

**HISTORIC  
SALEM INC**

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**1 Daniels Street  
Salem, Massachusetts 01970**

Built for Stephen Daniels  
Shipwright  
c. 1667

Researched and written by David Moffat – October 2019

Historic Salem, Inc.  
9 North Street, Salem, MA 01970  
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## Table of Contents

I.	The Property Before 1667.....	3
II.	The House.....	6
III.	Stephen Daniels I, 1667-1687.....	10
IV.	Stephen Daniels II-Stephen Daniels V, 1693-1805.....	12
V.	Mary Daniels Silsbee, 1749-1803.....	17
VI.	Samuel Silsbee, Sr., 1756-1803.....	19
VII.	Silsbee's Heirs, 1803-1860.....	28
VIII.	The Hodges and the Russells, 1860-1886 .....	30
IX.	The Burgers and Sarah Dexter, 1886-1932.....	31
X.	Marietta B. Wilson and Vacancy, 1933-1945.....	37
XI.	The Hallers, 1945-1962.....	40
XII.	Catherine "Kay" Gill, 1962-2018.....	44
XIII.	Castle of the Realm, L.L.C., 2019.....	46
XIV.	Conclusion.....	46

## I. The Property Before 1667

The house at 1 Daniels Street almost certainly dates from the seventeenth century, so the period of recorded history that predates its construction is not long. Daniels Street existed by 1661, when it was called a lane or highway, and in 1669 it was called the highway by the waterside.<sup>1</sup> The harbor was slightly closer, the waterline where the entrance to Daniel Street Court is today.<sup>2</sup>

Joseph Grafton, Sr. was one of the earliest settlers in Salem, recorded as a freeman on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1637, there only being 64 freemen of the town recorded before that date.<sup>3</sup> Grafton possessed the site of 1 Daniel Street as early as 1661. The land directly to the south of it was owned by Matthew Dove in the same year.<sup>4</sup> Grafton, Sr. a mariner, died in 1681. Joseph Grafton, Jr., also a mariner, was baptized in 1636/7 and died in Barbados in 1670.<sup>5</sup> According to Perley, Stephen Daniels possessed the lot where his house stands today by at least 1682, but likely earlier.<sup>6</sup>

Of the ten houses in Salem proven to (or credibly believed to) date to the seventeenth century, three were in the neighborhood of the Daniels House: The House of the Seven Gables, built 1668, the Retire Beckett House, built circa 1655, and the William Murray House, built circa 1688. Of the remaining six houses, four were in the town center, and two in the west end.

The majority of houses on Daniels Street date to the nineteenth century. Today there are 15 houses on Daniels Street between Essex and Derby Street, seven on the eastern side of the street

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<sup>1</sup> Perley, Sidney. "Salem in 1700. No. 24." *Essex Antiquarian*, Vol. 10, No. 3 (July 1906). pp. 114-130. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1906. p. 114.

<sup>2</sup> Smith, Philip Chadwick Foster Smith. *Salem Harbor: A Window on the World, 1626-1990*. Salem: The Salem Partnership, 1990. Print.

<sup>3</sup> Perley, Sidney. *The History of Salem, Massachusetts, Vol. I: 1626-1637*. Salem, Sidney Perley, 1924. Print, p. 197.

<sup>4</sup> Perley (1924), pp. 313i-14.

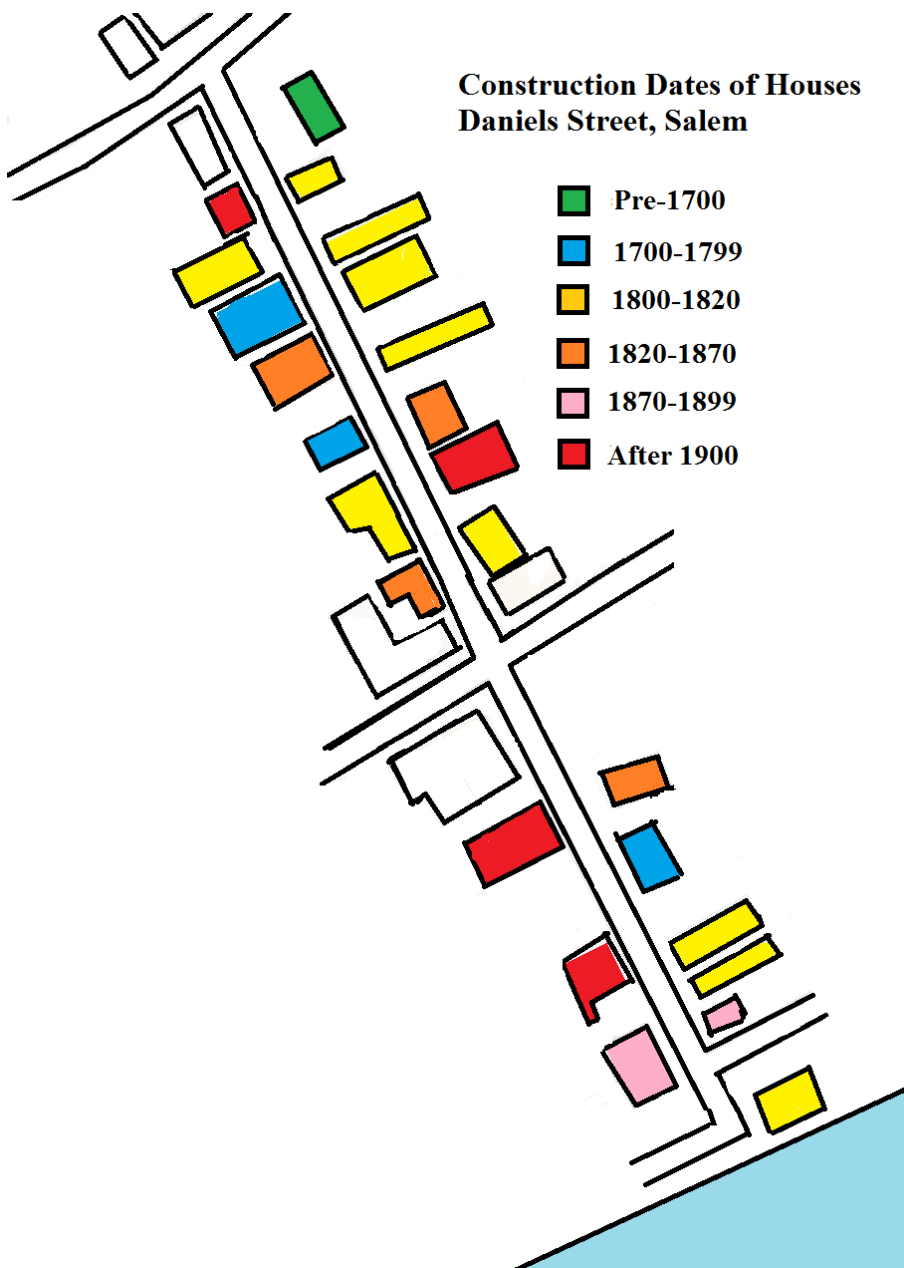
<sup>5</sup> Perley (1924), pp.

<sup>6</sup> Perley (1906), p. 114.

and eight on the western side. 12 Daniels Street is likely a First Period structure as well, dating between 1715 and 1745 and built by either Thomas Beedle, Sr. or Thomas Beedle, Jr.<sup>7</sup>

Figure 1 illustrates the estimated ages of the houses of Daniels Street, with the dates enumerated and first owners listed, if known, in Table 1.

**Figure 1: Relative Ages of the Houses of Daniels Street**



<sup>7</sup> Whitworth, Kimberly. "12 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 2016.

**Table 1: The Construction Dates of Houses on Daniels Street**

<b>House #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Builder or First Owner</b>
2	1906	Elizabeth Stevenson, for her son-in-law, Charles F. Brown <sup>8</sup>
4	1803	Abigail Berry, singlewoman <sup>9</sup>
5	c. 1805	Capt. Edward Stanley, shipmaster, and wife Esther Waters Stanley <sup>10</sup>
6-8	c. 1784	<sup>11</sup>
7	c. 1809	Walter Palfray <sup>12</sup>
9	c. 1810	<sup>13</sup>
10	c. 1851	Alfred R. Brooks <sup>14</sup>
11	Before 1806	The Grafton family <sup>15</sup>
12	c. 1715-1745	Thomas Beedle, Sr. or Thomas Beedle, Jr.
13	c. 1860	John N. Frye, baker <sup>16</sup>
14	c. 1800	<sup>17</sup>
15	1906	Margaret White <sup>18</sup>
16	c. 1857	John Collins <sup>19</sup>
17	c. 1810	<sup>20</sup>
25	c. 1850	James Riley <sup>21</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Booth, Robert. "2 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 2000.

<sup>9</sup> King, Joyce. "4 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 1986.

<sup>10</sup> Booth, Robert. "5 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 2008.

<sup>11</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2584, "6-8 Daniels Street."

<sup>12</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2618, "7 Daniels Street- Palfray, Walter-Dean, Thomas House"

<sup>13</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2619, "9 Daniels Street-Salem Polish American Citizens Club"

<sup>14</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2583, "10 Daniels Street-Brooks, Alfred R. -Brown, Joseph B. House."

<sup>15</sup> Dunlap, Diana. "11 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 2018.

<sup>16</sup> Wilczynski, Anya. "13 Daniels Street" Historic Salem, Inc. 2017.

<sup>17</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2581, "14 Daniels Street."

<sup>18</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2622, "15 Daniels Street-White, Margaret House"

<sup>19</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2580, "16 Daniels Street-Collins, John House"

<sup>20</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2623, "17 Daniels Street."

<sup>21</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.3448, "25 Daniels Street-Riley, James House"

26	1909	Louis Collier, junk dealer, and his wife, Mamie <sup>22</sup>
27-29	1783	Nathaniel Silsbee <sup>23</sup>
34	1911	B. Grodski <sup>24</sup>
35	1807	Sarah Silsbee, widow of Capt. Nathaniel Silsbee <sup>25</sup>
37	c. 1800	<sup>26</sup>
39	1874	Patrick Coughlin <sup>27</sup>
40	c. 1885	<sup>28</sup>
45	c. 1800	<sup>29</sup>

## II. The Daniels House

To begin, a quick note on the spelling of the last name Daniels. The earliest Daniels often spelled their name “Daniell” and numerous later records offer either “Daniel” or “Daniels.” As there was no standardized spelling in America prior to the nineteenth century, I have used as an overall name “Daniels,” due to its usage in the twentieth century and association with the house. In many places where the registered name does not align with this spelling, I have included a parenthetical with the name as spelled in the source.

In 1986, Debra Hilbert of the Salem Planning Department recorded the house as dating to 1667, and noted that it was “important as one of about 20 houses in Salem identified as having First Period origins,” and that “[i]n 1756, the house was expanded to give it its current Georgian

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<sup>22</sup> Nydstedt, Mark. “26 Daniels Street” Historic Salem, Inc. 1993.

<sup>23</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.3449, “27-29 Daniels Street-Silsbee, Captain Nathaniel House.”

<sup>24</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2625, “34 Daniels Street-Grodski, B. Three Decker”

<sup>25</sup> Booth, Robert. “35 Daniels Street” Historic Salem, Inc. 1977.

<sup>26</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.3451, “37 Daniels Street.”

<sup>27</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.3452, “39 Daniels Street.”

<sup>28</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2624, “40 Daniels Street.”

<sup>29</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.3459, “45 Daniels Street.”

configuration.”<sup>30</sup> First Period houses, so named because they comprise the first period of American architecture, date from 1637 to around 1725, when the majority of houses were built with Georgian elements.

Sidney Perley’s description of the house’s history in 1928 is as follows: “The ancient Daniels house on the easterly corner of Essex and Daniels streets was built by Stephen Daniel, a shipwright, about 1693; and he conveyed it to his daughter widow Mary Silsbee March 16 1748. She lived there for the remainder of her life and the estate then descended to her only surviving child, Samuel Silsbee, a carpenter. He apparently built on the northern part of the house, as it now exists, at the time of his marriage in 1756...”<sup>31</sup>

Several dates are suggested in later historical sources- either 1667 or 1690 in 1906 according to Sidney Perley, 1693 according to Perley in 1928, 1693 around 1934, 1682 in 1938, 1667 in 1950 (both in works by Samuel Chamberlain), 1667 in 1986 and in 2004, both according to Bryant K. Tolles. Barring dendrochronology, which could scientifically date the house to within two years of construction based on the pattern of tree rings, it is impossible to say for sure when the house was built, except that its architectural features are in line with a house built in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, and that it was likely constructed by the Daniels family sometime between 1667 and 1693.

