

10 Carlton Street
Salem, Mass.

built for
JOSHUA OAKES
ship-joiner
1804

Robert Booth
25 Nov 1977

10 Carlton Street

This house was built for Joshua Oakes, ship joiner, in 1804.

In 1800 this house lot was part of a larger parcel evidently owned by widow Hannah Crowninshield of Salem; on 19 Feb 1803 for \$360 she granted this parcel or lot, which fronted 102' on Carlton Street, to Benjamin Felt Jr, Salem block maker (171:178). Mr Felt immediately sold the northern half of this lot for \$300 to James Brooks, Salem housewright; it measured 50' on all sides (174:4). On 4 Jan 1804 for \$320 Mr Brooks sold the same lot to Joshua Oakes, Salem ship-joiner (174:4).

Joshua Oakes (1780-1849) was born in Cohasset, the son of Samuel and Hannah (Whitcomb) Oakes, on 23 June 1780. As a young man he was trained as a ship-joiner (one who does the joiner's work on a ship, such as panelling, cabinets, etc.), and in 1801 he and his cousin Thomas Oakes came to Salem, where both set up as ship-joiners, Joshua owning a shop. Having bought this house lot on 4 Jan 1804, Joshua caused this house to be built soon after, for in the 1804 Salem valuations, usually taken in spring, a "New House" was noted for Mr Oakes in ward one, along with his shop. In 1805, the shop (worth \$250 in 1804) and "new house" were valued at \$600. Thomas Oakes lived here with cousin Joshua.

On 6 Ap 1807 Joshua married Ruth James of his native Cohasset. While living here, Mr & Mrs Oakes had a child, Sarah Phippen, born 10 Feb 1808, who died two years later. Joshua's younger brother Samuel had joined him in Salem earlier, only to die in 1806, aged 17 years. Close family friend Sally Phippen (for who their child was named) also died in 1806, aged 21 years. In the spring of 1809 Joshua Oakes sold this house; that same year he became part-owner of the 158-ton Salem brig Mary Caroline, Capt Samuel B Graves. Mr Oakes, a Mason since 1807, eventually became a captain the Massachusetts Militia. Sometime in or before September 1815 he, his wife, and their three (?) children returned to Cohasset, where he lived the rest of his life, dying there on 10 Mar 1849 in his 69th year. He is buried there in the Central Cemetery.

On 25 Ap 1809 Richard Ward Jr, Salem mariner, for payment of \$2600, became the new owner of the house and land (187:102). He owned the house for 12 years, giving up the sea to become a merchant ashore, and then moving to New Orleans, Louisiana, from which place, on 13 Oct 1821, for \$290 he granted to Salem wharfinger Peirce L Wiggin, all his right to the homestead (226:292); most of the interest in the place was held by the estate of George Crowninshield, who had earlier taken a large mortgage from Capt Ward; on 15 Oct 1821, for

\$1180, the administrator of Capt Crowninshield's estate assigned the mortgage to Mr Wiggin (226:292). He did not long own the premises, granting same on 14 Nov 1821 for \$1504 to Salem master-mariner Capt Samuel Burrill Graves (229:51).

Capt Graves was born in Lynn on 19 Jan 1778; as a young man he followed the sea, residing in Salem. His first command appears to have been the 145-ton brigantine Sukey, owned by Stephen Phillips and registered for the foreign trade 18 Nov. 1806 under Capt Samuel B Graves. There are watercolor views of her at the Peabody Museum.

On 15 Jan 1809 Capt Graves married, in Salem, Grace Oakes (born 23 Aug 1787), the Cohasset-born sister of Joshua Oakes, first owner of this house. In the spring of that same year, Capt Graves took command of the 158-ton brig Mary Caroline, of which he was one-third owner. He sailed as a master in the foreign trade until the War of 1812, in which he played a valiant and distinguished part, commanding the 172-ton privateer schooner Growler, which had a crew of 90-105 men and armament of 11-15 guns. Capt Graves owned part of the Growler, in which he cleared Salem in November 1812, in pursuit of enemy shipping. On this cruise, he took the 350-ton, 8-gun British vessel Annabella Clark after a 45-minute action; he also took the schooner Prince of Wales, which was released, and the Nova Scotian brig Ann. He also rescued a Portugese crew from their sinking ship. On 2 Feb 1813, he engaged a British brig, and in the ensuing seven hours of battle, Capt Graves' left arm was shattered, necessitating amputation. Two of his men were killed in the action, during which they captured the brig, only to have her escape. Thus ended Capt Graves cruise aboard the Growler; he appears to have stayed ashore for the rest of the war.

