

Historic Salem Incorporated

P.O. Box 865

Salem, Massachusetts 01970

20 Winter Street

Built for
Captain Oliver P. Ricker
Shipmaster
In the year 1878

Research by,

Joyce King
May, 1979

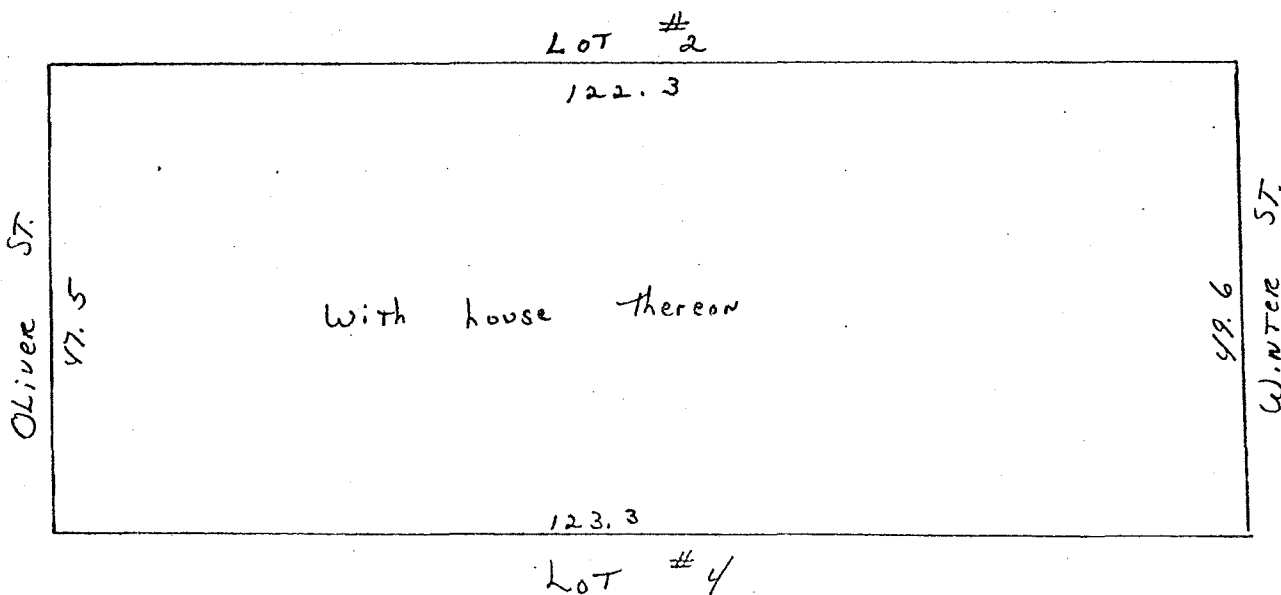
20 Winter Street

This house is described in the Salem Historical Commission Report as a gable end to street, wooden (siding) house. Built in the Italianate style popular during the third quarter of the 19th century, it has paired carved brackets under the eaves, bay windows and an entrance portico supported by square columns.

The history of Winter Street as given in the Essex Antiquarian vol. 8 page 66: Winter Street was an ancient road. It was called a lane or highway in 1668; Road leading to Beverly ferry, 1705; Highway leading from the training field to Beverly ferry, 1760; the way to the ferry, 1769; Road, 1771; Way leading to ferry lane, 1771; the ferry lane leading to Beverly, 1779; Ferry lane, 1780; Ferry lane or the way leading to Essex Bridge, 1793; and Winter Street, 1795.