Dendrochronological studies of other houses in New England have shown that with the exception of the earliest house (The Fairbanks House, Dedham, 1637-1641), no house has been confirmed to predate 1661. The Thomas Riggs House was constructed in Gloucester in 1661 and numerous houses date to the 1660s and the final three decades of the seventeenth century. The

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<sup>30</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.2616, “1 Daniels St.- The Stephen Daniels House.”

<sup>31</sup> Perley (1928), p. 326.

good news is that a date of 1667 is firmly within the realm of plausibility based on the study of other houses.

The proportions of the original first floor, 36'8.5" deep and 17'5" wide, conform with larger houses constructed in the period. Abbott Lowell Cummings examined textual evidence for the "overall dimensions of dwelling houses" in building contracts, timber allowances, deeds, and similar documents, recording his findings in an appendix of *The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, 1625-1725*. Cummings found houses of similar dimensions in Ipswich in 1637 (30-35'x16-18'), Beverly in 1657 (38' x 17'), Marlborough in 1661 (37'x 18'), Acton in 1668 (40' x 18'), Dedham in 1669 (40-50'x 18-20'), Dorchester in 1669 (38' x 20'), Salem in 1678 (35' x 20'), Cambridge in 1684 (35' x 18'), and Groton in 1706 (38' x 18').

The hall (Room 101) measures 17'9" by 17'7.5", similar to numerous houses with proportions of 18' by 18' recorded by Cummings. Houses with nearly identical dimensions to the hall of the Daniels House were built in Ipswich in 1671 and 1673, and as an addition to a preexisting house in Ipswich in 1659. Houses with similar proportions (within two feet) are recorded in Cambridge in 1665, Dorchester in 1667, Ipswich in 1670 and 1671, Cambridge in 1678, Dorchester in 1679, Cambridge in 1684, and three times in Charlestown in 1705.

The kitchen (Room 102), which measures 9'9" by 17'7.5", is smaller than any recorded in Cummings' research. The Alexander Knight House, built in 2015 in Ipswich from plans from 1657, measures 16 feet long by 12 feet wide.<sup>32</sup> It is unlikely that many houses were much smaller than this. The kitchen likely never stood as an independent house and was either built contemporaneously with the hall or was added later.

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<sup>32</sup> Fiske, John. "Construction of the 1657 Alexander Knight House" Historic Ipswich. <https://historicipswich.org/construction-of-the-1657-alexander-knight-house/> Electronic. Accessed 4 Jun 2019.



The dimensions of the original construction were similar to those of the Turner Mansion (The House of the Seven Gables) in 1668. The home that merchant John Turner built consisted of a hall and kitchen on the first floor with overall dimensions of 37'10.5" by 18'10.75".<sup>33</sup> The length of the hall was 18'11.5", making it similar in size to the Daniels House, though slightly larger, with 45 extra square feet. The kitchen, which was 10'11" long, is comparable. The Turner Mansion's kitchen is 34 square feet larger.

The Narbonne House, a more modest structure built in 1675 by the butcher Thomas Ives, consisted of a single room on the first floor, measuring 18'10.5" by 17'9.5", with the entrance hall and chimney being approximately 8' wide.<sup>34</sup> On the other end of the spectrum, the Corwin House (commonly called the Witch House), has dimensions (after extensive renovation) of 48'4" by 19'10". The hall, perhaps the most original part of that house, still measures an enormous 22'2" by 19'10".

Like many First Period structures in New England, the house faced south. The original entry was probably located in the southern wall (today room 102B).

The front hallway on the western façade is a charming early entranceway, likely dating to the eighteenth-century expansion of the house in 1756. Arthur Haskell's 1934 photographs for the Historic American Buildings Survey, show the condition of the staircase in that year. The current banister, stairs, and trim around the stairs can be seen, as well as the original paneling and door in the wall below the stairs. The banister is painted a darker color, while the paneling is painted with a cracking white paint.

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<sup>33</sup> Finch, Bill and Anne Grady. *Historic Structure Report*, 2008. Vol. 3.

<sup>34</sup> Historic American Buildings Survey, Creator. *Narbonne House, 71 Essex Street, Salem, Essex County, MA*. Documentation Compiled After. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, [www.loc.gov/item/ma0165/](http://www.loc.gov/item/ma0165/)

The kitchen is perhaps the most impressive for its antiquity and unique architectural features. The curved cove molding above the fireplace is a rare survival of seventeenth-century design, as is the grand fireplace in that room.

Original timbers still survive in the parts of the house dating to the seventeenth century, making the house an important document of Salem construction techniques and styles in that era.

### III. Stephen Daniels, c. 1667-1687

Stephen Daniels I was born in 1632 or 1633 and came to Salem in 1666.<sup>35</sup> Perley identifies him as a master mariner “at the head of a family of shipmasters,” but he is called in later sources a shipwright. He married Mary Prince on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1666 in Salem.<sup>36</sup> The couple had at least four children: Stephen Daniels II, born October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1667, John, born April 12, 1669, who died young, Mary, born July 18, 1670, and Sarah, born March 12, 1675/6. Mary died in October 1679, and Stephen married next Susanna (Baxter) Hide, the widow of Isaac Hide, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1680.<sup>37</sup> Stephen I and Susanna had a daughter, Susanna, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1686.<sup>38</sup>

The following document from 1666 is found among the deeds of Essex County:  
This bill findeth me Nicholas Daniell of Port Royall in Jamaica, mee, my heires or cause to be paid unto Capt. George Corwin & company of Salem in New England there heires or assigns the full & just sune of six pounds fifteen shillings sterling money of England to be pd at or before the tenth day of May next ensuing. witnessing hand this 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1666.

A note appended to it reads:

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<sup>35</sup> Perley, Sidney. *A History of Salem Massachusetts*, Vol. 3, 1671-1716. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1928. Electronic. pp. 33-34.

<sup>36</sup> *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849*. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1916. Marriages, p. 276.

<sup>37</sup> *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849*. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1916. Deaths, p. 194.

<sup>38</sup> *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849*. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1916. Births, p. 232.

Theodore Price marchant came before me 16: March 66/7. & made his Corporall oath that he was pr'sent and saw Mary Daniell. signe and deliver this bill, as her act & deed as attests Wm. Hathorne Assistant in the Massachusetts.<sup>39</sup>

In June of 1680, Stephen I was one of many members of the Salem community who signed a petition to the General Court of Massachusetts requesting permission to build a second meeting house. The effort was led by the Hathornes and the Corwins, with support from prominent figures such as John Turner, Nathaniel Felton, Sr., Nathaniel Silsbee, Philip English, and William Hirst.

A counter petition led by the Gedneys and signed by people including John Pickering, Eleazer Gedney, Timothy Lindall, and Nathaniel Putnam, put an end to discussion of a new meeting house.<sup>40</sup>

Stephen Daniels I died aged 54, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1686/7.<sup>41</sup> On September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1686, Edmund Andros, soon-to-be Governor of New England, received a seal for official use featuring a bishop's mitre. According to Perley, only two impressions of Andros' seal survive and the only perfect impression is on the letter appointing the administrator of Daniels' estate.<sup>42</sup> An administration of his estate (as "Stephen Daniell") signed by his widow and son is recorded March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1690, among the records of the Essex County Probate Court, but the actual documents are now missing.<sup>43</sup>

When Stephen died, Susanna may have married Samuel Gardner in 1690.<sup>44</sup> Perley suggested that Capt. Samuel Gardner, a baker, first married Elizabeth (Browne) Grafton, the widow of Joseph Grafton, in 1673, then Susanna Daniel in or before 1690. Gardner had six

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<sup>39</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Bill 3:5. 16 Mar 1666.

<sup>40</sup> Perley (1928), pp. 154-156.

<sup>41</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>42</sup> Perley (1928), pp. 215-216.

<sup>43</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #7157, 1690.

<sup>44</sup> Torrey, Clarence Almon. *New England Marriages, Prior to 1700*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1985. Print, p. 203.

children with his first wife, but none with Susanna.<sup>45</sup> Gardner, born in 1648, was the son of Lt. George Gardner and a grandson of Thomas Gardner, one of the most prominent of the Old Planters of Salem in the 1620s.<sup>46</sup>

Mary Daniels was living in 1690 and Susannah Daniels is recorded living and unmarried in 1719.<sup>47</sup>

#### IV. Stephen Daniels II through Stephen Daniels V, 1693-1805

Stephen Daniels II is called a shipwright by Perley in 1928.<sup>48</sup> In 1682, he (listed by Sidney Perley as “Stephen Daniell”) commanded a fishing trip on the 30-ton ketch *Endeavor*, owned by William Hirst. The voyage left Winter Island, which was an area for fish processing and drying. The contents of their provisions for the journey are recorded by Perley: “They took two barrels of bait mackerel, two barrels of pork, five bushels of peas, eighty-eight pounds of butter, one gallon of vinegar, one pound of pepper, a cord of wood, etc.”<sup>49</sup> In 1693, Stephen Daniels II, shipwright, pays £10 for land from Joseph Grafton. The property is described as “a certain parcel of land containing Twenty five Pole or thereabouts be it more or Less as it is now bounded as followeth w<sup>th</sup> the highway north & west w<sup>th</sup> the land of the Widdowe Marsh relique of John Marsh, dec<sup>d</sup>. to the south & the land of Thomas Browne to the east and is near adioyning to the house of the said Joseph Grafton Scituate Lying & being in the town of Salem.”<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Perley (1924), p. 69.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> Perley (1928), p. 33.

<sup>48</sup> Perley (1928), p. 33.

<sup>49</sup> Perley, Sidney. A History of Salem, Massachusetts. Vol. 2: 1638-1670. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1926. Electronic. p. 363.

<sup>50</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, 9:127. 5 Sep. 1693.

In *Salem in the Seventeenth Century*, James Duncan Phillips recounts a lawsuit between Stephen Daniels, master of the ketch *Endeavor*, and John Ingersoll, shoreman.<sup>51</sup>

In November 1718, Susanna, the daughter of Stephen Daniels I, being unmarried, sold a 2 ½ acre piece of land in the South Fields to the shipwright Samuel Swasey for £30.<sup>525354</sup>

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1692/3, Stephen Daniels II married Mary Marston, daughter of Deacon John Marston, a house carpenter.<sup>55</sup> Mary Daniels was born January 14th, 1669/70.<sup>56</sup> Mary's grandfather was John Marston, a carpenter from Ormsby, Norfolkshire who died in 1681.<sup>57</sup> Their children were Stephen Daniels III, born Dec. 9, 1693, Mary, born March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1696, Susanna, born May 9, 1698 and died July 31<sup>st</sup>, a second Susanna, born July 21, 1699, and Sarah, born October 26<sup>th</sup>, 1702.<sup>58</sup>

Stephen Daniels III married Margaret ----- and had six children: Stephen Daniels IV, born 1717, William, born 1719, Margaret, born April 24, 1722, John, born May 27, 1725, Mary, born in January or February 1728/9, and Sargent, born January 5, 1734.<sup>59</sup>

On May 4th, 1725, Stephen Daniels III ("Stephen Daniel, Jr.") purchased a house with half acre lot of land from Deacon John Marston for £150. The lot was bordered on the south "with a cove in the mill pond," on the west with the land of James Ruck, on the north on "the highway," and on the east on land formerly of Matthew Woodwell. The property contained a "dwelling House Barne out Houses fruite Trees & fences."<sup>60</sup> Daniels is identified as a shipwright in the deed. The house located in Knocker's Hole, which had the greatest concentration of

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<sup>51</sup> Phillips, James Duncan. *Salem in the Seventeenth Century*. Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1933. Print, p. 283.

