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## House History and Plaque Program

15 Pleasant Street

Salem, Massachusetts 01970

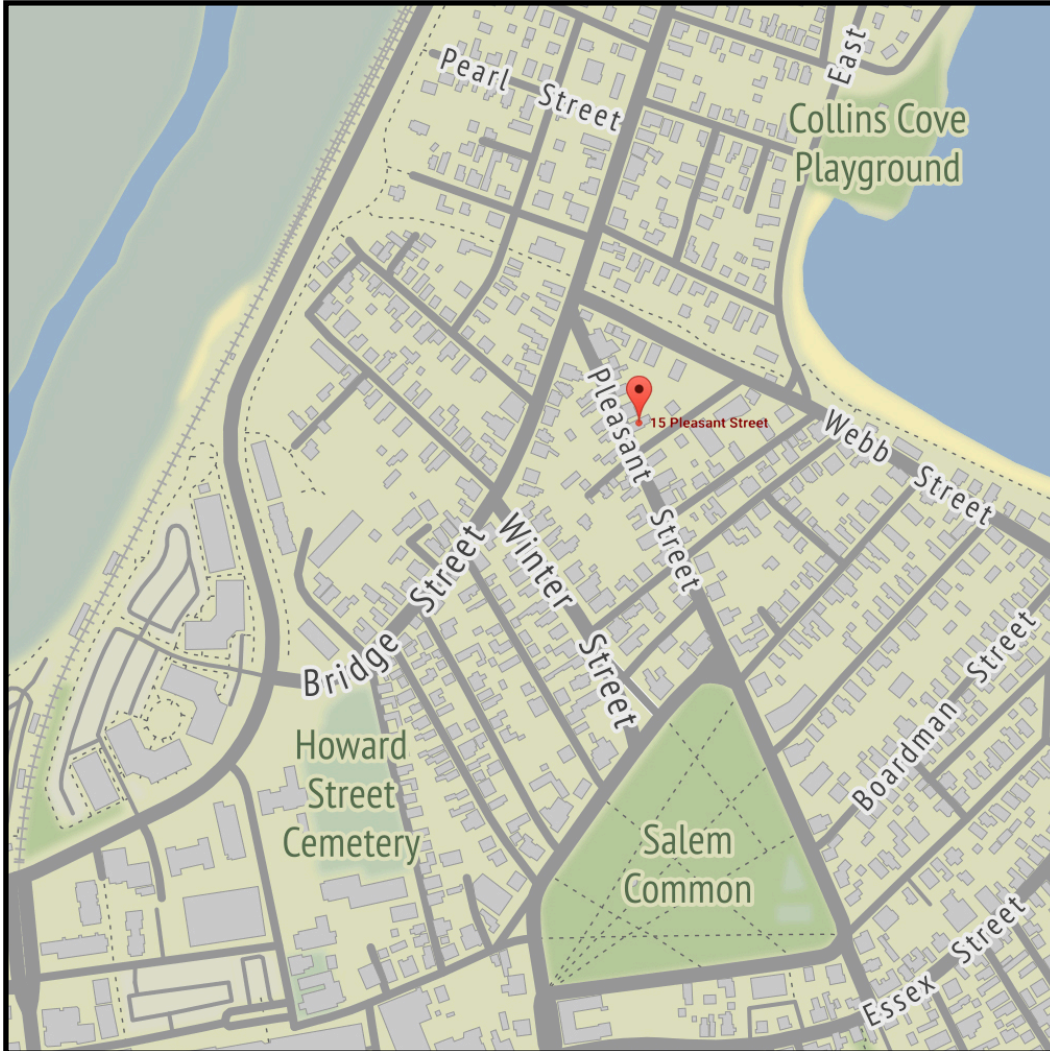
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## The House History of 15 Pleasant Street





In the spring of 1864, men from Salem marched across wide swaths of Virginia fighting in the Overland Campaign of the American Civil War. The members of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry fought in small battles at Port Waltham Junction and Arrowfield Church before engaging in the disastrous assault at Cold Harbor and the long siege of Petersburg. Salem men died fighting for the Union, and a memorial to their service is affixed to a 58-ton boulder a short walk from Pleasant Street, at the end of Winter Street by the Salem Common.

To the north of Salem that same spring, Nathaniel Hawthorne passed away in the Pemigawasset Hotel in the White Mountains of New Hampshire while on a walking tour with Franklin Pierce. From 1846 to 1850, Hawthorne had lived just a few streets down at 14 Mall Street, where he composed the classic *The Scarlet Letter*.

In that year, too, a middle-aged carpenter named Abraham Towle, built a new family home at 15 Pleasant Street.

Almost all the surviving buildings on Pleasant Street date from the nineteenth century. The earliest buildings on the street are the Thomas Bickford House, c. 1800, at 1 Pleasant Street, the 1805 house at 26-28 Pleasant Street, and the 1809 house at 10 Pleasant Street built for John Rhodes, a mariner. Other Federal-period houses can be found at 8 Pleasant Street, 22-24 Pleasant Street, and 23-25 Pleasant Street.<sup>1</sup> These boxy, symmetrical structures testify to the status of Salem as a major seaport in the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

The last house mentioned, that at 23-25 Pleasant Street, also bears elements of the Greek Revival style which dominated residential American building in the 1830s. The Greek Revival filtered down from the work of European antiquarians and architects to American polymaths like Thomas Jefferson and architects like William Strickland and received a great boost of popularity from the 1830 pattern-book, *The Practical House Carpenter*, by Connecticut-and-Massachusetts-based architect Asher Benjamin. The John Cook House at 14 Pleasant Street was constructed in 1845 in the Greek Revival Style. So too are the houses at 16 Pleasant Street, 20 Pleasant Street, and 29 Pleasant Street.<sup>2</sup>

The Italianate style of architecture, which drew on Italian Renaissance architectural features such as flat roofs, long arched windows, and heavy cornices, reigned from the 1840s to the 1860s, and is represented on Pleasant Street by numbers 9 (the 1860 William F. Luscomb House), 31 (the c. 1851 Charles Millett House), and 33 (the 1851 William B. Parker House). The

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<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS): SAL.3147, SAL.3158, SAL.2300, SAL.3165.

<sup>2</sup> MACRIS: SAL.3157, SAL.3156, SAL.2300, SAL.2804



houses at numbers 3-7 and 13, both built in 1869, and number 30, built in 1870, are later examples of the style.<sup>3</sup>

The Second Empire style, drawing on French Renaissance forms repopularized during the reign of Napoleon III from 1852 to 1870, has but three representatives on the street: clothing manufacturer James Trefren's circa 1870 home at 35 Pleasant Street, the Daniel Henderson House, built around 1874 at 19-21 Pleasant Street, and the house at 15 Pleasant Street built in 1864.<sup>4</sup>

The large house at 15 Pleasant exists today, at least in terms of footprint, as it appears in the 1874 Atlas of Salem.<sup>5</sup> The 2 1/2 –story house sits at the corner of Pleasant and Walter Streets, with its ridgeline running WSW to ENE. It features a mansard roof with nine dormers, each with their own small mansard top. There is a veranda projecting from an addition on the southern face of the house and a back ell at the eastern side of the house.

