

Historic Salem Incorporated

OFFICE AT OLD TOWN HALL

POST OFFICE BOX 865 SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970 / PHONE (617) 745-0799

182 Federal Street

Built for,

JAMES A. LORD, tanner

in the year 1885

Research by,

Joyce King

Sept. 1981

*to preserve Historic Sites, Buildings and objects,
to work for the education of the community
and to work for the true value of the same."*

182 Federal Street

The lot on which this house stands was part of a larger tract owned by the Buffum family during Salem's early history (appendix A).

"Federal street was laid out across private land about 1769. It was called the new street in 1770; new street laid out near the North river, 1779; a town way, 1782; and Federal street, 1794."

(Essex Antiquarian, vol. 7, page 67)

The land was used as a tannery site after the Buffums sold this portion to Wellman and Rand leather-dressers. Mr. Rand signed his share over to Ezekiel Wellman in 1806. Mr. Wellman continued the tannery until the time of his death in 1816. In 1824 the property was transferred to Michael Pitman who carried on the tannery business until his death in 1831. Mr. Pitman's estate consisted of "the homestead fronting on Federal Street in Salem and extending back to the North river with all the buildings thereon & tanyard." This was sold in two portions to James Lord of Danvers. The first parcel contained a dwelling house, land and tanyard (#180 Federal and land in the rear extending to the North river) and was conveyed by William Hacker, administer of the estate of Michael Pitman on May 26, 1832. (book 265 page 170). The second parcel sold by Mr. Hacker on Nov.

27, 1836 was described as land and buildings (this is the portion on which 182 Federal stands), (book 268 page 5).

The Lord family operated their tannery on land now occupied by the Sylvania plant. They let water from the North river into their vats, for the soaking of hides. Formerly, hides were spread on the flats

of the river, and weighted down with stones, there to remain until they were washed and softened. Though never watched, they were never stolen. Nor was leather pilfered from the open drying yards or from the fence rails along the streets, on which it was sometimes spread to dry. The Lords were fire fighters and the J. A. Lord hose house which stood in Blubber Hollow was named for one of them. A tragic accident occurred at James Lord's tannery on Dec. 9, 1858. John Voller was blown to pieces in the hollow in the rear of the Federal street houses when the boiler exploded from lack of water in the gauge.

James Lord died on Nov. 8, 1870 leaving a widow Sarah and five children viz: Daniel, James, Francis, Sarah B. and William S. His property was listed as:

Homestead on Federal St.	\$4,000 (#180)
Land next of homestead and two houses	1,600 (#182)
Tannery and buildings	18,900
Furniture	250
Interest in co-partnership	11,000

On Jan. 10, 1871 Daniel A., Francis, Sarah, William and widow Sarah Lord sold their shares of the two dwelling houses (now 182) and land extending to the North river plus the tannery buildings, steam engine, boiler and machine fixtures, also the machinery in the buildings with the right to pass and repass to said tannery from Federal street and the Bark House in the southeast corner of the above, to James A. Lord for the sum of \$11,920. (book 814 page 158).

In 1885 the two small dwelling houses which occupied the site for many years at 182 & 184 Federal St. were removed and in their place Mr. Lord had a new dwelling house built as documented by a building permit dated June 11, 1885:

"James A. Lord of 188 Federal St., to build on Federal St. a wooden dwelling house 27 X 50 - 2 story - Mansard roof."

The Salem Street Books at City Hall verify this as a "new house" taxed for the first time in 1886:

182 Federal Street "new house"			
	<u>occupants</u>	<u>owner</u>	
James A. Lord Jr.	age 31	James Lord	house val. \$3,00
Charles W. "	" 27		land val. 90
Edward M. Mason	" 25		

It appears that James Lord Sr. never lived in this house but had it built for the benefit of his sons. His son Charles died on Oct. 3, 1892. This obituary notice was printed in the Salem News:

"Died - Charles Warren Lord son of James A. and Mary A. Lord at the age of 33 years 8 months and 28 days. (Funeral Wednesday Oct. 5, 2 P.M. from his late residence 182 Federal street. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Burial private."

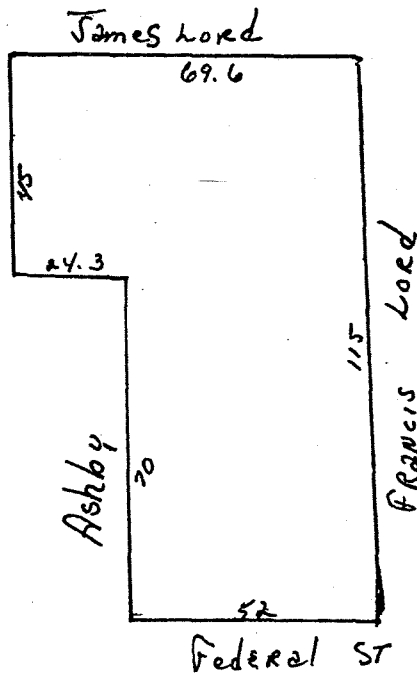
The Salem Street Books of 1899 list the occupants for that year as:

