

HISTORIC SALEM INC

42 Warren Street

Salem, MA

Built for

Mary J. Sheehan

1915

After the great Salem fire

Researched and written by Amy Kellett, Public History Services Inc.

March 2020

Historic Salem, Inc.

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42 WARREN STREET | SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

COLONIAL-REVIVAL STYLE HOME BUILT IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE GREAT SALEM FIRE OF 1914

BUILT FOR

MARY J. SHEEHAN

1915

AFTER THE GREAT SALEM FIRE

HOME OF SALEM HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

MAURICE B. SMITH

1920-1935

Researcher's Note:

The contents of this report are based on research done through the Southern Essex County Registry of Deeds, the Salem City Directory archives, Salem Street Books, Tax Assessment Records, and other primary sources. (Where secondary sources have been quoted or otherwise referred to, there are corresponding citation footnotes and/or appendices.) This report is completed to the best of my knowledge at the time of its publication. However, I reserve the right to update, revise, and otherwise edit this report if and/or when new information is discovered.


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March 2020*

Amy E. Kellett
Researcher & Author

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The home that now stands numbered 42 Warren Street in the McIntire District of Salem was built in the aftermath of the Great Salem Fire of 1914. Prior to the disastrous conflagration that destroyed more than 250 acres of Salem's homes and businesses, the plot of land which now stands underneath both 42 and 44 Warren Street belonged to a single home (built prior to 1851), and was the residence of Caleb Foote until 1894. Mr. Foote made his fortune in the journalism and printing business, becoming a publisher of the Salem Gazette and the Essex County Mercury newspapers during the latter half of the 19th century. Upon his death at the age of 91 in June of 1894, the Boston Globe published a long article recounting his illustrious life, declaring Foote to be "truly a self-made man, and a noteworthy instance of the admirable substitute which the printing office and editorial chair may be for the training school and college to an apt pupil."

<p>FULL OF YEARS.</p> <hr/> <p>Hon Caleb Foote Passes From Life.</p> <hr/> <p>Veteran Journalist Dies at the Age of 91.</p> <hr/> <p>He Was One of Salem's Most Noted Citizens.</p> <hr/> <p>Served the State in Several Public Positions.</p> <hr/> <p>Won His Position in Life by His Own Efforts.</p>	 <p>HON CALEB FOOTE.</p>
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18 JUNE 1894 BOSTON GLOBE OBITUARY OF CALEB FOOTE

SALEM'S LEGENDARY JOURNALIST AND PUBLISHER PASSED AWAY IN 1894 AT THE AGE OF 91, AND HAD BEEN A RESIDENT OF 44 WARREN STREET SINCE PRIOR TO 1851.

468

SALEM DIRECTORY.

THE SALEM GAZETTE

—AND—

Essex County Mercury.

THE SALEM GAZETTE,

[ESTABLISHED 1768],

IS PUBLISHED ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY MORNINGS,
FOR \$3.50 PER ANNUM, PAID IN ADVANCE,

Or \$4.00 if paid Semi-Annually NOT in Advance.

It will be found to present a faithful transcript of the Local and County news, good general reading for the entertainment of the family, original correspondence from distant points, editorials upon passing topics, and a good statement of the current news of the day, domestic and foreign.

THE ESSEX COUNTY MERCURY

Is made up from the reading matter of the Salem Gazette, and published as a weekly edition of the Gazette, for \$2.00 per annum in advance, or \$2.50 otherwise. It circulates both in Salem and in the country towns of Essex County (for the most part in the country), and is regularly and extensively read and known throughout the county. Being made up from the same reading matter, the Mercury partakes of the same general characteristics of the Salem Gazette.

TO ADVERTISERS:

The SALEM GAZETTE is circulated mainly in Salem; the ESSEX COUNTY MERCURY principally out of Salem, in the County of Essex. Every new advertisement in the Gazette has an insertion also in the Mercury, without additional charge. There is not a city or town in Essex County, where the Gazette or Mercury is not taken. In Beverly, Marblehead, Peabody, Danvers, Middleton, Lynnfield, Wenham, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, Topsfield, Georgetown, Boxford, Essex, Manchester, and even in several of the towns more remote from Salem, the circulation is large. Every new advertisement is placed before about 3,500 subscribers. There is scarcely a month through the year when the circulation is not at times in excess of this. As both the Gazette and Mercury are largely sent into distinct families, and are largely exchanged with other families in country neighborhoods, we presume it is a fair estimate to say that these papers have full *twenty thousand distinct readers* every week.

BOOK, JOB FANCY PRINTING,

EXECUTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE

SALEM GAZETTE & ESSEX COUNTY MERCURY,

IN THE BEST STYLE AND ON FAVORABLE TERMS,

By FOOTE & HORTON,

Hale's Building, 223 Essex Street.

CALEB FOOTE.

N. A. HORTON.

1880 SALEM CITY DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENT

THE SALEM GAZETTE AND ESSEX COUNTY MERCURY, PUBLISHED BY CALEB FOOTE &
N. A. HORTON, IN HALE'S BUILDING LOCATED AT 223 ESSEX STREET

After the passing of Caleb Foote, the home numbered 44 Warren Street became the residence of local grocer, Lewis R. Pratt and his wife, Mrs. Mary W. Pratt. Lewis Pratt lived in the home until his passing on July 5th, 1899, after which time his widow continued to live in the home until 1903. For two years, the house was occupied by furniture pattern maker, Clarence R. Jameson. In 1905 the property was sold from the Estate of Mary W. Pratt to Salem local, Mary J. Sheehan:

