

House & Land at 121 Federal Street, Salem, Mass.

This house was built in 1843 for Capt. Joseph Winn (1805-80).

Joseph Winn was born in Salem 4 Ap 1805, the son of Capt. Joseph (1761-1839) and Marcia, Mercy, or Mary (Hunt) Winn (1765-1805, 2 Oct), who had married in Salem on 14 Dec 1788; Capt. Winn Sr. married, secondly, widow Mary Sluman (died 1831) on 14 Sept 1806, and she raised Joseph Jr from infancy.

Like his father, young Joseph was bred to the sea, beginning his maritime career in 1820, at the age of fifteen. He made four voyages on the old ship George, Salem's "school ship." Winn learned his lessons well, and, in 1831, when his captain, William C Dean, died at Calcutta, Joseph assumed command of Dean's vessel and successfully completed the voyage, returning to Salem and his wife, Hannah C Stimpson, whom he had married in Salem on 16 Feb 1829. His next command was the ship Sapphire.

By 1837 Joseph Winn, then living at 80 Boston St, was accounted one of Salem's finest sea captains, and as such was given command of the city's largest vessel, the 463-ton St. Paul, owned by Stephen C Phillips. On 17 Jan 1837, the St Paul cleared New York bound for Manila via Mobile & Liverpool; she returned to Salem one year, three months, and twelve days later, on 29 Ap 1838--Mrs Winn having accompanied her husband the whole voyage!

One month later, Capt. Winn & the St Paul again set sail for Manila, clearing Salem 3 June 1838. The passage to Anjier was made in 90 days, and from Salem to Manila in 100 days--remarkably fine time for this old ship, built for carrying and not for speed. On 11 Nov 1838, Capt Winn sailed for home, and made the passage in 148 days (125 from Anjier, & 53 from St Helena), arriving at Salem on 8 Ap 1839. Her cargo consisted of 5,145 bags of sugar, 2,568 bales of hemp, & other merchandise; she paid duties amounting to \$12,074.95.

Capt. Winn never again commanded the St Paul: by 1842, after a nautical life spent on voyages to the East Indies, the Pacific islands, & other parts of the Far East, he retired from the sea. The St Paul--her figurehead was a white bust of the apostle Paul, & her stern was embellished with a superb carving of the Biblical story of St Paul shaking the viper from his hand into the fire--foundered at Masbata Island in the Straits of San Bernardino, on her fourteenth round-the-world voyage, without loss of life. On that last voyage, her master had prophesied her demise, for the figurehead of St Paul had been removed. A painting exists of the St Paul, in the possession either of the Peabody Museum or the Phillips Memorial on Chestnut Street.

In 1842, the new landsman Joseph Winn resided at 28 Marlboro (now Federal) Street, and was in the wholesale shoe business with S. Driver Jr & Co., 16 Washington Street, Salem. Ashore now for good, Capt Winn kept a weather eye out for a new home, or land on which to build the same; a year later, on 21 Ap 1843, Winn's friend

David Pingree sold him a house lot on Federal Street. Having moved from 28 Marlboro to 51 Federal Street in 1842, Winn was in good position to oversee the construction, next door, of this Greek Revival-style house in the year 1843.

Capt Winn stayed with the firm of S Driver Jr & Co until 1851, when David Pingree, now Mayor of Salem, appointed him City Marshal at \$700 per year--a position Winn held for three years. In 1855, County & Marlboro Streets were made a part of Federal Street, and so #53 became #121 Federal Street. During the Civil War, Winn was an acting volunteer lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, and commanded the U.S. gunboat James L Davis of the East Blockading Squadron. In 1863, Capt Joseph Winn returned to Salem, where he resided at 121 Federal Street until his death 11 Aug 1880.

His widow, Hannah, was willed the estate, then worth \$5800 (see Joseph Winn's probate #57491), and she in turn willed it in trust to the Winns' adopted daughter, Annah, who had married Nathan P Cutler of Newton; on 29 Ap 1901 (Deeds, 1639:547), her trustees sold it to Mary E Read, who then sold it to Mabel W Bigelow & Cora S Haskell, sisters, on 16 Nov 1904 (Deeds, 1763:8). Cora S Haskell died 19 July 1908, leaving her half of the estate to her sister Mabel W, wife of Walter K Bigelow (see Cora S Haskell probate #104082).

