

FORM B - BUILDING

Area I	Form no. 286
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Street Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport

Address 12-14 Tyng Street

Historic Name Capt. Abram Somerby House

Original Residence

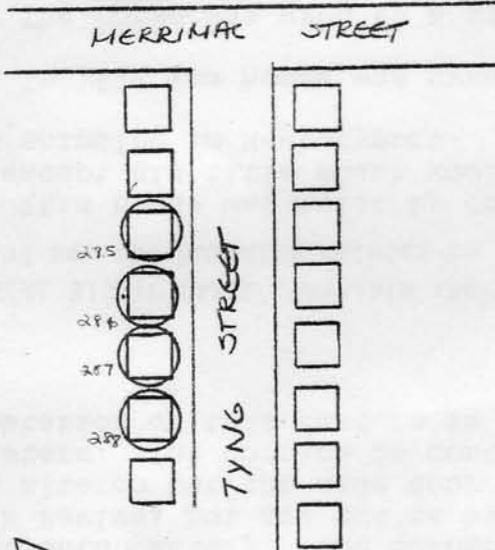
Present Residence

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

Original owner Capt. Abram Somerby

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1843

Source O. Merrill "North End Papers"

Style Greek Revival

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates) Front doorway has been altered, bay window has been added, (dates unknown)

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 8,900 sq. ft.

Setting In residential area where most of the houses were built for single families in the mid-nineteenth century

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt

Organization Office of Community Development

Date 7/28/80

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is a good example of the Greek Revival style as it was interpreted by local craftsman in Newburyport during the middle of the nineteenth century. The cornerboards and cornice have the flavor of the Greek Revival but are not as heavy as some examples. The front door has been altered but the side door has the original entablature and applied pilasters. The cornice is continuous forming a pediment although the orientation of this feature is not facing the street as so many do.

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

This house was built by Capt. Abram Somerby. Little is known about him except his title which would lead one to believe that he was involved with shipping in Newburyport.

In 1872 the house was owned by Dr. William Young.

The house was used as a single family residence until 1976 when it was renovated to house four apartments.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- O.B. Merrill "North End Papers", Newburyport Herald, Sept. 1, 1906.
- 1851 Plan of Newburyport, Mass. H. McIntire
- 1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
- 1851, 1871 City Directories