

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 3 1976

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

MAY 24 1976

OB 76000275

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC ****** The First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

nh Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

irregular pattern along
High Road, Green Street, Hanover Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Newbury

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Newbury

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

32 Federal Street

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
HABS (MASS-472, 468, 300, 469)

DATE 1975 (Massachusetts)

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Historic American Buildings Survey, Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Boston (and Washington, DC)

STATE
Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Newbury Historic District is located in the center of the town of Newbury and is characterized by a wide range of domestic, civic, educational, religious, cultural and commercial structures, all of which face either High Road, the main thoroughfare, or the town green, known as the Upper Green. Contiguous to one another in this rural townscape, the buildings in the district continue to serve as the community center of Newbury.

The Newbury Historic District is composed of forty structures spanning four centuries of development. Most of them date from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. However, there is an unusually high concentration of buildings (nearly a third) which date from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. While most are residential buildings, those for civic, educational and even commercial use continue to maintain a domestic scale, represent for the most part the anonymous local building tradition, and are principally of frame construction with clapboard or shingle exteriors. The District also includes The First Parish Burying Ground on High Road which dates from the time of the first settlement in the mid-seventeenth century. There are also a number of commemorative works on the Upper Green, among them the Arnold monument (A) and the Soldiers and Sailors Civil War Monument. (B).

The oldest structure in the district is the Tristram Coffin House (#35), 1654, which represents one of the outstanding examples of First Period architecture in New England and is the most important seventeenth century house in the District. It is set in deeply from High Road on a lot with a creek just beyond its western edge. A recent examination of one of the posts in the original portion for dendro-chronological corroboration resulted in a reading of about 1654. This portion facing south was enlarged with a First Period addition. A more extensive enlargement occurred after 1750, expanding the house to its present size while establishing a new orientation facing east. By 1785 all major elements of the house as it now stands were named in a division of the property. The east facade facing the High Road continues the seventeenth century use of unpainted clapboarding, vertical chimneys and vernacular character of the original portion; its organization is now regularized and classicized so that its entrances and fenestration are symmetrically disposed into five bays, two and one-half stories in height. The placement of windows on the south facade reflects the additive nature of the house.

The Henry Sewall House (#31) is purported to have been built by Henry Sewall, Jr., between 1660 when he purchased the land and 1678 when the house was named in his will of that date. The U-shaped plan reflects a collection of additions and alterations. The house has two entrances: one to the east on High Road; the other to the south on Parker Street. In the twentieth century this two-story structure, like others in the district, was "colonialized" with its formerly unpainted clapboarding now painted white and the addition of black shutters.

The Dr. Peter Toppan House (#2), 1697, is a fine example of a First Period structure whose gambrel roof and overhang are evident on the west elevation facing High Road. The unpainted shingles and clapboards of the restored exterior duplicate its original wall fabric, similar in treatment to the unpainted clapboarding of the Coffin House (#36) and Short House (#15). The presence of two central fireplaces and the somewhat irregular design of its windows, despite their symmetrical disposition into five bays, is residual evidence that the house had formerly been divided into a duplex arrangement.

(continued)

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

#7:

The Swett-Ilsley House (#40) is an important early structure whose original portion is located in the southeast corner. Deeds corroborated by architectural inspection indicate that this portion was built by Stephen Swett in 1670. Following major additions and alterations c. 1740, a new orientation to the house was established facing east in close proximity to High Road. Two entrances on the exterior facing High Road monitor stages in the development of the house. The entrance to the left (southeast) gives access to the original portion and the middle room, c. 1740, which accommodates an unusually large fireplace. The entrance to the right (northeast) gives access to the north addition and a lean-to area at the northwest corner, both built shortly after 1760.

The Short House (#15) is purported to have been built by Nathaniel Knight between 1717 when he purchased the land and 1733 when he sold the house. Stylistic and structural analysis corroborates a date in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. This frame house with clapboarding is distinguished for its exceptional use of exposed brick ends of English bond, each containing a chimney. A burgeoning classicism is maintained through the bi-lateral symmetry of its elevation, brought into focus by an entrance with stop-fluted doric pilasters and rounded pediment. The central staircase details of simple block and spindle balusters, as well as the treatment of fireplace walls in both south parlor and south chamber paneled with simple bolection molding, further support the incipient classicism. Here a quiet elegance prevails in spite of its regional provincialism, viz., treatment of the dentil molding of its cornice which is interrupted by the placement of windows. A custodian's wing was added to the northeast corner subsequent to the acquisition of the property by the SPNEA in 1928.

A former blacksmith shop known as the "Corner House" (#25) was moved to its present site at 12 Green Street in 1948. Deeds indicate that it was originally built by Nicholas Pettingill, a local blacksmith who just occupied the north half of the Short House (#15) in 1767-8 and stood on that lot at the corner of Rolfe Lane and High Road. That portion of the present house facing south is the original shop, now substantially altered. An ell and garage to the north were both added in 1950.

