

20 Turner St. Salem, Mass.

DOCUMENTATION

Record

Book and page

- 5881 795 June 30, 1972
Donald F. and Joanne F. Charette sell for 416,200 to Mariann C. Reifern of Salem land and buildings at 20 Turner St. bounded:
on N.E. by Turner St. 45'
on S.E. by land now or late of Buckley 65'
on S.W. by land now or late of Stone 45'
on N.W. by land now or late of Flynn 65'
Being same premises conveyed Book 5161 p. 451
- 5161 451 April 6, 1964
Alice M. Psaris of St. Louis formerly Alice M. Charette for considerations grants to Donald F. and Joanne F. Charette of Salem land and buildings on Turner St. (same description as above) Being same premises conveyed Book 3530 p. 315, said Philip J. Charette died November 1958.
- 3530 315 August 1, 1947
Eugene A. MacDonald trustee of Alexander Realty Trust for consideration paid grant to Philip J. and Alice M. Charette land and buildings (same as above) Being premises conveyed by deed of Melvin J. and Edith M. Casey instrument #125 July 24, 1947.
- 3529 299 July 11, 1947
Melvin J. and Edith M. Casey for consideration grant to Eugene A. MacDonald trustee of Alexander Realty Trust land and buildings (same as above) Being same premises conveyed Book 3328 p. 381.
- 3328 381 April 23, 1943
Eugene A. MacDonald of Alexander Realty Trust for consideration grants to Melvin J. and Edith M. Casey (same property) Being same premises conveyed Book 3226 p. 428.
- 3226 428 August 8, 1940
Salem Savings Bank sells to Eugene A. MacDonald of Marblehead land and buildings (same description) Being same premises conveyed to grantor by foreclosure deed Book 3167 p. 570.
- 3167 570 December 7, 1938
Salem Savings Bank holder of a mortgage from Teofil and Elzbita Senkoski forecloses for nonpayment and takes possession of land and buildings (same description) Premises having been conveyed Book 2166 p. 189.
- 2166 189 August 17, 1912
Stanislav Kuc of Salem for \$1 and considerations grants to Teofil and Elzbita Cenkoski land and buildings (same description) Being premises conveyed me Book 2026 p. 171. (a mortgage was included in this transaction)
- 2026 171 June 23, 1910
Wasil Nester of Salem for \$1 and considerations sells to Stanislav Kuc of Salem land and buildings bounded:
on N. by Turner St.
on E. by land now or late of Buckley
on S. by land now or late of Stone
on W. by land now or late of Flynn
Being same premises conveyed me Book 1851 p. 267

- 1851 267 November 15, 1906
Louis Dembofsky of Salem for \$1 and considerations grants to Wasy1 Nestor of Salem land and buildings (same description) Being same premises conveyed Book 1851 p. 264 (\$900 mortgage to Matilda Nason)
- 1851 264 November 15, 1906
Benjamin F. and Matilda R. Nason for \$1 and considerations grant to Louis Dembofsky (same property) Being same premises described in a deed to our father David Nason Book 327 p. 82.
- 327 82 September 21, 1841
Mary Anderson, widow of Salem for \$1,000 sells to David Nason of Salem land with dwelling house and outbuildings in W. side of Turner St. bounded:
on E. by Turner St.
on S. by land of Merriam
on W. by land of Mr. Lemett (sp.?)
on N. by land of Moses Goodhue
Being estate conveyed me Book 289 p. 271.
- 289 271 May 5, 1836
Nathaniel Appleton adm. of estate of Robert B. Stoddard late of Salem mariner, dec. intestate being so empowered sells at public auction for \$345 to Mary Anderson wife of Peter Anderson laborer land on Turner St. with a small wooden Dwelling house bounded: E. on Turner St. about 45' S. on land of Merriam's heirs late the estate of Thomas Dean, dec. about 36'; W. on land formerly Masury's about 45'; N. on land formerly Widow Batten's about 36' reserving a 6' passageway to owners of Masury's house and use of the well.
- 243 36 August 1, 1826
Mary Gray of Boston, widow, for \$450 sells to Robert B. Stoddard of Salem mariner land in Salem with dwelling house and all other buildings bounded: E. on Turner St. 45'
S. on land of heirs of Thomas Dean dec. 37'-6"
W. on land of John Masury (Majors) 45'
N. on land of Widow Batten 37'
Also a small piece of land reserved to place a necessary on with a passageway 3'-6" to it, and reserving to owners of Masury's house a 6' passage to Turner St. and use of the well. Being same property purchased Book 224 p. 296.
- 224 296 February 17, 1821
Joseph Monark laborer of Salem and Hannah his wife in her right for \$350 sell to Mary Gray of Salem widow by her deed to us, being an exchange of property, land and dwelling house (same as above) Being land I purchased Book 219 p. 36
- 219 36 July 13, 1818
Mary Manning singlewoman, Robert Manning and Samuel Manning stage proprietors, Elisabeth C. Rathorne widow, Priscilla wife of John Dike in her right, all of Salem and Richard Manning of Raymond Me. heirs at law of Richard Manning late of Salem dec. for \$200 sell to Hannah Monark wife of Joseph Monark (same Property) Being same premises conveyed Book 187 p.238 and Book 172 p. 173.
- 187 238 July 14, 1809
Mortgage transferred for \$200 from Eunice Gallishan wife of Sylvanus and Mary Emith widow both of Windham Me. (Mary and Eunice are daughters and heirs of Thomas Barker late of Windham, holder of mortgage from William Phelps of Salem) to Richard Manning gentleman of Salem.

