

*91 Orne Street, formerly 30 North Street
Salem*

*Built for
Benjamin Peters
fisherman & coaster
1762*

91 Orne Street, Salem

According to available evidence, the main part of this house was built for Benjamin Peters, fisherman and coaster, in 1762. In 1951 Carlton Lutts had it moved to this site from its lot at the northeasterly corner of North and Federal Streets.

History of the Removal of the House.

Mr. Carlton G. Lutts, of 26 Dearborn Street, purchased the house at 30 North Street at auction for \$600, on 28 April 1951 (see clipping from Salem Evening News, 2 May 1951). At that time, North Street was being widened and the North Bridge overpass and underpass and connectors were being built, which required the removal of several old buildings in the neighborhood. Historic Salem Inc. was formed to rescue the "Witch House" and the Bowditch House, both of which were moved out of harm's way, but along the east side of North Street, at Odell Square and Federal Streets, a group of twelve buildings were slated for demolition. Among these buildings were several old frame houses, including all that fronted on Odell Square, a short street that ran in from North Street toward the Baptist Church. The building at 30 North was purchased by Mr. Lutts, who made a journal entry as follows: "Record of expenditure on Benj. Peters house (1760) moved to Cabot Farm from corner of North and Federal Streets in April 1951..." (journal owned by present owners of house). The house was described in the newspaper as that "formerly the property of J.W. and B.G. Foster" standing next to the large brick-and-concrete circular former gas-works building, constructed in 1867 (in 1951 used as a garage and sign-making facility), which fetched \$225 at auction. Evidently the house at #30 North Street was the only building that was not demolished in this architectural massacre.

Mr. Lutts, who owned the former Cabot farm in North Salem, had the old house uprooted, moved, and placed on the foundation of an old house that had been razed before 1941 (the history of that house is not traced in this report). The moved house received a rear addition that had once been a house standing for many years at 32 or 34 Saint Peter Street (the documents provided give conflicting street numbers). That house had been carefully taken down and saved as a kit; and Mr. Lutts purchased the pieces from Edward Twiss in 1954 and had that building re-erected as part of his "new" residence. According to a journal kept by Mr. Lutts, that house was the "Benjamin Ward (1763) house, taken down at 32 St. Peter Street by Ed. Twiss in Feb. 1954, purchased from Twiss and removed to Cabot Farm at that time (and) later in 1956 re-assembled as an addition to the Benj. Peters house" (journal entry in possession of present owners). The history of that house, and the exact site from which it was removed, is not traced in this report.

Regarding the history of the main part of the present house on its original site, Mr. Lutts, the purchaser in 1951, left a record that it had occupied the corner lot of North and Federal Streets. The deed of 1900, referenced in the materials provided to me, is for a house that stood not on the corner lot but on a lot to the north of the corner lot, which corner lot was then identified as the property of Daniels, as in "Daniels & Fowler" (see ED 1614:571). By 1951, however, the lot at #30 North Street had in fact become the "new" corner lot, as, in

1944, the County had widened Federal Street and removed the building that had, until that time, occupied the corner lot, most of which was subsumed by the widened street (see appended plan from 1944). The newspaper (1951) refers to the house as having been owned formerly by J.W. & B.G. Foster; and on the 1944 plan the property for #30 is shown as owned by Bessie G. Foster.

History of the House.

On 24 April 1760 Samuel Daland, truckman, and his wife Hannah for 18.6.0 sold to Benjamin Peters, fisherman, a “piece of land in Salem” bounded westerly 2.5 poles (41’) on “the lane or highway leading down to the Great Bridge, so called,” northerly on land just purchased by John Marssey, easterly 2 poles (33’) on land of Lynde, and southerly 13 poles 18 links on land of the grantors, all subject to the grantors’ liberty to pass and re-pass over the lot to get to the spring of water on the land sold to Massey (ED 109:28). At that time, Federal Street did not exist, on either side of North Street. The North River was then much wider and deeper, and its shores were not far north of the Peters lot, below which the road and the land dipped toward the riverbank, with its wharves, warehouses, and the wooden drawbridge that spanned the river over to the Northfields.

Mr. Peters’ long, narrow lot fronting 41’ on the road had been a part of a larger parcel, fronting about 160’ on the “lane or highway” (North Street), that Mr. Daland had purchased in 1749 from the estate of Mitchell Sewall. By 1760, Mr. Daland was subdividing the 1749 tract: on April 24th 1760 he sold to John Marssey, cooper, the lot to the north, also fronting 2.5 poles (41’) on the way, and bounded southerly on the land just sold to Benjamin Peters (ED 109:32). Per Samuel Curwen, John Massey had a house built in 1761. Mr. Daland retained the land to the south, where his own house stood.

Benjamin Peters, the new owner of the land, did not rush to have a house built thereon. While he had probably worked as a fisherman through the 1750s, by 1758 he was working primarily as a coaster, making voyages in small schooners to deliver cargoes in the southern colonies and return with new cargoes. He made his voyages, earned more money, and lined up a construction team: housewrights, masons, finish carpenters, glaziers, and painters. In 1762, the house was built, per the observant Judge Samuel Curwen (of 312 Essex Street), who recorded that a house was built for “Benjamin Peeters” in that year (EIHC 58:293). It was in a style that was popular in Salem and Marblehead in the 1760s: a half-house (three window bays in front), gambrel-roofed, to give it a useful third floor, and elaborately paneled in the rooms, with wainscoting and beaded box moldings on posts and beams. This house had a particularly fine staircase, rising all the way to the third floor. The chimney went up the back wall, with fireplaces for the large rooms and for the smaller bedrooms behind the staircase. It stood end-to-the street on its lot.

On 26 April 1764 Benjamin Peters, Salem fisherman, mortgaged his homestead—dwelling house and land bounded as when he had bought it in 1760—to Capt. Thomas Eden, Salem mariner (of Summer Street) for 28 li (ED 111:238). Mr. Peters signed the deed in the presence of register John Higginson and his clerk Timothy Pickering; Mrs. Sarah Peters

made her “x” in the presence of Edmund Bickford and Elisha Tuck. In this same year, Mr. Peters’ neighbor to the north, John Massey, cooper, sold the westerly part of his house and some of his land to John Carwick, fisherman (ED 115:53).

Benjamin Peters, born about 1732, was likely the son of the Benjamin Peters, a fisherman, who married Elizabeth Cloutman in 1716 (her brother Joseph Cloutman married Mary Peters in 1717). The senior Benjamin Peters and George Daland, a laborer, purchased a two-acre homestead in Salem in 1721, and subdivided it, with Mr. Peters keeping the house and the southwesternmost one acre of land (ED 37:240). It was located on Bridge Street, near the present Burnside Street. Like his father, Benjamin Peters Jr. was bred to the sea, and learned the trade of a fisherman, starting as a “cut-tail” at the age of twelve or thirteen, in 1744 or so. At that time, Salem’s main export was salt cod, which was caught far offshore by the fishermen, and then “cured” until it was hard and dry and could be shipped long distances. Salem’s fishyards, with drying racks known as fish-fences or fish-flakes, were situated on Salem Neck and along the North River. Salt fish was a staple food in Catholic Europe (Spain and Portugal especially) and also in the Caribbean, where it was fed to slaves. To Europe went the “merchantable” cod (high-grade), and to the Caribbean went the “refuse” cod (low quality). Either sort, put into a pot of boiling water, would turn into nutritious food. Lumber, horses, and foodstuffs were also sent to the Caribbean, whence came sugar, cotton, mahogany, and especially molasses, which was distilled into rum in Salem. From Europe came finished goods, wine, fruit, feathers, and leather. There was also some trade between Salem and the Chesapeake Bay area, which provided corn, wheat, and tobacco, while South Carolina provided rice.

Most merchant vessels were small, under 60 tons. The salt water came along Derby and New Derby Streets all the way to the present post office; and in this secure inner harbor, known as the South River, were most of the wharves and warehouses. The Browne family, whose houses stood on Essex Street between Liberty and Washington, dominated Salem’s trade and society from the 1660s onward, and the Brownes were the leading merchants of the town right up until the time of the Revolution. Samuel Gardner and Timothy Orne were also prominent merchants of the 1730s and 1740s, followed by Orne’s protégé, Richard Derby (1712-1783). Col. Benjamin Pickman (1708-1773) was another of the great Salem merchants of that time. Salem’s colonial commerce was prosperous but relatively modest, for Salem was but an outpost of an empire, and the imperial authorities confined the Salem merchants to trade with designated British possessions. To the extent that the Salem merchants broke the rules by smuggling and trading with un-approved partners, they made large profits; and some came to feel disdain for the British, who sought to hold them back and keep them in their place.

Benjamin Peters served out his indenture by 1752, and had good prospects as a young fisherman and mariner. In 1752 he married Sarah West, 21, the daughter of Mary (Dean) West and of the late John West, a saddler (saddle-maker) who had died in 1751. Sarah had two brothers: George West, a fisherman, and Benjamin West, a sailor who eventually became a merchant.

It should be noted that there were two men named Benjamin Peters in Salem in the 1760s: the “other one” was a cabinet-maker who later became a miller who ground chocolate. In 1770 the latter bought from Edward Tucker a homestead off Boston Street or in that neighborhood (ED 128:118). In the marriage records of the time, a BP Jr. marries Charity Tucker in 1761 (“Jr.” meant the younger of two men, not necessarily the son of the older one or of one named Benjamin). BP Jr. is surely the cabinet-maker who bought a homestead from Mr. Tucker, who was probably a relative of his wife Charity Tucker. Thus it is certain that the “fisherman B.P.” is the one who marries Sarah West in 1752 and has a house built in 1762.

There is no record of any children born to Benjamin and Sarah Peters in the 1750s or 1760s, but the records are not comprehensive. It is nearly certain that the couple had at least two sons, Benjamin Jr. and John.

Benjamin Peters (c.1732-1794), s/o Benjamin Peters & Elizabeth Cloutman, died 26 Aug. 1794. He m. 1752 Sarah West, b. 1731, d/o John West & Mary Dean. Probable issue:

1. *Benjamin, 1754, m. 1776 Elizabeth Johnson*
2. *John, 1755, m. 1777 Elizabeth Skerry*

In the late 1750s and early 1760s, Benjamin Peters worked primarily as a coaster rather than a fisherman: he commanded coasting vessels that voyaged to the Carolinas and Maryland. His name does not appear on a 1756-1757 list of 34 Salem fishing schooners and their skippers (EIHC 75:326-7). This was a time of war against the French, and many ship-owners curtailed both their fishing operations and their overseas trading, due to the high costs of insurance and the risks of their vessels and men being captured. Among Benjamin Peters’ known commands are the schooner *Olive Branch*, 18 tons, which he sailed to and from North Carolina in December 1758 to April 1759 (p. 125, *Early Shipping of Salem*, Harriet S. Tapley, ed., EI, 1934). His next known command was the schooner *Victory*, 26 tons, to and from Maryland, December, 1759, to March 1760, and to and from North Carolina, December 1760 to April 1761 (p. 196, *ibid*). Next was the schooner *Eliza/Elizabeth*, 25 tons, to and from North Carolina, December, 1761, to April, 1762 (pp. 51,54, *ibid*). Capt. Peters also commanded the relatively large schooner *Anne*, 60 tons burthen, on a voyage to and from South Carolina, December, 1762, home in April, 1763.

While Benjamin Peters obviously worked as a coaster, he was best-known as a skipper of fishing schooners, in which he made long voyages out to the Grand Banks, off Newfoundland. From this work, he was known in town as “Skipper” Peters (see Bentley reference below). A fishing skipper had charge of a crew of five or six men and boys, and usually made two voyages per year, Spring Fare and Fall Fare. Each voyage might take three to four months. The skipper had to be an excellent mariner in order to make his fare and bring his men home safely after so long at sea, exposed to storms and accidents the whole time. The skipper and crew were paid in shares of the value of the fish sold after the voyage. A good skipper could make a good living, but always at great risk. Few skippers lived out their lives to the allotted span.

In the 1760s, after the French lost Canada to the British, relations between the colonials and the British authorities cooled. The English had spent down their reserves in support of the war, and decided to squeeze tax revenues out of the colonists' trade, which met with resentment. Although they had been under royal governors for two generations, the Americans had been allowed to govern themselves completely at the town level by town meetings, and, at the provincial level, through a legislature. Over time, they had come to regard themselves as a free people, and not as dependents of a far-away mother country. The British authorities were surprised at the Americans' resistance to their policies, and feared an insurrection. In 1768, they sent over a small army of occupation and installed it in Boston. This was a big mistake, for now the Americans were forced to see themselves as misbehaving colonials, and to realize that they were not free. They did not like this picture, and the result was greater tension and frequent street violence in Boston. The Boston Massacre, in which townsmen were gunned down by soldiers, took place in March, 1770; and then all of Massachusetts turned openly against the British, and the clouds of war gathered on the horizon. At just this time, Mr. Peters, fisherman, re-mortgaged his homestead here for 100 li to Jeremiah Hacker, Salem shoreman (ED 134:158). Mr. Hacker may have employed Mr. Peters, since shoremen owned fishing vessels and supervised the curing of the fish in the fishyards.

In this immediate neighborhood, the Peters house was one of several new homes. As has been mentioned, John Massey, cooper, had a house in 1761 to the northeast of this one (it stood at least 50' back from North Street); and James Odell, shoreman, had a fishyard and house north of that, overlooking the North River and the bridge. In 1768 James Cook bought the Daland lot to the south of the Peters homestead and had a house built thereon; and to the south of the Cook lot was the Samuel West homestead. Federal Street (known as New Street or New North Street) running westerly of North Street had just been laid out; but it would not be laid out easterly of North Street until 1793. John Massey, who in 1764 sold to fisherman John Carwick the westerly part of his house and parts of the homestead land (ED 115:53), died soon after; and Joseph Gavett, cordwainer, owned the easterly part of that house for three years before selling out in January, 1771 (ED 122:131) to John Carwick, who thus owned the whole of the Massey house. To the south of the Peters house stood the Samuel Daland house, which probably fronted on North Street on a lot that had about 78' frontage. Probably the Daland house stood in what is now the roadbed of Federal Street. In 1768 the Samuel Daland homestead, house and 60 poles of land, was sold to James Cook, shoreman (ED 117:259). It may be seen, then, that Mr. Peters and all of his immediate neighbors were involved in the fishery.

Pre-revolutionary Salem had more than its share of Tories; but the Sons of Liberty were in the majority. Wealthy scions of old Salem families like the Curwens, Pickmans, and Brownes, chose to remain loyal to the King, as did many others who had married into the merchant families. In 1774 one of the most outspoken Salem Tories was Peter Frye, a prominent merchant and magistrate whose wife was a Pickman. One night in October, Judge Frye learned just how much he was detested by the rebel faction: his fine house on Essex Street was burned down (the fire spread, and other houses and buildings burned as well).

