



HISTORIC SALEM INC

3 Woodside Street

Built for
Mary J. Converse
George A. Converse
Engineer
Eastern Railroad
1874

Researched and written by Jay Quarantello
May 2021

Historic Salem Inc.
The Bowditch House
9 North Street, Salem, MA 01970
(978) 745-0799 | HistoricSalem.org
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Date of Purchase	Conveyed by	Conveyed to	Amount	Document	Notes
February 17, 2021	Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy	Joseph L. McNiff Jr. and Robert L. Allison	\$530,000	SO. Essex #606 Bk: 39542 Pg: 390	"The land in said Salem, together with the buildings thereon"
April 15, 1983	Mildred J. McKay of Nova Scotia, Canada	Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy	\$53,200	Bk: 7133 Pg: 444	"The land in said Salem, together with the buildings thereon" "Charles David A. McKay died on February 20, 1979."
November 10, 1939	Elizabeth V. McGee	Charles David A. McKay and Mildred J. McKay	\$3200 "with interest thereon at the rate of six percent annum, payable in monthly installments at \$25.96..."	Bk: 3201 Pg: 231-232	"the land in said SALEM, together with the buildings thereon."
May 23, 1918	James O'Donnell and Alice E. O'Donnell	Elizabeth V. McGee, wife of Charles H. McGee	\$2500	Bk: 2391 Pg: 379	"the land in said SALEM with the buildings thereon"
February 23, 1917	Elmer F. Littlefield and Mary B. Littlefield	Alice E. O'Donnell, wife of James O'Donnell	"for consideration paid"	Bk: 2358 Pg: 486-487	"the land in said SALEM with the buildings thereon"
November 12, 1903 55 m. past 2 P.M.	Samuel P. Coombs	Mary B. Littlefield	"one dollar and other valuable considerations."	Bk: 1724 Pg: 76-77	"a parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon"
November 12, 1903 55 m. past 2 P.M.	Elmer F. Littlefield	Samuel P. Coombs	"one dollar and other valuable considerations"	Bk: 1724 Pg: 75-76	"parcel of land with the buildings thereon"
November 12, 1903 55 m. past 2 P.M.	Edwin D. Cushing husband of Emily F. Cushing, Lois R. Reed wife of George Reed, Nellie P. Reed wife of	Elmer F. Littlefield	"one dollar and other valuable considerations"	Bk: 1724 Pg: 74-75	"the parcel of land in said Salem with all the buildings thereon" 49 feet front on woodside; 100 feet six inches deep on the northeast

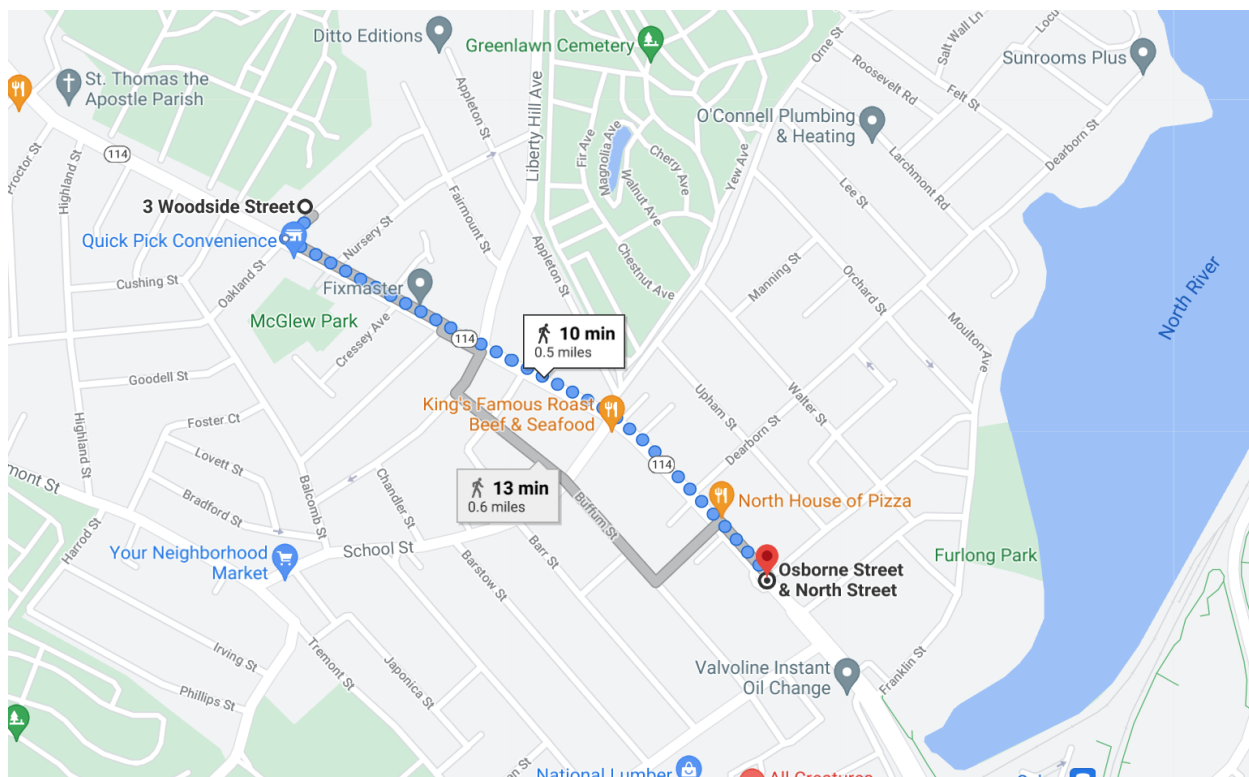
	Benjamin A. Reed, and William S. Noyes Jr. husband of Mabel Noyes				side; 99 feet deep on the southwest side; and northerly by land now or late of Cullen 49 feet, more or less, being the same land conveyed to Mary J. Converse by deed of Mary A. Woods widow of Ephraim Woods..." Book 891, leaf 60
November 12, 1903 55 min past 2 P.M.	Emily Cushing, George Reed, Benjamin Reed Jr., Addison Reed, Tilly Reed all of Salem and Mabel Noyes of Beverly	Elmer F. Littlefield	"one dollar and other valuable considerations"	Bk: 1724 Pg: 72-73	"The parcel of land in said Salem with all the buildings thereon" 49 feet front on Woodside; 100 feet 6 inches deep on the northeast side; 99 feet deep on the southwest side being the same land conveyed to Mary J. Converse by deed of Mary A. Woods widow of said Ephraim Woods dated October 8th 1873... "The above lot is bounded northerly forty-nine (49) feet now or late of Cullen..."
May 7, 1877	George A. Converse and Mary J. Converse	Emily F. Reed and Benjamin A. Reed	"in consideration of two thousand and seventy two dollars"	Bk: 975 Pg: 197	"to me paid by Emily F. Reed wife of Benjamin A. Reed of said Salem... do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto the said Emily F. Reed and heirs... the following described parcel of land with all the buildings thereon situated in said Salem in that part thereof known as North Salem and

					being lot number eighteen according to the plot of land belonging to the Estate of the late Ephraim Woods as surveyed by Chas A. Putnam surveyor May 29, 1871.
May 9, 1877	Charles H. Kezar	George A. Converse and Mary J. Converse		Bk: 942 Pg: 193	Mortgage: "I, the mortgager, here named [Kezar], having received satisfaction for this mortgage hereby fully discharge the same."
November 15, 1875	George A. Converse and Mary J. Converse	Charles H. Kezar	"in consideration of three hundred dollars, to us paid by Charles Kezar of said Salem... Subject to a prior mortgage for \$1500, given by us to Charles S. Nichols..."	Bk: 942 Pg: 193	Mortgage: "...do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell, and convey onto the said Charles H. Kezar... the lot of land No. 18, on Woodside street in Salem, with the buildings thereon... whereby we promise to pay to the grantee or order the said sum and interest at the times aforesaid, shall be void..."
November 13, 1874	Charles S. Nichols	Charles H. Kezar	"in consideration of the principal & interest due thereon to me..."	Bk: 916 Pg: 270-271	Mortgage: "hereby acknowledged do hereby assign, transfer, and set over unto the said Kezar the said mortgage deed, the real estate thereby conveyed, and the note and claim... to the conditions therein contained and to redemption according to law."
November 3, 1874	Mary J. Converse	Charles S. Nichols	"the sum of fifteen hundred dollars three years from this date, with interest semi annually, at the rate of eight percent, per annum, and until such payment shall pay all taxes and	Bk: 915 Pg: 49	Mortgage: "But upon any default in the performance or observance of the foregoing condition, the grantee... may sell the granted premises... and that until default in the performance of the condition this deed we and our heirs... may hold and enjoy the granted premises..."

			assessments on the granted premises”		
October 8, 1873	Mary A. Woods widow of the late Ephraim Woods	Mary J. Converse	“three hundred and seventy five dollars”	Bk: 891, Pg: 60	“Lot number Eighteen (18) on Woodside Street in North Salem... according to the plot of land in North Salem, belonging to the estate of the late Ephm Woods, as surveyed by Chas A. Putnam Survr [sic] May 29th 1871.” It being understood and agreed by and between said grantor and grantee that the said Mary J. Converse shall build or cause to be built on said lot within one year from the date hereof a dwelling house to cost at least \$2000.x the erection of said dwelling house as aforesaid being a part of the consideration for this transfer.”

Naumkeag Land

Sidney Perley, a famed local historian in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, wrote in his book *A History of Salem: Volume I* that “According to tradition, North River, in Salem, was stocked with salmon.”¹ With such promising fishing waters, it is no surprise then that Reverend John Higginson remembering his childhood in 1694 wrote that “ye Indian Towne of Wigwams was on ye North Side of ye North River not far from Simondes’s... and ye both ye North and South Side of that river was together called Naumkeke.”² Perley, trying to identify the location of this village, found that Mr. Symond’s house was formerly located on the modern day corner of North St. and Osborne St. Perley’s work, therefore, indicated that this “Indian Towne of Wigwams” was likely about a half mile from where 3 Woodside St. now stands.



3 Woodside St. in relation to North River and the site of what would have been an “Indian Towne of Wigwams” located near the corner of Osborne and North St.

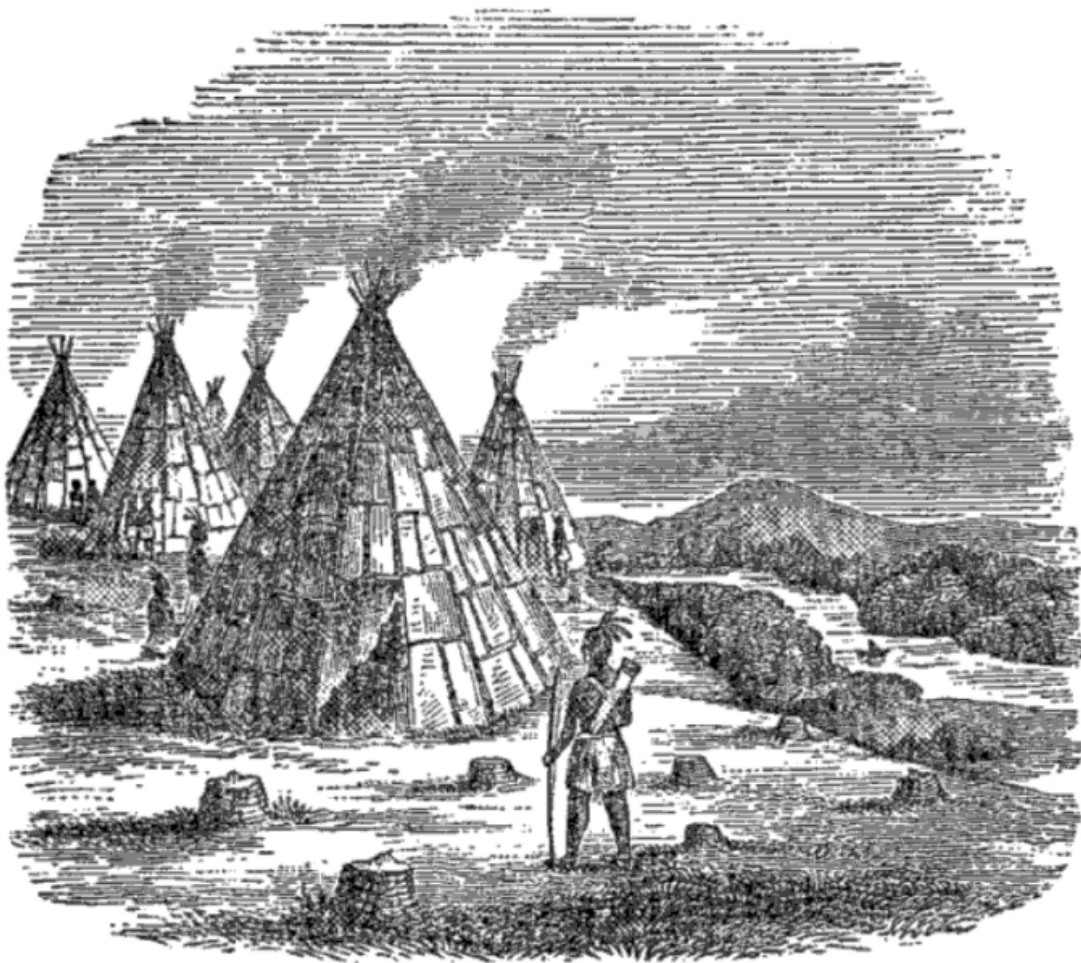
Long before the home at 3 Woodside St. was built, local Native Americans and English colonizers in the early 17th century referred to Salem as Naumkeag. Perley wrote that Naumkeag “means ‘Fishing place,’ from *namaas*, fish, *ki*, place, and *age*, at.”³ Living in these wigwams were the Naumkeag people, a band of the Massachusetts tribe. The Naumkeag

¹ Perley, Sidney. *A History of Salem Massachusetts, Volume I*. The University of Virginia, 1924, <http://salem.lib.virginia.edu/Perley/vol1/images/p1-20.html>. Pg 20.

² Roads, Samuel. *The History and Traditions of Marblehead*. Boston, Houghton, Osgood and company, 1881. <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/009579169>. Pg 3-6.

³ Perley, Sidney. *The Indian Land Titles of Essex County Massachusetts*. Essex Book and Print Club, 1912. <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=yale.39002005253001&view=2up&seq=31>. Pg 8.

hunted, farmed, and fished on this land for generations before Europeans ever arrived in North America.⁴



A wigwam village as sketched in an 1877 book titled *Old Naumkeag*. The accuracy of this picture to Old Naumkeag is unknown.⁵

Elizabeth Solomon, a modern member of the Massachusetts tribe at Ponkapoag, remarked in a video for *Pioneer Village Salem*:

...we hope that you will take time to honor the original holders of this land: the Massachusetts people...We maintain a millenia long relationship with this place. Despite changes to the environment and its occupation by others following colonization, Salem remains Native space to which we belong. May all that we do with Native spaces honor the land and prepare the way for those to come.⁶

⁴ Pioneer Village Salem. "The Naumkeag." *Pioneer Village Salem*, Accessed 2021.

<https://www.pioneervillagesalem.org/the-naumkeag>.

⁵ Webber, C.H. and Nevins, W.S. *Old Naumkeag*. A.A. Smith & Company, 1877.

https://www.google.com/books/edition/Old_Naumkeag/XoolAQAAAMAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1. Pg 185

⁶ Solomon, Elizabeth. "The Naumkeag." *Pioneer Village Salem*, Accessed 2021.

<https://www.pioneervillagesalem.org/the-naumkeag>.

Accordingly, every house history of Salem needs to acknowledge the indigenous peoples who lived on this land before English arrival. A history of Salem and the neighborhood of North Salem would be incomplete and unjust otherwise.

The Woods Family

The origins of the house at 3 Woodside St. can be traced back to the family of Ephraim and Mary A. Woods. Ephraim Woods was born on December 20, 1800 to Lt. Ephraim Woods and his wife, Eunice, in Hollis, New Hampshire.⁷ On May 3, 1827, at the age of twenty six, Ephraim Woods married Mary A. Cole of Beverly, Massachusetts, daughter of Oliver and Polly Cole. Mary was twenty years old at the time of her marriage.⁸ The Woods family lived on or near North St. for much of their lives.

Approximately forty six years after their marriage, Mary A. Woods, “widow of the late Ephraim Woods,” would sell the following piece of land:

Lot number Eighteen (18) on Woodside Street in North Salem... according to the plot of land in North Salem, belonging to the estate of the late Ephm Woods, as surveyed by Chas A. Putnam Survr May 29th 1871. It being understood and agreed by and between said grantor and grantee that the said Mary J. Converse shall build or cause to be built on said lot within one year from the date hereof a dwelling house to cost at least \$2000... the erection of said dwelling house as aforesaid being a part of the consideration for this transfer.⁹

Mrs. Woods stipulated to the grantee, Mary J. Converse, that on lot number eighteen, a house be built. While the house at 3 Woodside St. would be built by Mary J. Converse, the Woods were one the most important families who shaped the land of North Salem also known as the North Fields.

To understand the eventual land where Mary J. Converse would build her home, one would have to examine the life and business of Ephraim Woods. Pictured below in the 1870 census, Ephraim Woods is listed as a cooper, a barrel maker, and Mary’s occupation is listed as “keeping house.”¹⁰

656	Woods Ephraim	70	Ch. W. Cooper	6200	✓	New Hampshire
	" Mary A	55	J. M. Keeping House			Mass

⁷ Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts*. Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1908.

https://www.google.com/books/edition/Genealogical_and_Personal_Memoirs_Relati/Rdk4AQAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1. Pg 345.

⁸ Ibid., Pg 345.

⁹ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Mary A. Woods; Grantee: Mary J. Converse. October 8, 1873. Book 891, Pg 60.

¹⁰ *1870 United States Federal Census*. Salem Ward 6, Essex Massachusetts, Roll: M593_613, Page: 748A.

Ancestry.com.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7163/images/4269708_00616?usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pld=26535871

The census, however, does not do justice to the importance of Ephraim and Mary A. Woods in their community. William Richard Cutter, a historian at the New England Genealogical Society, prepared a book titled *Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts*, which Lewis Historical Publishing Company released in 1908. This book went into detail about the Woods family. Contained below is the relevant section of that book:

Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts.

(VI) Ephraim Woods, son of Ephraim Woods, was born at Hollis, December 20, 1800. He learned the trade of cooper, followed in his day by many of the farmers of southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. He removed to Salem, Massachusetts, and followed his trade there. He engaged in business on his own account and his business grew rapidly. He had a large shop in that part of Salem known as North Fields at that time. The barrels, casks, kegs and staves from the shop were known in every port reached by the great fleet of Salem merchantmen of his day. As the farmers made hoops, staves and barrels in the winter, so Mr. Woods combined with his coopering business an extensive nursery, and became the best known nurseryman of his section. He was especially successful in growing fruit trees, and among the excellent varieties of fruit that he put on the market were the Nodhead apple and the Lady Washington pear. He exported fruit trees to Texas and various foreign ports, and sent many shiploads of young trees and scions. Many of the older orchards of New England have trees raised in his nursery at North Salem. He also grew trees of various kinds for shade and ornamental purposes, and the great sugar maples of North street, Salem, from Orne street to Liberty Hill avenue, were planted by him, as well as many other shade trees in Salem and vicinity. Nursery street and Woodside street, Salem, were cut through his old nursery, as their names suggest. Mr. Woods was a prominent citizen, the head of the local Democratic organization, and of wide and wholesome influence in political affairs. He was one of the leading members of the First Universalist church of Salem. He died in Salem, 1869, and was buried in Greenlawn Cemetery in that city. He married, May 3, 1827, Mary A. Cole, of Beverly, Massachusetts, born November 2, 1806, daughter of Oliver and Polly (Dedham) Cole; one child, George Henry, mentioned below.

While the 1870 census listed Ephraim solely as a cooper, the 1860 census listed him as a gardener.¹¹ Pictured below is that 1860 census.

Eph. Wood	59	M	Gardener	✓
Mary A. Wood	52	F		

Today in the Peabody Essex Museum Archives in Rowley, Massachusetts some of Ephraim Woods' business records remain preserved. On the next page is an invoice of merchandise shipped on board the schooner Mac from Salem to Galveston, Texas "on account and risk of Ephraim Woods" in 1838, the first year of Martin Van Buren's presidency.

¹¹ 1860 United States Federal Census. Salem Ward 6, Essex, Massachusetts, Page: 192. Ancestry.com.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7667/images/4232226_00005?usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pid=353001

Invoice of Merchandise Shipped on board the *Sgt. Mac* Nathan Frye Master, bound to Galveston, Texas on account & risk of Ephraim Woods & consigned to said Eph^m Woods for Sales & Returns viz

		70.00
W	1 Waggon	150.00
"	5 Boxes Tin Ware	345.60
S	7 Boxes Boots & Shoes	145.40
W	33 do " "	105.00
"	40 Barrels Potatoes Onions &c	60.75
"	5 " N. E. Rum	15.00
"	1 Bag Coffee	30.00
"	1 Bbl Pork	13.00
"	1 do Mackerel	6.50
"	1 keg Nails	22.40
"	1 keg butter 102 lb	

Recd of Ephraim Woods the above Merch^e which I have to carry in the *Sgt. Mac* to Galveston, Texas, and there or in Charge of said Eph^m Woods or order, he or they pay freight of one dollar per Barrel, and twenty cents per foot for boxes and Cases.

Salem Dec^r 13th 1838.
Nathan Frye

An 1838 invoice of Ephraim Woods' merchandise to be sold by Captain Nathan Frye in Galveston, Texas. Texas was not yet a state when this order was shipped. In 1838, the United States government recognized this territory as the Republic of Texas.¹²

¹² Woods Family Papers, 1836-1896. Box number 1, Folder number 1. Call Number: Fam. Mss. 1119. Phillips Library Stacks, Rowley, MA. Accessed May 20, 2021.

Below is a transcript for an 1851 Woods' Nurseries advertisement with a picture of the original document to follow.

Woods' Nurseries!

Salem, Mass.

