

## FORM B - BUILDING

Area

Form no.

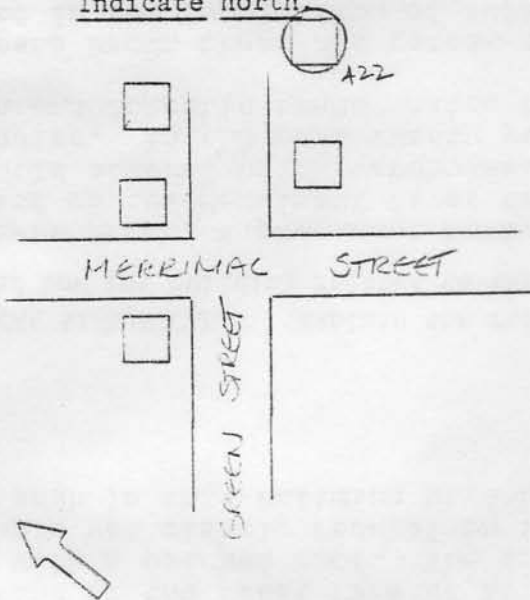
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MA 02102



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

Recorded by Mary Jane StirgwaltOrganization Office of Community DevelopmentDate 12-12-80City NewburyportAddress Brown's Wharf

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Original WarehousePresent CommercialOwnership: ☒ Private individual  
☐ Private organization

Public \_\_\_\_\_

Original owner Moses Brown

## DESCRIPTION:

Date C. 1800Source Currier, "Ould Newbury"Style FederalArchitect UnknownExterior wall fabric Brick

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 9,920 sq ft.Setting on the banks of the Merrimack in a commercial districtadjacent to Newburyport's waterfront park and the Market Square Historic District.

(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 a Federal warehouse structure. It is probably the earliest such structure in the city as it was outside the boundaries of the Great Fire of 1811. The building is three stories in height with a pitched roof. The architectural details of the building are simple yet clearly Federal in inspiration. The original, double hung window sash in this building have been replaced.

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

Moses Brown, a prominent Newburyport merchant, purchased this land and wharf on the Merrimack River from Thomas Woodbridge Hooper. Brown then built several brick warehouses on the wharf for the storage of merchandise. In the next twenty years Moses Brown developed an excellent foreign and domestic trade making this wharf a center of commercial activity.

Moses Brown began his career as a chaisemaker and later he became involved in the importation of sugar and molasses, which he sold to wholesalers at a profit. Brown was a prominent member of the community until his death in 1827.

This building has been a utilitarian structure since its original construction. Today it is occupied by Dugan Supply, a plumbing supply company.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- J. J. Currier, "Ould Newbury:" Historical and Biographical Sketches (Boston, 1896).  
Assessor's Records 1890-1980  
1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire  
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.