

2 1/2 BECKET STREET

Built by

JAMES FAIRFIELD JR., carpenter

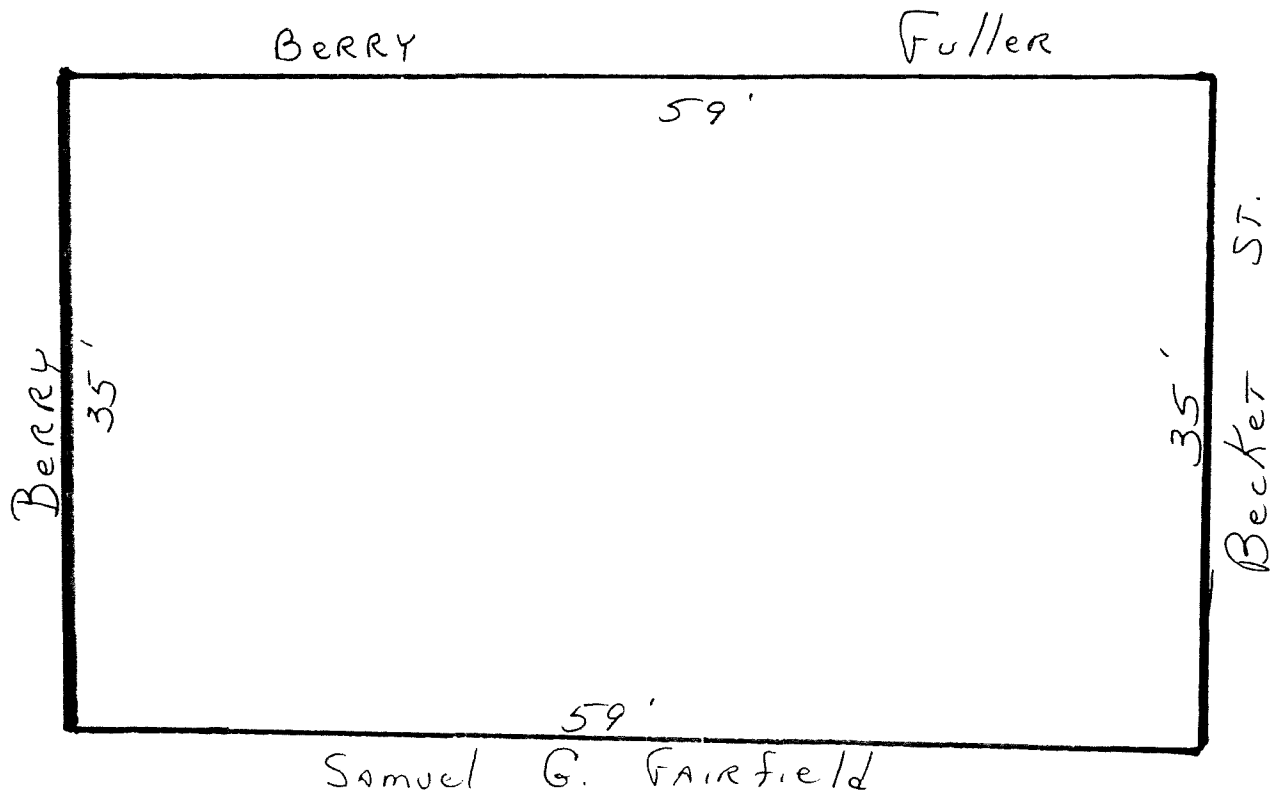
in 1861

Research by,
Joyce King
November 1987

2 1/2 BECKET STREET

BOOK 7847 PAGE 23

DATE - July 29, 1985
GRANTOR (seller) - Mary E. Lyons and Charles F. Manning
executors of the estate of
James Bresnahan
GRANTEE (buyer) - James W. and Kathleen A. Tracy
DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings
PREVIOUS REFERENCE - Being the same premises conveyed to
Edith L. Bresnahan and James F.
Bresnahan Jr. on July 31, 1965
recorded in book 5301 page 170



BOOK 5301 PAGE 170

DATE - July 31, 1965

GRANTOR (seller) - Edith L. Bresnahan, James F. Bresnahan Jr., Mary E. Lyons, Everett L. Bresnahan, Henry M. Bresnahan

GRANTEE (buyer) - Edith L. Bresnahan and James F. Bresnahan Jr.

