

Historic Salem incorporated

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65 DERBY STREET

Built in 1858 by Michael McDonald, Laborer

Larry Davis
February 18, 1995

65 DERBY STREET

The house currently located at 65 Derby Street was built in 1858 by Michael McDonald, who was employed as a laborer. Since its completion, the house has consistently been occupied by people of working-class origins, no doubt reflecting the population of the neighborhood, which in the mid-19th century was populated by European immigrants.

According to the 1851 Map of Salem, the block on which the house now stands was an open lot. The lot was sandwiched between English and India Streets. The English Street extension across Derby Street no longer exists today.

The first address of the house was "rear 31 Derby Street" or "31 1/2 Derby Street". The attached 1874 Map of Salem lists McDonald (here referred to as "McDonnell") as owning not only 31 1/2 Derby Street, but the other houses on the block as well. Also listed as living at 31 1/2 from the 1860's through the early 1880's was Philip McDonnell, a shoemaker, Catherine McDonnell, a widow, Philip L. McDonald, a currier (most likely a leather worker), and John J. McDonald, a marble cutter [Salem Directories, 1861, 1864, 1866, 1874, 1881].

Records indicate that by the mid-1880's, Michael McDonald had moved to 31 Derby Street (this house no longer exists today). Mrs. William Elbers, Mrs. Ellen McDonald (widow of Philip), and John J. McDonald now occupied 31 1/2. By 1889, Mrs. Mary Carey, a widow, William Martin, Cornelius Cronan (both laborers), in addition to Ellen and John J. McDonald, lived in the house. By this time, John J. was now employed by B & M

Railroad [Salem Directories, 1884, 1886, 1888-89].

The Salem Directories for 1895-96 list Patrick Mackey and J.J. Barrett as living in the house, and by 1900, John H. Barrett had joined them. All three were employed as laborers [Salem Directories, 1897-1900]. At this time the house was also listed under "India Street" in the Directories. Listed next door to the house was the Ralston Social Club and the Enterprise Social Club, 3 and 5 India Street respectively.

Between 1903 and the mid-1920's, the Mackey family were the sole occupiers of the house, now known as 65 Derby Street [Salem Directories, 1903-04, 1910, 1920, 1926]. Patrick and his wife Ellen had five children: Edward, John, Mary, Margaret, and Anna. Unfortunately for the family, Patrick died in 1923, leaving the house to Ellen. Probate records indicate the house was valued at \$1570.00 [Essex County Probate Records, No. 146878].

In the mid-twenties Ellen and Mary Welch lived in the house. The house does not appear in the Salem Directories for the years 1929, 1930, and 1931. Most likely the house was vacant at this time [Salem Directories, 1929-1931].

In 1932 Alex Eastman and James and Florence Gates resided at 65 Derby. Alex was employed as a leather worker, and James was employed as a mill worker. The next year, Stanley Eastman and John Mackey appear as residents. Stanley was employed as a leather worker in Peabody. John was employed as a laborer [Salem Directories, 1932, 1933-34].

Between 1940 and 1947 the families of Alex J. Eastman and John Mackey occupied the premises. Records indicate that John was not

married. However, Alex had 5 dependents living in the house [Salem Directories, 1940, 1945, 1947].

The Eastman family continued to live in the house throughout the 1950's and 1960's. In 1950, Henry Hayes moved into the house. He was a leather worker at the Russell-Sim Tanning Co. He lived in the house after his retirement until the mid-1960's. Alex continued to work as a leather worker until his retirement in the late 1960's [Salem Directories, 1950, 1955, 1961, 1965].

In 1970, Alex Eastman is listed as living in the house with his wife Anna.* Alex probably passed away in the early 1970's, and since then, Anna is listed as the sole occupant of the property [Salem Directories, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1986, 1988-89].

*Anna is listed in the 1970 and 1986 Salem Directories as *Anna Eastman*, and in the 1975, 1980, and 1988-1989 editions as *Anna Eismund*.