By January, 1775, the Loyalist-leaning officers had been purged from the Salem militia regiment, which was being led by the rebel Col. Timothy Pickering, author of a book on military drill. One Sunday in February, 1775, the Revolutionary War almost began in Salem. When everyone was in church, Col. Leslie's redcoats marched overland from Marblehead and arrived in downtown Salem, hoping to seize munitions in North Salem. They came down North Street, right past this house, and came to a sudden halt at the North Bridge, whose draw was up. A crowd gathered. Negotiations followed, and agreement was reached: the draw went down, Leslie's men advanced a short distance into North Salem, faced about, and marched back through Salem and into Marblehead, whose own regiment, led by Col. Jeremiah Lee, could have slaughtered them. Instead, the Marbleheaders fell in behind them, marching in mockery of Leslie's Retreat as the British made their way back to their beached whaleboats to return to the transport vessel.

With the battle at Lexington & Concord, April 19th, 1775, the die was cast. Of course no one knew how the war would end, and there was little to indicate that the colonials could actually defeat the King's army and navy, but virtually every able-bodied Salem man and boy gave himself over to the cause. Salem's regiment participated in the siege of Boston, as George Washington took command of the army in Cambridge. The British left Boston in March, 1776, never to return. Washington's army was pushed southward from Long Island in a series of defeats, during which Salem's Col. Timothy Pickering became one of the General's most trusted officers, and Quartermaster General of the army. Washington's first victory was the Battle of Trenton, on Christmas Day, 1776.

With the coming of war, the British shut down the fishing grounds off Canada, and so the Salem fishery closed down. Nothing daunted, Benjamin Peters by 1777 leased seven acres of land from Judge Benjamin Lynde, and on it he kept a farm, where he raised hay and grain and kept a horse and cow. He also kept a shop, and had stock and income worth 230 li. He and Sarah rented out half of their house to a tenant (information from 1777 Salem valuations). It was probably at this time that Mr. Peters took up shoemaking, for he was later noted as a cordwainer (shoemaker) as well as fisherman. He may have run a stable or express service, for in 1779 he had six horses and a coach, and no shop. He leased the seven acres and had the cow, and the house of course (per valuations). By 1781 he was not leasing the Lynde land anymore, but was assessed for the house (150 li), and for horse, carriages, etc. These were war years.

Eventually most of the Salem men came home and sailed in privateers for the duration of the war, which continued at sea until 1783. While Benjamin Peters was almost certainly of the liberty party, it is not known what part he or his sons took in the revolutionary events. It is highly likely that they sailed as crewmen on Salem privateers. Their neighbor, John Carwick, was commander of a Salem privateer, the schooner *Dolphin*, in August, 1778. She had two guns, ten swivels, and thirty men on her voyage, and was outfitted by the owners, Henry Rust and Joseph Sprague (G.W. Allen's *Mass. Privateers*, p. 117).

Of the Peterses' neighbors, John Carwick was perhaps the most interesting and had the most in common with Benjamin Peters. In April, 1758, Carwick, 24, was skipper of the schooner *Elizabeth*, insured at that time by the owner, Benjamin Ward, for a fishing voyage

to the Grand Banks (see EIHC 31:91). Like Benjamin Peters, he also sailed as a coaster; and he commanded the 46-ton schooner *Molly* in 1766 and in 1767-8 on voyages to South Carolina and to the Chesapeake (*Early Shipping of Salem*, p.117). After the death of his wife Sarah Moses, John Carwick married Sally Cloutman early in 1772, and by May Mrs. Mary Holyoke, wife of the town's leading physician, was making visits to Mrs. Carwick, a nurse and midwife. Mrs. Carwick was "brought to bed" to give birth in January, 1773, and again in January, 1774. In February, 1776, Mrs. Carwick received a visit from Mrs. Holyoke. On 5 December, 1776, Mrs. Carwick and Mrs. Jones (midwives) spent the day with Mrs. Holyoke, who was about to have a baby; and they assisted at the birth. The baby, Harriet, died on Dec. 30 and next day Mrs. Carwick and Mr. Barnard the minister came to condole with Mrs. Holyoke. On Dec. 9, 1777, John Carwick (Jr.) married Susannah Vanderford and the Holyokes' daughter attended the wedding. John Carwick died in 1784. In her diary Mrs. Holyoke records other births, deliveries, and visits related to Mrs. Carwick. In late March, 1789, Mrs. Carwick attended the Holyokes' daughter Betsy as she lay dying. Mrs. Carwick was still a nurse and midwife in 1802, and lived to be eighty, dying in 1821 (see references in the *Holyoke Diaries*).

In some places, the 1780s post-war loss of the former colonial connections and trade routes was devastating, for Americans were prohibited from trading with most British possessions; but in Salem, the merchants and mariners were ready to push their ships and cargos into all parts of the known world. They did so with astonishing success. For a period of about 25 years, Salem was a famous center of commercial enterprise: by virtue of competing fiercely, pioneering new routes, and opening and dominating new markets, Salem won a high place in the world. Hasket Derby, William Gray, Eben Beckford, and Joseph Peabody were the town's commercial leaders. In 1784, Derby began trade with Russia; and in 1784 and 1785 he dispatched trading vessels to Africa and China, respectively. Voyages to India soon followed, and to the Spice Islands and Pepper Islands (Sumatra, Java, Malaya, etc.). These new markets brought great riches to the merchants, and began to raise the level of wealth throughout the town: new ships were bought and built, more crews were formed with more shipmasters, new shops and stores opened, new partnerships were formed, and new people moved to town.

By 1785, Benjamin Peters, 53, was assessed only on the house; evidently he had given up on his farming and horses and carriages. His son Benjamin had married Elizabeth Johnson in 1776 and probably lived here with his parents. His son John, a mariner, had married Elizabeth Skerry in 1777 and resided in Ward Two, on Bridge Street, on some Skerry property, no far from the old Peters homestead. The offshore fishery resumed after the war, and Skipper Benjamin Peters may have sailed out to the Grand Banks once again; or he may have decided to stay ashore and cobbled shoes and, perhaps, done some inshore day-trip fishing of the sort that was pursued at Sandy Bay (Rockport) on Cape Ann.

In 1788 Benjamin Peters, "Salem fisherman or cordwainer," with the consent of his wife, Sarah, sold the homestead here for 240 li to William Gray 3rd, merchant (ED 137:173). This may have had the effect of a mortgage at first, with the Peterses continuing to reside here; but by 1790 they had moved away and were residing on Federal or Beckford Street, with some West relatives (see published 1790 census, p. 93).

These were years of prosperity in Salem, based on the increasing overseas trade and especially the trade with the Orient. In 1792 the town's first bank, the Essex Bank, was founded, although it "existed in experiment a long time before it was incorporated," per Rev. William Bentley. From a population of 7921 in 1790, the town would grow by 1500 persons in a decade. At the same time, thanks to the economic policies of Alexander Hamilton, Salem vessels were able to transport foreign cargoes tax-free and essentially to serve as the neutral carrying fleet for both Britain and France, which were at war with each other.

Skipper Benjamin Peters and his wife Sarah, it would seem, could enjoy these years, surrounded by family and friends. Their son John, a mariner (perhaps a shipmaster), resided on Bridge Street with his family, including several children. Skipper Peters made himself busy along the waterfront, and perhaps did some day-trip fishing or sport fishing. One Tuesday late in August, 1794, he was sailing in a moses boat (oversized dory) rigged as a sloop, with his little grandson Henry Peters and Nero Pane, a black man known locally as The Doctor. A thunderstorm came up, and Skipper Peters was just off Beverly Bar, near Salem Willows, when a heavy gust of wind hit them, and upset the boat. The three of them were thrown into the water, and all drowned. The terrible accident was noted by Rev. William Bentley in his dairy, entry 26 Aug. 1794: "A gust with thunderstorm. A boat below the town was upset and all perished. There were three persons: Skipper Peters, aet. 62, his grandson, and a noted Negro, called The Doctor. It was a large moses boat rigged sloopwise." In the Salem *Gazette* for Tuesday, 2 Sept. 1794, the incident was reported as "the following melancholy accident (that) happened on Tuesday last. As Mr. Benj. Peters, with his grandson, Henry Peters, and Nero Pane, a black man, were in a boat a little below Beverly Bar, a sudden gust of wind upset it, and the unfortunate persons above mentioned were all drowned. Search was immediately made for the bodies. The two former were found the next day, on West Beach, Beverly side; the latter has not yet been found" (see appendix). So ended the life of Benjamin Peters. His widow Sarah lived on, perhaps residing with her son John or her West relatives.

The new owner as of 1788, William Gray, was a wealthy merchant ship-owner, whose father had moved to Salem from Lynn in the 1760s. William, known as "Billy" Gray, had been trained in the 1760s in the counting house of the eminent merchant Samuel Gardner. Billy had made good money as a privateer during the Revolutionary War, and then had invested in the privateering voyages of others, with very large returns. He resided in a large house on Essex Street. In the post-war uncertainties, Gray picked his way astutely, and held onto his winnings; and by the 1790s he was sending vessels to the East Indies. He owned the Peters house as an investment, and rented it out to tenants.

On 2 March 1792 William Gray, merchant, sold the house and land for 180 li to James Barr, wharfinger (ED 154:147). Capt. James Barr (1721-1803), who resided on Lynde Street, had been a privateer captain in the war and had built a good business as a ship-owner and as a wharfinger (owner-operator of a wharf) on the North River. He had come from England to Salem as a young cooper in 1743, and lived at first in a small house on Court (Washington) Street. He married Mary Ropes (1728-1785), the daughter of John

and Mary Ropes; and in 1752 James and Mary Barr moved to Lynde Street. He built a wharf on the North River “where he used to carry on the sand business, sand at that time being used to put on the bare floors, carpets being almost unknown” (per EIHC 27:124). He also came to own tracts of pasture and farmland in the Northfields (North Salem). He and Mary belonged to St. Peter’s Church, Episcopal, and had eight children, of whom the following survived infancy: Mary (1751-1842), James (1754-1848), John (1758-1832), William (1763-1805), and Robert (1767-1813). Capt. Barr was directly involved in the confrontation that led to Leslie’s Retreat.

James Barr evidently purchased the house here as a home for his son William Barr, wharfinger; and on 2 March 1794, for 190 li he sold it to William, who took out a mortgage of 128 li (ED 158:46; note that in the typescript of Miss Perley’s research the year was incorrectly given as 1799). William had married Rebecca Wood in 1786 (the year after the death of his mother, Mary), but Rebecca died in childbirth in 1787, aged twenty. She was survived by her infant son James. William eventually began socializing again; and at the end of 1788 he married Ruth Doak, probably the Ruth Doak born in Marblehead and baptized there in 1770, child of James Doak and Hannah Devereux (1749-1775). William and Ruth would have several children, the first of whom they named Rebecca, in honor of William’s deceased wife.

In 1793, the new road was laid out to connect Court (Washington) Street and North Street. It was at first called Marlborough Street, and, much later, was re-named Federal Street to accord with the name of the street that ran opposite it, westerly of North Street. The Daland-Cook house stood at the corner of North and Marlborough Streets, with its back wall very near the Barr house dooryard. Part of the William Barr homestead land fronted on the new road; and in October, 1794, for 50 li he sold a small lot on Marlborough Street (ED 157:268) which became the lot for present 58 Federal Street.

In the late 1790s, there was agitation in Congress to go to war with France, which was at war with England. After President Adams’ negotiators were rebuffed by the French leaders in 1797, a quasi-war with France began in summer, 1798, much to the horror of Salem’s George Crowninshield family (father and five shipmaster sons), which had an extensive trade with the French, and whose ships and cargos in French ports were susceptible to seizure. The quasi-war brought about a political split within the Salem population. Those who favored war with France (and detente with England) aligned themselves with the national Federalist party, led by Hamilton and Salem’s Timothy Pickering (the U.S. Secretary of State). These included most of the merchants, led locally by the Derby family. Those who favored peace with republican France were the Anti-Federalists, who later became aligned with Pres. Jefferson and his Democratic-Republican party; they were led locally by the Crowninshields. For the first few years of this rivalry, the Federalists prevailed; but after the death of Hasket “King” Derby in 1799 his family’s power weakened.

Capt. William Barr was the head of the Salem Artillery Company, and he did some farming as well as run a wharf business, trading in sand. He participated in Salem’s overseas commerce, and in 1804 was co-owner, with brothers James and John, of the 103-

ton merchant schooner, *Nat & John*, Capt. John Edwards; they soon sold her to Beckford & Bacon (see p.158, *Ship Registers of the District of Salem & Beverly*). The 1800 census (p.358) indicates that William Barr and family resided here. William's household consisted of three boys under ten, himself, and four females. Nearby, in the Massey-Carwick house, lived a Peters family, headed by Elizabeth (Betsy), widow of George Peters, with a household consisted of a young man 16-26, and three women (including her) aged 16-26, 26-45, and 45-plus.

William Barr (1763?-1805), son of James Barr and Mary Ropes, died July 1805. He m/1 27 Aug. 1786 Rebecca Wood (1767-1787). He m/2 2 Dec. 1788 Ruth Doke/Doak (d. 1832).

Known issue:

1. *James, 1787-1853, m. 1812 Sarah Shaw; had issue.*
2. *Rebecca, 1791, m/1 1824 Thos. McClintock, m/2 1834 Francis Skerry.*
3. *William, 1793-1857, m'd twice in Beverly.*
4. *John Symonds, bp 1794, m. Mary F. Gile.*
5. *Robert, 1796-1818*
6. *Ruth, 1798, died 24 Dec. 1831.*
7. *Hannah, twin, 31 March 1800, m. 1843 James Eustis of S. Reading.*
8. *Sarah, twin, 31 March 1800*

William Barr's father, Capt. James Barr, died in 1803; and William himself died in July, 1805, aged about 42 years, leaving his second wife, Ruth, and several young children, including five-year-old twins, Hannah and Sarah. On 2 October 1805 an inventory of Cap. Barr's estate was made by John Watson, James Odell, and Abijah Northey. The real estate consisted of a "wharf adjoining the North Bridge, with a store on it and a sand house" (worth \$1333.33) and "a mansion house and out houses with the land under and adjoining" (worth \$2100). The latter was the homestead here ("mansion house" was a term used to mean the house in which the owner resided, even if it were a modest house and not what we consider a mansion). The personal estate came to another \$461.92, and included some valuable livestock.