Now ready for sale,

10.000 Apple trees;
5.000 Standard Pear trees;
1.000 Dwarf " " ;
1.000 Cherries;
Many kinds of Plums and Peaches.

The above trees embrace most of the kinds that have been proved worthy of cultivation. The Apple trees are two, three, and four years from the bud; Standard Pears from two to six years from the bud; 1.000 very large and acknowledged by many [as] the best in New-England. The trees have all been worked under the eye of the proprietor, and can therefore be recommended to the public and warranted true to their names.

The prices of trees according to their size and quantity. Trees carefully taken up, securely packed forwarded to any part of the United States.

- Scions cut to order.
- All orders by mail promptly executed.

Ephraim Woods, Proprietor

March 8th 1851

No 122 North St, Salem, Mass



Woods' Nurseries!



Salem, Mass.

Now ready for sale,

10,000 Apple trees;
 5,000 Standard Pear trees;
 1,000 Dwarf " " ;
 1,000 Cherries;

Many kinds of Plums and Peaches.

The above trees embrace most of the kinds that have been proved worthy of cultivation. The Apple trees are two, three, and four years from the bud; Standard Pears from two to six years from the bud, 1,000 of very large and acknowledged among the best in New-England. The trees have all been worked under the eye of the proprietor, and can therefore be recommended to the public, and warranted true to their names.

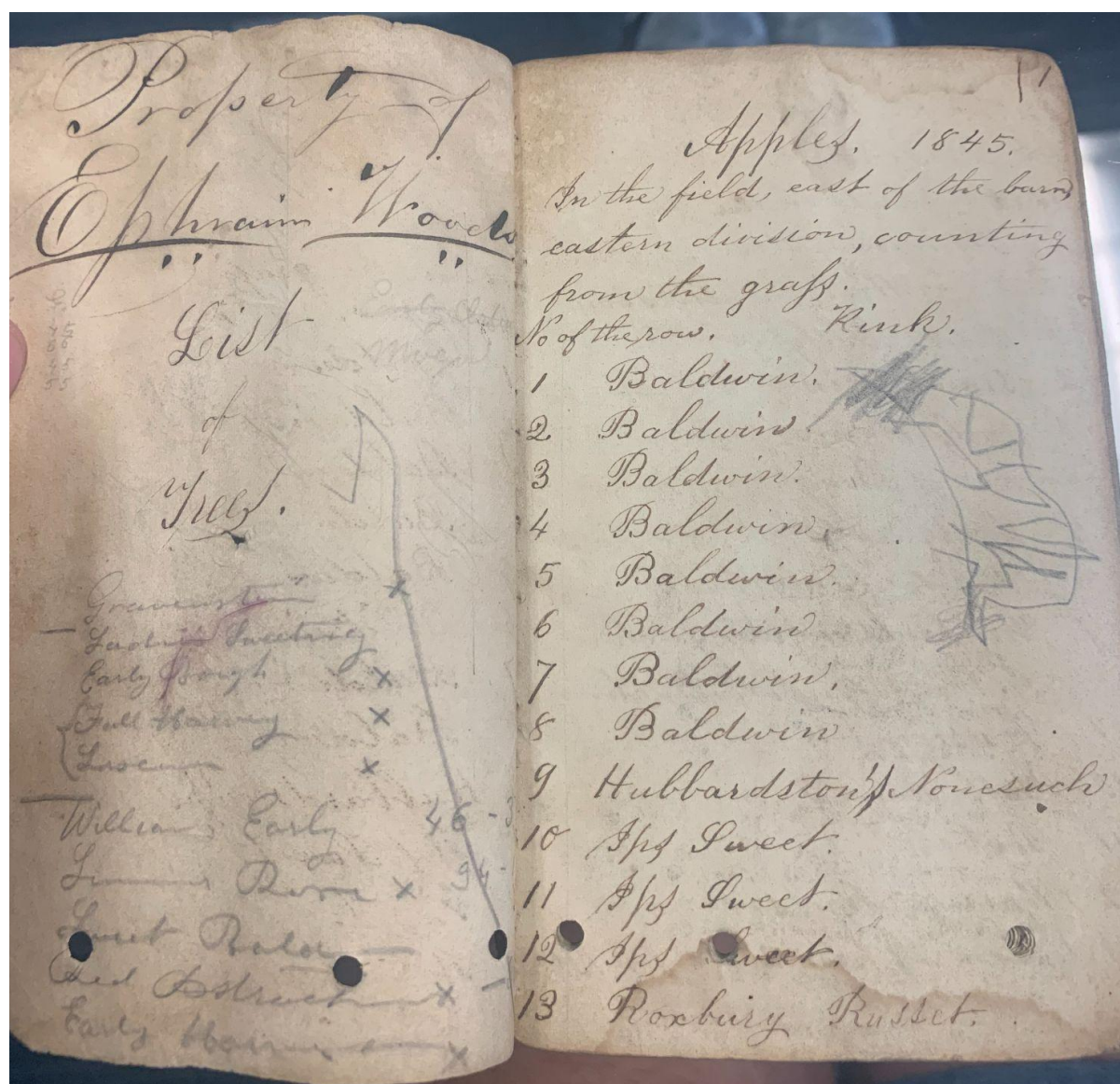
The prices of trees according to their size and quality. Trees carefully taken up, securely packed and forwarded to any part of the United States.
 Scions cut to order -

All orders by mail promptly executed.

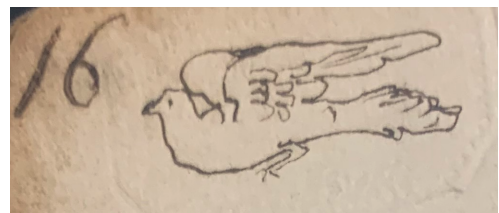
Ophreim Woods, Proprietor
 March 8th / 1851. No 122 North St, Salem, Mass

An 1851 Advertisement for Woods' Nurseries.¹³

¹³ Ibid., Call Number: Fam. Mss. 1119.

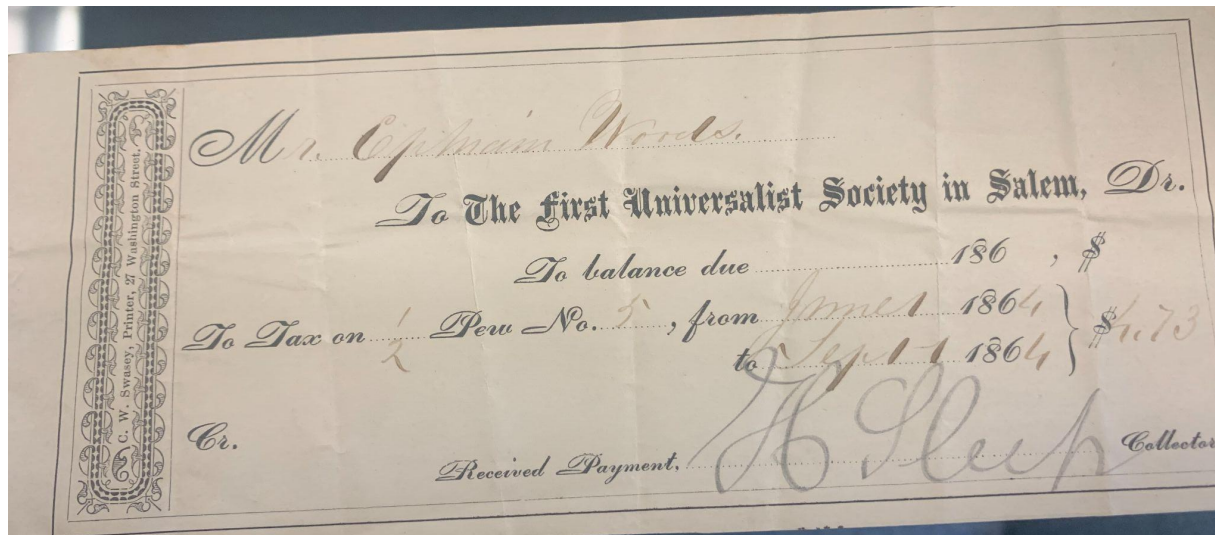


An 1845 notebook of Ephraim Woods that recorded a list of trees growing in his nurseries. In December of 1845, Texas would become the 28th state in the United States, which was part of a series of events leading to the Mexican-American War a year later. A child from a later generation seems to have doodled in pencil within this notebook's pages.¹⁴



A drawing of a pigeon likely done by Ephraim Woods on page 16 of his notebook.

¹⁴ Ibid., Call Number: Fam. Mss. 1119.



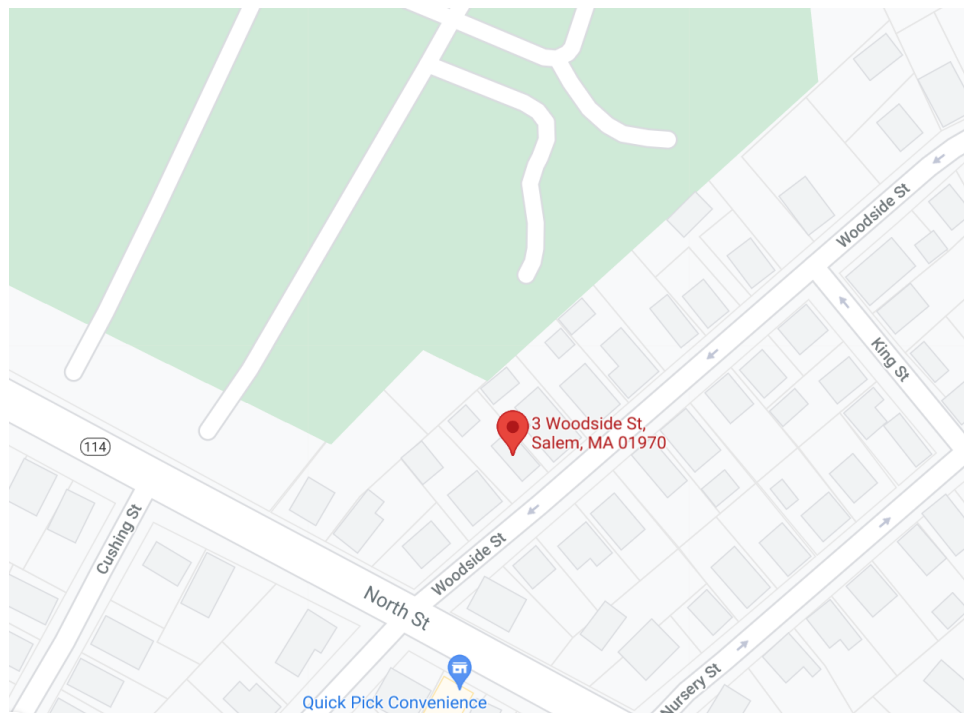
Ephraim Woods' receipt for a pew at the first Universalist Society in Salem.

The different trees and fruits that the previous documents detail provide a glimpse into what the North Fields of Salem looked like prior to Ephraim Woods' land being sold. Some of the trees Ephraim Woods listed likely occupied lot 18 where 3 Woodside St. now stands. Today, street names like Woodside and Nursery honor the horticulturalist business that shaped the environment in this section of Salem during the mid-nineteenth century. The Woods family, accordingly, profited substantially both during Ephraim Woods' life and after his death from this land. The receipt for a pew at the Universalist society was just one sign of the Woods family's wealth. On the next page is an 1871 map showing the land belonging to the estate of Ephraim Woods following his death.¹⁵

¹⁵ Salem Registry of Deeds. "Plan of Land in North Salem belonging to the estate of the late Ephraim Woods." August, 15, 1871. Book 831, Plan 300.



This map is located in the Salem Registry of Deeds. It was completed by Charles Putnam, a surveyor, on May 29, 1871, roughly four months following Ephraim Woods' death. Notice on the map, Charles Putnam, divided this land into plots. A star has been added to show plot number 18, the one eventually sold to Mary J. Converse. The Roman Catholic Church lands above the plots belong to St. Mary's Cemetery today. A twentieth century resident of 3 Woodside St., Doug McKay, joked that the neighbors in the back were always very quiet.



The home at 3 Woodside rests in what Putnam called Plot 18. Plots 19 and 20 were eventually divided and a neighbor's home was added on the left side of 3 Woodside St.

After Ephraim Woods' passing, Mary A. Woods, the sixty-five-year-old matriarch of the Woods family, inherited his landholdings. Even though her husband had died, she was not alone. She was cared for by their son Lt. Col George Henry Woods, who was born on February 2, 1831, and his wife Kate Tannatt Woods. George Henry had graduated from Brown University in the class of 1853, and had then graduated from Harvard Law School two years later. He practiced law in Minnesota when the Civil War broke out. He eventually rose to the ranks of lieutenant-colonel in Company D, First Regiment Minnesota Infantry Volunteers. He was seriously wounded during the Seven Days battle of the Peninsular campaign of 1862. He was also an honored bodyguard during the funeral of President Abraham Lincoln following his assassination.¹⁶ Despite living until 1884, George Henry Woods "never fully recovered from the wounds and hardships of war."¹⁷ Kate Tannatt Woods, George Henry's wife, cared for George Henry and his comrades as a nurse during the Civil War and also cared for him after the war. Following the Confederacy's surrender, Tannatt Woods moved to Salem with her husband to help his aging parents, Ephraim and Mary, while educating their two children.¹⁸

Kate Tannatt Woods' relationship to the Woods family, while important for this narrative, was of little importance to her acclaim in the 19th century. Tannatt Woods was a famed author, editor, and poet. Her first poem was printed when she was only ten years old; she wrote for numerous magazines throughout her life; and she published nearly a book a year in her adulthood. Tannatt Woods was an active member of the Salem community and was a sought after lecturer on historical subjects.¹⁹ Tannatt Woods, pictured below, was famous internationally, and likely found a strong female companion in her mother-in-law, Mary A. Woods.²⁰



KATE TANNATT WOODS.

¹⁶ Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts*. Pg 346. https://www.google.com/books/edition/Genealogical_and_Personal_Memoirs_Relati/Rdk4AQAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&bsq=ephrain%20woods

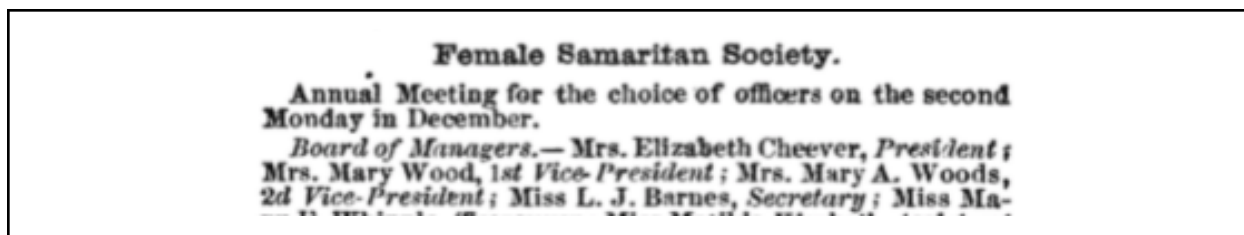
¹⁷ Ibid., Pg 346.

¹⁸ Willard, Frances and Livermore, Mary. *American Women: Fifteen Hundred Biographies, Volume I*. Mast, Crowell & Kirkpatrick, 1893. <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/umn.31951p00283700a>. Pg 798.

¹⁹ Ibid., Pg 798.

²⁰ Ibid., Pg 798.

Mary A. Woods, who sold the land that would become 3 Woodside St., was also an important member of the Salem community. While she was only listed as “keeping house” in the 1870 census, she was someone who participated in many of Salem’s charitable efforts. Below is an excerpt from the 1864 *Salem Directory*:



The Female Samaritan Society was founded in 1832 by the women of the Universalist church and their pastor. According to an 1873 state report, “Its object is to aid the worthy poor, without regard to name or sect... It expends \$1,000 a year for about 200 families.”²¹ Mary was listed as the 2nd Vice President of the Female Samaritan Society.²² Mary A. Woods died on November 11, 1884, thirteen years after her husband’s death. They are both buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Salem.

While the Woods family preceded the house at 3 Woodside St., they undoubtedly shaped North Salem in important ways. Ephraim Woods’ nurseries transformed the land where the house at 3 Woodside St. would be built. His son, George Henry, sacrificed his health and well-being in defense of his country and its democratic principles. His wife, Kate Tannatt Woods, was a widely read and respected author, bringing additional literary fame to Salem.²³ Mary A. Woods, while only listed as “keeping house” in the census, found purpose in charitable work, and shaped North Salem as much as her husband Ephraim when she stipulated in deeds that purchasers of his land were required to build houses on the former nursery lots. One can imagine that her work within the Female Samaritan Society may have inspired her to provide affordable land to families who wanted a house of their own. When she sold Lot 18 to Mary J. Converse, a daughter of Irish immigrants, in 1873, she set in motion the construction of what would become 3 Woodside St. On the next page is an excerpt from the 1873 deed detailing the aforementioned arrangement, as well as a picture of Mary A. Woods’ signature.

²¹ Massachusetts Board of State Charities. *Annual Report of the Board of State Charities of Massachusetts, Volume 10, Parts 1873-1874*. Wright & Potter, 1874. Pg 49.
https://www.google.com/books/edition/Annual_Report_of_the_Board_of_State_Char/Ty8MAQAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Female%20Samaritan%20Society%20Salem&pg=PR1&printsec=frontcover

²² Adams, Sampson, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1864*. Geo. M Whipple & A.A. Smith, 1864. Pg 236.
https://www.google.com/books/edition/Salem_City_Directory_Salem_Mass/9K51AQAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1

²³ Willard, Frances and Livermore, Mary. *American Women: Fifteen Hundred Biographies, Volume I*. Pg 798.

of said lot Eighteen. It being understood and agreed by and between said grantor and grantee that the said Mary J. Converse shall build or cause to be built on said lot within one year from the date hereof a dwelling house to cost at least \$2000, & the erection of said dwelling house

Mary A Woods

This signature can be found in Book 832, Page 40, R. Manfield to M.A. Woods at the Registry of Deeds.

The Converse Family, North Salem, and the Eastern Railroad Company

When Mary J. Converse and her husband George A. Converse bought Lot 18 from Mary A. Woods in Salem in 1873, the city itself was changing. Maritime life which had marked the early days of Salem had given way to local factories and the railroad. An eight room school house had just been built in South Salem. Horse drawn carriages wandered in streets lined by naphtha lights and globe lanterns.²⁴ Mayor Cogswell in his address to the city opined about the recent financial panic and how it "made a whole continent feel poor in a day," and "how madly we all, as individuals and communities, have rushed on, of late in the extravagant expenditure of money."²⁵ Cogswell worried about public drunkenness and the excesses of alcohol consumption. Despite having a liquor law, the enforcement and non-enforcement of it did little to curb Salem's consumption habits.²⁶ Within the days leading up to the purchase of land on Woodside St. the Naumkeag Boat Regatta sailed alongside Salem's shores, the Peabody Essex Museum hosted a male choir, and a new temperance society had been announced.²⁷

On the following page is an 1874 *Boston Globe* article, written a year after the Converses bought land from Mary A. Woods, detailing all the changes happening across the city. Of particular note, the article detailed the neighborhood of Mary and George Converse: "North Salem also shows many changes. Several streets have been laid out, and, though, lots in this section do not command as high prices as do those at the other end of the city, yet some fine residences have been put up and North Salem's prospects for the future are quite flattering."²⁸

²⁴ *Salem City Documents 1873-1874*. Salem, Mass: Salem Press, Corner of Liberty and Derby Streets, 1874. Pg 8-15.

²⁵ Cogswell, William. *Salem City Documents 1873-1874*. Salem, Mass: Salem Press, Corner of Liberty and Derby Streets, 1874. Pg 24.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, Pg 15.

²⁷ "Salem." *The Boston Globe*. October 3, 1873. Accessed 2021.

<https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/image/428180097/?terms=salem&match=1>

²⁸ "A Brief Glance at the Condition of the Market in Salem." *The Boston Globe*. May 12, 1874. <https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/clip/77630160/salem-description-12-may-1874/>

A Brief Glance at the Condition of the Market in Salem.

Real estate movements in Salem are conservative, like everything else in the old City of Peace. Her motto is "slow and sure," and doubtless in the long run this policy is quite as productive of real steady advance as the more rushing ways of some places. Salem's growth is steady, and a period of five years shows many changes and improvements. Probably during the last five years more and greater improvements have been made than during any similar period in the preceding twenty years. South Salem changes are particularly noticeable. The sale of the large estate of the late Hon. E. Hersey Derby to a party of Salem capitalists, and the cutting up and sale of the same as house lots gave a new start to real estate transactions in that locality. The ice broken in the direction of such transactions in this excellent portion of the city for residences, other parties who owned land placed numerous house lots into the market, and from that time up to today building operations have been progressing quite satisfactorily. Lafayette street, the main avenue of South Salem, has been greatly improved by the building of many first-class residences, and the numerous streets that have been laid out on the land back from the main street are now well graded and bordered by substantial and pleasant houses. Much new land was brought into the market, and a new activity took possession of the business, and it has kept up all through the city.

North Salem also shows many changes. Several streets have been laid out, and, though lots in this section do not command as high prices as do those at the other end of the city, yet some fine residences have been put up and North Salem's prospects for the future are quite flattering. The widening of North street, the main avenue leading north from the business part of the city, was a work that turned attention to the many attractive localities to be found at the upper part of North Salem, in the vicinity of Buffum and North streets and in the territory surrounding Kernwood, the elegant grounds owned by General Horace Binney Sargent.

"Down town," the older portion of the city, does not show so great improvements, but even here the changes have been progressive, and some few new streets have been laid out, running at right angles with Bridge street and opening up new land. Here some new houses have been built for the accommodation of mechanics employed at the Salem lead works, or at the car works of the Eastern Railroad. Two large new and substantial wharves are now in process of construction in this section, one a coal wharf for the joint use of the Reading Coal Company and the Eastern Railroad, and the other for the works of the Salem Gas Light Company.

The upper portion of the city shows changes of a somewhat different nature. In the vicinity of Boston street continual changes are being made for the growth of the tanning and currying business, and property in that portion of the city is more valuable each year. On the old turnpike road many pretty residences have been built during the past few years, and much available high land, overlooking the city, can now be bought at reasonable rates, and a residence on that avenue may be classed as among the pleasantest in the city, though lots in that locality are not considered as desirable as those in South Salem.