[...] I, WALTER P. PRATT OF SALEM [...] AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MARY W. PRATT LATE OF SAID SALEM, DECEASED [...] SOLD THE REAL ESTATE OF THE SAID DECEASED, HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON THE TWENTY FIRST DAY OF JUNE A.D. 1905 TO MARY J. SHEEHAN, WIFE OF JOHN J. SHEEHAN, OF SAID SALEM, FOR THE SUM OF THIRTY NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY SIX DOLLARS, WHICH AMOUNT WAS BID BY THE SAID MARY J. SHEEHAN [...] A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON SITUATE ON WARREN STREET IN SAID SALEM, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, VIZ.: SOUTHERLY BY WARREN STREET EIGHTY NINE AND TWO TENTHS FEET (89.2); SOUTHWESTERLY BY LAND NOW OR LATE OF AUSTIN FIFTY NINE AND ONE TENTH FEET (59.1); NORTHWESTERLY BY LAND CONVEYED BY SAID MARY W. PRATT TO THE CITY OF SALEM, ON FOUR COURSES MEASURING RESPECTIVELY FORTY ONE AND FOUR TENTHS FEET (41.4) NINE FEET (9), ONE AND FIVE TENTHS FEET (1.5), FIFTY EIGHT AND FIVE TENTHS FEET (58.5); NORTHEASTERLY BY LAND NOW OR LATE OF HATHAWAY FORTY SIX AND FIFTY FIVE HUNDREDTHS FEET; AND BY LAND LATE OF VARNEY FIFTY FOUR FEET (54).¹

Mary Sheehan resided around the corner at 400 Essex Street while renting the property at 44 Warren Street to various tenants. For the first year of ownership, Sheehan kept the pattern maker, Clarence Jameson, as a tenant through 1905. From 1906 through 1909 the home was occupied by Boston-based traveling salesman, Thomas R. Sheehan (undoubtedly a relative of the property's owner, Mary J. Sheehan). The subsequent three years the property served as a home for Boston insurance agent, John P. Hart, through 1913. In 1914, Boston clerk Ralph

¹ SOUTHERN ESSEX CO. REGISTRY OF DEEDS — BOOK 1785; PAGE 436 — ESTATE OF MARY W. PRATT (WALTER P. PRATT, ADMIN.) TO MARY J. SHEEHAN (1 JULY 1905)

Lawson was renting the property at 44 Warren Street from Mary R. Sheehan when a fire sparked in the nearby Blubber Hollow neighborhood of Salem. During the late-morning hours of Thursday, June 25th in 1914 a spontaneous explosion of combustible materials in the Korn Leather Factory ignited a fire, which soon raced out of control, as the west wind was high and the season had been dry. The next building caught fire, and the next, and out of Blubber Hollow the fire roared easterly, a monstrous front of flame and smoke, wiping out the houses of Boston Street, Essex Street, and upper Broad Street, and then sweeping through Warren, Hathorne, Winthrop, Endicott, and other residential streets.



25 JUNE 1914 — THE GREAT SALEM FIRE

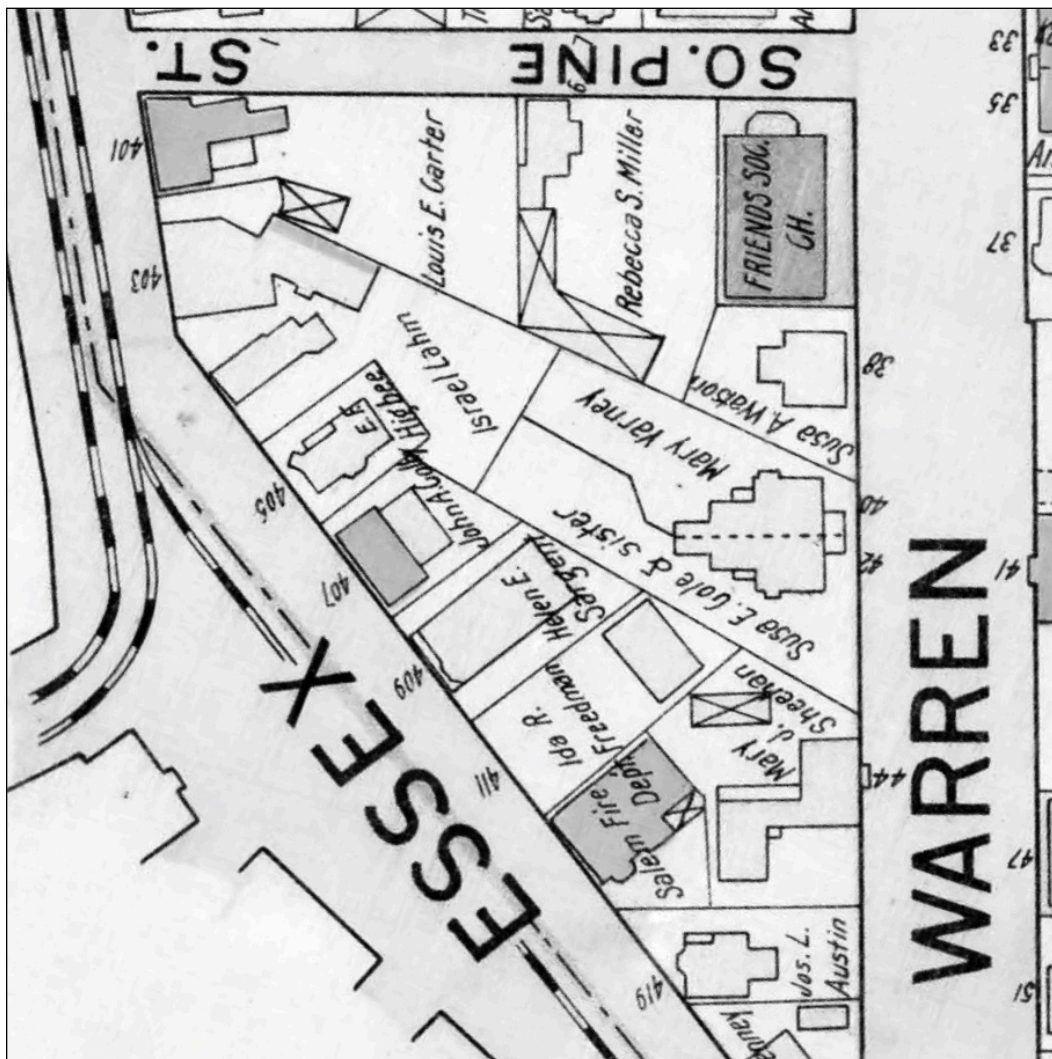
APPROXIMATELY 256 ACRES OF THE CITY BURNED TO THE GROUND IN 13 HOURS, DESTROYING THE HOMES AND BUSINESSES OF THOUSAND'S OF SALEM RESIDENTS.

