

57, 59 Washington Street (circa late 1830s/early 1840s)

From Boston Landmark Commission's Charlestown Historic Resources Study 1981*:



57, 59 Washington Street

1980s

Numbers 57 and 59 Washington Street is a two story double Greek Revival wood frame house. It has a six bay main facade with broad end wall gable profiles. It has a granite basement. Both halves are sheathed in modern clapboard siding. The pair of houses is enclosed by a broad gable roof with two chimneys at each end. To the rear is a post-1868 pair of ells.



57 (r), 59 Washington Street

2015

There are paired, recessed entrances with wooden steps leading to the front doors. The outer entrances are enframed by paneled pilasters with cornice-headed entablatures. Number 57's original door and sidelights are intact; 59's door and sidelights have been replaced by two separate doors. In general, the windows are fully enframed; 57's windows have 6/1 wood sash and 59's windows have 1/1 wood sash. There is a pair of windows at the attic level.

Early owner: Herman S. Doane (ca. 1860's)

Nos. 57, 59 Washington was, for many years, bracketed by two Federal houses-a three story wood frame house at 27

Washington (demolished circa 1964) and a three-story wood frame (?) House (known as the Col. Samuel Jacques house"). built by Capt. Archibald McNeil, a prime force in the early 1800s development of Washington Street. Modern infill housing (#'s 63, 67), similar in style and scale to 57, 59, stands on the site of the Jacques house.

Numbers 57, 59 Washington Street is a straightforward, substantial example of circa late 1830s-early 1840s-typically Greek Revival architecture. Its bulky rectangular form with distinctive broad end wall gable profiles and paired, classically enframed entrances are very similar in form and elements to numbers 37, 39 Washington Street.

For many years, beginning ca. 1860, number 59 was owned by Boston brush manufacturer Herman S Doane (49 Water Street, Boston), and number 57 was owned by a John Doane (occupation?). From the mid-1880s until circa 1900 the house (57?) was owned by Hugh C Scally. It was also occupied by John M Scally and Joseph M Scally, who were sons of Hugh C Scally.

Joseph M Scally was well known in Charlestown during the late 19th century as a veterinarian. He was born December 10, 1857 in Boston and was educated in St. Mary's Institute, Endicott Street, Boston and at McGill's University in Montréal. He graduated from the Montréal Veterinary College, March 30, 1882 and began practice in Boston on Brinthall Street. He was a member of the Massachusetts Veterinary Association, Montréal Veterinary Association and US veterinary Association. Dr. Scally had a large practice.

By the early 1900s a Patrick F McCarthy owned number 57 and a Mary E Hansen owned 59.

Bibliography:

Maps- 1818, 1852

Atlases-1868, 1875, 1885, 1892, 1901, 1911

Charlestown directories-1860s-70s

Boston directories-late 19th century

Suffolk deeds-1993:216 (a dead end at 1051:20, Middlesex)

Charlestown Enterprise-special edition-Charlestown Citizens
Past and Present

*Digitized, and edited without change in content, from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, and with addition of current photographs. In the case of houses that have been altered since the survey, these photographs may not entirely correspond to the architectural description. If earlier photographs of suitable quality are available, these have been included.

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