

OFFICE AT OLD TOWN HALL

Historic Salem Incorporated

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

1-2-3 Gerrish Place

Built by

THE SALEM CHARITABLE BUILDING ASSOCIATION

in 1849

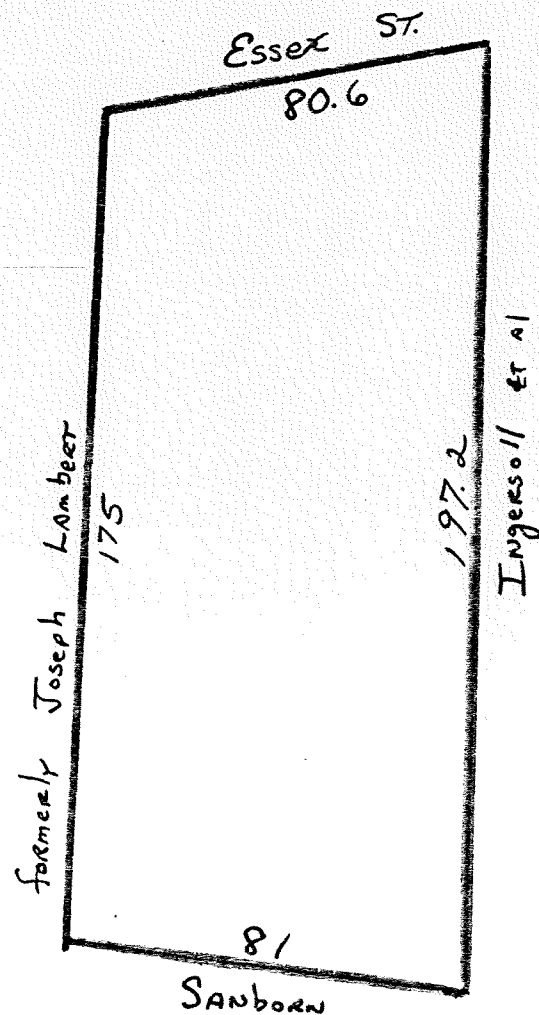
Research by,
Joyce King June 1984

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

1-2-3 Gerrish Place

Book 415 page 59
August 7, 1849

Ezekiel Needham, of Groton, sold the parcel of land with two dwelling houses (#15 and #17 Essex St.) to The Salem Charitable Building Association. This was called the "Crowningshield Estate" being the same premises conveyed to Mr. Needham by George Peirce on Dec. 2, 1840.



The Salem Charitable Building Association obtained a permit to build a "tenement block" on this property, as recorded in the Salem Street Books:

Corrected in the City of Salem, the last year, that is to say, from the first of March 1849 to March first 1850, with the names of the Owners & the names of Streets Corrected, in.

Thos V Pooby Corporation Block Grace Aaron Nourse Timothy Bryant Elbridge G. Kimball	2 Cottages Tenements Cottage Cottage House Barn	Mason Near Ipswich Barr Audron Conditall Andrew
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

According to a manuscript, found at the Essex Institute, this house "was originally constructed and designed for the benefit of the poor and respectable American families only. But from some cause, a revision of the constitution or by-laws, was made sometime after, which admitted by special permit, of anyone of the stockholders - other nationalities, to dwell therein."

This 1872 description of the property most likely prompted many improvements to be made:

The tenement house stands in the yard and consists of 12 tenements divided equally into 3 rooms viz: large front room, bedroom & pantry for each. There are a number of finished attics. Three of these tenements are unoccupied, on the lower floor, and the windows have been nearly pelted out by boys in the neighborhood, and the floors covered with dirt and rubbish and the walls & ceiling used up generally.

It is inhabited at present solely by Irish. The house is 2½ stories high and like many of its class, not fit for occupancy, through inattention to its much needed repairs. There are 2 windows to the front rooms, and 1 each to bedroom & pantry. In two instances, the two latter, are made into one room, as they stand side by side - in which case the beds are placed in the front rooms. Each tenement heated by cookstoves, some of which are in the pantry and others in front room. All the rooms are of good size and up and downstairs, measure on front, about 14 ft. square, 10 ft. stud. Some of them are well furnished and the walls are tastefully decorated with fine engravings - and the windows, and stands adorned with a variety of plants. The house is supplied with water from the Danvers Aqueduct and which cannot, from the insecurity of the cellar be kept from freezing.