DOCUMENTATION

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 531, Leaf 159

Grantor: Sarah B. Lawrence of Salem

Grantee: Salem and Danvers Loan and Fund Association of Salem

Consideration: \$875.00

Conveyance of: "...piece of land situate in Salem, bounded and described as follows viz. Beginning at the southwest corner and running on Derby Street, easterly, thirty nine and one half feet , then running northerly on land of Arrington and Rowell fifty six feet; thence running westerly on land of Creamer, thirty nine and one half feet, then southerly on land of Smith fifty six feet, to the point begun at..."

Date Recorded: May 15, 1856

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 660, Leaf 137

Grantor: Salem and Danvers Loan and Fund Association of Salem

Grantee: Michael McDonald of Salem

Consideration: \$600.00

Conveyance of: "...a certain lot of land, with the buildings standing thereon situate in said Salem bounded and described as follows viz. Beginning at the southwest corner and running on Derby Street easterly thirty nine and one half feet, then running northerly on land of Arrington and Rowell fifty six feet thence running westerly on land of Creamer thirty nine and one half feet, thence southerly on land of Smith fifty six feet to the point begun at...conveyed to us in a mortgage deed from Sarah B. Lawrence, recorded with Essex deeds Book 531, leaf 159."

Date Recorded: December 30, 1863

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 1935, Page 465

Grantor: Michael L. Sullivan of Salem

Grantee: John Pedinkowski of Salem

Consideration: \$1.00

Conveyance of: See E.C.R.D. Book 1935, Page 472 (below)

Date Recorded: October 12, 1908

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 1935, Page 472

Grantor: John Pedinkowski of Salem

Grantee: The Roger Conant Cooperative Bank of Salem

Consideration: \$800.00

Conveyance of: "A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated in said Salem, and bounded as follows: Beginning at the northeasterly corner thereof on Derby Street, and thence running Southwesterly by said Derby Street twenty and five tenths feet: thence turning and running Southeasterly forty six and three fourths feet by land of Mackey: thence Northeasterly five and one tenth feet: thence Southeast fifteen and two tenths feet : thence northeast again fifteen and eight tenths feet to English Street: thence Northwesterly along the line of English Street sixty two and five tenths feet to said Derby Street and point begun at. Being Lot One on plan of the McDonnell Estate...Second, a lot of land with the buildings thereon situated in said Salem, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a point in the southerly line of English Street, which point is 62.50 feet from the easterly line of Derby Street: thence running Southwesterly fifteen and eight tenths feet: thence turning and running northwesterly fifteen and two tenths feet: thence turning and running Southwesterly thirty eight and one tenth feet to India Street: thence Southeasterly by said India Street forty feet: thence turning and running Northeasterly fifty five and nine tenths feet to said English Street and the point begun at...Being Lot Three of said Estate..."

Date Recorded: October 12, 1908

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 2863, Page 459

Grantor: Alice M. Hogan of Salem

Grantee: Anna F. Eismund of Salem

Consideration: For Consideration paid

Conveyance of: see E.C.R.D. Book 12802, Page 2, (below)

