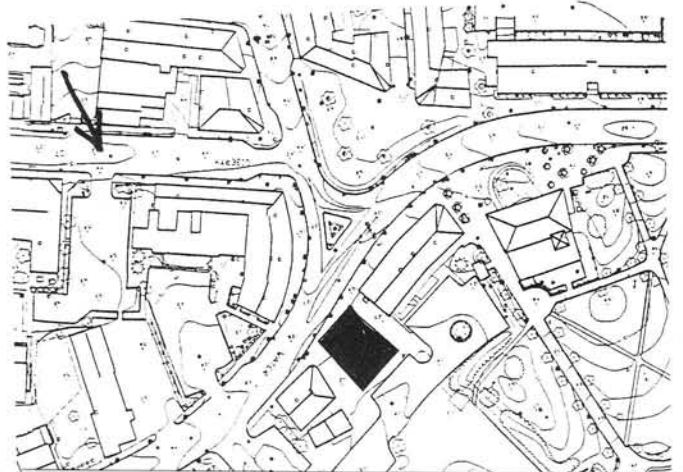


FORM B - BUILDING

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building



Date (month/year) May 1999

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf  
Organization Newburyport Historical Commission

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

NRDIS 2/25/1971; 8/2/1984  
Assessor's number 11-15  
USGS Quad Newburyport

Form Number 2958

Area(s) L,K

Town Newburyport  
Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 11-13 Market Square

Historic Name Davenport Building

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Commercial/Offices

Date of Construction 1809

Source Herald, 3/6/1880

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder Thomas Dodge, joiner; Lancaster, mason

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Brick/Granite

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alterations (with dates) late 19th c. - cast iron storefronts; c. 1970 - new windows.

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date

Average 3455 SF

Setting central business district, facing Market Square and adjacent to Market House.

## BUILDING FORM (11-13 Market Square)

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

The Davenport Building is a three-story building oriented with its gablefront facing Market Square and four tall brick chimneys rising from the corners of the asphalt-shingled gable roof. The brick is laid in a Flemish bond. The first floor consists of two well-preserved late 19th century, cast iron storefronts flanking a center entrance leading upstairs. The center entrance consists of a modern four-panel door capped by a semi-circular transom filled with leaded tracery. Each of the two storefronts has a center entrance capped by a segmental transom and is flanked by cast iron fluted columns with Corinthian capitals capped by decorative brackets. The segmentally-arched display window to each side is divided into four panes and is set above a raised panel bulkhead. Cast iron pilasters mark the limits of the storefronts.

The upper two stories of the facade are four bays wide and contain modern, wooden 12/12 sash with splayed sandstone lintels and granite sills. A semi-elliptical panel is centered in the gable above. The front eaves are flush with the brick wall.

The west elevation is punctuated by six irregularly spaced bays, several of which consist of recesses which like the windows display granite lintels. The first floor entrances and large shop window are arched. The east elevation has a more regular fenestration pattern with splayed stone lintels of two colors; those on the upper story appear to be original. The rear elevation of the building is four bays wide. The two storefronts have granite lintels and posts; one of the two storefronts appears to be a modern reproduction.

### 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.*

According to an article appearing in the Newburyport Herald in 1880, the Davenport Building was constructed in 1809 between Ferry and City Wharves by Anthony and Moses Davenport and Anthony's son, John. According to the article, the great fire of 1811 which destroyed the East and West Rows in Market Square, the lower side of Ferry Wharf, Water Street to Marquand's Wharf and State Street, left the Davenport Building standing.

The 1880 article indicates that the Davenport Building was constructed by joiner Thomas Dodge and a mason named Lancaster. Two rooms upstairs served as lawyer's offices while the upper storefront was occupied by John Davenport and the lower storefront was occupied by Anthony and Moses Davenport. Both were grocery stores. Traders, sea captains and Federalists all congregated at the Davenport stores.

After John Davenport's death in 1817 the store to the west became a hardware store and was operated over the years by William Willis (c.1850), Joseph Titcomb, Frederick Blanchard, David Woodwell (c.1860-c.1870), Thomas Mackinney (c.1880-c.1890) and Toppan & Wilson (c.1900).

The eastern storefront was operated by Moses Davenport and later by Anthony Davenport until his death in 1836. It was later kept by Joseph Goodhue (c.1850), Joseph Knight, and Samuel March (c.1870-c.1890). In the late 19th century Samuel March painted his half of the building with red, white and blue stripes and lettering reading "March's Cheap, Cash Store". The grocery store at 13 Market Square was operated by James Brown (c.1900-c.1910) and H.N. Marshall & Son (c.1920). By 1924 much of the building was being used as a warehouse. Various antiques/used furniture stores were located here as well as a woodworking shop. By 1937 #13 contained a bowling alley which remained here into the 1960s.

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

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town  
NewburyportProperty Address  
11-13 Market Square  
Area(s) Form No.

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

L,W	2958
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