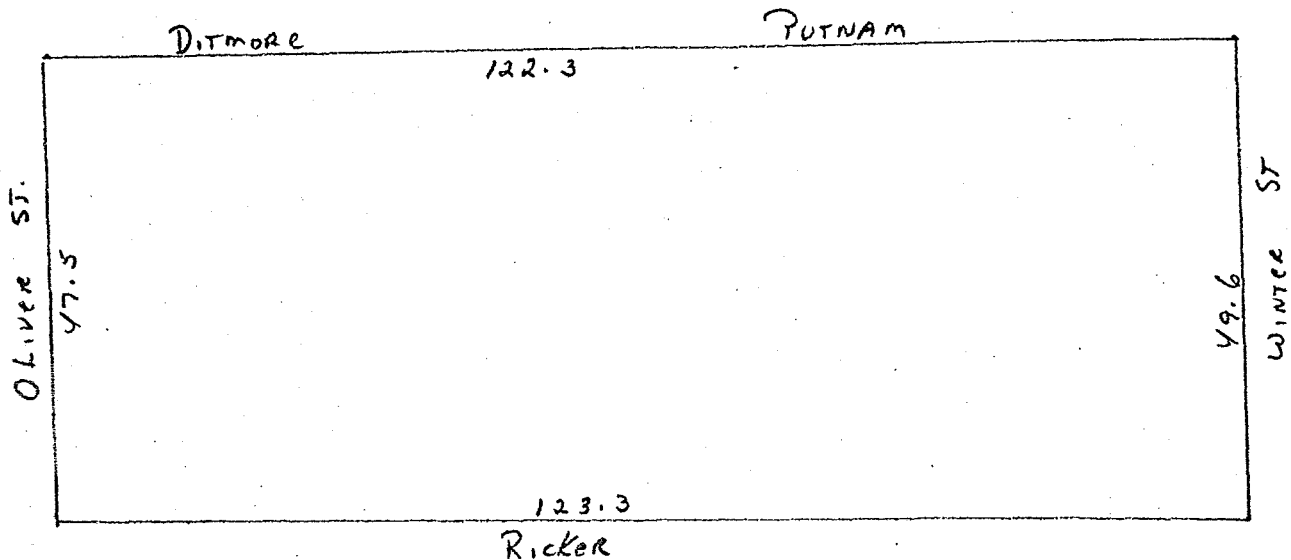
Very early the entire west side of Winter St. was owned by Jacob Pudeater, blacksmith. Mrs. Pudeater lived on this land until the summer of 1692, when she was condemned as a witch and executed Sept. 22, 1692, being about seventy years of age. Later the land became the property of the Cheever family and at one time there was a tanyard located on it.

The lot on which this house stands had been part of the estate of Benjamin Cheever, tanner, in the early 1800's. After the death of Mr. Cheever his land was divided among his heirs. The lot called #3 in this division became the possession of Benjamin's daughter, Sarah (Cheever) Lewis, wife of Dana Lewis. At the time of this division, lot #3 contained the mansion house of Benjamin. (book 334 page 184)



Sarah Lewis, widow, died May 8, 1873. In her will written in 1869, Sarah devised the homestead in which she lived to Elizabeth N. Cheever, her daughter. (Probate #45321)

On May 1, 1875 Elizabeth N. Cheever, widow, sold to Sarah W. Ricker, wife of Oliver P. Ricker, the land and buildings, free of the control of her husband, for \$4,800. (book 927 page 53)



On Feb. 9, 1878 Oliver P. Ricker was granted a permit to build a wooden dwelling house 28 feet by 41½ feet, two and a half stories with a pitch roof. The old house was removed from 20 Winter St. making room for the new dwelling house. The Salem tax records for this period of time substantiate this date:

Winter Street

	occupant	owner	value
1876 #20	Edward Brown	Oliver P. Ricker	house \$1,500 land \$2,000
1877 "	" "	" " "	" " " 1,800
1878 "	in process	" " "	land 5904 feet 1,800
1879 "	Oliver P. Ricker	" " "	land 3650 feet 1,000 house \$3,500

A census taken in 1880 shows living at 20 Winter St.:

Oliver P. Ricker	age 62	retired merchant	born N.H.
Sarah Ricker	" 61		" Mass.

Captain Oliver P. Ricker died May 22, 1893. His obituary written in the Salem News gives an account of Capt. Ricker's life.

