

LOWELL CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

462-466 Merrimack Street

MAP SHEET # 137.138

- 1) CURRENT OWNER Merrimack Street Housing Ltd.Partnership OWNER OCCUPIED yes
- 2) HISTORIC NAME _____
- 3) CURRENT NAME _____
- 4) PROPERTY TYPE commercial, multiple dwelling 5) ZONING CLASSIFICATION B-1
- 6) TAXES: PAYMENTS current STATUS clear
- 7) WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF LHPD

HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

- 1) CONSTRUCTION DATE 1989
SOURCE Permit #574 (1988)
- 2) ARCHITECT OR BUILDER Larkin Tenney (architect); Arthur Choo Assoc.Inc(engineer
The Welch Group (builder)
- 3) HISTORIC OWNER Merrimack Street Housing Ltd. Partnership
- 4) ORIGINAL USE: GF stores UF apartments
- 5) PREVIOUS BLDGS ON PROPERTY frame 3-story bldg. DATE c.1831-2 to c.1936-77
SOURCE 1832 map, 1882 Sanborn atlas, 1936 and 1977 atlases

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

- 1) ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
19th c.commercial
- 2) PRESENT USE:
GF stores
UF apartments
- 3) NO OF STORIES 4
- 4) PROP SQ FT 4,225
- 5) PLAN rectangular
- 6) ROOF flat
- 7) STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
wood frame
- 8) OUTBUILDINGS
none
- 9) MATERIALS:
FOUNDATION
not visible

VIEW FROM north PHOTO TAKEN Nov.1992



FACADE wood clapboards

TRIM wood

- 10) NOTABLE SURFACE & LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS none

ADDRESS 462- 466 Merrimack Street

VISUAL ASSESSMENT

- 1) CONDITION OF BUILDING FABRIC excellent
- 2) IF DETERIORATED, CAUSES n/a
- 3) INTEGRITY OF HISTORIC BLDG FABRIC: GF new construction
UF new construction
- 4) SURROUNDING LAND USES commercial, residential, institutional
- 5) INTEGRITY OF PROPERTY'S HISTORIC SETTING intact with minor intrusions and/or losses
- 6) IMPORTANCE OF PROPERTY TO HISTORIC SETTING integral to character

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

462 Merrimack Street is a new wood-frame commercial building designed to fit into the 19th century streetscape and harmonize with adjacent buildings. The building was built at the same time that #442 and 450 were rebuilt after a major fire. The same architect worked on all three buildings and utilized many of the design elements of #442, including the storefront framing and center recessed entrance to upper floors, which are used as apartments. The second and third floors have a symmetrical fenestration pattern of eight single 2/2 windows and one paired window in the center bay. The fourth story is recessed back from the street and is curved in shape. Recessing the fourth story gives the building a massing which is more compatible with neighboring structures.

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL INFORMATION

462 Merrimack Street was constructed in 1989 in a building project which included the rebuilding of the fire-damaged structures at #450-454 and #442-446 adjacent to the east. The lot had been vacant since some time between 1936 and 1977.

A building appears on the site on the 1832 map. In 1882, the Sanborn atlas labeled the building on the site as a frame 3-story tenement with shops, including "Shoes", "Furniture," "Fancy" and "2nd Hand." At the rear was a brick section labeled as stables on the first floor and "upholstery" on the second. The frame building appears on the atlases through 1936.

SOURCES

Maps: 1832, 1840
Atlases: 1879 to 1936
Building Permit #574 (1988)

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMENT

No archeological work was done before the recent rebuilding. The building occupies most of the site, with a paved terraced area in the rear. The archeological potential would appear to be low.