On 21 Jan 1930, by deed 2834:231, Mrs Bigelow, now widowed, sold off a small strip of land to her next-door neighbor; Mrs. Bigelow died 9 Jan 1939, leaving a daughter, Mrs Lucy H Gould, to inherit the property (see Mabel W Bigelow probate #192917), which then had a garage on it, and was appraised at \$7730.

From that point forward, the history of the house & its lot is set forth in the accompanying deed schedule.

The information above has been drawn from the Salem Vital Records; the Salem Directory; the Southern Essex County Registries of Deeds & Probate; and the Essex Institute Historical Collections, vol. XL, pp.127-9.

Robert Booth

23 June 1976

Deed Schedule of House & Land at 121 Federal St., Salem, Mass.

21 Ap 1843: David Pingree, Salem, for \$1500 grants to Joseph Winn, Salem merchant, a lot of land in Salem, bounded starting at the n.e. corner on Federal Street by Sanderson's land, and
runs w. 64' 11" by Federal St to a corner, then
runs s. 124' 6" by land today sold to Robt Saunders to a cor.;
runs e. 55' 7" by other land of Pingree to a cor. by Clark;
runs n. 5' 8" by land of Clark;
runs e. 20' by sd Clark;
runs n. 127' 6" by the Sanderson estate to the corner begun at.
(So. Essex County Deeds, 336:224)

29 Ap 1901: Whereas Joseph Winn, Salem dec'd, by his will of 30 Mar 1878 authorized his wife (Hannah C Winn) to dispose of his estate; & Whereas Hannah C Winn by her will of 1 Jan 1890 did dispose of this real estate by leaving it in trust to Joseph B F Osgood of Salem & Nathan P Cutler of Newton for benefit of Annah W Cutler & others; Now, for \$1 & other valuable considerations, JBF Osgood & NP Cutler grant to Mary E Read, wife of Charles W, of Salem, a Salem lot with a dwelling house thereon, numbered 121 Federal Street, bounded starting at the n.e. corner on Federal Street by land of Chisholm, and

runs w. 64' 11" by Federal St;
runs s. 124' 6" by a fence along land of Fay;
runs e. 55' 7" by Johnson & Kimball and by Benson;
runs n. 5' by sd Kimball;
runs e. 20' by sd Kimball;
runs n. 127' 6" by Chisholm.
(Deeds, 1639:547)

16 Nov 1904: Charles W & wife Mary E Read, in her own right, of Salem, for \$1 grant to Mabel W Bigelow & Cora S Haskell, both of Salem, a Salem lot with a dwelling house thereon, numbered 121 Federal Street (bounded exactly the same as 29 Ap 1901); being the same premises that Osgood et al, trustees, sold to Mary E Read 29 Ap 1901, 1639:547. See also deed of Mary E read to Wm D Chapple 19 Oct 1902, 1686:477; and deed of Wm D Chapple to Mary E Read, 27 Feb 1903, 1699:395.
(Deeds, 1763:8)

21 Jan 1930: Mabel W Bigelow, Salem widow, grants to Mary B Browne, wife of Ralph C, a piece of Salem land bounded starting at a stake on Federal St, on the present dividing line between the land of the grantor & grantee, and then
runs s. from Federal St to a point 10' east of the present boundary point between the grantor & the grantee;
runs w. 10' to land of grantee;
runs n. several courses on the eastern boundary line of grantee;
meaning to convey on its western side & for the purpose of straightening the line, a small part of the lot sd Bigelow bought of Chas. H Read, 16 Nov 1904, Deeds 1763:8); the Cora S Haskell named with sd Bigelow, in that 16 Nov 1904 deed, having since died.
(Deeds, 2834:231)