In July, 1806, there was an accounting of the estate, which had more debts than it did personal-estate assets and so was ruled insolvent. The largest creditors were his brother James Barr (\$451.80), brother-in-law Benjamin Cheever (\$444.49), Ebenezer Berry (\$234.55), Joseph Sprague Jr. (\$108.29), John Dunnel (\$209.28), Joshua Eustis (\$82.81), and Elizabeth Symonds (\$248). Total debts came to \$2991, which could be covered by the sale of the real estate. To the widow, Mrs. Ruth Barr, went a lifetime "dower" right to one-third of the estate. She received the use of the following parts of the homestead: the western lower room, the chamber and garret over, the cellar under, the pantry adjoining to the northern part of the house, the yard to the west of the house, the easterly part of the barn and the chamber over it and some land belonging thereto, and certain passage rights and some common rights with the owners of the easterly part of the house. She also received the use of the sand house down by the wharf, with liberty for a vessel to load and unload sand at the wharf gratis, and a cartage right on the wharf. This was awarded on Christmas Eve, 1806.

On 30 May 1807 John Barr, merchant, for \$950 purchased the remaining (non-dower) part of the homestead of William Barr, deceased (ED 181:256). This was the easterly part of the house, the western part of the barn, and piece of garden land. John Barr, a very wealthy man who resided elsewhere, evidently purchased the homestead in order to assist his sister-in-law Mrs. Ruth Doak Barr and her children. For many years afterward, the house remained in the divided ownership of John Barr, merchant, and of Mrs. Ruth Barr (dower right). At that time, the old Massey-Carwick house, to the northeast, was occupied by Joseph and Betsy Scates, and Betsy's son John J. Carwick, by her first husband, the deceased John Carwick 3rd, cordwainer (shoemaker). It would appear that Betsy's mother was the Betsy Johnson who married, first, Benjamin Peters Jr. in 1776.

Much of importance had happened in Salem in the first decade of the 19th century. In 1800, Adams negotiated peace with France and fired Pickering, his oppositional Secretary of State. Salem's Federalists merchants erupted in anger, expressed through their newspaper, the *Salem Gazette*. At the same time, British vessels began to harass American shipping. Salem owners bought more cannon and shot, and kept pushing their trade to the farthest ports of the rich East, while also maintaining trade with the Caribbean and Europe. Salem cargos were exceedingly valuable, and Salem was a major center for distribution of merchandise throughout New England: "the streets about the wharves were alive with teams loaded with goods for all parts of the country. It was a busy scene with the coming and going of vehicles, some from long distances, for railroads were then unknown and all transportation must be carried on in wagons and drays. In the taverns could be seen teamsters from all quarters sitting around the open fire in the chilly evenings, discussing the news of the day or making merry over potations of New England rum, which Salem manufactured in abundance." (from Hurd's *History of Essex County*, 1888, p.65).

The Crowninshields, led by brother Jacob, were especially successful, as their holdings rose from three vessels in 1800 to several in 1803. Their bailiwick, the Derby Street district, seemed almost to be a foreign country: in the stores, parrots chattered and monkeys cavorted, and from the warehouses wafted the exotic aromas of Sumatran spices and Arabian coffee beans. From the wharves were carted all manner of strange fruits and blue and red patterned china and piles of gorgeous silks and figured cloths. The greatest of the Salem merchants at this time was William "Billy" Gray, who owned 36 large vessels--15 ships, 7 barks, 13 brigs, 1 schooner--by 1808. Salem was then still a town, and a small one by our standards, with a total population of about 9,500 in 1800. Its politics were fierce, and polarized everything. The two factions attended separate churches, held separate parades, and supported separate schools, military companies, and newspapers. Salem's merchants resided mainly on two streets: Washington (which ended in a wharf on the Inner Harbor, and, above Essex, had the Town House in the middle) and Essex (particularly between what are now Hawthorne Boulevard and North Street). The East Parish (Derby Street area) was for the seafaring families, shipmasters, sailors, and fishermen. In the 1790s, Federal Street, known as New Street, had more empty lots than fine houses. Chestnut Street did not exist: its site was a meadow. The Common was not yet Washington Square, and was covered with hillocks, small ponds and swamps, utility buildings, and the alms-house. As the 19th century advanced, Salem's commercial

prosperity would sweep almost all of the great downtown houses away (the brick Joshua Ward house, built 1784, is a notable exception).

The town's merchants were among the wealthiest in the country, and, in Samuel McIntire, they had a local architect who could help them realize their desires for large and beautiful homes in the latest style. While a few of the many new houses went up in the old Essex-Washington Street axis, most were erected on or near Washington Square or in the Federalist "west end" (Chestnut, Federal, and upper Essex Streets). The architectural style (called "Federal" today) had been developed by the Adam brothers in England and featured fanlight doorways, palladian windows, elongated pilasters and columns, and large windows. It was introduced to New England by Charles Bulfinch in 1790. The State House in Boston was his first institutional composition; and soon Beacon Hill was being built up with handsome residences in the Bulfinch manner.

Samuel McIntire (1757-1811), who was self-educated and who made his living primarily as a wood-carver and carpenter, was quick to adapt the Bulfinch style to Salem's larger lots. McIntire's first local composition, the Jerathmeel Peirce house (on Federal Street), contrasts with his later Adamesque designs. In place of walls of wood paneling, there now appeared plastered expanses painted in bright colors or covered in bold wallpapers. The Adam style put a premium on handsome casings and carvings of central interior features such door-caps and chimney-pieces (McIntire's specialty). On the exterior, the Adam style included elegant fences; and the houses were often built of brick, with attenuated porticoes and, in the high style, string courses, swagged panels, and even two-story pilasters. The best example of the new style was the Elias Hasket Derby house, co-designed by Bulfinch and McIntire, and built on Essex Street in 1797-8 (demolished in 1815), on the site of today's Town House Square.

A new bank, the Salem Bank, was formed in 1803, and there were two insurance companies and several societies and associations. The fierce politics and commercial rivalries continued. The ferment of the times is captured in the diary of Rev. William Bentley, bachelor minister of Salem's East Church and editor of the *Register* newspaper. His diary is full of references to the civic and commercial doings of the town, and to the lives and behaviors of all classes of society. On Union Street, not far from Bentley's church, on the fourth of July, 1804, was born a boy who would grow up to eclipse all sons of Salem in the eyes of the world: Nathaniel Hawthorne, whose father would die of fever while on a voyage to the Caribbean in 1808. This kind of untimely death was all too typical of Salem's young seafarers, who fell prey to malaria and other diseases of the Caribbean and Pacific tropics.

In 1806 the Derbys extended their wharf far out into the harbor, tripling its previous length. This they did to create more space for warehouses and ship-berths in the deeper water, at just about the time that the Crowninshields had built their great India Wharf at the foot of now-Webb Street. The other important wharves were Forrester's (now Central, just west of Derby Wharf), and Union Wharf at the foot of Union Street; and then, farther to the west, a number of smaller wharves extended into the South River (filled in during the late 1800s), all the way to the foot of Washington Street. Each had a warehouse or two, and shops for artisans (coopers, blockmakers, joiners, etc.). The waterfront between Union

Street and Washington Street also had lumber yards and several ship chandleries and distilleries, with a Market House at the foot of Central Street, below the Custom House. The wharves and streets were crowded with shoppers, gawkers, hawkers, sailors, artisans (“mechanics”), storekeepers, and teamsters; and just across the way, on Stage Point along the south bank of the South River, wooden barks and brigs and ships were being built in the shipyards.

Salem’s boom came to an end with a crash in January, 1808, when Jefferson and the Congress imposed an embargo on all shipping in hopes of forestalling war with Britain. The Embargo, which was widely opposed in New England, proved futile and nearly ruinous in Salem, where commerce ceased. As a hotbed of Democratic-Republicanism, Salem’s East Parish and its seafarers, led by the Crowninshields, loyally supported the Embargo until it was lifted in spring, 1809. Shunned by the other Salem merchants for his support of the Embargo, the eminent Billy Gray took his large fleet of ships—fully one-third of Salem’s tonnage—and moved to Boston, whose commerce was thereby much augmented. Gray’s removal eliminated a huge amount of Salem wealth, shipping, import-export cargoes, and local employment. Gray soon switched from the Federalist party, and was elected Lt. Governor under Gov. Elbridge Gerry, a native of Marblehead. Salem resumed its seafaring commerce for three years, but still the British preyed on American shipping; and in June, 1812, war was declared against Britain.

Although the merchants had tried to prevent the war, when it came, Salem swiftly fitted out 40 privateers manned by Marblehead and Salem crews, who also served on U.S. Navy vessels, including the frigate *Constitution*. Many more local vessels could have been sent against the British, but some of the Federalist merchants held them back. In addition, Salem fielded companies of infantry and artillery. Salem and Marblehead privateers were largely successful in making prizes of British supply vessels. Perhaps Mrs. Ruth Barr’s sons (William, John, and Robert) participated in the war, as sailors and privateers. While many of the town’s men were wounded in engagements, and some were killed, the possible riches of privateering kept the men returning to sea as often as possible. The first prizes were captured by a 30-ton converted fishing schooner, the *Fame*, and by a 14-ton luxury yacht fitted with one gun, the *Jefferson*. Of all Salem privateers, the Crowninshields’ 350-ton ship *America* was most successful: she captured 30-plus prizes worth more than \$1,100,000.

Salem erected forts and batteries on its Neck, to discourage the British warships that cruised these waters. On land, the war went poorly for the United States, as the British captured Washington, DC, and burned the Capitol and the White House. Along the western frontier, U.S. forces were successful against the weak English forces; and, as predicted by many, the western expansionists had their day. At sea, as time wore on, Salem vessels were captured, and its men imprisoned or killed. After almost three years, the war was bleeding the town dry. Hundreds of Salem men and boys were in British prison-ships and at Dartmoor Prison in England. At the Hartford Convention in 1814, New England Federalist delegates met to consider what they could do to bring the war to a close and to restore the region’s commerce. Sen. Timothy Pickering of Salem led the extreme Federalists in proposing a series of demands which, if not met by the federal government,

could lead to New England's seceding from the United States; but the Pickering faction was countered by Harrison G. Otis of Boston and the moderate Federalists, who prevailed in sending a moderate message to Congress.

At last, in February, 1815, peace was restored.

Post-war, the Salem merchants rebuilt their fleets and resumed their worldwide trade, slowly at first, and then to great effect. Many new partnerships were formed. The pre-war partisan politics of the town were not resumed post-war, as the middle-class "mechanics" (artisans) became more powerful and brought about civic harmony, largely through the Salem Charitable Mechanic Association (founded 1817). Rev. William Bentley, keen observer and active citizen during Salem's time of greatest prosperity and fiercest political divisions, died in 1819, the year in which a new U.S. Custom House was built in 1819, on the site of the George Crowninshield mansion, at the head of Derby Wharf. Into the 1820s foreign trade continued prosperous; and new markets were opened with Madagascar (1820), which supplied tallow and ivory, and Zanzibar (1825), whence came coffee, ivory, and gum copal, used to make varnish. This opened a huge and lucrative trade in which Salem dominated, and its vessels thus gained access to all of the east African ports.

In 1820, the western rooms of the house were occupied by Mrs. Ruth Doak Barr and her household. It seems that the eastern rooms, owned by John Barr, were rented to Mary Andrew (she lived here with another woman aged 45+ and a young woman aged 16-26) and perhaps James Cullinton (he was aged 26-45, and lived with three women, two aged 26-45 and one 45+), per 1820 census (pp.66-67). In Mrs. Barr's part of the house were two men, one 16-26, one 26-45, and three other women, three 16-26; and two of the people were engaged in manufacturing (per census).

Salem's general maritime foreign commerce fell off sharply in the late 1820s. Imports in Salem ships were supplanted by the goods that were now being produced in great quantities in America. The interior of the country was being opened for settlement, and some Salemites moved away. To the north, the falls of the Merrimack River powered large new textile mills (Lowell was founded in 1823), which created great wealth for their investors; and in general it seemed that the tide of opportunity was ebbing away from Salem. In an ingenious attempt to stem the flow of talent from the town and to harness its potential water power for manufacturing, Salem's merchants and capitalists banded together in 1826 to raise the money to dam the North River for industrial power. The project, which began with much promise, was suspended in 1827, which demoralized the town even more, and caused several leading citizens to move to Boston, the hub of investment in the new economy. Mrs. Ruth Barr and her grown children presumably resided here through the 1820s and into the turn of the new decade.

In 1830 occurred a horrifying crime that brought disgrace to Salem. Old Capt. Joseph White, a wealthy merchant, resided in the house now called the Gardner-Pingree house, on Essex Street. One night, intruders broke into his mansion and stabbed him to death. All of Salem buzzed with the news of murderous thugs; but the killer was a Crowninshield (a fallen son of one of the five brothers; after he was put in jail he killed himself). He had

been hired by his friends, Capt. White's own relatives, Capt. Joseph Knapp and his brother Frank (they would be executed). The results of the investigation and trial having uncovered much that was lurid, more of the respectable families quit the now-notorious town.

The owner of the easterly rooms of the house, John Barr, died in April, 1832, owning much property including "interest in the estate of the late William Barr" worth \$600. Mrs. Ruth Doak Barr died in 1835; and in December, 1835, the other William Barr heirs sold their right to the dower portion (western rooms and small piece of land) to their twin sisters, Hannah and Sarah Barr, who resided there (ED 285:163). In 1836 these Barr sisters purchased from their cousins the other (easterly) part of the house and its land, excluding the garden (ED 294:253). Thus ownership of the house was united in Hannah and Sarah Barr in 1835-6. They occupied the house at this time (per deed) but may have rented out part of it to Thomas F. Odell, a clerk at Union Wharf (in the 1837 directory he is listed at 26 North Street, probably the right number for this house at that time; in the next year he purchased the Massey-Carwick house).

As the decade wore on, Salem's remaining merchants had to take their equity out of wharves and warehouses and ships and put it into manufacturing and transportation, as the advent of railroads and canals diverted both capital and trade away from the coast. Some merchants did not make the transition, and were ruined. Old-line areas of work, like rope-making, sail-making, and ship chandleries, gradually declined and disappeared. Salem slumped badly, but, despite all, the voters decided to charter their town as a city in 1836—the third city to be formed in the state, behind Boston and Lowell. City Hall was built 1837-8 and the city seal was adopted with an already-anachronistic Latin motto of "to the farthest port of the rich East"—a far cry from "Go West, young man!" The Panic of 1837, a brief, sharp, nationwide economic depression, caused even more Salem families to head west in search of fortune and a better future.