Pleasant Street existed as the “Ancient Highway” in the seventeenth century, though the northern side of the street was the “Ship Tavern Pasture” and the land of Deliverance and Susannah Parkman.<sup>6</sup> The street was laid out in 1796. Judging by maps from the two years, it appears the area around 15 Pleasant Street was first developed between 1795 and 1806.<sup>7</sup> This date is borne out by the surviving houses as listed above.

Immediately prior to its purchase by Abraham Towle in 1864, the land at 15 Pleasant Street was owned by Seabury F. Rogers, a confectionary with a shop at 170 Essex Street in a building which was located where the East India Fountain stands on Essex Street. Rogers bought the property in 1858 from the trustees of Mary F. Loring, wife of the prominent merchant George B. Loring.<sup>9</sup> The couple lived in the brick mansion at 328 Essex Street. Mary Loring had inherited the parcel in 1857 on the death of William Pickman, a Salem merchant and investor.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> MACRIS: SAL.3150, SAL.2782, SAL.2783, SAL.3148, SAL.3152, SAL.2298.

<sup>4</sup> MACRIS: SAL.2784, SAL.3175, SAL.3156.

<sup>5</sup> Busch, Edward. *Atlas of the City of Salem, Massachusetts. From actual Survey & Official records.* G.M. Hopkins & Co. Philadelphia, 1874.

<sup>6</sup> Phillips, James Duncan, Sidney Perley, and William W.K. Freeman. “Part of Salem in 1700.” Map. In *Salem in the Seventeenth Century*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1933.

<sup>7</sup> Map of Salem, c. 1795. Essex County Registry of Deeds, Salem, MA.

<sup>8</sup> Bowditch, Nathaniel. “Chart of the harbours of Salem, Marblehead, Manchester, and Beverly: From a survey taken in years 1804, 5, & 6.” Map. 1806. Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library. <http://www.leventhalmap.org/id/10920>

<sup>9</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 0574, Page 228. 26 July 1858.

<sup>10</sup> Essex County Probate Records.



After selling the property, Rogers moved to 6 Cross Street on Bridge Street Neck,<sup>11</sup> and in 1866, he was elected a Resident Member of the Essex Institute.<sup>12</sup> Rogers, who was originally from New London, Connecticut, returned to his home city and died there in 1905.<sup>13</sup>

Salem in 1864 was a large and culturally important city. Four years earlier, it had been the 42nd largest city in the United States with a population of 22,252.<sup>14</sup> This was a ranking similar to that of Raleigh, Atlanta, Miami, or Minneapolis today.

Salem's Lyceum, founded in 1831, attracted speakers of international fame like Ralph Waldo Emerson and Frederick Douglass on a regular basis. The 1863-64 season included lectures by Oliver Wendell Holmes on the "Weaning of Young America", Wendell Phillips on "National Reconstruction", and Emerson on the "True American Idea."<sup>15</sup> The Essex Institute, founded in 1848, hosted lectures, displayed art and historical objects, and featured exhibitions on horticulture and agriculture. The *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, begun in 1859, gathered lectures and articles on the history and genealogy of Essex County. The Salem Athenaeum, housed in Plummer Hall on Essex Street since 1857, provided a vast library for those who subscribed.

The Golden Age of Sail had closed in Salem, but still 44 wharves dotted the city's shoreline.<sup>16</sup> The city directory for 1864 attests to the diversity of the town's workforce. There are insurance agents, clerks, engineers, teamsters, painters, carpenters, hoteliers, and railway men; and that's just among the Abbotts! The inhabitants of the city called on the service of carriage painters, leather measurers, fur sewers, vest-makers, building movers, ketchup manufacturers, cigar makers, and bonnet bleachers.

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<sup>11</sup> Adams, Sampson, & Co. *The Salem Directory, containing the Names of the Citizens, City Officers, A Business Directory, and an Almanac for 1861. Also, a Business Directory for South Danvers*. Salem: Henry Whipple & Son, 1861. p. 154.

<sup>12</sup> *Proceedings of the Essex Institute, Vol. V - 1866/67*. Salem: Essex Institute Press, 1866-1868, p. 65.

<sup>13</sup> Wellman, Joshua Wyman. *Descendants of Thomas Wellman of Lynn, Massachusetts*. Boston: Arthur Holbrook Wellman, 1918. p. 257.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. "Table 9. Population of the 100 Largest Urban Places: 1860" 15 June 1998. Accessed 3 May 2017. <https://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0027/tab09.txt>

<sup>15</sup> *Historical Sketch of the Salem Lyceum, with a List of the Officers and Lecturers since its Formation in 1830, with an Extract of the Address of Gen. Henry K. Oliver, delivered at the Opening of the Fiftieth Course of Annual Lectures, November 13th, 1878*. Salem, MA: The Salem Gazette, 1879. p. 60.

<sup>16</sup> Adams, Sampson, & Co. *The Salem Directory, containing the City Record, the Names of the Citizens, and a Business Directory, with an Almanac for 1864*. Salem, Massachusetts: Geo. M. Whipple & A.A. Smith, 1864. pp. 46-47.



There were 11 apothecaries, 9 boarding houses, 15 bakers, 9 dealers in books and stationary, 6 cabinetmakers, and 21 physicians. For entertainment, there was a bowling saloon on Washington Street. Essex Street afforded a gymnasium and shooting gallery and the Essex House, a tavern. There were also numerous establishments around town offering oysters and refreshments.

Abraham Towle purchased the land at 15 Pleasant Street from Seabury Rogers in 1860 for \$987.<sup>17</sup> Towle was a master carpenter and contractor. There were 45 carpenters in Salem the year that he constructed the house, but Towle was one of the most prominent. In 1850, he was a trustee of the Salem Charitable Mechanic Associates,<sup>18</sup> an organization founded in 1817 with the purposes of “relieving the distresses of unfortunate mechanics and their families, in promoting inventions and improvements in the mechanic arts, by granting premiums for such inventions and improvements, and in assisting young mechanics with loans of money.”<sup>19</sup>

Towle had served as a contractor with Simeon Flint in building the Superior Court Building on Federal Street in 1861 and 1862. The initial building was finished in mastic, a waterproof cement, but in 1891 it was refinished in brick.<sup>20</sup> This later renovation altered the style from Italianate to the Richardson Romanesque appearance the courthouse bears today. Enoch Fuller was the architect, though he died shortly after the building began at the age of 33.<sup>21</sup>

While serving as master carpenter for the city of Salem in 1873, Towle built “a pile structure for a fender for the pipe bridge and siphon” for the Salem Water Works at the Bass River to protect the pipes from boat strikes.<sup>22</sup>

Towle was born in circa 1808 in New Hampshire. By 1842, he was working as a carpenter in Salem. Towle at that time lived near to Pleasant Street at 9 Spring Street, in a house whose origins and date are currently unknown, but which may have been built by Towle

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<sup>17</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 0606, Page 163. 17 May, 1860.

<sup>18</sup> Adams, George. *The Salem Directory: containing the City Record, Banks, Insurance Companies, Churches, and Societies. Names and Business of the Citizens, An Almanac for 1851 with a Variety of Miscellaneous Matter.* Salem, MA: Henry Whipple, 1851. p. 190.

<sup>19</sup> *Private and Special Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from May 1822, to March 1830: Revised and Published by the Authority of the Legislature in Conformity to a Resolve, Passed April 16, 1836.* Vol. 6. Boston: Dutton and Wentworth, State Printers, 1837. p. 3.