One of the greatest improvements in the city proper, of late years, is the extension of Washington street, just completed, across South River, thus making one continuous broad street from North River to Lafayette street, in South Salem. This change is looked upon as of great benefit to the city, and it opens a few fine building sites. Already one fine brick and one wooden building, for business purposes, are going up, and others will follow as the extension of business demands.

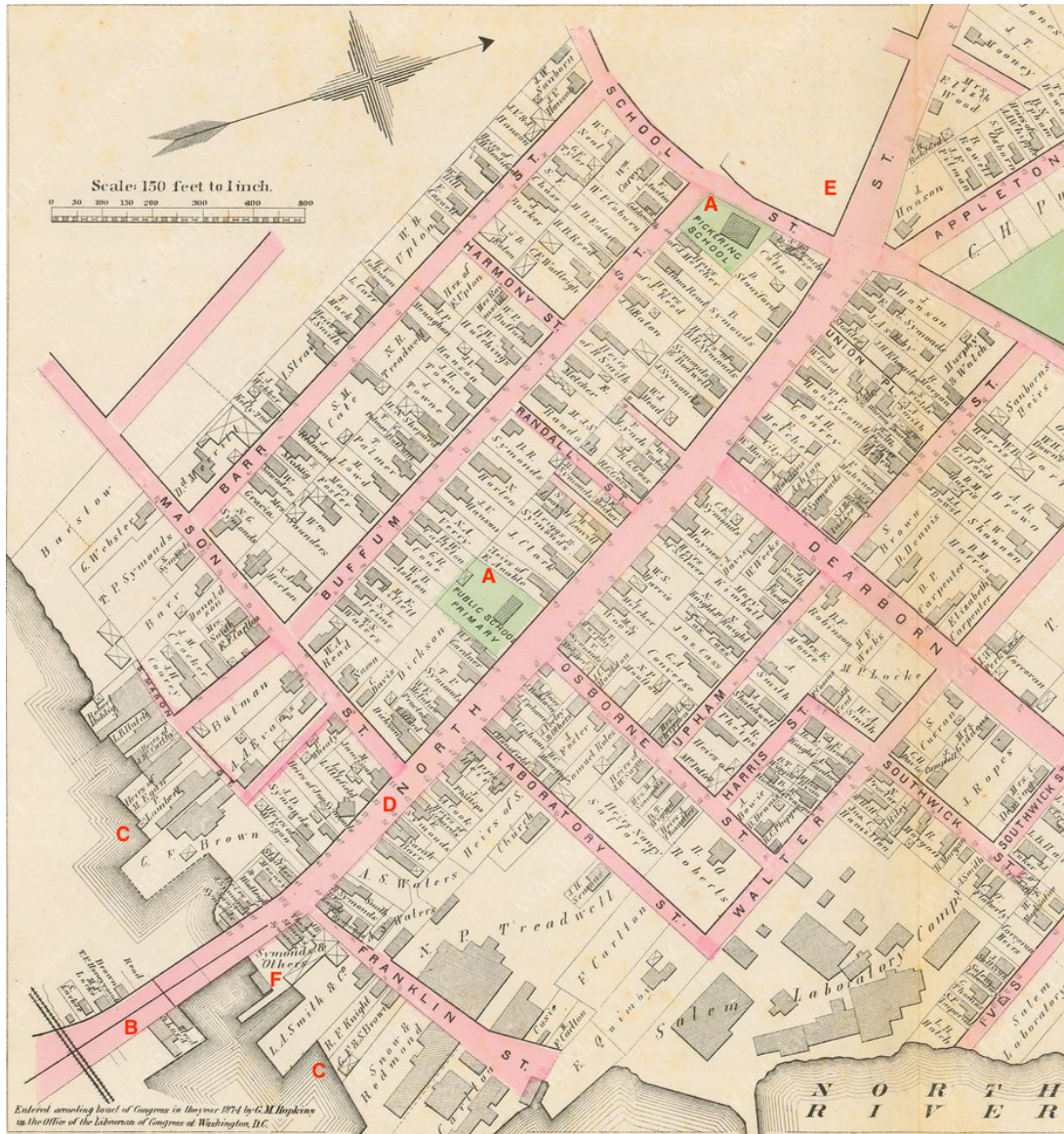
There has not been as much activity in building lots, this Spring, but the sales of houses and land in all sections has been passably brisk. Salem is proverbially "a good place to sleep in," and her superior railroad connections with "the Hub," make her quiet boundaries very attractive as a home for the business man, who desires a healthy and pleasant place to reside, and who desires beside the advantages of a city for his family.

Land in the centre of the city commands from \$1 to \$4 per foot, according to locality, and the best

building lots, on the main streets, just out of the city from \$1 to \$1.50 per foot. Lots on cross streets, in North or South Salem, bring from thirty to seventy-five cents a foot, according to locality.

A sale of a very desirable estate on Essex street, in the central portion of the city, is announced for next Thursday. It is a rare chance for some one who would like to put up a rentable business block. Salem has several responsible real estate agents. William Archer does the largest auction business, and Charles B. Fowler is also engaged in the same line. A number of other agents are continually offering property at private sale.

The prospective business in this line may be counted as good, though Salem never has "the real estate fever." Most of the sales are confined to the months of April, May and June, but oftentimes numerous sales are made in the Fall.



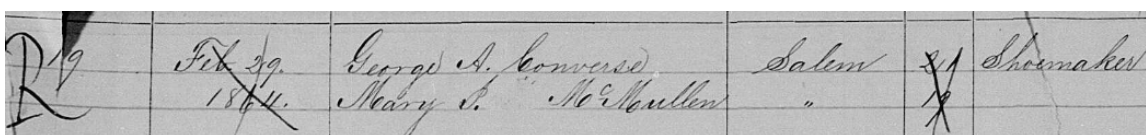
This map details points of interest for North Salem and has been cross referenced with the 1874 Salem Directory.³¹

- A. These are two public schools located in North Salem.
- B. Located here is North Bridge, likely the route George A. Converse used to travel to work.
- C. The businesses along the North River waterfront were main engines of economic growth in North Salem. There were brass founders and finishers; a coppersmith; painters and tradesmen; and most prominently leather carriers and tanners, among many other businesses.
- D. The historic location of the Naumkeag wigwam village.
- E. The location of James M. Prime's grocery store, the closest to the Converse family home.
- F. Symonds' grocery store, the last before crossing North Bridge into the Salem city center.

³¹ G.M. Hopkins & Co. "Part of Ward 6. Salem, 1874, Plate Q." WardMaps LLC, Accessed 2021.
<https://wardmapsgifts.com/collections/atlas-of-salem-massachusetts-1874/products/salem-massachusetts-1874-plate-q>

When Mary J. Converse and George A. Converse began constructing their home in 1874, their section of North Salem had not been as densely developed as the neighborhoods closer to North River. The house at 3 Woodside St., however, was to Mary, George, and their nine-year-old daughter Carrie, a home for their family. This must have been an important milestone for Mary's family. Mary was born in 1845 to Irish immigrants named James McMullen and Mary Brerman McMullen.³² It is worth noting that the spelling of Mary's maiden name changed over the course of her life in various documents, including: Mullen, McMullen, and Mullin. Furthermore, it is unknown if Mary was born in Ireland like her parents. It seems likely due to a lack of documents, however, that Ireland was Mary's native land.

On February 29, 1864, Pastor C.W. Biddle, married George A. Converse of Salem, to Mary J. McMullen in Lynn, Massachusetts. She was nineteen years old. George was a twenty-one-year-old shoemaker at the time.³³ A copy of the record is below.



Unlike Mary, George had a large family and was born in Massachusetts on September 27, 1843. His father Robert Converse was from Danvers, and his mother Elizabeth Cliff was from Salem.³⁴ They had raised him alongside his eight brothers and sisters in Salem.

When they had bought the land on Woodside St., they had little in common with the Woods family. Like Mary A. Woods and Ephraim Woods, the Converses were Universalists and had one child. However, the similarities ended there. In 1873, Ephraim had been two years dead and Mary was in the twilight of her life. George and Mary Converse were in their early thirties and raising their nine-year-old daughter, Caroline, or Carrie as they called her.³⁵ Whereas the Woods family had been one of Salem's most prominent families, the Converses came from more ordinary roots. In the eleven years from his marriage to buying the land on Woodside St., George A. Converse, the shoemaker, had become George A. Converse, the engineer.

Eastern Railroad had a station in downtown Salem approximately one mile from Woodside St. George's brother, Josiah, who lived on Boston St., also worked for Eastern Railroad but in the repair shop.³⁶ Eastern Railroad was the first railroad to connect Boston to Portland giving tourists from Massachusetts an opportunity to escape to the beaches in Maine, and Mainers a way into the Boston metropolitan area.³⁷ On the next page is a map of the Eastern Railroad from Professor Charles J. Kennedy's history of the Eastern Railroad Company.

³² Department of Health and Bureau Records. "Certificate of Death for Mary J. Converse." Vital Records, Bronx Death Certificates. April 7, 1933.

³³ Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915. Marriages v. 163 (p.120-end), 164, 171-172, 1863-1864. Familysearch.org. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6F6S-9ZK?i=622&cc=1469062>.

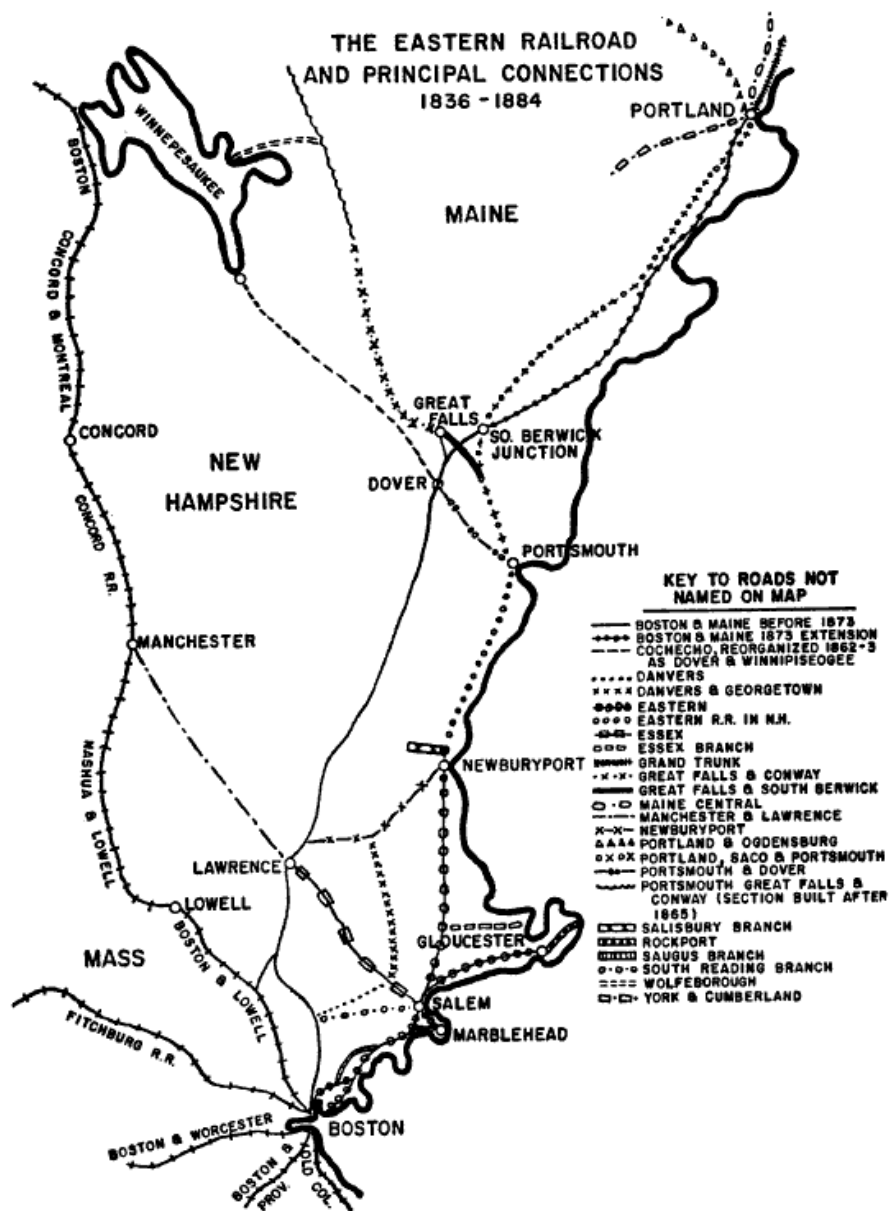
³⁴ The Essex Institute. *Vital Records of Salem, Mass to 1850, Volume III*. The Essex Institute, 1924. Pg 238.

³⁵ Birth Certificate of Caroline A. Converse. Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001, P 186, Vol 8. Familysearch.org. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:DD94-S46Z>.

³⁶ Sampson, Davenport, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1876*. A.A. Smith & Co, 1876. Pg 50.

<https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Name-Listing-1876.pdf>.

³⁷ Bucar, Jim. "The Railroad Corridor." *Eastern Trail Alliance*, Accessed 2021. <https://www.easterntail.org/history-of-the-eastern-trail/>.



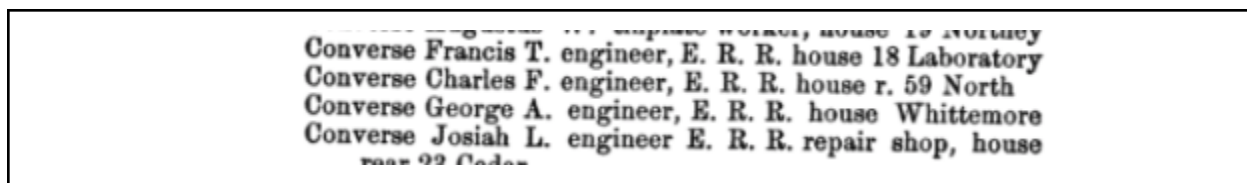
The main line of Eastern Railroad ran along the coast from Boston to Portland, including a stop in Salem where George A. Converse worked.³⁸

When Mary J. Converse and George A. Converse bought the land on Woodside St., the Eastern Railroad was marred by scandal and debt. Only two years earlier, the Bangor Express train departing Boston had crashed into another train stationed in Revere. *The New York Times* wrote that “the machine plowed its way two-thirds of the way through the swaying mass of

³⁸ Kennedy, Charles J. “The Eastern Rail-Road Company, 1855-1884.” *The Business History Review* Vol. 31, No. 2. Pg 188. https://www-jstor-org.corvette.salemstate.edu/stable/3111849?seq=10#metadata_info_tab_content

humanity before it, and was only stopped in its career after nearly the whole car had been crushed into fragments... So [Sic] add to the terrors of the scene the scalding water from the locomotive was thrown upon the crowd, and the entire train burst into flames."³⁹ In total, 29 people were killed and 57 injured.⁴⁰ Mismanagement and the Great Revere Train Wreck of 1871 doomed the Eastern Railroad, which would last only until 1884 roughly a decade after the Converse bought land on Woodside St. Today, the MBTA has converted some of the old Eastern railways for the Commuter Rail's Newburyport-Rockport Line. In addition, some portions of the old railways have been converted into walking and biking paths.⁴¹

Despite Eastern Railroads' financial struggles, the company holds an important place in Salem's history. Hundreds of people like George A. Converse worked for Eastern Railroad, including four members of his family in 1872 as pictured below.⁴²



The Salem Depot stood in Salem for nearly a century from 1847 to 1954. The Boston Globe said of the building in 1938:

Some say the Salem railroad station is the most hideous structure in America... Some say its ugliness is enchanting, that all it needs is a coat of ivy – preferably poison ivy – to make it an antique of rare value. Some Salem commuters shudder at it daily. Others look upon it as an old friend, shelter of their fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers.⁴³

Today, Riley Plaza is located where the Eastern Railroad Station once stood. A railroad tunnel was built under the site after the building was razed. On the next page are some photos of the Eastern Railroad Depot.

³⁹ "Death on the Rail." *The New York Times*. August 27, 1871. Accessed 2021.

<https://www.newspapers.com/clip/54716017/1871-aug-27-revere-station-train-wreck/>.

⁴⁰ Kennedy, Charles J. "The Eastern Rail-Road Company, 1855-1884." Pg. 188.

⁴¹ "Newburyport/Rockport Line." *Get There By Train*, Accessed 2021.

<https://sites.google.com/site/gettherebytrain/home/railroads/mbta/newburyport-rockport-line>

⁴² Sampson, Davenport, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1874*. Geo M. Whipple & A.A. Smith, 1874. Pg. 50.

<https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Name-Listing-1874.pdf>

⁴³ Connolly, Michael J. "The Year They Tore Salem Depot Down." *The Imaginative Conservative, The Boston Globe*, December 4, 1938. Accessed 2021.

<https://theimaginativeconservative.org/2019/12/year-they-tore-salem-depot-down-michael-connolly.html>



The Eastern Railroad Depot circa 1870.⁴⁴



The E.R.R. Repair Shop where George's brother Josiah worked.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Salem State University. "Eastern Railroad Depot, Salem, Mass." Nelson Dionne Collection, *J.S. Lefavour*, SV362, 1870. <https://digitalcommons.salemstate.edu/stereoviews/346/>.

⁴⁵ Salem State University. "Interior of Car Shop, E.R.R., Salem, Mass." Nelson Dionne Collection, *J.S. Lefavour*, SV289, 1870. <https://digitalcommons.salemstate.edu/stereoviews/287/>.



The Salem Depot circa 1910, decades after George A. Converse worked there.⁴⁶

Once George A. Converse and Mary J. Converse bought land on Woodside St., they endeavored to build a house on Lot 18 as Mary A. Woods had stipulated. The Converse family, however, must not have had the money required to do this right away; therefore, on November 3, 1874, Mary J. Converse received a mortgage from Charles S. Nichols, a mortgage broker and insurance agent. Nichols was a wealthy man who lived in a mansion at 37 Chestnut St.⁴⁷ He loaned Mary J. Converse “the sum of fifteen hundred dollars three years from this date, with interest semi annually, at the rate of eight percent, per annum, and until such payment shall pay all taxes and assessments on the granted premises...” If the Converses defaulted on the mortgage Nichols could sell the premises. So long as the Converses paid the assigned fees though, they “may hold and enjoy the granted premises.”⁴⁸ It is important to note in this mortgage deed that this is the first mention of any buildings on Lot 18. It is therefore likely that the Converses completed construction of the house at 3 Woodside St. in 1874. The house does

⁴⁶ Library of Congress. "Boston and Maine Railroad depot, Riley Plaza." *Detroit Publishing Co.*, ca. 1910. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/det.4a19779/>.

⁴⁷ Sampson, Davenport, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1872*. Geo. M. Whipple & A.A. Smith, 1872. Pg 136.

https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Salem_Directory_containing_the_city/W_IQgjrK8kC?hl=en&gbpv=1

⁴⁸ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Mary J. Converse; Grantee: Charles S. Nichols. November 3, 1874. Book 915, Pg 49.

not appear in the Salem Directory, however, until 1876. Below is a picture of the deed referring to "all buildings and other improvements thereon."⁴⁹

the said Charles S. Nichols & his heirs and assigns forever, lot No. 18 on Woodside street in Salem with all buildings and other improvements thereon

Converse George A. engineer, E. R. R. house 3 Woodside

In 1876, the house at 3 Woodside St. appeared in the Salem Directory for the first time.

302 SALEM DIRECTORY.

SALEM MUTUAL
Fire Insurance Co.
 97 WASHINGTON STREET.

ANNUAL MEETING, FOURTH MONDAY IN APRIL.

CHARLES S. NICHOLS, PRESIDENT.
 WILLIAM S. FELTON, SECRETARY.

DIRECTORS:

ISAAC P. FOSTER,	CHARLES S. NICHOLS,	GEORGE WHEATLAND,
JAMES CHAMBERLAIN,	BENJAMIN M. PERKINS,	WILLIAM S. FELTON,
GEORGE F. BROWN,	CHAS. M. RICHARDSON,	EDWIN R. IDE.

A picture of an advertisement for Charles S. Nichols Fire Insurance Co. on 97 Washington St.⁵⁰

Nichols, however, did not hold the title to the Converse mortgage and insurance for long. Ten days later, on November 13, 1874, he sold it to Charles H. Kezar. The deed read that Nichols "do hereby assign, transfer, and set over unto the said Kezar the said mortgage deed, the real estate thereby conveyed, and the note and claim... to the conditions therein contained and to redemption according to law."⁵¹ The reasons for this exchange are not clear. Unlike Nichols, one of Salem's wealthier residents, Kezar was a licensed innholder at 28 Market Square

⁴⁹ Ibid., Book 915, Pg 49.

⁵⁰ Sampson, Davenport, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1876.* Pg 302.

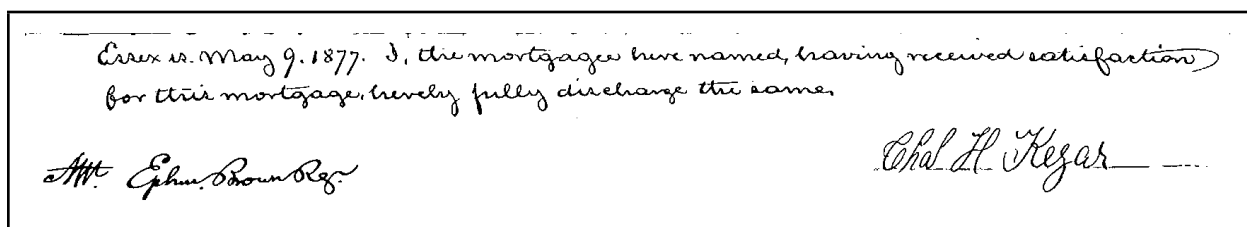
⁵¹ *Salem Registry of Deeds.* Grantor: Charles S. Nichols, Grantee: Charles H. Kezar. November 13, 1874. Book 916, Pg 270-271.

and lived in a house on 75 Summer St.⁵² There was also a restaurant attached to Kezar's inn where his brother George was a cook. The restaurant was simply called the "Eating Saloon." Below is an 1882 advertisement for Kezar's business.⁵³

**CHARLES H. KEZAR,
EATING SALOON,
20 Derby Square, Salem.**

By 1882, Market Square had been renamed Derby Square.