Property is dwelling house and land, same description as above.

- 172 175 August 12, 1802
William Phelps blacksmith of Salem mortgages for \$200 to Thomas Barker of Windham Me. (the same property described above)
- 171 63 July 24, 1802
Thomas Barker of Windham Me. sells for \$500 to William Phelps blacksmith of Salem (same property)

- 171 32 July 16, 1802
Thomas Barker of Hingham perukemaker acquires in three deeds:
 1. from Eunice Stevens widow of Salem for £40 (4/9 parts and reversions of 2 other parts of Abigail Messervy)
 2. from Hubertus Matton and wife Elisabeth, John Viley and wife Abigail, Nathaniel Brown and wife Anna, and Hannah Meserve singlewoman for £36, 13s, 4p all claims of the estate and of the descendents of Abigail Meserve dec.
 3. from Jonathan Messervy for 5 sh. his rights
 Property described: mansion house and land under and adjoining bounded: E. on Turner's lane
 S. on land late of Thomas Dean, lately Clifford Crowninshield's
 W. on land now or late of Robert Stone
 N. on land now or late of John Batten

- 110 239 January 31, 1761
William Messervy mariner of Salem with the consent of his wife Anne mortgages for £40 to Eunice Stevens 4/9 parts and the reversion on death of his mother Abigail 2/9 parts of his mansion house. (same as described above)

Probate #18397 William Messervy May 12, 1739 intestate
 adm. Abigail Messervy widow
 David Glover housewright
 Wm. Webb joyner

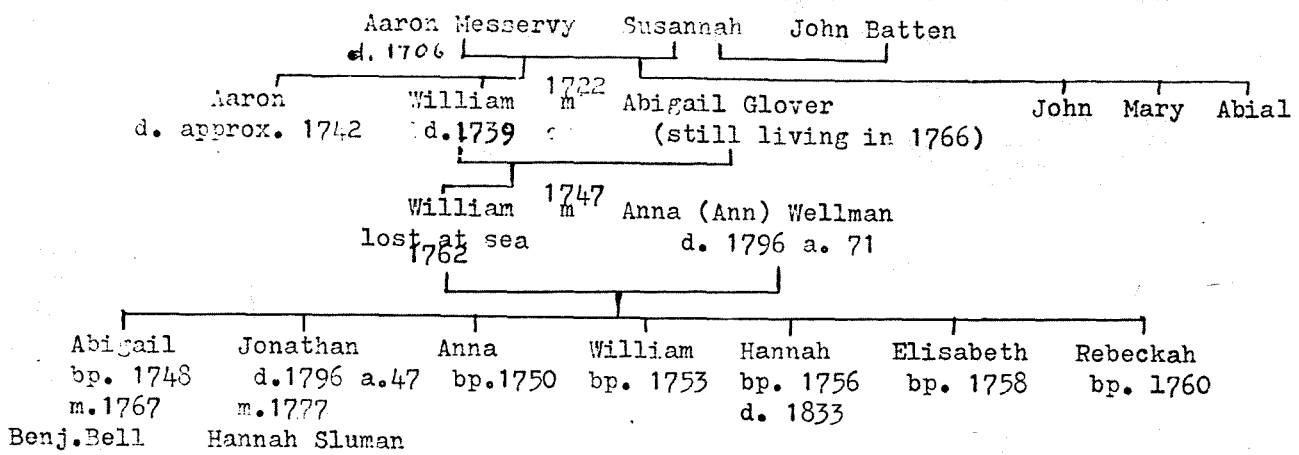
inventory includes house and 11 poles of land
 In 1766 1/3 of the property is set off to the widow for the rest of her life. The rest of the property was judged not "admitting" of further division and valued at £84 10s.
 She received: the lower room in the east end of the house, the NW corner of the cellar (an area 7' x 8'-7") also that part of the garret which is over the chamber entranceway with privilege of stairs also of the well and the "little house". Also a piece of land in the garden beg. at SW corner, running as fence stands E. 35½', then N. through well 16', then W. 35½' to land late of Robert Stone, and S. 16'.

