

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM - STRAFFORD ROCKINGHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
One Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire 03833 Phone: (603)778-0885

TOWN: Rochester COUNTY: Strafford

SURVEY NUMBER: 53

COMMON NAME: The Barker Block

HISTORIC NAME: The Barker Block

LOCATION: 46-50 South Main Street

OWNER: Albert Buffum

ADDRESS: 2 Beach Rd., Dover, NH 03820

MAP & PARCEL #: 51/192 120-366

DATE: C. 1889

SOURCE: Inspection

STYLE: Queen Anne

UTM: Z 19 /E 339775 /N 4796200

USGS QUAD: Berwick Quad 15' series

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial

PRESENT USE: Commercial

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

CONDITION: Exc. Good ☒ Fair Poor Ruins

INTEGRITY: Original Site ☒ Moved Date

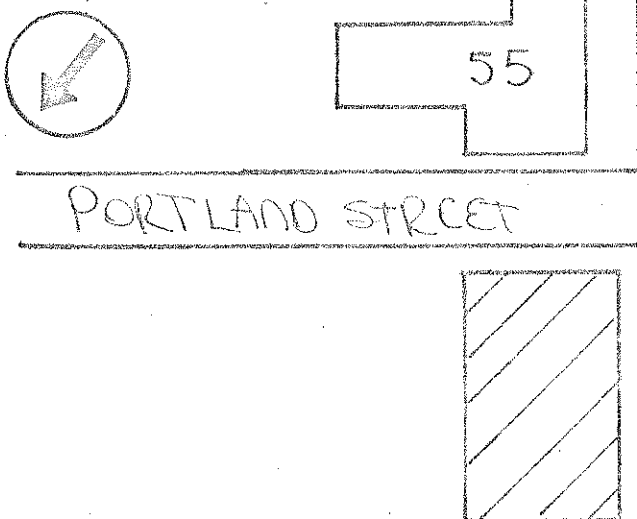
Major Alterations & Date:

LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl. State Local ☒

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

- # Stories 3 # Bays 11 x 5 Approx. Dimensions 75 X 50 Window Sash 1/1
Roof Style: Gable Hip Gambrel Flat ☒ Shed Mansard Jerkinhead
Monitor Sawtooth Other
Appendages: Porches Towers Dormers Bay Windows Ells Chimneys
Wings Cupolas Sheds Garage Other
Entry Location: Center ☒ Sidehall Other ☒ into storefronts
- FOUNDATION: Random Rubble Cut Granite ☒ Brick ☒ Concrete Concrete Block
Other
- WALL STRUCTURE:
Wood Frame: Post & Beam Balloon Frame Other
Load Bearing Masonry: Stone Brick Concrete Block Other
Metal: Iron Steel Other
- WALL COVERING: Clapboard Wood Shingle Board & Batten Shiplap
Aluminum Novelty Stucco Stone Brick ☒ Sheet Metal Asphalt Shingles
Vinyl Asphalt Sheeting Composite Board Other
- ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle Asphalt Shingle Standing Seam Tin Slate
Pressed Metal Sheet Metal Rolled Asphalt Gravel Other ☒ composition
- ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Three Quarter North
East
Negative File Number: R-80- A4-11
Photographer: Roger Bervoort
Negative on file with: SRRC

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Barker Block is a 3 story, 5 X 4 bay Queen Anne style commercial block of rectangular proportions, constructed of brick. It remains unaltered except for changes to the storefronts.

On the facade and side elevations, narrow brick piers articulate the corners, rising to arched corbelling and a wooden cornice at the roofline.

The facade, which is symmetrical, is focused on the central bay which consists of a group of three windows, in contrast to the side bays which have paired windows. There is also a break in the corbelling above the central bay. On the first story, brick piers flank a recessed central entry.

The upper story windows contain rectangular 1/1 sash and have granite sills. On the second story, the windows have transoms and are topped by brick flat arches. The third story windows are set within semicircular arches. Identical windows and detailing appear on the side elevations.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT

The Barker Block stands apart from the other commercial buildings on South Main Street but is close enough to Central Square to relate visually to the commercial district.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The Barker Block was built by C.S. Barker in 1889. Barker was a Harvard graduate, and Boston lawyer who moved to Rochester in 1864 to open a millinery business with his wife. The building housed besides the hat business on the street level several doctors offices on the upper stories. Woolworth's was a tenant in the early 20th century before moving to its present location in the Dodge Block.

Located at the southern end of the central business district the Barker Block occupies a prominent position continuing the commercial character of the square.

REFERENCES:

Personal notes of Gladys Redlon, Rochester Historian

MAP DATA:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land ☐ Woodland ☐ Scattered Bldgs ☐ Moderately Built Up ☐
Densely Built Up ☐ Residential ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Agricultural ☐
Roadside Strip Development ☐ Other ☐

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION: (LOT SIZE) 90 X 94

Recorded By: Roger Brevoort

Date: 11/19/80