

Historic Salem Incorporated

OFFICE AT OLD TOWN HALL

POST OFFICE BOX 865 SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970 / PHONE (617) 745-0799

21 BUTLER STREET

Built for

CHARLES ROBERTS, butcher

by 1845

Research by,
Joyce King
October 1985

*"to preserve Historic Sites, Buildings and objects,
and to work for the education of the community
in the true value of the same."*

21 BUTLER STREET

BOOK 345 PAGE 153

DATE - June 18, 1844
CONSIDERATION - \$550
GRANTOR (seller) - Nathan and Sally Pearsons of Danvers
GRANTEE (buyer) - Charles Roberts
DESCRIPTION - Two and three quarter acres of land
Northwest by Lane 23 rods
Northeast by Lane leading from Main
Street to Horse Pasture 18
rods
Southeast by Trofatter and J. Mann 20
rods
Southwest by E. Hall 18 rods
PREVIOUS REFERENCE - none given

The first mention of this house appears on the 1845 tax rolls:
Charles Roberts - "New" house on the hill value \$1,200

Charles Roberts died on July 2, 1862. In probate #51807, his heirs are listed as: wife Mary E., children Sarah E. age 16, Emma I. 14, Charles F. 12, Ida L. 9 and Urban C. 2.

Real estate on Prospect and Summit streets with dwelling house and other buildings valued at \$2,900 and personal estate:

furniture	\$245
one horse	110
two cows	65
poultry	10
hay	61
wagons	90
sleighs	25
harness	12
crops on land	25
lot of pork	24
sausage machine and farming implements	140
notes of hand	59

BOOK 677 PAGE 258

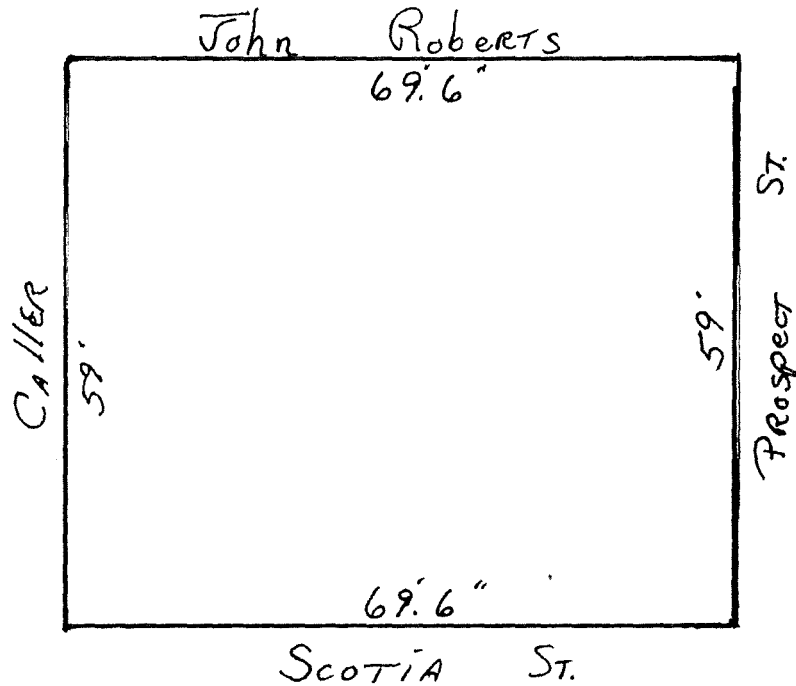
DATE - July 6, 1864
CONSIDERATION - \$1,500
GRANTOR (seller) - Mary E. Roberts administrator of the
estate of Charles Roberts
GRANTEE (buyer) - John H. Nichols
DESCRIPTION - Dwelling house and land
Northwest by John Roberts
Northeast by Prospect St.
Southeast by Hadley et al
Southwest by Bruce
PREVIOUS REFERENCE - none given

BOOK 677 PAGE 258

DATE - August 17, 1864
GRANTOR (seller) - John H. Nichols
GRANTEE (buyer) - Mary E. Roberts
DESCRIPTION - Dwelling house and land
(same as above)
PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Meaning to convey all property sold
by Mary E. Roberts

BOOK 2306 PAGE 307

DATE - August 24, 1915
CONSIDERATION - none given
GRANTOR (seller) - Mary E. Roberts widow
GRANTEE (buyer) - John McGrath
DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings on Prospect St.
PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Being a portion of my old homestead
lot conveyed to me by John H. Nichols
on August 17, 1864