DEATH OF OLD SHIPMASTER AT HIS HOME ON WINTER STREET

Captain Oliver Perry Ricker died very suddenly at his residence on Winter St. at noon yesterday, from heart disease. Captain Ricker was born in Dover, N. H. about 74 years ago. At the early age of twelve he was thrown on the world to shift for himself. He took to the sea and made a number of voyages to different parts of the world, Zanziba, China, California and the Sandwich Islands being among the places he visited. He sailed for the firm of J. P. Farnham & Co. and Joseph Peabody of Salem. He made a voyage to California when it was under the Mexican government and was also in Puget Sound and adjacent places when no white man had a residence there in 1835.

For about 15 years he was in the ship brokerage and ship chandlery business in the Sandwich Islands being part owner of a fleet of vessels trading between the islands and San Francisco and the northwest coast. He was also interested in the whaling business. While in business in the islands he made considerable money, but most of this was swept away by unfortunate ventures. He was at one time in the ship chandlery business on Derby St. and was also connected with William Pickering in the coal and lumber business.

In 1873 he was elected alderman and in 1874, 1875 and 1876 he was president of the Salem water board. About a year after his term of office expired in the water board he went to California and the Sandwich Islands remaining away for about three years. He then returned to Salem and has resided there ever since.

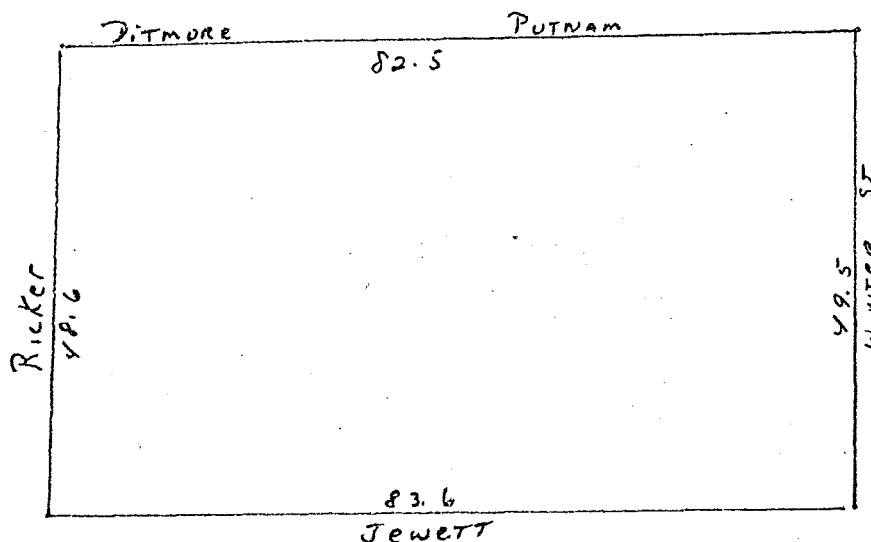
Capt. Ricker was not a member of either marine society in Salem. He was a man of varied experience and commanded the respect of all who knew him. He retired from active sea life nearly 40 years ago.

About two years later Mrs. Sarah Ricker died. The Salem News carried this notice on Nov. 29, 1895:

Mrs. Sarah Ricker wife of late Capt. Oliver Ricker died at her home 20 Winter St. at age of 77. Funeral from her home Monday at 10 o'clock.

In her will Sarah W. Ricker, widow, bequethed her house on Winter St. to Martha P. Piper, also all her furniture. The house at #10 Oliver St. was left to her niece Hattie C. Piper, thus the division of the original lot #3. (Probate #78462)

On March 5, 1896 Martha P. Piper of Salem single, sold to Williametta E. Annable, wife of E. Augustus Annable, the land and building at #20 Winter St., for the consideration of \$1. This land is a portion of the premises conveyed by Elizabeth Cheever to Sarah Ricker and devised to Martha by said Sarah W. Ricker. (book 1473 page33)



The Annable family made 20 Winter St. their home for many years. Mr. Annable died on Nov. 26, 1908. An account of his life was given in the Salem News:

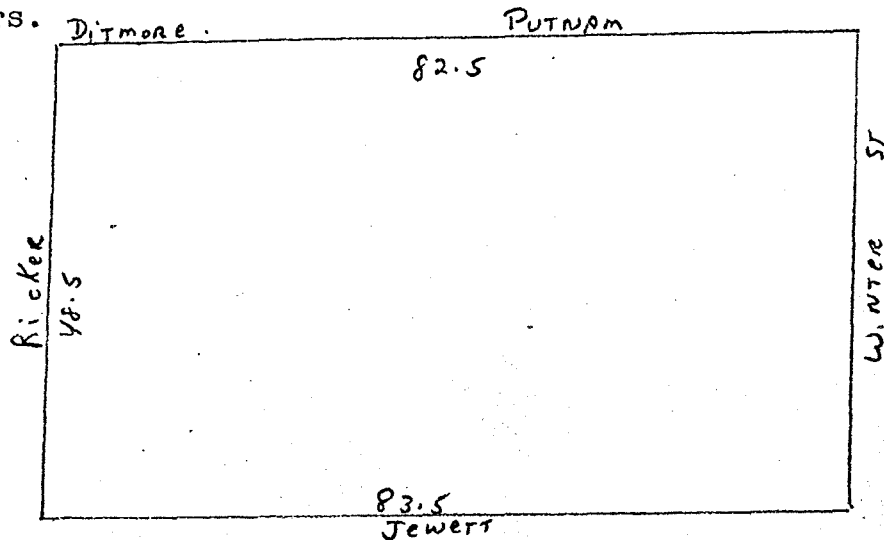
Mr. E. A. Annable was born in Salem Dec. 27, 1840, the son of Ephraim and Sarah (Veal) Annable. He attended public schools and was a member of the 27th class to enter old Salem English High the last class previous to its adding a classical course.

After high school Mr. Annable entered the employ of J. B. and S. D. Shepard, dry goods dealers. On May 24, 1862 he mustered in as a Corporal in the U.S. Second Corp. Cadets and served until Oct. 11, 1862. He enlisted July 29, 1863 as a Sargent in Co. B 2nd Mass. Heavy Artillery and was promoted to 2nd Lt. and discharged Sept. 1865.

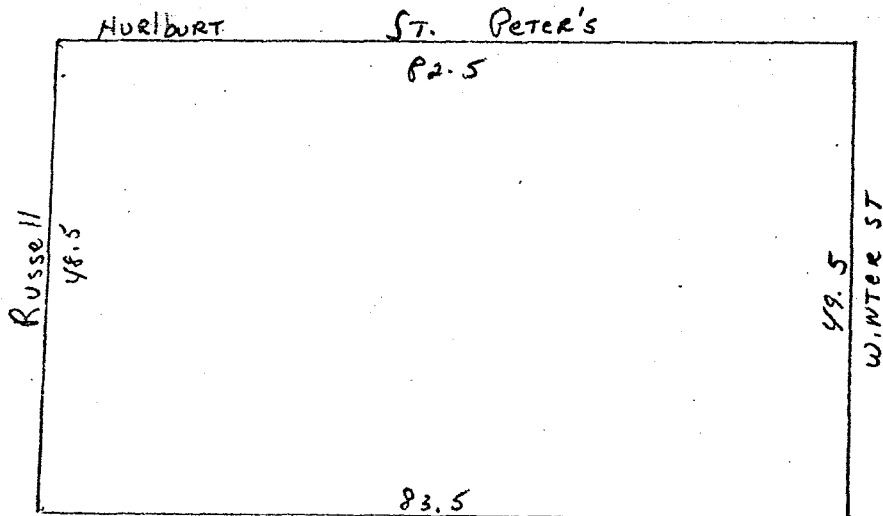
Returning to Salem he entered the employ of F. W. L. Huntoon, then a leading dry goods dealer in Salem and remained with him until he sold out to James Almy and Co. about 39 years ago. Mr. Annable was retained as a clerk and 37 years ago allowed an interest in the business. For over 30 years he was a partner in the firm. He had charge particularly of the carpet and rug department and was an excellent buyer and manager. He was a genial and polite gentleman and enjoyed a large companionship of friends.

He was a member of Star King Lodge F. & AM. He joined Post 34 G.A.R. 1876. He served on the common council. Mr. Annable was three times married and leaves a widow and a son the latter being Harry C. Annable and a grandchild.