Salem had not prepared for the industrial age, and had few natural advantages. The North River served not to power factories but mainly to flush the waste from the 25 tanneries that had set up along its banks. Throughout the 1830s, the leaders of Salem scrambled to re-invent an economy for their fellow citizens, many of whom were mariners without much sea-faring to do. Ingenuity, ambition, and hard work would have to carry the day.

One inspiration was the Salem Laboratory, Salem's first science-based manufacturing enterprise, founded in 1813 to produce chemicals. At the plant built in 1818 in North Salem on the North River, the production of alum and blue vitriol was a specialty; and it proved a very successful business. Salem's whale-fishery, active for many years in the early 1800s, led, in the 1830s, to the manufacturing of high-quality candles at Stage Point, along with machine oils. The candles proved very popular. Lead-manufacturing began in the 1820s, and grew large after 1830, when Wyman's gristmills on the Forest River were retooled for making high-quality white lead and sheet lead (the approach to Marblehead is still called Lead Mills Hill, although the empty mill buildings burned down in 1960s).

These enterprises were a start toward taking Salem in a new direction. In 1838 the Eastern Rail Road, headquartered in Salem, began operating between Boston and Salem, which gave the local people a direct route to the region's largest market. The new railroad tracks ran right over the middle of the Mill Pond; the tunnel under Washington Street was built in 1839; and the line was extended to Newburyport in 1840.

By 1840, the head of the household was Sarah Barr, and two other women lived here too (per census, p.306). Thomas F. Odell, the merchant's clerk, owned the old Massey-Carwick house to the north, which he had purchased in 1836-7 (ED 295:243, 303:201, 304:20). Things changed in 1841, as the Barr sisters moved to 22 Lynde Street, another Barr family house. The new tenant here was, evidently, Charles Staniford, a laborer. The Barr sisters would never again reside here. Hannah, a dressmaker, and Sarah, a teacher, lived together only two more years, for in 1843 Hannah married James Eustis of North Reading. Their partnership as co-owners of this house remained intact, and would not end until 1871.

The new occupant, Charles Staniford, was born in Ipswich in 1802, the son of Thomas and Mary (Staniford) Staniford. He came to Salem by 1822, when he married Mary P. Doliver, 17, the daughter of Joseph Doliver and Mary Rogers of Salem. He worked as a laborer. In 1830 the Stanifords had five little children and resided in a house on Odell Square, a few doors away from the Barr house (see 1831 Salem valuations); and there they would live through the 1830s, in one unit of the Odell Square house. Mr. Staniford was employed at 304 Essex Street in 1836. The Stanifords added six more children to their family in the 1830s.

Charles Staniford (1802-1872), b. Ipswich 1 Jan. 1802 s/o Thomas Staniford and Mary Staniford, died Salem 3 May 1872. He m. 15 Oct. 1822 Mary P. Doliver (1805-1875), b. Salem Oct. 1805, d/o Joseph Doliver & Mary Rogers, d. Peabody 3 Aug. 1875. Known issue, surname Staniford:

1. *Mary Eliza Frye, 1822*
2. *Caroline Harris, 1825, v. 1850*
3. *Charles Henry, 1828, painter, m. 1847 Martha Ball (d. 1849, d/o Amos & Mary Ball, d. 11 Feb 1849, a 19 y, & their child Martha Maria d. purpura 18 Aug. 1849, a 7m.*
4. *Margaret Pitman, 1829*
5. *John F., 1830*
6. *David Peirson, v. 1850*
7. *Elizabeth Appleton, v.1850*
8. *Mary R., 1834*
9. *Daniel, bp 1836, printer, v. 1870s*
10. *Sarah A., bp 1838, v.1860*
11. *daughter, June 1839, died Oct. 1839.*
12. *daughter, August 1840, died Sept. 1840.*
13. *Annie R., 1841, died 20 July 1849, dropsy.*
14. *Abby J., 1844, v.1865*
15. *Ellen E., July 1847, v.1865*

In 1841, when the Stanifords moved in here, the house was numbered 26 on north Street, and Mr. Staniford had just been named the city's Assistant Superintendent of Burials, a job ("undertaker") he would hold for the rest of his life. After moving in here, Mrs. Mary Staniford had three more children, Annie, Abbie, and Ellen, bringing the total to fifteen. Not all of them had survived infancy, but at least ten had and all were residing here in 1845.

In the 1840s, as more industrial methods and machines were introduced, new companies in new lines of business arose in Salem. The tanning and curing of leather was very important by the mid-1800s. On and near Boston Street, along the upper North River, there were 41 tanneries in 1844, and 85 in 1850, employing 550 hands. The leather business would continue to grow in importance throughout the 1800s. In 1846 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company completed the construction at Stage Point of the largest factory building in the United States, 60' wide by 400' long. It was an immediate success, and hundreds of people found employment there, many of them living in tenements built nearby. Also in the 1840s, a new method was introduced to make possible high-volume industrial shoe production. In Lynn, the factory system was perfected, and that city became the nation's leading shoe producer. Salem had shoe factories too, and attracted shoe workers from outlying towns and the countryside. Even the population changed, as hundreds of Irish families, fleeing the Famine in Ireland, settled in Salem and gave the industrialists a big pool of cheap labor.

The Gothic symbol of Salem's new industrial economy was the large twin-towered granite train station—the "stone depot"—smoking and growling with idling locomotives, standing on filled-in land at the foot of Washington Street, where before had been the merchants' wharves. In the face of all this change, some members of Salem's waning merchant class continued to pursue their sea-borne businesses; but even the conditions of shipping changed, and Salem was left on the ebb tide. In the late 1840s, giant clipper ships replaced the smaller vessels that Salem men had sailed around the world; and the clippers, with their deep drafts and large holds, were usually too large for Salem and its harbor. The town's shipping soon consisted of little more than Zanzibar-trade vessels and visits from Down East coasters with cargoes of fuel wood and building timber. By 1850 Salem was about finished as a working port. A picture of Salem's sleepy waterfront is given by Hawthorne in his sardonic "introductory section" to *The Scarlet Letter*, which he began while working in the Custom House.

In 1849 tragedy struck the Stanifords, who were regular attendants at the Crombie Street Church. Their eight-year-old daughter, Annie, died of dropsy in July. Their son, Charles H., a painter married to Martha Ball, lost his 19-year-old wife after childbirth early in 1849. Their daughter, Martha, died in August, one month after the death of little Annie. The impact of these events can only be imagined. In 1850 Charles and Mary Staniford resided here with their children Caroline H., 25, tailoress, Charles H., 23, painter, David P., 19, mariner, Elizabeth A., 17, Daniel, 15, Sarah A., 12, Abby J., 7, and Ellen L., three (1850 census, ward four, house 434).

Salem's growth continued through the 1850s, as business and industries expanded, the population swelled, new churches (e.g. Immaculate Conception, 1857) were started, new working-class neighborhoods were developed (especially in North Salem and South Salem, off Boston Street, and along the Mill Pond behind the Broad Street graveyard), and new schools, factories, and stores were built. A second, larger, factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was added in 1859, down at Stage Point, where a new Methodist Church went up, and many neat homes, boarding-houses, and stores were erected along the streets between Lafayette and Congress. The tanning business continued to boom, as better and larger tanneries were built along Boston Street and Mason Street; and subsidiary industries sprang up as well, most notably the J.M. Anderson glue-works on the Turnpike (Highland Avenue).

As it built itself into an economic powerhouse, Salem took a strong interest in national politics. It was primarily Republican, and strongly anti-slavery, with its share of outspoken abolitionists, led by Charles Remond, a passionate speaker who came from one of the city's notable black families. At its Lyceum (on Church Street) and in other venues, plays and shows were put on, but cultural lectures and political speeches were given too.

By 1860, with the election of Abraham Lincoln, it was clear that the Southern states would secede from the union; and Salem, which had done so much to win the independence of the nation, was ready to go to war to force others to remain a part of it. In that year Charles Staniford, 57, resided here with his wife Mary and their four youngest children, Daniel, 24, printer, Sarah, 22, Abbie, 17, and Ellen, 13.

The Civil War began in April, 1861, and went on for four years, during which hundreds of Salem men served in the army and navy, and many were killed or died of disease or abusive treatment while imprisoned. Hundreds more suffered wounds, or broken health. Daniel Staniford, a printer, a member of the Salem Cadets, served as a private in a four-month enlistment outfit, the Fourth Battalion Infantry of the Mass. Volunteer Militia, which did garrison duty at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor in 1862. In 1863, he was listed as boarding here at "26" North Street and working as a printer at 183 Essex, probably for one of the city's four newspapers (likely the *Register*) (per 1864 directory). He re-enlisted for a 100-day hitch and was made a corporal in Company I of the Sixth Mass. Infantry regiment, which, starting in the summer of 1864, served near Washington, DC, and then did guard duty at the prison for captured Confederates on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River. That fall, evidently, he transferred to the Third Mass. Heavy Artillery regiment, and served in Company H for the duration (see Civil War records, I:463, 5:325,772).

The people of Salem contributed greatly to efforts to alleviate the suffering of the soldiers, sailors, and their families; and there was great celebration when the war finally ended in the spring of 1865.

Through the 1860s, Salem pursued manufacturing, especially of leather and shoes and textiles. The managers and capitalists tended to build their new, grand houses along Lafayette Street (these houses may still be seen, south of Roslyn Street; many are in the

French Second Empire style, with mansard roofs). In 1865 a third factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was built. Here on North Street, in 1867, just to the north of this house, on the former Massey-Carwick lot, a large brick roundhouse was built as a gas-works. This seems to have inspired the Stanifords to move away. In August, 1867, the Stanifords at last bought their own house: Mrs. Mary P. Staniford purchased the house and land at One Union Place, off North Street in North Salem, from Josephus Ashby (ED 729:160). To that house the Stanifords moved, and there they lived for five years until the death of Mr. Charles Staniford on May 3, 1872, of "softening of the brain", in his 71st year. Mrs. Mary P. Staniford survived him, and died on 3 August 1875 in Peabody, as the result of an accident (see Salem vital records, City Hall).

In 1870 Salem received its last cargo from Zanzibar, thus ending a once-important trade. By then, a new Salem & New York freight steamboat line was in operation. Seven years later, with the arrival of a vessel from Cayenne, Salem's foreign trade came to an end. After that, "the merchandise warehouses on the wharves no longer contained silks from India, tea from China, pepper from Sumatra, coffee from Arabia, spices from Batavia, gum-copal from Zanzibar, hides from Africa, and the various other products of far-away countries. The boys have ceased to watch on the Neck for the incoming vessels, hoping to earn a reward by being the first to announce to the expectant merchant the safe return of his looked-for vessel. The foreign commerce of Salem, once her pride and glory, has spread its white wings and sailed away forever" (per Rev. George Bachelder in *History of Essex County*, II: 65).

On 27 June 1871, Sarah Barr, Salem teacher, and her sister Hannah, wife of James Eustis of Wakefield, for \$2100 to John Rice, Salem, the buildings and land bounded w. 41' 3" North Street, south 117' on Skinner, Daniels, etc. (ED 827:249). Thus the house passed out of the Barr family after almost 80 years of ownership.

The new owner, John Rice, was a tailor, born in Ireland in 1818. He and his wife Bridget married in Ireland, and there had three children, at least, between 1843 and 1849. In 1850, evidently, they packed up Mary, Hannah, and Michael, and came to America. In 1855 they lived in North Salem: John, 37, tailor, Bridget L., 30, Mary 13, Anna/Hannah 12, Michael 7, all born in Ireland, and Margaret, four, Daniel two, and infant John all born in Massachusetts (1855 census, ward four, house 676). By 1856 they resided at 13 Lynn Street, off Federal, in Salem (see 1857 directory). Mr. Rice had his tailor shop at 5 Lynn Street. Mrs. Rice had more children, and by 1860 the household consisted of John, 43, Bridget, 37, Ellen Doragan, 65 (a relative?), and Rice children Mary 17, Hannah 15, working as servants, Michael, 12, Margaret, 9, Daniel 7, John 5, and James, three (1860 census, wd. 4, h. 2160). By 1863 they had moved to 22 River Street (per 1864 directory). As mentioned, John Rice purchased this house in 1871.

Salem was now so densely built-up that a general conflagration was always a possibility, as in Boston, when, on Nov. 9, 1872, the financial and manufacturing district of the city burned up. Salem continued to prosper in the 1870s, carried forward by the leather-making business. In 1874 the city was visited by a tornado and shaken by a minor earthquake. In the following year, the large Pennsylvania Pier (site of the present coal-fired

harborside electrical generating plant) was completed to begin receiving large shipments of coal. Beyond it, at Juniper Point, a new owner began subdividing the old Allen farmlands into a new development called Salem Willows and Juniper Point. In the U.S. centennial year, 1876, A.G. Bell of Salem announced that he had discovered a way to transmit voices over telegraph wires.

In this decade, French-Canadian families began coming to work in Salem's mills and factories, and more houses and tenements were built. The better-off workers bought portions of older houses or built small homes for their families in the outlying sections of the city; and by 1879 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton mills would employ 1200 people and produce annually nearly 15 million yards of cloth. Shoe-manufacturing businesses expanded in the 1870s, and 40 shoe factories were employing 600-plus operatives. Tanning, in both Salem and Peabody, remained a very important industry, and employed hundreds of breadwinners. On Boston Street in 1879, the Arnold tannery caught fire and burned down.

In 1880 John Rice and family resided here. At 65, he was still a tailor. His wife Bridget was 58. Their daughter Maggie (Margaret), now 28, worked in or operated a shoe shop; son Daniel, 27, was a currier, as was son John J., 26; son James F., 23, was a butcher, and daughter Nellie J., 18, worked in a shoe shop (see 1880 census, #30 North Street, SD 60, ED 235). Salem kept building infrastructure; and new businesses arose, and established businesses expanded. Retail stores prospered; horse-drawn trolleys ran every which-way; and machinists, carpenters, millwrights, and other specialists all thrived. In 1880, Salem's manufactured goods were valued at about \$8.4 million, of which leather accounted for nearly half. In the summer of 1886, the Knights of Labor brought a strike against the manufacturers for a ten-hour day and other concessions; but the manufacturers imported labor from Maine and Canada, and kept going. The strikers held out, and there was violence in the streets, and even rioting and one man killed; but the owners prevailed, and many of the defeated workers lost their jobs and suffered, with their families, through a bitter winter.

By the mid-1880s, Salem's cotton-cloth mills at the Point employed 1400 people who produced about 19 million yards annually, worth about \$1.5 million. The city's large shoe factories stood downtown behind the stone depot and on Dodge and Lafayette Streets. A jute bagging company prospered with plants on Skerry Street and English Street; its products were sent south to be used in cotton-baling. Salem factories also produced lead, paint, and oil. At the Eastern Railroad yard on Bridge Street, cars were repaired and even built new. In 1887 the streets were first lit with electricity, replacing gas-light. John Rice had his tailor's shop at 35 North Street at this time (per 1884 directory).