BOOK 3381 PAGE 349

DATE - September 15, 1944

CONSIDERATION - none given

GRANTOR (seller) - Michael F. McGrath, James E. Ward and Margaret E. his wife in her right, Joseph T. Mc Grath and Edward P. McGrath

GRANTEE (buyer) - William P. Mc Grath, Helen M. McCloskey, Agnes T. Fennell, Catherine Rockett

DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings
(This land is one of several parcels)

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Same premises conveyed by deed of Mary Roberts to John McGrath on August 24, 1915

BOOK 3458 PAGE 547

DATE - May 18, 1946

CONSIDERATION - none given

GRANTOR (seller) - William P. McGrath, Donald F. McCloskey and Helen his wife in her right, Lawrence B. Fennell and Agnes his wife in her right, Richard H. Rockett and his wife Catherine in her right

GRANTEE (buyer) - John J. and Frances McGrath

DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Same premises conveyed to William P. McGrath by Michael F. McGrath et al on Sept. 194

BOOK 4831 PAGE 222

DATE - October 17, 1961

CONSIDERATION - none given (mortgage \$10,650)

GRANTOR (seller) - Frances G. McGrath

GRANTEE (buyer) - John J. and Patricia A. Butler

DESCRIPTION - Parcel of land and buildings

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Being the same premises conveyed to me and my late husband by deed of William P. McGrath on May 18, 1946 recorded in book 3458 page 547.

Reference to book and page are deed books at the Registry of Deeds. Probate numbers are cases at Probate Court. Both offices are located in the same building on Federal St. All maps in this report are not meant to be exact, just for illustration purposes.

NOTES:

This house was built on part of a large parcel purchased by Charles Roberts in 1844. The street was formerly a cart way called "the lane leading from Main street to Horse Pasture". It was given the name Prospect St. around 1848 and was called Butler Street by 1922.

First called 17 Prospect St. number changed to 21 Prospect by 1888.

1850 census

Charles Roberts	age 31	butcher	born	Maine
Mary E.	" 26		"	N.H.
Sarah E.	" 4		"	Mass.
Emma	" 2		"	Mass.
Love Berry	" 58		"	N.H.
Margaret Chandler	" 16		"	Ire.

1860 census

Charles Roberts	age 42	butcher	born	Maine
Mary E.	" 36		"	N.H.
Sarah E.	" 14		"	Mass.
Emma	" 12		"	"
Charles F.	" 9		"	"
Ida L.	" 7		"	"
John	" 7 months		"	"

Charles Roberts died on July 2, 1862. No obituary notice could be found for Charles Roberts. He was a butcher doing business at 116 Boston street in 1850 and called a porkdealer in 1859.

Mary Roberts died on Nov. 30, 1916. Her obituary appeared in the Salem Evening News:

Died two days after Birthday Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Roberts