Mary J. Sheehan lost two properties in the conflagration, both the former residence of Caleb Foote at 44 Warren Street, and her own home at 400 Essex Street. Fortunately, both properties were insured, (albeit underinsured,) making it possible for Sheehan to commission the rebuilding of the home that now stands at 400 Essex (on the corner of Essex and North Pine Streets), and the two homes

Shaw, Mrs. J. Grover. Res. (W).	39
Cabot, A. L. \$1000, A. B. \$2000, I. C. \$500.	
Sheehan, Mary J. Res. (W), 400 Essex,	
A. L. \$1500, A. B. \$3000.	
Sheehan, Mary J. Res. (W), 44 War-	
ren, A. L. \$900, A. B. \$3500, I. B. \$2000.	
Shepard, Lizzie C. 2 Family Res. (W).	

1914 PUBLICATION — DATA ON THE BURNED DISTRICT OF SALEM, MASS.

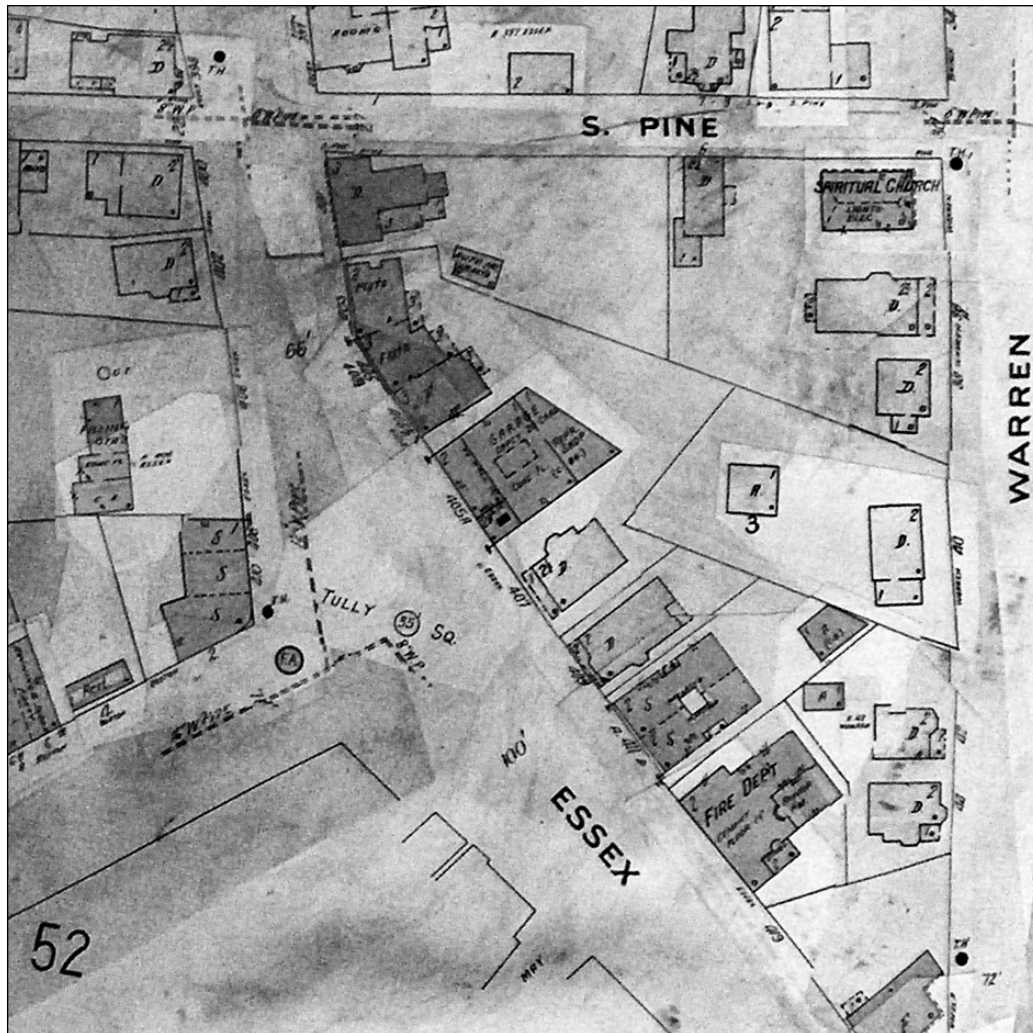
MANY OF SALEM'S RESIDENTS WERE UNDERINSURED AGAINST THE FIRE IN 1914, INCLUDING MARY J. SHEEHAN WHOSE PROPERTIES AT 400 ESSEX AND 44 WARREN STREETS WERE VALUED AT \$8900, WHILE THE BUILDING AT 44 WARREN WAS THE ONLY ONE INSURED, FOR \$2000.