26 June 1957: Lucy H Gould, Salem, grants to John G & Nancy C Bisgrove, husband & wife of Ashland Mass., the land in Salem with the buildings thereon, numbered 121 Federal Street, bounded starting at the n.e. corner on Federal Street by land now or formerly (n/f) of Chisholm, and

runs w. 64' 11" by Federal St;
runs s. 124' 6" by an old fence along n/f Fay;
runs e. 55' 7" by n/f Johnson & Kimball and n/f Benson;
runs n. 5' by n/f sd Kimball;
runs e. 20' by n/f sd Kimball;
runs n. 127' 6" by n/f Chisholm;

excepting from the sd parcel a strip described by deed of Bigelow to Brown, 21 Jan 1930, 2834:231, said land having been sold to straighten the line. The above premises are the same conveyed to Bigelow & Haskell by Read, 16 Nov 1904, 1763:8. See also the probate of Mabel W Bigelow, #192917, and of Cora S Haskell, #104082. Roscoe W Gould, husband of the grantor, releases all his rights to the above. (Deeds, 4380:251)

10 Sept 1959: John G & wife Nancy C Bisgrove, Brunswick Me., grant to James Alan & Ruth K Curwen, husband & wife of Salem, the land with buildings on Federal Street (bounded & described exactly as in the deed above). For title, see Gould to Bisgrove, June 1957, 4380:251. (Deeds, 4599:236)

15 Sept 1959: James A & Ruth K Curwen, Salem, for \$18,500 mortgage to Marblehead Savings Bank, Marblehead, the land with buildings on Federal Street (bounded & described exactly as in the deed above). Being the same premises conveyed by Bisgrove to the Curwens by deed recorded herewith (deed 4599:236 above). See also deeds 5263:556; 5289:149; 5296:280,281,283. (Deeds, 4599:237)

29 Ap 1965: Marblehead Savings Bank, holder of a mortgage from the Curwens on the property at 121 Federal St, Salem, 15 Sept 1959, 4599:237, has filed a bill in equity for authority to foreclose said mortgage. (Deeds, 5263:556)

30 July 1965: Wilbur T Moulton, treasurer of Marblehead Savings Bank, the mortgagee named in a mortgage given by the Curwens 15 Sept 1959, 4599:237, now takes peaceable possession of the property at 121 Federal Street. (Deeds, 5289:149)

25 Aug 1965: Marblehead Savings Bank, holder of a mortgage from James A Curwen, for \$17,000, dated 15 Sept 1959, now grants to Harry A & wife Mary R Tavis, Peabody, the land with buildings numbered 121 Federal St in Salem, bounded starting at the n.e. corner on Federal St by land n/f of Chisholm, and