Roughly a year after Kezar obtained the Converse mortgage, the Converse took out an additional loan in 1875 "in consideration of three hundred dollars, to us paid by Charles Kezar of said Salem... Subject to a prior mortgage for \$1500, given by us to Charles S. Nichols..."⁵⁴ This totaled the debt they owed to Kezar at \$1800. Two years later, on May 9, 1877, the Registrar of Deeds annotated the Kezar mortgage in the margins and noted that all debts were paid off. The deed read "I, the mortgager, here named [Kezar], having received satisfaction for this mortgage hereby fully discharge the same."⁵⁵ Pictured below is that annotation, as well as the signature of Charles H. Kezar.



It is possible that the Converse fell into financially difficult times and could not make the necessary mortgage payments to Kezar. Two days before the Registrar of Deeds had made the annotation that all debts had been paid off, the Converse had sold their house at 3 Woodside St. to Benjamin A. Reed and Emily F. Reed on May 7, 1877. The Converse had bought Lot 18 at the beginning of a financial crisis in 1873. This crisis had set off panic across the United States and Europe. President Ulysses S. Grant and his Republican colleagues tasked with the

⁵² Sampson, Davenport, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1876*. Pg 106.

⁵³ Meek, Henry. *The Naumkeag District Directory, 1882-3*. Henry M. Meek & Francis A. Fielden, 1882. Pg 574. https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1882_2_230-332.pdf

⁵⁴ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Charles H. Kezar, Grantee: George A. Converse & Mary J. Converse. May 9, 1877. Book 942, Pg 193.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, Book 942, Pg 193.

responsibility of reconstructing the South following the Civil War felt the consequences as well. Partially as a result of these economic difficulties Republicans lost the 1874 Congressional elections, one of many decisive moments that led to Confederate sympathizers regaining power in the South.⁵⁶ By 1877, the fortunes of the nation had turned: President Rutherford B. Hayes had agreed to remove the military from the South, abandoning black Southerners to white “home rule.” That same year, George, Mary, and Carrie Converse moved out of their home at 3 Woodside St. They had originally bought the land for \$375; took out a mortgage for \$1500; and then were loaned an additional \$300, totaling an investment of \$2,175. When they sold the house and land in 1877, it was for \$2072. It is unclear but it seems unlikely that the Converses profited from the sale of 3 Woodside St.

Italian Greyhounds—For the best dog or bitch, \$10, George W. Poore, Boston; second best, \$5, George A. Converse, Salem.

Less than a year after his move from 3 Woodside St., George A. Converse's name appeared in the Boston Globe citing his second place finish in the Italian Greyhounds category of the Massachusetts Kennel Club Dog Show. He had the second best Italian Greyhound “dog or bitch” in the competition.

Second Empire Architecture and the Home at 3 Woodside Street

When the Converses built the house at 3 Woodside St., they chose a style that contrasted sharply with Salem's earlier First Period or Georgian style homes. The Converses built a house in the architectural tradition of the Second Empire in France. The origins of this type of architecture traced back to the reign of Napoleon III. In 1851, the elected president of France, Louis-Napoléon Bonaparte, nephew of Napoleon I, dissolved the National Assembly effectively ending the short-lived Second Republic installing himself as emperor. He ruled France for approximately 18 years until 1870 when he went into exile in England and the Third Republic was established.⁵⁷ From 1852 to 1870, however, Napoleon III transformed the architectural life of Paris. He expanded the city's limits, widened boulevards, and constructed new buildings modeled after an earlier Italian Renaissance tradition.⁵⁸ These new structures symbolized the architectural style of the Second Empire. A few examples are shown on the next page.

⁵⁶ Barreyre, Nicolas. "The Politics of Economic Crises: The Panic of 1873." *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, V. 10, 2011. Pg 403. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/23045120>

⁵⁷ Delage, Irene and Guiga, Nebiha. "Napoleon III, Emperor of the French (1808-1873)." Napoleon.org, Accessed 2021. <https://www.napoleon.org/en/young-historians/napodoc/napoleon-iii-emperor-of-the-french-1808-1873/>.

⁵⁸ McNamara, Sarah. "The Rise & Fall of the Mansard Roof." *The Old-House Journal*, August-September 1984. Pg 152. https://dahp.wa.gov/sites/default/files/Rise_and_Fall_ofThe_Mansard.pdf.



Boulevard Haussmann, Credit: Thierry Bézecourt.



The Avenue de l'Opéra painted by Camille Pissarro (1898).

The mansard roof, or “the french roof,” is the defining feature of Second Empire architecture. Although the height of Second Empire architecture was in the nineteenth century, the mansard roof was popularized by an architect named Francois Mansart, who lived from 1598 to 1666.⁵⁹ The mansard roof was a signature of Parisian buildings during this time because it allowed French citizens to skirt tax laws. During the Second Empire, there was a new property tax that was based on the height of a building measured from the ground to the base of the roof. Rather than measuring the building to the ceiling of the top living space which then led to a roof, the mansard roof with its steep sides and dormer windows thus forced inspectors to permit a top living space free of charge.⁶⁰

While the mansard roof was the defining characteristic of French Second Empire architecture, it was not the only one. Often Second Empire buildings featured but were not limited to ornamented windows and doorways. Additionally roofs often had bracketed cornices at their base for extra detail. Architects and builders sometimes used bay windows and corner quoins to sometimes enhance the appearance of a more modest residence.⁶¹ On the next page is a picture of the house at 3 Woodside St. with annotated notes on its architectural features.

⁵⁹ Ibid., Pg. 152

⁶⁰ "Architecture in Oakwood." *The Society for the Preservation of Historic Oakwood*, Accessed 2021. <https://www.historicoakwood.org/second-empire>

⁶¹ Old House Journal. "The Mansard Roof and Second Empire Style." *Old House Online*, Accessed 2021. <https://www.oldhouseonline.com/house-tours/the-mania-for-mansard-roofs/>



A 1986 picture of the house at 3 Woodside St. taken by Debra Hilbert of the Northfields Preservation Association. Much of the following analysis is borrowed from her notes.⁶²

- A. A concave corner, a common style on a mansard roof.*
- B. Two dormer windows at the front of the mansard roof. Dormer windows coupled with the mansard roof's steep sides allowed Parisian homeowners to skirt city tax laws by adding extra living space.*
- C. The mansard roof, the defining feature of Second Empire architecture. The house at 3 Woodside St. used to have a fishscale slate roof, which has since been removed.*
- D. Windows with tab-bracketed caps.*
- E. Bay windows, like this one, were often added to more modest Second Empire homes to provide additional detail.*
- F. A bracketed and dentilled door hood. This ornamentation calls back to an earlier Italianate style.*

One has to wonder what about this style appealed to the daughter of Irish immigrants and one of Salem's modest sons, what dreams did this architecture hold for them. While this type of home is rare in North Salem today, it was a phenomenon that swept across the world. Expositions in Paris in 1855 and 1867 exposed the French Second Empire beyond the borders of France.⁶³ This style found its second home in the United States, a country that was also experiencing great societal change. The Second Empire style reached the height of its fame during the presidency of Ulysses S. Grant, the former Union general who had crushed the southern rebellion four years before assuming office.

⁶² Hilbert, Debra. "MACRIS Report: 3 Woodside St." *Massachusetts Historical Commission*, Sal 507, April, 1986. https://mhc-macris.net/Details.aspx?Mhclid=SAL_507.

⁶³ McNamara, Sarah. "The Rise & Fall of the Mansard Roof." Pg 152.

Grant had commissioned a British architect named Alfred B. Mullett who designed the State, War, and Navy buildings in Washington D.C. drawing from French Second Empire influences. Many of America's wealthiest residents followed suit. *Old House Journal*, a digital magazine, commented on the proliferation of this style to all classes of people: "Nonetheless, the mansard roof was so useful—both as a means of securing additional living space at the top of the building and as a device for adding visual heft and distinction to a small and simple building—that its use by all classes of homeowners was widespread."⁶⁴ There are quite a few examples of this style house in Salem, mostly in the city center and in the southern part of the city. The Converse house on Woodside St. is a rare example of Second Empire architecture in North Salem.

The Second Empire style though faded quickly from favor in the United States. Some critics have associated its demise as a byproduct of the scandals that Grant's critics associated with his presidency.⁶⁵ Others tied it to a waning French influence around the world. After the disastrous results of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870 the French army was decimated, and Napoleon III was captured and exiled.⁶⁶ Regardless, these buildings were demolished as quickly as they took prominence in America. The survival of this modest French Second Empire house in Salem thus represents a distinctive period in the history of the United States and the world, as well as the hopes and dreams of Mary and George Converse, its first owners, and Mary A. Woods, who stipulated that her husband's nursery lands be turned into residential homes.



3 Woodside St.⁶⁷

⁶⁴ Old House Journal. "The Mansard Roof and Second Empire Style."

<https://www.oldhouseonline.com/house-tours/the-mania-for-mansard-roofs/>

⁶⁵ McNamara, Sarah. "The Rise & Fall of the Mansard Roof." Pg 154.

⁶⁶ Old House Journal. "The Mansard Roof and Second Empire Style."

<https://www.oldhouseonline.com/house-tours/the-mania-for-mansard-roofs/>

⁶⁷ "3 Woodside St, Salem, MA 01970." Zillow.com, Accessed 2021.

https://www.zillow.com/homes/3-Woodside-St-Salem,-MA-01970_rb/56118846_zpid/.

The Reed Family & Massachusetts 23rd Regiment Co. F

On May 7, 1877, Emily F. Reed, “wife of Benjamin A. Reed of said Salem” bought a “parcel of land with all the buildings thereon situated in said Salem in that thereof known as North Salem and being lot number eighteen according to the plot of land belonging to the Estate of the late Ephraim Woods as surveyed by Chas. A. Putnam surveyor May 29, 1871.” They purchased 3 Woodside from the Converse “in consideration of two thousand and seventy two dollars.”⁶⁸ Though the second homeowners, Emily and Benjamin Reed would live in 3 Woodside St. longer than the Converse family. They would be the last residents of the nineteenth century and the first of the twentieth century.

Emily Farley was born on June 14, 1839 to James Farley and Mary West.⁶⁹ When she was three years old her father, James Farley, passed away.⁷⁰ Mary raised Emily and her two siblings for four years as a single parent until she met Stephen Young, who was also widowed and raising two boys of his own.⁷¹ In 1855, Emily Farley appears in the census living in Salem in the household of Stephen Young, a mason, and her mother Mary.⁷² A year later in 1856 at the age of eighteen, Emily Farley married Benjamin A. Reed of Salem.⁷³ Between 1859 to 1878, from age twenty to thirty-nine, Emily would give birth to seven children: Emily, Alice, George, Benjamin, Addison, Matilda, and Mabel, respectively. Only Alice, her second daughter, did not live to adulthood, dying at 14 months old.

The patriarch of the family, Benjamin A. Reed, was born in 1835 during the presidency of Andrew Jackson to Clarke Reed and Martha Pulisifer.⁷⁴ He was twenty-one years old when he married Emily. He supported his large family by working as a carpenter throughout his life.⁷⁵ On December 20, 1860, the life of the Reeds and that of the nation would change forever. A headline in the *Charleston Mercury* read “The Union is Dissolved.”⁷⁶ By mid-1861 ten more states would secede joining South Carolina and forming what they called the Confederate States

⁶⁸ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: George A. Converse and Mary J. Converse, Grantee: Emily F. Reed and Benjamin A. Reed. May 7, 1877. Bk 975, Pg 197.

⁶⁹ *Death Record of Emily Farley Reed*. Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915, 1921-1924. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NW2Y-PDQ>.

⁷⁰ *Death Record of James Farley*. Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001. FamilySearch. <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QG1K-XW64>.

⁷¹ *Mary Farley Marriage*. Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N4QV-LYM?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=9N6K-3HJ>

⁷² *Massachusetts State Census, 1855*. Salem, Ward 03, Digital Folder 004279395. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-62YV-DW?i=29&cc=1459985&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AMQH9-9MP>.

⁷³ *Benj. A. Reed and Emily Farley Marriage*. Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915, FHL microfilm 1,433,014. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NWBT-7D1?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=M5S7-G51>

⁷⁴ *Benjamin A. Reed Death Records*. Massachusetts, U.S., Death Records, 1841-1915, Original Source: Massachusetts Vital Records. Ancestry.com.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2101/images/41262_b140117-00294?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&phsrc=fOS215&phstart=successSource&pld=521943

⁷⁵ *Benj. A. Reed and Emily Farley Marriage*. Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NWBT-7D1?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=M5S7-G51>

⁷⁶ “The Union is Dissolved.” *Charleston Mercury*. November 3, 1860. *National Park Service*. <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/south-carolina-secession.htm>

of America, a nation, as the “Mississippi Declaration of Secession” stated, whose “position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery-- the greatest material interest of the world.”⁷⁷

On April 15, 1861, Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter, a base for Federal troops. President Lincoln within days had called upon Northern men to join the war effort. Back in Salem, as was the case across the nation, talk of this impending war was at a peak. Salem’s young men formed an organization called “The Union Drill Club” with the intention of learning about military duty and life. Within a month, this Union Drill Club had formed a company and voted on a uniform. They would become Company F, a part of the Massachusetts 23rd Volunteer Regiment. With Governor Andrew’s permission, leaders of Co. F opened a recruiting station at 31 Washington St.⁷⁸ The *Salem Gazette* wrote of that day that “no single event has occurred in our city in reference to the present war, which is more cheering to every patriot than the enlistment of this organization of our young men... We are called, indeed, to lay our most precious jewels upon the altar now.”⁷⁹

Ninety-four percent of Massachusetts’ 23rd Regiment Co. F was made up of men from Essex County, about seventy percent from Salem alone.⁸⁰ Salem’s residents celebrated Company F on the Commons, the only group of soldiers ready for the front that passed through the city.⁸¹ On October 14, 1861, Benjamin A. Reed, the twenty-six-year-old carpenter from Salem, enlisted for three years of service as a private. Reed was an ordinary man. He was about 5’6” with fair skin, blue eyes, and brown hair.⁸² At the time of his enlistment, he was not yet living on 3 Woodside St. as it was still a part of Ephraim Woods’ nursery. He would leave behind two of the house’s future residents for the South: his wife Emily and their daughter Emily. Alice, their second daughter, had died less than a month before Benjamin enlisted. One has to wonder what role this death played in Benjamin’s decision to join the war effort. Emily Reed must have been aware that this decision risked the life of her husband and could bring tragedy onto the Reed Family once again. When Reed joined, Emily was also one month pregnant with Benjamin’s first son, George.⁸³ On the next page is Benjamin A. Reed’s record from his “Regimental Descriptive Book.”

⁷⁷“A Declaration of the Immediate causes which induce and justify the secession of the State of Mississippi from the Federal Union.” *Yale Law School*, Accessed 2021. https://avalon.law.yale.edu/19th_century/csa_missec.asp

⁷⁸ Emmerton, James A. *A Record of the Twenty-Third Regiment Mass Vol. Infantry*. William Ware & Co., 1886. Pg. 4. <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/item/443047-a-record-of-the-twenty-third-regiment-mass-vol-infantry-in-the-war-of-the-rebellion-1861-1865-with-alphabetical-roster-company-rolls-portraits-maps-etc?viewer=1&offset=0#page=35&viewer=picture&o=&n=0&q=>

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, Pg 39.

⁸⁰ Valentine, Herbert E. *Dedication of the boulder commemorating the service of the Twenty-Third Regiment*. Newcomb & Gauss, Printers, 1905. Pg. 10.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 10.

⁸² *Benjamin A. Reed Enlistment Record, 1862*. Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Massachusetts. Fold3.

<https://www.fold3.com/image/524451808?terms=reed,war,massachusetts,civil,union,united,america,benjamin,a,state>

⁸³ *George Reed Birth Record*. Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915, 004341182. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6S44-321?i=932&cc=1463156>.

R. | 23 | Mass.

Benjamin A. Reed.

Co. I, 23 Reg't Mass. Infantry.

Appears on

Regimental Descriptive Book

of the regiment named above.

DESCRIPTION.

Age 26 years; height 5 feet 5 3/4 inches.

Complexion Light

Eyes Blue; hair Brown

Where born Salem Mass.

Occupation Carpenter

ENLISTMENT.

When Oct. 14, 186

Where Salem

By whom G. A. Emmerton; term 3 y'rs.

Remarks: Discharged Oct. 7/62.

☐

(3846)

Copyist

As the regiment drilled, it was common for Company F to sing either “John Brown’s Body” or a patriotic ode dedicated to the Union Drill Club by some of Salem’s women.⁸⁴ The song is pictured below.

— PATRIOTIC ODE —

DEDICATED TO THE UNION DRILL CLUB OF SALEM.

Tune — “*Scots wha hae.*”

Rally boys! Come forth to fight,
For the Union, Law and Right;
For the Nation's honor, bright,
Let us draw the sword!
By the wrongs vile traitors wrought,
By the ruin they have brought,
Tyrauny of deed and thought,
Forward, is the word!

See the Northern pride and flower
Gathering in this fateful hour;
Union is our strength and power,—
Let us join the van!
Lay the traitors in the dust;
Die they shall, and die they must:
They have broken every trust,—
Forward every man!

Massachusetts calls to-day,
Beckoning all her sons away;
She no longer brooks delay—
Not a man must lag!
Gird the sword, and join the throng;
Right must triumph over wrong;
In our cause we shall be strong,—
Raise the starry flag!

This song does not mention the downfall of slavery. In retrospect, this was an obvious effect of the war but at its start this was not yet evident. It is worth noting that this sentiment was not entirely absent though. Salem’s soldiers sang “John Brown’s Body” which commemorated the martyred abolitionist who attempted to violently overthrow the institution of slavery in Harpers Ferry, Virginia.

One can imagine the sons of Essex county singing these songs as they went first to Annapolis, Maryland and then traveled by ocean to Hatteras, North Carolina.⁸⁵ Benjamin A. Reed was with Company F. on these first journeys southward.⁸⁶ On February 5, 1862, the monotony of camp life was broken when Company F was ordered to travel to Roanoke Island, a location along the North Carolina coast. They had arrived as a part of a fleet of ships: the steamers towing four sailing vessels, supply vessels in the rear, and gunboats leading the way

⁸⁴ Valentine, Herbert E. *Dedication of the boulder commemorating the service of the Twenty-Third Regiment.* Pg 11.

⁸⁵ Emmerton, James A. *A Record of the Twenty-Third Regiment Mass Vol. Infantry.* Pg 26.

⁸⁶ Benjamin A. Reed *Muster-in Roll.* Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Massachusetts. Fold3. Pg 3. <https://www.fold3.com/image/524392637>.

and flanking the sides.⁸⁷ They were met with a few shells when they landed but were practically unchallenged.⁸⁸

James Emmerton, a corporal and assistant surgeon, remembered Company F's first march to the front at Roanoke Island when he wrote, "It was hard, at first, to realize that our charming rural by-road— a mere track through the woods— was to lead by so short a course to a bloody battle-field. The almost universally evergreen foliage was bright with the recent rain and frequent birds were chirping amid the emerald leaves."⁸⁹ At the end of this road was an opening surrounded by mud and swampland. There Company F met with the Massachusetts 25th Regiment who was engaged in battle with the Confederate enemy. About 3,000 Confederate soldiers were positioned on Roanoke Island prepared for the Union assault.

Six brass howitzers from Union gunboats supported Company F soldiers as they engaged with the enemy. It was in this part of the battle that Company F laid its first jewels on the altar. Two soldiers from Marblehead, Lieutenant Goodwin and Sargeant Morse, had been killed. When they were buried two months later in their hometown, Emmerton wrote, "business was suspended and the entire population took part. Flags were at half-mast everywhere. The public buildings as well as many private residences and stores and the Unitarian Church were draped in black."⁹⁰

Despite the hardships and death that they faced, Company F pushed ahead through the North Carolina swampland using their swords to carve a way through the wilderness, engaging the rebels and forcing them to retreat. While other regiments from Massachusetts and New York fought in different locations on Roanoke Island, General John G. Foster in his report noted that "the 23rd Mass. — sent to turn's the enemy's left — had also made its appearance on that flank— another cause of the necessity of the enemy's retreat."⁹¹ Along with the Massachusetts 24th, the 23rd Regiment joined in pursuit of the retreating enemy soldiers. Shortly thereafter, General Foster arrived by horseback announcing a Confederate surrender.

⁸⁷ Emmerton, James A. *A Record of the Twenty-Third Regiment Mass Vol. Infantry*. Pg 43.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, Pg 45.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, Pg 46.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, Pg 48.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*, Pg 51.



A painting published by Currier & Ives depicting the Capture of Roanoke Island on February 8, 1862.⁹²

On February 8, 1862, the Union had captured Roanoke Island, one of the first stages of what would become known as the Burnside Expedition. By capturing Roanoke Island, Union soldiers gained a base from which they could wage war against Confederate soldiers from the sea.⁹³ Generals Ambrose Burnside and George McCellan devised this plan as one piece of General Winfield Scott's Anaconda Plan, where Union soldiers would institute a blockade along the Confederate coast. Burnside said that he wanted soldiers "bordering on the northern seacoast, many of whom would be familiar with the coasting trade."⁹⁴ Benjamin A. Reed of Salem, the second homeowner of 3 Woodside St., was one those northern seaboard soldiers fighting at Roanoke Island. On the next page is a "Company Muster Roll" showing his activity duty status in January and February of 1862.

⁹² "Capture of Roanoke Island, Feby. 8th 1862." Lithograph, Collection: Popular Graphic Arts. Currier & Ives, 1862. Library of Congress. <http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3b49921/>.

⁹³ "The Burnside Expedition" North Carolina Civil War Sesquicentennial. North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. NCPedia, Accessed 2021. <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/burnside-expedition>.