On Dec. 30, 1926 Harry C. and Ethel G. Annable of Salem, sold to Elmer W. Liebsch the land and building 20 Winter St. See Martha P. Piper to Williametta E. Annable, Mar. 5, 1896, book 1473 page 33 and to us by Probate #88391 and #104639, for particulars.



Nov. 12, 1931 Elmer W. Liebsch, of Salem, sold to wife Isabelle Liebsch the same premises conveyed by Harry C. Annable in 1926. (book 2902 page 88)



Feb. 15, 1968 Isabelle Liebsch sold to Theodore G. Koukotos and Carol, husband and wife, of 156 Lafayette St., Salem. For reference see book 2902 page 88. (book 5510 page 497)

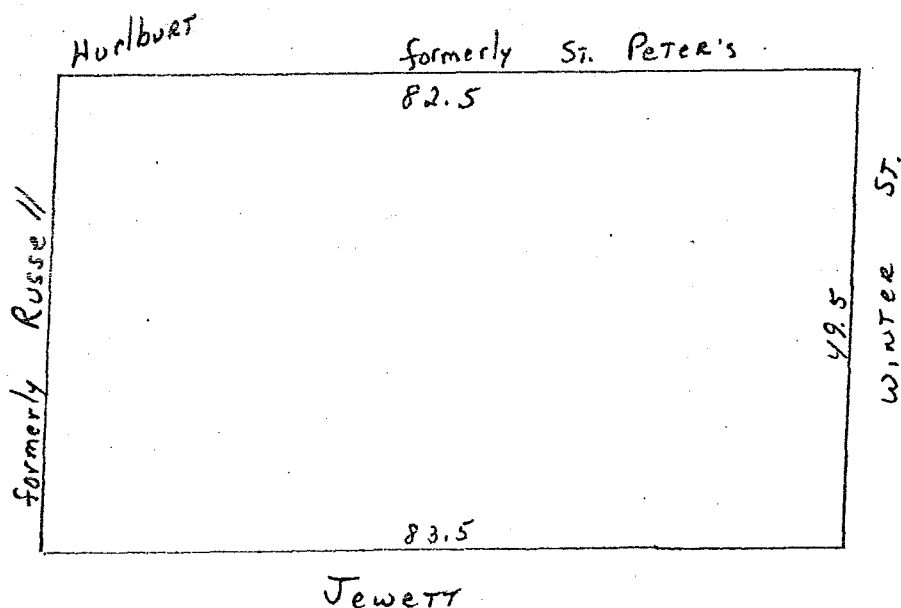
April 25, 1972 Theodore G. Koukotos and Carol Ann, of Watertown, Mass. sold to Laurence C. Post Jr. and Donald Koleman, trustees, the land and building the same conveyed by Isabelle Liebsch in Feb. 1968. (book 5860 page 60)

Aug. 26, 1975 Lawrence C. Post Jr. and Donald Koleman, of Old Salem Realty Trust sold to Nancy L. Witham, trustee of #20 Winter St. Trust. (book 6175 page 614)

Nancy L. Witham, trustee sold to Robert C. Bramble, trustee of Allyn Realty Trust, the land and building 20 Winter St. Subject to a mortgage of \$25,637.51 also a mortgage of \$20,000. (book 6268 page 563)

On Sept. 15, 1976 Robert C. Bramble, trustee, sold to Thomas E. Greene and Thomas Straza with right of survivorship, #20 Winter St. the same conveyed in book 6268 page 563, for \$39,900. (book 6279 page 487)

1977 Thomas E. Greene and Thomas Straza as joint tenants sold to Robert A. Smith of 3601 Stearns Hill Rd., Waltham, Mass. the same conveyed in a deed for Robert C. Bramble, trustee of Allyn Realty Trust, in 1976 for \$58,000. (book 6339 page 487)



Reference to book and page are deed books kept at the Registry of Deeds and probate numbers are cases at Probate Court, both located in the same building on Federal St., Salem.

Maps are not meant to be exact, just for illustration purposes.



JAMES F. ALMY.