<sup>52</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 35:46. 1 Nov 1718.

<sup>53</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 35:51. 5 Nov 1718.

<sup>54</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 35:52. 6 Nov 1718.

<sup>55</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 276.

<sup>56</sup> Perley (1926), p. 78.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> Vital Records (Births), p. 232.

<sup>59</sup> Vital Records (Births), p. 232.

<sup>60</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 51:173. 24 May 1725.

shipbuilding in Salem in the seventeenth century. The Marston house had been begun by Obadiah Antrim, a mariner, around 1664. Antrim died at sea the same year. John Marston purchased the unfinished house in 1667 and completed it.<sup>61</sup> In 1728, Richard Palmer sold Daniels a small adjoining strip of land for 5 shillings.<sup>62</sup>

Daniels III continued to acquire property. In 1726, he purchased the common rights of Benjamin Bush from his widow, Mary Bush, for £20.<sup>63</sup> In 1733, he purchased for £60 a parcel of land with a shop or outhouse on the south river adjoining the highway to Marblehead.<sup>64</sup> The same year, Daniels III sold a parcel of land in the South Fields to Samuel Gardner for 30 shillings.<sup>65</sup> In 1736, he purchased a common right from Elizabeth Jerman, “spinster,” for £15.<sup>66</sup>

In 1736, Stephen Daniels III was a member of the Episcopal Society of Salem.<sup>67</sup>

Daniels III was buried in March of 1741, aged 48.<sup>68</sup> April 13<sup>th</sup> of that year, the magistrate Thomas Berry granted “Margarett Daniels” administration of his estate.<sup>69</sup> Deacon Timothy Pickering, Samuel Field, and Daniel King served as the appraisers for the probate inventory in August of that year<sup>70</sup>.

The probate inventory shows that Daniels III was wealthy with a total estate of £1,299:17:11. It included some fine furniture including a maple desk worth £5, two looking glasses worth £17:15:0, six pictures, a scale and weights, a firearm and bayonet, two old swords and a dagger, a large bible valued at 45s and 25 other books valued at 65s, kitchen implements,

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<sup>61</sup> Perley, Sidney. “Salem in 1700, No. 4.” *The Essex Antiquarian*, Vol. IV. No. 7. July 1900. pp. 97-102. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1900. Print. p. 100.

<sup>62</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 51:173. 4 Jan 1728.

<sup>63</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 51:209. 3 Apr 1726.

<sup>64</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 62:110. 17 Dec 1733.

<sup>65</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 65:185. 15 Jan 1733

<sup>66</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 70:175. 30 Apr 1736.

<sup>67</sup> Felt, Joseph Barlow. *Annals of Salem, from its First Settlement*. Salem, W & S.B. Ives, 1827. Electronic. p. 560.

<sup>68</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>69</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #7158, 1741.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.

carpentry tools, two wigs, a two silver tankards, a young cow, and a good deal of glassware, timber, and textiles.<sup>71</sup> His personal property added up to £395:12:11.

Much of Daniels III's estate seems to have been inherited from earlier generations. Of items whose antiquity is mentioned, there are the "two old swords," an "Old Fashion desk," an old brass kettle, an old skillet "& scimmer," an old frying pan, an "old jack," "six old chairs," "an old Portmantle," and two old rugs.<sup>72</sup> Stephen Daniels III's real estate was listed in Table 2.

**Table 2: The Real Estate of Stephen Daniels III**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Value</b>
A Dwelling House Barn &c with about half an acre of Land	475:10:0
A Wharf & Building Yard with a small Warehouse thereon	67:00:0
About 10 Poles of Land Called the Hill Land with a Small Shop thereon	37:00:0
Three Common Rights at £22 p.	66:00:0
A Bond of £113:15. being what the Administr <sup>x</sup> received for y <sup>e</sup> Eighth	133:15:0
Part of y <sup>e</sup> Schooner Endeavour which she sold	
The Half of a Small Scooner Called y <sup>e</sup> Sea Flower	110:00:0
One Third Part of a Pew in the Meeting House which y <sup>e</sup> Rev <sup>d</sup> Mr. Fisk	12:00:0
Now Preaches in in Salem	
A Pew in y <sup>e</sup> Church of England in Salem	23:00:0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£904:05:0</b>

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<sup>71</sup> Ibid.

<sup>72</sup> Ibid.

In April of 1742, Stephen Daniels IV and James Ruck set the respective bounds of their properties near the highway to Marblehead under the observation of Edward Britton and Alexander Tarrants.<sup>73</sup> Ruck was married to Martha Gedney and living in the Gedney House, a First Period house from 1665 owned today by Historic New England.<sup>74</sup>

The former Marston house was inherited by William, who owned the lot in 1774, The house on Daniels Street was apparently split equally between five of Daniels III's children as evidenced by the deed of 1765.

William Daniels became a shipwright, mariner, and yeoman, and lived until 1785.<sup>75</sup> He inherited the former Marston house and owned the lot in 1774, but by then the old house was gone.<sup>76</sup> Margaret married Thomas Brewer in 1740. Sergeant married Sarah Fowler, October 19, 1760 and died before 1765.<sup>77</sup>

Stephen Daniels IV (called Stephen Daniels III in Vital Records) worked as a shipwright as well. He married Elizabeth Beadle, March 18, 1739/40.<sup>78</sup> He worked as a ship carpenter. Stephen IV next married Sarah Pain, July 21st or 31st, 1762.<sup>79</sup> She was the daughter of John Pain and Abigail Harney, born in 1716.<sup>80</sup> They had six children: Elizabeth, Sarah, Ruth, John, Stephen Daniels V, and Benjamin.<sup>81</sup> In 1743, Daniels IV sold a parcel of about an acre in the South Fields to Jonathan Very, a cordwainer, for £11:5s.<sup>82</sup> In 1744, he sold another acre of land in the South Fields to his brother, William (identified here as a mariner), for £11:2s.<sup>83</sup> In 1765, Sarah Daniels,

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<sup>73</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deposition 83:137. 3 Apr 1742.

<sup>74</sup> "Architectural Changes," The Gedney House," Historic New England. Accessed 21 Jun 2019.

<https://www.historicnewengland.org/property/gedney-house/>

<sup>75</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>76</sup> Perley (1900), p. 100.

<sup>77</sup> Perley (1928), p. 33.

<sup>78</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 278.

<sup>79</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 278.

<sup>80</sup> Vital Records (Births), p. 135.

<sup>81</sup> Perley (1928), p. 33.

<sup>82</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 82:269. 20 Apr 1743.



the widow of Sargeant, sold his one-fifth share of Stephen Daniels III's dwelling house for £30 to Stephen IV and William.<sup>84</sup> In 1789, Richard Shatswell, a baker, was legally indebted to Stephen Daniels, either IV or V, for £48:0:8p.<sup>85</sup> Stephen IV died at age 88 in early 1805.<sup>86</sup> His widow, Sarah, died aged 92 in October of the same year.<sup>87</sup> Stephen Daniels V served as the executor of his father's estate, with Judge Samuel Holten presiding.<sup>88</sup> Daniels V sold the house on High Street where the Marston house had been to William Fabens, a mariner, for \$642.<sup>8990</sup> The house 17 High Street is a Federal-style house which may have been built by Daniels IV or Fabens.<sup>91</sup>

Relatedly, the house currently standing at 22-24 High Street (opposite the parcel purchased from the Daniels) is thought to have been constructed by Fabens in the Federal period.<sup>92</sup>

The real estate of Stephen Daniels IV added up to \$2,000, his personal estate to only \$83.75, with an additional \$162.40 in house rent. His estate was executed by Capt. Addison Richardson, Isaac Needham, and John Watson.

John Daniels was a shipwright who married Elizabeth Cook in 1780 and died before 1782.<sup>93</sup> Elizabeth married a Pitman, Sarah married Zachariah Burchmore in 1770, and Ruth married Daniel Bacon in 1775.<sup>94</sup> Benjamin Daniels married Mary Stevens in 1781 and died in

<sup>83</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 84:207. 10 Jan 1744.

<sup>84</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 124:173. 29 Oct 1765.

<sup>85</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deposition 149:169. 8 Sep 1789.

<sup>86</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid.

<sup>88</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #7159, 1806.

<sup>89</sup> Ibid.

<sup>90</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 193:160. 7 Aug 1806.

<sup>91</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.1154, "17 High Street"

<sup>92</sup> MHC MACRIS, SAL.1145, "22-24 High St.-Fabens, William House."

<sup>93</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 277.

<sup>94</sup> Perley (1928), p. 34.

1794. They had at least three children: John, born around 1786, Eunice, born around 1788, and William, born around 1790. William moved to Middleton and married Martha Curtis in 1816.

Stephen Daniels V was born in 1757, worked as a shipwright, and married Lydia Palmer, Dec. 12, 1779. She was born in 1759, the eighth child of Richard Palmer III (1712-1796), a shoreman and yeoman.<sup>95</sup> Their son John, was baptized February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1786. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1798, four of their children were baptized on the same day: Sarah, aged 14, Mary, aged 10, Betsy, aged 4, and Stephen Daniels VI, aged 2.<sup>96</sup> Lydia died of paralysis in June 1825, aged 65,<sup>97</sup> and Stephen Daniels V died 1832, aged 74.<sup>98</sup> Stephen Daniels VI married Abigail Floyd, June 19, 1823.<sup>99</sup> He lived until August 1872.

#### **V. Mary Daniels Silsbee, 1749-1803**

Mary Daniels (the daughter of Stephen Daniels II and Mary Marston) married Nathaniel Silsbee III in 1730, their intention being published October 24<sup>th</sup>.<sup>100</sup> Nathaniel's father, Nathaniel Silsbee II (1677-1769), was the son of Nathaniel Silsbee I (1651-1717/18). Henry Silsbee (Silsby), the first Silsbee in Salem, died in 1700, and was Nathaniel Silsbee III's great grandfather.

Mary and Nathaniel had two children, Samuel, born November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1731, and Nathaniel, born December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1733. Nathaniel died falling off a staging August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1734.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>95</sup> Perley (1928), p. 61.

<sup>96</sup> Vital Records (Births), pp. 232-233.

<sup>97</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>98</sup> Vital Records (Deaths), p. 194.

<sup>99</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 279.

<sup>100</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 279.

<sup>101</sup> Perley (1926), p. 383.

In 1736, Mary Silsbee purchased a parcel of land for £30 from Joseph Bradford, a shopkeeper. The location of the parcel has yet to be determined, as the references to geographical location are vague. The purchase is described as a:

Certain piece or parcell of Land situate in said Salem with all y<sup>e</sup> Back leanto of y<sup>e</sup> Dwelling House Bounded on y<sup>e</sup> East on a Lane beginning with y<sup>e</sup> Bounds of y<sup>e</sup> Land in y<sup>e</sup> Possession of y<sup>e</sup> said Mary & there measures twenty seven feet & thence more Westerly through between y<sup>e</sup> House & leanto & there measures forty Eight feet & one half thence Northerly with Joseph Searles Line & measures twenty seven feet thence Easterly by said Widow Silsbeys Land & there measures forty eight feet & a half to y<sup>e</sup> Lane & Bound first mentioned which piece of Land Contains about five poles with y<sup>e</sup> appurtenance & priviledges thereto belonging...<sup>102</sup>  
In March 1748/9, Mary Silsbee paid £400 to Stephen Daniels for the house at 1 Daniels

Street, described as:

One Certain Messuage or Tenement consisting of a Dwelling House Barn & about a Quarter of an acre of Land situate in Salem aforesaid where I now Dwell Bounded N:erly & Westerly on Highways S:erly on Land of Thos. Down Easterly partly on Land of Benj.<sup>a</sup> Stone & partly on Land of Warwick Palfray together with a Common Right in the Great Pasture in Salem aforesaid.<sup>103</sup>

It was in 1742 that the street is first called “Daniels Lane,” being called “Daniels Street” in 1769.<sup>104</sup>

Mary continued to live in the Daniels House until her death in 1803, when it was inherited by her only surviving child, Samuel Silsbee. The genealogist James Arthur Emmerton describes her circumstances in his 1880 work, *A Genealogical Account of Henry Silsbee, and Some of His Descendants*:

“Here the widow passed the rest of her life, helping out her narrow income by the profits of a small shop, and here her descendants dwelt for more than a hundred years.”<sup>105</sup>

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<sup>102</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 93:53. 13 May 1746.