Date Recorded: October 25, 1930

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Book 12802, Page 2

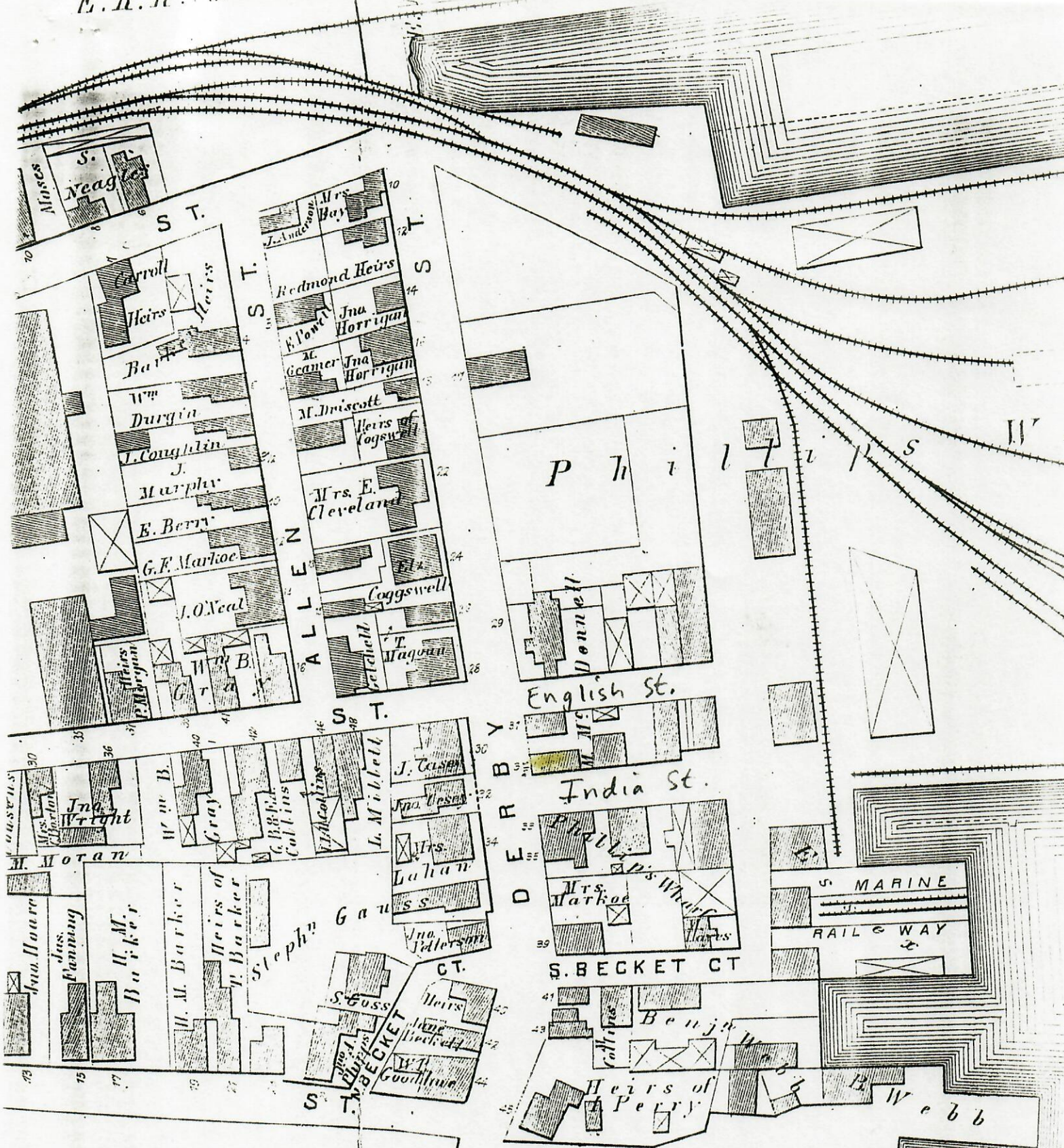
Grantor: Anna F. Eismund

Grantee: New England Power Company

Consideration: \$65,000.00

Conveyance of: "Beginning at the Westerly corner thereof and running Easterly by said Derby Street 29.60 feet to a lot numbered one on a plan hereinafter referred to, being land now or formerly of James H. McDonnell; thence turning and running Southerly by said land now or formerly of said McDonnell 46.75 feet to a lot numbered 3 on said plan; thence turning and running Westerly by said land now or formerly of said McDonnell 33 feet to India Street; thence turning and running Northerly by said India Street 45 feet to the point of beginning."

Date Recorded: October 19, 1994



Library of Congress at Washington, D.C.

1874 Map of Salem