<sup>20</sup> Robinson, John. *Visitor's Guide to Salem.* Salem, MA: The Essex Institute, 1895. pp. 55-56.

<sup>21</sup> Tolles, Bryant F and Carolyn K. Tolles. *Architecture in Salem: An Illustrated Guide.* Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2004. pp. 119-120.

<sup>22</sup> *The Fifth Annual Report from the Wenham Water Board of the City of Salem, Mass., to the City Council, for the Year Ending in December 31, 1873.* Salem: Salem Press, 1873. p. 27



himself.<sup>23</sup> From approximately 1846 to 1864, Towle lived on Harbor Street in what is today the Point neighborhood. In that time he worked as a carpenter at 8 Lafayette Street with his partner, Walter Norris. The house at 19 Harbor Street was the left half of a 2 ½ story two-family house with 13 rooms, though it was destroyed in the Great Salem Fire of 1914 and replaced in 1915 with a brick Colonial Revival apartment building.

Towle built a 1 ½-story carpentry shop 20 feet by 35 feet separate from the main house. He got his lumber from J.P. Langmaid & Sons at 175 Derby Street and George F. & S. Brown at 38 North Street.<sup>24</sup> Towle reared fruit trees and grape vines in the yard running along Webster Street. In the 1860 census, a 20-year-old Irish maid named Katie Sullivan is living with the family on Harbor Street.<sup>25</sup> It is not clear if she moved with the family to Pleasant Street.

Towle's probate give further clues to his life at 15 Pleasant Street. Towle got his groceries from George Hodgkins, a grocer who lived down the street at 45 Pleasant Street, and Israel P. Harris at 6 St. Peter Street.<sup>26</sup> Firewood and coal came from Lemuel B. Hatch, at 113 Derby Street. Towle also subscribed to the Salem Gazette and the Boston Traveller. He bought boots & shoes at Eben. Buswell & Co. on Essex Street.

He used the services of Nathaniel Pulsifer, a painter who lived at 11 Spring Street, perhaps to paint the interiors or exteriors of the house. He owed money to Frothingham & Fitfield, sellers of stoves and tinware, John Cabeen, a teamster, and T.J. Gifford, another carpenter, who lived on Mason Street in North Salem.

In the probate are small debts to Henry Hale, a seller of cutlery, hardware, and agricultural tools, R. Skinner & Co., makers of doors, sashes, and blinds, Richardson & Waters, sellers of hardware, and John C. McLaughlin, a plumber and gas fitter. Perhaps some of these purchases of hardware and other household fixtures were used at 15 Pleasant Street, though it would be hard to determine at which property the pieces were used.

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<sup>23</sup> MACRIS: SAL.3168

<sup>24</sup> Essex County Probate Records

<sup>25</sup> "United States Census, 1860", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZH2-MCX> : 30 December 2015), Abraham Towle, 1860.

<sup>26</sup> Essex County Probate Records



Towle and his wife, Mary, had two children, Albert and Sarah. Albert L. Towle, lived in Niobara, Nebraska by the time of his father's death.<sup>27</sup> Towle became a 32 degree Mason.<sup>28</sup>

Sarah A. Towle, born in August 1834, married Stephen S. W. Upton, a farmer and miller, and moved to Townsend, Massachusetts in northwestern Middlesex County.<sup>29</sup> There they had a son, William, and three daughters, Persis, Laura W., and Sarah J. In the 1880 census, Sarah J. Towle, Sarah's elderly aunt, and an unrelated 16-year girl named Lillian A. Blood are listed as living with the family as well.<sup>30</sup> By 1900, Stephen Upton had become a lumber dealer, and Laura W. Upton still lived at home and taught music at the age of 29.<sup>31</sup>

Abraham Towle died September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1876.<sup>32</sup> He had \$75 worth of carpentry tools and \$50 worth of furniture. In 1878, Albert L. Towle sold his father's real estate to cover the aforementioned debts and advertised 15 Pleasant Street and his two other properties for sale. The house featured 11 finished rooms and 2 unfinished with a furnace, gas, and water from Wenham Lake, and Towle's shop, advertised as suitable for a carpenter or a mason. The proximity of the Common is noted, with the property touted as "a residence in a pleasant locality and in a first class neighborhood."<sup>33</sup> Also for sale were the house at 19 Harbor Street and a 2 ½-story house at 31 Hazel Street with 16 rooms.

<b>House</b>	<b>O u t s t a n d i n g</b>	<b>Sale-1878</b>
	<b>Mortgage</b>	

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<sup>27</sup> Essex County Probate Records. As Albert L. Towle is listed at home in 1861, 1866, and 1869, it seems unlikely that he is the Albert Towle mentioned in *Johnson's History of Nebraska* as a survivor of the wreck of the *Hannibal* in 1857, or the longest-serving postmaster in the state in 1869. This other Towle makes identifying very much about his western life quite difficult.

<sup>28</sup> *Transactions of the Supreme Council, 33<sup>o</sup>, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, October, 1897.* Charleston: Gr. Orient of Charleston, 1897, p. 130.

<sup>29</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MH6T-SH4> : 11 August 2016), Stephen S W Upton, Townsend, Middlesex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district ED 379, sheet 523D, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0539; FHL microfilm 1,254,539.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> "United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M9T5-7JS> : accessed 25 May 2017), Stephen W Upton, Townsend Town Townsend town, Middlesex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 967, sheet 10A, family 252, NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1972.); FHL microfilm 1,240,666.

<sup>32</sup> Essex County Probate Records

<sup>33</sup> Essex County Probate Records,





15 Pleasant Street	\$350	\$3,870.00
19 Harbor Street	\$1000	\$2,325.50
Hazel Street	\$2,500	\$1,950.00

William Mack bought the property at Pleasant Street and owned the property for a decade, from 1878 to 1888.<sup>34</sup>

Mack was a physician whose personal papers at the Phillips Library include 6 volumes of notes on medicine and his patients. His primary residence was at 21 Chestnut Street, in the eastern end of the Federal brick double house purchased by his father, Judge Elisha Mack in 1837. Mack travelled to Europe in the 1830s and in 1841 was the secretary of the Essex Southern District of the Massachusetts Medical Society.<sup>35</sup> Mack's reputation was enough that in 1889, Colcord Upton, a steamboat manager, and Lillian S. Towne, named their firstborn child William Mack Upton.<sup>36</sup> A large parcel of land in North Salem given to Mack by his sister, Esther, was given to the city on his death in 1895 to become Mack Park.

Mack was a treasurer and directory of the Salem Street Railway Company and the Pleasant Street property was rented to company employees.<sup>37</sup> He likely bought the property because of its proximity to the company's building, which was directly abutting on the east along Webster Street.

In 1880 and 1881, the inhabitants were Willard B. Ferguson, the superintendent of the "Horse Rail Road" at 233 Essex Street, and Charles A. Murch, the assistant superintendent.<sup>38</sup> Both Ferguson and Murch were in their late thirties and originally from Maine. Murch lived with

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<sup>34</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 0995, Page 23. 4 March 1878.

<sup>35</sup> *Medical Communications of the Massachusetts Medical Society, with an Appendix containing the Proceedings of the Society*. Vol. 6. Boston: Massachusetts Medical Society, 1841. p. 122.