James A. Lord Jr.	age 44 shoe stock	owner James Lord	
Arthur R. "	" 18 machinist		house val. \$3,500
Frank J. Mudgett	" 56 hostler		land val. 900

Mary (Ashby) Lord passed away on Dec. 4, 1901. Her obituary gives a slight bit of knowledge about the lives of the Lord family:

"Mrs. Mary (Ashby) wife of ex Chief Engineer James A. Lord, died at her home 188 Federal St., last evening. She was born in Salem Feb. 25, 1828 and was married to Mr. Lord, Nov. 4, 1850. She leaves besides her husband two sons James A. Jr. and Herbert and two daughters all of Salem."

On Aug. 11, 1902 James A. Lord sold the land and building 182 Federal St. to Margaret F. Keefe. "Being a portion of the estate of the late James Lord who died on Nov. 8, 1870":



(book 1682 page 22)

Before passing on to the Keefe family it may be of interest to include the obituary notices of the two James Lords, to gain further insight as to their lives:

April 22, 1904 - Deaths - "Ex Chief Engineer James A. Lord S.F.D. age 76 years, 9 months, 10 days. Funeral Sunday 2 o'clock at his late home 188 Federal street. Relatives invited to attend. Burial private."

May 15, 1933 - "James Alfred Lord, husband of Ann M. (Bassett) Lord, passed away yesterday at his home 21 Webb street, at the age of 78 years, 1 month, 16 days. He was the son of the late James A. and Mary (Ashby) Lord of Salem and for over 30 years was a member of the Salem fire department being at one time assistant engineer. He was in the leather business for several years and then entered the real estate business in Danvers a few years ago, returning to this city in 1931 when he married Ann M. Bassett, residing since at 21 Webb street. He leaves besides his wife, one son, Arthur R. Lord and one brother and sister."

The 1905 directory lists the Keefe family as:

- Miss Agnes T. Keefe, telegrapher - boards at 182 Federal
- Charles H. Keefe, calfskin mfr. at 46 Boston St., house 182 Federal
- John P. Keefe, house 182 Federal
- Miss Margaret F. Keefe, boards at 182 Federal

John P. Keefe died on Jan. 13, 1913. This obituary notice was printed in the Salem News:

"John P. Keefe, a well known up town man, died at his home 182

Federal street, yesterday morning. He was born in London, England, the son of Joseph and Mary (Murphy) Keefe, and came to this country many years ago. He early engaged in the leather business, and went to Penn., where he conducted it for sometime. Returning to Salem, he started business in the old J. F. Walden shop on Boston street but retired several years ago leaving the business in charge of his son. He was considered an expert tanner. He leaves a son, Charles H. Keefe, and 2 daughters, Misses Margaret F. and Agnes T. Keefe all of Salem."

On May 7, 1932 a straw deed was recorded which transferred the property from Margaret F. Keefe to Margaret F. Keefe and Agnes T. Keefe. (book 2915 pages 592 & 593)

On July 22 1944 Margaret F. Keefe and Agnes T. Keefe sold the property 182 Federal St. to Robert H. Higgins and Laura E. Higgins. (book 3378 page 18)

Feb. 6, 1948 Robert H. and Laura E. Higgins, husband and wife, sold the land and buildings 182 Federal St. to Richard A. Breault. (book 3537 page 345)

March 30, 1949 Richard A. Breault sold to Riva Realty Corp. the same land and building conveyed to him by Robert H. Higgins et ux. (book 3655 page 583)

April 27, 1949 Riva Realty Corp., of Peabody, sold to Clifford M. and Laura M. Smith the land and buildings at 182 Federal St. The same conveyed to the grantor by deed of Richard A. Breault. (book 3662 page 74)