The House at 1 High Road (#1), c. 1810, is an example of Federal architecture which serves as a transition from the colonial buildings of the District to those of the mid-nineteenth century. The three-story structure is characterized by the bold organization of architectural elements frontally oriented and facing west on High Road. These include large scale fenestration and an enclosed entrance porch projecting from the plane of the facade, ornamented with doric pilasters and balustrade. Here, clapboards are painted yellow with white trim, typical of the Federal period. A cupola or lantern, added or remodeled in the mid-nineteenth century, relates visually to two Victorian houses in the District, both of which have similar cupolas: the House at 35 High Road (#13), c. 1870, and the Luther Dame House (#35), 1876.

(continued)

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PAGE 3

#7:

The Luther Dame House (#35), 1876, is a mansarded structure set back from High Road in a natural setting. Its prevailing axial organization and so-called "wedgewood" treatment of yellow clapboarding with white trim convey the strength of residual Federal motifs. A cupola, like that at 35 High Road (#13) quotes the architectural features of the house itself. Further, a similar use of post-Civil War architectural elements, including bracketed cornice, entrance and projecting bay windows, as well as the decorative treatment of slate and dormers of the mansarded roof show a design informed by restrained picturesque eclecticism.

A number of other houses in the District are informed by a nineteenth century interpretation of colonial forms. These include the Deacon N. Little House (#26), c. 1825, whose planar approach to each elevation of this frame structure reflects traditional eighteenth century treatment, while its entrance on the gable end facing Green Street, and granite foundation evidence a strong Greek Revival influence. The Reverend Leonard Withington House (#7), 1843, and the Hale-Knight House (#33), 1880, illustrate other houses in the District which reflect the survival of eighteenth century colonial forms and geometric massing characteristic of the Greek Revival period.

The District also contains a number of twentieth century buildings including two notable civic and educational structures as well as a number of domestic structures, two of which are representative. These four works exemplify different aspects of Colonial Revival architecture or mid-twentieth century (more recent) interpretations by local builders.

The Woodbridge School (#12) was built in 1898 as a two-room structure and enlarged to its present size in 1908. This two-story frame building, cruciform in plan, is an important example of Colonial Revival architecture. Its projecting entrance enclosed within the wall plane reflects an American interpretation of the ubiquitous Palladian temple front. Engaged ionic columns flank the door, and an oculus punctuates the pediment above.

The Town Hall (#8) was originally built in the early part of the twentieth century as the town grange and was remodeled to its present state after a fire c. 1927 to serve as the Town Hall. This one-story structure with shingle exterior and projecting entrance portico maintains a low, crisp profile. Its essentially vernacular character and domestic scale are in harmony with other structures in the townscape.

The Houses at 20 Green Street (#21), 1900, and at 2 Green Street (#29), c. 1940 are two representative examples of the survival of colonial forms into the twentieth century.. The house at 20 Green Street (#21) is a provincial example of turn-of-the century Colonial Revival. The large scale, symmetrical organization and marked verticality of this three-story elevation with hip roof and tall chimneys, characterize the house as a product of Queen Anne influence. The house at 2 Green Street (#29), is a fine example of a two-story structure with gambrel roof and exterior of unpainted

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1651 1670 1677 1710 1730 1792 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Newbury Historic District is significant for its fine grouping of buildings -- particularly its seventeenth and eighteenth century houses -- and for its associations with the early development of the Town of Newbury. The area has continued to function as the community focus from the time the new settlement was established in 1646, subsequent to the town's incorporation in 1635 at another location farther up the Parker River, until the present.

The focal point of the district is the Upper Green which was originally known as the "trayneing green" and was laid out in 1642 to serve as the center of the new settlement. During the Revolutionary War the Green was the site of a troop encampment on September 18-19, 1775 under the command of Benedict Arnold. A stone marker, the Arnold Monument, was placed on the Upper Green in the late nineteenth century to commemorate this event. Another memorial, the Soldiers and Sailors Civil War Monument, is also located there. In the mid-nineteenth century a brick schoolhouse was located on the Green. The Newbury Upper Green continues to serve as the town common. Recently the scene of a Bicentennial observance of the 1775 Arnold encampment, the Upper Green is frequently used for other celebrations and recreation activities.

When the new settlement was established in 1646 as the First Parish, a meetinghouse was erected at the northwest corner of the First Parish Burying Ground. Successive meetinghouses were built on this site in 1661, 1700 and 1806. When a fire destroyed the latter church building in 1868, another site was chosen for the erection of a new structure on the west side of High Road, directly across from the old meetinghouse. The First Parish Church was completed in 1869 and according to church records, the design was the work of local architect, Col. Fred J. Coffin.

In the nearby First Parish Burying Ground are contained the graves of many of Newbury's first settlers and their descendants. These include those of Tristram Coffin and his wife Judith who died in 1703 and 1705 respectively, Henry Sewall (d. 1700) and the Reverend John Tucker (d. 1792).

The Woodbridge School is located on the site of the house built in 1663 by the Reverend John Woodbridge, teacher and landowner. The school continues to provide the children of the community with primary school education.

