

House and Land at 55-57 Federal Street, Salem, Mass.

This double house was built for Joshua Loring, Salem coach-maker, in the year 1836.

The lot on which the house stands was first sold on 26 Oct 1815 by Isaac Cushing, Salem bookbinder, for \$1000 to Joshua Loring, Salem chaise-maker, "with all the buildings thereon ..." (207:181). Mr Cushing had, the day before (25 Oct 1815) purchased from the estate of Henry Rust, deceased Salem merchant, "a dwelling house and all other buildings" together with a lot running 155' from Marlborough (now Federal) to Lynde Street, fronting 59' on each street (207:180). Mr Cushing had simply divided this lot, and sold the Marlborough half to Mr Loring.

Henry Rust had purchased the street-to-street lot and house on 7 Jan 1812 from Joseph Andrews of Salem for \$2510 (195:192); Mr Andrews had bought the premises at public auction for \$2510 on 10 Dec 1811 (195:139); up to that time it had belonged to Nathaniel Frothingham Esq, Salem coach-maker, who defaulted on a debt and so lost the property. Mr Frothingham had assembled the lot by two purchases from the Cook family: one in 1806 (179:168), when he bought an empty lot fronting 20' on each street, and one in 1810 (192:130), when he bought a dwelling house and land bounding 40' on each street.

It seems that Mr Cushing sold to Mr Loring the half of the lot with Nathaniel Frothingham's coach-making buildings on it, while he (Mr Cushing) retained the Lynde Street half with the house thereon (probably the present yellow house on Lynde Street, recently fixed over, in the rear of 35-37 Federal Street).

Mr Loring probably maintained his shop here up to 1829. From 1815-29, he was annually assessed for a house & shop valued at \$500. The location of this house is not known to me. In 1830 his assessment leaped to \$1400, reflecting the presence of a new house that he had built on the Marlborough (Federal) Street lot. Here he and his family lived for the next five years.

Joshua Loring was born in Hingham on 26 Mar 1782, the son of Joshua Loring of that place. Joshua Jr was in the seventh generation from his English immigrant ancestor, Thomas Loring. He married Sarah Woodbury Bray of Gloucester, the daughter of Edward and Edith (Doane) Bray, about 1806. They had at least eight children, only three of whom survived them. Most of these children were still at home when Mr Loring built his new house in 1830.

Then, on 4 Sept 1835, Joshua Loring's house burnt to the ground! (Details may be found in Essex Institute Historical Collections vol. 39, p. 18; also the Salem Directory, 1904, chronology of Salem events, under the year 1835). After this disaster, a new house was begun on the site--this new dwelling being a double house, the one that is presently standing. The new house was built double to house Mr Loring's own family as well as that of his daughter, Mrs Sarah Hunt.

By the time of the 1836 assessment, the #23 Marlborough Street half was evidently finished, for the tax records show that John D Hunt, Mr Loring's son-in-law, was living there; at the same time, Mr Loring was assessed only \$500 for "one-half an unfinished house, No. 21 Marlboro." The double house was probably finished before the year came to a close. Further evidence for this conclusion is provided by the 1837 Salem Directory (which was based on locations as of 1836); it lists Joshua Loring as a coach-maker with a place of business at 2 Marlboro' St and a house at 21 Marlboro'; John D Hunt is listed as a chaise-maker with a place of business at 14 Court Street (now upper Federal St.) and a house at 23 Marlboro' St.

In the year 1837, Mr Loring and Mr Hunt were taxed for their respective halves of the double house, each valued at \$1400. In that same year, on 2 Mar 1837, Mr Loring for \$2600 sold to Mr Hunt "all the westerly half part of the dwelling house and the land on the southerly side of Marlboro' Street ... being No. 23 on said street ..." (297:163). Mr Hunt immediately mortgaged the property to Isaac Cushing (\$1100), (297:164), and to his mother, Mary Hunt, for \$1500 (297:164).

Joshua Loring, the original owner of the house, sold his half for \$1900 to Thomas Robbins, Salem chaise-maker, on 14 May 1842 (331:160); the Robbins family lived there for quite a while.

On 28 July 1845 John D Hunt and his mother, widow Mary Hunt (by right of her interest as mortgagee) sold #23 Marlboro Street to George Wheatland of Salem (357:123). Mr Wheatland owned the premises for five years, selling for \$2000 to William Hunt, Salem merchant, "the messuage on Marlborough Street occupied by John D Hunt" on 18 June 1850 (430:232). I am not sure what relation William Hunt bore to John D Hunt; possibly he was his brother or father.

Meanwhile, in the other half of the house, Mr Robbins died and his son Thomas A Robbins inherited the place; on 25 Oct 1867 he sold it for \$950 to George W Pease of Salem (733:65). Mr Pease liked his half so well that on 2 July 1869 he bought the other half for \$3500 from William Hunt (777:167). Mr Pease thus secured title to the entire double house and land.

Mr Pease immediately conveyed the house & land for \$3500 to John S Williams of Salem (890:201); this transaction seems to have been a mortgage, for on 9 Oct 1873, Mr Williams re-conveyed the premises to Mr Pease (890:201).

Although it certainly appears that Mr Pease had bought up all rights to 55-57 Federal Street, on 9 Oct 1880 we find him buying the western half-house (#57), formerly that of John D Hunt, from a group composed, apparently, of the living heirs of Joshua Loring (Edward D Loring of Salem, and John D, John L, Carrie L, & Sarah M Hunt, all of San Francicco); Mr Pease paid them \$2800 for the property, but I do not understand on what right they based their claim to the premises (1309:161).