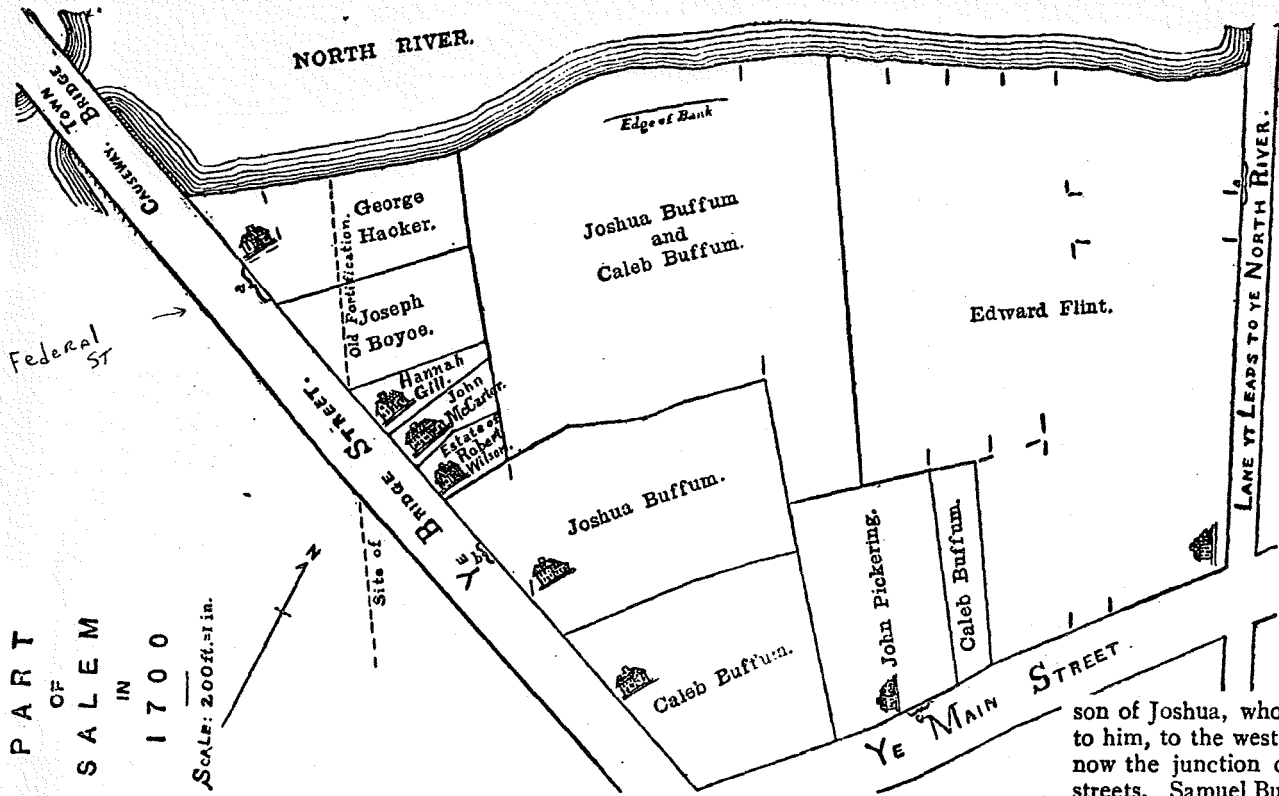
March 1, 1951 Clifford M. and Laura M. Smith sold to Harry and Ellen Mahalares, of Peabody, the same premises conveyed by deed of Riva Realty Corp. (book 3803 page 582)

Jan. 17, 1955 Harry and Ellen Mahalares, husband and wife, sold to Walter B. Scribner and Carrie L. Scribner the same premises conveyed by deed of Clifford M. Smith et us. (book 4134 page 240)

June 11, 1956 Walter B. and Carrie L. Scribner sold to Francis C. Pappalardo and Dora E. Pappalardo the land and buildings 182 Federal St. The same premises conveyed by deed of Harry Mahalares. (book 4277 page 133)

Oct. 16, 1958 Francis C. and Dora E. Pappalardo sold to Josephine Dupuis Trustee of Federal St. Trust the same premises conveyed by Walter B. Scribner. (book 4505 page 73)

Reference to book and page are deed books at the Registry of Deeds. Probate numbers are cases at Probate court. Both offices are located in the same building on Federal St. All maps in this report are not meant to be exact, just for illustration purposes.



son of Joshua, who had devised the lot to him, to the western corner of what is now the junction of Boston and Fowler streets. Samuel Buffum was a cooper, and had removed to Newport, R. I., before Aug. 7, 1716, when he conveyed the old dwelling house and its new site, for ninety pounds, to Samuel Pope of Salem, blacksmith.* Mr. Pope conveyed the same, for one hundred and forty pounds, to Thorndike Procter of Salem, yeoman, June 6, 1720.† Mr. Procter probably took the old house down some years later, and built the house now standing on that site.

The other house and the land adjoining was devised by Joshua Buffum to his son Joshua in 1705, and he devised it in his will in 1762, to his son Joshua Buffum. The latter, in 1760, lived in the house with Isaac Needham. In the inventory of the estate of Joshua Buffum, appraised in 1762, it is called an old dwelling house. Joshua Buffum lived in Salem, being a mariner or fisherman, and died in the winter of 1768-9. His heirs conveyed it to Ezekiel Fowler of Salem, blacksmith, as follows: by deed of Amos Mason of Swansea, husbandman, and wife Jane, daughter of the deceased (one-fifth), Aug. 27, 1770;‡ of Joshua Buffum of Salem, mariner, son of the deceased (one-fifth), Feb. 15, 1773;§ of Benjamin Symonds of Salem, fisherman, and wife Abigail, daughter of the deceased (one-fifth), Oct. 24, 1775;|| and of Samuel Buffum of Salem, sailmaker (two fifths) (by partition,) May 17, 1779.¶ Ezekiel Welman was living in the old house May 2, 1796, when Mr. Fowler conveyed the estate to his son Samuel Fowler of Salem, cordwainer.¶ The latter took the old house down in 1807.