<sup>36</sup> Perley, Sidney. *A History of Salem, Massachusetts, Vol. II 1638-1670*. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1926. p. 382.

<sup>37</sup> *Public Documents of Massachusetts, Being the Annual Reports of Various Public Officers and Institutions for the Year 1885*. Vol. III, nos. 10-15. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Company, 1886. p. 401.

<sup>38</sup> *The Salem Directory, 1881 Containing in the City Record, Business Directory, and Street Directory, No. XIX*. Sampson, Davenport, & Co. Salem: A.A. Smith & Co. p. 78 and p. 157.



wife, Rosa, who was ten years his junior.<sup>39</sup> Ferguson and his wife, Etta, had a similar age gap, and in 1879 they had a son, Berton G. Ferguson.<sup>40</sup>

Ferguson and his wife continued to live at 15 Pleasant Street until at least 1886. From 1882 to 1884, they shared the property with Frank A. Shepherd, a horse car conductor.<sup>41</sup> In 1886, they lived with Peter W. Whitney, another driver.<sup>42</sup>

Next, Charles Odell owned the property for a short time, from 1888 to 1890.<sup>43</sup> Odell ran an auction, real estate, and insurance business from Washington Street and lived in the 1880s at 20 Pleasant Street.<sup>44</sup> By the time he purchased the land on Pleasant Street, he had moved to 24 ½ Winter Street. Odell did not live at the house but rented it out as Mack had done. In 1890, the tenant was a man named Nathaniel Morton who has no profession listed.<sup>45</sup>

Charlotte Fairfield, a bookkeeper and coal-dealer, purchased the property in 1890 and owned it until 1929.<sup>46</sup> The Fairfields lived next door in the Italianate house built in 1869 by her father, James Fairfield. James Fairfield was a dealer in lumber, lime, cement, and coal, with

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<sup>39</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MH6F-8TJ> : 11 August 2016), Charles Murch, Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district ED 231, sheet 620A, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0532; FHL microfilm 1,254,532.

<sup>40</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MH6F-8TX> : 11 August 2016), Willard G Ferguson, Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district ED 231, sheet 620A, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0532; FHL microfilm 1,254,532.

<sup>41</sup> Meek, Henry M. *The Naumkeag Directory for Salem, Beverly, Danvers, Marblehead, Peabody, containing a list of the Inhabitants and Business Firms of the Districts and other Matters of General and Local Interest. No. 1 – 1882-83.* Salem: Henry M. Meek & Francis A. Fieldler. p. 79.

<sup>42</sup> *The Salem Directory 1886 Containing a Directory of Citizens, Street Directory, The City Record, and Business Directory with Map. Also Directories for the Towns of Beverly, Peabody, Danvers, and Marblehead. No. XXII.* Sampson, Murdoch, & Co. Salem: Mackintire and Henry P. Ives.

<sup>43</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 1216, Page 437. 20 February 1888.

<sup>44</sup> *The Salem Directory, 1879.* No. XVIII. Boston: Sampson, Davenport, & Co. p. 171.

<sup>45</sup> *The Salem Directory 1890-91 Containing a Directory of Citizens, Street Directory, The City Record, and Business Directory with Map. Also Directories for the Towns of Beverly, Peabody, Danvers, and Marblehead.* Sampson, Murdoch, & Co. Salem: Mackintire and Henry P. Ives. p. 265.

<sup>46</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 01290, Page 63. 9 September, 1890.



businesses at 52-60 Central Street and a coal yard at 7 Water Street in Beverly.<sup>47</sup> Her mother, was Lucy W. Fairfield, who was widowed by 1912. Her brother, Charles E. Fairfield, was a clerk who died young in 1897.

Charlotte, called Lottie by her family, was born in 1856.<sup>48</sup> From 1880 until the early 1900s she worked as a bookkeeper, but after her father's death she took over the family business. She faced resistance from the coal dealers of the Salem Coal Club because she was a woman, so she acted independent of the association.<sup>49</sup> The story became national news, as evidenced by the headline of The Leavenworth Times in Kansas: "Girl Coal Dealer Fights the Trust."<sup>50</sup> Fairfield prevailed and was a successful coal dealer for two decades. In 1912, she is listed as a coal dealer with businesses at 78 Washington and 52 Central and 127 Cabot and 15 Water in Beverly.<sup>51</sup>

In the 1890s, the house at 15 Pleasant was rented to John G. Page, the assistant superintendent of streets and his brother, Fred M. Page, who ran a shoe and paper box findings company on Washington Street.<sup>52</sup> The Pages continued living at the property until 1906. In the early 1910s, the house was rented to Charles A. Southworth. Charles and Fred were the Southworth Brothers, landscape architects and nurserymen.<sup>53</sup> From 1914 until 1922, the house was rented by Robert B. Chalmers and his wife, Sarah E. Chalmers worked at the United Shoe Machinery Corporation in Beverly and the couple rented a summer cottage at 71 Bay View Avenue in the Juniper Point neighborhood of Salem.

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<sup>47</sup> Meek, Henry M. *The Naumkeag Directory for Salem, Beverly, Danvers, Marblehead, Peabody, Essex, and Manchester. Containing a list of the Inhabitants and Business Firms of the District and Other Matters of General and Local Interest.* 9. 1899-1900. pp. 225-226.

<sup>48</sup> "United States Census, 1880," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MH6F-8TL> : 11 August 2016), Lottie Fairfield in household of James Fairfield, Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district ED 231, sheet 620A, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0532; FHL microfilm 1,254,532.

<sup>49</sup> "Coal Dealers Disagree" The Portsmouth Herald, Portsmouth, NH. 11 Feb 1903, p. 5.

<sup>50</sup> "Girl Coal Dealer Fights the Trust" The Leavenworth Times, Leavenworth, KS. 14 Feb. 1903. p. 5.

<sup>51</sup> *The Naumkeag Directory for Salem, Beverly, Danvers, Marblehead, Peabody, Essex, and Ipswich Containing a list of the Inhabitants and Business Firms of the District and Other Matters of General and Local Interest.* No. 20, 1912. Salem: The Henry M. Meek Publishing Company, 1912. p. 156.

<sup>52</sup> *The Salem Directory 1893-94 Containing a Directory of Citizens, Street Directory, The City Record, and Business Directory with Map. Also Directories for the Towns of Beverly, Peabody, Danvers, and Marblehead.* Salem: Mackintire and Henry P. Ives. p. 132.

<sup>53</sup> Salem Directory, 1912.