1911 SALEM CITY ATLAS — PLATE 16 — 44 WARREN ST. SALEM, MASS.

MARY J. SHEEHAN, NOTED AS THE OWNER OF 44 WARREN STREET, ALONG WITH HUNDREDS OF OTHER HOMEOWNERS, LANDLORDS, AND THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS, LOST EVERYTHING JUST THREE YEARS AFTER THIS PUBLICATION.

that now stand numbered 42 and 44 Warren Street. As many of Salem's property owners did in the aftermath of the Great Fire of 1914, Mary J. Sheehan rented the two homes at 42 and 44 Warren Street to recoup a portion of her Estate's value that had been lost in the flames. Evidently, Sheehan wasted no time rebuilding, and by the time City-wide fire insurance map was drawn in April of 1915, both the newly built 42 and 44 Warren Street appear as completed dwelling houses. It is likely that the two homes were built (at least partially) on the footprint that remained from Caleb Foote's home after the fire debris was cleared — thus, Sheehan doubled her income from what had been a single rental property.



1915 INSURANCE MAP — AREA OF WARREN, ESSEX PINE STREETS — SALEM, MASS.
 IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE GREAT FIRE, MARY J. SHEEHAN QUICKLY REBUILT HER HOME AND RENTAL PROPERTIES, MARKED ON THIS APRIL 1915 MAP WITH A 'D' AT 42 AND 44 WARREN STREET (BOTTOM RIGHT) AND 400 ESSEX STREET (TOP LEFT).

Salem's City Resident directory in 1916 lists Charles F. Morey, a Boston-based clerk, and his wife Bessie W. Morey, as the first residents of the newly constructed home, followed by Charles C. Dodge and his wife Alice in the 1917-1918 directories. Charles Dodge served as the Sub-Principal at Salem High school while living at 42 Warren Street until his death on the 25th of March in 1919. The widow Alice R. Dodge resided in the home for another year through 1920, until the property's owner, Mary J. Sheehan, passed away during the beginning months of 1920. Subsequently, the Executor of Sheehan's Estate, Ansel J. Cheney, sold the home at 42 Warren Street to Maurice & Beth Sylvia Smith in September of 1920:

I, ANSEL J. CHENEY OF BEVERLY [...] EXECUTOR OF THE WILL OF MARY J. SHEEHAN, DECEASED, LATE OF SALEM [...] FOR EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS PAID, GRANT TO BETH SYLVIA SMITH OF SAID SALEM, THE LAND IN SAID SALEM WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: SOUTHERLY ON WARREN STREET FORTY FIVE (45) FEET; SOUTHWESTERLY BY LAND NOW OR LATE OF LYNCH FIFTY FOUR (54) FEET; NORTHWESTERLY BY LAND OF SAID SALEM FIFTY FIVE 25/100 (55.25) FEET; NORTHEASTERLY BY LAND NOW OR LATE OF FREEDMAN FORTY SIX 55/100 (46.55) FEET; AND SOUTHEASTERLY BY LAND NOW OR LATE OF COLE FIFTY FOUR (54) FEET.²

The newly-married couple took up residence at the nearly-new Colonial Revival house at 42 Warren Street, and mortgaged the home to the Salem Savings Bank for \$5000 the following month on the 25th of October. Maurice Smith, then aged 47, had just taken the position of Principal at the Salem Public High School when he and his wife, Beth Sylvia Smith (née Hayward) made their home at 42 Warren. Beth Sylvia was eighteen years her husband's junior, turning twenty-nine on the 9th of November in 1920, the same year the Smith couple purchased the home.

² SOUTHERN ESSEX CO. REGISTRY OF DEEDS — BOOK 2467; PAGE 462 — ESTATE OF MARY J. SHEEHAN (ANSEL J. CHENEY, ADMIN.) TO BETH SYLVIA SMITH (9 SEPTEMBER 1920)

While Beth Sylvia originated from the Easton, Mass. area, Maurice B. Smith had made his home in Salem (as well as several other cities and towns throughout Massachusetts) earlier in his career. Maurice Billings Smith was born in Ohio on the 28th of November, 1872 to Jerusha Augusta Bushnell and Judson Smith — A publication entitled 'The Descendants of John Mack of Lyme, Connecticut' provides details about Maurice B. Smith's ancestry, especially the academic and professional achievements of Maurice's father, Judson Smith:

Judson Smith b. June 28, 1837, Middlefield, Mass., m. Aug. 1, 1865, Jerusha Augusta Bushnell (dau. Seth A. Bushnell, of Hartford, Ohio), b. Feb. 16, 1843, Hartford, Ohio. For years she has been President of the Woman's branch A.B.C.F. Missions.

He pursued his predatory studies at home and at Williston Seminary. He was an undergraduate in New York Central College [...] tutor in Eleutherian College, Indiana [...] completed the studies of the junior year in Oberlin College, Ohio, and spent the senior year at Amherst College, Massachusetts, where he graduated with the class of 1859.³

Judson & J. Augusta Smith raised four children — three girls and one boy: Gertrude Bushnell, born March 10th, 1870 (who went on to graduate from Wellesley College, and then become a Greek professor at Plainesville, Ohio); Maurice Billings, born on the 28th of November 1872 (eventually became the Principal of Salem High School and resident of 42 Warren Street in Salem); Mary Caroline, born on March 2, 1880 (became a teacher at her own Alma Mater, Wellesley College); and Margaret Augusta, who was born March 2, 1884 (her sister, Mary's, 4th birthday). The children were raised in Ohio while their father, Judson Smith, served in several positions, including Professor of Church History and Modern History at Oberlin College, as well as President of the Board of Education for the village of Oberlin from 1872 to 1884. Certainly, academics and education was an important part of the Smith family experience and legacy.

³ MACK GENEALOGY: THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN MACK OF LYME, CONN. PAGES 185-187. (1905)

As a young man, Maurice B. Smith attended Amherst College beginning at the age of 21 in 1893, earning his teaching degree by the end of the 19th century. Regional directories through the first years of the 20th century note Mr. Smith as working in Holliston, Quincy, and Penn Charter School in Philadelphia. The 1910 Federal Census shows Maurice B. Smith made his living as a Public School teacher, and home in South Salem, boarding with the Williams Family (along with a half-dozen other public school teachers) at 255 Lafayette Street. The following year, the Boston Globe featured single-sentence story at the bottom of the ninth page of the Wednesday, November 1st 1911 edition: "Salem Submaster to Leave — Salem, Oct 31—Maurice B. Smith, submaster of the Salem High School, was today elected principal of the Gardner High School and accepted the position.⁴ For the next nine years, Mr. Smith served as the Principal of the Gardner High School while making his home at 35 Cedar Street in Gardner, Mass.