After the death of Mr Pease, three of his four children (Mrs Margaret H Fielder, Mrs Helen L Pousland, Mrs Caroline L Brown) on 6 May 1891 released their rights to their father's double house to the fourth Pease heir, Mrs Sarah F Pratt of Salem (1308:485). Mrs Pratt owned the property for many years; after her death the administrator of her estate (the Naumkeag Trust Co.) on 8 Feb 1930 sold the double house for \$8000 to Mrs Teresa N Johnston of Salem (2836:224). Mrs Johnston soon (26 June 1930) sold the place to Florence Boardman Porter of Beverly (2849:224).

Florence B Porter owned the premises about twelve years, selling on 26 May 1942 to Katharine M Lawless of Waltham (3295:56). After the death of Katherine M Lawless, on 31 Oct 1962 the executor of her will, Philip J Durkin of Salem, sold the property for \$20,000 to Alice B Rogers of Salem, who continues to own 55-57 Federal Street (4006:285).

Robert Booth  
26 Jan 1977



LORING Family of 55-57 Federal Street

Joshua Loring (1782-1866), Salem coach and chaise maker, was born in Hingham, Mass., on 26 Mar 1782, son of Joshua Loring of that place. He married Sarah Woodbury Bray of Gloucester about 1806; she was the daughter of Edward and Edith (Doane) Bray; born in 1783, she died 5 Nov 1866, just after the decease of her husband 21 June 1866. This long-lived couple was survived by only two of their children. Known offspring:

- 1) Henry Stevens, b 1807, bp 7 Nov 1824, d. at Wenham 29 Dec 1851.
- 2) Sarah Curtis, b abt 1810, bp 7 Nov 1824, m 8 May 1834 John D Hunt, Salem coach-maker.
- 3) Joshua, b 22 May 1815, d young
- 4) Lydia Ann, b 1815, bp 7 Nov 1824, d 5 Sept 1880.
- 5) Mary Toppan, b 1816, d young
- 6) George Bailey, b 1817, bp 7 Nov 1824; d at sea.
- 7) Edward Doane, b 9 Feb 1819, m 3 Jan 1850, Salem, Eliza A Hayward; they had at least one child, George E, b 1 Aug 1858; Mr Loring died 21 Ap 1890.
- 8) Caroline, b 1 Mar 1822, d young (?).

Some of the above information comes from the Loring Genealogy by Charles H Pope, assisted by K.P. Loring; Cambridge, Murray & Emery, 1917.

Note: Joshua Loring was a charter member of the Salem Charitable Mechanics Association, 1817.

HUNT Family of 57 Federal Street

John D Hunt, Salem coach-maker, married Sarah Curtis Loring (b. abt 1810), daughter of Joshua and Sarah W (Bray) Loring of Salem, on 8 May 1834. Known offspring:

- 1) John Lewis, bp 12 July 1835, m. Martha B. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Sarah Mosley, bp 7 Ap 1839
- 3) Carrie L, bp 21 Aug 1842
- 4) William, b May 1844, d young (?).

In 1880, Mr Hunt (his wife Sarah was evidently deceased) and his three children were living in San Francisco, Cal.

Know all Men by these Presents, <sup>J. Loring</sup>  
 That I, Joshua Loring of Salem in the County of Essex <sup>J. D. Hunt</sup>  
 and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Coach & Chaise  
 maker, in consideration of the sum of two thousand  
 & six hundred dollars to me paid by John D. Hunt  
 of said Salem Coach-maker, the receipt whereof I do  
 hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and convey  
 unto the said John D. Hunt all the westerly half part  
 of the dwelling house and of the land under & adjoin-  
 ing which is situated on the southerly side of Marsh-  
 lers' Street in said Salem; said dwelling house being  
 numbered Twenty Three on said Street; and the grant-  
 ed premises are bounded as follows, to wit, beginning  
 at the partition of the front door steps, and thence run-  
 ning southerly through said house by the partition  
 there being to land of David Pulsifer; thence by said  
 Pulsifer's land westerly to land of Aboluan; thence North-  
 erly by said Aboluan's land to said Street; and thence  
 by said Street to the bounds first mentioned; be the  
 same more or less, and however otherwise bounded  
 or described. To Have and to Hold the afore-granted  
 premises to the said John D. Hunt his heirs and assigns  
 to his and their use and behoof forever. And I do cov-  
 enant with the said John D. his heirs and assigns  
 that I am lawfully seized in fee of the afore-granted  
 premises, that they are free of all incumbrances.

that I have good right to sell and convey the same to the said John D. and that I will warrant and defend the same premises to the said John D. his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

In witness whereof, I the said Joshua Loring and also I, Sarah Loring, wife of said Joshua, who in consideration of the premises, and of one dollar paid me by said John D. do hereby relinquish to him all my right to dower in the granted premises have hereunto set my hands and seals this second day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven.

Signed, sealed and delivered } Joshua Loring Seal.  
in presence of } Sarah Loring Seal.

Solo. J. Whipple } Esq. J. Mar. 11, 1837. Then

Henry S. Loring } the above named Joshua

Loring acknowledged the above Instrument to be his free act and deed before Solomon S Whipple,

Justice of the Peace. Received on record 6 Mar 1837  
at 9:20 A.M.