Joshua Buffum and Caleb Buffum Lot. Robert Moulton was the owner of this lot, west of the dashes. It afterward came into the hands of Robert Buffum. He died in 1669, having bequeathed it to his wife Tamosin. She died in 1688, and it came into the hands of her sons Joshua Buffum and Caleb Buffum, who owned it together until after 1700.

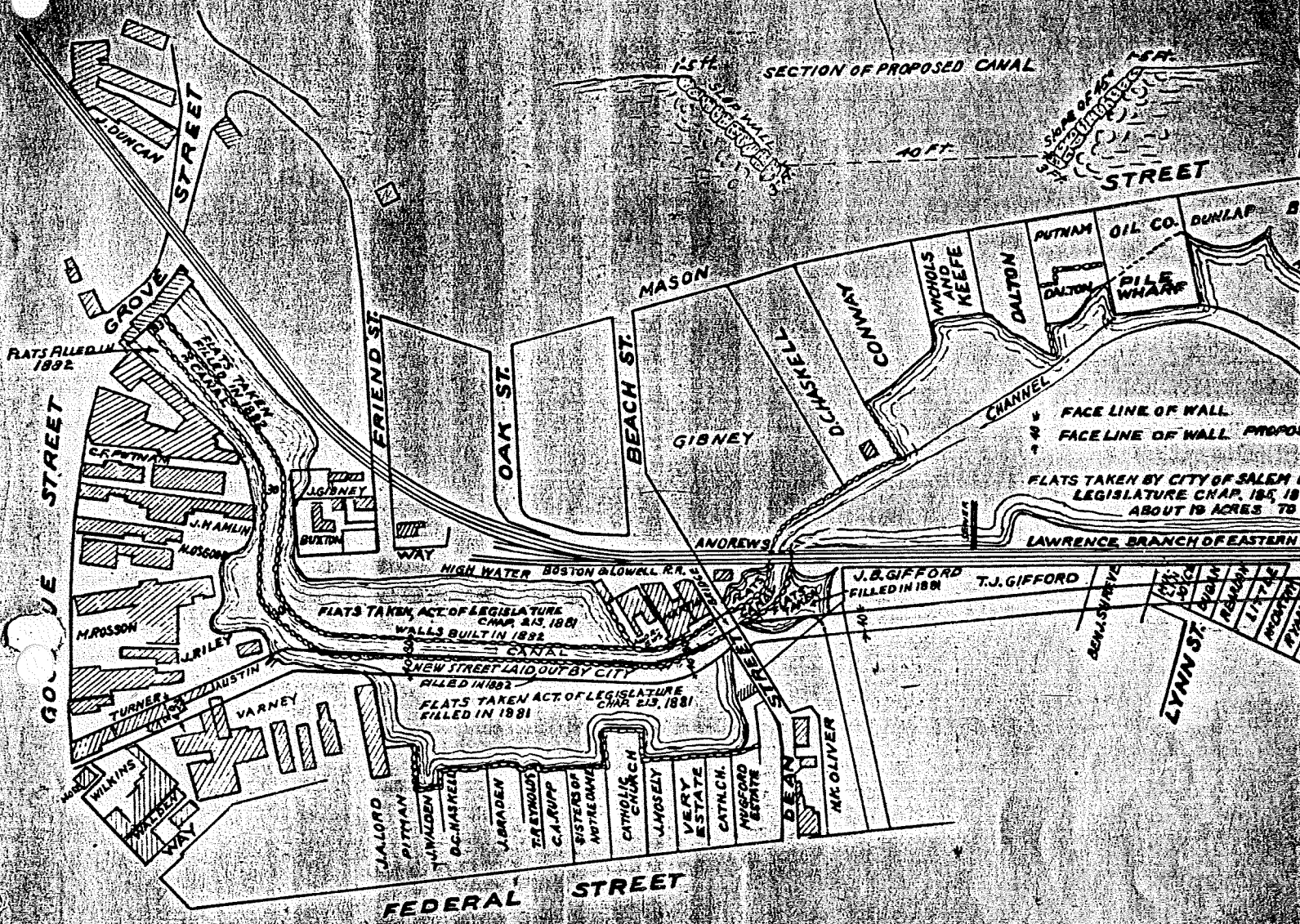
The strip east of the dashes was conveyed to the two Buffum brothers by Edward Flint of Salem, yeoman, April 18, 1679.‡ It was a half of two acres that Mr. Flint bought of Anthony Needham of Salem, yeoman, March 10, 1678-9.§

Joshua Buffum House. Robert Moulton was the owner of this lot easterly of the dashes and also the Caleb Buffum lot adjoining, about 1636. (For the triangular lot west of the dashes, see above.) Boston street was laid out across the corner of the lot in 1642, when he was the owner.