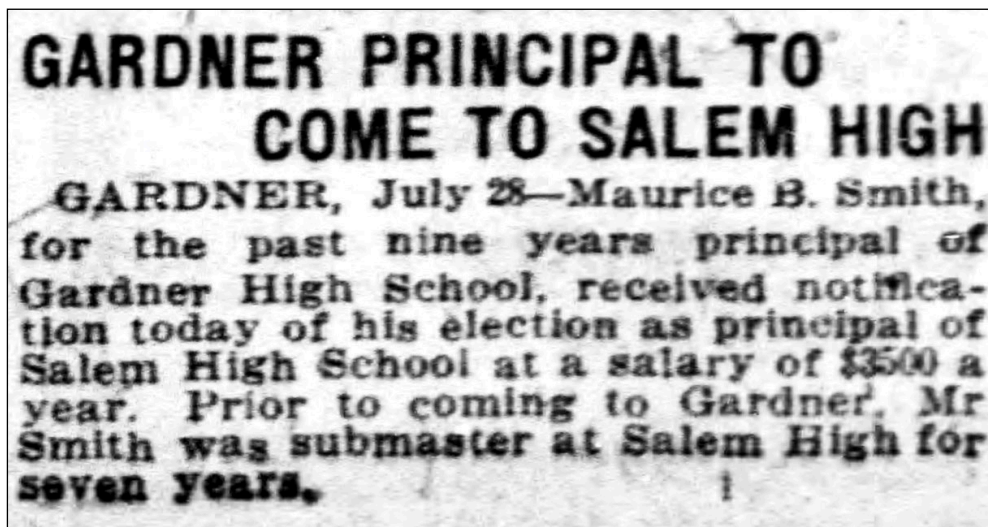
REGISTRATION CARD										
SERIAL NUMBER	1866				ORDER NUMBER	229				
1	Maurice Billings Smith (First name) (Middle name) (Last name)									
2	PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: 35 Cedar Gardner Worcester Mass (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)									
Age in Years	Date of Birth									
3 45	4 November 28		1872 (Month) (Day) (Year)							
R A C E										
White			Negro		Oriental		Indian			
5	6		7		8		9		10	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
U. S. CITIZEN					ALIEN					
Native Born			Naturalized		Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority			Declarant		Non-declarant
10	11		12		13		14		15	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>										
15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject?										
PRESENT OCCUPATION					EMPLOYER'S NAME					
16	Teacher				17 Town of Gardner					
18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS:										
High school Gardner Worcester Mass (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)										
19 NEAREST RELATIVE										
Name Gertrude B. Smith Address Middlebury Conn. (No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)										
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE										
P. M. G. O. Maurice B. Smith Form No. 1 (Red) 63-6171 (Registrant's signature or mark) (OVER)										

1918 U.S. DRAFT REGISTRATION
— MAURICE B. SMITH

MAURICE BILLINGS SMITH REGISTERED FOR THE DRAFT IN 1918, AT THE AGE OF 45, WHEN HE WAS LIVING IN (AND WORKING FOR) GARDNER, MASS. AS THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL. HE NOTES HIS NEAREST RELATIVE AS HIS OLDER SISTER, GERTRUDE B. SMITH, THEN LIVING IN MIDDLEBURY, CONNECTICUT.

⁴ THE BOSTON DAILY GLOBE (VOL. LXXX—NO. 124) — SALEM SUBMASTER TO LEAVE — 1 NOV 1911

Maurice B. Smith began the second decade of the 20th century living, working, and renting in Gardner, Mass. — but 1920 would prove to be an eventful year for the middle-aged educator. To begin, he met and married a young woman, a fellow educator (who happened to be eighteen years younger than himself) Easton, Massachusetts native, Beth Sylvia Hayward. Then, by the end of the academic year in June of 1920, Maurice B. Smith accepted the position of 'principal' at Salem High School, and agreed to relocate himself and his new wife to Salem, a city with which he had called home earlier in his life, as the Boston Daily Globe⁵ reported in July, 1920:



1920 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE — MAURICE B. SMITH BECOMES SALEM HIGH PRINCIPAL AFTER SERVING NINE YEARS AS PRINCIPAL OF THE GARDNER HIGH SCHOOL, MAURICE B. SMITH (ALONG WITH HIS NEW WIFE, SYLVIA) RELOCATED TO SALEM, WHERE THEY PURCHASED THE HOME AT 42 WARREN STREET SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

Maurice, and his wife Beth Sylvia Smith, purchased the home at 42 Warren Street in September of 1920, at about the same time that the Fall semester began for the first of fifteen years of tenure at Salem High School for Mr. Maurice B. Smith. He was an involved and even-handed leader as principal at Salem High School, detailed in the following Boston Globe articles through Mr. Smith's career:

⁵ THE BOSTON DAILY GLOBE (VOL. XCVIII—No. 29) — *GARDNER PRINCIPAL TO COME TO SALEM HIGH* — 29 JUL 1920

1924 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE
— MR. & MRS. MAURICE B.
SMITH AT SALEM HIGH JR. PROM

THE 1924 GRAND MARCH FOR
THE SALEM HIGH JUNIOR PROM
OF 1924 WAS LED BY THE
PRINCIPAL MR. MAURICE B.
SMITH AND HIS WIFE, MRS. BETH
SYLVIA SMITH, ALONG WITH THE
SALEM HIGH SCHOOL VICE
PRINCIPAL AND HIS WIFE, MR. &
MRS. WILLIAM R. BARRY. ALL
FOUR SERVED AS PATRONS AND
PATRONESSES OF THE PROM.

