

18 Winter Street  
Built for  
REV. JAMES CONWAY  
Pastor of St. Mary's Church  
in the year 1848

Research by,  
Joyce King  
Sept. 1978

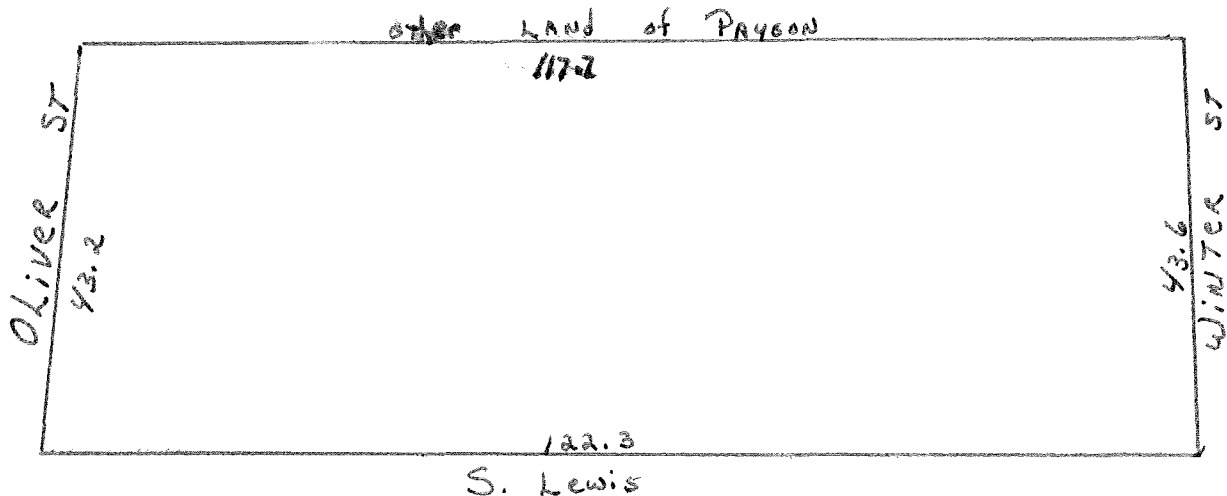
18 Winter Street

This house is described in the Salem Historical Commission report as: a two story plus, pitch roof, wooden house, a simple version of the Greek Revival style of it's neighbor #16. The house has no pilasters and has been altered by the addition of a bay window above the recessed entrance.

The history of Winter St. as given in the Essex Antiquarian vol. 8 page 66: Winter Street was an ancient road. It was called a lane or highway in 1668; Road leading to Beverly ferry, 1705; Highway leading from the training field to Beverly ferry, 1760; the way to the ferry, 1769; Road 1771; Way leading to ferry lane, 1771; the ferry lane leading to Beverly, 1779; Ferry Lane, 1780; Ferry lane or the way leading to Essex bridge, 1793; and Winter Street, 1795.

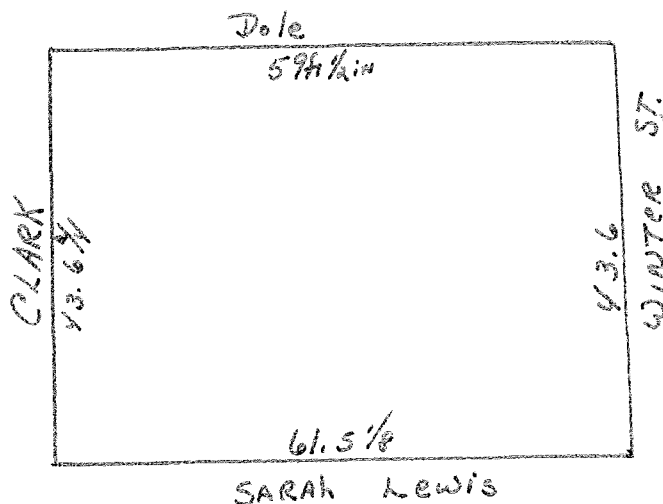
Very early the entire west side of Winter St. was owned by Jacob Pudeater, blacksmith. Mrs. Pudeater lived on this land until the summer of 1692, when she was condemned as a witch and executed Sept. 22, 1692, being about seventy years of age. Later the land became the property of the Cheever family and at one time there was a tanyard located on it.

The lot on which this house stands had been part of the estate of Benjamin Cheever, tanner in the early 1800's. After the death of Mr. Cheever his land was divided among his heirs, the lot called #2 in this division became the possession of Benjamin's daughter, Priscilla (Cheever) Howard, wife of John Howard Jr. When John and Priscilla sold lot #2 to Edward H. Payson for \$975 in 1844, it extended back to Oliver St.



(book 347 page 278) (no buildings)

Mr. Payson sold the land to George C. Clark, carpenter of Salem, on Oct. 1, 1847. Ten days later Mr. Clark sold to James Conway, reverend, of Salem for \$650, lot of land being the east end of lot #2 in the division of the estate of the late Benjamin Cheever.



(book 390 page 3) (no building)

A list of houses built in 1848 is given in the Salem street book for the years 1848-53, stored at the Essex Institute. On this list is found: built 1848- Rev. James Conway a dwelling house, Winter St. In the same street book entered Sept 4, 1848, Samuel S. Standley and men laid the edge stones (curbstones) in front of Rev. James Conway's new house on the west side of Winter St., made and furnished by Mr. William Shaw of Danvers and they measure 43 feet 10 inches.

A Federal Census was taken in 1850 the listing on Winter St.:

James Conway	age 55	R.C. Clergy	property val. \$2,000	b. Ire.
John McCabe	" 27	" "		" "
Patrick Dignon	" 54	servant		" "
Tim Connaly	" 10			" Mass
Catherine Connaly	" 35			" Ire.

The book Salem Catholic Churches by Louis S. Walsh, (Essex Institute Library) gives the life story of Rev. James Conway, pastor of St. Mary's, the church then standing at the corner of Mall and Bridge Sts.

faithful friend, honorably erected this monument to the imperishable memory of a Priest so celebrated and dear to all.

He died on the 29th of March, 1846, aged 47 years.

May his soul rest in peace.

During the months of April, May, and a part of June, Father O'Sullivan came from Boston to celebrate Mass and administer the sacraments to the people of Salem.

The growth of the parish, thus far, had been slow. There was no church between Salem and Boston on the south, Lowell on the west, and Dover on the north. St. Mary's had now stood for twenty-five years the only monument of Catholicity in all Essex County, and the Catholics numbered less than two thousand souls. A great change, however, was preparing. The Irish immigrants came in large numbers to Salem and vicinity, and found employment in the building of railroads, and in the great Naumkeag Cotton Mills, that were begun in 1846, and opened in January, 1847. The population of Salem increased from 16,762 inhabitants, in the year 1845, to 20,264 people in 1850; and the great majority of the newcomers were Catholics.

Divine Providence had prepared for these new children of St. Mary's, and for the flock deprived of its shepherd, a pastor whose name and memory must ever be held dear and sacred, the Rev. James Conway. He was born in Ballinomore, County Leitrim, Ireland, in the year 1796, and became a land-surveyor. He was received by Bishop Fenwick into the Diocese of Boston; and, after due preparation, was ordained priest, in the Boston Cathedral, on July 31, 1831. He was immediately sent to take charge of the Mission on the Penobscot River, in Maine; and during four years labored with an apostolic zeal among the Indians, and all the other Catholics at Bangor, Oldtown, and in the neighboring country.

Recalled to Boston, in October, 1835, he was made pastor of Pond, now Endicott Street Church, then being built, and resided with the Bishop.

In 1839 he again went to Maine, and during seven months attended the Catholics at Houlton and Benedicta. On Dec. 17, 1839, he was

appointed assistant to Father McDermott, at St Patrick's Church, Lowell. In 1841, he was appointed by Bishop Fenwick to supervise the erection of St. Peter's Church, in Lowell, and was its energetic and zealous pastor until the year 1846, when he was made pastor of St. Mary's, in Salem, and arrived on Sunday, June 14. The zeal shown in the Penobscot mission, the energy displayed and experience acquired in the difficult task of forming a new parish in Lowell, and in building a new church, were now finally to be spent with his life in laying broad and deep and strong the foundation of the present Catholic Church in Salem. It was he that enlarged and beautified "old St. Mary's"; it was he that built St. James' Church. He purchased and opened the Catholic Cemetery. A parochial residence on Winter Street, and later a much larger one on Mall Street, were his work. To him belongs the honor of introducing the "Sisters of Notre Dame" into Salem. The first distinct Catholic schoolhouse was erected under his care. The choir and Sunday-school were well organized under his guidance. The Church of the Immaculate Conception was planned, the foundation laid, and the walls just beginning to rise under his supervision; and all this only the symbol of the vast spiritual edifice which made the material work precious in the eyes of God and useful to the Catholics of Salem.

Father Conway's first care was to enlarge and beautify the church. A sacristy in the rear, two side-wings, with galleries, and a new choir-gallery increased the seating capacity of "old St. Mary's" to about six hundred people. The interior was neatly arranged, and two beautiful paintings, one representing "Christ at the Pillar," the other "The Nativity," added to its devotional appearance. In the year 1850 a new and beautiful wooden altar was made by Robert Harding, for \$125; and when St. Mary's Church was abandoned, this altar was placed in the basement of the new edifice, where, with the exception of a few years in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, it has remained, and still serves for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, one of the few and precious souvenirs of the Mother Church.

In the year 1847, the cry of famine in Ireland reached our shores, and the people of St. Mary's well understood the mournful sound. Their

generous collection, \$500 on one Sunday, together with \$2,000 subscribed by friends in Salem, was sent to relieve the suffering poor, and a shipload of clothing and provisions completed the charitable offerings. In return, Ireland gave to Salem the stout hearts and strong hands that enabled Father Conway to build up a prosperous church. The visit of Father Mathew, in September, 1849, was a visible, opportune, and permanent source of blessings. He was invited by the Henfield Division of the Sons of Temperance, as it was the only temperance organization in Salem. The Irish Catholics met at St. Mary's to make arrangements for his reception. On September 16, the memorable day of his arrival, the men assembled at the church, and, decorated with the patriotic green badges, marched to the Danvers line in order to meet and escort him to the City Hall, where he was received by Mayor Silsbee and made the guest of the city. His chief address was made in the Town Hall, but he also preached in St. Mary's Church, and a large number of men and women then took the "pledge" under the solemn sanction of God, never afterwards to violate their promise. This visit gave a special impetus to the cause of temperance, and its fruits were, perhaps, at no time more abundant than in our own day.

The house occupied by Dr. O'Flaherty was his personal property, and Father Conway, after renting for nearly two years a house from Martin Connell, had a new parochial residence built on Winter Street, and occupied it in September, 1848. This house, now owned and occupied by Putnam, was in a few years found to be too small, and hence, in 1852, the large brick house on Mall Street, the third from the corner of the present Washington Square, was bought for \$5,000, and remained the pastor's residence until the year 1860, when it was exchanged by Father Shahan for the main or brick section of the present residence on Union Street.

The Sunday-school and choir were reorganized in the year 1846, and the impetus then given was felt during the next fifteen years.

The cemetery was opened in the year 1849.

In the organization of church affairs, Father Conway appointed Martin Connell in September, 1848, to take charge of the pew-rent, and his familiar

form, protected in later days by the "comfortable shawl," was seen in the old church, and also in the new church until the year 1869, when he died at the age of about seventy years.

Mr. Daniel O'Donnell was the chief collector and clerk in the manifold enterprises of Father Conway, and his well-known face was familiar to all the people of Salem, especially while he was sexton of St. James. He died about the year 1882, at the ripe age of ninety years and six months.

Mr. Joseph Gilman, the first sexton, remained chiefly in charge of the sacristy from the year of 1850 until the year 1870, and took great delight in training the young boys and telling stories of the ancient times. After more than fifty years of faithful service, he resigned and died in the month of December, 1874, at the age of ninety years.

In the meantime, Bishop Fenwick, who had taken such a deep interest in the welfare of Salem Catholics, died on Aug. 11, 1846. He had been ill and unable to perform his episcopal duties for a few years before his death, and the Rev. John B. Fitzpatrick, having been appointed coadjutor, was consecrated bishop on March 24, 1844. His first visit to Salem was on July 7, 1845, to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to twenty-three boys and thirty-three girls. He came again on June 27, 1848, when twenty-five boys and forty-two girls received this Holy Sacrament. The flow of Catholics into Salem and vicinity in the year 1849 was so great that a larger church became necessary. Lynn ceased to be a part of St. Mary's parish in 1846, and in 1849 was a distinct parish, which took the title of the Mother Church, St. Mary's. Father Conway deemed it more advisable to build a new church and form a second parish. In the month of February, 1850, he submitted his proposal and plans to Bishop Fitzpatrick, who approved the project. The Church of St. James, on Federal Street, was then begun, and the Bishop, who came to Salem in August of the same year, and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to forty-five boys and seventy-two girls, visited the building, then ready for plaster, and was pleased with the progress. It was sufficiently advanced to have the first

On June 2, 1852, James Conway, of Salem sold to Mary Ann Trumbull, wife of Edward H. Trumbull, mariner for \$3,500 the dwelling house and land the same conveyed to me by George Clark. (book 462 page 27)

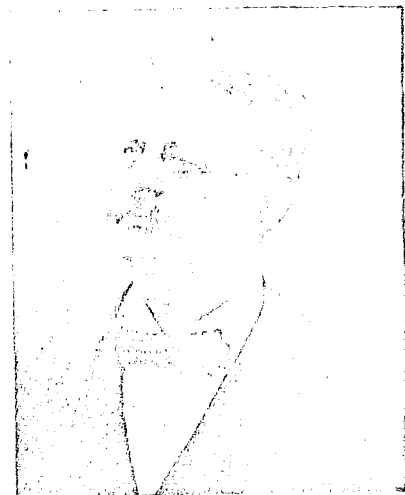
Previous to buying the house at 18 Winter St. the Trumbull family made their home at 11 Winter St. The Trumbulls are listed in the 1860 Federal Census:

Edward Trumbull	age	38	merchant	born	Mass
Mary A.	"	"	38	"	"
Augusta A.	"	"	9	Brazil	
Edward	"	"	7	Mass	
Carrie A.	"	"	3	"	
Walter H.	"	"	1	"	
Elizabeth Brady	"	18	domestic	Ire.	

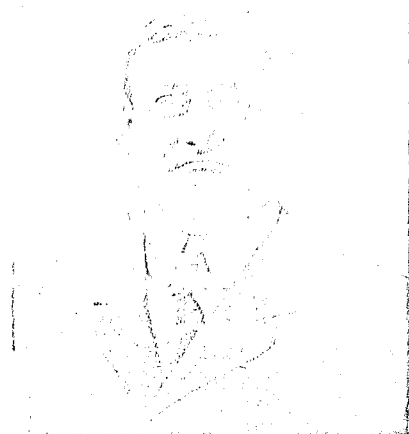
"Captain Edward H. Trumbull died at his home, 18 Winter St. Nov. 4, 1860, aged 35. He was the father of Walter H. Trumbull, of the old firm of Ropes, Emmerton & Co., and now the only surviving member of the firm, and of Captain Edward B. Trumbull for many years engaged in the East Coast of Africa trade as master of the barque "Taria Topan". (Salem Vessels and Their Voyages by George G. Futnam, page 60)

CAPTAIN EDWARD B. TRUMBULL.

Captain Edward B. Trumbull, of 90 Federal street, Salem, is the sole survivor of the commanders of the *Taria Topan*. He was born in Salem in 1853, the son of a shipmaster, Captain Edward H. Trumbull. After graduating from the Phillips school, he went to sea in the ship *Mullah*, Captain Otis Ballard, from Boston to Hong Kong and Manila and back to Boston. He was only 15 years of age when he started on this voyage, August 1, 1868. He next sailed in the ship *Formosa*, Capt. Charles H. Allen, Jr., of Salem, between Boston, Hong Kong, Manila and Boston. His next voyage was in the same ship from New York to Melbourne, Australia, Newcastle, N. S. W., Hong Kong, Manila and Boston. On the passage home the ship struck in Gaspar Straits, and was obliged to go for repairs to Batavia, where she remained five months. He next sailed two voyages as second mate and one as mate of the barque *Glide*, and sixteen voyages in the *Taria Topan*, nine as mate and seven as commander. He is the master of the Salem Marine Society, and also a member of the East India Society. He is the sole survivor of the officers of the *Taria Topan*, and is at the present manager of the Salem Storage Warehouse Co., a position he has held since it was built. He estimates he sailed about 500,000 miles.



CAPT. EDWARD B. TRUMBULL



WALTER H. TRUMBULL



On April 24, 1866, Mary Ann Trumbull of Salem, widow sold to William M. Bates of Salem, dentist for \$4,500 the land and buildings same sold to me by James Conway. Subject to a mortgage to Thomas M. Saunders for \$1,000. (book 462 page 27)

The Salem Directory states that William H.A. Putnam was the occupant of 18 Winter St. in the year 1866. Two years later on June 4, 1868, Ebenezer Putnam, father of William H.A., bought the property at 18 Winter St. from William and Martha C. Bates, for \$5,500. (book 748 page 177)

Ebenezer Putnam was a graduate of Harvard, married Elizabeth Appleton Sept. 25, 1827. Mr. Putnam studied law, moved to Belfast Maine, then Virginia and spent some years preparing young men for college. He had a business in Chicago and retired to Salem, living at 47 Summer St. He devoted his time to horticulture until his death April 3, 1876. ( Putnam Leaflets at the Essex Institute)

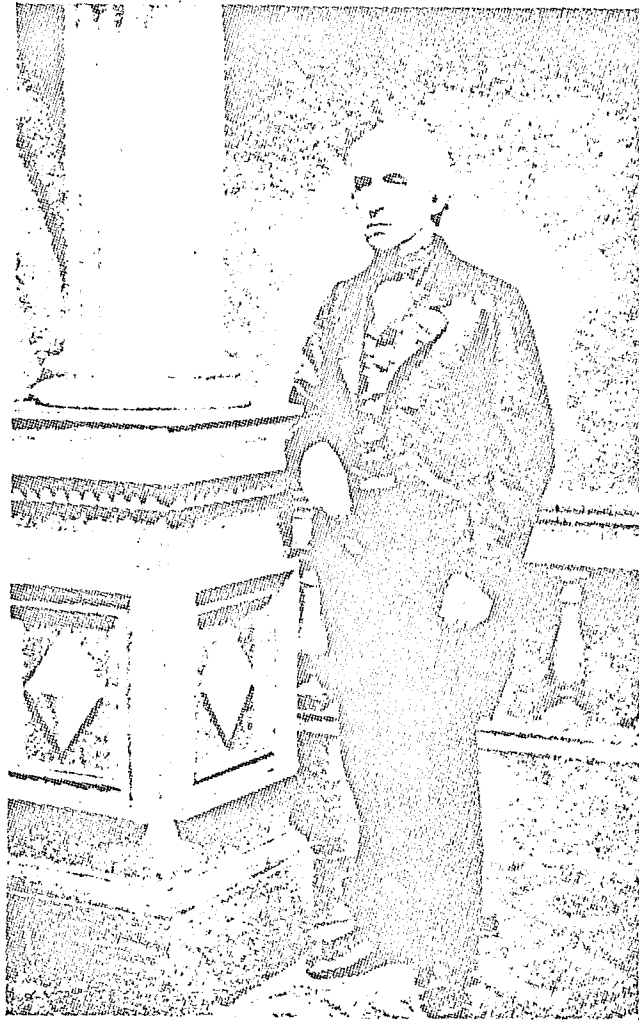
Ebenezer owned the house but his son William H. A. Putnam was the occupant, as shown in the 1870 census:

William H.A.Putnam	age 38	mariner Capt.-	value of personal
		estate \$10,000	born Mass.
Elizabeth G. "	" 34		born Mass.
Elizabeth A. "	" 7		
A.G.Wells	" 52	house keeper	
Mary Felton	" 16	servant	born Ire.

William H.A.Putnam died sometime between 1870 when he is listed in the 1870 census and March 12, 1880 when his mother Elizabeth A. Putnam, widow sold to Elizabeth B. Putnam, widow of the late William H.A.Putnam for the sum of \$5,500, the land and buildings, the same estate conveyed to my husband the late Ebenezer Putnam. (book 1033 page 77)

In 1880 Elizabeth is still living in the house, as listed in the census for that year:

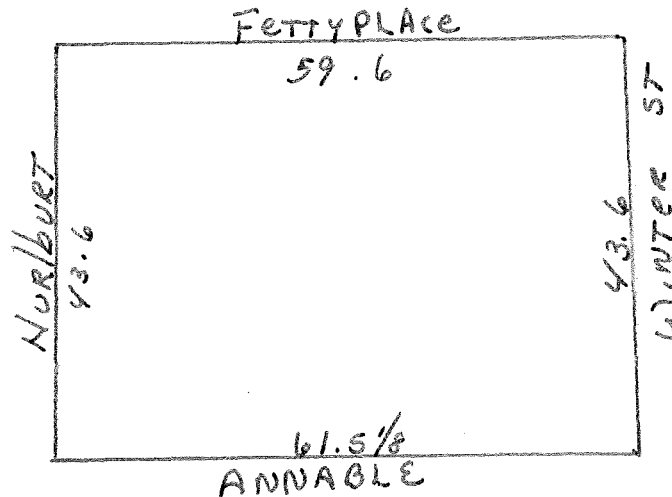
Elizabeth Putnam	age 41	keeping house	born Mass.
Bessie A. "	" 17	daughter at school	" Brazil
Henry "	" 9	son at school	" Mass
Abbie G. Wells	" 60	servant	" Mass



EBENEZER PUTNAM, OF SALEM. No. 2228.

(Father of Frederic Ward Putnam.)

On Feb. 25, 1896, Elizabeth B. Putnam sold to her daughter Elizabeth Appleton Putnam for \$1 and other valuable consideration, a parcel of land with all the buildings, intending to convey the same estate conveyed to me by my mother Elizabeth A. Putnam.



(book 1471 page 219)

Elizabeth B. Putnam, widow of Capt. William H.A. Putnam died on July 29, 1916, at her home 18 Winter St. She was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Fabens) Gardner. Age 71. (Salem News, July 31, 1916)

Elizabeth Appleton Putnam, unmarried sold on May 6, 1918 for \$1 and other valuable consideration, to E. Howard Perley, land and buildings the same conveyed to me by deed of Elizabeth B. Putnam. (book 2390 page 117)

The same day E. Howard Perley, unmarried sold for consideration to William O. Safford, George Taylor, Lancelot Gibson, trustees of the Rectory Fund of the Parish of St. Peter's church, Salem the same premise conveyed by deed of Elizabeth A. Putnam, deed with even date. Subject to a mortgage of \$2,700 to the Salem Savings Bank. (book 2390 page 119)

On Aug. 8, 1945, William O. Safford, L. William Dawes, Harry G. Manning, trustees of the Rectory Fund of the Parish of St. Peter's Church Salem grant to Mary J. Dooley land and buildings, for title see book 2390 page 119.

Vote of Vestry Aug. 3, 1945. Re: St. Peters Church Rectory. Let it be known that on Aug. 2, 1945 at 8:00 P.M. a special meeting of the Wardens and Vestry of St. Peter's Church was held, a quorum being present, by unanimous vote to sell and dispose property at 18 Winter St. known as St. Peter's Church Rectory.

Dec. 30, 1946, Katherine Killeen of Peabody and Phillip J. Durkin, of Salem by will of Mary J. Dooley (probate #217455) sold for \$12,000 to Paul Ogasian and Gladys A. Ogasian, land and buildings, for title see book 3420 page 54. (book 3504 page 34)

Paul and Gladys A. Ogasian, husband and wife on March 22, 1971 sold to Peter L. and Elizabeth Uhlendorf, trustees for \$26,500 the same conveyed by Katherine Killeen et al. (book 5752 page 464)

Peter and Elizabeth Uhlendorf also known as trustees of Kustin Realty Trust sold for \$27,000 to Roland E. St. Onge and Barbara St. Onge, on Jan. 28, 1972 the same conveyed by deed to Paul Ogasian et ux. (book 5839 page 366)

On April 15, 1977, Roland and Barbara St. Onge of 18 Winter St. sold to James H. and Patricia Shanaphy Robert of 162 Riverway, Boston, the same premises conveyed by deed of Peter Uhlendorf and Elizabeth Uhlendorf, trustees. (book 6340 page 82)



(Reference to book and page are deed books kept at the Registry of Deeds and probate numbers are cases at Probate Court, both located in the same building on Federal St. Salem.)