DESCRIPTION - All right and interest in the estate of James F. Bresnahan

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - For our title see probate 281361 and deed of Catherine T. Guinivan administratrix of the estate of Hannah Bresnahan to James F. Bresnahan recorded in book 2517 page 377

BOOK 2517 PAGE 377

DATE - May 26, 1922

CONSIDERATION - \$2,000

GRANTOR (seller) - Catharine T. Guinivan of Beverly administratrix of the estate of Hannah Bresnahan

GRANTEE (buyer) - James F. Bresnahan

DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - The same premises conveyed to my late father John Bresnahan Sr. et ux by deed of William H. Niles et al trustees on April 7, 1905, recorded in book 1774 page 145. See also book 947 page 142.

BOOK 1774 PAGE 145

DATE - April 7, 1905

GRANTOR (seller) - William H. Niles of Lynn,
Charles A. and Deborah Thomas of
Peabody trustees under the will of
Josiah B. Thomas of Peabody

GRANTEE (buyer) - John and Hannah J. Bresnahan

DESCRIPTION - Land and buildings

BOOK 947 PAGE 142

DATE - January 29, 1876

GRANTOR (seller) - Parker and Dorothy Bray

GRANTEE (buyer) - Josiah B. Thomas

DESCRIPTION - Land with dwelling house and other
buildings

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - The same premises conveyed to me by
James Fairfield Jr. on October 2,
1869 as recorded in book 782 page 174

BOOK 782 page 174

DATE - October 2, 1869

CONSIDERATION - \$2,550

GRANTOR (seller) - James Fairfield Jr.

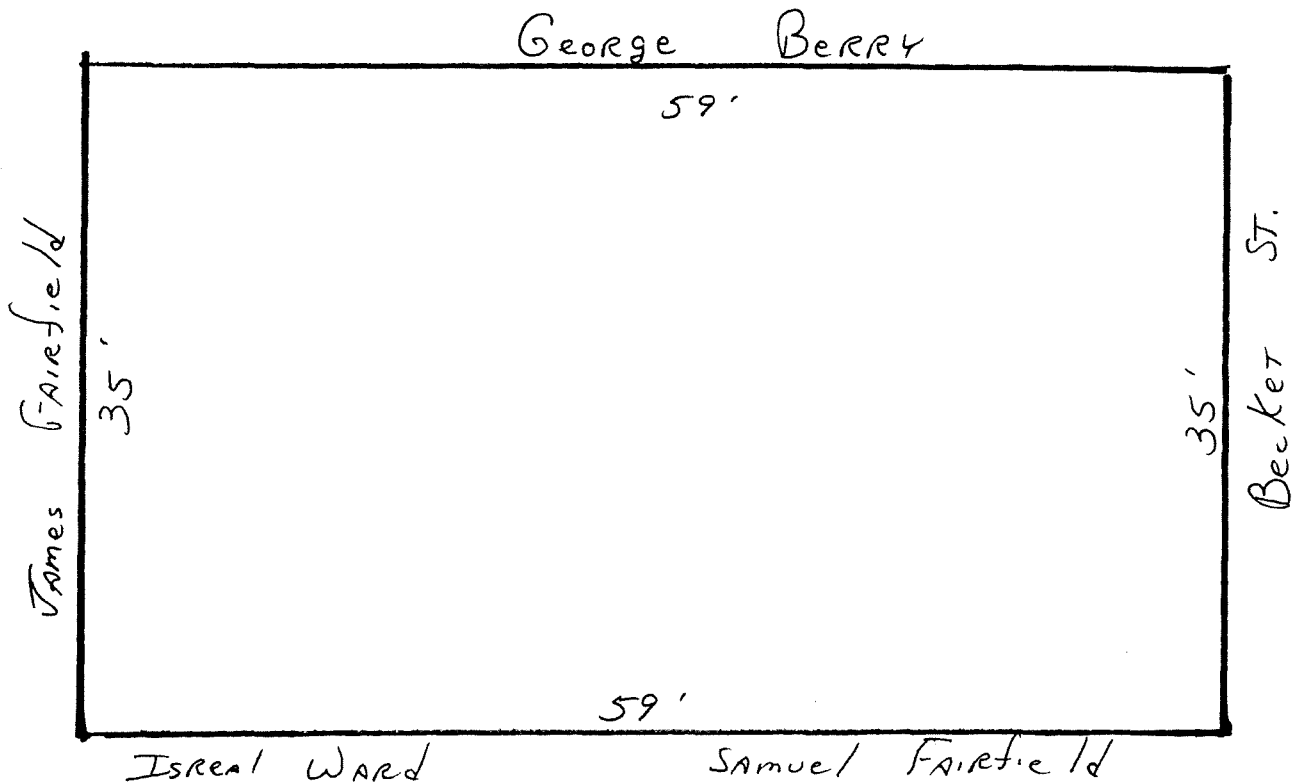
GRANTEE (buyer) - G. Parker Bray

DESCRIPTION - Land with dwelling house and other
buildings. Meaning to convey the
estate now occupied by James
Fairfield Jr., as the fences stand.

