

FORM B - BUILDING

NRDIS 8/2/1984

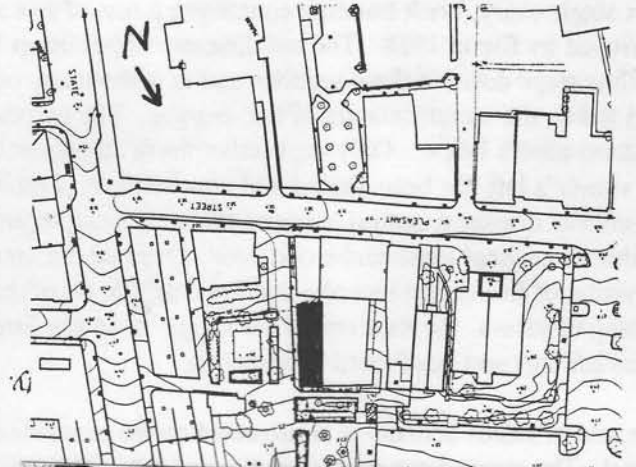
Assessor's number

USGS Quad
Newburyport

Area(s)
L

Form Number
2956

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building



Date (month/year) May 1999

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Setting central business district facing Inn Street mall

Condition good
Moved ☒ no ☐ yes
Acreage 7524 SF
Date

Major Alterations (with dates) c. 1980 - alterations to
some of the storefronts

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
none

Exterior Material:
Foundation undetermined
Wall/Trim Brick
Roof Tar

Architect/Builder Mowll & Rand, Boston
Style/Form ---

Source Division of Inspection drawings

Date of Construction 1928-9

Original Commercial

Uses: Present Commercial

Historic Name Joy Building

Address 42-50 Inn Street

Place (neighborhood or village)

Town Newburyport

BUILDING FORM (42-50 Inn Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

This single-story, brick building containing a row of five stores was constructed after a previous building on the site was destroyed by fire in 1928. The building site slopes down hill slightly to the north. The building is without ornament. The roofline steps down in three sections and is without any cornice other than the copper covering the top of the parapet. As seen today, the storefronts are of two designs. The two end storefronts display have large metal-framed display windows with recessed panels below. Only the northernmost storefront has an entrance which is not centered. The second storefront from the viewer's left has been altered and now consists of multilight display windows set into the brick wall. The two remaining storefronts display a central entrance recessed between angled windows set on wooden paneled bulkheads. One of these retains its original glass-and-wood door. Original drawings for the building are located at the Massachusetts State Archives (Division of Inspection records) and indicate that all of the storefronts originally had central entrances between two angled display windows. At least one of the shops, at 44 Inn Street, retains much of its original interior finishes including pressed metal ceilings and beadboard wainscoting.

The row of stores actually is constructed on the east side of the rear addition to 16-20 Pleasant Street and shares that tax parcel. The stores front on the Inn Street Mall, a pedestrian area paved with 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.

This single-story commercial building was constructed for the estate of John H. Joy of Boston on the site of a former 2 1/2-story wood structure which was completely destroyed by fire on August 10, 1928. The block was coincidentally the scene of an earlier fire on October 13, 1890.

The building was designed by architects Mowll and Rand, who had an office at 21 School Street in Boston.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Massachusetts Division of Inspection. Building Inspection Plans. Card File. [Massachusetts State Archives, Boston].
Newburyport City Directories, various dates.

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