

FORM B - BUILDING

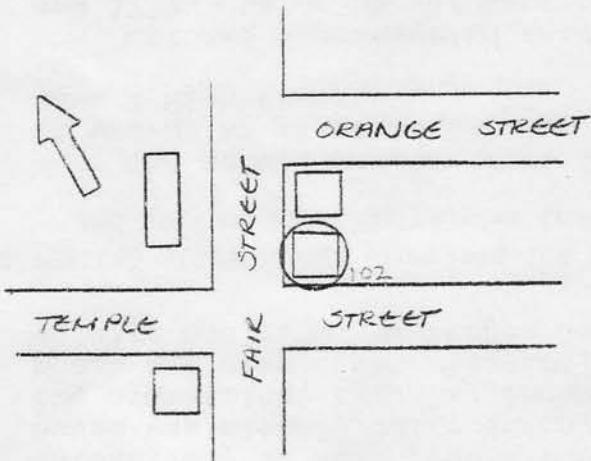
Area	Form no.
D	102

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City Newburyport
 Address 41 Fair Street
 Historic Name Wigglesworth-Lunt House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 18th Century (Pre-1773)
 Source Currier, "History of Nbpt."
 Style Georgian
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings Shed
 Major alterations (with dates) addition at rear, bay windows added, window sash replaced (dates unknown).
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 4,135 sq. ft.
 Setting in a residential area between the predominantly eighteenth century South End Historic District and the fine Federal architecture of Fruit Street.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwalt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 09-28-80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

One of the most significant architectural features of this house is the curved front in the gambrel roof. This treatment of the eaves is quite unusual in Newburyport, occurring in only two or three other homes in the city. The two story, gambrel roofed house was built extensively in Newburyport throughout the eighteenth century. This house was clearly built during the Georgian period as is evidenced by the symmetrical five bay facade. The architectural details of the house are simple, yet classically inspired. These features include the cornice moulding, cornerboards, and front entrance.

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

The actual construction date of this house has yet to be documented. It was built prior to 1773 at which time it was purchased by Colonel Edward Wigglesworth.

Colonel Wigglesworth served in the continental army between 1776 and 1779. Later he was very prominent in the town of Newburyport. He served as a representative to the General Court in 1776 and 1785. He was a member of the Newburyport Marine Society in 1775, a member of the Marine Fire Society, and a town selectman between 1783 and 1785. Wigglesworth was part owner of the Newburyport Woolen Manufacturing Company established in 1794. Between 1792 and 1795 Wigglesworth was the collectors of customs for the port. In 1796 his fortunes failed and this house was sold to pay his creditors. The house was purchased by Dudley Atkins Tyng.

Tyng was also a prominent merchant in Newburyport. He owned the house for only three years selling it to David Coffin in 1799. Coffin sold the house to Abel Lunt, the next year.

George Lunt, son of Abel, was born in this house on December 31, 1803. The younger Lunt graduated from Harvard in 1824 and became a lawyer. He served in the General Court in 1830 and in the state senate between 1835 and 1836. George Lunt was the U. S. Attorney for the State of Massachusetts between 1849 and 1853. He moved to Boston in 1848 but owned the house at 41 Fair Street through 1851. Between 1856 and 1865 Lunt was the editor of the Boston Courier. He died on May 17, 1885. Today 41 Fair Street is a two family dwelling.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- A. Osgood "Recollection of Temple Street, MS. Society of Old Newbury.
- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, Vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.
- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1851 City Directory