PREVIOUS REFERENCE - The land conveyed to James Fairfield
by deed of George E. Berry as
recorded in book 621 page 245.

BOOK 621 PAGE 245

DATE - March 2, 1861
CONSIDERATION - \$400
GRANTOR (seller) - George E. Berry
GRANTEE (buyer) - James Fairfield Jr.
DESCRIPTION - Lot of land
Grantee to build the entire fence on
the north boundary at his own expense

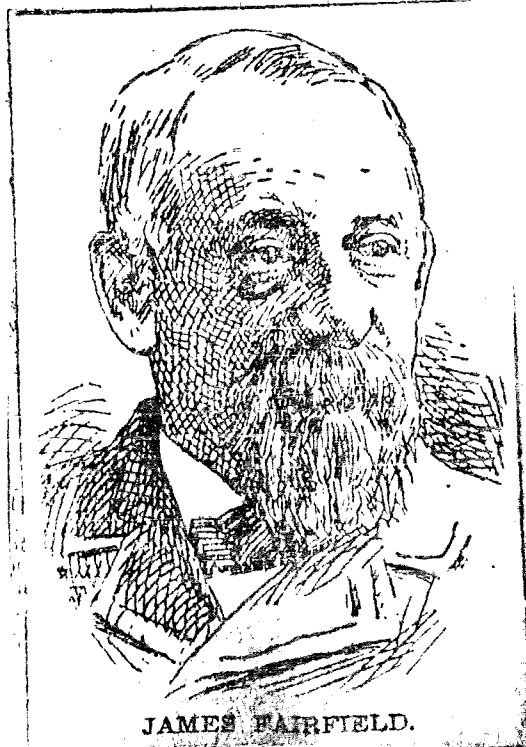


Reference to book and page are deed books at the Registry of Deeds. Probate numbers are cases at Probate Court. All maps in this report are for illustrative purposes and are not meant to be exact.

NOTES:

2 1/2 BECKET STREET

This house was built by James Fairfield Jr. during 1861. Mr. Fairfield is taxed for a "new house" in 1862.



An obituary notice, published in July 1910 gives some insight as to the life of James Fairfield Jr.

"The news of the sudden death of James Fairfield of this city, in Gloucester, Saturday afternoon, as announced in the late edition of The News of that day, came as a shock to his family and friends. Mr. Fairfield had been about as usual, barring infirmity attendant upon age, and his decease was not anticipated by any of his friends.

Saturday he went to Gloucester on the steamer Cape Ann, from Boston, and spent some time in that city. As he was going aboard the boat with Pilot Courtney, to return, a little after 2 o'clock, he dropped dead on the gang plank. Strange to say he was remarking at the time on his good health to the pilot. The body was taken into the company's office, where it was viewed by Medical Examiner Quimby, who gave heart failure as the cause of death. The remains were brought to Salem Saturday evening by Undertaker John J. Saunders.

Mr. Fairfield was born in Salem January 28, 1829, and was the son of the late Capt. James and Mary (Archer) Fairfield. He was educated in the Salem public schools, being a member of the 15th class of the old Salem English High school, among his classmates being George Chase, Charles Henry Holland, Charles Henry Price, Asa Wiggin and others. He was for many years a carpenter and contractor, but several years ago he became associated with his father in the lumber business, and on the death of his parent, succeeded to the business, later adding coal. He disposed of this business some time ago to his daughter, Miss Lottie Fairfield, who still conducts it.

For many years Mr. Fairfield was a Democrat in politics, but later became a Republican. He was a member of the common council in 1867, 1868 and 1869. He was a member of Essex lodge, I.O.O.F., and the Salem Veteran Fireman's association, having for many years been a member of old Reliance hand engine company No. One. He leaves a widow, a daughter, Miss Lottie Fairfield, and a grandchild."

The funeral was held at his home, 13 Pleasant St. and the burial in Harmony Grove cemetery.