A number of the houses in the district possess important associations with the history of the town. The Henry Sewall House was the home of a Newbury resident whose son Samuel Sewall later became Council member and Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The Dr. Peter Toppan House was the residence of the town physician for whom it was built in 1697. Three additional historic houses now owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities function as house museums, helping to

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Coffin, Joshua. The History of Newbury, Newburyport and West Newbury from 1635 to 1846. Boston, 1845.
- Currier, John J. History of Newbury, Mass. 1635-1902, 2 vols. Boston: Damrell & Upham, 1902.
- Currier, John J. History of Newburyport, Mass. 1764-1905, 2 vols. Newburyport, 1906.
- Currier, John J. "Ould Newbury": Historical and Biographical Sketches. Boston: Damrell (continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 38 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,9	3,4,7,6,8,0	4,7,4,0,2,8,0	B	1,9	3,4,7,9,8,0	4,7,3,9,5,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,9	3,4,7,6,0,0	4,7,3,9,3,8,0	D	1,9	3,4,7,5,2,0	4,7,4,0,2,2,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The northern boundary line begins 113' west of High Road at the northern property line of #40, and extends east across High Road to Marlboro Street and runs northeast to the back property line of #1, 100' east of High Road. The eastern boundary line of the District begins at the back property line of #1 and runs south along the back of properties #2 to #5, approximately 200' from High Road, extending along the back property line of the First Parish Burying Ground, and continuing along the back property line of properties which face High Road from #7 to #15.

(Continued)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Judy Dobbs, National Register Editor, and Mardges Bacon, S.P.N.E.A.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

February 18, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

294 Washington Street

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amazon

TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

2/23/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

DATE

5/24/86

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

5-21-86

CLERK OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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#7:

shingles, so like the Dr. Peter Toppan House (#2), which remains a successful twentieth century interpretation of seventeenth century New England domestic building in harmony with its architectural environment.

#8:

transmit a sense of the cultural life of Newbury's past into the present.

The Tristram Coffin House (Massachusetts Historic Landmark; HABS: MASS-472) was continuously occupied by the Coffin family from 1654 when it was built by one of Newbury's first settlers, Tristram Coffin, until its acquisition by SPNEA in 1929. The seven succeeding generations of occupants participated actively in the socio-economic, political and educational life of the town. One of the family members was Joshua Coffin, town clerk, teacher of John Greenleaf Whittier and author of the History of Newbury, Newburyport and West Newbury from 1635 to 1846. The Coffin house has frequently been cited for a number of outstanding features: the original kitchen accommodating a generous fireplace and a rare example of an eighteenth and nineteenth century built-in dresser; the upper west chamber containing an early plaster of clay and straw with exposed boards (perhaps eighteenth century); a buttery with pine woodwork preserved in its original state; and a collection of Coffin family furniture.

The Swett-Ilsley House (HABS: MASS-300), forming the northwest boundary to the district, was built by one of the first settlers, Stephen Swett. The house was built in the seventeenth century and underwent a series of additions during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries when it was also used as a "tobacconist business," a chocolate mill, and a tavern. Since 1911, when it became the first property to be acquired by SPNEA, the Swett-Ilsley House has served as a house museum.

The Short House (HABS: MASS-468) forms the southeast boundary to the district. It remains one of Newbury's most celebrated and well-published domestic buildings, and since its acquisition in 1928 by SPNEA has served as a house museum with a fine collection of William and Mary furniture. In 1768 when Nicholas Pettingill, the local blacksmith, lived in the north half and John Brown in the south half, the Short House functioned as a duplex residence, similar to the arrangement of the Dr. Peter Toppan House, with the exception that the original Doric entrance to the Short House was preserved. The blacksmith shop, built by Pettingill in the mid-eighteenth century, still stands on the other side of the Upper Green, although greatly enlarged and altered as a house (#25).

The architectural significance of the district is displayed in the wide range of periods represented. There is an unusual number of well-preserved seventeenth and eighteenth century buildings in the district, as well as a larger number of nineteenth century buildings illustrating the variety of design in that century. As a whole, the grouping around and leading up to the Green clearly portray the development of Newbury from its early beginnings to the most recent decades of the twentieth century.

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#9:

Hale, Albert. Old Newburyport Houses. Boston: W.C. Clarke Co., 1912.
Little and Ilsley, editors. The First Parish, Newbury, Massachusetts, 1635-1935.
Newburyport, 1935.

#10:

The southern boundary line of the District begins at the back property line of #15, approximately 140' east of High Road and runs west across High Road to the back of properties #16, #17, and #18 at a distance of approximately 200' from Hanover Street. The western boundary line of the district begins at the southern property line of #19 and runs north along the back of properties #19 and #20 at a distance of approximately 250' from Green Street, and continues along the back of properties #27 to #34, and along the back of properties #35 and #36 at a distance of approximately 225' from High Road and properties #37 and #40 at a distance of approximately 200' from High Road.