⁹⁴ Burnside, Ambrose E. *Personal Narratives of Events in the War of Rebellion*. N. Bangs Williams & Company, 1882, Providence College. Pg 7. https://digitalcommons.providence.edu/cqi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1001&context=ri_history

B | **23** | **Mass.**

Benjamin A. Reed
Private, Co. F, 23 Reg't Mass. Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Jan. & Feb.*, 1862.

Present or absent *Present.*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

Wm G. Prodie

(358)

Copyist.

The Massachusetts 23rd Regiment would fight in twelve more battles across the South: New Bern, Goldsboro Bridge, Kinston, White Hall, Smithfield, Port Walthall Junction, Arrowfield Church, Proctor's Creek, Drewry's Bluff, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Wyse Fork. They would lose 218 men in the war to end slavery and save the Union. Four officers and eighty enlisted men would die from fatal wounds, and two officers and one hundred and thirty-two enlisted men would die from disease.⁹⁵ Benjamin A. Reed, however, likely did not see the field of battle again after fighting on Roanoke Island in February, 1862. On the "Company Muster Roll" for March and April, he is listed as being absent due to sickness while at New Bern.⁹⁶ In May and June of 1862, he was listed as being sick at the hospital.⁹⁷

<i>B</i>	23	Mass.
<i>Benjamin A. Reed</i>		
<i>Private</i> , Co. F, 23 Reg't Mass. Infantry.		
Appears on		
Company Muster Roll		
for	<i>March & April, 1862</i>	
Present or absent	<i>Absent</i>	
Stoppage, \$	<i>100</i>	for
Due Gov't, \$	<i>100</i>	for
Remarks:	<i>Sick at Newbern.</i>	

⁹⁵ National Park Service. "Union Massachusetts Volunteers: 23rd Regiment, Massachusetts Infantry." *National Park Service*. Accessed 2021. <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UMA0023RI>

⁹⁶ *Benjamin A. Reed Muster-in Roll*. Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Massachusetts. Pg 7.

⁹⁷*Ibid.*, Pg 8.

<i>R</i>	23	Mass.
<i>Benjamin A. Reed</i>		
<i>Private</i> , Co. F, 23 Reg't Mass. Infantry.		
Appears on		
Company Muster Roll		
for	<i>May & June</i> , 1862	
Present or absent	<i>Absent</i>	
Stoppage, \$	100 for	
Due Gov't, \$	100 for	
Remarks:	<i>Sick at Hospital</i>	

On August 18, 1862 he left North Carolina and was assigned to recruiting service in Massachusetts. It was during this time that he likely met his son George for the first time. From August onward, Reed was listed as having been on an extended furlough. In addition to being on furlough, his sickness lingered as well. By the new year, 1863, following the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, Reed still had not rejoined the Massachusetts 23rd Regiment. By March and April of 1863, he was listed as being discharged on account of physical disability with a Boston surgeon's certification dated on October 7, 1862.⁹⁸ His discharge papers stated:

Private Benjamin A. Reed of Captain Whipple's Company (F) of the Twenty Third Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, was enlisted by RR Emerton on the Fourteenth day of October 1861, to serve three years; he was born in Salem, in the State of Massachusetts. Twenty six years of age, five feet five and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, and by occupation enlisted Carpenter... I certify that I have carefully examined the said Benjamin A. Reed of Captain Whipple's Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of soldier, because of enlargement of the liver and chronic diarrhosa [sic]...⁹⁹

It is possible that Reed's enlarged liver and diarrhea were symptoms of jaundice, a common sickness in the army, or possibly hepatitis. However, there is no definitive understanding of the illness that forced Reed from active duty. On the next page is Benjamin A. Reed's discharged papers.

⁹⁸ Ibid., Pg. 19.

⁹⁹ Ibid., Pg. 19.

Inquire to G.A. and Mr. Dicks

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.



CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE.

[To be used in duplicate, in all cases of discharge on account of disability.]

Private Benjamin Reed of Captain Whipples Company (A), of the Twenty Third REGIMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS, was enlisted by J.R. Emmerton of the Regiment of the Fourteenth day of October 1861, at Salem Mass; he was born in Salem in the State of Mass Twenty six years of age, Five feet 5 3/4 inches high, Light complexion, Blue eyes, Brown hair, and by occupation an enlisted Carpenter

During the last two months said soldier has been unfit for duty days.

TION,
E,

Commanding Company.

I CERTIFY that I have carefully examined the said Benj. A. Reed of Captain Whipples Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier, because of enlargement of the liver and

[Here consult par. 1134, p. 245, and directions on Form 12, p. 269, Med. Dept. Gen. Reg.]

Chronic diarrhoea.

Approved

Reexamined & affirmed
J.M. Bowen M.D.

Oct 15/62

A.A. Surgeon U.S.A.

J.M. Wallace M.D. Surgeon U.S.A.

DUPLICATES.

DISCHARGED, this Seventh day of October 1862,

See outside

TOWN

COUNTY

Commanding the

STATE

H. D. Camp
Col. 5th
Regt. Conn.

By the end of the war in 1865, the Reed family had grown from three to five. Emily and Benjamin welcomed a new son into the family, Benjamin Reed Jr., on January 21, 1865. In the

years after the war, Benjamin Reed would continue to work as a carpenter in Salem in order to support his growing family. He would have three more children with Emily. Addison P. Reed, Benjamin and Emily's third son, was born two years after the war's conclusion in 1867.¹⁰⁰ In March of 1873 his daughter Tillie was born.¹⁰¹ On a lighter note, in 1874, Benjamin A. Reed's name appeared in the *Boston Globe* because his clothes had been robbed.¹⁰²

Notes.—A clothes-line in the yard of Benjamin A. Reed in North Salem was robbed on Friday night.

When the Reeds moved into 3 Woodside St. in 1877, they brought with them two teenagers and three children. Emily at thirty-nine years old may or may not have realized when they bought 3 Woodside St. that she was pregnant for a seventh time. Nearly eight months later, Mabel Reed, the family's last child was born. Below is an 1880 Census capturing what the Reed family would have looked like three years after moving into Woodside St. and nearly eighteen years since Benjamin Reed fought on Roanoke Island.¹⁰³

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	Reed Benjamin A.	W	M	43				Carpenter
	Emily J.	W	F	41	wife		1	Keeping house
	Emily J.	W	F	21	Daughter		1	Book-keeper
	George C.	M	B	17	son		1	Errand boy in store
	Benjamin A.	W	M	15	son		1	At school
	Addison P.	W	M	13	son		1	At school
	Matilda H.	W	F	6	Daughter		1	At school
	Mabel	W	F	2	Daughter		1	

The 1880 census captured what life was like for the Reed Family in the early days of their time living on Woodside St. The following is an explanation of each of the categories annotated above.

- A. The number of the house on Woodside St.
- B. The names of the family members
- C. Race
- D. Sex
- E. Age
- F. Family Relationship
- G. Marital Status: Single
- H. Marital Status: Married
- I. Profession - here we have the most interesting glimpse into the Reed Family. Emily, the matriarch of the Reed family, is listed as "Keeping House," undoubtedly devoting much of her time to raising her children. Only three Reed family members earned a wage: Benjamin, the patriarch, as a carpenter, Emily as a bookkeeper, and George as an errand boy who worked while also attending school.
- J. Not shown in this picture is a category indicating that all Reed family members could read and write.

¹⁰⁰ Addison Reed Death Record. Canada, British Columbia Death Registrations, 1872-1986; 1992-1993. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FLRJ-L-HR?id=M5S7-G51>.

¹⁰¹ Matilda Reed Birth Record. Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915. FamilySearch. <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FZ6G-L8Q>.

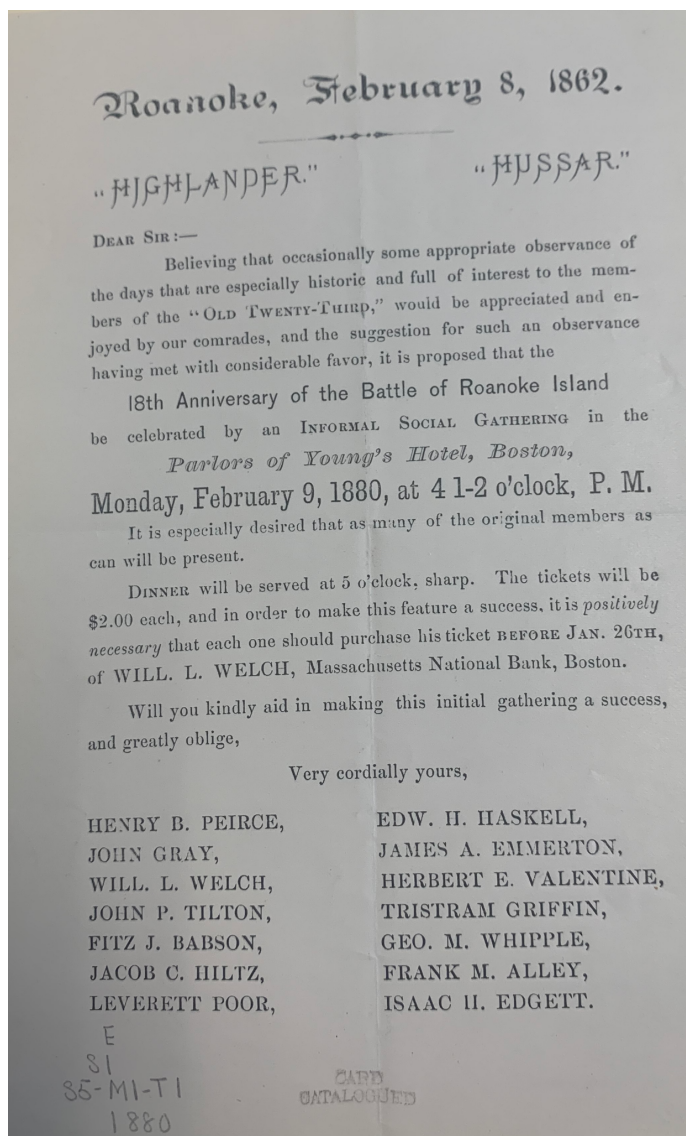
¹⁰² "The Suburbs: Notes." The Boston Globe. January 12, 1874. Accessed 2021.

<https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/image/428182017/?terms=benjamin%20a.%20reed&match=1>

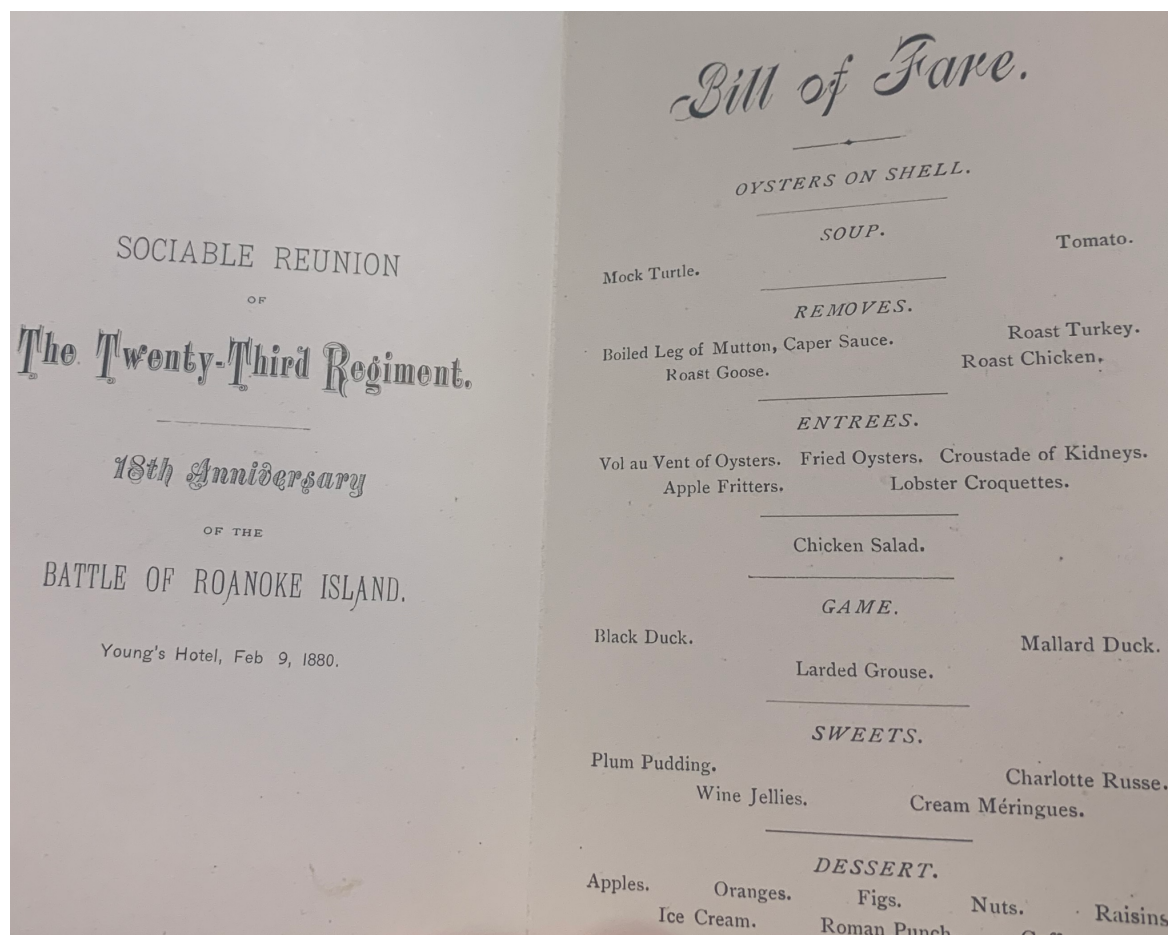
¹⁰³ United States Census, 1880. Massachusetts, 1880 federal census: soundex and population schedules. FamilySearch.

<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YB3-B18?cc=1417683&wc=XHT7-DP8%3A1589405656%2C1589405685%2C1589395083%2C1589398228>

While Benjamin A. Reed raised his family, his old comrades in the 23rd Regiment worked to remember the service of Essex County's men in the Civil War. On September 26, 1871, the *Salem Gazette* published a reunion notice for "resident members of the late 23rd Regiment." After a larger than expected crowd reported to this gathering, a 23rd Regiment Association was formed. This association worked to record the history of the 23rd Massachusetts Regiment, and specifically the service of Company F. They also hosted annual dinners commemorating and celebrating the soldiers who took part in the war. Pictured below is an 1880 reunion invitation for anyone who wanted to commermate the participation of the Massachusetts 23rd Regiment, Company F in the Battle of Roanoke Island.¹⁰⁴



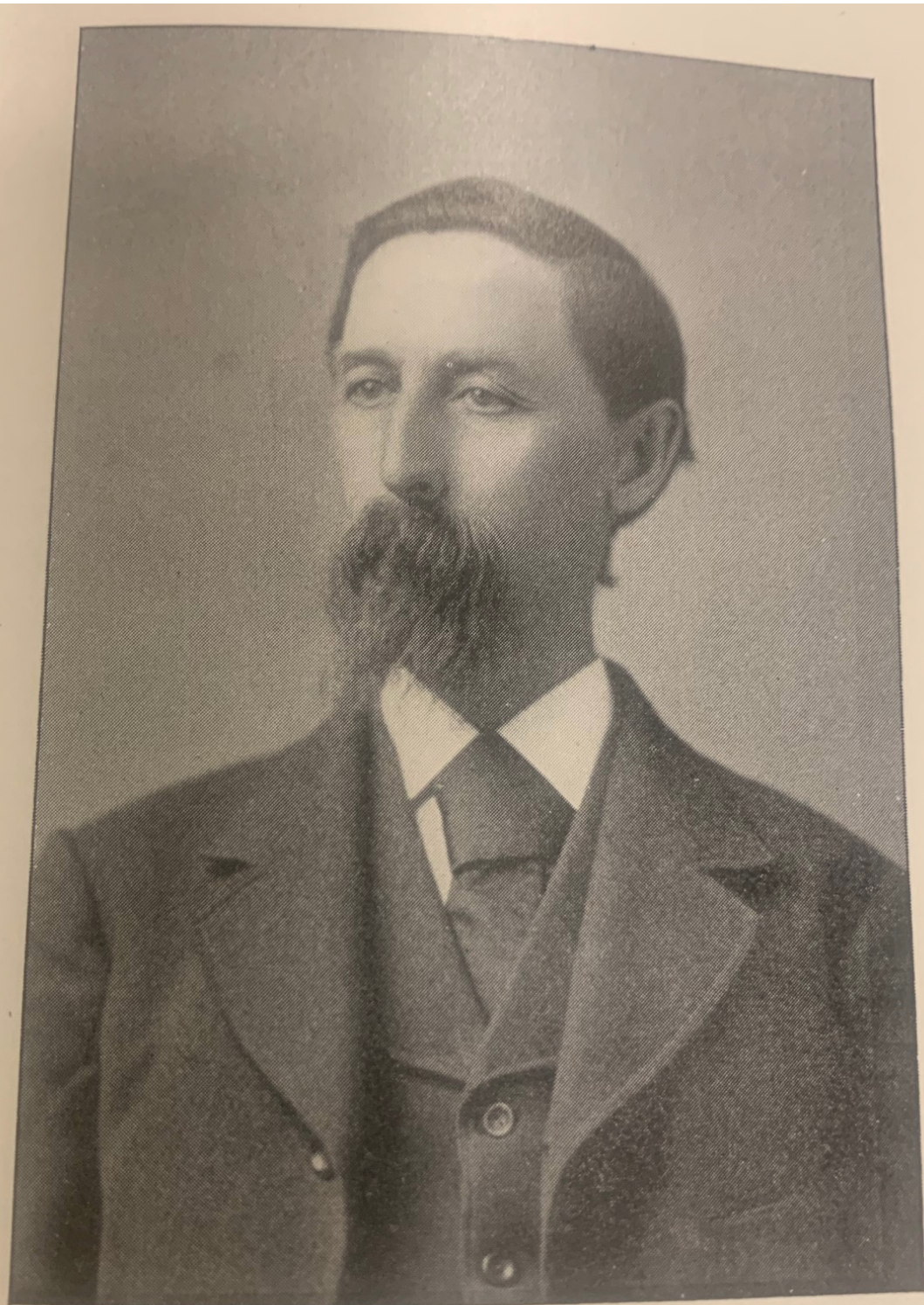
¹⁰⁴ Massachusetts Infantry 23rd Regiment Association. "Reunion (notices)." Box number 1, Folder number 1, Call number: E S1 S5 M1 T1. Phillips Library Stacks, Rowley, MA. Accessed May 20, 2021.



A dinner menu from the 1880 reunion.

In addition to these annual dinners, a few members of Company F recorded histories of their time in the war. Herbert E. Valentine, a former soldier in Company F and the most prolific of these historians, wrote and drew detailed histories of the regiment's war effort. In his 1896 book *Co. F, 23d Massachusetts Volunteers in the War for the Union* he interspersed photographs of those who served alongside him throughout his narrative. Below is an undated photograph from Valentine's book of Benjamin A. Reed. It is the earliest known picture of a resident who lived at 3 Woodside St.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰⁵ Valentine, Herbert E. *Co. F, 23d Massachusetts Volunteers in the War for the Union*. W.B. Clarke & Co., 1896. Pg 111.



BENJ. A. REED.

It is unclear if Benjamin A. Reed ever attended any of these reunions. The inclusion of his photograph in Valentine's book possibly signals that he did. Furthermore, he likely fought on Roanoke Island, which increases the likelihood that he attended one of the dinners. Roanoke Island was the first and most celebrated of these battles among Company F's soldiers. Through the years, Benjamin A. Reed continued to collect a disability pension for his service in the Civil War. Pictured below is a record of Reed's pension.¹⁰⁶

969054		(3-M-4)	
INVALID	Orig.	Name	Rup
		Serv.	Mo
		Ctl. No.	699018
	Ctl.	Name	Reed, Benjamin A.
		Serv.	F 23, Mass. Inf

With each passing annual celebration of the 23rd Regiment, the Reeds grew older. Their children would find jobs, husbands, wives, and homes of their own. Emily and Benjamin watched their household of eight become a household of four. By the time the 1900 census was taken, only two of their children, Tillie and Mabel, remained at 3 Woodside St. Benjamin was still a carpenter, and Tillie was listed as a saleswoman. Benjamin and Emily Reed had been married for forty-four years and living at 3 Woodside St. for over half that time. Pictured below is a portion of the 1900 census.¹⁰⁷

Reed Benjamin A.	Head	w	m	Mar	1835	64	m	44
- Emily F	Wife	w	f	Gen	1832	67	m	44
- Tillie H	Daughter	w	f	Mar	1874	26	S	
- Mabel	Daughter	w	f	April	1878	22	S	

Benjamin Reed Jr.'s name also grew in stature in Salem. He had been listed as a sign painter in the 1886 Salem Directory.¹⁰⁸

Reed Benjamin A. carpenter, house 3 Woodside Reed Benjamin A. jr. sign painter, 243½ Essex, boards 3 Woodside

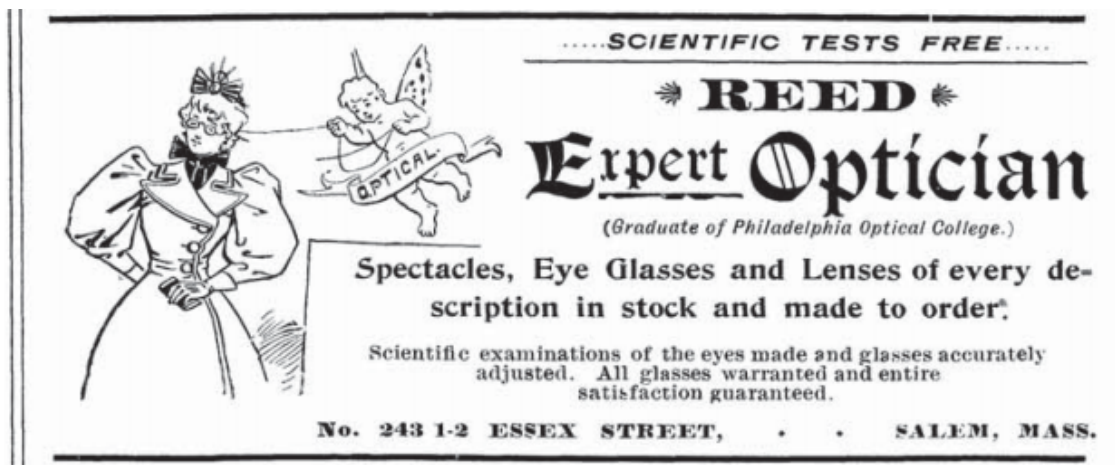
¹⁰⁶ Benjamin A. Reed Pension Record. Pension Number: 270319. Fold3.