- 43 35 April 8, 1724
John Batten fisherman and Susannah his wife of Salem in consideration of love and goodwill grant to our son William Messervy a small piece of land bounded on E. 43' on a lane going to Turner's wharf
 S. on land formerly Cromwell's
 W. 43' on Robert Stone
 N. on Aaron Messervy (brother of William: he was granted this adjacent plot with a house on it by the parents the same day.)

"Salem in 1700" by Sidney Perley no. 23 p. 65 (see map)
Aaron Messervy House
 This also was a part of Edward Woolin's lot, and Hugh Pasco fisherman of Salem had built a house upon it before 1679. Mr. Pasco conveyed

house and lot to Francis Neale sr. (1683) For £35 Mr. Neale conveyed the house and land to Aaron Messervy fisherman of Salem in 1695. Mr. Messervy died in 1706 leaving his widow Susannah and children William, Aaron, John, Mary and Abial. Mr. Messervy made his will in Charles County Maryland and devised all to his wife Susannah. She subsequently married John Batten and they conveyed the "old dwelling house" and land around it to son Aaron in 1724.

Information on Messervys from "Vital Statistics of Salem"



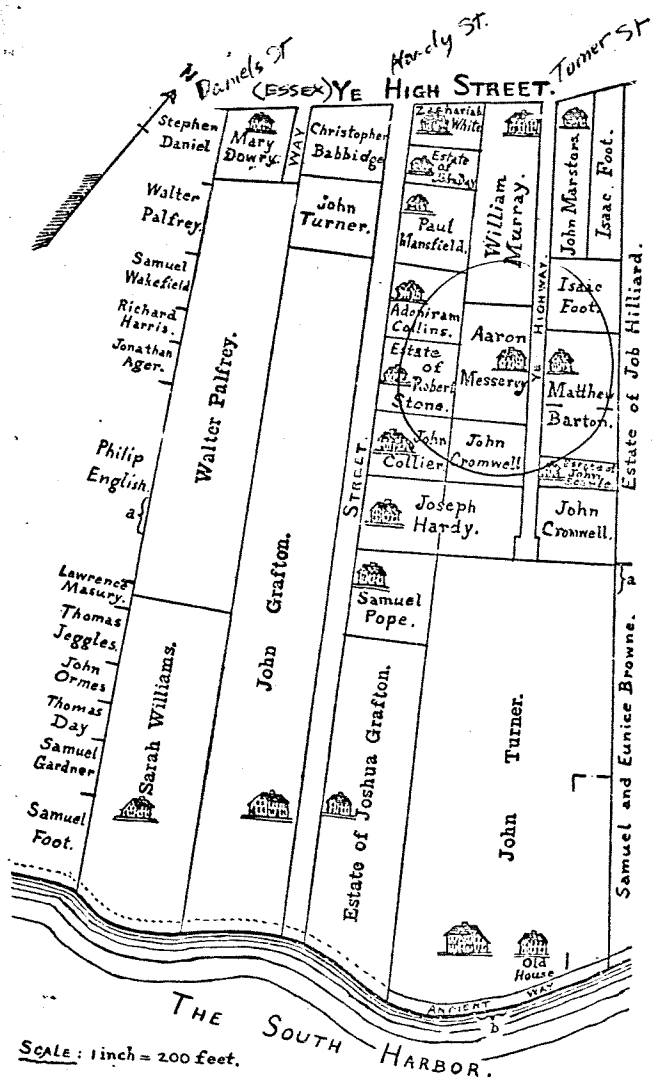
SUMMARY

The story of this charming 18th Century home is fairly clear from reading the legal documents. Sidney Perley's research shows how Aaron Messervy (sometimes spelled Meserve) who died in 1706 left a widow and five children probably living in their home built in 1679 by Hugh Pasco. After her marriage to John Batten (date unknown) and after her children were grown, Susannah Messervy Batten may have left the old house to live in John Batten's house. At any rate, she and the new husband sold the old Messervy property; the north part with the house to son Aaron, the south part of the lot to son William who had married Ann Wellman only a year or two before. The son Aaron had died by 1742; Mrs. Batten again a widow, went back to live in the old house. (abutters list "land of widow Batten" in later deeds.)