<sup>103</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 93:54. 29 Mar 1748/9.

<sup>104</sup> Perley (1906), p. 114.

<sup>105</sup> Emmerton, James A. *A Genealogical Account of Henry Silsbee and Some of his Descendants*. Salem: Essex Institute, 1880. p. 18.

## VI. Samuel Silsbee, Sr. 1756-1803

Samuel Silsbee married Martha Prince, 22 January 1756, when he was 24.<sup>106</sup> They had seven children: Nathaniel; Mary; Hannah, born around 1761; Samuel, Jr., born around 1763; Deborah, born April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1767; Sarah, who died young; and Sarah, born around 1774.<sup>107108</sup>

Both Nathaniel and Mary Silsbee died unmarried. Hannah Silsbee married John MacGregor on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1781.<sup>109</sup> Deborah Silsbee married Daniel Sage on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1786.<sup>110</sup> Sage was a Scottish-born merchant and mariner. For a more in depth account of the lives of Deborah and Daniel Sage and their home next-door at 52 Essex Street, please refer to my history of that house.<sup>111</sup>

Silsbee undertook the enlargement and renovation the Daniels House around 1756. Emmerton notes:

‘Samuel was a carpenter. The accounts of the East Church show his bill for “clabording” in July, 1766. He probably built the northern part of the house, at the eastern corner of Daniels and Essex Streets, where he passed his whole life. The wing, although ancient, is evidently more modern than the rest, and was built, his daughter Sarah said, ‘long before her time,’”<sup>112</sup>

Sarah Silsbee first married David Patten, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1803. He died November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1805. Second, Sarah married Haffield White Reed on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1808.<sup>113</sup>

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<sup>106</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>107</sup> Ibid.

<sup>108</sup> Vital Records (Births), p. 287.

<sup>109</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>110</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 283.

<sup>111</sup> Moffat, David. “52 Essex Street,” Historic Salem, Inc., 2019.

<sup>112</sup> Emmerton (1880), p. 20.

<sup>113</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

Samuel Silsbee, Jr. also a carpenter, married Rebecca Read of Danvers, on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1786.<sup>114</sup> Rebecca Read Silsbee died July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1857, aged 94.<sup>115</sup> Emmerton describes Samuel, Jr. living a life more appropriate to an earlier time:

“Samuel Silsbee, carpenter and farmer, may be said to have brought down to our age the life of the early settlers. He not only eked out the returns of his trade in town by the cultivation of his outlying acres ‘in the fields,’ but, sometimes at least, resorted to water-communication, and, with less reason than in the olden time when every household had its ‘water-carriage,’ went from house to farm by boat.”<sup>116</sup>

Emmerton notes further that the lands of the Silsbees in the North Fields had been held in common by the family from 1684 until 1803 with the death of Martha Silsbee, Samuel, Jr.’s mother.

Samuel and Rebecca had eight children: Martha, born March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1787; Mary, born May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1789, died aged 5, June 25, 1794; Rebecca, born March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1791; Nathaniel, born December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1793; Mary, born May 22<sup>nd</sup>, died March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1797; Samuel III, born May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1798; John, born July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1800; Sarah, born December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1802.

Martha Silsbee married first David Beadle, a mariner, on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1806. Beadle was the son of Josiah Beadle, a mariner who died in 1775, and the grandson of John Beadle, a mariner who died before 1764. David Beadle died in the West Indies in July 1811. They had two sons, David, born 1807, and Josiah, born 1809. David was lost overboard from the ship *Two Brothers* in 1828. Josiah died in 1842.<sup>117</sup>

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<sup>114</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>115</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>116</sup> Emmerton (1880), p. 30.

<sup>117</sup> Perley (1926), p. 387.

Rebecca Silsbee married John Peck on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1811. Nathaniel Silsbee drowned at sea while sailing on the brig *Mary and Eliza*, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 1816. Samuel Silsbee III married Mary Sullivan and they had a daughter. John Silsbee died age 15 on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1815. Sarah Silsbee married Thomas R. Peck of Boston on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1821.<sup>118119</sup>

According to James Duncan Phillips in the 1930s, the property belonged to the heirs of Samuel Silsbee in 1780, while the lot directly to the east was occupied by the heirs of Benjamin Stone. To the east of that, past a short lane, was Bentley's East Meeting House. To the south was the land of the heirs of Warwick Palfrey.<sup>120</sup>

Samuel Silsbee is listed as a carpenter and a member of Rev. Bentley's East Church in 1785.<sup>121</sup> The same year, Silsbee served as "Proprietor of the Treasurer's Books" for the congregation.<sup>122</sup> Samuel's wife, Martha, was also a member of the church.<sup>123</sup> The Silsbees appear to have been devout. On May 10, 1789, Bentley records the first of many Sunday prayers requested by the family, "Samuel Silsbee & Wife for her delivery & Brethren at Sea."<sup>124</sup>

In the 1790 Census, Samuel Silsbee, Jr. is identified as a carpenter.<sup>125</sup> In 1792, Samuel, Sr., a carpenter and farmer, Samuel, Jr., a carpenter, and Daniel Sage, a mariner, are listed among Bentley's congregation.<sup>126</sup> December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1793, Samuel and Martha prayed again for "her delivery & Brethren at Sea."<sup>127</sup>

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<sup>118</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>119</sup> Vital Records (Marriages), p. 308.

<sup>120</sup> Phillips (1937), supplemental map, "Map of Salem, About 1780."

<sup>121</sup> Bentley, William. *The Diary of William Bentley, D.D.* Vol. 1: April 1784-December 1792. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1905. Print, p. 14.

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 50.

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 97.

<sup>124</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 122.

<sup>125</sup> Bentley, William. *The Diary of William Bentley, D.D.* Vol. 1: April 1784-December 1792. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1905. Print, p. 227.

<sup>126</sup> Bentley, William. *The Diary of William Bentley, D.D.* Vol. 1: April 1784-December 1792. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1905. Print, p. 337.

<sup>127</sup> Bentley, William. *The Diary of William Bentley, D.D.* Vol. 2: December 1793-December 1802. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1905. Print, p. 78.

Samuel Silsbee, Sr. died aged 73 on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1803 of pleuritic fever.<sup>128</sup> The probate of Silsbee (called Silsby) was executed by Capt. Benjamin Ward, Mr. John Watson, and Captain Gamaliel Hodges, and presided over by Samuel Holten. The heirs of Silsbee were Samuel Silsbee, Jr., housewright, Benjamin Ward, housewright, and Daniel Sage, mariner.<sup>129</sup>

The house at 1 Daniels Street is described as “A mansion house with the out houses & the land under & adjoining situated on Essex & Daniels Street” and was worth an impressive \$4,500. Silsbee also owned “a lot of Land containing about eleven acres situated in the Northfields so called,” worth \$1,650. Lastly, among his real estate was 1/3 of a pew in the East Meeting House- number three- \$35. Silsbee’s son-in-law Daniel Sage also owned part of pew number three.<sup>130</sup> His real estate came to \$931.51.<sup>131</sup>

**Table 3: Samuel Silsbee’s Personal Estate**

Items	Total
One Desk \$8 One Walnut d° \$2	\$10
One Stone Table \$1.50 Glass Ware \$1.50	\$3
Four ordinary Tables \$2	\$2
Two Candlestands \$1.25 Eleven Chairs \$6	\$7.25
Two Looking glasses \$4 <del>Glass Ware \$1.50</del>	\$4
Crockery Ware \$1 Knives and Forks 30 cts.	\$1.30
Three p <sup>r</sup> Andirons Shovels & Tongs	\$3
Plate 12.10 at 110 cts. per ounce	\$13.75
Iron Ware belonging to the Kitchen	\$5

<sup>128</sup> *Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849*. Salem: The Essex Institute, 1916. Deaths, p 225

<sup>129</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #25318, 1803.

<sup>130</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #24516, 1836.

<sup>131</sup> Essex County Probates, Probate #25318, 1804.

Pewter 50 at 12.5	\$6.25
Tin Ware 2 Three Brass Kettles weighing 49[??] at 20 cts. \$11.90	\$11.90 [sic]
Two Bibles \$3 Several other Books \$1.50	\$4.50
Four brass Candlesticks \$1	\$1
Two d° Skillets & a Fish Knife \$2.50	\$2.50
Thirteen Chairs \$1.50	\$1.50
Carpenters Tools \$15 Farmers D° \$32.25	\$47.25
Three Cows \$45 One Horse \$20	\$65
Cart and Tackling \$30 Grind Stone \$2	\$32
	Subtotal \$221.20
Seven Beds N° 1 w <sup>te</sup> 53 at 25 Cts. \$13.25	\$13.25
N°2 w <sup>te</sup> 52 at 20 Cts. \$10.40 N°3 w <sup>te</sup> 52 at 30 Cts. \$15.60	\$26
N°4 w <sup>te</sup> 54 at 30 Cts. \$16.20 N°5 w <sup>te</sup> 39 at 25 Cts. \$9.75	\$25.95
N°6 w <sup>te</sup> 54 at 30 Cts. \$16.20 N°7 w <sup>te</sup> 52 at 35 Cts. \$18.20	\$34.40
Seven common Bedsteds and under Beds	\$7
Five Rugs & Ten Blankets \$10	\$10
Three Quilts \$3 Forty p <sup>r</sup> of Sheets \$40	\$43
Three pieces of India Cotton	\$6
Sixteen p <sup>r</sup> Pillow Cases & Four p <sup>r</sup> d° \$5	\$5
Eight [ ] Table Cloth \$3	\$3
One [dec <sup>r</sup> ] Towel \$1 Apparel \$20	\$21
Remnant of [Hoster] Cloth \$6 D° of Reed \$4	\$10
Sundry articles in the Store Chamber	\$20



Five Chests with Drawers	\$7.50	
Two sets of Curtains & Valances	\$6	
		Subtotal \$238.10 -
		\$459.30
One Loan Office Certificate	\$171.70	
D° -- d° -- d° -- D°	\$85.85	
D°-- d°-- d° -- d°	\$80.33	
D° -- d° -- D° -- d°	\$40.16	
		278.04 @ 6 p. Cent \$361.02
One d° -- d° -- d° \$60.25 \$60.25 at 3 p. Cent	\$34.64	
State Note \$37.49 \$37.49 at 5 p. Cent	\$36.55	
		\$432.21
In Bank Bills	\$90	
		Total \$981.51

Firstly, the probate inventory of Samuel Silsbee, Sr. shows us that there were rooms identified as the kitchen, store, and store chamber. Furthermore, there were seven beds of six different values, all with bedsteads and underbeds, but only two with curtains and valances. There may have been five bedrooms, as there are five rugs and five chests of drawers listed.

Indicating Silsbee's means of subsistence, there are carpenter's tools, farming implements, three cows, a horse, and equipment for carting goods. Over half the value of the probate is in financial instruments such as bank bills and loan office certificates.

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1805, Martha Silsbee wrote a warrant allowing Silsbee's heirs to divide the estate. She wrote:

Be it known by these presents, That whereas the heirs of my late husband deceas'd, has expressed their wish for a devision of the above deceas'd's Real Estate, I do hereby give my consent the said estate may be devided among them in such a manner as they may agree on witness my hand

Martha Silsbee

The final total of Silsbee's estate came to \$1113.51, factoring in real estate (\$6,185), personal estate (\$931.51), interest on state securities (\$62), house rent (\$61), and the sale of some barley (\$9). Expenses came to \$685.43.5, enumerated below in Table 4.