There are two good spacious back yards, two privies in each in good condition.

Nine families occupy the house, making in the aggregate about 55 persons: 34 rooms & 8 finished attics, the latter unoccupied. The tenants are generally too poor to make any repairs, and as none are made by the responsible parties - ruin seems inevitable.

Although many of the tenants have lived there several years, yet, they are ready to remove, at the first good chance that offers. Rent \$8.00 pr month. (appendix A - description of individual apartments)

Book 2588 page 76
Feb. 25, 1924

The Salem Charitable Building Assc.
sold the land and buildings (15 & 17
Essex and 1-2-3 Gerrish Place) to
Jacob Katz.

Book 2666 page 93
Jan. 4, 1926

Jacob and Rose Katz sold the land and buildings to John Vasilakopoulos. Being the same premises conveyed by the Salem Charitable Building Assc. on Feb. 25, 1924.

Book 2671 page 252
March 2, 1926

John and Catherine Vasilakopoulos sold the land and buildings to William J. Stewart. "Being the same premises conveyed to me by deed of Jacob Katz on Jan. 4, 1926."

Book 2684 page 196
June 16, 1926

William J. and Henrietta Stewart, of Peabody, sold the land and buildings to Sadie Stillman. "The same premises conveyed to me by John Vasilakopoulos on March 2, 1926."

Book 5276 page 792
March 11, 1965

Jean Walters, otherwise known as Jeanne Walters and Harry Stillman also known as Henry Stillman, Trustees of the Stillman Realty Trust sold the land and building, Lot #2 on plan (appendix B), to William H. K. Donaldson and John A. Driscoll. (Sadie Stillman died on May 16, 1957.)

Book 5972 page 658
April 13, 1973

William H. K. Donaldson and John A. Driscoll sold the two parcels, Lot 1 and Lot 2, to John J. Connelly III and Brian M. Connelly.

Book 6059 page 302
April 8, 1974

John J. Connelly III, of Danvers, and
Brian M. Connelly, of Salem, trustees
of the Gerrish Place Realty Trust, sold
the land and buildings to Edmund L. and
Marguerite Phelan, of Marblehead.

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.

Dec. 12 '72

Where situated - Gorrish Place

Owner - ^{Hill} Salim Asso. - Saint Arington

Valuation -

Tax -

Rent - for whole building ~~at~~ 12 tenements, \$60. pr. mo.

No. rooms = 36 rooms - 3 rooms to tenement = 9 tenements to mo

No. persons - adults, 2 men & wife - ^{remainder - in very bad condition & out of repair -}

No. children, male & female - 3 young girls & 1 boy infant -

Nationality = Irish = Older than 9 yrs

Furniture Wreck entry (copy) -

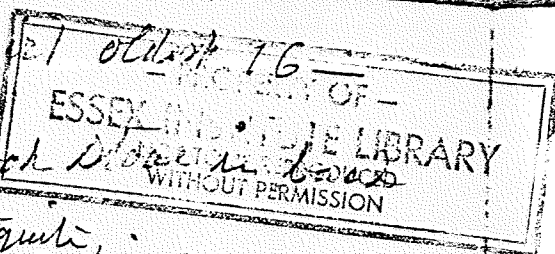
The house originally intended for widow women - ^{abt. 23 or 24 yrs ago -} not a success - afterwards rented - Richard S. Rogers, A. D. Miller & Co.

