



Notes on 64 Harbor 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 66 Harbor Street on the 1911 map is the area that is now 64-64 ½ Harbor Street on the current assessor's map. Based on information from Salem Directories and the 1910 and 1920 United States Census, it may be that there is an error on the 1911 Walker Map and that the property was actually known as 64 Harbor Street.

Prior to the fire, the area that is 64-64 ½ Harbor Street was owned by George Potvin. The pamphlet "1914 Data on Burned District at Salem, MA" and published by F.W. Dodge Co., seems to skip this address in its listings as well as the name George Potvin. However, both the 1911 map referenced above and documents at the Essex South Registry of Deeds confirm George Potvin's ownership of the lot both prior to and after the fire in 1914.

There does not appear to be a building inspection card referencing 66 Harbor Street deposited at the Salem Historical Commission which confirms building date. According to the Salem Assessor's records, they believe the building at 64-64 ½ Harbor Street was built about 1920. Salem Directory records indicate that the property may have been built as early as 1914.

Because George Potvin acquired the property in 1904 and, based on records at the Essex South County Registry of Deeds, did not sell the property until 1923, it is likely he was the owner at the time the building at 64-64 ½ Harbor Street was built.

The following evidence referenced above and below was used to determine that George Potvin was the owner and likely builder of the property that is now 64-64 ½ Harbor Street:

Deed descriptions from the Essex South County Registry of Deeds;

MACRIS On-Line Database

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According to various Salem Town Directories in 1913-1914, George Potvin lived at 64 Harbor Street and during those years he worked as a fireman. The 1910 United States Census reveals he worked as a fireman in the cotton mill—likely the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mill that was nearby. The 1910 Census also indicates that he lived in the house with his wife, Marie, and two children. He was Canadian French and immigrated to the United States in 1893 whereas Marie did not immigrate until 1897. In 1910, George was 44 and Marie was 48. The record indicates that George was literate and could speak English but Marie was not and French was her native language. Their children, George and Adrienne were both born in Canada, emigrated in 1894 and both spoke English. In 1910, all living in the household were alien citizens and George and Marie remained so as of the 1920 Census.

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Plaque to read: Built for George Potvin, fireman, c. 1920. Replaced building burned in Great Salem Fire of 1914



Owners	Date of Conveyance	Registry Reference
Arthur Feenan of Salem to George Potvin of Salem	March 23, 1904	Book 1737, Page 152
George Potvin of Salem to John E. Sargent of Salem	April 11, 1923	Book 2548, Page 231
John E. Sargent of Salem to Hugh J. Grant of Salem	March 1, 1926	Book 2673, Page 12
Estate of Hugh Grant to Austin J. Tully and Mary E. Tully	October 14, 1926	Book 2697, Page 386
Austin J. Tully and Mary E. Tully of Salem to Christeni Morin of Salem	October 14, 1926	Book 2697, Page 387
Christine Morin of Salem to Albert L. Chalifour and Yvonne L. Chalifour	December 20, 1950	Book 3791, Page 454
Yvonne L. Cahlifour, widow, of Salem to Laurien R. L'Italien and Alice L. L'Italien	September 26, 1958	Book 4498, Page 520
Laurien R. L'Italien and Alice L. L'Italien to Edward J. Clarke and Donald J. Clarke, both of Beverly and Jacob S. Segal of Marblehead	April 7, 1978	Book 6457, Page 662
Edward J. Clarke and Donald J. Clarke, both of Beverly and Jacob S. Segal of Marblehead to Edward J. Clarke, Donald J. Clarke and Jacob S. Segal, Trustees of the Clarke Jacobs Realty Trust	May 20, 1978	Book 6472, Page 272
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
Bank of New England, NA forecloses mortgage and deeds property to Small Frye Properties, Inc.	September 1, 1989	Book 10199, Page 78
Small Frye 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