

Notes on 38 Peabody Street, Salem

According to Patricia Kelleher at the Salem Historical Commission, all of the buildings at the point were destroyed in the Great Fire, which happened on June 25, 1914.

In reviewing both the current assessor's map and the 1911 Walker Lithograph and Publishing Company Map, it would appear that the lot area that was 24-32 Peabody Street on the 1911 map includes the area that is now 38 Peabody Street on the current assessor's map.

Prior to the fire, the area that is 38 Peabody Street was owned by Mendel Coller and Sarah Coller. The deeds at the Essex South Registry of Deeds list his name as Coller, but he is also listed as Collier on other documents. The name Collier is of English origin whereas the name Coller is a variant of the German or Swiss Koller or Kohler—I believe the name Coller is the correct spelling for his name as the 1920 census lists Mendel "Collier's" place of origin as Russia.

The pamphlet "1914 Data on Burned District at Salem, MA," published by F.W. Dodge Co. lists the "Colliers" as owning 2 wooden apartment houses at 261/2 & 28 Peabody Street, 2 wooden apartment houses and shop at 24-26-26R Peabody Street and a wooden apartment building at 12 Peabody Street.

Deed references have the property owned by Mendel Coller and Sarah Coller in 1915. The following evidence indicates that Mendel Coller was the likely builder of the property that is now 38 Peabody Street and that the building was built c. 1915-1916:

Deed descriptions from the Essex South County Registry of Deeds

Plans on record at the Essex South County Registry of Deeds, particularly Book 2294, Page End.

Building Inspection records from the Salem Historical Commission; no record card is specific to this property as to 24-32 Peabody Street, but it is clear that he owned numerous properties that were inspected by the City within a year or so after the fire. There are a number of buildings on in the area that are called "Collier Building."

MACRIS On-Line Database

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According to Salem Town Directories in 1913 and 1915, Mendel Coller's profession is listed as "Real Estate" under the "Estate and Insurance" business listings. In 1913 he is listed as living at 24 Peabody Street and in 1915 he is listed as living at 33 Ward Street. Interestingly, in the 1910 Salem Town Directory, a Mendel Coller is listed as a peddler living at 24 Peabody—is this the same person? According to the 1920 United States Census, he lived in Salem with his wife Sarah Coller and his occupation is listed as "none"; at that time they were living as renters at 41 Ward Street. In 1920, Mendel Coller was 62 years of age, born about 1858 in Russia; he immigrated to the United States in 1884 and was not a naturalized citizen as of 1920. He was Jewish and his mother tongue was Yiddish. In 1920, Sarah was 57 years of age, born about 1863 in Russia. She was also Jewish and her mother tongue was Yiddish.

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Plaque to read: Built by Mendel and Sarah Coller, Real Estate Investors Replaced 2 apartment buildings and a shop destroyed in Great Salem Fire of 1914



Owners	Date of Conveyance	Registry Reference
Patrick Dalton of Salem to Mendel Coller and Sarah Coller	August 31, 1895	Book 1454, Page 520
Mary E. Danahy and Norah F. Danahy of Salem to Sarah Coller of Salem	July 2, 1907	Book 1880, Page 104
Mendel Coller and Sarah Coller of Salem to Phillip Collier of Salem	April 20, 1915	Book 2294, Page 72
Phillip Collier of Salem to Salem Savings Bank	February 29, 1916	Book 2324, Page 476
Foreclosure of mortgage; foreclosure deed to Salem Savings Bank	February 12, 1965	Book 5246, Page 245
Salem Savings Bank to Laurien R. L'Italien and Alice L. L'Italien of Salem	April 8, 1965	Book 5258, Page 270
Laurien R. L'Italien and Alice L. L'Italkien of Salem to Donald J. Clarke, Edward J. Clarke And Jacob S. Segal as Trustee of the Clarke Jacobs Realty Trust	March 14, 1978	Book 6450, Page 684
Donald J. Clarke and Jacob S. Segal, Trustees Of the Clarke Jacobs Realty Trust to Frederick D. Small and Karen J. Small of Topsfield	March 30, 1985	Book 7703, Page 159
Frederick D. Small and Karen J. Small to Bank Of New England, NA	November 6, 1986	Book 8614, Page 63
Foreclosure of mortgage; foreclosure deed to Small Fry Properties, Inc.	September 1, 1989	Book 10199, Page 72
Small Fry Properties, Inc. to Salem Point LP	December 27, 1991	Book 11080, Page 456
Salem Point LP to Salem Point II LP	July 16, 2014	Book 33413, Page 603