

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	NWB.229
Historic Name:	Washington Street Methodist Episcopal Church
Common Name:	Temple Achavas Achim
Address:	53 1/2 Washington St
City/Town:	Newburyport
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	49-8
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Italianate
Use(s):	Church; Synagogue
Significance:	Architecture; Religion
Area(s):	NWB.H: Washington Street Residential District NWB.L: Newburyport Historic District NWB.AB: Washington Street
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (8/2/1984)



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area <u>AB+ H+L</u>	Form no. 229
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USGS - Newb W.

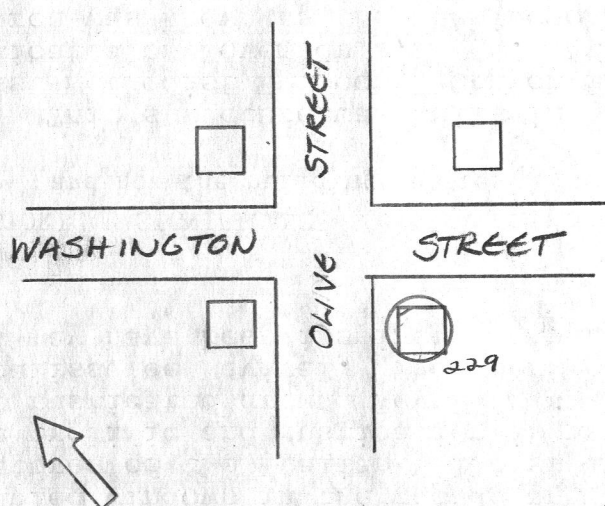


Newburyport

Address 53 1/2 Washington Street
 Historic Name Washington Street Methodist Episcopal Church/Temple Achavas Achim
 Original Church
 Present Temple Achavas Achim
 Ownership: ☐ Private individual
 Private organization Archavas Achim Church
 Public _____
 Original owner Methodist Episcopal Church

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1851
 Source Currier, "History of Nbpt."
 Style Italianate
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards, first level rusticated
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 8,630 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of primarily eighteenth and nineteenth century dwellings.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwalt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 12-01-80

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

This structure has elements of several of the Italianate styles that were popular during the mid-nineteenth century. The round headed, coupled windows in the facade and the hoodmoulds on other windows are features of the Italian Villa style. In that style, however, brackets are prolific and rustication is usually limited to a building quoins. The rusticated ground level is probably the result of the influence of the Renaissance Revival. The front entrance of this church is quite elaborate and may have been inspired by the High Victorian Italianate style.

VICTORIAN RENAISSANCE REVIVAL

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

This structure was built in 1865 to house the congregation of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Newburyport. The building was dedicated on November 2, 1865. At the turn of the present century the church was known as the Washington Street Methodist Episcopal Church of Newburyport.

Since that time the property was sold to the Congregation of the Temple Achavas Achim and it serves as their synagogue.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.

Assessor's Records 1890-1980

1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.



Art/sculpture
Education
Government
Literature
Music

Travel/communication
Military affairs
Religion/philosophy
Indians
Development of town/city

NWB.229

#

229

EE

579

2. Town Newburyport

SSION
oston

Street address Corner Washington & Olive

ant to:
on

Name Temple Achavas Achim

ith the
ide):

Original use Methodist-episcopal Church

Present use Synagog

Present owner Congregation Achavas Achim

ry

Open to public Yes

Date 1865 Style -

Source of date John Currier

Architect NA

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: Stone

WALL COVER: Wood Clapboard Brick Stone Other

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork

CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate

STORIES: 1 2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 PORTICO Balcony

FACADE: Gable end: Front/Side Ornament:

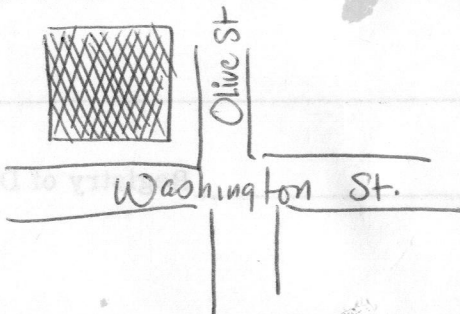
Entrance: Side Front: Center/Side Details:

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied 20 over 20 on main windows, which are tall & narrow

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards Wooden Block effect on corners

5. Indicate location of structure in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings

6. Footage of structure from street 5
Property has feet frontage on street



Recorder H H Fairweather

For Nbpt Historical Comm

Photo Date 1973

SEE REVERSE SIDE

JUN 29 1973

RELATION OF SURROUNDING TO STRUCTURE

1. Outbuildings _____
2. Landscape Features: Agriculture Open Wooded Garden: Formal/Informal
 Predominant features _____
 Landscape architect _____
3. Neighboring Structures
 Style: Colonial Federal Greek Revival Gothic Revival Italian Villa Lombard Rom.
 Venetian Gothic Mansard Richardsonian Modern
 Use: Residential Commercial Religious Conditions: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

The original church building was built during the pastorate of Rev. Leroy S. Brewster. (This was the second church building of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Newburyport, the original building having been built on another site in 1827)

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

John Currier History of Newburyport, Vol I.

RESTRICTIONS

Original Owner: _____
 Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, Registry of Deeds