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Map

Key

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NEWBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Newbury, Massachusetts

Key to Map:

1. House (c. 1810), 1 High Road
2. Dr. Peter Toppan House (1697), 5 High Road
3. House (c. 1850), 7 High Road
4. House (c. 1890), 9 High Road
5. Abraham Toppan House (twentieth century reconstruction), 11 High Road
6. House (c. 1890), 19 High Road
7. Rev. Leonard Withington House (1843), 21 High Road
8. Town Hall (c. 1935), High Road
9. House (c. 1950), 27 High Road
10. Five Cents Savings Bank (House) (c. 1950), 29 High Road
11. House (c. 1925), 31 High Road
12. Woodbridge School (1898; 1908), High Road
13. House (c. 1870), 35 High Road
14. House (c. 1800), 37 High Road
15. Short House (between 1711 and 1733), 39 High Road
16. Rev. John Tucker House (1746), 36 High Road
17. Parsonage (1872), 1 Hanover Street
18. Atkinson-Little House (1652), 5 Hanover Street
19. House (1785), 26 Green Street
20. House (c. 1950), 24 Green Street
21. House (1900), 20 Green Street
22. House (c. 1950), 18 Green Street
23. House (originally barn of Little House #24) (c. 1850), 15 Green Street
24. Little House (c. 1850), 14 Green Street
25. "Corner House" (former Blacksmith shop) (mid-18th c.), 12 Green Street
26. Deacon N. Little House (c. 1825), 8 Green Street
27. House (c. 1940), 6 Green Street
28. House (c. 1940), 4 Green Street
29. House (c. 1940), 2 Green Street
30. Citgo Station (c. 1950), High Road
31. Henry Sewall House (1678), 30 High Road
32. House (c. 1870), 28 High Road
33. Hale-Knight House (1880), 22 High Road
34. The First Parish Church (1869), High Road
35. Luther Dame House (1876), 18 High Road
36. Tristram Coffin House (1654-1795), 16 High Road
37. House (c. 1940), 12 High Road
38. House (c. 1950), 10 High Road
39. House (1711; mid-18th c.), 8 High Road
40. Swett-Ilsley House (c. 1670), 4-6 High Road

- A. Arnold Monument
- B. Soldiers and Sailors,
Civil War Monument
- C. Fruitstand

Property Newbury Historic District

Essex

State Mass.

Working Number 3.3.76.2684

TECHNICAL

Photos 7
Maps 2

CONTROL

OK 3.24.76
cm

HISTORIAN

Accept
Futterman
5/13/76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

well written, houses eligible, but at least 25% possible intrusions, inadequate number of photographs (no photos of intrusions) and could have been more buildings depicted

Accept
Rebovich
4/27/76

ARCHEOLOGIST

5.12.76

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
5.19.76

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept
5.21.76

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered MAY 24 1976

Federal Register Entry 7-6-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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DATE ENTERED MAY 24 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC The First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge
Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO. 1 of 10

Looking northwest, left to right: Hale-Knight House (#33), First Parish Church (#34)
Luther Dame House (#35), Tristram Coffin House (#36).



2

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-73)

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1 NAME

HISTORIC The First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury _____ VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon DATE OF PHOTO 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET PHOTO NO. 2 of 10
Looking southeast, left to right: Woodbridge School (#12), Short House (15),
Rev. John Tucker House (#16), Parsonage (#17).



Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-73)

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AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury

____VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Facing southeast: Tristram Coffin House (#36).

PHOTO NO. 3 of 10



STATE OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW ENGLAND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
**SWETT-HSLEY
HOUSE**
1780-1800
CLOSED
NO. 100

4

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 3 1976
RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

MAY 24 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114.

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO

4 of 10

Facing east: Swett-Ilsley House (#40).



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Facing southwest: Short House (#15).

PHOTO NO

5 110

MS 12

6



25
Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-7-)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FOR NPS USE ONLY
MAR 3 1976
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED MAY 24 1976

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1 NAME

HISTORIC First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Facing east: The First Parish Church (#34), Luther Dame House (#35).

PHOTO NO 6 of 10



WOODBRIDGE
SCHOOL



7

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-7-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
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1 NAME

HISTORIC First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mardges Bacon DATE OF PHOTO 1975
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge
NEGATIVE FILED AT Street, Boston, MA 02114

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Facing north: Woodbridge School (#12).

PHOTO NO 7 of 10

A black and white photograph of the Newbury Town Hall. The building is a single-story structure with a gabled roof and a central chimney. The front facade features a covered porch with four white columns and a set of white steps leading to a double door. A sign above the porch reads "NEWBURY TOWN HALL". The building is surrounded by landscaping, including bushes and trees. A parking sign is visible on the left, and an American flag flies on a tall pole on the right.

NEWBURY
TOWN HALL

PARKING

Town Hall (#8)

Newbury Historic District

Newbury, MA

Mardges Bacon, photographer

Essex County

1975

Society for the Preservation of New

England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge

Street, Boston, MA 02114

Facing east.

Photograph #8 *of 10*

5-24-76

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





Citgo Station (#30)

Newbury Historic District

Newbury, MA *Essex County*

Mardges Bacon, photographer

1975

Society for the Preservation of New
England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge
Street, Boston, MA 02114

Facing west.

Photograph #9 *of 10*

5-24-76

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





1920's residence (#29)

Newbury Historic District

Newbury, MA *Essex County*

Mardges Bacon, photographer

1975

Society for the Preservation of New England
Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston,
MA 02114

Facing west.