He was a builder of vessels, and probably constructed several on this lot. The estate soon afterward came into the possession of Robert Buffum, a Quaker, and he died in 1669, possessed of it. In his will he devised it to his wife Tamosin. She died in 1688, and the estate came into the possession of her son Joshua Buffum.

There were two houses on this lot in 1705, and probably they were both there in 1700, and standing where they are marked on the map. The western one was the old house. Between 1705 and 1710, this was moved by Samuel Buffum,

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 79.
 †Essex Registry of Deeds, book 15, leaf 88.
 ‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 31.
 §Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 25.

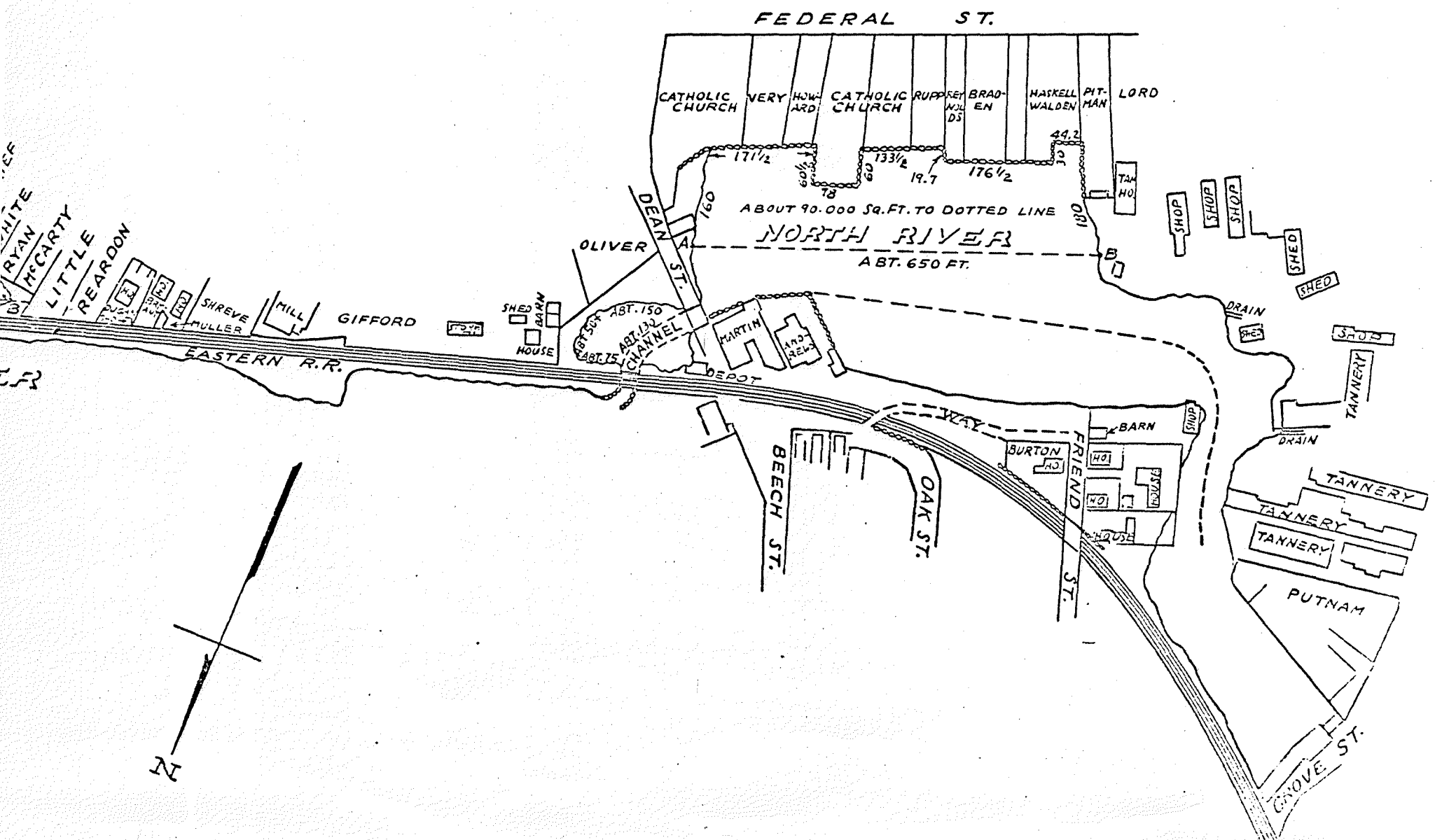


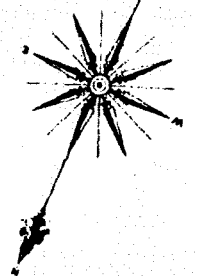
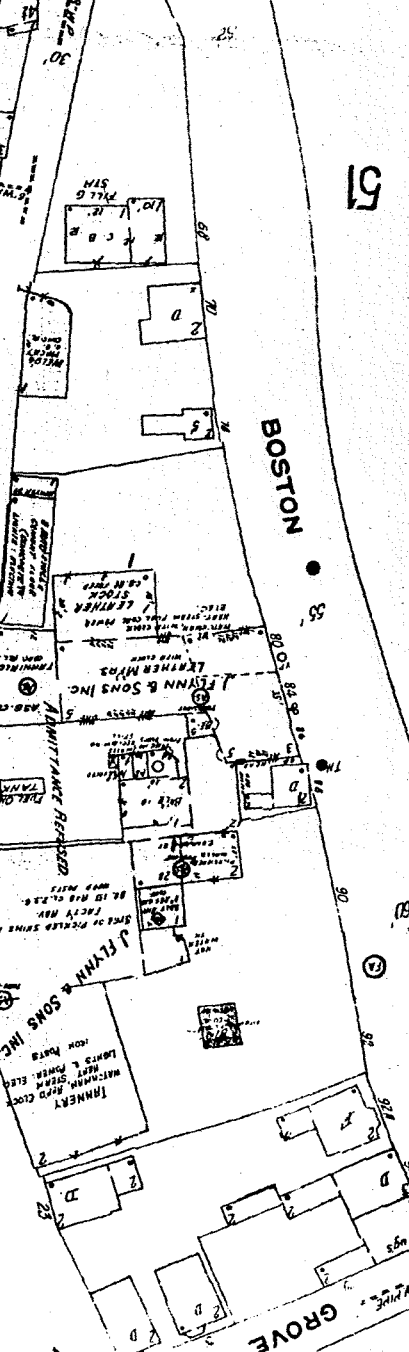
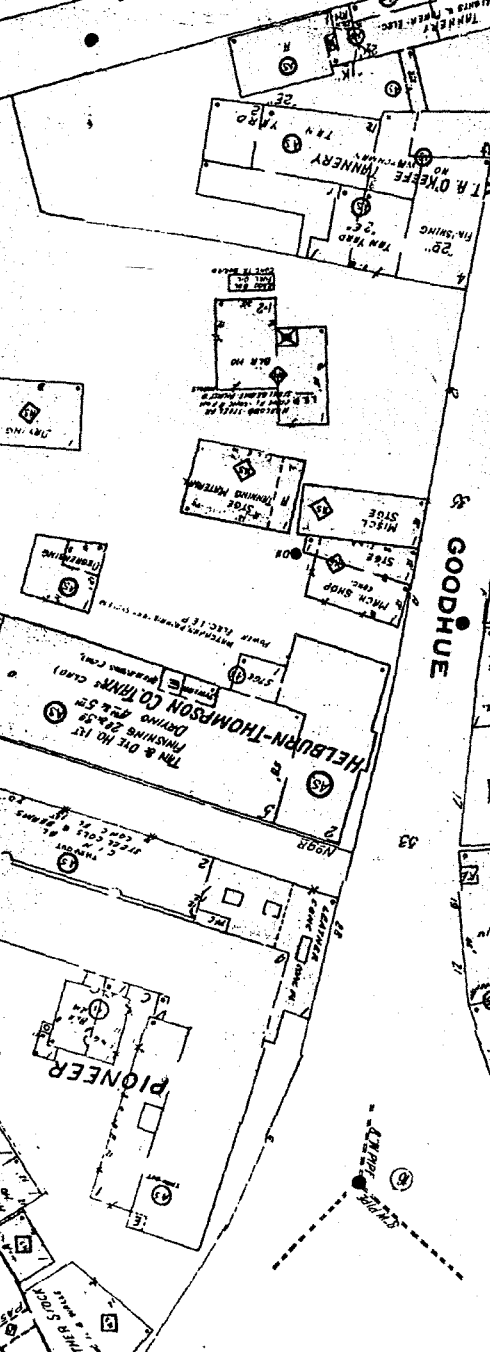
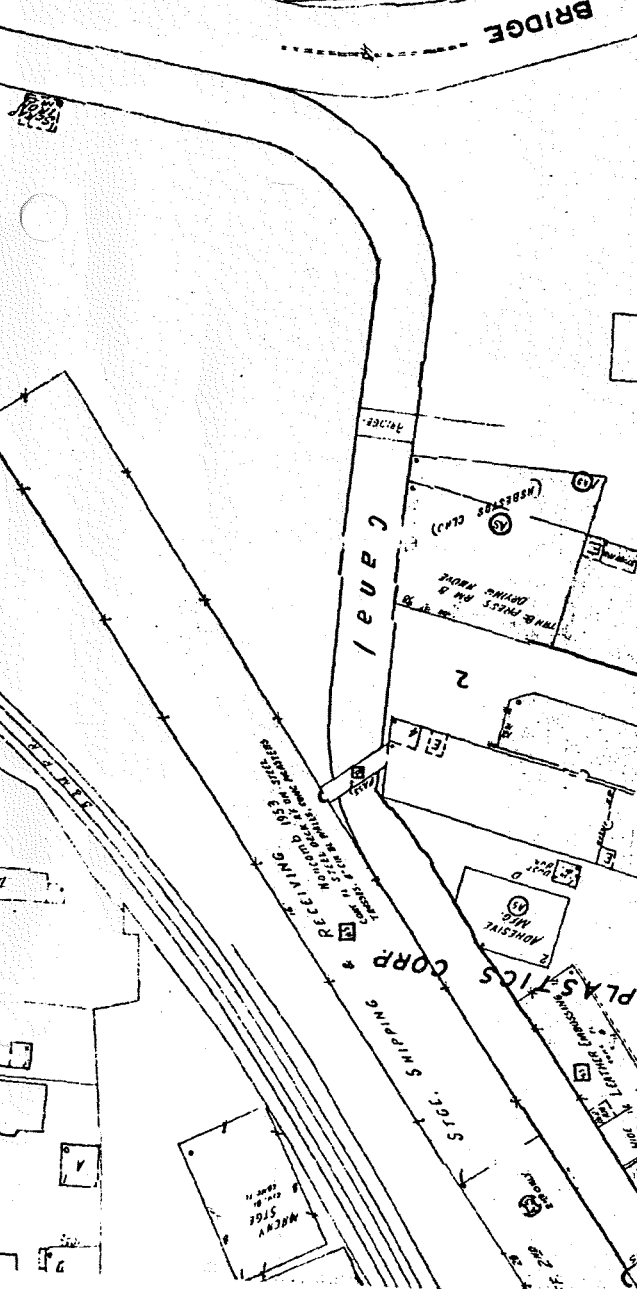
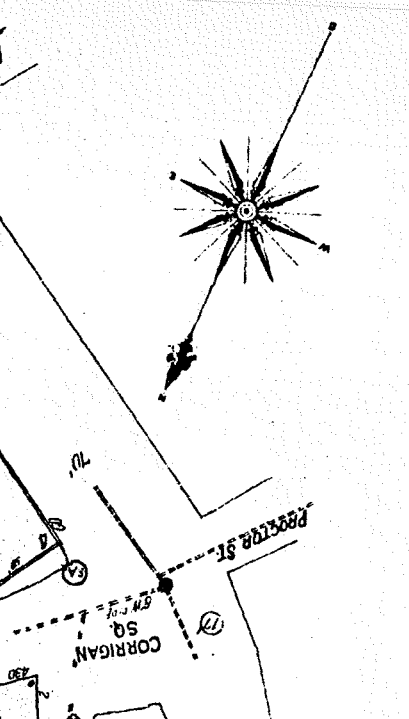
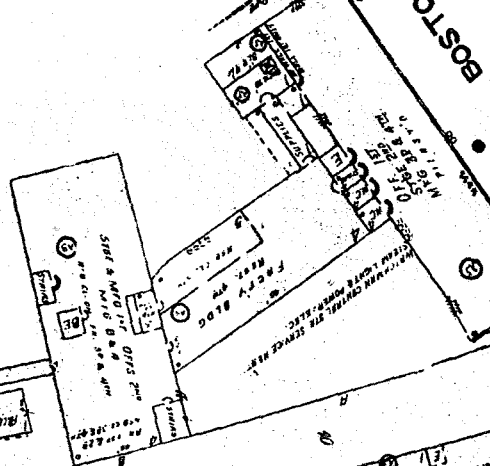
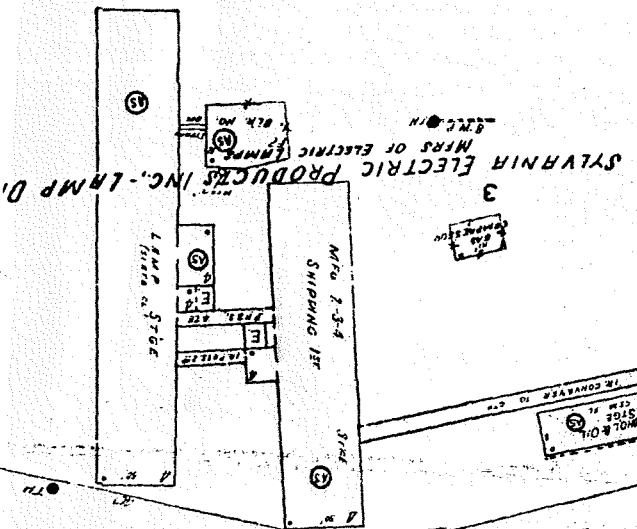
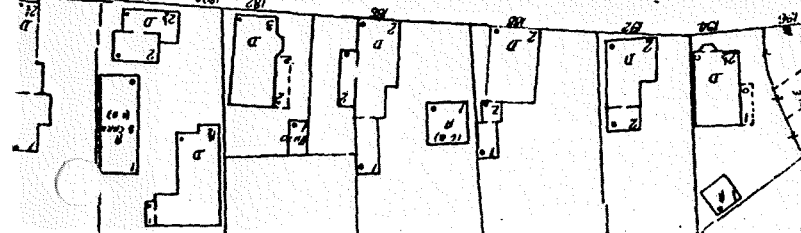
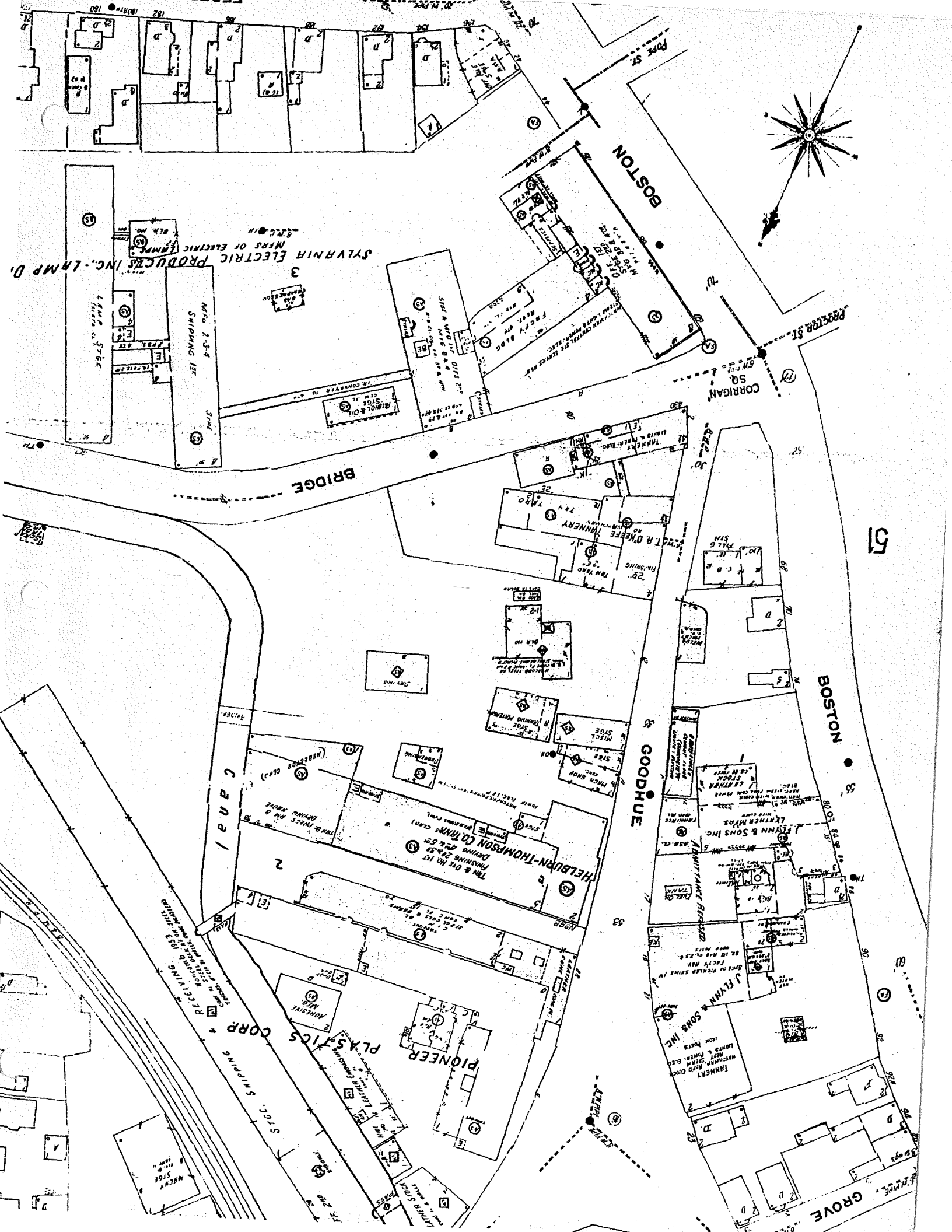
Salem Feby 15, 1884. Rec^d & ent^d with Essex Deeds
 So. Dist. Book of Plans No. 2, Plan No. 33.
 Sec. 2 Licenses from Mass. Har. & Land Com^r to
 City of Salem, received for record herewith and
 recorded Book 1124 leaf 149.

Chas. S. Osgood, Reg^r



This plan has been reduced for correct scaling
 See City of Salem file





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