In 1924, John E. Heffernan, a druggist, and his wife Mary E. had moved into 13 Pleasant Street, and Lester S. Durkee and his wife Marion E. lived at 15 Pleasant Street. By 1926, the house was rented to Edward L. Kanze, his wife Ruth S. Kanze, and Oscar Kanze, a boarder. Edward Kanze was a cook at The Hawthorne Hotel.<sup>54</sup>

John W. and Emma Szczepucha purchased the house from Marion Durkee in 1929 after the Durkees moved to Beverly.<sup>55</sup> John Szczepucha was a shoe worker in 1929, a clerk at The Bunghole liquor store in 1933, a clerk at the restaurant of Charles Szczepucha at 124 Derby Street in 1935, and a shoemaker again in 1945. Emma was a homemaker. A family of Szczepuchas, likely relatives, lived at 105 Derby Street. In 1939, Bronislaw and his wife Stella, Edward, Helen, Ignatz, and Stanley lived at 105 Derby.<sup>56</sup> Bronislaw was the proprietor of a liquor store, Edward was a forester, Helen a lamp worker, and Ignacy a laborer and a tanner. Ignacy or Ignatz was the first Szczepucha to appear in the records in Salem as a tanner living with his wife Anastacia at 17 Bentley Street in 1926.<sup>57</sup>

1949, the Szczepuchas sold the property to John Goodwin.<sup>58</sup><sup>59</sup> In 1949, John W. Goodwin was a clerk, Emma D. Goodwin, was a housekeeper, and John Jr. was living at home at age 24. By 1953, John Jr. had become involved in real estate. In 1954, Marjorie Goodwin, a clerk aged 25, appears for the first time. In 1954, John sold the property for less than \$100 to Marjorie Lorraine Goodwin.<sup>60</sup> Emma and John Jr. continued to live at 15 Pleasant Street until 1985.

From the pasture of the Ship's Tavern to the shop of a carpenter, a lodging for railroad employees to a plant nursery, and a first American home for recent immigrants, the land and house at 15 Pleasant Street have had a long and fascinating existence which testifies to the changing nature of Salem over several centuries.

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<sup>54</sup> *Directory for Salem and Beverly containing an Alphabetical list of the Inhabitants and Business Firms of the District, Street and Householders' Directories and other Miscellaneous Matter for each City.* No. 27- 1926. Salem: The Henry M. Meek Publishing Company, 1926. p. 133.

<sup>55</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 2812, Page 291. 2 July 1929.

<sup>56</sup> 1939 Salem Poll Listing.

<sup>57</sup> 1926 Salem Directory.

<sup>58</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 3704, Page 490. 16 November 1949.

<sup>59</sup> The similarities between the Szczepucha and Goodwin families- both are named John W. and Emma, both are about the same age, and the lack of address change in the 1949 poll listing when the Goodwins appear make me suspect that the Szczepuchas and the Goodwins are the same family and that the Szczepuchas changed their name to assimilate better into American culture. However, John's signatures are considerably different in the deeds of 1949 and 1954 and the very presence of the 1949 deed raises questions that perhaps this is just empty speculation.

<sup>60</sup> Deed, Essex County Registry of Deeds. Book 0438, Page 296. 4 January, 1954.



Streeter

Nelson

W.H.  
Mrs. Wm.  
Q. Joh

Jno. H.  
Whit

Mrs. E.  
Plummer

Jas. W.  
Goldsmith

Abm.  
Edwards

Wm. H.  
Plummer

Sami. R.  
Honeycom

A. Welch

Heirs of W.B.&F.  
Johnson

Jos. Marden

Jos. Foster

H. O.  
Upton

G. Barton

Heirs. H.  
Endicott

Charles  
Endicott

Mrs. M.  
Iswell

Geo. D.  
Phippen

Jas. H.  
Phippen

Jas. H.  
Phippen

Samuel  
Hutchinson

A. Story

Jas. T.

STREET

PLEASANT

Hodgkins

Chas. W.  
Dodge

Lake  
Brooks

Mrs. U.  
Chapman

Robt.  
Reeves

Chas. W.  
Dodge

A. J.  
Tibbets

Geo. H.  
Pierson

Wm. F.  
Luscomb

George  
Warren

Jas.  
Fairfield

Abm.  
Howe

Chas.  
Gather

CONSTITUTION  
NO. 2.  
City

Chas.  
Perkins

Salem  
Street

Rail  
Way

Chas. H.  
Piffard

Dr.  
Henderson

Benj.  
Silsbee

Wm.  
Brown

Nath.  
Pulsifer

J. B.  
Loring

Chas.  
Osborn

Wm. B.  
Parker

Wm. B.  
Parker

Wm. B.  
Parker

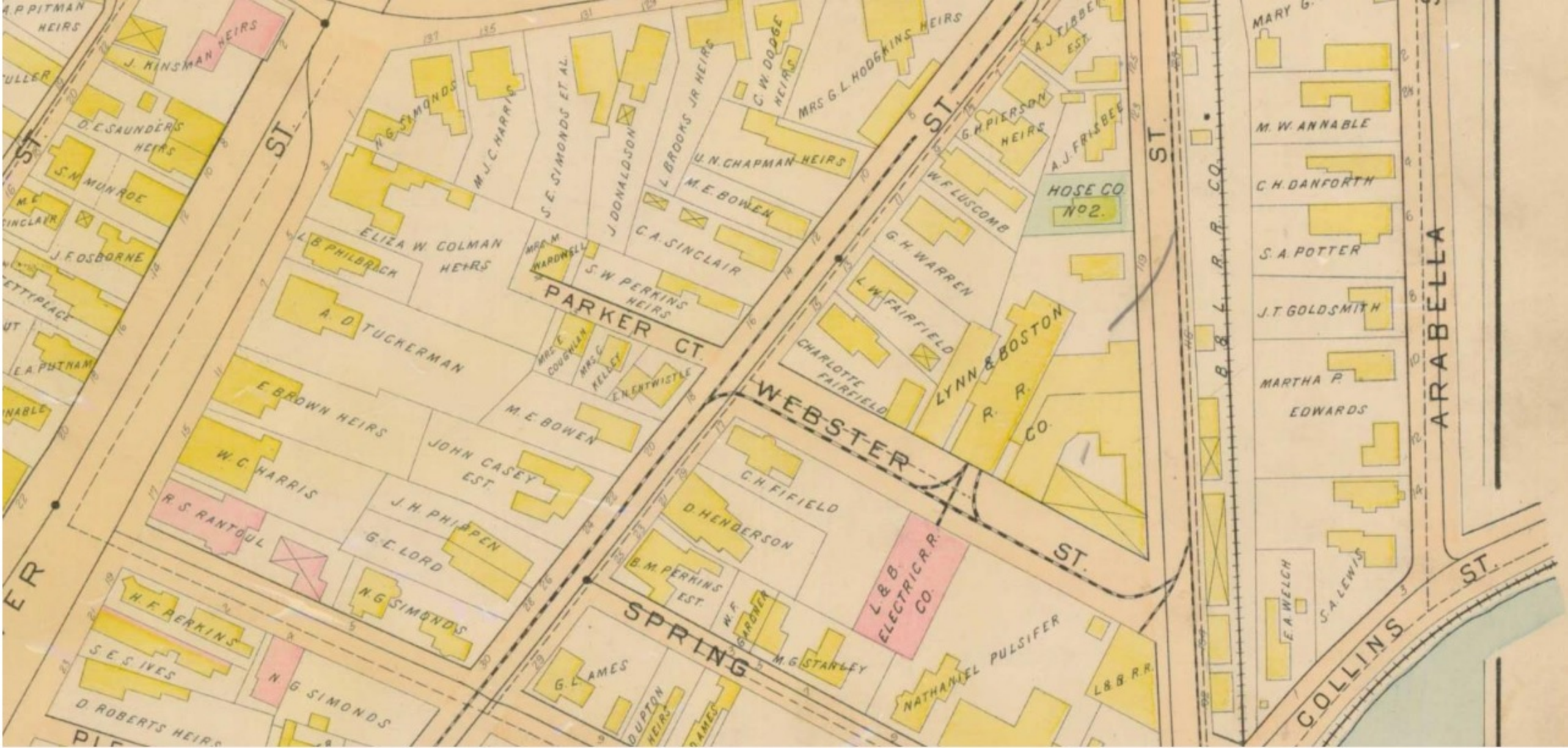
Wm. B.  
Parker

Wm. B.  
Parker

WEBB

MILK

S. D.  
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ST.

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PARKER CT.