SALEM HIGH JUNIOR PROM ATTENDED BY 300 COUPLES

SALEM, May 10—Under auspices of the class of 1925, High School, the annual junior promenade last evening was successful. The school auditorium was prettily decorated in the class colors, and 300 couples enjoyed the dancing.

Pres Raymond McCormack led the grand march with Mrs Maurice B. Smith, wife of Principal Smith. The patrons and patronesses were Principal and Mrs Maurice B. Smith and Vice Principal and Mrs William R. Barry. The dance was the last of a series of High School socials for the season.

POLISH CLUBS HONOR SALEM HIGH CAPTAIN

Special Dispatch to the Globe

SALEM, Feb 9—Three hundred Polish citizens, Mayor George J. Bates, members of the School Committee, Principal Maurice B. Smith, Supt of Schools George M. Bemis and Coach Robert W. (Bill) Broderick, gathered at the Hotel Hawthorne here tonight, where Ceslaus Antosewski, captain-elect of the 1926 high school football eleven, was tendered a testimonial banquet by the Polish Students Society and other Salem Polish organizations.

Capt-elect Antosewski, regular right halfback on the "Big Black" eleven for the past three seasons, is the first of his nationality to be honored with the football captaincy in the history of S. H. 'S. athletics.

Following the banquet, speeches were delivered by Mayor Bates, Fr Joseph Czubek, Principal Smith, Supt Bemis, the School Committee members, Coach Broderick and Capt Walke of the 1925 team.

Alphonse S. Bachorowski, Salem attorney, was toastmaster. Antosewski also spoke a few words, expressing his appreciation for the remarkable tribute paid him by his friends. The committee in charge included Alphonse Drankowski, Felix Kowalski, Max Kowalski, Joseph Bachorowski and Frank Ciesinski.

1926 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE —
POLISH CITIZENS OF SALEM & PRINCIPAL
MAURICE B. SMITH HONOR FIRST POLISH
SALEM HIGH FOOTBALL CAPTAIN

MAURICE B. SMITH ATTENDED (ALONG
WITH 300 OF SALEM'S POLISH RESIDENTS)
A TESTIMONIAL BANQUET BY THE POLISH
STUDENTS SOCIETY RELATING TO THE
ELECTION OF THE SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
CAPTAIN-ELECT, CESLAUS ANTOWSEWSKI,
THE FIRST POLISH STUDENT TO BE
'HONORED WITH THE FOOTBALL
CAPTAINCY' IN THE HISTORY OF SALEM
HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS IN THE CITY OF
SALEM'S TRICENTENNIAL YEAR.

FOUR FOOTBALL PLAYERS AT SALEM REINSTATED

SALEM, Sept 29—Four members of the Salem High School football team, who earlier in the week were suspended from school for unauthorized absence from classes on Monday, were reinstated today in their classrooms. Whether they will return immediately in the good graces of football coach, Bill Broderick, remains to be seen. They will probably be available for the game next Saturday at Waltham, however.

One boy has not been reinstated as yet, Principal Maurice B. Smith of the high school said today. His was an aggravated case, said Mr Smith, and his parents will be consulted before he goes back to school. The principal did not care to give the names of the players who were "on the carpet."

1931 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE — 31 MARCH — SALEM MAYOR REQUESTS CHECK ON ATHLETIC SPENDING

MAYOR GEORGE J. BATES PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO CURTAIL SALEM HIGH SCHOOL AND THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S SPENDING ON SALEM HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS. THE ATHLETIC INSTRUCTOR AND FOOTBALL COACH, ROBERT W. BRODERICK, WAS PAID SEPARATELY FOR EACH ROLE: \$4000 ANNUALLY AS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, AND \$2700 AS FOOTBALL COACH, FOR A TOTAL \$6700 ANNUAL SALARY. MEANWHILE, PRINCIPAL MAURICE B. SMITH'S SALARY AMOUNTED TO \$4000 ANNUALLY — NOTING A DISPROPORTIONATE SPENDING ON ATHLETICS (THAT CONTINUES A CENTURY LATER).

1926 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLE — FOUR SUSPENDED SALEM HIGH FOOTBALL PLAYERS REINSTATED BY PRINCIPAL MAURICE B. SMITH

PRINCIPAL MAURICE B. SMITH SUSPENDED FOUR SALEM HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYERS FOR 'UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCE' — ONE STUDENT, ACCORDING TO PRINCIPAL SMITH, WAS AN 'AGGRAVATED CASE'.

WANT SALEM HIGH SPORTS COST CHECK

**\$6700 Salary of Athletic
Head, \$4000 to School Head**

Mayor George J. Bates of Salem appeared before the Legislative Committee on Municipal Finance yesterday and urged enactment of legislation of a protective nature for that city in handling receipts and expenditures for High School athletic contests.

Robert W. Broderick is paid annually \$4000 as athletic instructor and \$2700 a year as football coach at Salem High School, Mayor Bates told the committee. He said Principal Maurice B. Smith of the Salem High School receives an annual salary of only \$4000 and Supt of Schools George M. Bemis \$4700. Mayor Bates praised Coach Broderick but said a check is necessary on athletic expenditures.

The Mayor said there is no general legislation to cover this matter and recommended that receipts and expenditures be subjected to the approval of the Mayor and City Council or that a four-fifths vote of the School Committee be required.

He pointed out that several thousands of dollars are taken in each year at Salem and that there is a serious question of legality as to whether or not and how the money could or should be expended. A few years ago there was an athletic indebtedness of \$27,000 and now there is a surplus of \$11,000.

Representative Francis E. Rafter said nobody wants the surplus to be held and yet nobody knows what to do or what can be done with the money. He thought it advisable to have legislation so expenditures could be made legally.