With the coming of peace, Capt Graves took command of the 176-ton brig Mercator, which he owned with others and sailed for many years. By November 1823 he owned his own vessel, the 86-ton schooner Woolwich, Capt John Archer. Capt Graves and family had by this time moved into the house at 10 Carlton Street. Although a ship-owner himself, he continued in the command of the Mercator, and, in 1825 became master of the brig Neptune. On a voyage south in the Neptune, having put in at Charleston, South Carolina, Capt Graves died on 22 Nov 1825, aged 47 years, leaving his wife Grace and seven children.

Mrs Grace Graves and family continued to occupy this house and own two others on Carlton Street for another 25 years; Mrs Graves died on 3 Feb 1850; at that time this house and land were valued at \$1750 (#40808). Although technically Mrs Graves had been entitled to just a one-third dower right in the estate of her husband (upon her death, it was to revert to his heirs), she and her children agreed that she should own her husband's property outright--although no deed was ever made to that effect. Her son-

in-law Ripley Ropes, acting as trustee under her will, on 15 Sept 1857, for \$1400, granted this house and its lot for \$1400 to Daniel F Meady, a 43-year-old Salem housewright who had earlier followed the sea (559:210). Seven years later, on 15 Nov 1864, this conveyance was confirmed to Mr Meady by the heirs of Capt Graves (677:133).

Daniel and Tabitha Meady raised up a family of five girls and two boys here; Mrs Meady died, and Mr Meady married, secondly, Mrs Carrie S Humphrey. Mr Meady became a confectioner, evidently manufacturing candy right in the house, with the aid of candy machines, kettles, and a gripping & blowing machine & air gun. He died 20 Oct 1876) at which time most of his children were minors), possessed of 10 and 10 1/2 Carlton Street, then valued at \$2000 (#46792).

On 21 June 1880 the executors of Mr Meady's will for \$1725 granted the premises to Miss Elizabeth S Archer of Salem (1039:196). Miss Archer owned the same for more than twenty years; she died 21 Aug 1902, having willed her property to her nephew and nieces (#90873). Ten years later, on 25 July 1912, the others released their rights therein to sister Mary E Archer of Salem (2166:285). Miss Archer owned the premises for ten years; on 21 Nov 1922 she granted same to Mary, the wife of Stanley Kuc, of Salem (2536:548).

On 11 Mar 1924 Mrs Kuc granted the 10 Carlton Street estate to Frank and his wife Karolina Rewinski of Salem (2588:161). Mrs Rewinski died many years later, on 5 Feb 1957 (#302895). The property remains in the possession of their daughter, Mrs Josephine A Foye of Salem, who represents the 54th year of family ownership (see 5664:230, 5689:565).

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Notes: Figures such as (123:45) refer to So. Essex County Registry of Deeds book 123, page or leaf 45; figures such as (#12345) refer to So. Essex County Probate docket #12345.

Know all men by these presents, that I James Brooks of Salem in the county of Essex
 Countywright in consideration of three hundred & twenty dollars paid by Joshua
 Bates of said Salem, ship-joiner, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, to have
 give grant sell and convey unto the said Joshua Bates his heirs & assigns
 a certain lot or parcel of land situate in Salem aforesaid bounding & bounding
 easterly on Carlton street, there measuring fifty feet, then northerly on land of
 Hannah Whittemore, there measuring fifty feet, thence bounding West on land
 of Stephen & Pierce - there measuring fifty feet, thence southerly on land
 now owned by Amos Adams, there measuring fifty feet to the first men-
 tioned boundary in Carlton street, it being part of the lot formerly sold by
 Benj. Felt just of Hannah Crowninshield & by said Felt sold to the grantor
 with all the privileges & appurtenances thereto belonging. To have and to hold
 the aforesaid premises to the said Joshua Bates his heirs and assigns to him
 & their use and behoof forever. And I do covenant with the said Joshua
 Bates his heirs and assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee of the aforesaid
 granted premises, that they are free of all Incumbrances, that I have good
 right to sell and convey the same to the said Joshua Bates and that
 I will warrant and defend the same Premises to the said Joshua
 Bates his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and
 demands of all Persons. In witness whereof I the said James Brooks
 & Polly his wife in consideration of ten cents for relinquishment of
 Dower have hereunto set our hands and seals, this fourth day
 of January in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and four
 Signed sealed and delivered in presence of us, James Brooks & seal
 John Brown - Betsy King Mary Brooks & seal
 Essex. January 4th 1804. Then the above named James Brooks acknow-
 ledged the above Instrument to be his free act and deed, before me
 Ezekiel Savage, Just. of peace.
 Essex. Recd. Jan. 4. 1804 & recorded & examined by John Pickering Reg^r