And 31 May 1888 Mr. Rice, 70, sold off the easternmost parcel of the homestead lot for \$500 to Lucy M., wife of Charles B. Fowler; the land was bounded south 31'5" on said Fowler (formerly Skinner), etc. (ED 1224:189).

More factories and more people required more space for buildings, more roads, and more storage areas. This space was created by filling in rivers, harbors, and ponds. The once-

broad North River was filled from both shores, and became a canal along Bridge Street above the North Bridge. The large and beautiful Mill Pond, which occupied the whole area between the present Jefferson Avenue, Canal Street, and Loring Avenue, finally vanished beneath streets, storage areas, junk-yards, rail-yards, and parking lots. The South River, too, with its epicenter at Central Street (that's why there was a Custom House built there in 1805) disappeared under the pavement of Riley Plaza and New Derby Street, and some of its old wharves were joined together with much in-fill and turned into coal-yards and lumber-yards. Only a canal was left, running in from Derby and Central Wharves to Lafayette Street.

In October, 1896, Mr. Rice, 78 and perhaps ailing, mortgaged the house and land to Charles B. Fowler (ED 1491:328). The mortgage was not repaid, and Mr. Fowler took the property on execution. The Rices had owned the house for more than 25 years. In 1900 the tenants were Allan MacDougall, 30, an hostler born in Canada, his wife Emma, 42, born in Illinois, and their four sons, Roy, 8, George, 7, William, 4, and Daniel, two (1900 census, ED 450, sheet 18, #30 North St.).

In July, 1900 Mr. Fowler sold the homestead to Frank E. Gordon for \$925 (ED 1614:571). The land fronted 41' 3" on North Street, and southerly 85' 5" on land of Daniels and Fowler, northerly 92.5' on Odell's land. Mr. Gordon, his wife Margaret, and their children moved in and resided here. Mr. Gordon and his sister Ella (Nellie) Rupp owned and operated H.E. Gordon & Son, a cleaning and dyeing company located at 51 North Street (see 1905 directory).

Salem kept growing. The Canadians were followed in the early 20th century by large numbers of Polish and Ukrainian families, who settled primarily in the Derby Street neighborhood. By the eve of World War One, Salem was a bustling, polyglot city that supported large department stores and large factories of every description. People from the surrounding towns, and Marblehead in particular, came to Salem to do their shopping; and its handsome government buildings, as befit the county seat, were busy with conveyances of land, lawsuits, and probate proceedings. The city's politics were lively, and its economy was strong.

In January, 1913, Mr. Gordon granted the property to his wife, Margaret A. Gordon (ED 2200:498, also 2194:273)

On June 25, 1914, in the morning, in Blubber Hollow (Boston Street opposite Federal), a fire started in one of Salem's fire-prone wooden tanneries. This fire soon consumed the building and raced out of control, for 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 Hathorne, Winthrop, Endicott, and other residential streets. Men and machines could not stop it: the enormous fire crossed over into South Salem and destroyed the neighborhoods west of Lafayette Street, then devoured the mansions of Lafayette Street itself, and raged onward into the tenement district. Despite the combined efforts of heroic fire crews from many towns and

cities, the fire overwhelmed everything in its path: it smashed into the large factory buildings of the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company (Congress Street), which exploded in an inferno; and it rolled down Lafayette Street and across the water to Derby Street. There, just beyond Union Street, after a 13-hour rampage, the monster died, having consumed 250 acres, 1600 houses, and 41 factories, and leaving three dead and thousands homeless. Some people had insurance, some did not; all received much support and generous donations from all over the country and the world. It was one of the greatest urban disasters in the history of the United States, and the people of Salem would take years to recover from it. Eventually, they did, and many of the former houses and businesses were rebuilt; and several urban-renewal projects (including Hawthorne Boulevard, which involved removing old houses and widening old streets) were put into effect.

By the 1920s, Salem was once again a thriving city; and its tercentenary in 1926 was a time of great celebration. The Depression hit in 1929, and continued through the 1930s.

The property remained in the Gordon family. Frank and Margaret had died. Their devisee Nellie Rupp conveyed her interest in February, 1941, to her sister, Bessie G. Foster of Beverly (ED 3247:66). In 1944, the two old houses to the south, including the Cook house-store, which had long been operated as a grocery and variety store by the Daniels family, were removed to widen Federal Street. The property at #30 was owned by the Fosters at the time, and James W. (owner of one-third interest) and wife Bessie G. (owner of two-thirds interest) sold a small piece of their property, 194 feet square, fronting on North Street, to the city of Salem in September, 1944 (ED 3381:570). By 1944 it was occupied by Grover R. Winn (in U.S. Army), wife Marion, and whatever family they had (per 1945 directory). As has been mentioned, Mr. Carlton Lutts in 1951 rescued the house from the wreckers' ball, and had it moved across the river and out to the Cabot Farm in North Salem, where it still has a view across the fields to the waters of the North River and Salem Bay.

Salem, the county seat and regional retail center, prospered after World War II through the 1950s and into the 1960s. General Electric, Sylvania, Parker Brothers, Pequot Mills (formerly Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co.), Almy's department store, various other large-scale retailers, and Beverly's United Shoe Machinery Company were all major local employers. Then the arrival of suburban shopping malls and the relocation of manufacturing businesses took their toll, as they have with many other cities. More than most, Salem has navigated its way forward into the present with success, trading on its share of notoriety arising from the witch trials, but also from its history as a great seaport and as the home of Bowditch, McIntire, Bentley, Story, and Hawthorne. Most of all, it remains a city where the homes of the old-time merchants, mariners, and mill-operatives are all honored as a large part of what makes Salem different from any other place.

--26 Dec. 2003, Robert Booth for Historic Salem Inc.

March 1, 2004
Historic Salem

Dear Mr. Thompson and Mr. Booth,

Thank you for the house history completed for us in December. It is very informative and valuable to know what was going on in those times and how it related the lives of people connected to the house. Also, it is great to have accurate and detailed information about former owners.

We would like to hold for now on the plaque.

We wish to have you examine the huge old barn and when it might have been built. Most knowledgeable people who have looked at it feel it could have been built before 1800.

I have included:

- * A check for \$350 for the barn history.
- * My own chart of past owners of Cabot Farm
- * A copy of my Cabot Farm story, 1988
- * Copies of several barn photos, (one taken in 1900)
- * A few other miscellaneous papers

If you have any other ideas for determining the date of the barn or wish to see it please call, 978-744-9378.

Sincerely, Nancy B Lutts

Carlton & Nancy Lutts
Cabot Farm
91 Orne St
Salem, MA 01970



P.O. Box 865
Salem, MA 01970
Telephone: (978) 745-0799

May 12, 2005

Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Lutts
91 Orne Street
Salem, MA 01970

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Lutts:

Enclosed please find the research paper completed by Mr. Robert Booth, on the barn located at 91 Orne Street, Salem, MA. This has taken far longer than most research projects, but at long last here it is!

Please review the document and call this office (978-745-0799) if you have any questions. We also need to discuss the wording for your house plaque which we have never ordered.

Enclosed also please find the original research papers which you provided to Mr. Booth.

Very truly yours,

Richard P. Thompson
Office Administrator
Historic Salem, Inc.



P.O. Box 865
Salem, MA 01970
Telephone: (978) 745-0799

January 6, 2004

Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Lutts
Cabot Farm
91 Orne Street
Salem, MA 01970

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Lutts:

Enclosed please find the research paper completed on December 30, 2003 by Mr. Robert Booth, on your property located at 91 Orne Street, Salem, MA.

Please review the document and contact this office to approve the wording for your plaque order which would read as follows:

Built For

Benjamin Peters, Fisherman & Coaster

1762

You may contact me at Historic Salem, Inc. 978-745-0799 after you have an opportunity to review the papers to discuss or approve wording for the plaque.

Very truly yours,

Richard P. Thompson
Office Administrator
Historic Salem, Inc.

[Home](#) [About HSI](#) [Preservation](#) [Join Us](#) [News & Events](#)



P.O. Box 865, Salem, MA 01970
(978) 745-0799
[Contact Us!](#)

Historic House Plaque Application

If interested in commissioning a written history of your Salem house and having a plaque to identify its construction date and early owner(s), please fill in the blanks below.

check enclosed

The fee for a professionally prepared house history and plaque is \$350.00. Please send a check for that amount, made out to Historic Salem, Inc., with this application, to the above address.

Name: NANCY + CARLTON LUTTS

Name of Owner (if different from above):

CABOT FARM TRUST



CARLTON & NANCY LUTTS
Cabot Farm, 91 Orne St, Salem, MA 01970

Contact Information:

Home Phone: 978-744-9328

Work Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

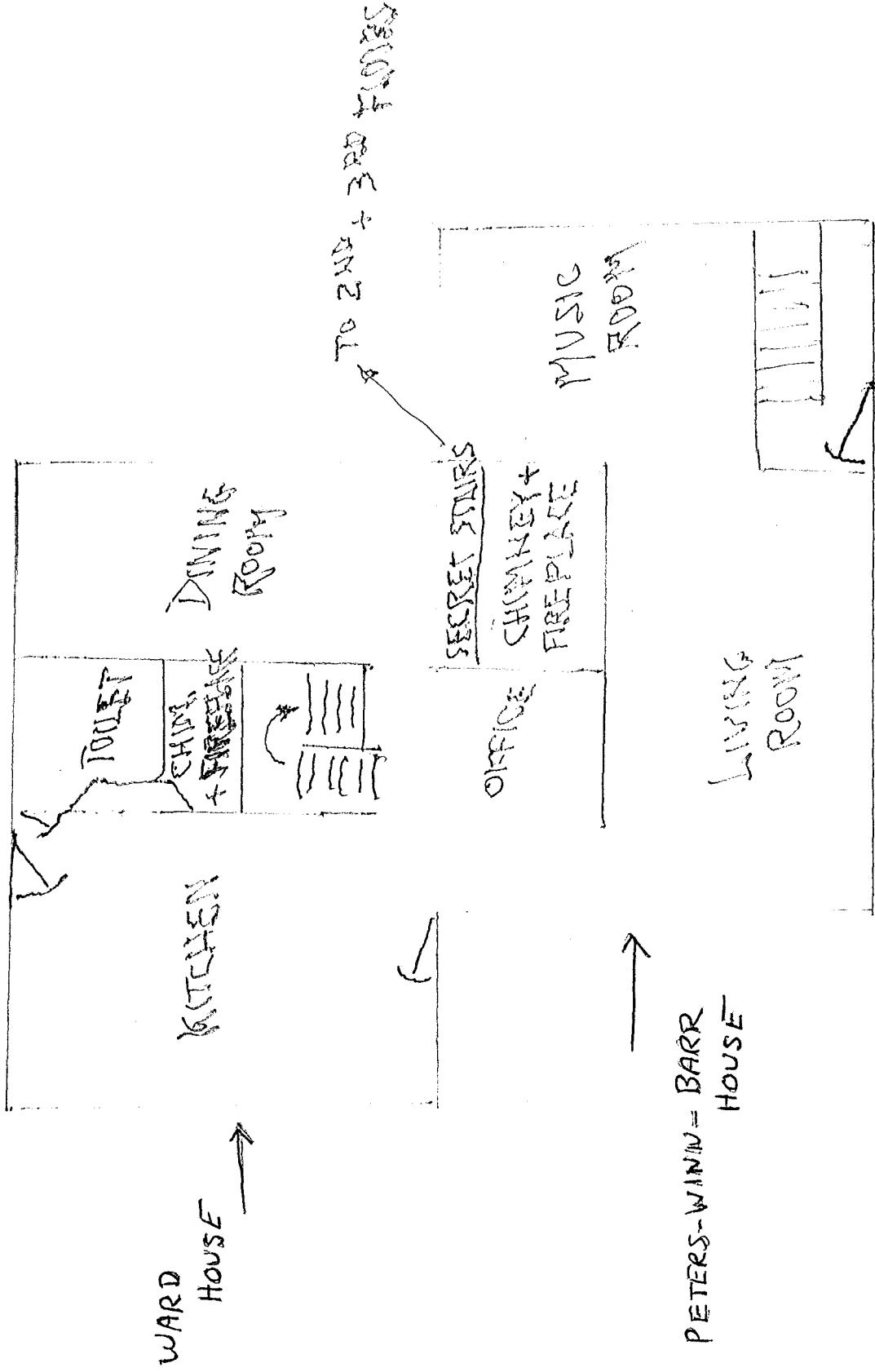
Street Address: CABOT FARM, 91 ORNE ST SALEM

Date Purchased & From Whom:

Helpful Information about the Building (append copies if necessary):



62-34
ST 2nd flr



Winn House
formerly
D.A.R.

Jan 23 1947
Jan 23 1947

EVENING NEWS—SALEM, MASS., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1947

2 Famous Old Landmarks In Way of New Overpass

North Street Buildings Sold at Auction

Two famous old landmarks in this city went under the auctioneer's hammer recently, as the commonwealth offered 12 buildings for sale in the North street-Federal street-Odell square section in order to make way for construction of the North street overpass.

With the exception of the little old colonial two and one-half story frame dwelling at 30 North street, all will be razed to their foundations in 30 days as required of the buyers by the state.

Built prior to the War of the American Revolution, the small colonial home, formerly the property of J. W. and B. G. Foster, was bought by Carlton G. Luttis, 26 Dearborn street, this city. Mr. Luttis gained ownership of the structure when he topped the bid with an offer of \$800. He said afterwards that he plans to move the home to the Cabot farm, after which it will be renovated and otherwise placed into shape for his personal use.

The second of these landmarks, the former circular gas works at 32 North street, dating back to 1867, was purchased by the Essex Salvage Co., 108 Bridge street, Salem, for \$225. John F. Murphy, auctioneer for the state department of public works, encountered difficulty while attempting to arouse interest in the building as bidders at first maintained a stoic silence. With the plea from the auctioneer, "does anyone want this building?" the first bid was heard for \$10.

From there on, bidding proceeded at a lively clip until the \$225 mark was reached. Since nobody was inclined to go above that figure, the Essex Salvage Co. became the owners and will be allowed

45 Days to Demolish
The sturdy brick and concrete structure to ground level.
It is understood, however, that the 45-day period will not take effect until the premises have been vacated by the sign-making concern which

was recently evicted from its North street headquarters. It will occupy the former gas works and garage until it can occupy new quarters being built on Highland avenue.