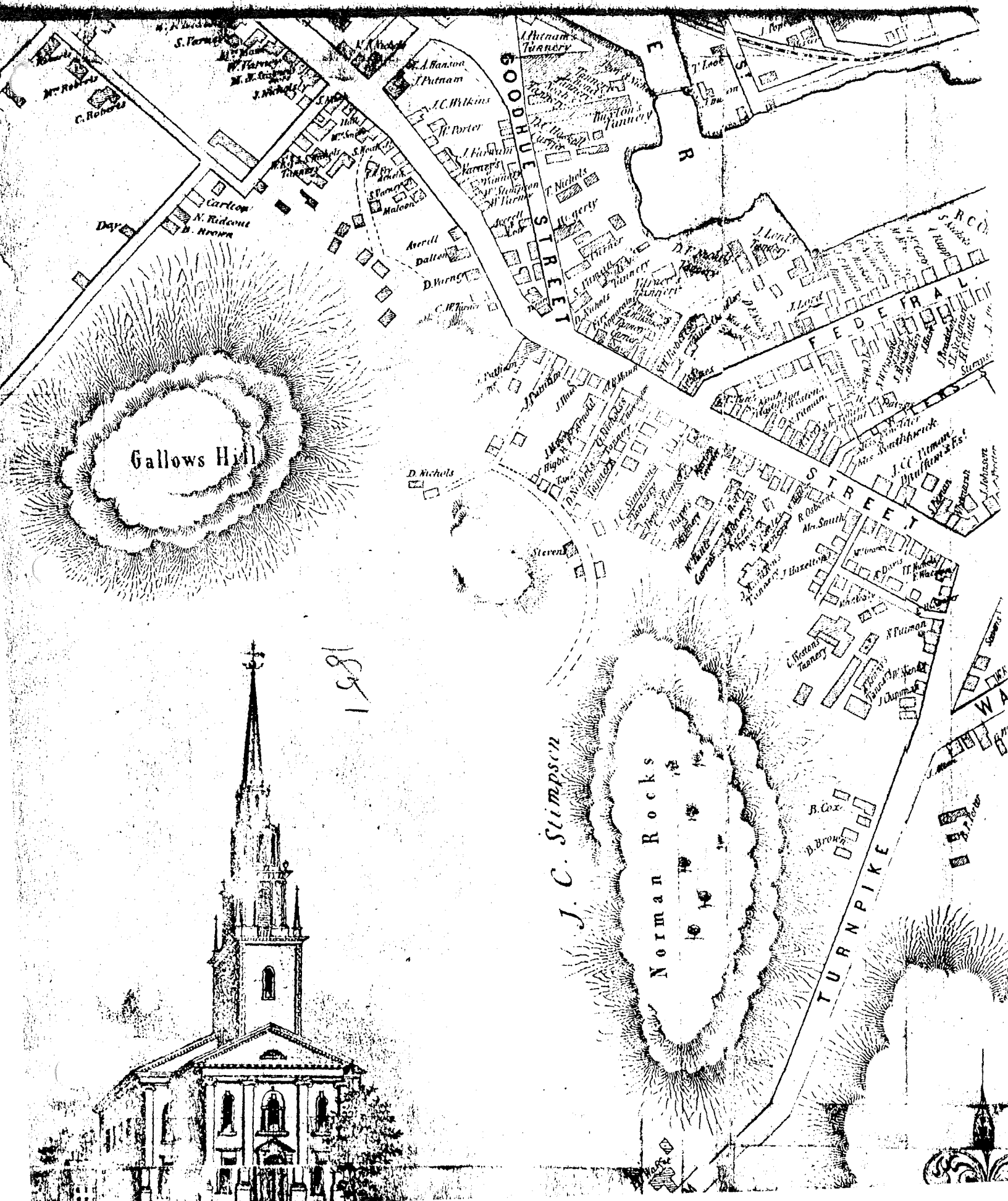
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth, widow of Charles Roberts, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Epes Cogswell 31 Flint St., yesterday. She was born in Portsmouth, N.H. November 28, 1824.

She was married at the age of 17 and moved with her husband to Peabody. Theirs was the only house then on Aborn St. Her husband died when she was 34 years of age leaving her with several children. Later, she moved to Flint St., Salem, when she has since made her home.

She was remarkably active during her life and until the last year was active around the house. She was an expert needlewoman and since her 80th birthday she devoted much time to crocheting, making over 100 yards of lace, as well as piecing bed spreads.

Mrs. Roberts was much loved by her friends and by the young people.

She leaves a son Urban Chase Roberts of Peabody, a daughter Mrs. Epes Cogswell of Salem, a grandson Frank Warren and a great grandson Fred Warren Roberts.



Gallows Hill

J. C. Stimpson

Norman Rocks

TURNPIKE

GOODHUE STREET

FEDERAL STREET

DAY



1851

1874



145.32 - 170.238 - Edward Tucker to selling to 1801



Map labels and names: Groves St, Boston St, Putnam St, Proctor Ct, Field Mills, J. S. Gillins, Wm. F. Nichols, Mrs. E. Dodge, etc.

1897



CEMETERY



B

BOSTON

PURCHASE ST.

PROSPECT ST.

SAFFORD ST.

WATSON ST.

RAWLINS ST.

STANTON ST.

ST.

SCOTTA ST.

C. B. FARLEY

PROSPECT AVE.

BLANTON ST.

ENDICOTT SCHOOL

U. R. WILLIAMS

LAWRENCE

BRANCH

SALEM GALLIGH COMPANY

THOS. GRIFFIN

PETER SIM

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

H. G. FARLEY

G. M. WALTON

G. M. WALTON

J. MARSHALL

STANLEY

J. P. LEASE

M. B. JENNINGS

D. HILL

A. ROBSON

C. B. FARLEY

C. B. FARLEY

D. FROTH KHAN E.T.

LYNAN HOLMAN EST.

M. J. MERRILL ET AL

M. J. MERRILL ET AL

M. J. MERRILL ET AL

M. J. GUNNEY

M. J. GUNNEY

D. G. SULLIVAN

M. T. LOCKE

D. HILL

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M. A. JOHNSON

C. B. FARLEY

SUMMIT •

SOUTH

ALBION

NICHOLS

HANSON

VARNEY

SCOTIA

BUTLER

55

56