No. privys 3 - owners -

Occupation of occupants - Tanner

✓ Tenement ^{8. in 4th left side -} main room - 14 ft. sq. down stairs - heat by cooking stove - 10 ft stool - Sewing machine - 2 tables fair ^{convenient} chairs. ~~2~~ 2 windows - panes much broken. Paper on walls, much torn - plastering broken - general appearance - dirty - Cellars good & dry - Average - 14 ft sq. 9 ft stool - Down aqueduct - water trap - Dec 9. Occupants forced to move in - acknowledges the whole building not fit to live in - and will move as soon as he can get a chance - Bed room - 8 x 10. 1 window ✓ Pantry - Roof light -

✓ Ten. ¹⁰ 7 up stairs - 3 rooms as below same dimensions, and much better furnished - Expensive table good - 2 1/2 foot table - good bath - large & broad bureau - 2 chairs good. 10, bare wood chair - ^{3 chairs} 6 ~~down stairs~~ - ^{down stairs} 10 ft sq. Cellars good appearance - teece - Cooking stove in pantry - Cellar ^{3 or 4 ft sq.}



No. 15 - Widow. 3 ch. 2 boys 1 girl oldest 16
 other 4 older ch. in Boston -
 General appearance - the same Cook
 room. pantry & bed room in one
 Bed in front room furniture ordinary
 1 large steel engraving - front room large picture
 5 drawers good. - 2 Table - very ordinary -

No. 1 - 2 boys ^{oldest} 3 yrs. old - Cooking stove good. 2 good
 tables & 1 wooden reading ch - 6 common ch. fair. Clock
 paper good on walls - No carpets - bed in bed room
 General appearance neat - Husband Tailor - laid
 up with a week with broken hip - Lived here 7 mos -
 1 mechanical water freezer - 1 large picture of Madonna
 with ch -
 No 2 -

No 3 - 4 ch. 3 boys 1 girl - oldest 15 -
 1 4 ft table, 1 bureau with drawers - 7 or 8 ch. worn -
 Cooking stove in front room - General appearance
 ordinary - Occupant Lawyer - Bed in bed room
 all bed - good paper - 1 large engraving
 1 smaller picture engraving - Clock
 1 mirror - Lived here 4 yrs. - Bed room
 carpeted with straw carpet

No 4 - Rooms - same - Front room wooden carpet - Cooking stove
 good large picture - 5 drawers - 7 common chs. worn -
 2 to 3 foot common tables - Bird Cage & bird. 6 good en-
 gravings - Lord's Supper - Crucifixion, &c - 2 girls. oldest
 3 - Husband on coal wharf - Allie rooms good -