Of the 12 pieces of property put up by the state, six were bought by the Pentucket Building and Wrecking Co. of Newburyport, two were purchased by the Essex Salvage Co. of Salem, one by Emilio Polcarl and Son of Everett, builders and wreckers, one by the C. Frederick Salvage Co. of Arlington, one by C. G. Luttis of Salem, and one by the Harvey Building and Wrecking Co. of Chelmsford. The total sales amounted to \$2660.

Property bought by the Pentucket Co. included a frame structure at 80-82 North street, at Franklin street, northern extremity of the overpass project, \$50; a three-story frame building at 269 Bridge street, \$100; a frame

Two Family Dwelling

at 2 Odell square, \$135; a two and one-half story frame two-family dwelling at 36 North street, \$200; a two and one-half story frame dwelling at 3 Odell square, \$125; a two and one-half story frame building with store on the first floor at 37 North street, \$25.

The Harvey Co. of Chelmsford bid in a two and one-half frame two-family dwelling at 4 Odell square, \$200; the C. Frederick Co. of Stoneham purchased the two and one-half story, frame one family dwelling at 5 Odell square, \$200; colonial structure at 30 North street, C. G. Luttis, 26 Dearborn street, Salem, \$800; a four-story brick and frame building with two stores on the first floor and three tenements on the upper floors, 72-74 1/2 Federal street and 36 North street, Essex Salvage Co., \$650; a two and one-half story brick and frame dwelling at the rear of 76A Federal street, Emilio Polcarl and Son, Everett, \$250; and the circular garage at 32 North street, Essex Salvage Co., Salem, \$225.

Herbert F. Osgood
WINN SALEM AUCTIONS BARR
WAS

Saturday, April 28 - 11 A.M.

- 50 80-82 North St. - 2 1/2-story frame bld
- 100 269 Bridge " - 3 - " " "
- 200 36 North " - 2 1/2-story frame 2-family dwelling
- 135 2 Odell Square S - 2 1/2-story frame 2-family dwelling
- 200 " " " " " "
- 125 " " S " " "
- 200 " " " " " "
- 600 30 North Street - " B.O.F. by eq. l. & c.
- 72-74 1/2 Federal & 36 North Street - 4 story brick & frame dwelling
- 76A Federal(rear) 2 1/2-story brick and frame dwelling
- 37 North Street - 2 1/2-story frame bld
- 32 North " - large circular brick garage.

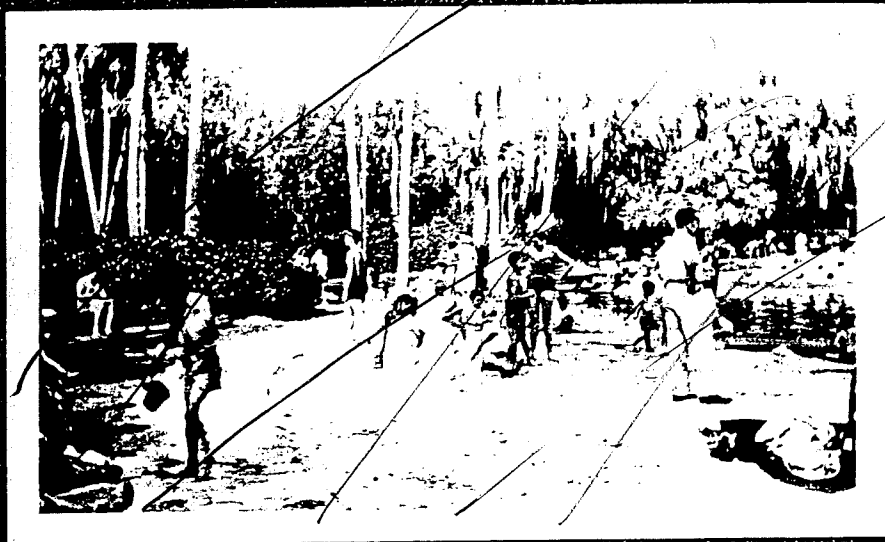
John F. Murphy,
Auctioneer

50 State St.,
Boston 9, Mass.
Tel. La 3-1616

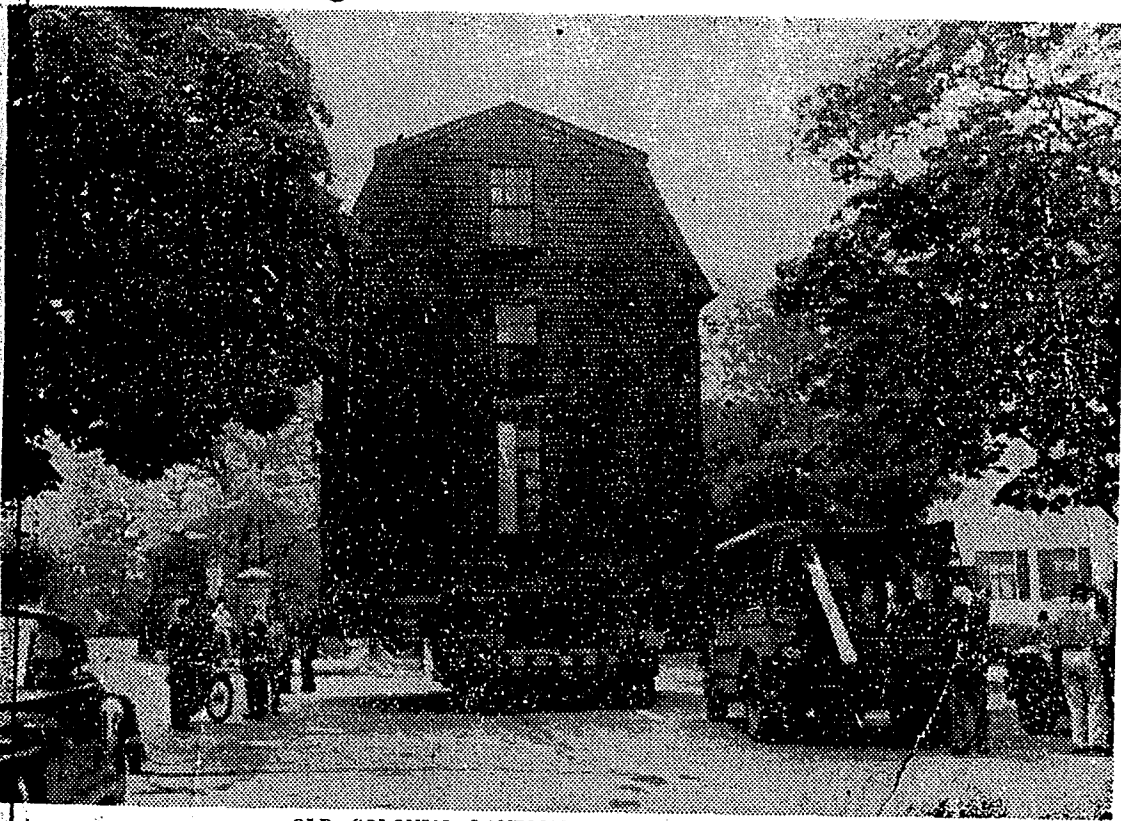
Harvey
O'Neil
Shawmutt W. W. W.

USED BUILDING material, 2x3s, 2x4s, hardwood flooring, boarding-in boards, etc. Salesman on premises at 32-34 St. Peter st.

Ward Louse
(our cell)



Colonial Dwelling Moved From North St. to Cabot Farm



1951

OLD COLONIAL LANDMARK TO BE RELOCATED

Displaced by the North Street Overpass Project, This Old Colonial Dwelling, Formerly Known as the Foster Home, Has Been Moved from Its North Street Location Opposite the Arena to the Cabot Farm at the Foot of Orne Street. It Was Purchased by Carolton Lutts of Dearborn Street, Owner of Cabot Farm, Who Will Renovate and Occupy the Gambrel-Roofed Dwelling. The House Was in Transit, on Orne Street, When This Picture Was Taken.

9/28/03

Historic Salem RE: Historic Houses Plaque Program

Dear Researcher-historian,

We are most interested to arrange for a detailed written history of our house. Enclosed is a check for \$350. Enclosed also are several documents and photos pertinent to the history of our house.

Should you wish to view the house we should be happy to arrange for that. Cabot Farm is a 28 acre farm in North Salem off Orne Street and a distinctive setting for this 1760 house which required moving or face demolition.

In 1951 the 1760 Peters-Winn-Barr House was to be sold in order to widen North Street and construct the overpass. Carlton Lutts Sr. purchased the house from the commonwealth for \$500 and moved it to Cabot Farm where it was placed on a foundation of a house which was demolished before Lutts purchased the farm.

Wanting a somewhat larger house Carlton Sr. then purchased a second house (1763) located at 34 St. Peter's St. In 1954 he purchased *and from* the house from Father Sekora, priest of the Polish Church. The *Ed Tutts* church had commenced to demolish the house to make a parking lot on the site. Carlton paid wreckers to mark structural members and dismantle the house carefully. He transported it to Cabot Farm; stored it in the big barn until it was reconstructed on to the back of the Peters-Winn-Barr House. Clapboards, laths, timbers, shutters, and all paneling were saved and preserved.

Should you have questions or need more information please call 978-744-9378.

Sincerely, Nancy and Carlton Lutts
Cabot Farm, 91 Orne Street
Salem, Ma 01970

Nancy Lutts

WLNW - BARR -

PETERS

HOUSE

*My Mother in Law, - Grace Tuttle
had researched me on the
house. This is the record she
received. Do not know the researches,
PETERS HOUSE*

32 North ST

24 April 1760

Vol. 109 - page 28

Samuel Daland, Salem, Truckman, with consent of Hannah, his wife, in consideration of eighteen pounds six shillings, to Benjamin Peters of Salem, Fisherman, a piece of land in Salem. Bounded Westerly on the lane or highway leading down to the Great Bridge so-called, the fence being on the line and there measures two poles and an half. Northerly by land this day sold to John Marfsey (Massey?) the north west corner bound of the premises on west end of this line being at two poles and an half distance southerly from land of said heirs of James Odell deceased. Easterly by land of Benj. A. Lynde, Esq. Two poles and Southerly by my own land thirteen Poles eighteen links of the Chain. Subject to right of pass. to spring of water on land sold to John Marfsey this day. Wife Hannah rel (relinquishes?) dower for five shillings.

17 November 1788

Vol. 137 - page 173

Benjamin Peters of Salem, fisherman or cordwainer for two hundred and forty pounds to William Gray 3rd of Salem, Merchant. Land with buildings bounded westerly on road or highway leading from the main street to the great bridge two poles and an half. Northerly on land late of John Marsey, easterly by land of heirs of Benjamin Lynde deceased or his successors two poles and southerly by land late of Samuel Daland deceased.

1.

2 Mar. 1792

6 Mar. 1792

Vol. 154 - page 147

William Gray, Jun^r, Salem, Merchant 180 pounds to James Barr, Salem Wharfinger.

A piece of land in Salem

bounded westerly on road or highway leading from the main street to the great bridge two poles and an half, Northerly on land late of John Marsey, easterly by land of heirs of Benjamin Lynde, deceased or his successors two poles and Southerly by land late of Samuel Daland deceased together with the dwelling house and all other buildings on said land the line on said Daland being thirteen poles and eight links of the chain the land herein conveyed being the same I bought of Benj. Peters by deed recorded B. 137 leaf 173 &c referring always to the heirs and assigns of said Daland the liberty of passing and repassing over the premises to and from the spring of water in the land adjoining which said Daland sold (fold) to said Massey.

2 Mar. 1799

26 Mar. 1799

Book 158 - Leaf 46

James Barr, warfinger, Salem, 190 pounds to son William Barr, warfinger.

Land with dwelling house and all other buildings thereon

Said land bounding westerly on highway leading from the Main Street to the Great bridge over North River two poles and a half pole northerly on land late of John Mafsay (Massey?) 2.

easterly on land of the successors of Benjamin Lynde deceased two poles and Southerly on land late of Samuel Daland deceased thirteen poles and eight links of the chain reserving always to the successors of said Daland the liberty of passing and repassing over the premises to and from the spring of water on the land adjoining which said Daland sold to said Mafsey.

Vol. 158- leaf 48

Mortgage from William Barr (wife Ruth) to James Barr 127 pounds 17/4 discharged 20 April 1797

30 May 1807

10 Aug. 1807

Vol. 181 - Leaf 256

Ruth Barr of Salem, wid ow, Admx. Eft. of William Barr late of Salem deceased intestate \$950 to John Barr, Salem, Merchant

The eastern end of the dwelling house with the land under the same, excepting the entry and stairs and Cellar Doores which is to be used in common and a free passage from the front cellar doore to the back, with the yard and pump & well & necessary to be used in common also the western end of the barn with the land under, as the partition now stands, also the piece of land used as a garden, bounding as follows, beginning at the northwest corner, bounding Northerly running easterly by Scarte's land forty eight feet, then bounding easterly running southerly by Brig's land thirty-six feet, then running westerly bounding Southerly by Cook land fifty two feet, then bounding westerly running northerly by the common yard thirty seven feet, the same more or less, all the Homestead and buildings said Barr died seized of excepting that part sett off to the widow as her dower.

3.

24 December 1806

(20 Jan. 1807)

Vol. ~~372~~ - leaf 518 cont.

Estate of Capt. William Barr of Salem, Wharfinger

One third part of all real estate set off to widow, Ruth, as her right of dower in said real estate, to and for her use and improvement, during her natural life. the western lower room, the chamber and garret over, and the cellar directly under the same (except such part of said cellar that is to lay in common) of the dwelling house of said deceased; also the pantry adjoining to the northerly part of sd. house, with the use and improvement of the passage way from thence to the yard (but so as not to obstruct the light to the window at the northerly part of sd. house) also the yard to the westward of said (sd.) house, reserving a passageway to and from the cellar door in sd. yard into the cellar as follows, beginning at the inside of the cellar wall, and running northerly five feet and six inches, thence running easterly in a line parallel with the wall to the partition, as it now stands in sd. room, which is to be in common with the owners and occupants of the eastern part of sd. house, also the front and inner cellar doors, stairways, the yard southerly and easterly of sd. house, the wall and necessary house to be for the common use of the owners and occupants aforesaid; also the eastrly part of the barn and the land under the same, as the partition now stands, and that part of the chamber directly over the same, with six feet and six inches of land from the southeast corner of sd. barn, running in a direction towards the necessary house, as it now stands, thence running northerly in a line with the barn to the partition fence, thence running westerly by land of Joseph Scates to the barn. Also said house at wharf at North Bridge.

4/

----- 1835
22 December 1835
30 " 1835

Vol 285 - leaf 163

William Barr of Beverly, Saddler, Francis Skerry Housewright and Rebecca Skerry wife in her right of Salem, John S. Barr of Topsfield Harnis maker \$1. to sisters Sarah Barr and Hannah Barr of Salem, singlewomen.

piece of parcel of land and all buildings stading situate on the East side of North Street so called in Salem & the same premises which are now occupied by sd. Sarah and Hannah. Also all int. in sand house near North Bridge.