**Table 4: The Expenses of Samuel Silsbee's Estate**

Item	Total
A Bill from E.N. Holyoke	\$59.40
A not from Ebenezer Puttman	\$61.70
A bill from benjamin millet	\$0.51
A bill from [ mess] Leffavor	\$7.35
Probet [fees]	\$3.35
The aprizers bill	\$7.00
James Purkins bill	\$00.45
John Punchard tax bill – 1804-	\$14.28
Joseph Wards bill	\$5.61
Cash paid to Timothy Diman for the hyer of a [pess] of [tand] in the North field	\$10.00
[Jane] Kiney bill	\$5.50

W <sup>m</sup> Carleton advertisement	\$1.50
Agreeabell to Samuel Silsbee bill	101.45
Joseph Page bill	\$14.00
Phillip English bill	\$8.12
C <sup>apt</sup> Benj. Ward's bill	\$4
Agreeabell to C <sup>pt</sup> Daniel Sage bill	\$23.14
John Watson bill	\$17.33
James Parkins bills	\$5.03
Dunklen & Parkins bill	\$1.47
[Jere] Richardson Bill	\$8.50
John Duntten bill	\$5.87
George W. Felt bill	\$1.25
Tax bill from Jonathan Archer	\$9.37
To [Ahorn] & Shay to Boston	\$2.50
To a hors to Ipswich	\$1.50
To my expenses to Boston & Ipswich	\$3.00
Total	\$383.68 ½

Additional money expended by the estate consisted of \$100 paid to the administrator, \$200 to Martha "for Necessary furniture," \$1.25 for the probate, and \$0.50 for a copy.

## VII. Silsbee's Heirs, 1803-1860

Samuel Silsbee's widow, Martha Prince Silsbee, lived in the house until her death on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1817.

1820 map surveyed by Jonathan P. Saunders shows two wharves at the end of Daniels Street and the East Church at the corner of Essex and Hardy Streets.<sup>132</sup>

When Samuel, Sr. died in 1803, the house was inherited by three of his children: Samuel, Jr., Sarah Patten, and Deborah Sage. In 1818, the house was divided between Samuel, Jr. and his sister Sarah, now Sarah Reed. Sarah got the northern side and Samuel got the southern side.

. Samuel Silsbee, Jr. died June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1822.<sup>133</sup> September 9<sup>th</sup>, the subscribers of his estate appeared before Judge Daniel A. White. They were, Samuel Silsbee III, and Silsbee's three sons-in-law, Asa Hood, John M. Peck, and Thomas R. Peck.

In a will dated March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1821, Silsbee identifies himself in his will as a housewright. He leaves to his wife and heirs the "western half of a house at the corner of Essex and Daniel Streets," that half "now occupied by Philip Manning and Mr. Savary." Silsbee also leaves a garden, some outbuildings, and four acres of land on Liberal Street in North Salem. The remainder of his estate was bequeathed to his children, "Martha Hood, Becky Peck, Samuel Silsbee, and Sarah Silsbee." Martha and Asa Hood are to "bring into Hotch-pot with the other children" \$150 which they took as an advance while Silsbee was still alive.

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1822, Rebecca was the principal of a guarantee against the probate of six thousand dollars, with Joseph Beadle, merchant, and Thomas Barker, shipwright, as sureties.<sup>134</sup>

The 1842 directory lists Mrs. Sarah Reed, Mrs. Elizabeth Ropes, John Sage, mariner as residents of the house.<sup>135</sup> Mrs. Rebecca Silsbee is listed at 3 Daniels Street in 1842 and 1846.<sup>136137</sup>

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<sup>132</sup> Saunders, Jonathan P. "Plan of the Town of Salem in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." Boston: Annin & Smith, 1820. Electronic. [https://bostonraremaps.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/BRM2920-Saunders-Salem-1820\\_lowres-3000x1999.jpg](https://bostonraremaps.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/BRM2920-Saunders-Salem-1820_lowres-3000x1999.jpg)

<sup>133</sup> Perley (1926), p. 384.

<sup>134</sup> Essex County Probate Records, Probate 25319, 1822.

The 1846 directory lists Stephen B. Dow, a mariner, Mrs. Sarah Read, and John Sage.<sup>138</sup> Dow does not appear in the 1842 or 1850 directories. Mrs. Elizabeth Ropes is listed at 117 Essex Street in 1846<sup>139</sup> and 7 Becket Street in 1850.<sup>140</sup> In 1850, 3 Daniels was occupied by Mrs. Frances Peters and Mrs. Rebecca Silsbee,<sup>141</sup> while 1 Daniels was lived in by John Sage and Mrs. Sarah Read.<sup>142</sup>

An 1851 map of Salem by Henry McIntyre shows the house as belonging to Mrs. Silsbee.<sup>143</sup> The directory of that year lists Mrs. Sarah Read and John Sage at 1 Daniels<sup>144</sup> and only Rebecca Silsbee at 3 Daniels<sup>145</sup> The arrangement remains the same in 1853 and 1855.<sup>146,147</sup>

Rebecca Silsbee died July 9th 1857 and on August 17<sup>th</sup>, her heirs conveyed the property to John W. Russell.

Sarah Reed died September 2nd, 1860 and Elizabeth Hodges, the wife of Joseph Hodges, was given her half on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **VIII. The Hodges and the Russells, 1860-1883**

The antiquarian nature of the Daniels house went largely unremarked upon in the late nineteenth century. The house and its builder are not mentioned in Charles Henry Webber and

<sup>135</sup> 1842 Salem Directory, pp. 74, 76, 78,

<sup>136</sup> 1842 Salem Directory, p. 81.

<sup>137</sup> 1846 Salem Directory, p. 104.

<sup>138</sup> 1846 Salem Directory, pp. 37, 96, 101

<sup>139</sup> *Ibid*, pp. 98.

<sup>140</sup> 1850 Salem Directory, p. 121.

<sup>141</sup> 1850 Salem Directory, pp. 111, 127.

<sup>142</sup> *Ibid*, pp. 118, 123.

<sup>143</sup> McIntyre, Henry. "Map of the City of Salem, Mass. From an actual survey By H. Mc. Intyre. Cl. Engr." Map, 1851. Henry McIntyre, Salem, MA. Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library.

<https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:9g54xk154>

<sup>144</sup> 1851 Salem Directory, pp. 127, 132.

<sup>145</sup> 1851 Salem Directory, p. 135.

<sup>146</sup> 1853 Salem Directory, pp. 129, 134, 138.

<sup>147</sup> 1855 Salem Directory, pp. 136, 141, 146.

Winfield S. Nevin's *Old Naumkeag* in 1877, Charles S. Osgood and Henry Morrill Batchelder's *Historical Sketch of Salem, 1626-1879*, published by the Essex Institute in 1879, nor the *Visitor's Guide to Salem*, 1880.

In 1869, 1 Daniels Street was home to William P. Edwards, a mariner, and Martha P. Edwards, while Jeremiah Lyons, a gardener, lived at 3 Daniels with Timothy Lyons, a paper hanger, as a boarder.<sup>148</sup> The same is true of 1872, though only Martha is still at 1 Daniels.<sup>149</sup>

The *Atlas of the City of Salem* in 1874 shows the property divided, with the northerly half belonging to Hodges and the southerly half belonging to John W. Russell.<sup>150</sup> John Russell died May 10, 1875, conveying his part of the house to his daughters, Rebecca Burger and Sarah R. Dexter.

When Elizabeth Hodges died May 2, 1883, the house was inherited by her children, Margaret C. Hanson, Sarah E. Hodges, Gamaliel Hodges, and the grandchildren of her predeceased daughter, Elizabeth M. Jelly: Clara H. Jelly, William M. Jelly, and Marion H. Jelly.<sup>151</sup>

On October 8, 1883, Hodges' heirs conveyed it to the widow Sarah S. Russell for a total of \$1,100. Russell died March 29, 1886. The southern part of house passed to her daughters, Rebecca S. Burger and Sarah R. Dexter, who owned the entire house after 1886.

## **IX. The Burgers and Sarah Dexter, 1886-1932**

In the late 1870s and early 1880s, Maria N. Parker, the widow of Henry, operated a children's care facility in the southern side of the house, described alternately as a "children's

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<sup>148</sup> 1869 Salem Directory, pp. 70, 113.

<sup>149</sup> 1872 Salem Directory, pp. 80, 128.

<sup>150</sup> Busch, Edward. *Atlas of the City of Salem, Massachusetts. From actual Survey & Official records*. G.M. Hopkins & Co. Philadelphia, 1874.

<sup>151</sup> Perley (1928), p. 326.

boarding house” and a “day nursery.”<sup>152</sup><sup>153</sup><sup>154</sup><sup>155</sup> From at least 1878 until 1881, George T. Francis, a laborer and then fisherman, also lived on the southern side.<sup>156</sup> Lucy Tucker, the widow of Ebenezer, lived in the south side as well in 1882-3.<sup>157</sup> The northern side appears vacant from 1878 until 1884.<sup>158</sup>

In 1886 directory lists as residents Mrs. Margaret Maloney, a housekeeper, Mrs. Alice Stanwood, a dressmaker, and Stephen Burger, a dry goods merchant at William G. Webber & Co. at 240 Essex Street and the future owner of 1 Daniels Street.<sup>159</sup> In 1886, there were 16 dry goods stores in Salem, 11 of them located on Essex Street.<sup>160</sup> In the same year there were 96 dressmakers, all of them women and 45 of them unmarried.<sup>161</sup>

An alternative directory lists Stephen Burger (or Burgess), as clerk at Almy, Bigelow, and Webber, a dry good stores at 188 Essex Street living on the northern side of the house in 1884 and 1886.<sup>162</sup> Reuben S. Hoyt boards at 3 Daniels Street with Alvin Hoyt, both carpenters.<sup>163</sup>

Beginning around 1890, Ruth Wymond began a boarding house on the southern side of the residence.<sup>164</sup> This lasted until around 1898.<sup>165</sup> In 1890-91, Charles Wymond, a hairdresser, and George Wymond, a morocco dresser, were boarding with Ruth.<sup>166</sup> The same year Alina Sanborn, widow of Washington T., and a nurse, and Margaret Tuepken, widow of Dirk, lived on the northern side.<sup>167</sup>

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<sup>152</sup> Salem Directory, 1878. Print.

<sup>153</sup> Salem Directory, 1881. Print, p. 172.

<sup>154</sup> Salem Directory, 1882-83. Print, p. 190.

<sup>155</sup> Salem Directory, 1884. Print, p. 268.

<sup>156</sup> Salem Directory, 1881. Print, p. 84.

<sup>157</sup> Salem Directory, 1882-3. Print, p. 223.

<sup>158</sup> Salem Directory, 1882-3. Print, p. 52.

<sup>159</sup> Salem Directory, 1886, pp. 113, 248, 334.

<sup>160</sup> 1886 Directory, p. 392.

<sup>161</sup> 1886 Directory, p. 392.

<sup>162</sup> Salem Directory, 1886. Print, p. 36.

<sup>163</sup> Salem Directory, 1886. Print, p. 213.

<sup>164</sup> Salem Directory, 1890-1891. Print, p. 334.

<sup>165</sup> Salem Directory, 1897-98. Print, p. 354.

<sup>166</sup> Salem Directory, 1890-1. Print, p. 334.

From 1890-91 to 1893-4, Dolly Watts, widow of Charles lived on the northern side.<sup>168</sup> In 1893-4, Alice C. Hancock, widow of John E., lived in the northern side with Jesse E. Hancock, a shoe cutter.<sup>169</sup>

Mary Walsh, the widow of William, lived on the northern side from roughly 1893 to 1896 with her daughter, Anna T., a student.<sup>170</sup> She may also be the Mary Welch listed in the 1890-1 directory in the same apartment.

The 1895-1896 Directory of Salem shows Melvin Kenney C. Kenney, a laster, living in the northern side as well.<sup>171</sup>

In the 1897 Atlas of Salem, the property is still demarcated as if it were divided but the entire house belongs to the J.W. Russell heirs.<sup>172</sup>

From 1897 to 1903, Sarah B. Brown, widow of Smith, lived on the northern side of the house.<sup>173</sup> In 1897, William T. Webb, lived on the southern side. He remained there until his death, circa 1901,<sup>174</sup> and his widow, Elizabeth E. Webb, continued to live in the house until 1903.<sup>175</sup>

James G. Beals, a laborer, lived on the northern side in 1901-2,<sup>176</sup> and Mary E. Dominick, a shoe worker, lived on the south side in the same year.<sup>177</sup> In 1900, the south side was vacant and Thomas H. McGrath, a printer who worked at 213 Essex Street, lived on the north side with Brown and the Webbs.<sup>178</sup>

<sup>167</sup> Salem Directory, 1890-1. Print, pp. 301, 317.