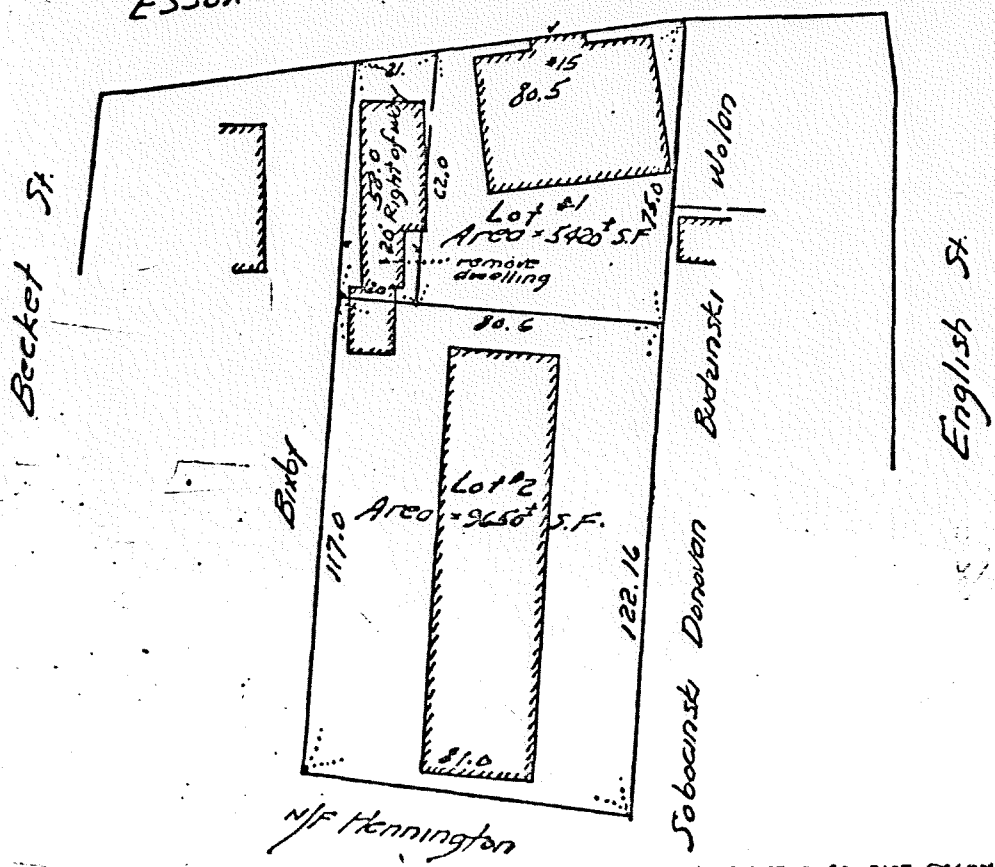
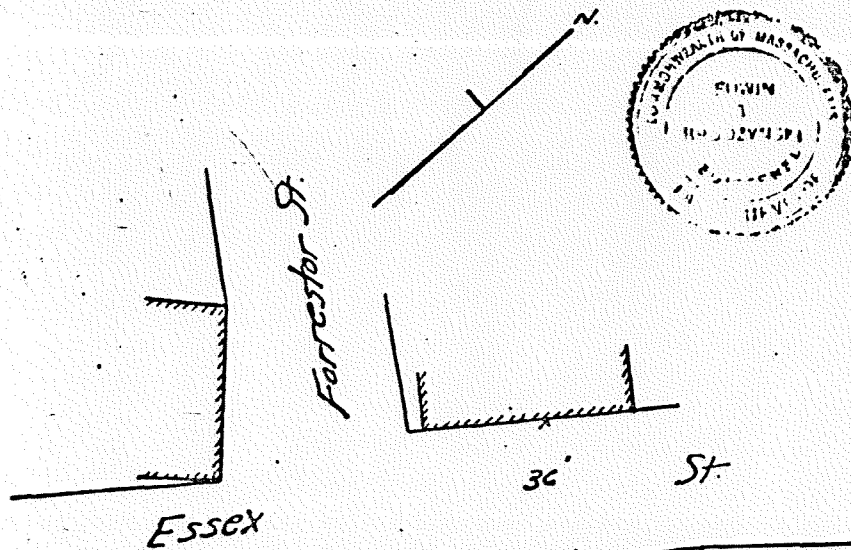
Garish black - paved at 11 1/2 ft long - 30 ft wide 2 1/2
 Stone 2 kerbs - Entry way - 6 ft wide -
 11 mi up. wide length - 4 abt 27 ft wide

107
1965

Land in
Salem, Mass.
Scale 1 in. = 40 ft. Feb. 1965

Ernest F. Bondy, Inc.
Registered Surveyor

B.