Same prem. set off to our late mother Ruth Barr as and for her dower in all real est. of our late Father William Barr, deceased, as by the return of the committee

-----1836
15 July "
29 Dec. "

Vol. 294 - leaf 253

Jonathan Holman and Sarah wf in her right, Henry Barr and William Warwick Palfrey all of Salem, being heirs at law of John Barr late of Salem and John Rufsell Tr. of sd. Henry Barr \$1. to Sarah Barr and Hannah Barr, singlewomen of Salem.

The Easterly end of House situated on North Street in Salem, with the land under the same, excepting the entry and stairs and cellar doors which are now in common with other owners, with the yard also used in common; also the Westerly end of the Barn with the land under as the partition now(stands ?) See deed 181-256

Garden not conveyed

27 June 1871
30 June "

Vol. 827 - leaf 249

Sarah Barr (single)

5.

Vol. 827-249 cont.

James Eustis

Hannah Eustis (wife in own right)

Wakefield

\$ 2,100 to John Rice, Salem

Land and Buildings

Bounded W North St 41' 3"

N Odell Est. 123'

E Skinner 34' 8"

and So Skinner, Daniels 117'

Same premises James Barr to William Barr

2 Mar 1794 B. 158 L. 46

31 May 1888

31 May 1888

Book 1224-Leaf 189

John Rice, Salem (Widower)

\$500 to Lucy M. Fowler (wife of Charles B. Fowler)

Land - Line runs

W	L. M. Fowler (form. Skinner)	31' 5"
N	Grantor (Rice)	36' 6"
E	(form.) Odell; Skinner (now Fowler)	30' 6"
S	Fowler (form. Skinner)	34' 8"

E. portion of premises from Barr et al to Rice

Bood 1224-page 190

John Rice, Salem

Mtg.

\$400. to Lucy M. Fowler wife of

W Charles B. in her right

Bounded North St. 41' 3"

N(form) Odell 92' 6"

E L. M. Fowler 36' 6"

S Fowler; Daniels 85' 5"

31 May 1888

Dis. 17 July 1900

4

Book 1491 - Page 328 John Rice, Salem

Mtg. \$100. to Charles B. Fowler, Salem

Subj. to Mtg, of \$400. (see previous entry)

19 Oct. 1896

Book 1614 - Page 571 Charles B. Fowler, Salem

Foreclosure \$925. to Frank E. Gordon, Salem

Rev. st.

\$1.00

Land and buildings

Bounded W	North St.,	41'3"
	N (form.) Odell	92'6"
	E Lucy M. Fowler	36'6"
	S Daniels & Fowler	85'5"

12 July 1900

17 July 1900

from Dr. W. H. ...
Historical Collections
Jan 14

- d
- 24-6-
- 34 . . 14
- 7 . . 14-
- cs
- 7 . . 15- . .
- 5 . . 15- . .
- 8 . . 15- . .

1 ss.²⁰

ay appear again in Benjamin's possible to tell. John's inventory what it considers important. It th simple chairs, perhaps a table gnificant large pieces, such as a l, and we can only assume that he inclination to purchase such

ouse at his father's death, had and possibly had been sharing e. Benjamin and Deborah were in, born in 1725, and Deborah, e in our narrative later. Their isap r from the records after 5, s. ly after the birth of her appear to have remarried. A il his death in 1774. It is hard to same time another Benjamin, a more prominent Salem mari- n are sometimes referred to as

tate is very complete, and al- om breakdown, it does give us house.²² Benjamin appears to

319, Leaf 354, November 3, 1732.
, Leaf 232-234.

have been a reasonably successful man. His "mansion house" and land were valued at £240, and his other landholdings totaled £223. He had £22 of silver, gold, and cash, and some twenty people owed him money at the time of his death. His mariner's equipment included a compass, a navigation book, a quadrant, a marlin spike, scales, a calendar, a fish house, and "sundries in a sea chest." Other tools and implements included nails, a salt box, old iron, old casks, saw sets, a hoe, an ax, saws, cod and mackerel leads, a meal chest, and "one compass rectified." Kitchen items listed were red earthenware, an iron kettle, a brass kettle, a tin coffee pot, iron candle sticks, a sugar tub, two delft bowls, a frying pan, fireplace equipment, three knives and forks, a vinegar cruet, and old pewter. Among the wooden and other furnishings, some of which may have belonged to John Ward, were "an old case draws," an old square table, a walnut oval table, a white square table, six leather chairs, eleven black chairs, a great old chair, three chests, three bedsteads, two trunks, a looking glass, and another case drawers.

The textiles included a curtain and valance, a blue quilt, old and new blankets, cotton cloth, three or four rugs, a tablecloth, towels, and pillows. To dress himself, Benjamin Ward could draw upon an extensive wardrobe. This included five "necks," six cotton shirts, six check shirts, two pair "Trowsers," one pair cloth breeches, two pair silk stockings, two pair worsted hose, seven pair yarn hose, and a pair each of white and worsted gloves. To keep himself warm, he owned a great coat, three "other coats," one cloth jacket, one double-breasted jacket, one serge jacket, one black jacket, a blue jacket, a "holland" jacket, three homespun jackets, a waistcoat, and a "baise gown." A black or a check handkerchief could go in his coat pocket, and a green cap went on his head.

To protect himself, he carried a pocket pistol, with shot, bullets, and powder horns. For travelling he owned a bag and a knapsack. Several parcels of land are also listed, one of which probably descended to him through his mother, and which turns up again in Deborah Palfray's will in 1809.²³ The total value of Benjamin's estate was £838.

Benjamin did not leave a will, but his house seems to have passed to his son Benjamin, often but not always referred to as Benjamin, jr., as he will be here for the sake of clarity. Benjamin, jr., had purchased in

23. E. S. Waters, "Genealogical Notes. Ward Family," pp. 184-185. Essex County Probate Records, Volume 351, Leaf 232-234, and Volume 377, Leaf 321.

original
owner
of house
from
which
our all
at Sabot farm
was shared
1956

1763 for £30 a part of his father's land, south of the ancestral home, and there is a record that he built a house in Salem during that year, probably on that land.²⁴

Benjamin, jr., was married to Mary Osgood in 1751, at the age of twenty-six, and their union did not produce any offspring. His trade was that of cordwainer, and he appears as one of nineteen Salem shoemakers in a 1762 list.²⁵ Several bills for his work have survived, including one for making one "pair Boots" each for John Masury, Michael Smethers, Henry Fink, and Samuel Hains, in 1754. Benjamin, jr., made and repaired boots and shoes for Elias Hasket Derby, Joseph Hendfield, and many people employed by Joshua and Miles Ward. A bill paid by Joshua Ward in 1792 includes several entries for making "Lather Jackets."²⁶ Further mention of Benjamin, jr., appears in the court records of 1796, when he is listed as a surety and witness in a case involving a deceased friend.²⁷

Two aspects of Benjamin, jr., his longevity and his interest in Universalism, intrigued the Reverend William Bentley, and we find a few words about him in Bentley's famous diary. In April 1797, Bentley records that

Mr. B. Ward sen. act 73, tells me that he knew very well the first Vessel built for Marblehead, purposely for a Merchant Vessel.²⁸

Benjamin, jr., would have been about the right age to be the subject of this quotation, and his father was a mariner, but we can't be sure that it is he whom Bentley is speaking of, as another Benjamin Ward, also connected with the sea, was alive at the same time and appears in

24. "List of Houses Built in Salem From 1750-1775," *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, LVIII (October 1922), 293.

25. Benno Forman, "Salem Tradesmen and Craftsmen Circa 1762: A Contemporary Document," *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, CVII (January 1971), 64.

26. The bills for Benjamin Ward, jr.'s work are in the (Miles) Ward Family Manuscripts, Volumes I, V, and VI; in the Joshua Ward Manuscripts; in Elias Hasket Derby's Account Books, Volume I, all at the Essex Institute. Other accounts are contained in the Diary of Joseph Hendfield, for the years 1765 and 1767, at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

27. Henry Wyckoff Belknap, "The Grafton Family of Salem," *Essex Institute Historical Collections*, LXIV (July 1928), 212 and 216.

28. *The Diary of William Bentley, D.D., Pastor of the East Church, Salem, Massachusetts* (Essex Institute, 1905-1914), II, 220.

Bentley elsewhere. It is almost in Bentley's entry for May ^{Bentley} Old Mr. B. Ward, near the old prison was an old & spiked & filled with stone finished. That the old on Street, eastward of it, up Goal is made of 7 inch timber with iron plate, & plank

Five years later, Benjamin, this time in connection with

It is said that B. Ward land in St. Peter's street salists.³⁰

And just a year later, we find made concerning a member

Benjamin Ward, act. 8: Street. He was a Shoemaker was among the first to vation which he strenuously queathed the lot of land for the service of a Universal sect should be strongly moved by many solicitations of prejudice employed tions.³¹

Presumably his friends, tried to dissuade him from But having no children, a crotchety in his old age, Bentley

29. Bentley, *Diary*, II, 333. *Char Sketch of Salem* (Essex Institute, 1911) near the corner of Federal and St. Peter Street, corner of Bridge

30. Bentley, *Diary*, III, 179.

31. Bentley, *Diary*, III, 243.

born
1725
died
1806
aged
81

south of the ancestral home, and in Salem during that year, prob-

by Osgood in 1751, at the age of produce any offspring. His trade as one of nineteen Salem shoe-makers his work have survived, including each for John Masury, Michael Haskett, in 1754. Benjamin, jr., made Hasket Derby, Joseph Hendfield, and Miles Ward. A bill paid by entries for making "Lather Jack-ets", appears in the court records of a witness in a case involving a

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craftsmen Circa 1762: A Contemporary *Sketch of Salem* (January 1971), 64. Bentley in the (Miles) Ward Family Manuscripts; in Elias Hasket Derby's *Diary*. Other accounts are contained in the *Diary* of 1767, at the Massachusetts Historical

family of Salem," *Essex Institute Histori-*

of the East Church, Salem, Massachusetts

Bentley elsewhere. It is almost certainly our Benjamin, jr., who figures in Bentley's entry for May 31, 1800, however:

Old Mr. B. Ward, ^{Bentley, jr.} nearly 80, living near the Prison, told me that the old prison was an oak frame covered within with oak plank & spiked & filled with stones. That it stood till the new one was finished. That the old one stood between the New & St. Peter's Street, eastward of it, upon a stone underpinning. That the New Goal is made of 7 inch timber hewed so as to close, then covered with iron plate, & planked upon all the prison part.²⁹

Five years later, Benjamin, jr., is again mentioned in the Bentley diary, this time in connection with another matter:

It is said that B. Ward senr. has given by actual deed a lot of land in St. Peter's street for a meeting house for the Universalists.³⁰

And just a year later, we find the only statement of a personal nature made concerning a member of the John Ward family. Bentley tells us:

Benjamin Ward, act. ⁽⁸¹⁾ 82, lived below the Church in St. Peter's Street. He was a Shoemaker & a man of firm habits. In his old age he was among the first to embrace the Doctrine of Universal Salvation which he strenuously maintained till he expired. He bequeathed the lot of land adjoining to his house to be employed for the service of a Universalists Meeting House whenever the sect should be strong enough to erect one. His Mind was unmoved by many solicitations of interest & by all the invectives of prejudice employed against his opinions & his determinations.³¹

Presumably his friends, and probably members of his own family, tried to dissuade him from donating the land to this new religious sect. But having no children, and being no doubt a little stubborn and crotchety in his old age, Benjamin, jr., persisted.

29. Bentley, *Diary*, II, 333. Charles S. Osgood and H. M. Batchelder, in their *Historical Sketch of Salem* (Essex Institute, 1879), say on page 12 that Salem's second jail was built near the corner of Federal and St. Peter streets in 1684. The present jail is at the foot of St. Peter Street, corner of Bridge Street, and was erected in 1813.

30. Bentley, *Diary*, III, 179.

31. Bentley, *Diary*, III, 243.

As it turned out, the Universalists sold the land he had donated and purchased another for their meeting house. The historian of the Universalist Church does record that on January 22, 1806, Benjamin, jr., gave to Jonathan Beckford, Nathaniel Frothingham, and other Universalist trustees a lot of land on St. Peter Street, worth about one thousand dollars. The trustees, feeling the "neighborhood was less desirable" because of the proximity of the jail, sold Benjamin, jr.'s land in 1808 and with the money thus obtained purchased the nearby lot where the Universalist Church now stands. However, the church's historian makes another interesting comment when he observes that Benjamin, jr.'s lot was "more eligible, at this time [1859]" than it was in 1808.³²

born
1725 - }
06 }
died

Benjamin, jr., died in 1806, unaware that his gift would be exchanged. In an 1802 will, he had left everything to his sister Deborah, now Deborah Palfray after her second marriage to Warwick Palfray in 1763.³³ A widow by 1806, Deborah Palfray remained in possession of the house for only a short time, dying in 1809.³⁴

owned
other
firm
house
Sunny

Because of her marriage, Deborah Palfray apparently had some security, and a house of her own. The John Ward House may have been rented during the period of her ownership, and during the seven or so years while her will was tied up in probate. It is also possible that Benjamin, jr., rented the Ward House, while living in the house he built in 1763. In an 1816 court action, we find mentioned two houses: one, "the old mansion dwelling house formerly Mr. B. Ward's," valued at \$500, and to the south a second house, probably the 1763 dwelling, valued at \$1200.³⁵ In December 1817, cash received for the

own
ell at
farm

rent of these two houses totaled that they be put up for public

With the purchase of the "old" Hardy of Salem on December 1 passed out of the hands of Ward house and a bakery for nearly

Temple Hardy, jr., a member Association, was a baker in a number of years. Beginning in Hardy is listed as having a bakery original location of the house Pratt, baker, who also resided ball, pedlar, boarded with Hardy (Temple Hardy) and William from time to time also. The store at 2 Federal Street, just a

On August 9, 1835, Hardy had four children, only two Temple and Mary Hardy sold of Salem, a prominent local business there in the Ward House at least was employed by the J. C. Fur Goods at 72 Federal Street. In Street, and operating a shop in sashes, and blinds."⁴⁰

With the purchase by Ives occupancy for the Ward House was to Ives lived at 26 Brown S

32. Reverend Samuel Willis, *A Semi-Centennial Address, delivered in the Universalist Church, Salem, Mass., Thursday, August 4, 1859, On the Occasion of Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church* (Salem: Register Press, Charles W. Swasey, 1859), p. 66.