<sup>168</sup> Salem Directory, 1893-4. Print, p. 102.

<sup>169</sup> Salem Directory, 1893-4. Print, p. 102.

<sup>170</sup> Salem Directory, 1893-4. Print, p. 102.

<sup>171</sup> Salem Directory, 1895-6. Print, p. 252.

<sup>172</sup> 1897 Atlas of Salem.

<sup>173</sup> Salem Directory, 1903-4. Print, p. 194.

<sup>174</sup> Salem Directory, 1900-1901. Print, p. 114.

<sup>175</sup> Salem Directory, 1903-4. Print, p. 381.

<sup>176</sup> Salem Directory, 1901-2. Print, p. 174.

<sup>177</sup> Salem Directory, 1901-2. Print, p. 215.



The 1903 Atlas of Salem shows the property as having a three-story main section, a north ell 2 stories tall, and a south ell with 2 sections, each 2 stories tall.<sup>179</sup> The directory of 1903-4 lists on the northern side: Sarah B. Brown, Joseph L. Gage, a signal repairer for the B&M Railroad, and Elizabeth E. Webb.<sup>180</sup> The same year, Etta J. Hamilton lived on the southern side.<sup>181</sup>

In 1906, Sidney Perley recorded the history of the house through deeds as part of his series on the houses of Salem in 1700 in his journal, the *Essex Antiquarian*.<sup>182</sup>

In spite of Perley's recognition of the house's age, it was as little remarked upon in the early twentieth century as it had been in the nineteenth. It does not appear on a 1905 map of Salem landmarks, in Mary Harrod Northend's *Historic Homes of New England* in 1914, in *Selected Interiors of the Old Houses in Salem and the Vicinity*, published by Rogers and Manson in 1916, nor in the Essex Institute Guide to Salem in 1922. Warren H. Butler's whimsical 1930 map of Salem Harbor in another time elides Daniels Street altogether and highlights the Zechariah White house, pre-1700, at the southeastern corner of Hardy and Essex Street.<sup>183</sup>

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1904, Stephen Burger, his wife Rebecca S. Burger, and Sarah R. Dexter mortgaged the property for \$900 with the Salem Five Cents Savings Bank.<sup>184</sup> The Burgers rented the property to boarders, with each half of the house apparently subdivided farther into two apartments. In 1903, the north side of the house (numbered 1 Daniels Street) was vacant, while the south side was home to Mrs. Mary Condon, widow of John, and Joseph F. Walker, a laborer.<sup>185</sup> Walker lived in the house until 1908.<sup>186</sup>

<sup>178</sup> Salem Directory, 1900-1. Print, pp. 118, 279.

<sup>179</sup> 1903 Atlas.

<sup>180</sup> Salem Directory, 1903-4. Print, p. 114.

<sup>181</sup> Salem Directory, 1903-4. Print, p. 256.

<sup>182</sup> Perley, Sidney. "Salem in 1700. No. 24." *Essex Antiquarian*, Vol. 10, No. 3 (July 1906). pp. 114-130. Salem: Sidney Perley, 1906

<sup>183</sup> Butler, Warren H. "The Port of Salem" Salem: Tudor Press, 1930.

<sup>184</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 1766:226. 21 Dec 1904.

<sup>185</sup> Salem Directory, 1904. Print, pp. 110, 219.

In addition to Walker, the south side of the house was home to Sarah H. Finn, the widow of John, in 1905,<sup>187</sup> John F. Finn, perhaps back from the dead, from 1906 until 1910.<sup>188189</sup>

From 1905 to 1910, Olive J. Riley, the widow of Edmund F., lived on the north side.<sup>190191</sup> James Lavoie, a carpenter, is there as well in 1908,<sup>192</sup> and Ellen M. Lewis, the widow of John, in 1910.<sup>193</sup>

The 1911 Atlas still shows the property as belonging to the heirs of “John S. Russell.”<sup>194</sup> The 1911 directory lists as residents Mary E. Jennings, the widow of John, and Arthur W. Burnham, a shoe worker, both on the north side, and Edward J. Finn, who worked in Beverly, on the south side.<sup>195</sup> In 1912, Jennings, Burnham, and Finn remained, while Eddie G. Rondeau, a machinist moved into the south side as well.<sup>196</sup>

Alexander W. MacNeill, a last maker, and his wife, Etta M. lived at 1 Daniels Street from 1913 until 1916. In the same span, other tenants shared the north side of the house with the MacNeills: Newell B. Ordway, a lineman, in 1913,<sup>197</sup> and Albert Marcoux, no profession listed, in 1915.<sup>198</sup> In 1916, the north side was occupied by the MacNeills along with Esther B. Upton, a widow of John.<sup>199</sup>

The south side was occupied by David M. Haines, a carpenter, in 1913 and 1914,<sup>200</sup> and Charles W. Marchand, a carpenter, from 1914 to 1916.<sup>201202</sup> Marchand died July 15, 1916.<sup>203</sup>

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<sup>186</sup> Salem Directory, 1908. Print, p. 362.

<sup>187</sup> Salem Directory, 1905. Print, p. 265.

<sup>188</sup> Salem Directory, 1906. Print, p. 90.

<sup>189</sup> Salem Directory, 1910. Print, p. 249.

<sup>190</sup> Salem Directory, 1905. Print, p. 116.

<sup>191</sup> Salem Directory, 1910. Print, p. 359.

<sup>192</sup> Salem Directory, 1908. Print, p. 266.

<sup>193</sup> Salem Directory, 1910. Print, p. 302.

<sup>194</sup> 1911 Atlas.

<sup>195</sup> Salem Directory, 1911. Print, p. 102.

<sup>196</sup> Salem Directory, 1912. Print, p. 380.

<sup>197</sup> Salem Directory, 1913. Print, p. 371.

<sup>198</sup> Salem Directory, 1915. Print, p. 322.

<sup>199</sup> Salem Directory, 1916. Print, p. 334.

<sup>200</sup> Salem Directory, 1914. Print, p. 298.

Abner C. Leland and then, Harry J. Leland, both shoemakers, lived on the south side in 1915 and 1916 successively.<sup>204205</sup>

In 1917, 1 Daniels Street was lived in by Charles H. Whipple, a worker at Central Wharf on Derby Street.<sup>206</sup> 3 Daniels Street was the home to Frederick A. Brewer, a chauffeur, and his wife, Caroline W. The following year, 3 Daniels was occupied by James J. Castin, a leather worker.<sup>207</sup> In 1920, George L. Beals, a lather, boarded at 1 Daniels along with Whipple.<sup>208</sup>

John R. Beals, also a lather, replaces George in 1921.<sup>209</sup> In 1922, Sarah A. Hood lives at number 3.<sup>210</sup> In 1924, the north side of the house was occupied by John R. Beals and his wife, Annie, and C.H. Whipple. Whipple had become a clerk at Commerical House at 173 Washington Street. The south side was lived in by Margaret Wilson and Julia F. Rust, a saleswoman.<sup>211</sup>

In 1926, 1 Daniels Street was lived in by Annie Beals, now a widow, Charles H. and Florence J. Whipple, and 3 Daniels Street was lived in by Margaret E. Wilson.<sup>212</sup> By this time, Charles Whipple had become an employee of the B&M Railroad.<sup>213</sup>

In 1929, 1 Daniels Street was occupied by William Symonds, a laborer, and his wife, Catherine.<sup>214</sup>

In September of 1932, the bank foreclosed on the house.<sup>215</sup> Perhaps this was related to the Great Depression, as 273,000 mortgages were foreclosed nationwide in 1932.<sup>216</sup>

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<sup>201</sup> Salem Directory, 1914. Print, p. 114.

<sup>202</sup> Salem Directory, 1915. Print, p. 322.

<sup>203</sup> Salem Directory, 1916. Print, p. 346.

<sup>204</sup> Salem Directory, 1915. Print, p. 322.

<sup>205</sup> Salem Directory, 1916. Print, p. 98.

<sup>206</sup> Salem Directory, 1917. Print, p. 200.

<sup>207</sup> Salem Directory, 1918. Print, p. 224.

<sup>208</sup> Salem Directory, 1920. Print, p. 176.

<sup>209</sup> Salem Directory, 1921. Print, p. 214.

<sup>210</sup> Salem Directory, 1922. Print, p. 315.

<sup>211</sup> Salem Directory, 1924. Print, pp. 193, 213, 495.

<sup>212</sup> Salem Directory, 1926. Print, pp. 62, 216, 524, 528.

<sup>213</sup> Salem Directory, 1926. Print, p. 524.

<sup>214</sup> Salem Directory, 1929. Print, p. 441.

<sup>215</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 2927:221. 10 Sep 1932.

In the early twentieth century, Daniels Street became a center for the community of Polish immigrants in Salem. 9 Daniels Street, today the home of the Polish League of American Veterans, became the home of the St. Joseph's Society in 1928.<sup>217</sup> In the 1935 poll listing, almost every single person living on Daniels Street has a Polish last name. Of the residents, 61 were housekeepers, 52 were shoe or leather workers, and 11 were "mill operatives."<sup>218</sup> For example, the house at 5 Daniels Street was lived in by two Polish families, the Bachtas (Joseph, who worked in a bleachery, and Victoria, a housekeeper) and the Kotulaks (Bronislaw, a housekeeper; Bruce, a clerk; Stasia, a shoe worker; Walter, a clerk, and Wojciech, a mill operative).<sup>219</sup> Bruce and Walter Kotulak lived there until the early 1980s.<sup>220</sup>

#### **X. Marietta B. Wilkins and Vacancy, 1933-1945**

Marietta B. Wilkins purchased the property from Salem Five Cents Saving Bank in February of 1933.<sup>221</sup> Marietta had lived at 52 Essex Street in the home of Daniel Sage since 1902. Her husband, S. Herbert Wilkins, was an owner of Briggs & Wilkins, "proprietors of dry and fancy goods" at 221 Essex Street.<sup>222</sup> Wilkins served as the president of the Women's National Missionary Association within the Universalist Church and as the editor of the Association's periodical, "The Women's Missionary Bulletin."<sup>223224</sup> The Missionary Association was founded in

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<sup>216</sup> "Housing 1929-1941," Encyclopedia.com. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/education/news-and-education-magazines/housing-1929-1941>

<sup>217</sup> Stanton, Cathy and Jane Becker. *In the Heart of Polish Salem: An Ethnohistorical Study of St. Joseph Hall and Its Neighborhood*. Boston: Northeast Regional Ethnography Program, National Park Service, 2009. Print. p. 146.

<sup>218</sup> Annual Listing for the City of Salem, 1935. Print.

<sup>219</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1935. Print.

<sup>220</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1982.

<sup>221</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 2945:352. 8 Feb 1933.

<sup>222</sup> Salem Directory, 1904. Print. pp. 116, 394.

<sup>223</sup> *Foreign Missions Year Book of North America 1920 (Covering the Year 1919)*. Ed. Roderick Beach. New York: Foreign Missions Conference of North America, Inc., 1920. Electronic, p. 213.

<sup>224</sup> *Year Book of Churches Covering the Year 1921-22*. Ed. E.O. Watson. Washington, D.C.: Hayworth Publishing, 1922. Electronic. p. 240.