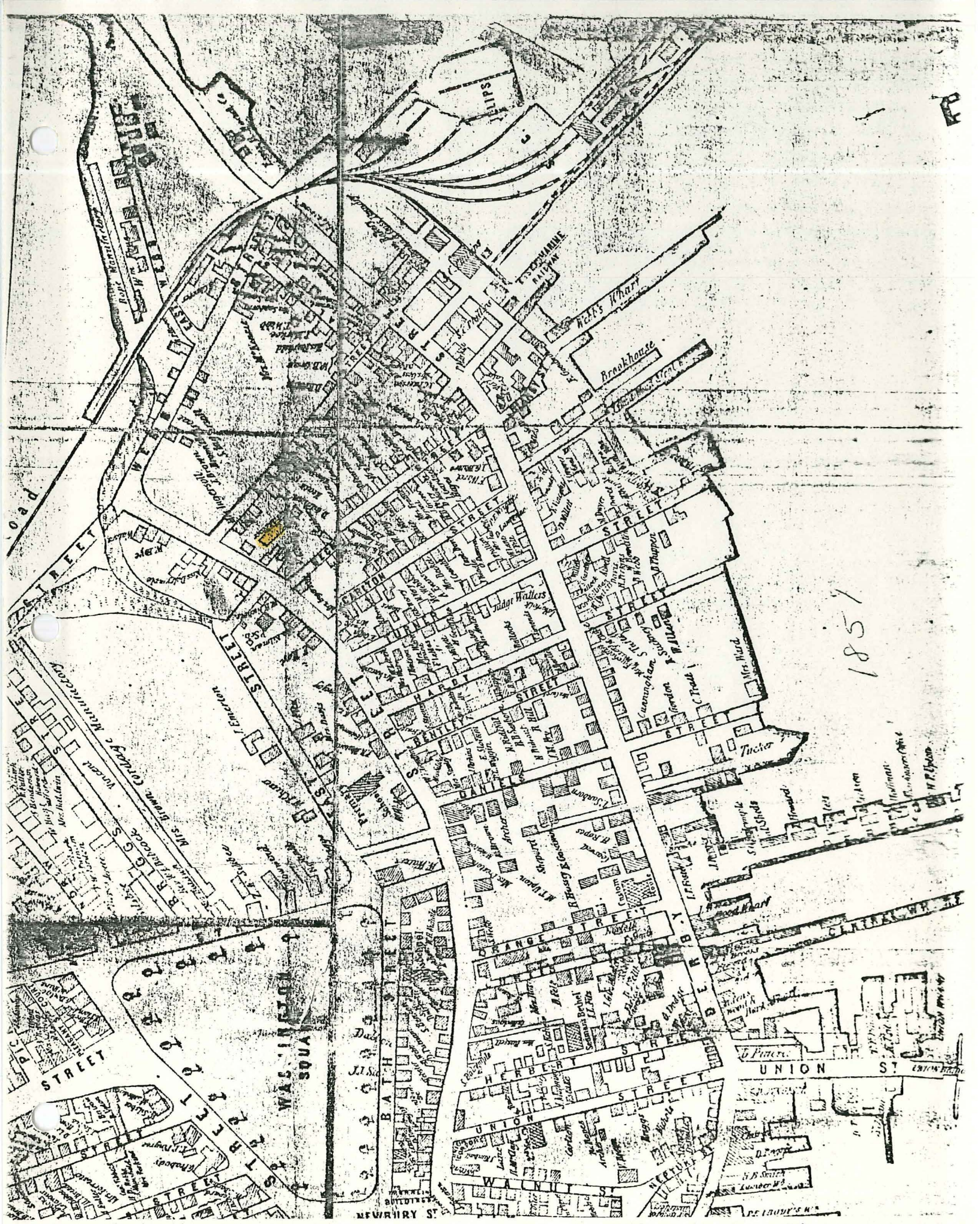
Approval under sub division Control
 Law not required
 Salem Planning Board

 Date: Feb 25, 1965

ESSEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS, SO. DIST. SALEM, MASS.
 Received March 11, 1965 with Deed:
 Jeanne (or Jean) Walters + al Trs.
 To William H. K. Donaldson + al
 Rec B 5251 P 132 Filed as No. 107-1965
 Attest: Leo H. Jones
 Register of Deeds

Note: Copied from City of Salem, Plan

THIS PLAN HAS BEEN REDUCED. FOR CORRECT SCALING SEE ORIGINAL ON FILE.



1851

STREET

STREET

WASHINGTON STREET

BATH STREET

UNION STREET

ORANGE STREET

HERBERT STREET

WALNUT STREET

UNION STREET

UNION STREET

NEWHURRY ST

UNION ST

UNION ST

PHILIPS

POST OFFICE

Walt's Wharf

Brookhouse

Walt's Wharf

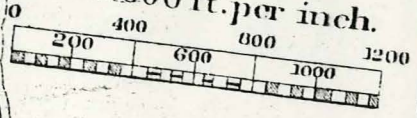
Walt's Wharf

Walt's Wharf

S A L E
C i t y

FARM ISLAND
SUB-PLAN.

Scale: 600 ft. per inch.



Ed. Rowell

W E B B

Heirs of
Jno. Saul
Nichols

India Manufacturing

S T.

E S S E X

Heirs of
J. Saul

Mrs.
Dalrymple

Wm H.
Nichols

Heirs. of Dd
H. d. Nichols

E N G L I S H

Mrs.
Sullivan

Wm H. Russell

J. C. Stowe

B E C K E T

Jonathan

Pucker

Good

STER

S T.

