Salem Incorporated

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21 Turner Street
Built for
JOHN ELLISON, mariner
in 1779

Research by, Joyce King July 1984

"to preserve Historic Sites, Buildings and objects, and to work for the education of the community in the true value of the same." Book 136 page 219 April 5, 1779 Nathaniel and Sarah Knight sold a parcel of land to John Ellison, mariner. This was the same land assigned to Nathaniel from the estate of his father. Nathaniel was entitled to half of his father's estate, but he was content to take only 1/3 share. His mother and brother, Benjamin, divided the "mansion house" which stood north of 21 Turner St.

John Ellison was taxed for a house and land, for the first time, in Dec. 1779. He was definitely living on this property in 1790 as recorded in the First Census of the U.S. when he is flanked by Lydia Beadle on one side and Benjamin Knight on the other. The Ellison household consisted of 2 free white males of 16 years and upward; 1 free white male under 16 years; and 5 free white females.

Mr. Ellison died in March of 1812 and is mentioned in the <u>Diary of William Bentley</u>: "We have seen an end of honest John Ellison, æt 74. This man was born in London & came to Salem early & was in our army & sea service. He married a g(rand) d(aughter) of the Rev. Ulmer, a German preacher who settled in Maine & whose d(aughter) died with us at a great age. When I came to Salem this man was a Rigger, & afterwards for 14 years of the Town Watch. A man of great integrity & good reputation." (Mr. Ellison was also described, by Rev. Bentley, as being "uncommonly short".)

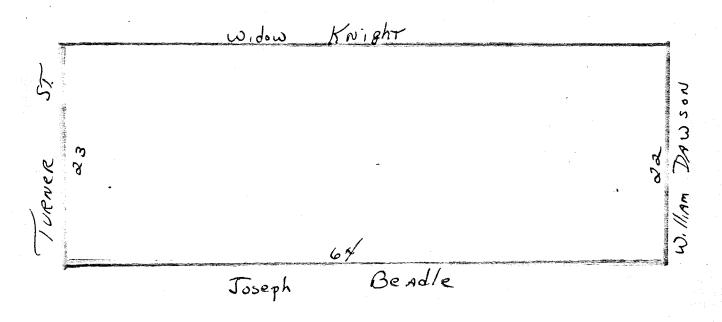
John Ellison's real estate is listed, in Probate Case #8806, as house and land on Turner St. valued at \$500. The heirs being the minor children of the deceased's son George.

Book 203 page 59 April 9, 1814

Jonathan Archer, administrator of the estate of John Ellison, sold the real estate to Joshua Chase, hatter. The same messuage conveyed by Knight to Ellison.

Book 203 page 60 April 9, 1814

Joshua Chase, hatter, sold the property to Nancy Gomes, wife of Manuel a mariner. At this time the land was described as:



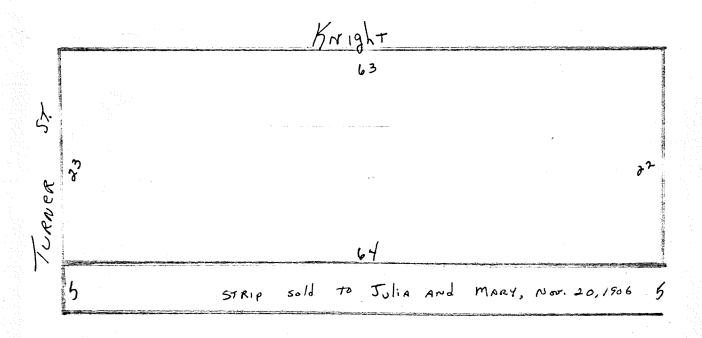
Book 434 page 143 Sept. 21, 1850 \$900 Joseph Gomes and Anstiss Evans, wife David, sold the land and building to Paul Goodwin. "The whole estate conveyed to our late mother, Nancy Gomes, by Joshua Chase on April 9, 1814."

Book 476 page 64 April 18, 1853

Paul Goodwin, cooper, sold the land and building to Michael Flinn, laborer. The same conveyed by Joseph Gomes and Anstiss Evans on Sept. 21, 1850.

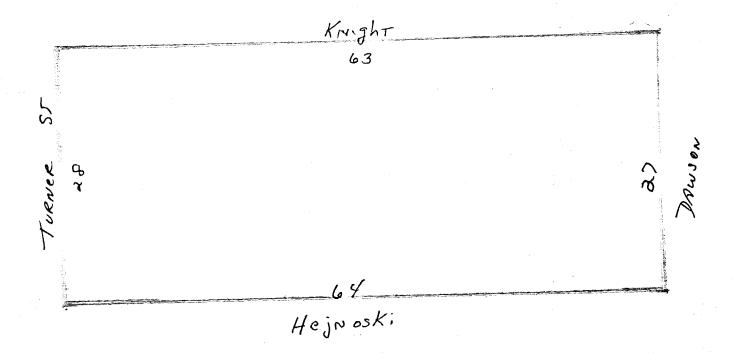
Book 1874 page 259 May 13, 1907

John Flynn, Julia T. Peterson, James Crowley and his wife Mary J. in her own right, sold the property to Sadie Morris. "For title see deed Paul Goodwin to our father Michael Flynn on April 18, 1853 book 476 page 64." This conveyance also included a small strip of land which was sold to Julia Peterson and Mary Crowley on Nov. 20, 1906:



(This house was #15 until the street was renumbered in 1884.)

Book 4520 page 282 Nov. 28, 1958 Simon Morris, of Utica, N.Y.; Bernard Morris, of Lynn; Albert Morris, of Indianapolis, Ind. and Pearly Barish of New Bedford sold the land and building to Harry Morris. "The same premises conveyed to Sadie Morris by deed of John Flynn et al on May 13, 1907." Our title as heirs of Sadie Morris.



Book 7260 page 368 Nov. 1, 1983 \$63,000

The heirs of Harry Morris, being
Pearl Barish, of New Bedford; Albert
Morris, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Eli
Morris, of Lynn; Eileen Zable, of
Bayside, N.Y.; Charlotte Rubin, of
Lynbrook, N.Y.; Melvin Morris, of
Syosset, N.Y. and Sandra Morris, of
Far Rockaway, N.Y. sold the land and
building to Donald Barron Jr. and
Carol Barron of 3 Bancroft Ave.
Wakefield. The same premises conveyed
to Harry Morris by deed of Simon
Morris et al on Nov. 28, 1958.

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.

Notes:

Since I had questioned the age of this building, Sally Dee consented to view the interior. She concluded that although many changes have been made, the second floor still shows signs of architectural detail consistent to the 1770's.

Joyce King