WEBSTER ST.

SPRING ST.

L & B  
ELECTRIC R.R.  
CO.

ST.

LYNN & BOSTON  
R. R. CO.

COLLINS ST.

ARABELLA

B & L R. R. CO.

M. W. ANNABLE

C. H. DANFORTH

S. A. POTTER

J. T. GOLDSMITH

MARTHA P.  
EDWARDS

E. A. WELCH

S. A. LEWIS

HOSE CO  
NO. 2.

L & B R.R.

J. KINSMAN HEIRS

D. C. SAUNDERS HEIRS

S. M. MUNROE

J. F. OSBORNE

E. A. PUTNAM

W. G. HARRIS

R. S. RANTOUL

H. F. PERKINS

S. E. SIVES

D. ROBERTS HEIRS

N. G. SIMONDS

M. J. C. HARRIS

ELIZA W. COLMAN HEIRS

L. B. PHILBRICK

A. D. TUCKERMAN

E. BROWN HEIRS

W. G. HARRIS

R. S. RANTOUL

H. F. PERKINS

S. E. SIVES

MRS. M. WARDWELL

S. W. PERKINS HEIRS

MRS. E. COUGHLIN

MRS. G. KELLEY

E. ENTWISTLE

M. E. BOWEN

JOHN CASEY EST.

J. H. PHIPPEN

G. E. LORD

N. G. SIMONDS

G. L. JAMES

D. DUPTON HEIRS

G. L. JAMES

J. DONALDSON

L. BROOKS JR HEIRS

C. W. DODGE HEIRS

MRS. G. L. HODGKINS HEIRS

U. N. CHAPMAN HEIRS

M. E. BOWEN

G. A. SINCLAIR

CHARLOTTE FAIRFIELD

C. H. FIFFIELD

D. HENDERSON

B. M. PERKINS EST.

W. K. GARDNER

M. G. STANLEY

NATHANIEL PULSIFER

L & B R.R.

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U. N. CHAPMAN HEIRS

M. E. BOWEN

G. A. SINCLAIR

S. W. PERKINS HEIRS

L. W. FAIRFIELD

CHARLOTTE FAIRFIELD

C. H. FIFFIELD

D. HENDERSON

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L & B R.R.

G. H. PIERSON HEIRS

A. J. FRISBEE EST.

W. F. LUSCOMB

G. H. WARREN

L. W. FAIRFIELD

CHARLOTTE FAIRFIELD

C. H. FIFFIELD

D. HENDERSON

B. M. PERKINS EST.

W. K. GARDNER

M. G. STANLEY

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HOSE CO  
NO. 2.

L & B R.R.

118  
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BRANCH OF ERM. R.R.

Cyine Laundry  
130  
128  
126

Horse Shoer  
Store No

Paint Shop  
Club Ho.

WEBB

112

Electric Car  
Storage Ho

BOSTON & NORTHERN ST. R. R. CO.  
CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHERS  
FIRE PAILS

Salem Division.