S T.

of J. Sullivan

J. B. Russell

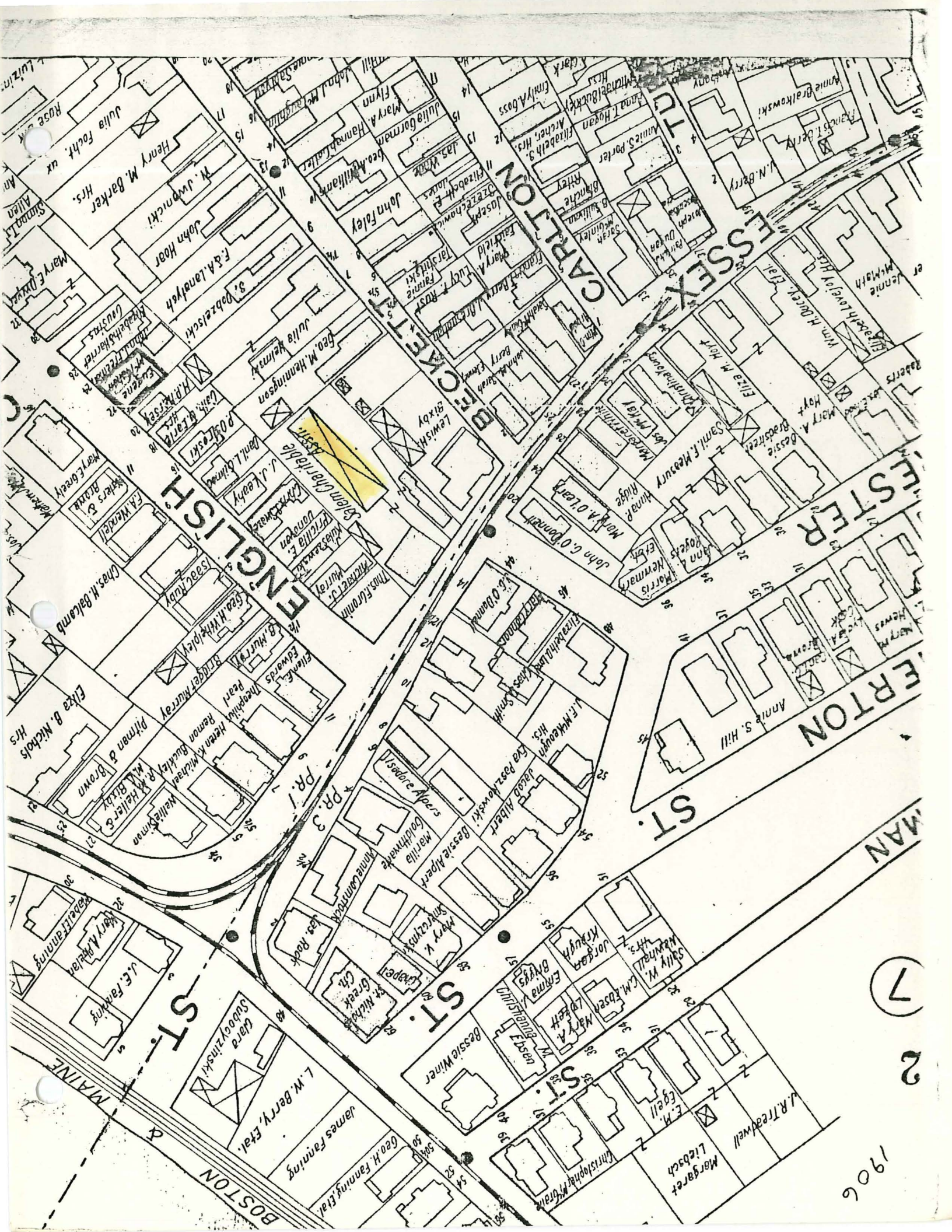
P. Hussen

of J. Sullivan

R. B. Nichols

T. Collins

B. Hayes



7

1906



ALLEN

COUSINS

WEBB

PRUSAK SQ.

ENGLISH

BECKET

ESSEX

AME DONALD SQ.

SLATTERY BROS BAKING CO
TANNERY

PALOM PARK HOTEL

10

9