Photograph #10 of 10

5-24-76

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





Newbury: Newbury Historic District

UTM References:
A 19/347680/4740280
B 19/347980/4739580
C 19/347600/4739380
D 19/347520/4740220

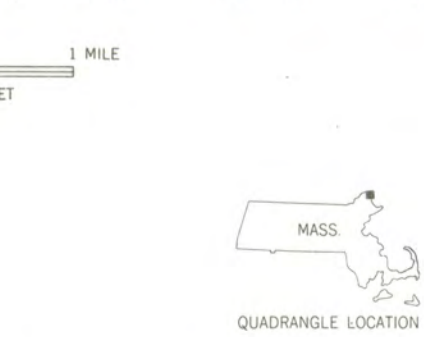
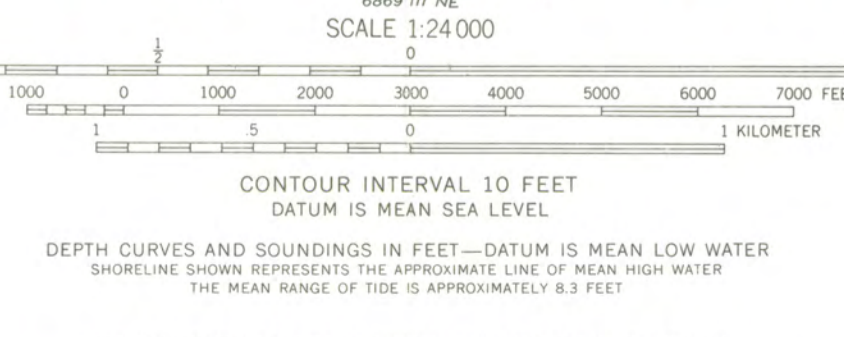
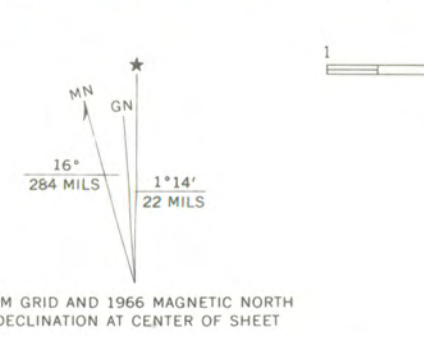


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey. Topography by planetair surveys 1942. Revised 1966. Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 213 (1965) and 1206 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes.

Polygonic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone and New Hampshire coordinate system 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 19, shown in blue.

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown.

Boundaries in tidewater areas from information furnished by Massachusetts Department of Public Works.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
U.S. Route (square symbol) State Route (circle symbol)

NEWBURYPORT EAST, MASS.—N. H.
N4245—W7045/7.5

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 3 1976

RECEIVED

MAY 24 1976

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS, Newburyport East Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24000

DATE 1966

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAR 3 1976
RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC First Parish; Upper Green

AND/OR COMMON

Newbury Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newbury _____ VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Sketch map drawn by Mardges Bacon

SCALE 1" = 200' DATE 1975

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



PAUL GUZZI

Secretary of the
Commonwealth

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 727-8470

February 23, 1976

Mr. Charles Herrington
Chief, Registration
National Register
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find two nominations forms for the following properties:

1. Chicopee, Kendall Block
2. Newbury, Newbury Historic District

These properties have been voted eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (State Review Board) and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Elizabeth Reed Amadon.

Sincerely yours,

Pat

Patricia L. Weslowski
Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW/mw

Enclosures

DATE *April 27, 1976*

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL *2:30* AM PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

JUDY DOBBS

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

MA SHPOFFICE

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

NEWBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

REQUESTED PHOTOS SHOWING INTRUSIONS

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Bill CEBOWITZ

TITLE

Arch. Hist

OFFICE

MA

DATE April 27, 1976

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL 2:30 AM PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

JUDY DOBBS

MA SHPOFFICE

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

NEWBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

REQUESTED PHOTOS SHOWING INTRUSIONS

5.127

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Bill Lebowitz

Arch Hist

MA



PAUL GUZZI

Secretary of the
Commonwealth

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 727-8470

5 May 1976

Mr. William Lebovich
National Register
Office of Archeology and
Historic Preservation
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240



Dear Bill:

In answer to your request for additional photographs for the Newbury Historic District, Newbury, Massachusetts (Essex County), I am enclosing three photographs.

Included are two photographs of intrusions (the Town Hall and Citgo Station) and one photograph of a twentieth century house typical of others in the district.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me (and I know you will!).

Sincerely yours,

Judy

Judy D. Dobbs
National Register Editor
Massachusetts Historical Commission

/jdd

enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered **MAY 24 1976**

Name

Location

Shirley Shaker Village

Shirley Vicinity
Middlesex (Worcester) Counties

Newbury Historic District

Newbury
Essex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Robert F. Drinan
Hon. Michael J. Harrington

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

cc: Regional Director,
North Atlantic Region

PR:MMott:cam:5/25/76



U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
1834

Newburyport Maritime Society, Inc.

Box 306 - Newburyport, Mass. 01950

July 1, 1976

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
Interior Department
18th & C Streets
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

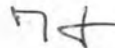
The Newburyport Custom House which was built in 1835 and designed by Robert Mills, was restored by the Newburyport Maritime Society in 1971-1974 as a maritime museum and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

We recently re-opened for our second season and have had nearly a thousand visitors so far. We are often asked questions about the Custom House and its architect, Robert Mills, some of which we are not able to answer.

