

FORM B - BUILDING

NRDIS 8/2/1984

Assessor's number
4-8

USGS Quad
Newburyport

Area(s)
L,U

Form Number
2210

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Town Newburyport

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 52 State Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Commercial

Date of Construction c.1820

Source visual inspection

Style/Form Federal/Greek Revival

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Brick, Sandstone

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) 1972 - restoration of
second floor windows, storefront

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 856 SF

Setting central business district, flanked by similar early
19th century brick buildings



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Date (month/year) May 1999

BUILDING FORM (52 State Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

Dating to the early 19th century, 52 State Street is a three-story brick block which measures three bays across. The brick exterior is laid in a Flemish bond and displays areas which have been patched and others which have been sandblasted. Historic photographs indicate that the second floor windows had been replaced by a single large window by the early 20th century. They now contain 6/6 wooden sash with splayed sandstone lintels and rectangular stone sills. The building is capped by a low gable roof and there a molded brick modillion cornice at the eaves.

The first floor displays a granite post and lintel storefront. The center entrance, containing a glass-and-panel door, is recessed slightly and is flanked on either side by a multi-light display window.

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 block, like its neighbors, appears to date to the early 19th century and definitely postdates the 1811 fire. Its mix of Federal features such as splayed lintels and the Greek Revival-style storefront suggests a date of c.1820.

A "Reminiscences" article appearing in the Daily News in 1886 recalls Miss Harrod's store as being here sixty to seventy to years earlier. Directories indicate that Miss M & P Harrod's dry goods store was here until at least 1860. Abbie Lane was running the dry goods store in 1873. Horace W. Bartlett sold boots and shoes at 52 State Street c.1880 and W.A. Johnson's fancy goods store occupied both 52 and 56 State Street in 1890. By 1906 the storefront was vacant.

The Sanborn insurance map indicates that there was a clothing store here in 1914. By 1937 the storefront contained S.K. Ames, Inc., grocers. In the 1950s and 1960s the Haverhill Gas Light Company was located here.

The building now contains a bookstore.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Newburyport Daily News, 12/27/1886.

Newburyport Directories, various dates.

Newburyport Public Library, photographic collection.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, Newburyport, 1888, 1894, 1906, 10914, 1924, 1946.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

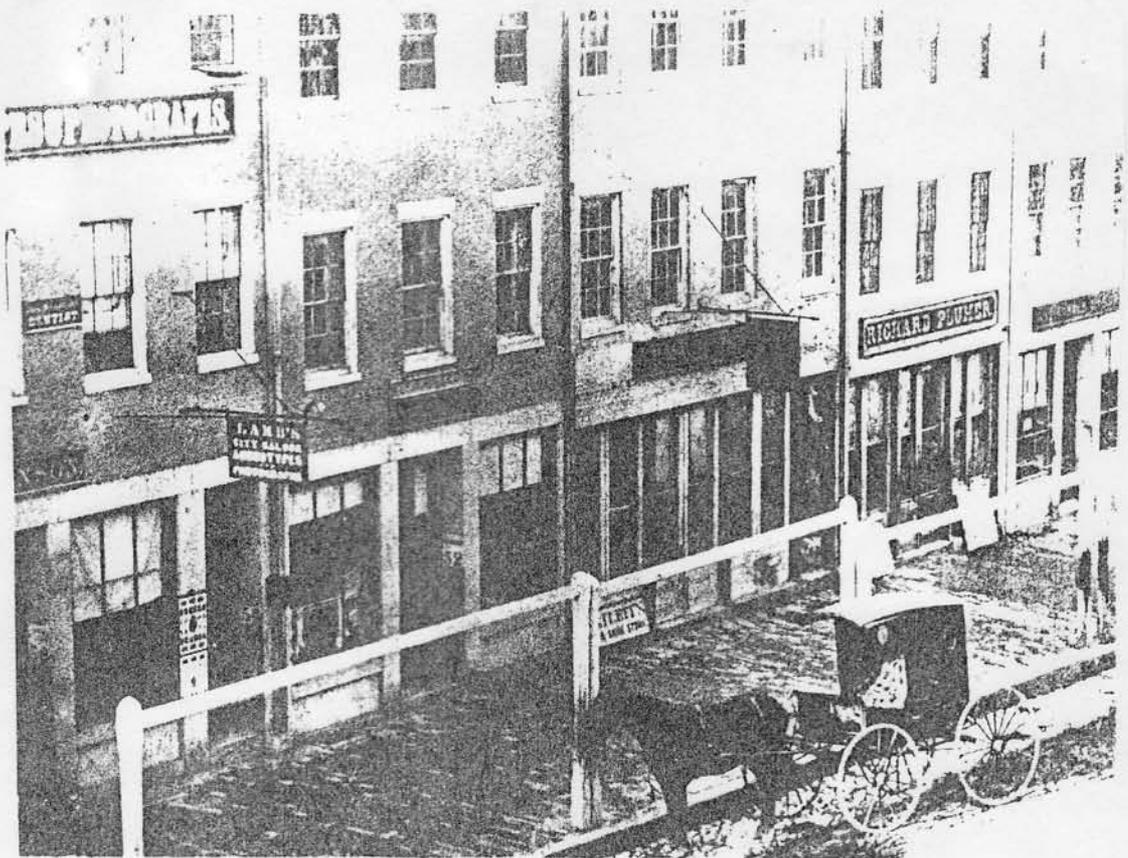
Town
Newburyport

Property Address
52 State Street
Area(s) Form No.

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52 State



Historic photograph taken between 1866 and 1869.

Source: Photographic collection, Newburyport Public Library (S530A).