<https://www.fold3.com/image/313117509?rec=309340951&terms=reed.war.massachusetts.civil.union.united.america.benjamin.a.states>.

¹⁰⁷ 1900 United States Census. Salem city Ward 6, Essex, Massachusetts, United States. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M9R6-98D>.

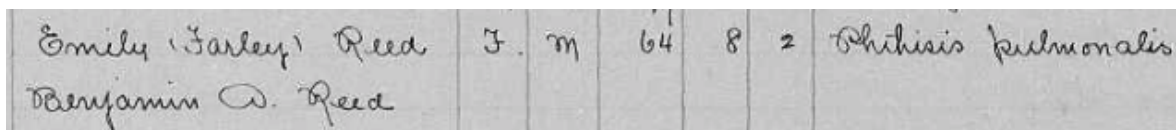
¹⁰⁸ Sampson, Murdock, & Co. *The Salem Directory, 1886*. Merrill & Mackintire, Henry P. Ives, 1886. Pg 313. https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Salem_Directory/-PcCAAAYAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1

Nine years later, Benjamin A. Reed Jr., the carpenter's son and his father's namesake, would be advertising himself as a college educated optician. Below is a copy of an advertisement for his business.¹⁰⁹



Benjamin Reed Jr. is listed as a graduate of Philadelphia Optical College in this 1895 advertisement.

Three years after the 1900 census, Emily F. Reed, the mother of six, and the family's matriarch passed away from tuberculosis.¹¹⁰ She was sixty-four years old.



The official cause of death was phthisis pulmonalis, known more commonly as consumption or tuberculosis.

After Emily's death, the Reed children sold their family home of twenty-six years to Elmer F. Littlefield. One has to speculate what the children felt that day signing in their father's stead. Mabel, the youngest of the Reed children, born one year after the family moved in, only ever knew a world that had the embrace of her mother and her childhood home in it. Benjamin A. Reed would wake up for the first time in forty-seven years without his wife. In the 1906 *Salem Directory*, the seventy-one year old widow was shown as a boarder in a house on 152 North St., a few blocks from Woodside St.¹¹¹ In 1909, six years after his wife's death, Benjamin Reed passed away. At the time of his death Benjamin was living on Oakland St. with his daughter Emily and her husband, a shoecutter named Edwin Cushing.¹¹² Emily's house was very close to

¹⁰⁹ Meek, Henry M. *The Naumkeag Directory*. Henry M. Meek, 1895. Pg. 1161.

https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1895_945-1101.pdf

¹¹⁰ *Death Record of Emily F. Reed*. Family Search.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33HY-6SX9-83R?i=945>.

¹¹¹ Meek, Henry M. *The Naumkeag Directory of Salem*. The Henry M. Meek Publishing Co., 1906. Pg. 199.

<https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/121-352.pdf>

¹¹² *Ibid.*, 118, <https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/57-120.pdf>.

their former house on Woodside St. just across the way off of North St. Below is a copy of Benjamin A. Reed's death certificate.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS			SALEM 294	
RETURN OF A DEATH			(CITY OR TOWN.)	
FULL NAME <i>Benjamin A. Reed</i>		Registered No. <i>101</i>		
Place of Death* } <i>Salem 11 Oakland St.</i>	Date of Death } <i>Feb. 9 1908</i>			
Residence <i>Salem 11 Oakland</i>		Age <i>72</i> years <i>2</i> months <i>24</i> days		
STATISTICAL DETAILS		PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE		
SEX <i>m.</i>	COLOR <i>w.</i>	SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED		
MAIDEN NAME †		I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased during last illness, from <i>Jan. 29 1908</i> to <i>Feb. 9 1908</i> , that to the best of my knowledge and belief death occurred on the date stated above, and that the CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:		
HUSBAND'S NAME † <i>wife name Emily Farley</i>		Primary: <i>Erysipelas</i>		
BIRTHPLACE ‡ <i>Salem Mass</i>		(DURATION) <i>11</i> DAYS		
NAME OF FATHER <i>Blake Reed</i>		Contributory: _____		
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER ‡ <i>Salem Mass</i>		(DURATION) _____ DAYS		
MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <i>Martha Pulsifer</i>		(Signed) <i>A. N. Sargent M.D.</i>		
BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER ‡ <i>Salem Mass.</i>		<i>Feb. 9 1908 (Address) 116 Federal St.</i>		
OCCUPATION <i>Carpenter</i>		SPECIAL INFORMATION only for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Recent Residents.		
INFORMANT § <i>George Reed</i>		How long at Place of Death? _____ years _____ months _____ days		
PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL ¶ <i>Harmony Grove</i>		Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? _____		
DATE OF BURIAL <i>Feb. 11 1908</i>		Filed <i>Feb. 10 1908 J. Clifford Eastman Clerk</i>		
UNDERTAKER <i>Geo. W. Sull</i>		* City or town, street and number, if any. If death occurs away from USUAL RESIDENCE, give facts called for under "Special Information." If in a Hospital or Institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.		
ADDRESS <i>19 Church St.</i>		† In case of married or divorced woman, or widow.		
		‡ State or country; also city, town or county, if known.		
		§ Name and address of person giving statistical details.		
		¶ Name of cemetery.		

In this death certificate Benjamin A. Reed's cause of death is listed as Erysipelas, a bacterial infection affecting the skin.¹¹³ It is unclear if this illness was related to his reported liver enlargement during his time in the Civil War.

When Benjamin A. Reed was laid to rest next to his wife Emily in Harmony Grove cemetery on February 11, 1908, his family lost a father and his community lost one more of Salem's sons who remembered what it was like fighting in the war to save the Union. In September of 1908, the *Boston Globe* reported that the 38th annual reunion of the Massachusetts 23rd Regiment was twenty members fewer. Among the names listed was Benjamin A. Reed.¹¹⁴

¹¹³ Stanway, Dr. Amy. "Erysipelas." *DermNet NZ*, Accessed 2021. <https://dermnetnz.org/topics/erysipelas/>.

¹¹⁴ "Veterans in Reunion." *The Boston Globe*. September 25, 1908. <https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/clip/77629318/benjamin-a-reed-listed-as-having/#>.

Twenty members passed away during the year as follows: Timothy Foley, George W. Grant, David M. Pollock, William B. Besson, William T. Christian, Sergt W. W. Butcher, Sergt Fred A. Patten, Sergt William D. Davis, Edward S. Cowes, Andrew T. Sears, Gen Francis S. Dodge, Henry Martin, Benjamin A. Reed, Sergt Alonzo P. Dodge, George S. Jewett, Capt Alonzo Falls, Thomas Carpenter, Daniel Sheppard and Levi Bennett. After the business session a period was given to social intercourse and reminiscence, and at the close the party partook of dinner provided by the ladies of Col Allen woman's relief corps.

A copy of the Boston Globe article listing all the veterans of the 23rd Regiment who had passed away that year.

ROSTER CO. "F".	
1. W.R. Austin	175 Federal St. Salem
2. James Arrington Jr.	18 Atherton St. Somerville.
3. Geo. V. Barrett	15 Nursery St. Salem.
4. Ezra L. Browne	117 Lincoln St. No. Leominster, Mass.
5. D.W. Burchstead	314 Main St. Melrose.
6. J.G.S. Carleton	Tapleyville.
7. F.S. Caird	34 Walter St. Salem.
8. J.M. Crocker	11 Beardman St. Salem.
9. W.F. Daniels	30 Court St. Room 15, Boston.
10. Frank S. Dodge	210 Washington Ave. St. Louis Mo.
11. G.H.S. Driver	Brownsville Me.
12. G. Warren Dudley	29 W. 47th St N.Y.
13. C.E. Edgerly	16 Cross St. Salem.
14. L.F. Emilio	69 Summer St. Boston.
15. W.F. Fischer	P.O. 66, Ukiah, Cal.
16. John Gray	82 Summer St. Salem.
17. J.E. Glazier	19 Essex St. Beverly.
18. C.H. Hayward	Elm St. Ossipee, N.H.
19. E.F. Hobbs	14 Chestnut St. Salem.
20. L.W. Jenness	R.F.D. Box 28 Thomaston, Me.
21. F.H. Lee	5 Westerly St. Roxbury.
22. J.L. Lincoln	P.O. 1375 Lawrence, Kansas.
23. Henry Martin <i>d. Oct 19, 1907</i>	11 Symonds St. Salem.
24. Alex. Munroe	81 North St. Salem.
25. A.P. McDuffie	27 Blaney St. Swampscott, Mass.
26. C.C. Morse <i>d. Dec 11, 1907</i>	22 Lynde St. Salem.
27. Geo. Newhall	23 Forrester St. Salem.
28. F.M. Osborne	P.O. 39 Nyack, N.Y.
29. E.S. Perkins	3 Woodside St. Salem.
30. L.L. Robbins <i>d. Feb 9.</i>	Summit Ranch, near Oakville, California
31. B.A. Reed <i>d. Feb 9, 1908</i>	485 Lafayette St. Salem.
32. O.H. Saunders	128 North St. Salem.
33. Geo. B. Stone	Soldiers Home, Togus Me.
34. J.P. Tilton	Main St. Wenham, Mass.
35. John Thornton	141 Milk St. Boston.
36. A.D. Trowt	2 Andover St. Salem.
37. H.E. Valentine	Melrose, Mass.
38. G.M. Whipple	Charlestown, N.H.
39. H.F. Waters	Hilltop, Greenwood Co. Kansas.
40. D.B. Wallis	31 Buffum St. Salem.
41. R.E. Walcott	
42. C.E. Wadleigh	

Internal notes from the Company F reunion committee. Annotated next to Reed's name was his date of death and his former address, the one his comrades associated with him in life: 3 Woodside St.¹¹⁵

¹¹⁵ Massachusetts Infantry 23rd Regiment Association. "Reunion (notices)." Phillips Library Stacks, Rowley, MA.

Today, the city of Salem has a lasting monument to the 23rd Volunteer Regiment of Massachusetts. On the western edge of the Salem Commons on Winter St., near the spot where the city of Salem first cheered on these soldiers, there is a boulder commemorating their service during the Civil War. On the plaque is a list of ten companies that composed the regiment and the thirteen battles in which they fought. In 1905 when the city dedicated this monument, it is unknown if Benjamin Reed or his family attended. Yet it stands today as a reminder of the common men who left their native Salem as soldiers and risked their lives in a war that would save the Union and end the institution of slavery.



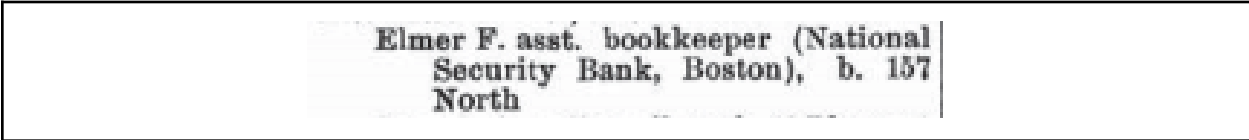
The Littlefield Family

On November 12, 1903, Elmer F. Littlefield signed three deeds for “one dollar and other valuable considerations.” First, the children of Benjamin and Emily Reed signed one deed, and then the spouses of the Reed children signed another deed.¹¹⁶ Once this task was completed, Littlefield became the owner of “the parcel of land in said Salem with all the buildings thereon... 49 feet front on Woodside; 100 feet 6 inches deep on the northeast side; 99 feet deep on the

¹¹⁶ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Cushing, Reed, Noyes; Grantee: Elmer F. Littlefield. November 12, 1903. Book 1724, Pg 72-75.

southwest side being the same land conveyed to Mary J. Converse by deed of Mary A. Woods widow of said Ephraim Woods dated October 8th 1873.”¹¹⁷ Immediately after signing those two deeds, Littlefield sold the property to Samuel P. Coombs for “one dollar and other valuable considerations.”¹¹⁸ Coombs then immediately sold his stake in 3 Woodside St. to Mary B. Littlefield, Elmer’s wife, for “one dollar and other valuable considerations.”¹¹⁹ There are a lot of uncertainties with the events of this date. It is unclear the role Coombs played in this transaction, what “valuable considerations” were traded on this day, and if the Littlefields had any prior connection to the Reeds.

Regardless, the Littlefields became the third family to live at 3 Woodside St. Elmer F. Littlefield was born in 1871 in Reading, Massachusetts to Elmer H. Littlefield and Frances Newell. Twenty-six years later, on June 14, 1897, he married twenty-one-year-old Mary A. Bartlett. Mary A. Bartlett’s parents John H. Bartlett and Angelia were from Salem. Elmer was working as a bookkeeper when Minister Charles H. Puffer of the Universalist Church wed the couple.¹²⁰ In the *Salem Directory* of 1895-1896, roughly a year before their marriage, Elmer was listed as an employee of the National Security Bank of Boston. He was listed as a boarder on 157 North St., a few blocks from Woodside St. Pictured below is this entry in the *Salem Directory*.



Elmer F. asst. bookkeeper (National Security Bank, Boston), b. 157 North

Elmer and Mary Littlefield had three children who lived at 3 Woodside St. Mendum Littlefield, who would grow up to be an engineer, was born in 1898.¹²¹ Prescott H. Littlefield, the second Littlefield son, was born on November 29, 1901. As an adult, he lived in Darien, Connecticut and worked for the Canada Dry Corp. for thirty-one years. He was also a graduate

¹¹⁷ Ibid., Book 1724, Pg 72-75.

¹¹⁸ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Elmer F. Littlefield, Grantee: Samuel P. Coombs. November 12, 1903. Book 1724, Pg. 75-76

¹¹⁹ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Samuel P. Coombs, Grantee: Mary B. Littlefield. November 12, 1903. Book 1724, Pg. 76-77

¹²⁰ *Mary and Elmer Littlefield Wedding Record*. New England Historic Genealogical Society; Boston, Massachusetts; Massachusetts Vital Records, 1911–1915, 1897. Ancestry.com.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2511/images/41262_b139431-00508?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=3342d98af81f6ab7b6c45e149c556efb&usePUB=true&phsrc=fOS220&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&ga=2.196661420.1491671804.1620734643-137947325.1619384030&pid=3942409

¹²¹ *Mendum Littlefield Certificate of Marriage*. Marriages small short volumes state, Vol. 48 Rockport to Salem Jan 1 - Oct 31, 1924, Film #107560389. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHK-93GR-8LQ5>.

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.¹²² Below is a 1923 yearbook photograph of Prescott H. Littlefield, a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at MIT.¹²³



On July 11, 1903, the first Littlefield daughter, Elizabeth, was born. Four months later, the Littlefield family moved into 3 Woodside St. Like the Reeds, Elmer and Mary were raising young children in the house. On December 14, 1908, a fourth Littlefield child was born, a daughter named Virginia.¹²⁴ Virginia, the only child born during the years when the Littlefields lived at 3 Woodside St., would eventually become a teacher as an adult.¹²⁵ Sadly though, tragedy struck the Littlefield household in 1909. Elmer and Mary lost their daughter, Elizabeth, at the age of six years old. Her death certificate listed that she had died from dysentery and complications from appendicitis. Before her death, she suffered from the effects of dysentery for ten days and the complications of appendicitis for seven. On the next page is a picture of Elizabeth Littlefield's death certificate.¹²⁶

¹²² *Prescott Harland Littlefield Obituary*. Ancestry Message Board, Meredith Richey. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/81572712/person/34553238548/media/e7e77ee4-c46f-42a8-9151-5da-b6d5a59d4?_phsrc=fOS296&_phstart=successSource.

¹²³ U.S., *School Yearbooks, 1880-2012*. School Name: MIT; Year: 1923. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1265/images/31916_b032758-00388?treeid=&personid=&rc=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS295&_phstart=successSource&pld=974841632.

¹²⁴ *Death Record of Virginia Falby*. Vermont Vital Records, 1760-2008. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KNMX-FG1>.

¹²⁵ *Marriage Record for Virginia Falby*. New Hampshire, U.S., Marriage Records, 1700-1971. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61836/images/61836_01_1058-00376?usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS297&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=120587840.

¹²⁶ Death Record of Elizabeth B. Littlefield. Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915, 1921-1924, #2313603. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6QJV-X7?i=722>.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SALEM 405
RETURN OF A DEATH
(CITY OR TOWN.)

FULL NAME *Elizabeth Littlefield* Registered No. *549*
 Place of Death *Salem, Woodside St.* Date of Death *Sept. 14* 190*7*
 Residence *Salem, Woodside St.* Age *6* years *2* months *3* days

STATISTICAL DETAILS			PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE	
SEX <i>F.</i>	COLOR <i>W.</i>	SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED	I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased during last illness, from <i>Sept. 7</i> 190 <i>7</i> to <i>Sept. 14</i> 190 <i>7</i> , that to the best of my knowledge and belief death occurred on the date stated above, and that the CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:	
MAIDEN NAME †	HUSBAND'S NAME †		Primary: <i>Dysentery</i>	
BIRTHPLACE ‡	<i>Salem, Mass.</i>		(DURATION) <i>10</i> DAYS	
NAME OF FATHER	<i>Elmer F. Littlefield</i>		Contributory: <i>Appendicitis</i>	
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER ‡	<i>Reading, Mass.</i>		(DURATION) <i>7</i> DAYS	
MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER	<i>Mary B. Barrett</i>		(Signed) <i>Benj. T. Sturgeis</i> M.D.	
BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER ‡	<i>Salem, Mass.</i>		190 <i>7</i> (Address)	
OCCUPATION	INFORMANT §		SPECIAL INFORMATION only for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Recent Residents.	
	<i>Elmer Littlefield</i>		How long at Place of Death? _____ years _____ months _____ days	
PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL †	DATE OF BURIAL		Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? _____	
<i>Greenlawn</i>	<i>Sept. 16 1907</i>		Filed <i>Sept 15 1907</i> <i>Clifford R. Tuttle</i> Clerk	
UNDERTAKER	ADDRESS		* City or town, street and number, if any. If death occurs away from USUAL RESIDENCE, give facts called for under "Special Information." If in a Hospital or Institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.	
<i>J. E. Smith</i>	<i>Salem</i>		† In case of married or divorced woman, or widow,	
			‡ State or country, also city, town or county, if known.	
			§ Name and address of person giving statistical details.	
			Name of cemetery.	

FILL OUT WITH INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
ALL NAMES TO BE IN FULL

Elizabeth Littlefield, the six-year-old daughter of Elmer and Mary, lived her whole life in the home at 3 Woodside St. Her death certificate confirms that she died in the family home.

The Littlefields moved out of 3 Woodside St. in 1917, nearly eight years after the death of Elizabeth. One has to wonder if her death shaped the family's experiences and memories in the home. Perhaps as Elmer professionally became more successful he wanted to upgrade to a larger house in a more affluent city, like he did when moved to Swampscott.¹²⁷ Or maybe his success as a banker afforded the family the opportunity to escape the home where his six-year-old daughter had lived and then passed away. Below is an excerpt of the 1910 census, taken a year after Elizabeth's passing.¹²⁸ Her absence is noted within the census.

¹²⁷ 1930 Federal Census, Mary B. Littlefield. Year: 1930; Census Place: Swampscott, Essex, Massachusetts; Page: 2A; Enumeration District: 0279; FHL microfilm: 2340638. Ancestry.com.
<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/16649797:6224?tid=&pid=&queryId=93005299db96bffe7321f7f9e4263f80&phsrc=fOS244&phstart=successSource>.

¹²⁸ 1910 Federal Census. Year: 1910; Census Place: Salem Ward 6, Essex, Massachusetts; Roll: T624_587; Page: 3B; Enumeration District: 0475; FHL microfilm: 1374600. Ancestry.com.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7884/images/31111_4330068-00895?usePUB=true&phsrc=fOS227&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=10904688.

Littlefield Elmer F.	Head of	M	W	40	MI	12		
— Mary B.	wife of	F	W	33	MI	12	4	3
— Mendham B.	Son	M	W	11				
— Prescott H.	Son	M	W	8				
— Virginia	Daughter	F	W	1 1/2				

The numbers annotated above were in a column with the title "Mother of how many children. Above the 4 read the words "Number born." Above the 3 read the words "Number now living."

Unlike the Reeds whose family life was centered around their residency at 3 Woodside St., the Littlefields moved from place to place throughout their lives. No matter their residence though, Mary continued to stay at home while Elmer commuted into Boston and worked as a banker. Elmer's 1956 obituary in the *Boston Globe* is the most comprehensive biography of his life available.¹²⁹ That obituary is posted on the next page followed by a copy of Elmer's signature.

¹²⁹ "Obituary for Elmer F. Littlefield." *The Boston Globe*. October 31, 1956. Accessed 2021. <https://bostonglobe.newspapers.com/clip/77628827/obituary-for-elmer-f-littlefield-aged/#>.

Elmer F. Littlefield

Retired Executive, 86;
50 Years a Banker

SALEM, Oct. 30—Elmer F. Littlefield, 86, formerly of Salem, retired executive of the First National Bank of Boston, died last night at the home of a daughter at Penacook, N.H.

A native of Reading, Mr. Littlefield retired as assistant manager of the State st. branch of the bank in 1941 after more than 50 years in banking. He and his wife moved from here to the home of their daughter, Mrs. Virginia Falby, at Penacook. Mrs. Littlefield died several years ago.

Mr. Littlefield had also been a treasurer and a director of the Wilson Tisdale Company of Boston.