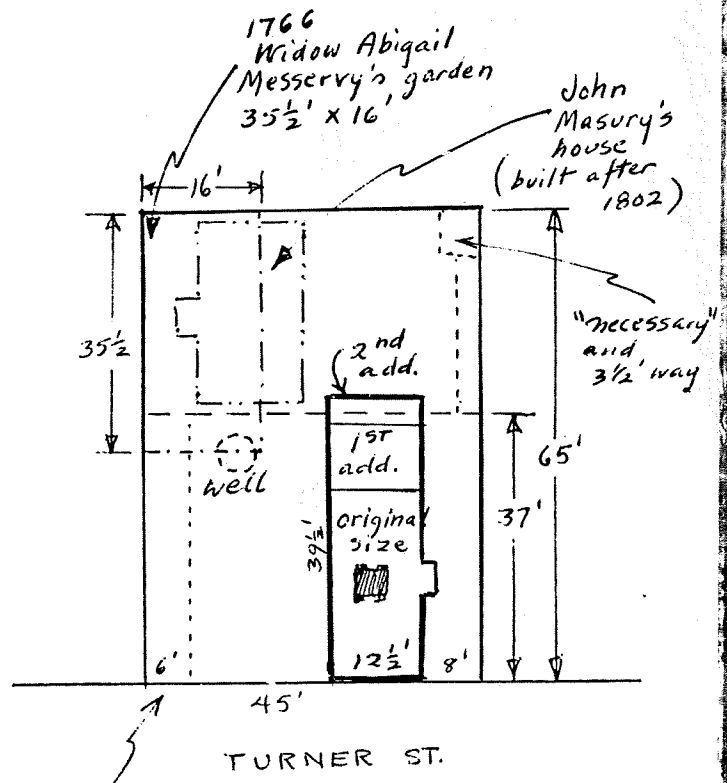
It is likely that William built the house soon after, but we have no evidence until the probate records of his death in 1739. There is no record of any children except his son William whose marriage in 1747 and death at sea are documented. My guess is that after William sr's death, Abigail Messervy continued to live in the house at 20 Turner St. William jr. a mariner, and his wife Ann with the brood of seven children apparently all lived there too.(see 1761 document mentioning his "mansion house") There must have been financial problems: William jr. in 1761 mortgaged the house including his mother's dower rights. Then the next year he was lost at sea. It may have been creditor attempts to evict the family now two widows and the children that prompted the 1766 additional probate document to define the elder widow's dower rights in the house for the

remainder of her life. One wonders if the younger widow remained there: she still had children as young as 6, 8, and 10. My guess is that she did live there too until her death in 1796. Because of the complicated rights of all the Messervy descendants, it wasn't until 1802 that Thomas Barker finally bought up all the rights to 20 Turner St. and it went out of the original family after 3/4 of a century.

Sally Dee, researcher March 1974



PART OF SALEM IN 1700. NO. 23.
FROM PERLEY'S BOOK



Masury's right of way

Location of John Masury's house, right of way, and the "necessary" are guesses. Masury's house shows on 1851 map.



WASHINGTON SQUARE

Essex Rail Road

FROM
MAP OF SALEM
1851

E M H A