1886 to “enlist the women of the Universalist Church in Massachusetts, in missionary work, in the distribution of religious literature, in aiding deserving persons to obtain an education; and to assist in such religious charities as the Society may find to be useful and expedient.”<sup>225</sup> Marietta was the first woman to attend the Northfield Conference, an ecumenical gathering of bible study and lectures organized by the Young Men’s Christian Association beginning in the 1880s.<sup>226</sup>

Starting in 1916, Marietta Wilkins hosted Tei San Yasamura, a Japanese student from the Blackmer Universalist Home in Tokyo, in her home (presumably 52 Essex Street). Yasamura graduated from the New England Conservatory in 1920.<sup>227,228</sup>

Wilkins also made contributions to historical preservation. In 1921, as president of the Women’s National Missionary Association, she acquired the birthplace of Clara Barton in Oxford, Massachusetts. The property was transformed into a museum, described by a contemporary account as “a memorial home to be used as a resort for visitors.” Wilkins worked to collect “mementos” relating to Barton and her work for the museum’s collection.<sup>229</sup> The museum is still operated by the Universalist Church today.<sup>230</sup>

In January and February 1922, Marietta organized an exhibit at the Art Institute of Chicago of “costumes, shawls, bonnets, and other heirlooms of the colonial period, borrowed from the leading families of Salem.” *The Bulletin of the Art Institute of Chicago* noted “The objects, selected for their aesthetic rather than their historical value, will no doubt stimulate greater interest in American costume in Chicago.”<sup>231</sup>

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<sup>225</sup>The Universalist Register for 1907, No. LXXII. Ed. Anson Titus. Boston: Universalist Publishing House, 1907. Electronic, p. 24.

<sup>226</sup> *A Brief History of the Work of Universalist Women*. Electronic, p. 19. <http://www.uuwf.org/wp-content/uploads/A-Brief-History-of-the-Work-of-Universalist-Women-1993-ed-web.pdf>

<sup>227</sup> *Ibid*, p. 21.

<sup>228</sup> *Ibid*, p. 35.

<sup>229</sup> “Clara Barton Memorial,” Biddeford Daily Journal, Monday March 14, 1921. Page 6. Electronic.

<sup>230</sup> “Museum History and Property Ownership,” Clara Barton Birthplace Museum. Electronic. Accessed 10 Jun 2019. <http://www.clarabartonbirthplace.org/about-the-museum/history/>

The 1938 Salem Atlas shows no fundamental changes to the house's structure from how it appeared in 1903.<sup>232</sup> The Daniels House is listed as vacant in the polls listings from 1935 until 1946, and in the directories from 1930 until 1949.<sup>233234235236237</sup> Longtime Salem resident Henry R. Theriault (1918-2006), told stories about visiting the house when it was vacant, saying that the door was unlocked and Salem children would just let themselves in to play.<sup>238</sup>

In the period it was vacant, the Daniels House started to accumulate more antiquarian interest. Sidney Perley noted its history in the third volume of his *History of Salem, Massachusetts* in 1928.<sup>239</sup> The historian James Duncan Phillips mentions the house in his 1933 book *Salem in the Seventeenth Century*.<sup>240</sup>

In 1934, Arthur C. Haskell photographed the house for the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). The HABS preserved 12 photographs by Haskell, three exterior and nine interior, as well as measured drawings of the floorplan and some of the decorative elements.<sup>241</sup>

The first exterior view, taken of the façade from the southwest, shows the vacant house in some distress. The clapboards are worn, many of the window panes appear to be dirty, a sign reading “TRESPASSING FORBIDDEN” is attached to the southwest corner of the house, and a low stake fence runs around the property with no opening, connecting directly to the end of number 5 Daniels Street. Another view, from the northwest, reveals a plaque on the side of the

<sup>231</sup> “February Exhibitions” *Bulletin of the Art Institute of Chicago*, Vol. XVI, No. 1. Electronic, p. 27.

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=njp.32101082992056&view=1up&seq=33>

<sup>232</sup> 1938 Salem Atlas.

<sup>233</sup> Salem Directory, 1930. Print, p. 73.

<sup>234</sup> Salem Directory, 1931. Print, p. 354.

<sup>235</sup> Salem Directory, 1933-34. Print, p. 436.

<sup>236</sup> Salem Directory, 1935. Print, p. 442.

<sup>237</sup> Salem Directory, 1949. Print, p. 321.

<sup>238</sup> Personal Conversation with Everett Philbrook, 11 June 2019.

<sup>239</sup> Perley (1928), p. 325.

<sup>240</sup> Phillips, James Duncan. *Salem in the Seventeenth Century*. Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1933. Print, p. 32.

<sup>241</sup> Historic American Buildings Survey, Creator. *Stephen Daniel House, Daniels & Essex Streets, Salem, Essex County, MA*. Documentation Compiled After. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, [www.loc.gov/item/ma0689/](http://www.loc.gov/item/ma0689/).

house identifying it as the Stephen Daniel House, built 1693. The final exterior photograph shows the back of the house from the northeast, revealing the shorter north ell before it was expanded. The second floor of the north ell's rear has two windows clustered against the north side of the house, with a single window on the north side of the first floor.

In 1938, the northwestern-most corner of the Daniels House appears in a photograph by Samuel Chamberlain in his book *Historic Salem in Four Seasons: A Camera Impression*. The clapboarding and window framing appear in rough shape. Chamberlain calls the house “a veteran of 1682.”<sup>242</sup> In 1939, the parlor fireplace was featured in a White Pine Monograph by Frank Chouteau Brown.<sup>243</sup> Brown highlights the label molding and lack of mantel shelf.

## **XI. The Hallers, 1945-1962**

In August 1945, Theodore Perry Haller of Oregon City, Oregon, purchased the Daniels House from Wilkins for “consideration paid.”<sup>244</sup> The Hallers had previously lived in Astoria, Oregon.<sup>245</sup> Theodore was born in Blair, Nebraska to Theodore Haller (1842-1908) and Grace E. Morgan Haller (1848-1932). Theodore's grandfather, Jacob Haller (1809-1894) was born in Switzerland and immigrated to East Troy, Wisconsin.<sup>246</sup> Winifred Hannon was from Illinois.<sup>247</sup> The Hallers married October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1912 in Lewistown, Montana.<sup>248</sup>

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<sup>242</sup> Chamberlain, Samuel. *Historic Salem in Four Seasons: A Camera Impression*. New York: Hastings House, 1938. Print, p. 41.

<sup>243</sup> Brown, Frank Chouteau. “Low Mantels and Fireplace Enframements from the Nineteenth Century” White Pine Monograph Vol. XXV, No. 5.

<sup>244</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 3421:444. 8 Aug 1945.

<sup>245</sup> “Corinne H. Flavin, Cellist Who Helped Found Brown Bag Opera, 73”

<sup>246</sup> “Jacob Haller,” Find A Grave Memorial #110424889. Accessed 14 Jun 2019.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/110424889/jacob-haller>

<sup>247</sup> 1940 Census, Oregon City Form 3-56. Electronic, Ancestry.com.

<sup>248</sup> Montana State Historical Society; Helena, Montana; *Montana, County Marriages, 1865-1950*. Certificate #1820.

The Hallers first appear in the Poll Listing of 1949, Theodore P. Haller, aged 66, was retired, and his wife, Winifred, aged 58, was at home. Mary Brown Allen, aged 70, and George Gavin, a 32-year-old working in radio, were also listed in that year.<sup>249</sup> The following year, Allen and Gavin are not listed and Theodore Haller is listed as a tea house operator.<sup>250</sup>

In the 1940 Census, the Hallers were living in Oregon City, a few blocks from the Willamette River. They lived at 719 Center Street in the historic home of Dr. Forbes Barclay (1812-1873), a Scottish immigrant who arrived in Oregon City in 1850 and served as a doctor, mayor, councilor, coroner, and superintendent of the public school, as noted on a plaque erected outside the house in 1948.<sup>251</sup> Today the Barclay House is used as offices and a gift shop by the McLoughlin Memorial Association and the National Park Service. Next door, the home of Dr. John McLoughlin (1784-1857) is operated as National Historic Site.<sup>252</sup>

In 1940, Theodore (age 58) was working as an antiques dealer and Winifred (age 49) was the proprietor of a restaurant. Their daughter, Corinne, was 10. A 20-year-old lodger, Theodore Finck, worked as a waiter in the restaurant.<sup>253</sup>

In 1946, as the house was being prepared for the Hallers, a woman discovered an iron blind or shutter hook of unknown age, today owned by Historic New England. A tag attached to the hook reads, "Blind hook picked up by Ida D. Frazier May 3rd 1946 in Stephen Daniel's house built in 1682 at the corner of Essex- Daniel Sts, in Salem, Massachusetts"

A further tag identifies the circumstances in which the hook was found and tells us how the Hallers utilized the house: "while the workmen were cleaning the house for its new owner, a

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<sup>249</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1949. Print, p. 15.

<sup>250</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1950. Print, p. 15.

<sup>251</sup> 1940 Census, Oregon City Form 3-56. Electronic, Ancestry.com.

<sup>252</sup> "The McLoughlin House" and "The Bray House," McLoughlin Memorial Association. Electronic. Accessed 14 Jun 2019. <https://www.mcloughlinhouse.org/index.html>

<sup>253</sup> 1940 Census, Oregon City Form 3-56. Electronic, Ancestry.com.



Gentleman from Oregon Cal, The first floor will be a Tea Room, 2 upper floors will be living quarters"<sup>254</sup>

The famed architectural photographer, Samuel Chamberlain, included six photos of the house in his 1950 book, *Salem Interiors*. Chamberlain describes the house thus: “After many vicissitudes this 17<sup>th</sup>-century dwelling has recently been restored and opened to the public as a restaurant.” Concerning the age of the house, Chamberlain wrote, “It was originally built in 1667 by Stephen Daniel, mariner.”

The photos reveal the house as the Hallers decorated it with antiques.<sup>255</sup> The dining room contained an English oak dresser, c. 1700, with an exceptional collection of pewter, including “plates, two sets of matched mugs, coffee urns, pitchers, candlesticks, and a rare hot-water platter.” Another photograph of the dining room shows the curtains to be made of New England drugget, c. 1825. There is an array of pewter in a corner cupboard, an old painted chest, and a collection of nineteenth-century American chairs, including a child’s chair. The fireplace is adorned with metalwork and some hanging Indian corn. There are at least three braided rugs with floral and geometric patterns on the floor.

A detail of the left end of the kitchen lintel shows the initials carved into it, in the words of Chamberlain, “a scarred oak lintel... liberally carved with initials...rich in the atmosphere of pioneer days.” The kitchen fireplace is decorated with metalware, including pewter plates and iron tools such as a shovel, toaster, roasting oven, and pots. The same rifle and powder horn and sextant owned by Catherine Gill appear in the photograph as well.

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<sup>254</sup> “Shutter Hook” Historic New England. Item# 2006.2.3. <https://www.historicnewengland.org/explore/collections-access/gusn/223092/>

<sup>255</sup><sup>255</sup> Chamberlain, Samuel. *Salem Interiors: Two Centuries of New England Taste and Decoration*. New York: Hastings House, 1950. Print. pp. 9-12.

The parlor is painted a dull green grey, with a painting of the “Sea Lark” and two silhouettes by Peale and Brown. A similar painting of the Sea Lark (an 1852 clipper which burned in 1863) by the British artist Duncan McFarlane (1818-1865), sold for \$5,900 at Northeast Auctions in 2010.<sup>256</sup> The Brown referenced may be William Henry Brown (c. 1808-1883) was one of the major silhouette artists of nineteenth century America, though many of his surviving silhouettes appear to be full length and the ones owned by the Hallers were only of heads.<sup>257</sup> The other items in the parlor are a sewing table, a bedwarmer, and a collection of porcelain and Staffordshire.

In 1951 and 1952, Corinne Haller, a 20-year-old student is listed.<sup>258259</sup> Corinne studied cello at New England Conservatory. The Hallers were a musical family. Winifred was cellist as well, and Theodore played the piano. Corinne Haller later married William Flavin and served as the principal cellist of the New England Chamber Orchestra and as a freelance musician who filled in for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, and on one occasion the Metropolitan Opera Company. In 1982, Corinne Flavin was a founding member of the Brown Bag Opera Company.<sup>260</sup> Flavin performed under the direction of Igor Stravinsky and Aaron Copland.

In 1958, Flavin played cello in the Harvard Musical Association’s premier of William Overton Smith’s “Quartet for clarinet, violin, cello, & piano.”<sup>261</sup> In 1970, the Harvard Crimson

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<sup>256</sup> “The American Ship “Sea Lark.” Attributed to Duncan McFarlane (British 1818-1865)” Lot 1026.