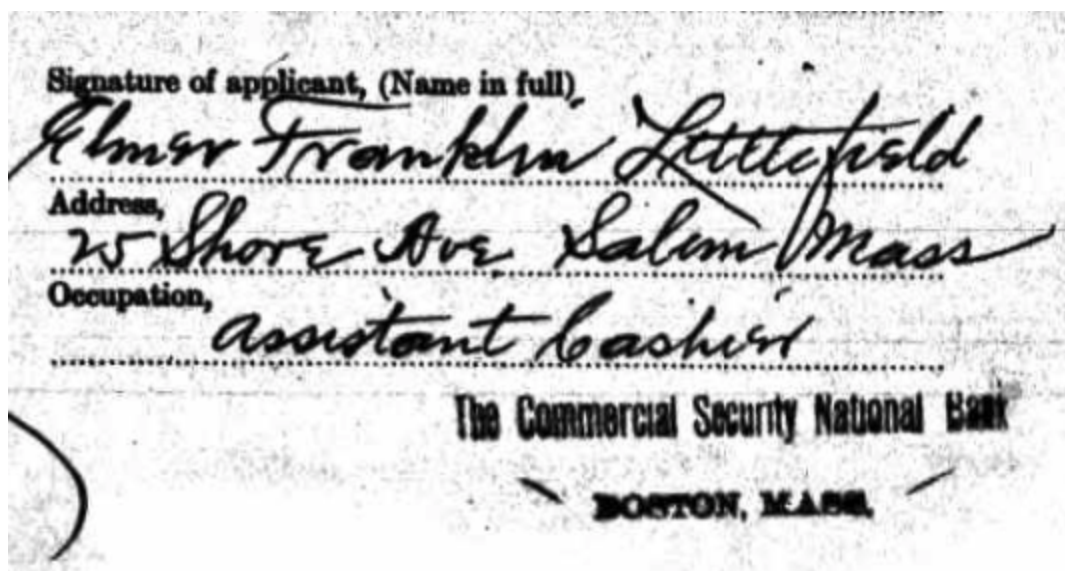
He entered the banking field as a cashier for the Commercial Security National Bank, which merged with the Atlantic National Bank in the 1920s.

The Atlantic merged with the First National Bank in 1936 and Mr. Littlefield served as assistant manager of its Post Office sq. branch before moving to the State st. office.

Mr. Littlefield was a member of the Essex Lodge of Masons for over 50 years. He also held membership in the Now and Then and Baker's Island associations.

Besides his daughter, he leaves two sons, Mendum B. of Larchmont, N.Y., and Prescott H., of Darien, Ct.; a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Coffin of Newburyport, and eight grandchildren.

Services will be held here Thursday at 2 at the Full Memorial, 84 Washington Square East.



This signature was taken from a copy of an application for The Massachusetts Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Elmer F. Littlefield received the approval of this society in April of 1928. He was a confirmed ancestor of Obadiah Hills of Newbury, Massachusetts, a minuteman at Lexington and Concord.¹³⁰

The O'Donnell Family

On February 23, 1917, Alice E. O'Donnell, wife of James O'Donnell, was the next buyer of the house on 3 Woodside St. She bought "the land in said SALEM with the buildings thereon... for consideration paid."¹³¹ The details of payment based on these records in the Registry of Deeds are unclear. The O'Donnell family also lived on 3 Woodside St. for the shortest amount of time. They would live in the home on 3 Woodside St. for fifteen months total.

The O'Donnells broke the pattern of young families buying the house at 3 Woodside St. They were older than Elmer and Mary Littlefield, but roughly the same age as the elder Reed children. James O'Donnell was born in Ireland in 1862.¹³² His wife Alice Mullen O'Donnell was born in Salem, but both of her parents had emigrated to the United States from Ireland.¹³³ When they bought the house on 3 Woodside St., James was approximately fifty-five years old and Alice was approximately fifty-four years old. They had three children: Catharine, James Jr., and Edward. Their youngest child Edward was twenty-two years old when his parents moved into the house on 3 Woodside St. Catharine, their oldest, was thirty-one years old.

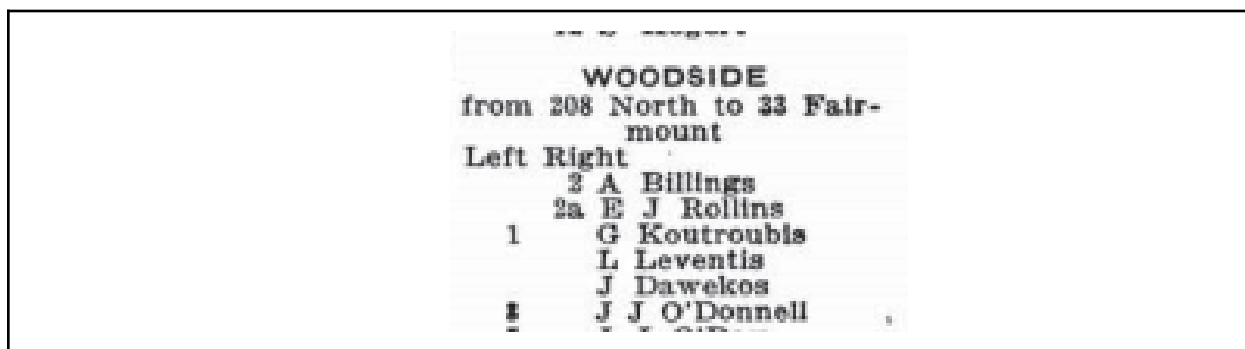
¹³⁰ *Littlefield Application*. U.S., Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2204/images/32596_242252-00054?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS228&_phstart=successSource&pld=574841

¹³¹ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Elmer F. Littlefield and Mary B. Littlefield; Grantee: Alice E. O'Donnell. May 23, 1918. Book 2358 Pg. 486-487.

¹³² *James A. O'Donnell Birth Record*. Massachusetts, U.S., Birth Records, 1840-1915, 1893. Ancestry.com.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5062/images/41262_b139392-00520?usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS255&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=3536187

¹³³ 1900 Federal Census, O'Donnell. Year: 1900; Census Place: Salem Ward 6, Essex, Massachusetts; Page: 1; Enumeration District: 0459; FHL microfilm: 1240648. Ancestry.com.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7602/images/4113833_00242?usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS258&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=54948921

James O'Donnell worked as a mason throughout his life while Alice stayed at home and managed the house. All the O'Donnells could read, write, and speak English.¹³⁴ The 1917 *Salem Directory* listed James O'Donnell as the primary resident of 3 Woodside St.¹³⁵ This entry is pictured below.



Both Alice and James died in the early 1920s.¹³⁶ However, before this happened they sold 3 Woodside St. in May of 1918 to Elizabeth and Charles McGee.

The McGee Family

When Elizabeth V. McGee, wife of Charles H. McGee, signed the deed for 3 Woodside St., the house was forty-three years old. She paid \$2500 for “the land in said SALEM, together with the buildings thereon.”¹³⁷ When the McGees bought the house, Charles was thirty-eight years old and Elizabeth was ten years his junior.¹³⁸ Both Charles and Elizabeth had not been college educated; however, both could speak, write, and read English. Charles' parents had emigrated to the United States from English-Canada when he was born in New Hampshire in 1880. Elizabeth V. Griffin's father hailed from New Hampshire and her mother from Massachusetts. She was born in her mother's home state.¹³⁹ Based on various censuses, the McGees had three children when they moved into 3 Woodside St. Veronica “Myrtle” McGee, the oldest daughter, was approximately ten years old when her parents moved into the house.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁴ Ibid., 7602.

¹³⁵ Meek, Henry M. *The Naumkeag Directory, 1917*. The Henry M. Meek Publishing Co., 1917. Pg. 153. https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1917_56-130.pdf.

¹³⁶ *Death Record of Alice O'Donnell*. Massachusetts, U.S., Death Index, 1901-1980. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/3659/images/41263_2421406273_0060-00489?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=1525b071b1cd128cfb5b421468258134&usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS260&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pId=4206603

¹³⁷ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: James O'Donnell and Alice E. O'Donnell; Grantee: Elizabeth V. McGee. May 23, 1918. Book 3201, Pg 231-232.

¹³⁸ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9M3-YDLN?i=348&cc=1928860>

¹³⁹ *Anna B. McGee Birth Record*. Massachusetts State Vital Records, 1841-1920, Births 1920, vol 117 Salem. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9M3-YDLN?i=348&cc=1928860>.

¹⁴⁰ *Veronica McGee Marriage Record*. Marriage certificates, 1901-1937, Film #004245778. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-D8QQ-47W?mode=g&cc=1520640>

She was born about five years before Charles had married Elizabeth in 1914.¹⁴¹ Joseph McGee, their second child, was nearly two years old, and Viola McGee was a newborn.¹⁴²

Charles McGee was a short man with brown eyes, black hair, and a medium build. As he aged, McGee slowly went bald. When he bought the house on Woodside St. with Elizabeth, he was employed as a reporter writing for the *Salem Evening News*, where he would work for nearly all his adult life.¹⁴³ On September 12, 1918, Salem's city government registered Charles McGee for the draft.¹⁴⁴ Fortunately for McGee, Germany surrendered on November 11, 1918, ending the Great War. On the next page is a copy of his draft registration card.

¹⁴¹ *Charles and Elizabeth McGee Marriage Record*. Massachusetts Marriages, 1841-1915, 004329372. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6P74-872?i=623&cc=1469062&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AN46B-741>.

¹⁴² *1940 United States Census, McGee*. Massachusetts (Essex County), Salem City, Ward 5. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9M1-48C1?i=23&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AK4XG-W27>.

¹⁴³ *McGee Draft Registration*. World War I Selective Service System draft registration cards, 1917-1918. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GB5R-GWD?i=1919&cc=1968530&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AKZN7-H2Q>

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 61903.

REGISTRATION CARD

SERIAL NUMBER **2627** ORDER NUMBER **4218**

1 *Charles Henry McGee*
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS:
3 Woodside St., Salem, Essex Mass.
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

Age in Years **38** Date of Birth **January 19, 1880**
3 (Month.) 4 (Day.) (Year.)

RACE

White	Negro	Oriental	Indian	
			Citizen	Non-citizen
5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	7	8	9

U. S. CITIZEN

ALIEN

Native Born	Naturalized	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	Declarant	Non-declarant
10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11	12	13	14

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject? _____

PRESENT OCCUPATION

EMPLOYER'S NAME

16 *Reporter* 17 *Salem Evening News*

18 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS:
122 Washington St., Salem, Essex Mass.
(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

NEAREST RELATIVE
 Name **Elizabeth J. McGee (wife)**
 Address **3 Woodside St., Salem, Essex Mass.**
19 (No.) 20 (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE

P. M. G. O. **Charles Henry McGee**
 Form No. 1 (Red) 63-6171 (Registrant's signature or mark) (OVER)

On this page, 3 Woodside St. is listed as Charles McGee's primary residence.

20-5-16. C
REGISTRAR'S REPORT. C

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT			BUILD			COLOR OF EYES	COLOR OF HAIR
Tall	Medium	Short	Slender	Medium	Stout		
21	22	23 ✓	24	25 ✓	26	27 Brown	28 Black

29 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he obviously physically disqualified? (Specify.)
No

30 I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark, and that all other answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

James L. Graves
(Signature of Registrar)
Date of Registration *September 12, 1918*

Local Board
City of Salem,
State of Mass.
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box.)

On the second page of this draft card, the registrar recorded Charles McGee's physical attributes.

In 1919, Elizabeth gave birth to another daughter whom the couple named Virginia. In 1920, at the age of thirty, she gave birth to their final child, Anna B. McGee. Below is a copy of Anna's birth certificate.¹⁴⁵

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

348
Salem
(City or town)

1 PLACE OF BIRTH
County of Essex

RETURN OF A BIRTH

City or Town of Salem Registered No. 471
No. 3 Woodside St., 6 Ward
(If birth occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME OF CHILD Anna B. McGee (If child is not yet named, make supplemental report, as directed)

3 Sex of Child female 4 Twin, triplets, or other? 4a Number in order of birth 5 Born alive or still-born 6 Date of birth May 27 1920
(To be answered only in event of plural births) (Month) (Day) (Year)

7 FULL NAME FATHER Charles H. McGee 8 FULL NAME BEFORE MARRIAGE MOTHER Elizabeth V. Griffin

9 RESIDENCE No. 3 Woodside ST. Salem (City or town) 10 RESIDENCE No. 3 Woodside ST. Salem (City or town)

11 COLOR OR RACE white 12 AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY 40 (Years) 13 COLOR OR RACE white 14 AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY 30 (Years)

15 BIRTHPLACE Lancaster N. H. (City or town) (State or country) 16 BIRTHPLACE Tauntes Mass. (City or town) (State or country)

17 OCCUPATION News Reporter 18 OCCUPATION

19 Attendant at birth J. J. Hickey (Name) (Physician, midwife, father, mother, etc.)
Address No. 40 Main St., Peabody (City or town)

Dated May 27 1920 (Month) (Day) (Year) Did above-named personally attend the birth? _____

20 Received at office of city or town clerk June 1 1920 (Month) (Day) (Year) 21 Given name added from a supplemental report (Month) (Day) (Year)

A true copy Attest: Clifford Entwistle REGISTRAR
CITY CLERK

Anna McGee was born in Peabody, Massachusetts, yet her parent's primary residence is listed above: 3 Woodside St.

While the McGees raised their family on Woodside St., Charles continued to write for the *Salem Evening News*. He worked out of the Salem Evening News building, which was located on 155-187 Washington St. in sight of the Salem Depot, George Converse's former place of employment. Below is a picture of Charles McGee's office building.

¹⁴⁵ Anna B. McGee Birth Record. Massachusetts State Vital Records, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9M3-YDLN?i=348&cc=1928860>.



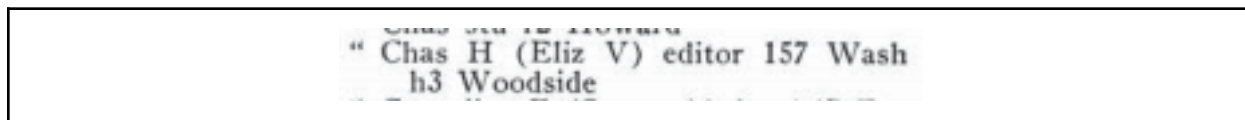
This photo was included in historian Jim McAllister's article about the Salem Evening News building. As McAllister noted, the Salem Evening News expanded this building into the one behind it on Washington St. The date of this photograph is unknown.¹⁴⁶



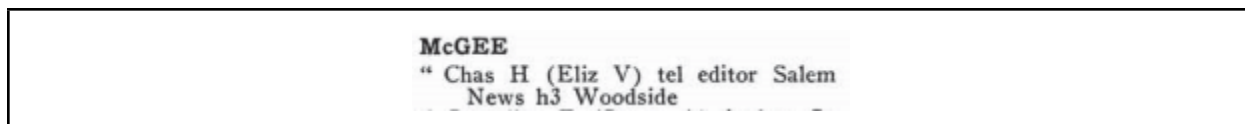
Today the Salem Evening News Building holds many different purposes including being a home to the three restaurants: Adriatic Restaurant and Bar, Passage To India, and The Derby.

¹⁴⁶ McAllister, Jim. "Salem News Building Has a Colorful History." *Salem, Massachusetts: The City Guide*, Accessed 2021. <https://www.salemweb.com/tales/snewsbldg.php>.

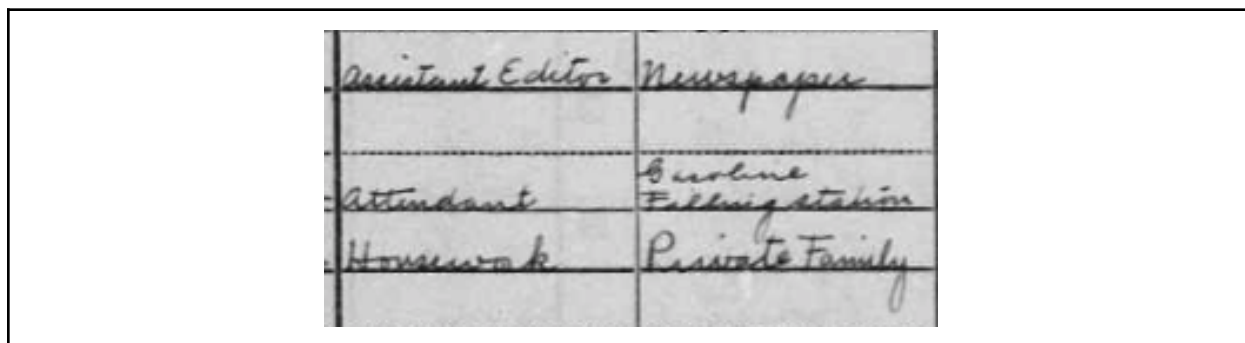
Charles McGee was a successful employee at the *Salem Evening News* throughout his career. In the 1930 Census, like on his draft card, he was listed as a reporter.¹⁴⁷ In 1931, the *Salem Directory* listed Charles McGee as an editor.¹⁴⁸



In 1933 during the throes of the Great Depression, his title changed from editor to teletype editor.¹⁴⁹



By the 1940 census, after having survived the worst of the Depression, the McGees had moved to a new home in 1939 on Pickman Rd. valued at \$5000. Based on the census, this new house was an upgrade, worth \$1100 more than the house on 3 Woodside St.¹⁵⁰ This fact coupled with Charles being listed as an assistant editor indicates financial success in a time of economic instability. He was not, however, the sole wage earner in his household. Joseph was working as a gas attendant, and Anna was doing housework for a private family. Myrtle and Viola, though, were no longer living with their parents.



In 1942, at the age of sixty-two, Charles McGee was again registered for the draft. Whereas his hair had been black during the First World War, it had grayed by the time of the Second World War. He was also wearing glasses. Although these registration cards exist, they do not indicate the United States

¹⁴⁷ 1930 United States Census, McGee. Massachusetts, Essex, Salem, ED 265. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GRHQ-H5Z?i=25&cc=1810731&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AXQG9-Z41>.

¹⁴⁸ Polk, R.L. *Salem City Directory, 1931*. R.L. Polk & Co. of New England, 1931. Pg. 220. https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1931_59-324.pdf.

¹⁴⁹ Polk, R.L. *Salem City Directory, 1933-34*. R.L. Polk & Co. of New England Publishers, 1933. Pg. 265. https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1933-4_51-290.pdf.

¹⁵⁰ 1940 United States Census, McGee. Massachusetts (Essex County), Salem City, Ward 5. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9M1-48C1?i=23&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AK4XG-W27>.

government's intentions to draft older men like Charles. Rather, these records were intended to detail the manpower and resources that could be utilized for the war effort.¹⁵¹ Charles H. McGee, like his son Joseph, was not drafted to serve in World War Two. Pictured below is Charles' "Old Man" draft card.¹⁵²

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)			
SERIAL NUMBER	1. NAME (Print)		ORDER NUMBER
U 2010	CHARLES	HENRY	MCGEE
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)			
20 PICKMAN RD.	SALEM	ESSEX	MASS.
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]			
3. MAILING ADDRESS			
Same			
[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]			
4. TELEPHONE	5. AGE IN YEARS	6. PLACE OF BIRTH	
Salem 4781M	62	Lancaster	
(Exchange)	DATE OF BIRTH	(Town or county)	
(Number)	Jan 19, 1880	New Hampshire	
	(Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)	(State or country)	
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS			
Elizabeth V. McGee 20 Pickman Road Salem			
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS			
Salem Evening News 157 Washington St. Salem			
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS			
Same Salem Essex Mass.			
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)			
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.			
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42)	(over)	16-21630-2	Charles Henry McGee (Registrant's signature)

Charles McGee's residence was listed as being on Pickman Road, having moved out of 3 Woodside St. three years earlier in 1939.

¹⁵¹ "The Old Man's Draft." The Newberry, Posted on July 21, 2012, Accessed 2011.

<https://www.newberry.org/old-mans-draft>.

¹⁵² Charles McGee Draft Card, WWII. Selective Service Registration Cards, World War II: Fourth Registration. Fold3. <https://www.fold3.com/image/275294040>.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION	
White ✓	5'—	140	Sallow	
	EYES		Light	✓
		HAIR		
Negro	Blue	Blonde	Ruddy	
	Gray	Red	Dark	
Oriental	Hazel ✓	Brown	Freckled	
	Brown	Black	Light brown	
Indian	Black	Gray ✓	Dark brown	
		Bald	Black	
Filipino				

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification.....

Eyeglasses

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

None

Patrick P. Fallon
(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board..... *130 Salem Mass.*
(Number) (City or county) (State)

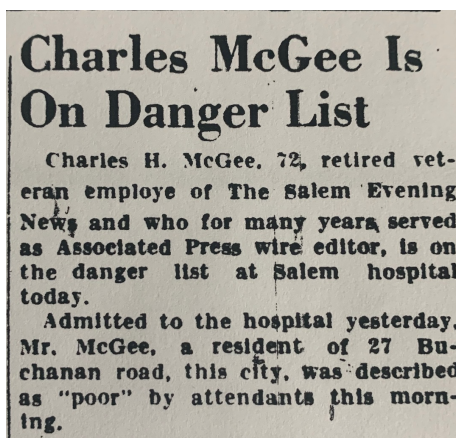
Date of registration..... *April 27, 1942*

LOCAL BOARD NO. 150 15
 Essex County 009
 APR 27 1942 130
 Old Town Hall, Denny Sq.
 (STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)
 Salem, Mass.

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant shall be placed in the above space)

This military card provided insight into the ways in which Charles McGee aged while living at 3 Woodside St.

In 1952, nearly thirteen years after moving out of 3 Woodside St., the man behind forty-one years of *Salem Evening News* columns appeared in the headlines.¹⁵³



Two days later on December 4, 1952, *The Salem Evening News* reported that Charles Henry McGee the “beloved newspaperman” had died. Elizabeth McGee, ten years younger than her husband, would be buried next to him twenty-two years after his passing.¹⁵⁴ A copy of Charles McGee’s obituary is on the next page.¹⁵⁵



A picture of Charles H. McGee from his obituary.

¹⁵³ “Charles McGee is on Danger List.” *Salem Evening News*. December 2, 1952. Microfilm: Salem Public Library.