SALEM H. S. STUDENTS THREATEN STRIKE

Boo and Heckle Principal as He Explains Extra Hour Ruling—Police Called

SALEM, Jan 26—Booing, howling, razzing and heckling Principal Maurice B. Smith, Salem High School boys and girls were only kept in order today by police protection at a special assembly convoked to ward off a threatened strike of students.

The students are incensed at the recent order promulgated extending the session an hour daily, instead of letting them out early enough to go home for dinner.

"Boycott the Lunchroom" read signs scrawled conspicuously today on bulletin boards all over the school building.

Principal Smith called a special assembly today to pacify the students but only the presence of Sergt Thomas F. Hyde and his men kept the unruly pupils in check. At times it was impossible to hear the principal talking.

Referring to the order, effective Feb. 1, extending the school hours from 8:15 a m to 2 p m, instead of dismissal at 1:10 as in the past, Principal Smith said to the pupils:

Warns Against Strike

"You have nothing to gain by a strike. The longer hours have been ordered by the School Committee.

"If you don't like the idea, I advise you to go about the matter in an orderly manner, working through your parents or appealing directly to the School Committee yourselves."

Since the order for the extra period daily was made public the first of this week, the entire student body has been milling about corridors and grounds in recess and before and after school, discussing ways and means of having the order rescinded. The majority declared themselves in favor of a strike. Committees were appointed and petitions prepared to which hundreds of student signatures were affixed.

Reason given for the School Committee's action in lengthening the school day was that a comparative study had shown high schools in Boston and other Massachusetts cities to have a higher average of scholarship than Salem. The committee found that the higher-rated schools all maintained a schedule of seven periods daily, affording more chance for supervised study and preparation of lessons. Salem High has had but six periods daily, the students attending from 8:15 to 1:10 daily.

POLICE CALLED

SALEM HIGH PUPILS VICTORS IN PROTEST OF LONGER DAY

School Board Rescinds Vote—Strike Threat Causes Indefinite Postponement

Special Dispatch to the Globe

SALEM, Jan 29—A cheering victory was won tonight by the local High School students—who had threatened to strike Thursday if they were placed on a proposed seven-period day—when the School Board officials unanimously reversed their former decision and voted to put the plan off indefinitely.

Nearly the entire student body of 1600 pupils signed a petition opposing the lengthened day, which was adopted at a meeting of the School Board last week by a vote of 5 to 2.

The signers of the petition threat-

ened to strike the day following the new rule went into effect.

While more than 100 parents came to the meeting of the board tonight, crowds of students gathered outside and cheered for a short day. The extreme cold drove most of the students away, leaving but few to cheer when the vote was announced at 10:30.

A forecast of the vote was given this afternoon when Maurice B. Smith, principal of the High School, said that he thought it would be best not to put the longer day into effect at this time. George M. Bemis, superintendent of schools, said that his reason for wanting the seven-period day was that Salem would then have the same length school day as other cities in the State.

For Rhode Island, Connecticut and Southeastern New York: Mostly cloudy tonight, Saturday generally fair and warmer.

For Northern New England and Northeastern New York: Cloudy with slowly rising temperature, probably light snow tonight, Saturday generally fair and warmer.

The Temperature Today

The thermometer at Thompson's Spa records the temperature up to 3 p m today as follows:

1933		1934		
3 a m.....	41	39	1 p m.....	42
6 a m.....	40	38	2 p m.....	42
9 a m.....	39	37	3 p m.....	42
12 m.....	41	37		

1934 BOSTON GLOBE ARTICLES — 26 & 29 JANUARY — MAURICE B. SMITH AND SALEM HIGH SCHOOL BOARD ATTEMPT TO EXTEND SCHOOL DAY FROM 8:15AM TO 1:10PM

CIRCUMSTANCES NEARLY TURNED VIOLENT BETWEEN THE SALEM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATION WHEN THE BOARD ATTEMPTED TO IMPLEMENT AN ADDITIONAL HOUR TO THE SCHOOL DAY — WHEN PRINCIPAL MAURICE B. SMITH INTRODUCED THE IDEA TO STUDENTS, THEY RESPONDED BY BOOING, HISSING, AND THREATENING TO STRIKE AGAINST THEIR PRINCIPAL. THE STUDENTS' TACTIC PROVED EFFECTIVE, AND THREE DAYS LATER THE BOSTON GLOBE REPORTED THE SCHOOL EXTENDED SCHOOL DAY IN SALEM WOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED AT THAT TIME.

Just a year after the drama at Salem High School over the potential of an extended school day, Maurice B. Smith took ill and required surgery at Salem Hospital. Unfortunately, an infection in Mr. Smith's kidneys set in and his body gave out — Maurice B. Smith passed away on the evening of July 21st, 1935, aged just 62. The Salem Evening News reported the sad event the following day:

MAURICE B. SMITH, PRINCIPAL OF SALEM HIGH SCHOOL PASSES

SUCCUMBED TO KIDNEY INFECTION FOLLOWING MAJOR OPERATION; HEAD OF LOCAL SCHOOL SINCE 1920; NOTABLE CAREER

22 JULY — MAURICE BILLINGS SMITH, PRINCIPAL OF THE SALEM HIGH SCHOOL, DIED AT THE AGE OF 62 IN THE SALEM HOSPITAL LAST EVENING FROM A KIDNEY INFECTION FOLLOWING A MAJOR OPERATION.

MR. SMITH CAME FROM A FAMILY OF TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS. HIS FATHER, JUDSON SMITH, WAS A PROFESSOR AT OBERLIN COLLEGE BEFORE HE BECAME SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IN BOSTON. HIS MOTHER, J. AUGUSTA SMITH, ALSO TAUGHT IN OBERLIN AND WAS LATER FOR MANY YEARS PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS. MR. SMITH WAS BORN IN OBERLIN BUT WAS EDUCATED AT THE ROXBURY LATIN SCHOOL OF BOSTON. HE GRADUATED FROM AMHERST COLLEGE, PHI BETA KAPPA, IN THE CLASS OF 1895 WHOSE 40TH REUNION HE HAD JUST ATTENDED WITH HIS FAMILY. HE WAS A CLASSMATE OF THE LATE PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE.