Therefore, we would appreciate your sending us all the historical and architectural information that is available on the Newburyport Custom House and its architect, Robert Mills. If possible, we would like copies of the architect's drawings, plans, the original use of the various rooms and whatever other information that you may have.

Your assistance and help on this project will be gratefully appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



H. Patterson Hale, Jr.
Restoration Fund Treasurer

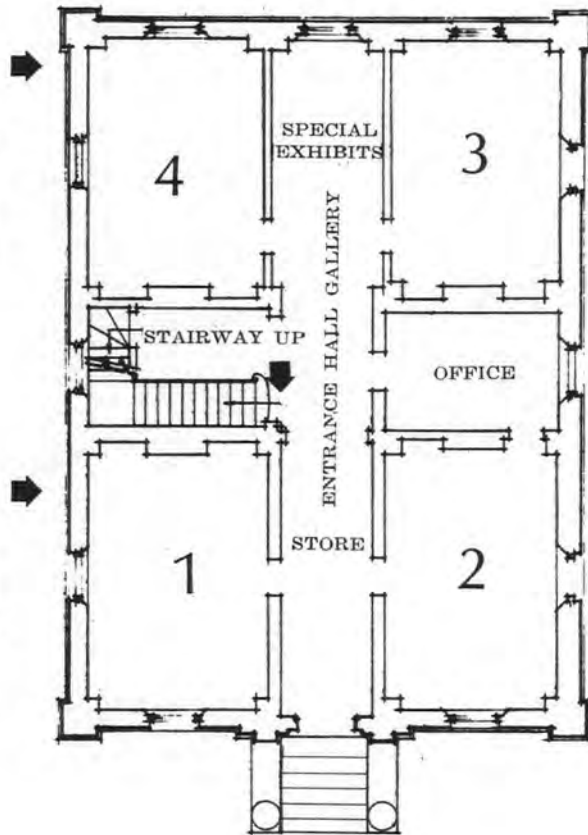
P. S. Enclosed is a copy of our visitors' "Guide to the Custom House Maritime Museum of Newburyport".

HPH/m
Enc.



Built 1835 of fireproof granite and masonry in the Classic Revival style characteristic of Robert Mills, National Architect of public buildings. Headquarters for collection of custom duties on foreign cargos and registry of newly-built vessels. As foreign trade into Newburyport declined, and shipbuilding slowed to a halt by 1900, the Custom House fell into disuse. Sold by Federal government in 1913; used for hay storage, as a shoe factory, and finally as a junk shop. Acquired in 1968 by Newburyport Redevelopment Authority as part of the downtown historic renewal district. Listed on National Register of Historic Places; restored by Newburyport Maritime Society 1971-1974 as a museum to preserve and present the maritime heritage of the Merrimack Valley; opened to public June 29, 1975.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



COAST GUARD HALL

Mural of waterfront, 1791, when first revenue cutter *Massachusetts* built, making Newburyport official birthplace of Coast Guard. Illuminated lighthouse lens; line gun and life-saving gear; ship's wheel, engine-room telegraph.

OFFICE OF COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS

19th-century stove, safe, strong-box, desk, chairs; rum barrels, tea chests. Portraits of sea captain members of Newburyport Marine Society (founded 1772); Society's charter, other memorabilia.

BROWN GALLERY

"Shipbuilder's Loft" with half-hull models of ships built on Merrimack River, 1690 to 1900. Shipwright's tools (broadaxe, adze, augers), sailmaker's palms, blocks, trunnel-pegged ship's timber.

BRUSH GALLERY

"Captains' Waiting-room" with sea-going gear: seachests and chart chests; maps, quadrants, telescopes, compasses, speaking trumpets, lanterns, spirit and medicine chests.

ENTRANCE



CUTTER "MASSACHUSETTS"
BIRTHPLACE OF U.S. COAST GUARD

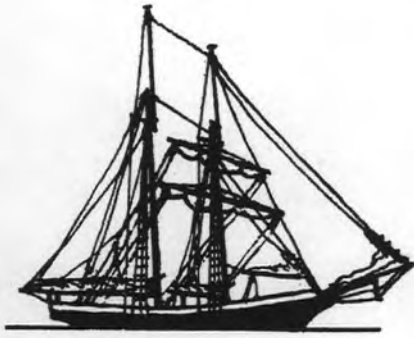
Take the granite 'hanging staircase' to the SECOND FLOOR



Restrooms downstairs.