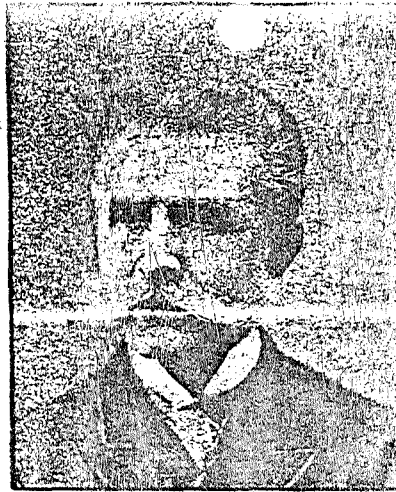
lots. A new street has been graded on the site of the old mansion, and the newly opened lots of modern size and prices are now available.

Almy, Bigelow & Washburn.

The business of Almy, Bigelow & Washburn was established in 1858, in a room



CALVIN R. WASHBURN.



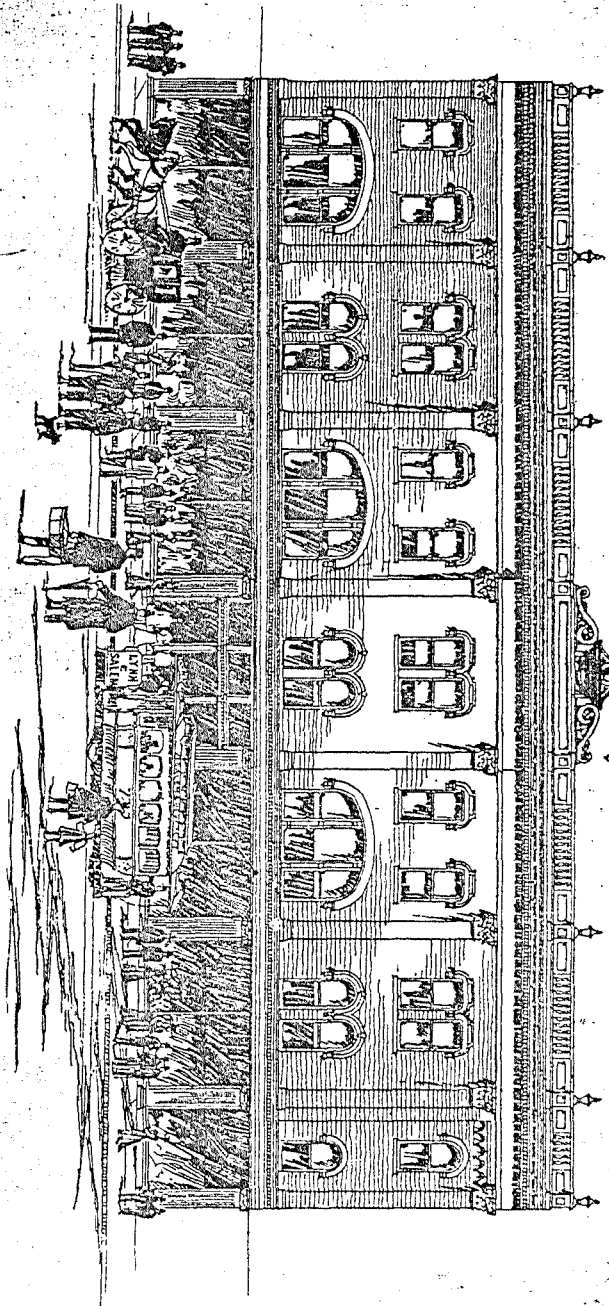
WALTER K. BIGELOW.

17x47, at 156 Essex street, in the Bowker block. The block has since been remodelled, so that the little shop is no longer in existence. In 1860 the business was moved to the West block, occupying a store 20x75 feet, one of the several small stores into which that block was then divided. This, was, perhaps, the first mercantile enterprise established in Salem on the new principle of buying for ready money and selling for cash or very short credit. Before this the custom was for a merchant to buy his goods on six months'



E. AUGUSTUS ANNABLE.

STORE ALMY, BIGELOW & WASHBURN, ESSEX STREET, PROPOSED NEW FRONT.



6

WEBB

WEBSTER

PLEASANT

PICKMAN

8