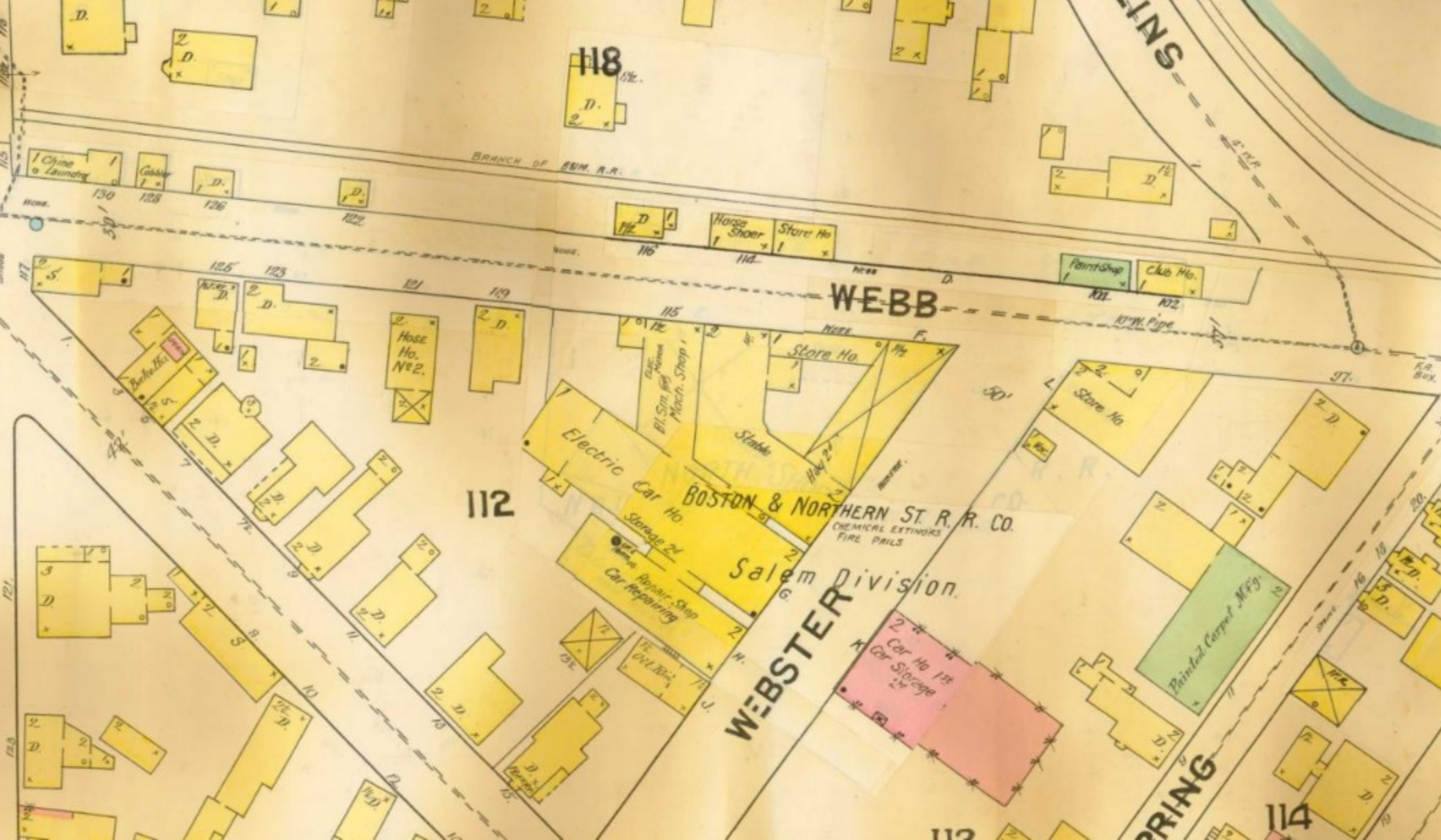
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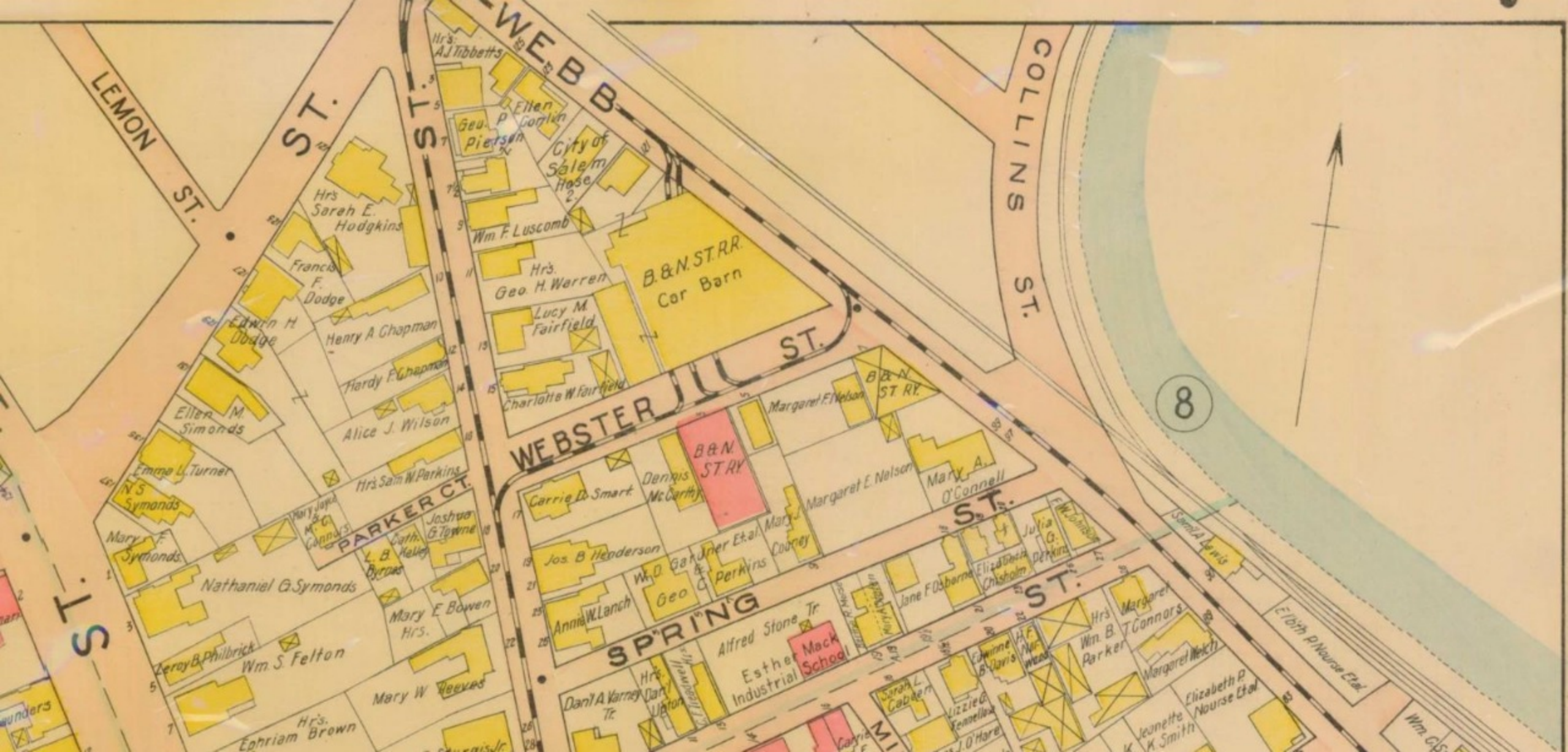
Car No 1st  
Car Storage

Painted Carpet Mfg

BRING

114





LEMON ST.

ST.

WEBB

COLLINS ST.

WEBSTER ST.

SPRING ST.

ST.

PARKER CT.

8

B. & N. ST. RR.  
Car Barn

B. & N. ST. RR.

Mack School

Mrs. A. J. Tibbets

Geo. P. Pierson

City of Salem  
Hose 2

Mrs. Sarah E. Hodgkins

Francis F. Dodge

Edwin H. Dodge

Henry A. Chapman

Mrs. Geo. H. Warren

Lucy M. Fairfield

Charlotte W. Fairfield

ST.

Ellen M. Simonds

Alice J. Wilson

Margaret E. Nelson

B. & N. ST. RR.

Emma L. Turner

N. S. Symonds

Mrs. Sam W. Perkins

Carrie D. Smart

Denise McCarthy

Margaret E. Nelson

Mary A. O'Connell

Mary F. Symonds

Nathaniel G. Symonds

Mary Jayne Gannon

Joshua G. Towne

Jos. B. Henderson

W. D. Gardner

Mary Cooney

ST.

ST.

Mary F. Symonds

L. B. Byrnes

Cath. L. Helley

Anna W. Lanch

Geo. C. Perkins

Mary Cooney

Jane F. Osborne

Elizabeth Chisholm

Zeray B. Philbrick

Wm. S. Felton

Mary E. Bowen

Dan A. Varney Tr.

Alfred Stone Tr.

Esther Industrial

Jane F. Osborne

Elizabeth Chisholm

ST.

Mary W. Reeves

Mrs.

Dan A. Varney Tr.

Alfred Stone Tr.

Esther Industrial

Jane F. Osborne

Elizabeth Chisholm

ST.

Mary W. Reeves

Mrs.

Dan A. Varney Tr.

Alfred Stone Tr.

Esther Industrial

Jane F. Osborne

Elizabeth Chisholm

Sam A. Lewis

Elizabeth P. Nourse Etal.

Wm. G. S.





WEBB

WEBSTER

PLEASANT

SPRING

MAN

RABBITT SQ

LEMON

MILK

SALEM TREE DEPT.