33. Deborah Ward married Pinson Bickford on December 9, 1756. After Bickford's death in 1759, she married Warwick Palfray on March 3, 1763. Palfray died in 1797 of "old age." See E. S. Waters, "Genealogical Notes. Ward Family," pp. 188-189; *Vital Records*, III, 109; IV, 432; V, 89; VI, 112.

34. Essex County Probate Records, Volume 374, Leaf 231-232 (September 1, 1806); *Vital Records*, VI, 111.

35. Essex County Probate Records, Volume 389, Leaf 526.

36. Essex County Probate Record

37. Essex County Registry of Deeds appeared in the *Salem Gazette*, on Dec the actual sale.

38. Essex County Registry of Deeds

39. The Salem Charitable Mechan and the Salem directories for 1837, listed as Hardy's partner in 1837. In Peter Street, and he continues to live

40. Essex County Registry of Deeds for 1855 and 1857.

Benj Ward House 1763

All these accompanying notes were searched at the Registry of Deeds in Salem, Massachusetts about 1954 by Miss Eleanor Perley, Fairmount St., Salem, Massachusetts, daughter of Sidney Perley, the author of the History of Salem, Massachusetts (1924) from whom she learned methods of research and documentation.

Miss Perley did this research work for Carlton G. Lutts of Cabot Farm, Salem, Mass., who bought the Ward House in 1954 when it was being razed for the Roman Catholic Diocese, through Fr. Sikora. Mr. Lutts had looked at the house in 1950 when it was unoccupied.

In 1954 Fr. Sikora paid the "County Wreckers" \$500 to raze the house. Mr. Lutts bought the four original rooms of the dwelling from the "County Wreckers", arranging that the house should be taken down and marked piece by piece for restoration. They were paid on an hourly basis and the house so-marked was moved and stored at the Cabot Farm.

Mr. Harry James and his son rebuilt the house, Mr. Lutts himself rebuilding the chimneys and brick work assisted by Joseph Ross. When Mr. Lutts bought the house he took many photographs, and until the walls were taken down it was not discovered that there was much paneling in all rooms, covered by plaster and wall paper. Mr. Lutts built tanks and removed paint from these panels, stairway and all doors. After Mr. Lutts' death in 1957 Mrs. Lutts had Mr. C. E. Martin, a professional painter restore^(p) and wax^(p) all woodwork. Mr. Lutts kept all these records, photographs, ^{PLANS} etc in a special book.

No. 34 St. Peter Street

Salem, Massachusetts

House probably built early in 1764 (see pg 3)

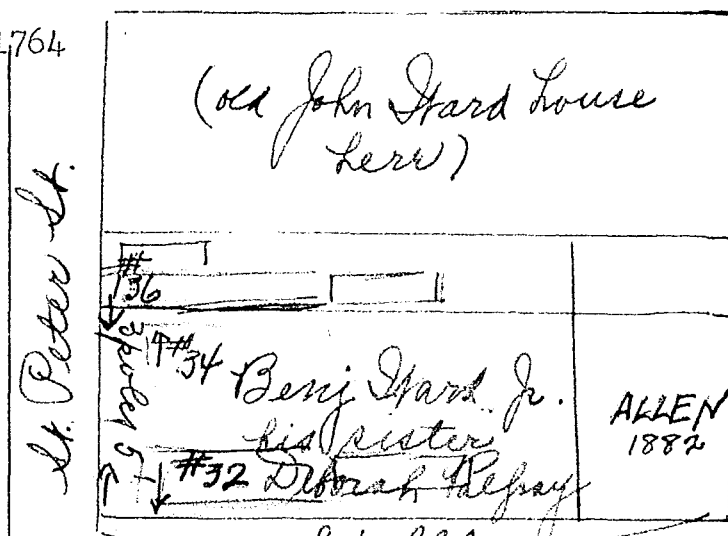
Land was part of the Estate of John Ward who died in 1732

His estate went to his son, Capt. Benjamin Ward by will.

Benjamin conveyed land being part of his homestead to his son

Benjamin Ward, Jr. by deed dated Aug. 30, 1763 and recorded

March 26, 1764



In 1774 Benj. Ward died and left all his property to his heirs who were probably Benjamin (Jr.) and Deborah (Ward) Palfray

In 1806 Benjamin Ward Jr.(2nd Jr.) died and left his property by will to his sister Deborah Palfray. In 1809 in inventory of Deborah's estate part of the property we are interested in was described as "Homestead cont. about 40 poles with the dwelling house and the other buildings thereon." In the 1900's and for many years prior it is believed, there were so-called "twin houses" on this property.

The owner of that part, ^{1950 - 1966} four original rooms, of the Benj. Ward house, as a child lived next door to the "Ward houses." The one in the Essex Institute yard on one side and the Benjamin Ward house on the other. The story is that Benj. built one and his sister, Deborah, the other.

Deborah Ward Palfrey's administrator conveyed this to three grahdsons
Thomas, Warwick 3d and John C. Palfrey in 1816.

In 1817 it was conveyed to Jeremiah Ames.

In 1878 the executor of the will of Mary Ames conveyed it to Rebecca
P. Creesey. She sold a small piece off the back to Jacob H. Allen
in 1882.

In 1902 Rebecca P. Creesey conveyed to Emily F. Creesey wife of
George W. land and buildings bounded

W	St. Peter St	72'
S	Central Baptist Soc	98'
E	Jacob W. Allen	73'
N	Stephen B. Ives	93'

In 1923 there was a deed from Emily F. Cressey to the Roman
Catholic Archbishop of Boston

34 St. Peter St.,

House probably built in
1763 or soon after

Salem, Massachusetts.

Part of John Ward Estate. He died possessed of this land in 1732.

It went to Capt. Benjamin Ward of Salem, son of John Ward, by will.

On March 3, 1763, Deborah Bickford, daughter of Benjamin Ward, married

Warwick Palfray. On August 30, 1763 Benjamin Ward conveyed to his son

Benjamin Ward, Jr. cordwainer, for thirty pounds, land being part of

his homestead.

Book 113	W	Bounded St. Peter St. formerly Prison Lane	3 poles 5'
Leaf 103	S	Benj. Pickman, Esq, formerly John Webb's	8 poles
	N	Grantor, Benj. Ward	8 poles
Aug. 30, 1763	E	Susannah Osgood formerly Gedney's	3 poles 5'
26 Mar. 1764		the same width throughout	

28895 In 1806 Benjamin Ward, Jr. died and left all his property to

his only sister, Deborah Palfray, widow of Warwick Palfray

Above property and property left by Benjamin Ward, Sr. in 1774

made Deborah Palfray possessor of whole John Ward Estate.

20393 In 1808 or 1809 Deborah Palfray died. In inventory of property

we are tracing is described as follows:

the dwelling house and the other buildings thereon

	\$2600.	1809
	\$1200.	1816

Book 212

Leaf 161 John Jenks Adm. will annexed of Deborah Palfray for \$895.

conveyed to Thomas Palfray, Warwick Palfray 3d, Merchants and John

C. Palfray, minor, by Martha Palfray, Gdn. (grandsons of Deborah)

Land and buildings

Bounded

	W	St. Peter St.	72'
	S	Benj. Pickman Esq.	130'
6 Dec. 1816	E	John Osgood	73'
7 " "	N	Temple Hardy	127'
		From Deborah Palfray	

Book 213 Thomas Palfray and Warwick Palfray 3d of Salem for
Leaf 191
\$1,050. to Jeremiah Ames, housewright

18 Sept. 1817
18 " " (same description as above to Palfray)

Book 223 - - - - -
Leaf 158 John C. Palfray released interest

6 March 1820
8 March 1820

1011 Book - - - - -
43 Leaf Thomas S. Jewett, Emr. Mary Ames for \$3200 to
Rebecca F. Cressey

Land and buildings Bounded W St. Peter St. 72'
S Central Bap. Soc. 131'
E Stephen B. Ives 73'
N " " " 128'

9 Dec. 1878
18 Jan. 1879

Book 1082
Leaf 248 Rebecca F. Cressey, Widow, Salem for \$459.90
to Jacob H. Allen, Salem, land in the rear of St. Peter St.

Bounded
E Stephen B. Ives 73'
N Grantee 35'
W Grantor 73'
S Second Bap. Soc. 35'

23 May 1882
23 May 1882

Book 1662-251 Leaf Rebecca F. Cressey (Cressy) widow, of Salem
to Emily F. Cressy, wife of George W. , land and buildings

Bounded
W St. Peter St. 72'
S Central Baptist Soc. 96'
E Jacob H. Allen 73'
N Stephen B. Ives 93'

1 Jan. 1902
1 Jan. 1902

NOTES ADDITIONAL

28894 Ward, Captain Benjamin, Mariner 1774 will
 Mansion House and Land L 240
 cont 64 Rds. $\frac{70}{100}$

20393 Palfray, Deborah
 1809 The old mansion house formerly of Mr.
 Benjamin Ward, deceased, the father of said
 deceased, adj above est (homestead) cont 42 poles
 and the buildings thereon \$2,000.

 Emily F. Cressy, wf of George W. to Roman Catholic
 Archbishop of Boston, land and buildings

Line runs

N.	St. Peter St.	73.63'
E	Ives	93.'
S	Allen--Grantee	73'
W	Grantee	52.2'
S	Grantee	1.28'
W	Grantee	42.2'

deed of Rebecca Cressy & deed of Madeline M. Briggs 12 Feb. 1910

B 2005 P 600

13 Sept. 1923

4 Oct. 1923

Notes: Deborah Ward wf Benj. Sr. died April 6, 1736 at 35 yrs.

Benjamin Ward Jr. died August 11, 1806 at 82 yrs.
 married May 19, 1751 to Mary Osgood
 Deborah, wid. Warwick Palfray died old age at 78 yrs.
 Issue of Jan. 3, 1809 N. R. 9 (no record 9)
 Mary W., Benjamin (Jr.?) died April 30 1796 at 73 yrs.
 Jeremiah Ames died June 27, 1860
 Inventory- dwelling house (s) and land
 No. 30 St. Peter St. \$1,500
 Homestead 32 St. Peter St. \$1,800

FROM CABOT FARM HISTORY
WRITTEN 1958 by Nancy Lutts

TENNIS, CROQUET AND WIDE VERANDAS

In the Salem Evening News (1947) we learn, "When the Jewetts lived here the Cabot Farm was a gathering place of men of business and politics, like the Cogswell club, of which Col. Jewett was a member, and of the young people of Salem because the tennis courts and the croquet lawn invited games of skill; and the broad verandas provided places for conversation, reading and restful leisure."

THE
CABOT
HOUSE



*This house
taken down
before
1941*

The farm was enjoyed by the Jewetts until 1927 when Mrs. Jewett died, and the family ceased to spend summers here. In 1937 when Col. Jewett died the farm was left to his three children, Holten, Alice and S. Elizabeth McCaw. It was from the three Jewett children that Carlton and Grace Lutts purchased the farm in 1941. At that time there were only three buildings standing, the big barn, the ice house and small barn or shed in the Sister's field which was moved in 1945 to it's present location next to the ice house.

BEEHIVE OVEN AND SECRET STAIRCASE

✓ The present farmhouse, the Peters-Ward House (1760 - 1763) was moved here in two parts, the first in 1951 and the second in 1953. The first house (Peters) came from the North street overpass area, 30 North Street, and was moved to the farm intact, chimney, fireplaces and all. When repairing the fireplace a larger older one with beehive baking oven was discovered. The back part of the house (Ward) came from 34 St. Peter's street, then Prison Lane. The original owner, Benjamin Ward was the grandson of John Ward whose house now sits in the garden of the Essex Institute. The Ward house was dismantled after carefully marking all the boards, timbers, window and door frames etc. so they could be reconstructed faithfully

↙
↘

on the site at the rear of the Peter's house. The houses have been carefully restored by Carlton and Grace Lutts to preserve cupboards, fireplaces, floors with wide boards, shutters and extraordinarily beautiful panelling. The two houses have been connected with a secret staircase.

VICTORY GARDENS

During the second world war, when additional food supplies were needed, Salem organized a Victory Garden program, with individuals offering garden plots to those interested in growing vegetables. Cabot Farm offered 86 plots, the largest Victory Garden location in Salem. The garden plots were in the Sister's Field.

GLACIAL MARKINGS

Those of us who tramp the fields, woods and shoreline of Cabot Farm find many important features. On the large ledges of the shore near the high tide line close to the power line towers there are very prominent marks made by the glaciers thousands of years ago. You can see polishing, large wide grooves or troughs, and glacial scratches, running from North to South with excellent parallelism. These are indicated on the U.S. Coast Guard and Geodetic Survey map of Salem.

When out walking you will also discover many wild flowers including: saxifrage, trout lilies, goats beard, sea lavender, cinquefoil, clovers, milkweed, Queen Ann's lace and many, many more. Predominant native trees are oaks, hickory, maple, and black locust. Many small wild animals call the farm home: racoons, rabbits, muskrat, skunk, chipmunks and field mice. Bird life is also abundant: tree swallows, pheasant, Baltimore oriole, Canada geese, hawks, owls, robins, chickadee, mourning doves, flicker, and many more.

CARLTON LUTTS

The Lutts family became owners in 1941. Carlton and Grace Lutts lived nearby at 26 Dearborn Street. Carlton's ancestors were residents of Kittery, Maine for many generations and he was born in Malden, Massachusetts (b.1889, d.1957). He was first employed at G.E. and then he was made the Director of the Laboratory of the Boston Naval Shipyard working for many years in metallurgy and chemistry. He graduated from University of Maine and was recognized as an authority on the manufacture of chain and rope. He was co-inventor of the Di-Lok Anchor Chain, used for many years on military and commercial ships. He also developed improved methods of making large castings and developed non-destructive testing methods using X-rays, contributing greatly to the war effort and safety of military equipment.

ORIGINAL WITCH JAIL DISCOVERED

In 1956 Carlton Lutts wrote a new chapter in Salem History when he discovered the authentic oak-timbered witch jail cell during demolition of the witch jail building at the corner of Federal and

Location of
Peter's Winn House

TO
NORTH
SOCIETY

AUGUST 20,
1989

C.F. LUTTS

N

NORTH STREET

ROUND
HOUSE
STORAGE OF
MOVING TRUCKS

NORTH STREET RINK

NICHOLS
PACKAGE
STORE

WINN
HOUSE

FEDERAL STREET

FEDERAL STREET

SUMMER STREET

THIS WAS THE
LOCATION OF OUR
FRONT HOUSE
(C.F. LUTTS & NANCY B. LUTTS
AT CABOT FARM)
BEFORE THE NORTH ST.
OVERPASS WAS
1950'S