BRAY

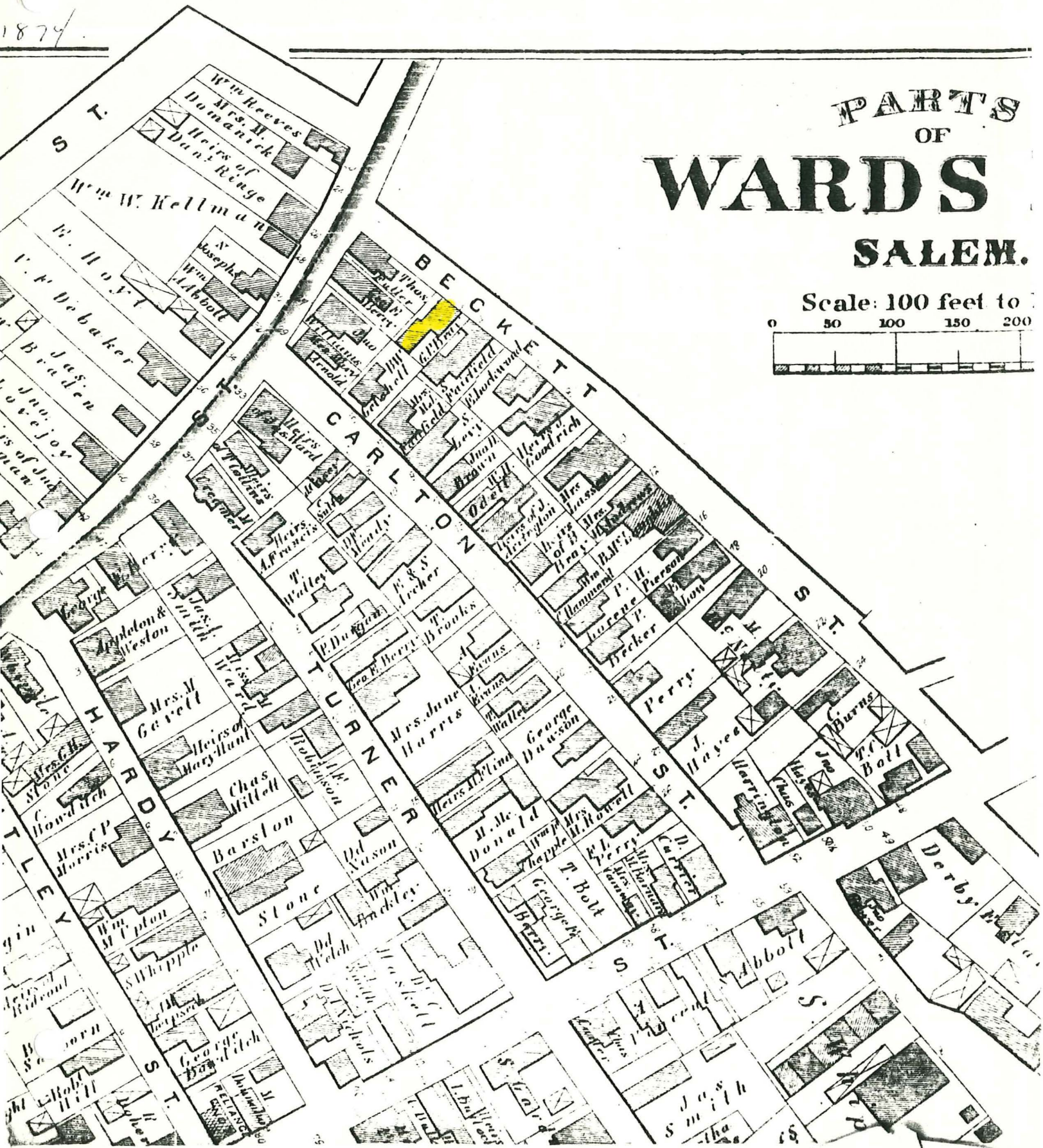
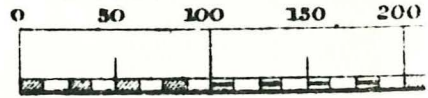
The 1870 census shows the occupants of 2 1/2 Becket St. as:

Guilford Bray	age	38,	Custom House Inspector,	born	Maine	
Dorothy	"	"	34,	keeps house,	born	Maine
William	"	"	14,	clerk in store,	born	Maine
Charles	"	"	10,	attends school,	born	Mass.
Alonzo	"	"	12,	attends school,	born	Maine
Clara P.	"	"	4,	at home,	born	Mass.
Arvilla	"	"	2,	at home,	born	Mass.

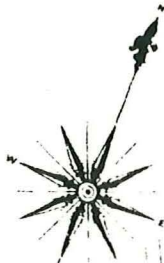
1874

PARTS OF WARD S SALEM.

Scale: 100 feet to



1956



9

ESSEX

CARLTON

DANIELS

BENTLEY

HARDY

TURNER

DERBY

WHITE

15

16

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6

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TURNER HALL

POLISH AMERICAN CITIZENS CLUB

FOOD WARE

THE STORE NO

BOTTLE WARE

RAIL STN

REPAIRS

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