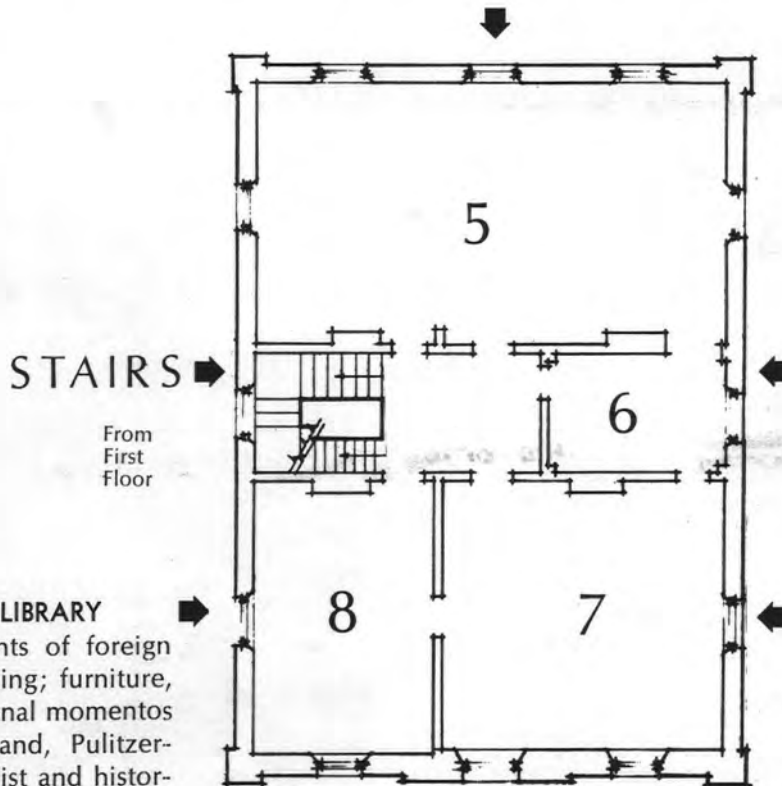
(Guide continued on reverse side.)

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



MOSELEY GALLERY

Our "Far East Hall" of souvenirs collected by local seafarers on worldwide voyages in the 1800s: foreign ship models, Buddhist statues, Bengali figurines, Malayan daggers, Oriental sandals and slippers, scrimshaw, giant clam shell.



STAIRS

From
First
Floor

MARQUAND LIBRARY

Logbooks, documents of foreign trade and shipbuilding; furniture, paintings, and personal mementos of John P. Marquand, Pulitzer-Prize-winning novelist and historian of local eccentric, 'Lord' Timothy Dexter.

BAKER GALLERY

Exposed brick walls reveal Architect Robert Mills' style of vaulted construction; bone model, ship-of-the-line, c. 1800.

BUSHEE GALLERY

A "Federalist Salon": Colonial portraits; imported and American furniture, locally-made 'tall clock'; swords and relics of Capt. Moses Brown, Revolutionary hero.

The *CUSTOM HOUSE MARITIME MUSEUM* at 25 Water Street, in the restored Federalist business district of downtown Newburyport, Massachusetts is open to the public seven days a week, May 29 through September 6 and on weekends during the Fall months.

HOURS: Monday through Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm; Sundays, 2 pm to 5 pm

ADMISSION: Adults, \$1.00; aged 12 to 18, 50¢; under 12, free when accompanied by an adult

For group rates and special tours when the Museum is not open to the public, call 1-617-462-8681 — or write the Newburyport Maritime Society, P. O. Box 306, Newburyport, Mass. 01950.



U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE

Berry 9/22
MPW 9-21-76
9-23-76
Shull

H34-PR

SEP 27 1976

Mr. H. Patterson Hale, Jr.
Restoration Fund Treasurer
Newburyport Maritime Society, Inc.
Box 306
Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950

Dear Mr. Hale:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning historical and architectural information on the Newburyport Custom House in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and its architect Robert Mills.

We hope that the enclosed copy of the National Register inventory form will provide the historical data that you desire. For the additional architectural (drawings, plans, etc.) information, we are referring your letter to John Poppelierschief, *Historic American Buildings Survey*, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington D.C. 20240.

We appreciate your interest and hope this information will be useful.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) William J. Murtagh

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosure

cc: Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108 w/c

bcc: Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region w/c
Director's Reading File

HABS
PR w/c

FNP:BERRY:sle:9-21-76 retyped 9-22-76 BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PR

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: NEARLY ALL STYLES FROM 17TH C THROUGH 19TH C

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

Small
Primarily res. district, incl. a church, a few commercial & gov't. bldgs, and a sev. monuments; dwellings primarily frame, clap. 2-story w/ gabled roofs.

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 17th 20th C

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

38

COMMENTS:

(include architectural information here)

Forty structures, nearly 1/3 from 17th and 18th C. Number of monuments on Green.

Most dwellings are frame, 2 story, gable, clapboarded

Classical Revival School

Mid 19th C Church

Small 20th C Commercial, Govt structures

SIGNIFICANCE:

(maximum two sentences)

The Newbury Historic District is significant for its fine grouping of buildings -- particularly its 17th & 18th C houses, and its associations with the early development of the town of Newbury. The area has continued to function as the community focus from the new settlement in 1646 until the present.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Newbury Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 4/28/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/13/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 76000275

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept
REVIEWER Eelson Beall DISCIPLINE Historic
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 6.13.11

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

76000275
Tristram Coffin House (Newbury HD)
Newbury (Essex), MA

Section number 2009 supplemental information Page 1

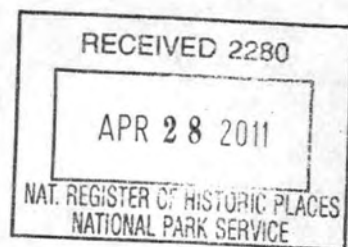
Re-evaluation of construction date due to dendrochronology

