

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
I	276

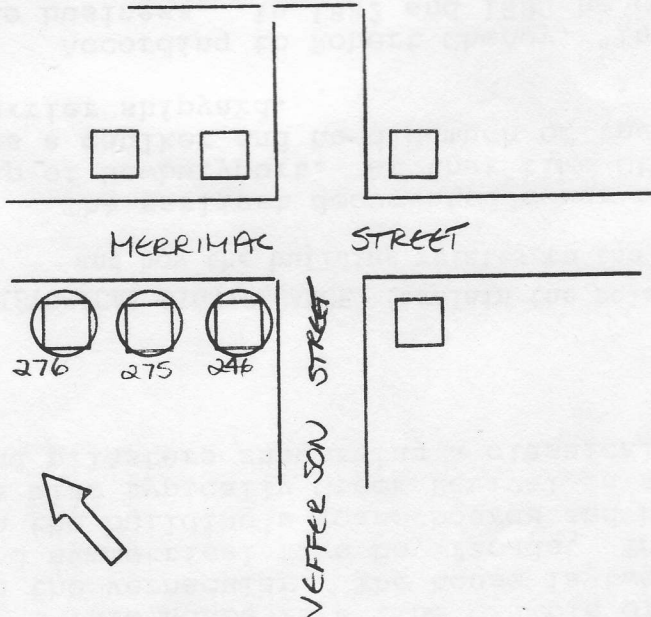
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 100 State Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 437 Merrimac Street
 Historic Name Otis Delano House
 Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: ☒ Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1830
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings Garage
 Major alterations (with dates) porch added (late nineteenth century)
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 71,400 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of primarily nineteenth century dwelling on the banks of the Merrimack River.

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 house is a fine example of the Greek Revival style as interpreted in the vernacular. The house is two stories in height with pitched roof and symmetrical five bay facade. The influence of the Greek style can be seen in the building's cornerboards and bold cornice fascia. The front entrance is also typically Greek Revival in style. The door is flanked by sidelights and pilasters supporting a classical entablature above.

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

The earliest documented owner of this house is that noted on the 1872 Map of Newburyport. At that time Otis Delano was the owner. Otis Delano was a caulker and he did much of the caluking for the ships built in the Currier shipyard.

According to Robert Cheney, "In 1880 Delano was the only old timer in the business. In 1882 and 1883 he caulked the two last ships to be built at John Currier's yard and it was stated at the time that he had caulked seventy-four of John Currier's ships in his forty years of business and was still hale and hearty."

Delano remained in business until the George E. Currier yard closed in 1892.

This house remained in the Delano family until 1906 when H. O. Delano sold the house to Nora Kelleher.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- R. Cheney, History of Merrimac River Shipbuilding, Newburyport, 1964.
- Assessor's Records 1890-1980
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1871 City Directory