HARDING W HO

APTS

SHEET METAL WKS

STGE

APTS

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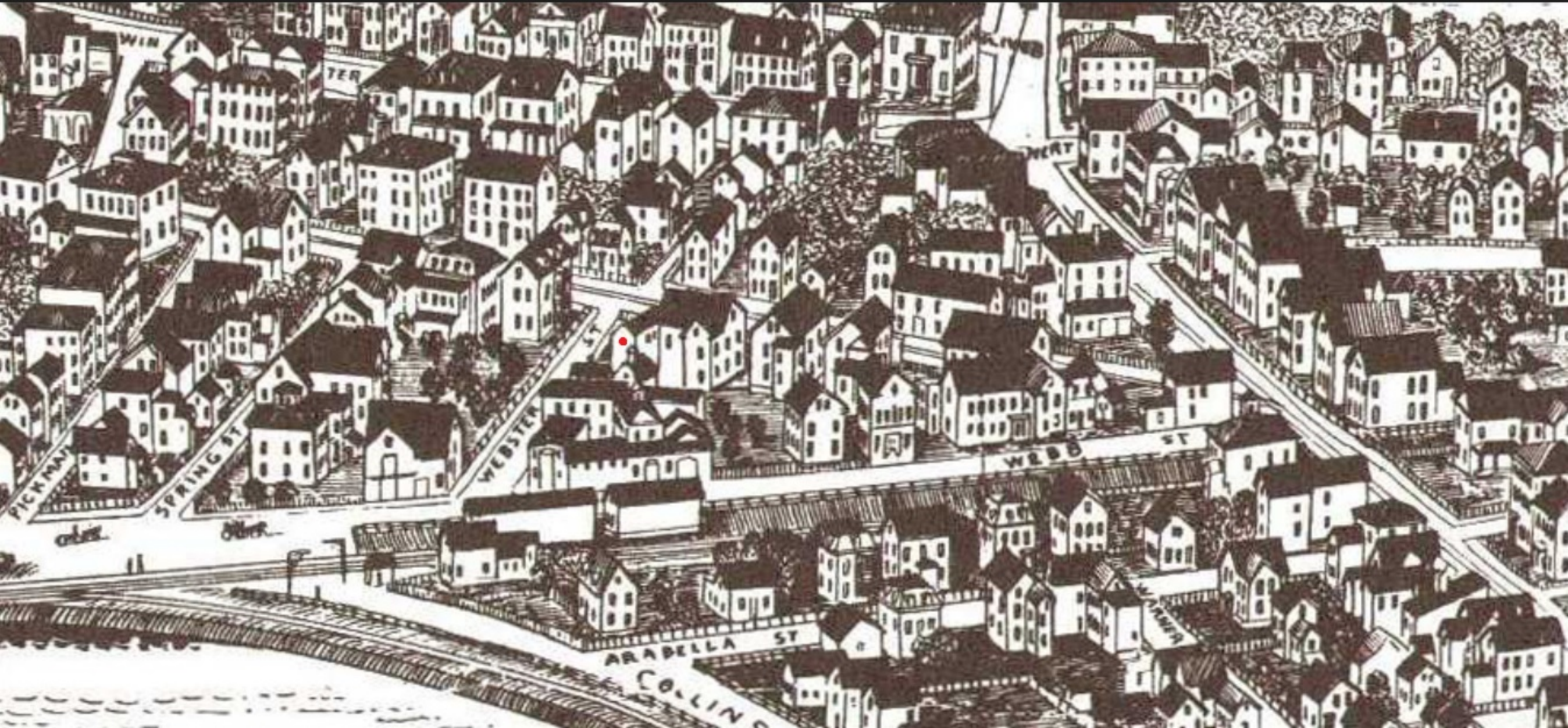
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WIN

TER

HENT

PICKWAY

SPRING ST

WEBSTER

WEBB ST

ARABELLA ST

COLLINS

---

**CHARLOTTE FAIRFIELD**

---

We sell and deliver  
**2000 lbs.**  
"THE STANDARD TON"

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**COAL**

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**SALEM,**

**MASS.**

# Charlotte

# Fairfield

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# COAL

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78 Washington Street

52 Central Street

**Salem, Massachusetts**

127 Cabot and 15 Water St., Beverly, Mass.





**JAMES FAIRFIELD,**

**7 Water Street,  
BEVERLY.**

**Anthracite and Bituminous Coal,**

Lime, Cement, Sand and  
Masons' Supplies.

**...Wood of All Kinds...**

Telephone Connection. **F. A. BROWN, Mgr.**



HARDWARE  
CHEAPEST  
AT  
26 FINCH ST. SALINA  
A. GOLDTHWAIT & CO.

WALL & ROOM PAPER  
ROOM PAPERS  
BORDERS & STAINERS  
No. 10 West Street, Salina

WALL PAPER

J. FAIRFIELD LUMBER

### Ownership History of 15 Pleasant Street, Salem MA 01970

<b>Date</b>	<b>Conveyed by</b>	<b>Conveyed to</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Years Owned</b>	<b>Doc</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>Page</b>
1995, Sep 14	Marjorie Kerwin (Estate of John Goodwin aka John Sepuha)	<b>Kristin W. Amos</b>	\$139,000.00	<b>22</b>	Deed		
1954, Jan 4	John Goodwin	<b>Marjorie Lorraine Goodwin</b>	Less than \$100.00	<b>41</b>	Deed	4038	296
1949, Nov 16	John W. Szczepucha and Emma Szczepucha	<b>John Goodwin</b>	Consideration paid	<b>5</b>	Deed	3704	490
1929, Jul 2	Lester S. Durkee and Marion F. Durkee (related to Fairfield?)	<b>John W. Szczepucha and Emma Szczepucha</b>	Marion held mortgage for \$2,600.00	<b>20</b>	Deed	2812	291
1890, Sep 9	Charles Odell	<b>Charlotte Fairfield</b>	\$3,425.00	<b>39</b>	Deed	1290	63
1888, Feb 17	William Mack	<b>Charles Odell</b>	\$1.00	<b>2</b>	Deed	1216	437
1878, Mar 4	Deed of Albert L. Towle, Executor (Estate of Abraham Towle) by Public Auction	<b>William Mack</b>	\$3,870.00	<b>1</b>	Deed	995	23
1860, May 17	Seabury F. Rogers, being part of an estate conveyed to me	<b>Abraham Towle</b>	\$987.00	<b>18</b>	Deed	606	163

**Ownership History of 15 Pleasant Street, Salem MA 01970**

<p>1858, Jul 26</p>	<p>William Pickman “We, George B. Loring of Salem, John W. Rogers of Boston, J. Ingersoll Bowditch and John H. Loring both of Boston, trustees of Mary F. Loring, under the will of William Pickman, late of Salem, and Mary F. Loring, wife of said George B. Loring, who joins in this deed to release all her interest in said premises a “parcel of land”...</p>	<p><b>Seabury F. Rogers</b></p>	<p>\$2,074.00</p>	<p align="center"><b>2</b></p>	<p>Deed</p>	<p>574</p>	<p>228</p>
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## Ownership History of 15 Pleasant Street, Salem MA 01970

1860, Oct 9 Abraham Towle (Master Carpenter) to Charles Henry Allen "36" Pleasant and Webster Streets

1865, Jan 11 Anna K. Kimball for Charles H. Allen (deceased) -- to John Carroll b 992/p101

Charles H. Allen, Jr. and Margaret E. Allen, wife of Charles H. Allen, (he being now absent at sea) all buildings on said "Web Street" see (previous deed) b.992/p.101

1870, Nov 17 to John Carroll deed b.964/p195 Salem Webb Street

1878, April 5 Abraham Towle's estate sold to William Mack b. 995/p23??? Pleasant and Webster

Courthouse downtown built by Towle: The courts Friday, Oct. 3, 1862. Enoch Fuller was the architect and Simeon Flint and Abraham Towle the contractors. Authority was obtained from the legislature to expend \$25,000 in its erection. The expenditure was within the appropriation, as noteworthy a fact as anything connected with its history. The outside of this building when built was covered with mastic but it proved most unsatisfactory and in the fall of 1891, after the building of the extension in the rear, the coat of mastic was removed and a new covering of brick was laid and a tower added in front, thus bringing the outside into harmony with the new annex.

**Visitor's Guide to Salem, The Essex Institute, 1897**

<https://archive.org/details/visitorsguideto00massgoog>

Towle born in Omaha Nebraska about 1808, married Mary...?