As a result of the dendrochronology testing of Phase I and Phase II of Coffin House in November of 2001, the construction date of the building has now been identified as 1678 for Phase I and 1713 for Phase II. The research team consisted of Daniel Miles and Michael Worthington of the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, England, with Anne Grady of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) acting as liaison. Their report, cited below, presented the following results and conclusions. Twelve timbers were sampled, six from the Phase I west wing and six from the Phase II east cross-wing. Six of the samples matched one another and matched other masters in the area. Four of the samples from Phase I dated to the winter of 1676/7, with a fifth one dating one year later to 1677/78. The sixth sample was from the west cross-wing and also matched to the site master chronology, producing a felling date of winter 1712/13. A seventh sample, also from the cross-wing, dated individually and also gave a felling date of winter 1712/13. The study concluded, "The samples from the first phase matched reasonably well together, suggesting a similar source for the timber, and the closeness of the felling dates suggest a construction period during 1678. The two timbers which dated from the second phase suggests a construction period during 1713, or just possibly 1714." (p. 20)

The full results of the analysis are presented in: D. W. H. Miles, M. J. Worthington, and Anne Andrus Grady, *Development of Standard Tree-Ring Chronologies for Dating Historic Structure in Eastern Massachusetts, Phase II*, Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant Completion Report, Interim Report 2002/6, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities and Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, May 31, 2002. An abridged version of the report can be found on the website www.dendrochronology.com. The full report can be found at SPNEA, now known as Historic New England, and at the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

A note on dendrochronology dating

In recent years tree-ring chronologies have been developed for eastern Massachusetts and adjacent regions, and a number of buildings or parts of buildings have been evaluated and given new construction dates due to tree-ring dating, or dendrochronology. The principle behind tree-ring dating is a simple one: the seasonal variations in climate produce variations in growth which are reflected in the varying width of the annual rings of the tree. The rings in timbers from historical houses are compared with previously dated ring sequences from old-growth trees and from timber from structures with well-established dates to allow precise dates to be ascribed to each ring. Computer comparisons quantify how good the match is between the two. A dendrochronologist then analyzes the results and establishes the date the tree was felled. Some caution must be used in interpreting these dates to determine the construction date of a building. Sometimes timbers from the same construction phase of the same building have been felled one, two or more years apart. However, it was common practice to build timber-framed structures with green or unseasoned timber, and it is likely that construction was completed within twelve or eighteen months from the felling date.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

April 19, 2011 William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find supplementary information for 34 properties previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places, reflecting recent scholarship regarding their dates of construction, based upon dendrochronological techniques.

These properties include:

Boston (Suffolk County):

James Blake House (NRIND, 5/1/74)
Pierce House (NRIND, 4/26/74)

Cambridge (Middlesex County):

Cooper-Frost-Austin House (NRIND 9/22/72)

Dedham (Norfolk County):

Fairbanks House (NRIND, NHL, 10/15/66)

Deerfield (Franklin County):

All properties are located within the Old Deerfield Village HD (NRDIS, NHL 10/15/66)

Allen House (MHC # 20)
John Ashley House (MHC #31)
Eldad Bardwell House (MHC #23)
Bull-Williams House (MHC #47)
Childs House (MHC #53)
Frary House (MHC #13)
Eliezer Hawks House (MHC #58)
Hinsdell-Williams House (MHC # 24)
Jonathan Hoit House (MHC # 9)

Little Brown House (MHC #79)
Moors House (MHC #39)
Nims House (MHC #12)
Russell House (MHC #49)
Saxton House (MHC #48)
Severance House (MHC #19)
John Sheldon – Hawks House (MHC #32)
Stebbins House (MHC # 36)
John Williams House (MHC # 50)

Essex (Essex County):

Cogswell's Grant (NRIND 4/19/90)

Gloucester (Essex County):

White-Ellery House (NRIND, NRTRA 3/9/90)
[First Period Buildings of Eastern MA, TRA]

Ipswich (Essex County):

Paine-Dodge House (NRIND, NRTRA, 3/9/90)
First Period Buildings of Eastern MA, TRA

Merchant-Choate House (NRDIS, NRMRA, 9/17/80)
[High Street HD]

Lexington (Middlesex County):

Hancock – Clarke House (NRIND. NHL, 7/17/71)

Millville (Worcester County):

Chestnut Hill Meeting House (NRIND 11/13/84)

Newbury (Essex County):

Tristram Coffin House (NRIND, NRDIS, 5/24/76)
[Newbury HD]

Salem (Essex County):

Eleazer Gedney House (NRDIS, 10/1/74)
[Gedney and Cox Houses HD]

Pickering House (NRDIS 8/28/73)
[Chestnut Street HD]

Sandwich (Barnstable County):

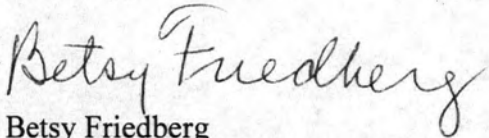
Wing Fort House (NRIND 6/3/76)

Winthrop (Suffolk County):

Deane Winthrop House (NRIND, NRTRA 3/9/90)
[First Period Buildings of Eastern MA, TRA]

Please add the enclosed continuation sheets to the existing National Register nomination files.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures