now downtown Newburyport. According to a "Reminiscences" article printed in the Daily News in 1886, sixty or seventy years earlier this building had been occupied by a bookstore belonging to (Isiaiah) Thomas & Whipple, later operated by Samuel Tenney. In 1849 a telegraph office was located over 6 State Street and Edward Hardy had a dry goods store at 8 State Street. The 1852 directory indicates that in that year Charles Whipple had a bookstore at 4 State Street, Charles Cheney sold clothing at #6 and Bernard & Block operated a dry goods store at 8 State Street.

In 1877, W.J. Creasey, successor to Sewell B. Noyes, was selling cigars and tobacco at 6 State Street. By 1890, William T. Nelson was selling caps, hats, and furs at 6-8 State Street and remained there until after the turn of the century. A woodcut of the building showing Nelson's store appeared in the Daily News on October 11, 1890. From about 1910 until the 1950s, the Modern Cloak Company was located here. The storefront at 4 State Street housed a confectionery operated by the Papoulias Brothers and was later occupied by Dede's Candy, and then, Dede's Lunch Room, from at least the 1930s until the 1960s. The storefront at 6 State Street contained a tobacco shop in the early 20th century and later a hardware store. By 1960 the space at 8 State Street contained a restaurant. This building was part of the so-called "Parcel 10" redeveloped by the Restoration Design Group of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Work on the rehabilitation was begun in May 1973.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Irving, Ron. Unpublished research on State Street.
Newburyport City Directories, various dates.
Newburyport Daily News, 12/27/1886; 10/11/1890; 5/3/1973.
Newburyport Public Library Scrapbooks, 1970-1975.
Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1888, 1894, 1906, 1914, 1924, 1946.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*