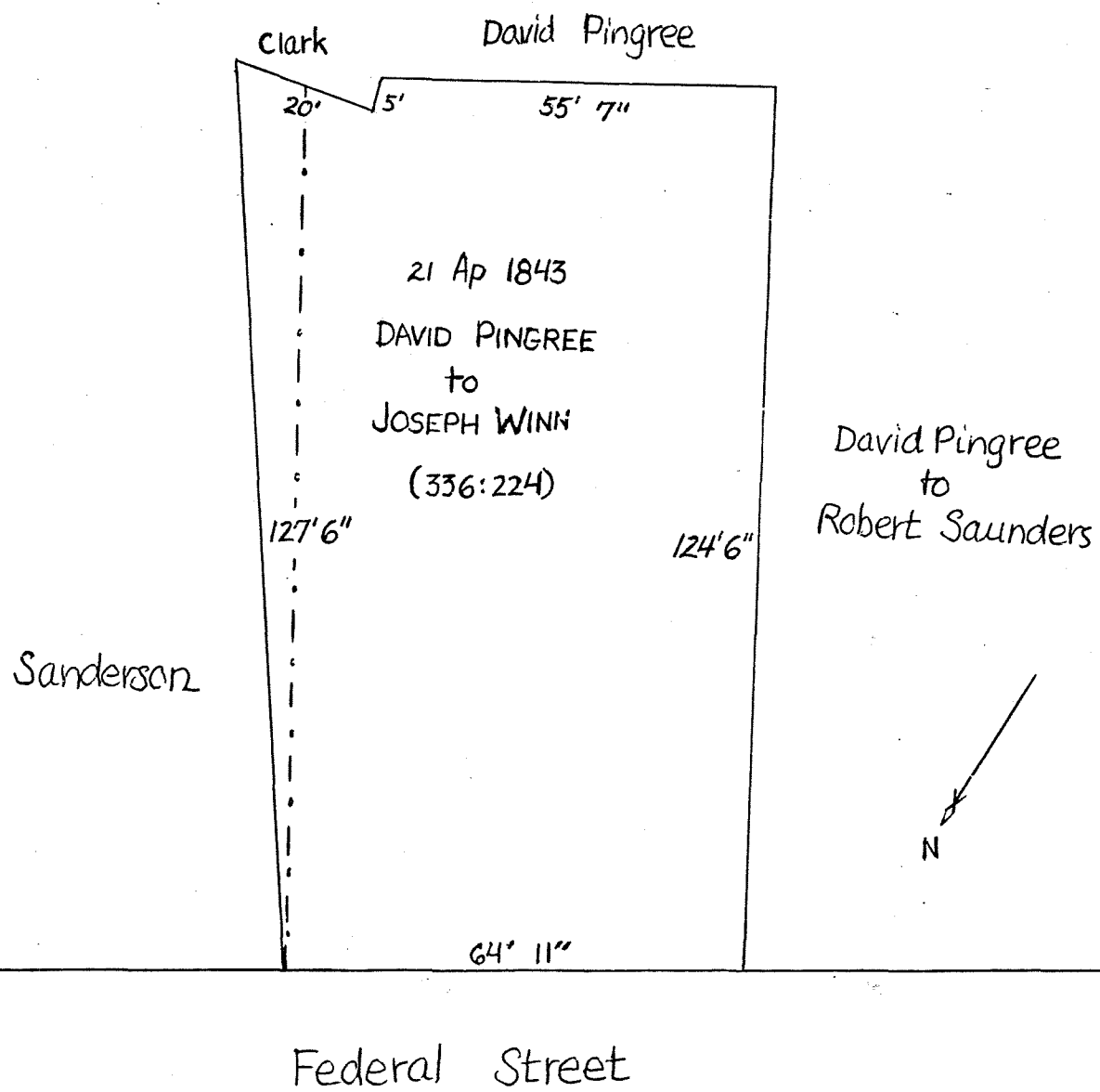
runs w. 64' 11" by Federal St;
runs s. 124' 6" by an old fence along n/f Fay;
runs e. 55' 7" by n/f Johnson & Kimball and n/f Benson;
runs n. 5' by n/f sd Kimball;
runs e. 20' by n/f sd Kimball;
runs n. 127' 6" by n/f Chisholm;

excepting from the above parcel a strip described in deed of 21 Jan 1930, Bigelow to Brown, 2834:231, said land having been sold to straighten a boundary line.

All of the above being the same premises conveyed to the Curwens by Bisgrove by deed 4599:236. (Deeds, 5296:281)

8 Sept 1972: Mary R Tavis, Salem, grants to herself & her daughter Elaine M Rocheville, Salem, as joint tenants, the land in Salem with the buildings thereon numbered 121 Federal St (bounded & described exactly as above, including the same exception). Being the same premises conveyed to sd Mary R Tavis & her late husband Harry A Tavis (died 30 May 1971) by Marblehead Savings Bank, 25 Aug 1965, 5296:281. See also Harry A Tavis, Probate #310730. (Deeds, 5904:762)

28 Ap 1976: Mary R Tavis & Elaine M Rocheville, as joint tenants, Salem, for \$47,500 grant to Gerald W & wife Barbara Porter, as tenants by entirety, the land in Salem with the buildings thereon (bounded & described exactly as above, including the same exception). Being the same premises that sd Tavis & Rocheville were granted by Tavis, 8 Sept 1972, 5904:762. (Deeds, 6235:504)



1 cm = 10'

---: This represents the strip
M.W. Bigelow granted M.B. Browne
21 Jan 1930, deed 2834:231