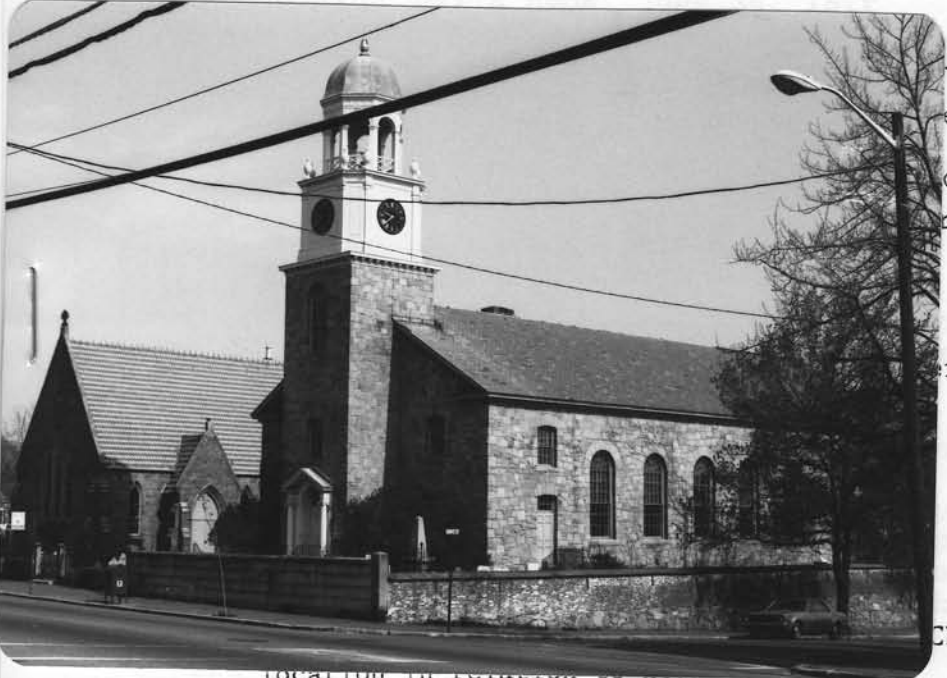


FORM B - BUILDING

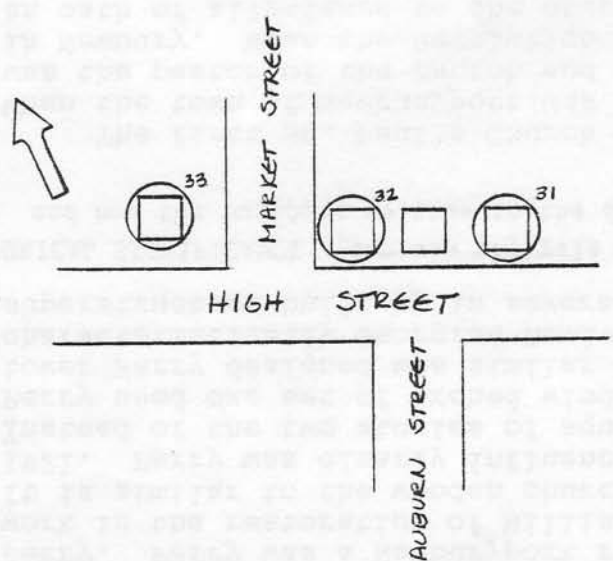
Area A	Form no. 33
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Newburyport  
High Street  
 Historic Name St. Paul's Episcopal  
Church and St. Anna's Chapel  
 Original Church  
 Present Church  
 Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church  
 Public  
 Original owner St. Paul's Church

Location in relation to  
cross streets and other buildings  
or geographical features.  
Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:  
 Date Church rebuilt 1922-Chapel 1863  
 Source Newburyport Daily News 6-28-56

Style Georgian Revival  
 Architect William G. Perry  
 Exterior wall fabric Stone  
 Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_  
St. Paul's Churchyard (1740)  
 Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approx. acreage 32,610 sq. ft.

Recorded by Mary Jane Stirgwolt  
 Organization Office of Community  
Development  
 Date 8-17-80

Setting on Newburyport's main  
thoroughfare noted for its excellent  
examples of domestic architecture  
dating from the Colonial period through  
the early 20th century.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This stone Georgian Revival church was designed by William G. Perry. Perry was a Newburyport resident and an architect noted for his work in the restoration of Williamsburg. This church was built in 1922. It is similar to the wooden church that had preceded it and burned in 1921. Perry was clearly influenced by the Georgian Revival however. Instead of the two stories of square windows in the earlier design Perry used one set of arched windows on the sides of the church. The tower Perry designed was similar to the earlier one but still characteristically Georgian Revival. It has a square tower with a superstructure built up in several stages. The top stage rather than

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

(cont)

The first St. Paul's Church was erected on this site in 1740. When the town of Newburyport was incorporated in 1764 Rev. Edward Bass was the pastor of the church and of St. Anne's Chapel erected in 1711 in Newbury. When the Revolution broke out Rev. Bass was forced to swear an oath of allegiance to the church and state of England. Nonetheless when asked by the colonists to delete objectionable phrases from the prayers he did so. After the Revolution Rev. Bass. was called upon to help organize the Episcopal Church in New England. Subsequently Rev. Bass was elected the first Bishop from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

The bishop continued in his Newburyport post and in 1800 money was raised to build a new church on the site of the old. A contract was made with Stephen Toppan, housewright, in 1800 and the church was completed the next year. Lord Timothy Dexter contributed funds to the church. The cracked bell inside the church was cast by Paul Revere Son of Boston, in 1809, and it was used until it cracked and was replaced in 1899.

The second church burned in 1920. The reconstruction was undertaken within a year and by 1923 the present church had been completed, to the designs of William G. Perry.

St. Anna's Chapel was built by Rev. William Horton in memory of his daughter Anna Horton who had died in 1857. Rev. Horton was the rector of St. Paul's between 1853 and 1863. The chapel was built of Rockport granite and was consecrated May 27, 1863.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- J. J. Currier, History of Newburyport 1764-1905, vols. I and II., reprint, Newburyport 1977.  
Newburyport Daily News, June 28, 1956  
Newburyport Daily News, November 4-5, 1973  
Newburyport Daily News, July 16, 1974.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Newburyport	Form No: 33
Property Name: St. Paul's Episcopal Church & St. Anna's Chapel - High Street	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: (CONTINUED)

being a steeple is the dome of the earlier church. The door of the church is recessed within an arch. The arch is pedimented and flanked by Ionic columns.

St. Anna's Chapel was built in 1863 and though simple in its detail has definite features of the High Victorian Gothic style. The variation in the color of the roof tiles is the most striking feature. Polychromy was an important part of any High Victorian Gothic design. The pointed arches, the iron roof cresting and the top-heavy effect of the overall composition are all typical of the High Victorian Gothic style.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

St. Paul's parish is one of the oldest organized parishes now subject to the Episcopal form of church government in Massachusetts. Many of the wealthy residents of High Street were members of the church. The churchyard adjacent to the church dates from 1740 and includes the graves of Rev. Edward Bass, and Tristram Dalton, the first senator in Congress from Massachusetts after the adoption of the Federal Constitution.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom