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2 Gove Lane
Salisbury, MA

029 44 8211

313 Essex Street
built for Priscilla Abbot, widow
1786

The Pre Federal house located at 313 Essex Street is located on land which was in the possession of Thomas Flint and John Porter and next to land owned by the Cook family prior to 1700.¹ Essex Street is one of the original streets of Salem and has been known by a number of names.

Batter's Lane
1660 - a street
1661 - the street or highway that comes down from ye meeting house
1689 - the main street
1698 - a street or highway
1750 - Great Street
1796 - Essex Street²

This southerly side of Essex Street had, by 1700, been divided into smaller pieces of land than the larger sections across the street which frequently ran down almost to the North River. Houses and shops were located in this area by the 1700s.

George [Trader] Abbot and his wife Priscilla (a Manning from Ipswich) moved to Salem and Priscilla bought "a dwelling house & land in the Main St." in 1769 from Jonathan and Mehitable Cook, his wife. They secured a mortgage from their relative Samuel Abbot [a merchant from Boston] for 400 pounds in 1774 and paid off that mortgage in 1778.³ This property is possibly the piece of land near the corner of present day Essex and North Streets that had been in the Cook family since before 1700.⁴

George Abbot appears in the Salem tax records for the

first time in 1777. He resided in Ward #3 and was taxed for his House & Shop. He next is seen on the tax records in 1779 when he was taxed for his House & shop & chaise.⁵

In 1783, the Abbot's bought additional land and a dwelling house from Isaac and Sarah Cook for one hundred thirty pounds, again on present day Essex Street⁶ and on October 5, 1784 George Abbot died. He last appears on Salem's tax in list in 1785 when his estate is taxed for a House & shop.

There is speculation that the house that was located at the current 313 Essex Street address was torn down by either George or Priscilla Abbot. Whatever the case may be, in 1786, Priscilla bought two pieces of land. The largest section cost her six hundred pounds. The very next deed lists a smaller parcel at a cost of six pounds which was "on the main street between Nutting & Abbot's land with liberty to set her house on the line with eve dropings."⁷

In 1786 and 1888, Priscilla Abbot paid taxes on a house and was charged \$500 and \$700 respectively. In 1793, her property was listed as a homestead and is valued at \$800.⁸ Her relative and Revolutionary war soldier, Capt. Stephen Abbt, was a merchant and Salem's tax collector for years. This new designation of homestead instead of house may have been a legal means of protecting her property from any potential claims from creditors.

Priscilla's house and land were next purchased by Mr. John Ropes on May 6, 1805 from Elizabeth Cogswell [shopkeeper], Priscilla's relative and Executrix. Mrs.

Abbot's will stipulated that the property was to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder. Mr. Ropes paid \$8,000 for the "mansion house & the buildings thereon & the land under and adjoining."⁹

Mr. Ropes was a merchant who was described as "a man of retiring disposition and fine character."¹⁰ His new home was just down the street from his father, Nathaniel Ropes, who had an extensive property on the other side of Essex Street opposite what is now called Cambridge Street.¹¹

John Ropes' second wife was Hannah Harraden. Their daughter, Hannah Haridan Ropes, lived at 313 Essex Street through 1860.¹² Hannah then passed the property on to her relative Charles W. Upham.¹³

Charles W. Upham was born in 1802. In 1826, he married Ann Susan Holmes of Cambridge who was the sister of the great Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes. Mr. Upham was a minister, a mayor of Salem and an author of books on witchcraft. He and his wife Ann had fifteen children, many of whose names show the Upham, Ropes and Holmes family connections

In 1881, Charles' son Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham and James A. Gillis [both of Salem] were the recipients of the property and sold it to Oliver's wife Caroline.¹⁴

Five years later, the Upham's sold their family home to Annie and William Webb.¹⁵ The Webb's retained ownership into the twentieth century and from 1912 until 1971, 313 Essex Street belonged to members of the Osgood family.¹⁶ One of the earlier Osgood's to live in the house was a

carriage manufacturer and another was a bookkeeper.¹⁷

Edith A. Osgood sold the property to Roger and Barbara L'Heureux in 1971 and it remained within ownership of the L'Heureux family until the recent purchase in February 1996 by George and Joan Heller.¹⁸

Transfers of title:

Essex (South District) Registry of Deeds, Book 133, leaf 91
Book 136, leaf 156

Grantors: Jonathan and Mehitable Cook, his wife of Salem
Grantee: Priscilla Abbot
Consideration: 400 pounds
Conveyance of: "a dwelling house & land in the Main St."
Date Recorded: June 1, 1774
Mortgage release recorded: December 5, 1778

ECRD Book 137, leaf 156

Grantors: Isaac and Sarah Cook of Salem
Grantees: George and Priscilla Abbot of Salem
Consideration: one hundred thirty pounds
Conveyance of: additional land and a dwelling house
Date Recorded: September 16, 1783

ECRD Book 145, leaf 134 and Book 145, leaf 134

Grantor: Administrator of estate of George Abbot
Grantee: Priscilla Abbot
Consideration: six hundred pounds and six pounds
Conveyance of: "on the main street between Nutting & Abbot's land with liberty to set her house on the line with eve dropings."
Date recorded: May 5, 1786 and May 10, 1786

ECRD Book 176, leaf 87

Grantor: Elizabeth Cogswell (shopkeeper, Executrix for Priscilla Abbot Abbot
Grantee: John Ropes (merchant)
Consideration: \$8,000.00
Conveyance of ... "mansion house & the buildings thereon & the land under and adjoining bounded as follows: NORTHERLY ON ESSEX ST. fifty six feet and eight inches EASTERLY BY LAND OF JOHN DUTCH thirty eight feet & six inches-then NORTHERLY PART EASTERLY ON HIS LAND eighteen feet & six inches then EASTERLY, PARTLY ON HIS LAND AND PARTLY ON HODGE'S LAND twenty two feet & two inches-then SOUTHERLY ON HODGE'S LAND twenty three feet & five inches-then EASTERLY ON HIS LAND twenty nine feet & then SOUTHERLY PART WESTERLY ON LAND OF EBENEZER POPE fifty nine feet nine inches, then WESTERLY PART SOUTHERLY ON CARNE'S LAND seventy seven feet and eight inches TO THE FIRST BOUNDS OR HOWEVER OTHERWISE BOUNDNS BEING AS THE FENCES NOW STAND."
Date Recorded: May 6, 1805

ECRD Book 1064, leaf 178

Grantor: O.W.H. Upham, of Salem
Grantee: James A. Gillis of Salem, counsellor
Consideration: \$1.00
Conveyance of: "formerly the homestead of Charles W. Upham (deceased) which was devised to William P. Upham of said Salem and myself in his will."
Date recorded: August 23, 1881

ECRD Book 1064, leaf 178

Grantor: James A. Gillis, counsellor
Grantee: Caroline Ely Upham
Consideration: \$1.00
Conveyance of: "formerly the homestead of Charles W. Upham (deceased) and conveyed to me, Caroline E. Upham by Gillis excepting that portion conveyed by us to Daniel Low 12/11/1882 (1097-272). EAST by land formerly of Pierce & now of Low
Date recorded: August 23, 1881

ECRD Book 1177, leaf 14

Grantor: Caroline E. Upham and O.W. Holmes Upham (& wife)
Grantee: Annie B. Webb (wife of William G. Webb), Salem
Consideration: \$2,300
Conveyance of: "NW by Essex St., NE by land of Dane and by Low, SE & E by land of Low, S by land of Low, SW by land of Stowers
Date recorded: July 9, 1886

ECRD Book 2007, leaf 69

Grantor: T.W. Vaughn & wife Dorothy Q. (of Washington, D.C.)
Grantee: George H. Osgood
Consideration: Paid
Conveyance of: 313 Essex Street
Date recorded: February 21, 1910

ECRD Book 2055, leaf 433

Grantor: George H. Osgood
Grantee: Evalyn A. Osgood
Consideration: Paid
Conveyance of: 313 Essex Street
Date recorded: December 17, 1910

ECRD Book 2169, leaf 399

Grantor: Evalyn A. Osgood

Grantee: George H. Osgood (bookkeeper), James D. Osgood (carriage manufacturer) both residing at 313 Essex Street, Evalyn A. Osgood and probate will-estate of Dorothy V. Osgood #171, 377.

Consideration: Paid

Conveyance of: 313 Essex St.

Date recorded: September 10, 1912

ECRD Book 2949, leaf 510

Grantor: George H. Osgood (married to Edith, gave 1/2 of property)

Grantee: Edith A. (wife of George)

Consideration: Paid

Conveyance of: 313 Essex St.

Date recorded: April 29, 1933

ECRD Book 5747, leaf 439

Grantor: Edith A. Osgood (unmarried)

Grantee: Roger & Barbara L'Heureux

Consideration: \$42,000

Conveyance of: 313 Essex St.

Date recorded: February 25, 1971

ECRD Book 6716, leaf 407 and Book 5747, leaf 439

Grantor: Barbara A. L'Heureux, bookkeeper Glen Adam

Grantee: Roger N. L'Heureux

Consideration: Paid

Conveyance of: 313 Essex St.

Date recorded: July 10, 1980

ECRD Book 11512, leaf 566

Grantor: Roger N. L'Heureux, Cobblestone Inn

Grantee: Sharon & Michael L'Heureux

Consideration: Paid

Conveyance of: 313 Essex St.

Date recorded: July 27, 1992

ECRD Book 13414, leaf 587

Grantor: Michael L'Heureux

Grantee: George & John Heller

Consideration: Paid

Conveyance of: EAST by land now or formerly of Dane and by land now or formerly of Ropes, SOUTH by land of said Ropes, WEST by land now or formerly of Goss, NORTH by Essex Street.

Date recorded: February 21, 1996

ENDNOTES

1. Map from Perley's, Salem in the Seventeenth Century.
2. The Essex Antiquarian, Vol. VIII, No. 1 and Vol. XI, No. 3.
3. Essex (South) County Registry of Deeds, Book 131, leaf 91 (June 1, 1774) and Book 136, leaf (December 5, 1778).
4. Map from Perley's, Salem in the Seventeenth Century.
5. Salem Tax Valuations, 1777-1779; James Duncan Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.
6. ECRD Book 137, leaf 156 (September 16, 1783).
7. ECRD Book 145, leaf 134 (May 5 and 10, 1786).
8. Salem Tax Valuations, 1786-1793; James Duncan Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.
9. ECRD Book 176, leaf 87 (May 6, 1805).
10. Historical Collections of the Essex Institute, Vol. 7, pgs. 31 and 33.
11. Ibid.
12. Salem Directory, 1861.
13. Historical Collections of the Essex Institute, Vol. 7, pg. 200.
14. ECRD Book 1064, leaf 178 (August 23, 1881).
15. ECRD Book 1177, leaf 14, (July 9, 1886).
16. ECRD Book 2055, leaf 433 (December 17, 1910), Book 2169, leaf 399 (September 10, 1912) and Book 2949, leaf 510 (April 29, 1933).
17. Salem Directory, 1912.
18. ECRD Book 5747, 439 (February 25, 1971), Book 6716, leaf 407 (July 10, 1980), Book 11512, leaf 566 (July 27, 1992), ;Book 1344, leaf 587 (February 21, 1996).

Thomas Ruck



Essex St.
Quaker Meeting House

Meeting House Field
#5

Broad St.
Common Land

John Pickering
John Hatherne
Broad Field

Robert Kitchen

John Pickering

#4
John Pickering

Joseph Neale
John Croade
Thomas Maule

Jonathan Neale

Lawes' Hill
Burial Place
Graves

Mary Gedney
John Marston
Mathew Woodwell
Joseph Nowell

Knocker's Hole

Bridge Dam
Mill
John Marston
Small Gate

Elizabeth Tawley
Jonathan Corwin
Tomb

Dea. John Marston
Est. of Matt. Woodwell
Rich. Palmer
John Andrews

SOUTH RIVER
Ingals Cove
Burying Point

Estate of George Corwin

Wharf
Pound
Estate of Bartholomew Gedney
William Stacey

#28
Edmund Barter

#27
Est. of Timothy Linnall
John Pilgrim
Wm. Hirst
Francis Burying
Eleazer Keazer

(Derby St.)
John Marston
Wm. Stacey
John Andrews
Est. of Matt. Woodwell
Rich. Palmer
John Andrews

John Bony
Est. of Timothy Linnall
Thos. Flint
Benjamin Hooper
Israel Porter
William Browne
Daniel Bary
Southern Burying
of Endcott Lot

Epes #1A
Epes' Lane
Church St.
Sam Beadle
Robt. Gray
Benj. Browne
John Lyde
Edw. Lyde
Wm. Williams
Jn. Ropes
Simon Orne
Benj. Orne
Jos. Orne
Wm. Lyde
Edw. Lyde
Wm. Williams
Jn. Ropes
Simon Orne
Benj. Orne
Jos. Orne

John Pickering
John Hatherne
Broad Field
John Andrews
Est. of Matt. Woodwell
Rich. Palmer
John Andrews

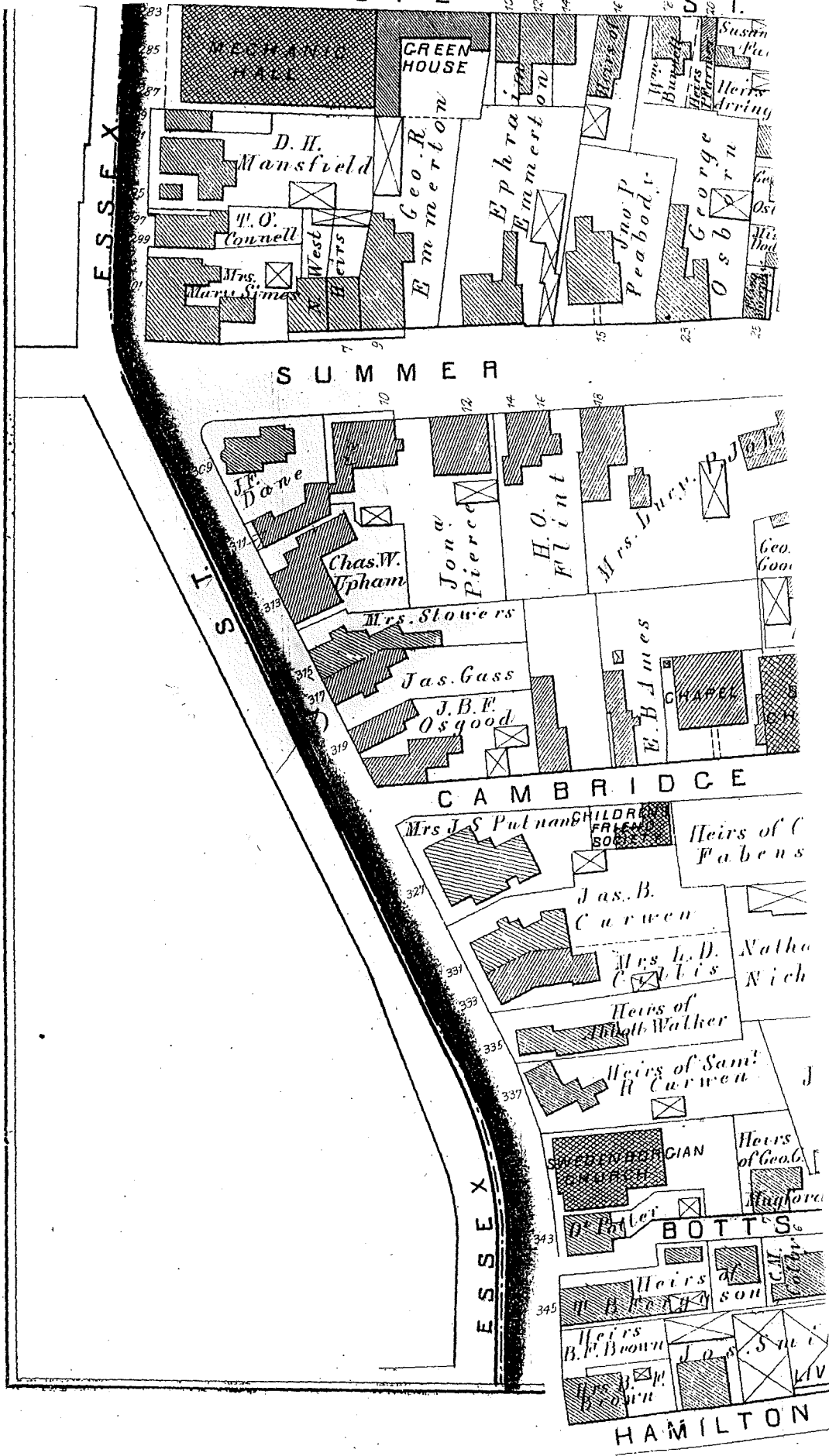
John Andrews
Est. of Matt. Woodwell
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ESSEX

SUMMER

S. T.

CAMBRIDGE

ESSEX

HAMILTON

GREEN HOUSE

D. H. Mansfield

Geo. R. Emmerton

Ephraim Emmerton

John P. Peabody

George Osborn

J. O. Connell

Mrs. Maria Simas

West FITS

J. Done

Chas. W. Upham

Jon. Pierce

H. O. Flint

Mrs. Lucy

Mrs. Stowers

Jas. Gass

J. B. F. Osgood

E. H. James

CHAPEL

Mrs. J. S. Putnam

CHILDREN OF FALEM BOTT

Heirs of C. Fabens

Jas. B. Curwen

Mrs. L. D. Curtis

Nathaniel Nichol

Heirs of Abbot Walker

Heirs of Samuel R. Curwen

Heirs of Geo. B. Mayhew

BOTT'S

Heirs of Geo. B. Mayhew

Heirs of B. H. Brown

Heirs of J. O. Smith

Vital Records for Salem prior to 1850

Charles Wentworth Upham (Rev.) m. Ann Susan Holmes of Cambridge
b. 5/4/1802 married Feb. 17, 1826.

Their children.

3/1/1827	Edward Chandler
6/6/1828	John Ropes
6/22/1829	Mary Wendell
8/19/1830	CHARLES WENTWORTH
10/6/1832	Mary Wilder
9/24/1831	Henry Wendell
10/19/1833	Ann Holmes
1/4/1835	George Murray
1/19/1836	William Phinehas
3/27/1837	Stephen Higginson
6/29/1838	John Edward
9/6/1839	Sarah Wendell
4/23/1841	John Holmes
3/8/1843	OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES
8/9/1845	Francis Chandler

Salem Directories

People Residing at 313 Essex Street

- 1881 - Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - Artist
- 1878 - Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - Artist - boards
William P. Upham - counselor - boards
- 1876 - Mrs. Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - Artist - boards
- 1874 - Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - Artist - boards
William P. Upham - boards
- 1872 - Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - law student - boards
William P. Upham - boards
- 1869 - Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - Artist - boards
William P. Upham - boards
- 1866 - Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - boards
William P. Upham - boards
- 1864 - Charles W. Upham - house
Oliver Wendell Holmes Upham - law student - boards
William P. Upham - boards

(1) NATHANIEL ROPES-cordwainer baptized Nov. 13, 1699 at the age of five.
married Sept. 5, 1717 / died Oct. 22, 1752.

Married Mary, daughter of THOMAS & ELIZABETH FLINT

She died between 1721 & 1724.

Second marriage to Abigail Pickman (daughter of Benjamin & Abigail)

Only child (2) NATHANIEL born 1726 - married 1755 - died 1774

This (2) NATHANIEL lived on the N side of Essex St. opp.

Cambridge St.

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(1) NATHANIEL-his estate was administered late, not until 1774

(1) NATHANIEL and (2) NATHANIEL's (he died before his mother Abigail)
estate went to (2) NATHANIEL's wife PRISCILLA.

(2) NATHANIEL and PRISCILLA had at least four children.

NATHANIEL, ABIGAIL, JOHN AND OTHERS

JOHN ROPES (merchant) born Jan. 10, 1763, died July 9, 1828

Married (2) Hannah (Harraden) b. Sept. 1768, d. June 29, 1845

They had Hannah Haridan, b. 9/30/1791, bp. 10/2/1791, d. 7/16/1862

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JOHN ROPES - "He was a merchant and resided in the house now occupied
by HON. CHAS. W. UPHAM, to whom it came by inheritance from his daughter
HANNAH HARIDAN. It formerly belonged to the family of ABBOT, from a
member of which, named COGSWELL, it was purchased by MR. ROPES. He was a
man of retiring disposition and fine character.

13:31 *See also Hunt records*

He was a blacksmith, md. Dec. 9, 1714, Mary, daughter of Edw. Britain, and died 1731-2, leaving three children: Mary, b. Nov. 8, 1715, who md. an Atkinson, Michael, and Elizabeth.

Dec. 6, 1737, Isaac, probably before going to sea, makes his loving wife Hannah his attorney, and Feb. 18, 1740, joins in a sale of property of hers to Joshua Hicks, and Sam. Pope, administrators on estate of John Ruck, and Apr. 6, 1742, to Dan. Grant of land adjoining.

Feb. 1, 1717-8, Jos. Cook, blacksmith, and wife Margaret, mortgage to Col. Sam. Browne, Esq., for £45, his dwelling-house with outhousing and 12 poles of land or so, bd. N. on the Main St., S. by land partly of Jona. Bligh, and partly of John Cook, late dec.^d, W. by do. partly of Capt. Tho. Flint and partly the aforesaid John Cook, dec.^d, and Easterly by do. of John Chapman.

The above was probably the property lately inherited by the Hon. Mr. Upham from the Ropeses, by whom it was purchased of the family of Priscilla Abbot, to whom, as appears below, it belonged.

Sept. 15, 1794, Sam. Blythe mortgages to Isaac Williams a dwelling-house and land bd. E. on the street leading from Chapman's Corner to the Hill Burying-place, S. by land of late Isaac Williams, W. by land of Priscilla Abbot, and N. partly by do. of Chapman and partly of the heirs of John Nutting, Esq., dec.^d.

Dec. 1, 1796, Sally Blythe, widow, conveys to Jona. Hodges, a dwelling-house in Summer St., bd. S. by the land (according to a deed from John Higginson to Sarah, wife of Jona. Blythe, 1730) then belonging to Isaac Williams, W. by do. then of John Sterns* (afterwards of Pris. Abbot) N. by do. then of the Cooks and Chapmans,

*John Chapman md., 1st, 1691, Hannah Sterns.

313 Essex St. - Period - Pre Federal

"This square three story wooden house has a hip roof and small ell on the east side. At the edge of the roof there is a decorative cast iron roof rail. The entrance and bay window above are not original. The house is said to have been built about 1786 and sold in 1805 to John Ropes. Charles W. Upham, mayor, minister and author of books on witchcraft, lived here with his wife, who was the sister of Oliver Wendell Holmes!"

ECRD 176 - 87 5/6/1805

I, Elizabeth Cogswell of Salem, shopkeeper, executrix of Priscilla Abbot, ...mansion house & the buildings thereon & the land under and adjoining bounded as follows

NORTHERLY ON ESSEX ST. fifty six feet and eight inches EASTERLY BY LAND OF JOHN DUTCH thirty eight feet & six inches-then NORTHERLY PART EASTERLY ON HIS LAND eighteen feet & six inches then EASTERLY, PARTLY ON HIS LAND AND PARTLY ON HODGE'S LAND twenty two feet & two inches-then SOUTHERLY ON HODGE'S LAND twenty three feet & five inches-then EASTERLY ON HIS LAND twenty nine feet & then SOUTHERLY PART WESTERLY ON LAND OF EBENEZER POPE fifty nine feet nine inches, then WESTERLY PART SOUTHERLY ON CARNE'S LAND seventy seven feet and eight inches TO THE FIRST BOUNDS OR HOWEVER OTHERWISE BOUNDS BEING AS THE FENCES NOW STAND.