<https://northeastauctions.com/product/the-american-ship-sea-lark-attributed-to-duncan-mcfarlane-british-1818-1865/>

<sup>257</sup> Knipe, Penley. “Paper Profiles: American Paper Silhouettes” *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*, Vol. 41, No. 3, pp. 203-223. Electronic. <http://cool.conservation-us.org/jaic/articles/jaic41-03-001.html>

<sup>258</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1951. Print, p. 15.

<sup>259</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1952. Print, p. 15.

<sup>260</sup> “Corinne H. Flavin, Cellist Who Helped Found Brown Bag Opera, 73” Boston.com. 22 Jan 2004. Electronic. Accessed 5 Jun 2019.

[http://archive.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2004/01/22/corinne\\_flavin\\_cellist\\_helped\\_found\\_brown\\_bag\\_opera\\_73/](http://archive.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2004/01/22/corinne_flavin_cellist_helped_found_brown_bag_opera_73/)

<sup>261</sup> “Commissioned Works,” The Harvard Musical Association. Electronic. Accessed 5 June 2019.

<http://www.hmaboston.org/files/commissioned.pdf>

noted her “especially good work” on *The Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 1 of Corelli* performed by Boston Philharmonia. Flavin was also profiled in a 1980 article in the Christian Science Monitor about female musicians balancing work and family: “Corinne Flavin, a cellist from Milton, Mass., uses her own ingenuity and combines it with a hobby – antiques – to bring in extra income.”<sup>262</sup> Flavin passed away in 2004. A scrapbook of musical ephemera such as concert programs was found in the Daniels House in 2019.

In 1956, Edgar F. Curtis, aged 73, is listed.<sup>263</sup> The previous year he had been living at 31 Columbus Avenue with Florence E. Steves, aged 73 and retired, and Barry and Rosmond Hancock, him a Canadian molder.<sup>264</sup>

In the poll listings of 1960, 1961, and 1962, Theodore Haller is identified as an innkeeper.<sup>265</sup> Haller sold his inn to Thomas and Catherine Gill in 1962. Haller died at age 83 on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1965 and is buried with his family in Blair, Nebraska.<sup>266</sup>

## **XII. Catherine “Kay” Gill, 1962-2018**

Thomas E. and Catherine B. Gill purchased 1 Daniels Street for \$17,000 on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1961.<sup>267</sup> In October, Mary Bertino, Catherine’s mother, was added as a joint tenant.<sup>268</sup> The 1963 Annual Listing for Salem includes Thomas Gill, 40, and Catherine Gill, 31, both artists relocated from Chicago, and Mary Bertino, 62, who relocated from Joliet, Illinois.<sup>269</sup> Mary Bertino is no

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<sup>262</sup> Kiefer, Francine. “Women free-lance musicians harmonize work, family.” The Christian Science Monitor, 30 Jul 1980. Electronic. Accessed 5 Jun 2019. <https://www.csmonitor.com/1980/0730/073016.html>

<sup>263</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1956. Print, p. 12.

<sup>264</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1955. Print, p. 2.

<sup>265</sup> Annual Listing of the City of Salem, 1960. Print, p. 12.

<sup>266</sup> “Perry Theodore Haller,” Find A Grave Memorial #114996351. Accessed 14 Jun 2019. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/114996351>

<sup>267</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 4929:256. 11 Jun 1962.

<sup>268</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 4999:85. 15 Oct 1962.

<sup>269</sup> Annual Listing for the City of Salem, 1963. Print. p. 11.

longer listed in 1968,<sup>270</sup> and Thomas Gill in 1970.<sup>271</sup> Catherine Gill was born on March 27, 1931 and attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago.

In 1970, the Salem directory identifies the Gills as proprietors of “The Stephen Daniels House,” a restaurant and guest house.<sup>272</sup> In 1972, Catherine Gill is listed as an “innkeeper” for the first time in the poll listings.<sup>273</sup> She was to remain in that capacity for 55 years. Catherine Gill was often referred to by her nickname, Kay. In her self-description on Facebook in 2011, she wrote: “I am the owner and Inn keeper of Salem’s most historic Inn. [It] was built in 1667 and [has] been a bed and breakfast since 1945. I purchased the inn in 1962 and ran it as a B&B for 22 years.”<sup>274</sup>

As of its closure, The Daniels House maintained a 4.5 rating on Tripadvisor and a 4 on Yelp. One review on Yelp, by Daisy M. in April 2013, describes her experience:

Built in the 17th century, it's three stories high and has nice, roomy guest bedrooms. There's a lot of cool historical facts that our colorful hostess, Kay, pointed out. One of its most notable features, the humongous fireplaces that were taller than me, made me feel like I was on the set of *The Crucible*. We got the largest bedroom, the green room. It was decorated as it would have been 300 years ago with cool/creepy little touches everywhere--like the portraits of men and women whose stern stares seemed to follow us around the room...and the eerie baby's cradle in the extremely large, attached bathroom. I was expecting it to start rocking by itself...but, again, this all added to the fun. It was like Halloween in April.

Kay is a tad on the elderly side and all the way on the deaf side...but she's a dear lady and so sweet. She helpfully gave us a sightseeing map and even told me where I could find some antique shops (we talked enough for her to find out about my antique addiction, but she wasn't the overbearing type that traps you into long conversations either).

A user on Tripadvisor, Marciafl2, wrote of her experience in July 2017:

My daughter and I spent three nights in this living museum. The first two nights were spent in the Great Room. This spacious and beautiful room offers everything you need for a cozy night of rest. I wanted to take the soft bed sheets home with me! Before bed, I

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<sup>270</sup> Annual Listing for the City of Salem, 1968. Print. p. 10.

<sup>271</sup> Annual Listing for the City of Salem, 1970. Print. p. 10.

<sup>272</sup> Salem Directory, 1970. Print, p. 249.

<sup>273</sup> Annual Listing for the City of Salem, 1972. Print. p. 10.

<sup>274</sup> “Kay Gill Daniels House,” Facebook. Electronic. Accessed 12 Jun 2019.

curled up in an antique chair and browsed through one of the many books found throughout the home. There is a small T.V. provided, but I never found it necessary to turn it on- there was too much to look at in the room. The Great Room is actually comprised of a large bedroom, a small bedroom, and a private bath. My daughter slept in the small bedroom and found it very comfortable. I didn't want to get out of my bed in the large bedroom!

The last night was spent in the upper-most room in the house. The Acorn room, which is actually like a suite of rooms, is very private. There is a medium-sized bedroom, a small bedroom, a private bathroom connected by a hallway with a small sitting area. The room was gorgeous and serene with plenty of large antique chairs that I snuggled right into for reading. My daughter and I slept soundly through the night.

After operating the Daniels House as an inn for over 55 years, Catherine "Kay" Gill passed away at age 86 on March 19th, 2018.

### **XIII. Castle of the Realm, LLC., 2019-**

In January of 2019, Castle of the Realm, L.L.C. purchased 1 Daniels Street for \$570,000 from William F. Quinn, Catherine Gill's executor, and her heirs.<sup>275</sup> Castle of the Realm, L.L.C. is a real estate investment company founded by Patrick Bentivegna. In 2019, the companies offered properties for sale in Lynnfield, Massachusetts, and Clearwater, Florida.

Over the course of 2019, a restoration has been undertaken with the work of Charles Knight Restoration.

### **XIV. Conclusion**

Undoubtedly one of the oldest houses in Salem, The Daniels House was constructed by Stephen Daniels I or Stephen Daniels II between 1667 and 1693. It is a largely original First Period structure of great historic importance. For the first century and a half of its history, the house was occupied by shipbuilders and carpenters, as is reflected in the fine paneling and

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<sup>275</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds, Deed 37293:198. 22 Jan 2019.

interior detail of various generations. Daniels and his son were both shipbuilders and mariners. In the mid-1700s, Stephen Daniels II's daughter Mary married into the Silsbee family and lived in the house until 1803. Her son, Samuel Silsbee, was a carpenter who remodeled and enlarged the house around the time of his marriage to Martha Prince in 1756.

Silsbee's heirs divided the house into two properties, listed as numbers 1 and 3 Daniels Street in the mid-1800s. When his daughters died in 1860s, the properties were sold to other families.

For about a century, the house endured what Samuel Chamberlain called in 1950 "many vicissitudes." It was subdivided into a double house of at least four apartments, served as a "day nursery" and a boarding house, and had an ever rotating group of widows, laborers, railroad and shoe workers living in it for the better part of fifty years. The house was vacant after a foreclosure in the Great Depression for almost 20 years.

Afterwards it was loving cared for and filled with antiques by Theodore Perry and Winifred Haller, who operated the first floor as a historic tea room. In 1962, the Hallers sold the house to Thomas and Catherine Gill. Catherine "Kay" Gill collected a new treasury of antiques and operated the house first as a bed and breakfast and then as an inn for 55 years until her death in 2018. In 2019, new owners hope to reopen the house as a bed and breakfast.

The long history (at least three centuries, likely three and a half) of the Daniels House has made it home to various elements of the Salem story: the seventeenth and eighteenth century maritime trades, the proliferation of organizations and societies in the nineteenth, the working class and immigrant nature of the city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the growing pace of antiquarianism and preservation in the early twentieth century, and the growth of tourism in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

The rotating private ownership and occupancy, coupled with the late appreciation of its antiquarian character allowed the house to experience the twentieth century changes of Salem more richly than other seventeenth-century buildings in the city, such as the John Ward House, the House of the Seven Gables, or the Pickering House. In turn, that makes the survival of its original elements all the more astonishing.

In addition to its exceptional architectural character and irreplaceable ancient details, this house's history makes it a true American gem. The Daniels House tells us what Salem has been, almost back to the city's beginning.

**TABLE 1- Ownership History of 1 Daniels Street**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Conveyed to</b>	<b>Conveyed by</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>Page</b>
22 Jan 2019	Castle of the Realm, LLC	William F. Quinn, Margaret Gamble, Joseph McGraw, Mary Waser, Grace Stockman, and Tara Gill Alfonso	\$570,000	3729 3	198
15 Oct 1962	Thomas E. Gill, Catherine B. Gill, Mary Bertino	Thomas E. Gill, Catherine B. Gill		4999	85
11 Jun 1962	Thomas E. Gill, Catherine B. Gill,	Theodore Perry Haller	\$17,000	4929	256
8 Aug 1945	Theodore Perry Haller	Marietta B. Wilkins, widow	Consideration Paid	3421	444
8 Feb. 1933	Marietta B. Wilkins	The Salem Five Cents Savings Bank	Consideration Paid	2945	352
10 Sep 1932	The Salem Five Cents Savings Bank	Stephen Burger, Rebecca S. Burger, and Sarah R. Dexter	Foreclosure	2927	221
21 Dec 1904	Stephen Burger, Rebecca S. Burger, and Sarah R. Dexter	The Salem Five Cents Savings Bank	\$900	1766	226
8 Oct 1883	Sarah S. Russell	William H. Jelly, guardian of Marion H. Jelly	\$91.67	1117	224

8 Oct 1883	Sarah S. Russell	Margaret C. Hanson, Sarah E. Hodges, Gamaliel Hodges, Clara H. Jelly, William M. Jelly	\$1008.33	1117	225
22 Nov 1860	Elizabeth Hodges, wife of Joseph Hodges	Estate of Sarah Reed	\$885	615	273
18 Aug 1857	John W. Russell	Nathaniel S. Hood, Stephen Whipple, Martha P. Whipple, Mary E. Peck, Lucy A. Peck, Margaret S. Peck, Samuel S. Thompson, Harriet R. Thompson, Asa Hood, Samuel Leach, Julia A. Leach, David Ranney, Sarah R. Ranney, Thomas P.R. Hood, John S. Hood, Job Curtis, Mary Curtis, John Peck, Rebecca Peck,	\$720	558	40
18 Aug 1818	Sarah Reed, wife of Haffield White Reed	Daniel Sage, Deborah Sage, Samuel Silsbee, and Rebeckah Silsbee	\$1	219	57
29 Mar 1748/9	Mary Silsbee, widow	Stephen Daniell, shipwright	£400	93	54
1693	Stephen Daniell	Joseph Grafton	£10	9	127