AFTER TEACHING IN HOLLISTON AND QUINCY AND THE PENN CHARTER SCHOOL IN PHILADELPHIA, HE BECAME

PRINCIPAL OF THE GARDNER, MASS. HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HE SERVED FOR NINE YEARS. THEN IN 1920 HE CAME TO SALEM AS PRINCIPAL OF THE HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HE HAD ALREADY SERVED AS SUB-MASTER FROM 1905 TO 1911.

HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE TABERNACLE CHURCH OF SALEM, OF THE PSI Upsilon FRATERNITY, THE QUINTIPED CLUB OF BOSTON, THE SCHOOLMASTERS CLUB AND THE TEN OF US CLUB.

IN 1920, HE MARRIED BETH SYLVIA HAYWARD OF SOUTH EASTON, MASS., WHO SURVIVES HIM TOGETHER WITH ONE DAUGHTER, SYLVIA BUSHNELL. MR. SMITH'S THREE SISTERS ARE MISS GERTRUDE SMITH, RECENTLY OF PITTSBURGH, MISS MARY SMITH OF MONTCLAIR, N.J., AND MISS MARGARET SMITH OF CONWAY, MASS.

ALWAYS A STRICT DISCIPLINARIAN, MR. SMITH NEVERTHELESS EXERCISED A FAIRNESS IN DEALING WITH HIS STUDENTS, WHICH WON FOR HIM THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT OF THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY. HE TOOK AN INDIVIDUAL INTEREST IN ALL HIS PUPILS AND COULD ALWAYS BE RELIED UPON TO DO ANYTHING WITHIN HIS POWER TO AID THEM IN THEIR SCHOOL WORK.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES HE ENJOYED TRAVELING AND WAS A TENNIS ENTHUSIAST.



MAURICE BILLINGS SMITH

*“Not dead,
Just sleeping—
His spirit lives.”*

1935 PORTRAIT — MAURICE B. SMITH — SALEM HIGH PRINCIPAL — 1920-1935
FEATURED IN THE 1936 SALEM HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK, PRINCIPAL AND LONG-TIME RESIDENT
OF 42 WARREN STREET, MAURICE B. SMITH AFTER HIS UNTIMELY PASSING IN 1935.

At just 44 years old, Beth Sylvia Smith found herself a widow with a young daughter, Sylvia Bushnell Smith (then aged just 10), to raise on her own. Evidently, she could not bear continuing to live in the home that she had shared with her husband Maurice, and she sold the property at 42 Warren Street just one month after her husband's passing on the 21st of August, 1935:

I, BETH SYLVIA SMITH OF SALEM, ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS BEING UNMARRIED, FOR CONSIDERATION PAID, GRANT TO HOWARD S. BEECHEY AND ELLEN J. BEECHEY HUSBAND AND WIFE AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY AND NOT AS JOINT TENANTS OR TENANTS IN COMMON OF DANVERS IN SAID COUNTY WITH WARRANTY COVENANTS A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON, SITUATED IN SAID SALEM ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF WARREN STREET AND BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, VIZ.; SOUTHERLY BY SAID WARREN STREET THERE MEASURING FORTY FIVE (45) FEET; SOUTHWESTERLY BY LAND OF ONE LYNCH THERE MEASURING FIFTY FOUR (54) FEET; NORTH WESTERLY BY LAND OF THE CITY OF SALEM THERE MEASURING FIFTY FIVE AND TWENTY FIVE HUNDREDTHS (55.25) FEET; NORTH EASTERLY BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF ONE FREEDMAN THERE MEASURING FORTY SIX AND FIFTY FIVE HUNDREDTHS (46.55) FEET; AND SOUTH EASTERLY BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF ONE COLE THERE MEASURING FIFTY FOUR FEET. BEING THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO ME BY [...] MARY J. SHEEHAN BY DEED DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 1920 AND RECORDED WITH ESSEX COUNTY SOUTH DISTRICT DEEDS BOOK 2467 PAGE 462.⁶

The Widow Smith and her daughter Sylvia relocated back to Beth Sylvia's hometown of Easton, Massachusetts. When the Smiths had vacated the property at 42 Warren Street, the Beechey family took up residence — Howard S., Ellen J., and their five-year-old daughter, Janice. Howard S. Beechey made his living as an Assistant Secretary for Holyoke Mutual Fire Insurance Co. at 39 Norman Street in Salem. The Beechey family remained the owners of 42 Warren Street for the next fifty-five years, until 1990.

⁶ SOUTHERN ESSEX CO. REGISTRY OF DEEDS — BOOK 3043; PAGE 509 — BETH SYLVIA SMITH TO HOWARD S. & ELLEN J. BEECHEY (21 AUGUST 1935)

CHAIN OF TITLE — 1905-2002 — SOUTHERN ESSEX CO. REGISTRY OF DEEDS

1. 1905 Deed (44 Warren Street) — Book 1785 Page 436 — Estate of Mary W. Pratt to Mary J. Sheehan — Executor: Walter P. Pratt
2. 1920 Deed (42 Warren Street) — Book 2467 Page 462 — Estate of Mary J. Sheehan to Beth Sylvia Smith — Executor: Ansel J. Cheney
3. 1935 Deed — Book 3043; Page 509 — Beth Sylvia Smith to Howard S. & Ellen J. Beechey
4. 1990 Deed — Book 10518 Page 43 — Estate of Howard S. & Ellen J. Beechey to Margaret H. & Russell J. MacDonald — Executor: Janet L. Howat
5. 2002 Deed — Book 19034 Page 299 — Margaret H. & Russell J. MacDonald to Victor G. Simonians