¹⁵⁴ *Death Record of Elizabeth McGee*. “Find A Grave Index,” database. FamilySearch.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVLR-FXKW?from=lynx1UIV8&treeref=LK51-S8V>.

¹⁵⁵ “Charles H. McGee, News Employe 41 Years, Dies.” *Salem Evening News*. December 4, 1952. Microfilm: Salem Public Library.

THE EVENING NEWS

SALEM, MASS., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1952

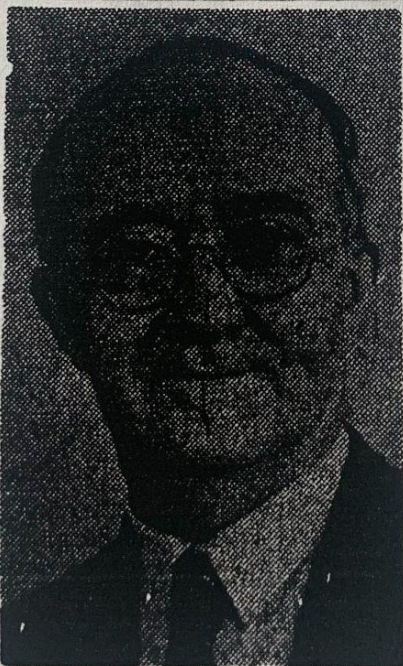
Charles H. McGee, News Employee 41 Years, Dies

Career Covered Many Major Stories

Charles Henry McGee, 72, beloved veteran newspaperman and retired desk man who handled telegraph news for the Salem Evening News, died at noon today at Salem hospital after a long illness. A resident of 27 Buchanan road, he was admitted to Salem hospital Tuesday, where his name was placed on the danger list.

WITH NEWS 41 YEARS

"Charlie," as he was known to his fellow employes and a host of friends, wrote "30" on his final News copy July 6, 1949, after rounding out 41 years of service to this publication.



CHARLES H. MCGEE

His long career in the fourth estate began in the summer of 1903 when he worked as reporter and proof-reader for the Manchester, N. H.

Union, one of the leading newspapers in the Granite state. For a short time he also was a proofreader for the Manchester News.

However, his first employment was in another field. Following completion of his education in the public schools of Lancaster, N. H., Manchester, N. H., and Worcester, he was graduated from Manchester High in 1899. The next four years he spent shoemaking in Roxbury at the T. G. Plant Shoe Co., returning to Manchester to embark on what was to be his life work.

While working on the Union he became acquainted with Harold H. Scudder, at one time night editor of The Salem News, and this friendship led to his visiting Salem, shortly after the Chelsea fl. As a consequence he succeeded Mr. Scudder when the latter left Salem for the West.

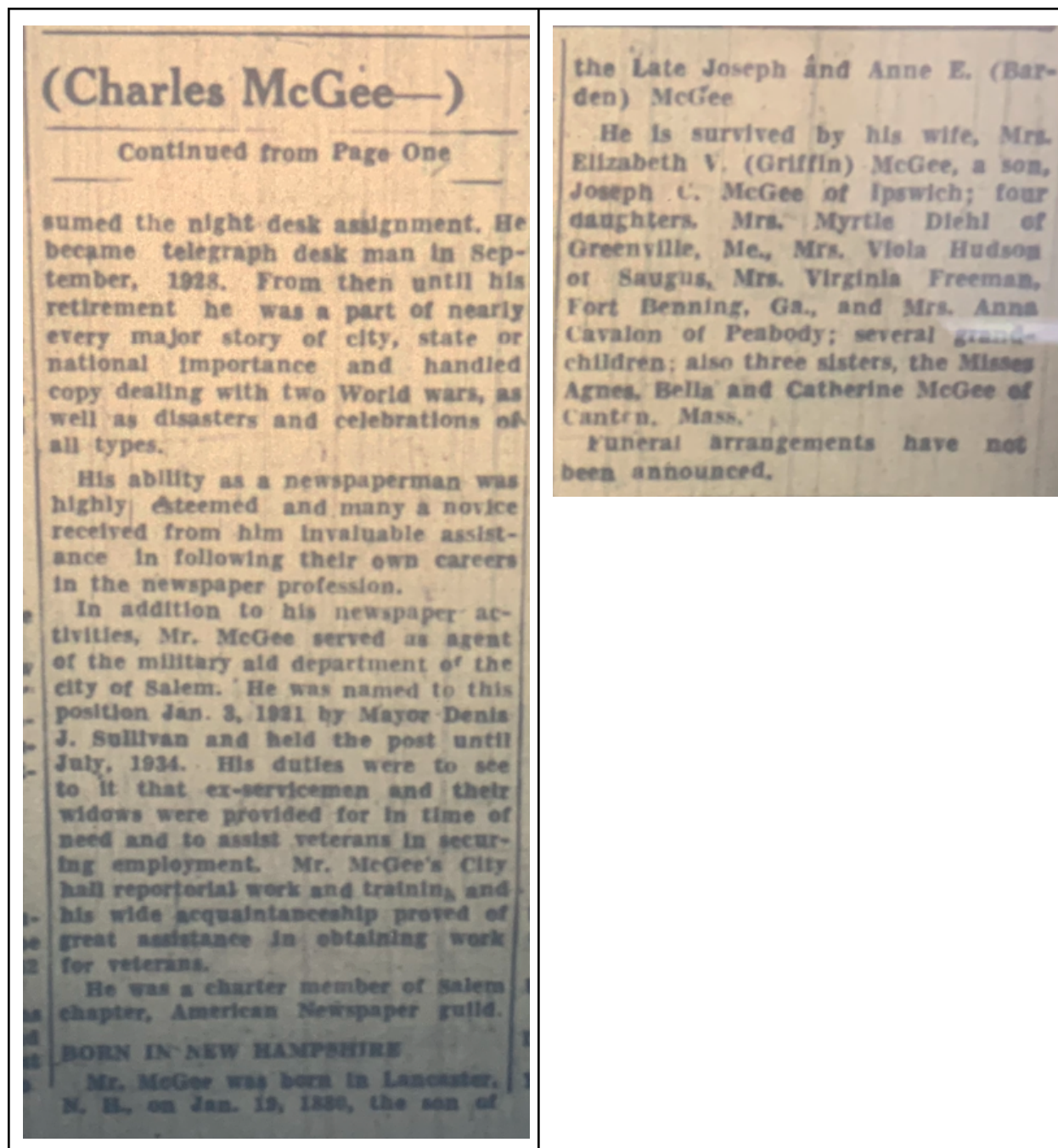
He served six years on night work, then was assigned to the day force.

AIDED MANY NOVICES

For a dozen years or more he was the City hall reporter, afterward becoming telegraph desk man in the days just before the modern automatic teletype replaced the clacking telegraph keys, a change made during his career as wire copy reader. He became the News City hall man on leaving the night desk, holding that position until July, 1926, when he re-

(CHARLES MCGEE.—)

Continued on Page Seventeen



The McKay Family

On November 10, 1939, Elizabeth V. McGee sold the home at 3 Woodside St. to Charles David A. McKay and Mildred J. McKay for \$3200 "with interest thereon at the rate of six percent annum, payable in monthly installments at \$25.96."¹⁵⁶ When this deed was finalized, little did David and Millie McKay

¹⁵⁶ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Elizabeth V. McGee, Grantee: Charles David A. McKay and Mildred J. McKay. November 10, 1939. Book 3201, Pg 231.

know that they would own 3 Woodside St. longer than any other family in its history. For forty-four years they would call 3 Woodside St. their home.

Charles David A. McKay was born in 1897 in Nova Scotia to James and Elizabeth McKay.¹⁵⁷ Two years later in 1899, Mildred Jean MacKenna was born in Massachusetts to Gilbert and Minerva MacKenna.¹⁵⁸ Though born in Massachusetts, she would spend her youth living in Roseway, Shelburne, Nova Scotia. While in Nova Scotia, David had gone to school until the seventh grade and Millie had completed her first year of high school.¹⁵⁹ As a teenager, Millie had asthma and had not been doing well with the neighboring coal mines. Her breathing problems changed the course of her life. She met David because he would deliver eggs to the MacKenna house in order to help out their family.¹⁶⁰ The two fell in love and married each other on November 30, 1921 in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.¹⁶¹ On the next page is a copy of David and Millie's marriage record.¹⁶²

¹⁵⁷ *David McKay Enlistment*. Canada, World War I CEF Attestation Papers, 1914-1918. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1086/images/gpc012-531064a?usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS277&usePUBJs=true&pId=277958.

¹⁵⁸ *Mildred MacKenna Birth Record*. Massachusetts, U.S., Birth Records, 1840-1915, 1899. Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5062/images/41262_b139447-00331?pId=1462809

¹⁵⁹ *1940 United States Census, McKay*. Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 5-365. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K4XL-YKH>.

¹⁶⁰ White, Curtis. Personal Interview. May 2021.

¹⁶¹ *McKay Marriage Record*. Canada, Nova Scotia Vital Records, 1763-1957, p. 311, volume 27. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-DHHQ-KRY?i=114&cc=2241441>.

¹⁶² *Ibid.*, 61903.

027311

This form if placed in an unsealed envelope addressed to the Registrar of Statistics and properly addressed will, by order of the Postmaster General, be sent by mail "FREE."

FORM 2.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA MARRIAGE REGISTER

REGISTERED No. _____
(For use of Registrar General only.)

County Cape Breton Town or District Glace Bay Municipality Cape Breton

BRIDEGROOM

1. Full name M. Kay Charles David Alexander
(Surname) (Given name)
2. Occupation Carpenter
3. Bachelor, Widower or Divorced Bachelor
4. Age 24 5. Religious Denomination Methodist
6. Residence Glace Bay, N.S.
7. Place of birth Roseway, Shelburne Co., N.S.
8. Name of father James W. M. Kay
9. Place of birth of father Clarks River, N.S.
10. Maiden name of mother Elizabeth W. M. Kenney
11. Can bridegroom read? Yes Write? Yes

BRIDE

12. Full name M. Kenne Mildred Jean
(Surname) (Given name)
13. Occupation Housemaid
14. Spinster, Widow or Divorced Spinster
15. Age 22 16. Religious Denomination Presbyterian
17. Residence Glace Bay
18. Place of birth Brookline, Mass., U.S.A.
19. Name of father Belmont James M. Kenne
20. Place of birth of father Summing Cove, Shelburne Co., N.S.
21. Maiden name of mother Minerva Doan
22. Can bride read? Yes Write? Yes

23. When married Twenty eighth of November 1921
(Month) (Year)
24. Place of marriage St. Pauls Manor, Glace Bay
(Name of church or clergyman's residence or location of dwelling house)
25. By whom or whom License 665
(By whom) (License number)

26. Signature of Groom: Charles David Alexander McKay
Bride: Mildred Jean McKay
Name: Ms. D. M. Bellis
Address: Glace Bay
27. Witnesses Name: Ms. Lachie M. Kenne
Address: Glace Bay

I certify the above stated particulars are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Clergyman D. M. Bellis
(Signature)
Address Glace Bay
Religious Denomination Presbyterian

Registration No. 665 Filed at this office 30 day of November 1921

J. M. Millau
Signature of Issuer of Marriage License

NOTE.—This form must not be mutilated. All information asked for is to be given, including full Christian and addresses of all parties, and if for any reason, this is impossible, the reason for the omission must be stated.

Both David and Millie's signatures are shown above. David is also listed for the first time as a carpenter rather than as fisherman like his other records indicated.

Before they were married, however, David was drafted to serve in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during World War One. At the time, he was twenty-one years old and listed as having fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. He stood at about five feet, five inches. He was working as a fisherman when he was called to serve. Below is a copy of his Canadian Expeditionary Force Attestation Papers.¹⁶³

6 M. D. First Depot Battalion. No. 100149 Regt. No. D. 118775

PARTICULARS OF RECRUIT
DRAFTED UNDER MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917
(Class..... One.....)

1. Surname..... McKay
2. Christian name..... CHARLES DAVID McKay SUFFICIENT
3. Present address..... Roseway, Shelburne Co., N.S. ADDRESS
4. Military Service Act letter and number..... 60149 C. (If man is defaulter, i.e., has not registered under Proclamation, this fact should be stated, together with date of apprehension, or surrender)
5. Date of birth..... June 25th 1897 SUFFICIENT
6. Place of birth..... Roseway, Shelburne Co., N.S. ADDRESS (town, township or county and country)
7. Married, widower or single..... Single
8. Religion..... Methodist
9. Trade or calling..... FISHERMAN
10. Name of next-of-kin..... ELIZABETH MCKAY (Mrs. James)
11. Relationship of next-of-kin..... Mother
12. Address of next-of-kin..... Roseway, Shelburne Co., N.S.
13. Whether at present a member of the Active Militia..... No
14. Particulars of previous military or naval service, if any..... None
15. Medical Examination under Military Service Act :-
(a) Place..... Aldershot, N.S. (b) Date..... June 1, 1918 (c) Category..... B 11

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT

I, Charles David McKay, do solemnly declare that the above particulars refer to me, and are true.

Charles David McKay (Signature of Recruit)

DESCRIPTION ON CALLING UP

Apparent age..... 21 yrs..... mths.	} Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.
Height..... 5 ft 5 ins.	
Chest measurement } fully expanded..... 37 1/2 ins.	
} range of expansion..... 2 1/2 ins.	
Complexion..... Fair	
Eyes..... Blue	
Hair..... Brown	

J. Grant Major
For O. C. First Depot Btin.
No. 100149 C. Regt.

Place..... Aldershot, N.S. Date..... June 5th 1918.

M. F. W. 133.
9004-5-18.
1772-29-118.

In addition to providing the details of his early life in Canada, this attestation paper has David's signature on it.

¹⁶³ David McKay Enlistment. Canada, World War I CEF Attestation Papers, 1914-1918.
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1086/images/gpc012-531064a?usePUB=true&_phsrc=fOS277&usePUBJs=true&pld=277958.

Beginning on June 5, 1918, David held the rank of private while serving in the Nova Scotia 1st Depot Battalion. He was listed as having been stationed in a camp in Aldershot, Nova Scotia.



Camp Aldershot, 1914-1918¹⁶⁴

Depot Battalions, like the one David was listed as having been a member of, were intended to provide reinforcements to preexisting Canadian Reserve Battalions in England. The Nova Scotia 1st Depot Battalion was to provide reinforcements specifically for the Royal Canadian Regiment and the 25th, 28th, 85th, and 185th Battalions.¹⁶⁵ David's stint in the army was short lived though. He became severely ill and was likely discharged in September of 1918, two months before the war's conclusion. He would tell younger generations in his family that he never served.¹⁶⁶ On the next page is a copy of his military records.

¹⁶⁴ "Military Camp, Aldershot, #17." Oakville Public Library, 1914-1918.

<https://images.oakville.halinet.on.ca/63464/data>.

¹⁶⁵ "Guide to Sources Relating to Units of the Canadian Expeditionary Force." *Library and Archives of Canada*, Accessed 2021.

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Documents/depot%20battalions.pdf>.

¹⁶⁶ White, Curtis. Personal Interview. May 2021.

H. Q.
M. D. No. 6
Surname Mc Kay T. O. S. June 5 1918
Christian names Charles David D. O. Pt. II 153 of H-6-18
Regtl. No. 3187785 Rank Pte S. O. S. 17-9 1918
Unit N. S. Regt. 1st Depo. Bn Reason R6R
Auth. NO 2277 17-8-18
17.8.

Next of kin Mc Kay Mrs James Relationship mother
Address Roseway, Shelburne Co. N.S. Also notify:
.....
.....

BORN—Place Canada, Roseway, N.S. Date June 25th, 1894
ATTESTED—Place Aldershot, N.S. Date June 5th, 1918
O/S..... R/C.....

W. 22-75M-5-18. 1772-39 839.

As is the case in the document below, it is difficult to trace the meaning of the shorthand on these documents. Without a rosetta stone, parts of these records remain a mystery.

Original not available
Fill in only.—Unit, Number, Rank and Name.

M. F. W. 54. (A. F. D. 10a.)
500M-9-16
H. Q. 1772-39-9-0.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Unit, Regiment or Corps 1st Depo Bn N.S.R.
Regimental No. 3187785 Rank Pte Name Mc Kay Charles David
Enlisted (a) 5-6-18 Terms of Service (a) DoF W Service reckons from (a) 5-6-18
Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank Numerical position on roll of N. C. Os.)
Extended Re-engaged Qualification (b)

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 38, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 38, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
<u>17-8-18</u>	<u>1st Depo Bn N.S.R.</u>	<u>S.O.S. to R of R.</u> <u>Person intended to report</u>	<u>Aldershot</u>	<u>17-9-18</u>	<u>Pt II DO 227</u>

H

Signature Capt.
for D of R

86. (1) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D. Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(2) e.g. Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. [P.T.O.]

After nearly a year of marriage, David and Millie had their first child, Douglas G. McKay.¹⁶⁷ Doug was born in Nova Scotia like his father. After his birth, David, Millie, and Doug left Nova Scotia and moved to Salem, Massachusetts. By leaving their native Canada, David avoided a career as a fisherman like so many Nova Scotians before him, and instead continued to earn a wage as a carpenter. Based on 1940 census records, the McKays emigrated to the United States between the years 1922 and 1927. Their second child, a daughter named Evelyn, was the first U.S. born citizen in the family. In 1929, their third and final child Marjorie was born.¹⁶⁸

Before buying the house on Woodside St., the young McKay family lived in different parts of North Salem, including stints on Grove St. and Balcomb St. Later in life David fondly remembered watching neighborhood pickup hockey games that were played off of Grove St. A copy of the 1930 census from the McKay family's time on Grove St. is shown below.

McKay, David A.	Head	R	\$36	R
— Mildred J.	Wife - H.			
— Douglas G.	Son			
— Evelyn M.	Daughter			
— Marjorie J.	Daughter			

Of note, David McKay rented a living space on Grove St. for \$36 a month. He would later tell his grandchildren that he bought 3 Woodside St. because when he rented houses all he was left with was a box of rent receipts. Below are excerpts from the Salem Directory.

1931 Salem Directory ¹⁶⁹	" David A (Mildred J) carp h rear 23 Grove
1937 Salem Directory ¹⁷⁰	McKay David A (Mildred J) carp 18 Balcomb h do

On November 10, 1939, when they moved into their new home on 3 Woodside St., David and Millie were in their early forties and raising two teenagers and a ten-year-old. By that point, seventeen-year-old Doug was the most formally educated person in the household. Below is an excerpt of the 1940 census, recorded a year after the McKays moved into the house on Woodside St.

¹⁶⁷ Find a Grave Database. "Memorial Page for Douglas Gilbert James McKay," ID: 168917790. *Find a Grave*. https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/168917790/douglas-gilbert_james-mckay.

¹⁶⁸ 1940 United States Census, McKay. Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, United States. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K4XL-YKH>.

¹⁶⁹ Polk, R.L. *Salem City Directory*, 1931. Pg 22. https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/1931_59-324.pdf.

¹⁷⁰ Polk, R.L. *Polk's Salem City Directory*, 1937. R.L. Polk & Co., Publishers, 1937. Pg 267. <https://www.noblenet.org/salem/reference/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/1937-Salem-Directory-OCR.pdf>

McKay, Charles A.	Head	0	M	W	42	M	9	7	7	Nova Scotia
McKay, Mildred	Wife	1	F	W	40	M	11	1	9	Massachusetts
McKay, Douglas	Son	3	M	W	17	S	4	2	10	Nova Scotia
McKay, Carolyn M.	Daughter	2	F	W	13	S	4	6	7	Massachusetts
McKay, Marion J.	Daughter	2	F	W	10	S	4	6	4	Massachusetts

On the far right of this picture, each family member's place of birth is listed. Their education levels are to the left of that column. Not shown in this excerpt is David's occupation as a carpenter where he made \$800 total off of forty weeks of work.

In 1940, Doug McKay, their oldest son, graduated from Salem Vocational High School with training as a carpenter, or as he liked to joke, as a "wood butcher."¹⁷¹ After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Second World War loomed over the McKay family as Doug thought about his future.

Knowing the likelihood that he was going to be drafted, Doug enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Unlike being conscripted, Doug wanted to be in control. He knew that if he joined the Navy he could at least be on a ship and guaranteed a bunk in which to sleep.¹⁷² Below is Doug McKay's registration card.¹⁷³

Don - Bill - Mary 1-21-46

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1924)

SERIAL NUMBER N-135	1. NAME (Print) Douglas Gilbert James McKay		ORDER NUMBER 11428
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 3 Woodside Salem Essex Mass			
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]			
3. MAILING ADDRESS Same			
4. TELEPHONE 2721 R-1 Salem	5. AGE IN YEARS 19 yr 8 mo DATE OF BIRTH Oct 12, 1922	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Nova Scotia Rosway Shelburne Co	
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS David McKay 3 Woodside St Salem Mass			
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Graves Boatyard			
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Marblehead Essex Mass			
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.			
D. S. S. FORM 1 (Revised 6-1-42)	(over)	016-21630-3	Douglas Gilbert James McKay (Registrant's signature)

Doug is listed as a resident of 3 Woodside St. While living in his parents house, he worked in a boatyard in Marblehead. His relationship with the ocean would not only define his military career but his life. He listed his father as the "person who will always know our address."

¹⁷¹ Find a Grave Database. "Memorial Page for Douglas Gilbert James McKay," ID: 168917790.

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/168917790/douglas-gilbert_james-mckay.

¹⁷² White, Curtis. Personal Interview. May 2021.

¹⁷³ Doug McKay Enlistment. Selective Service Registration Cards, World War II: Multiple Registrations, Roll:44016_06_00073. Fold3. <https://www.fold3.com/image/688226588>.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE		HEIGHT (Approx.)		WEIGHT (Approx.)		COMPLEXION	
White	✓	5'8		160		Sallow	
		EYES		HAIR		Light	
Negro		Blue	✓	Blonde		Ruddy	
		Gray		Red		Dark	✓
Oriental		Hazel		Brown	✓	Freckled	
		Brown		Black		Light brown	
Indian		Black		Gray		Dark brown	
				Bald		Black	
Filipino							

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification.....

Scar on right knee

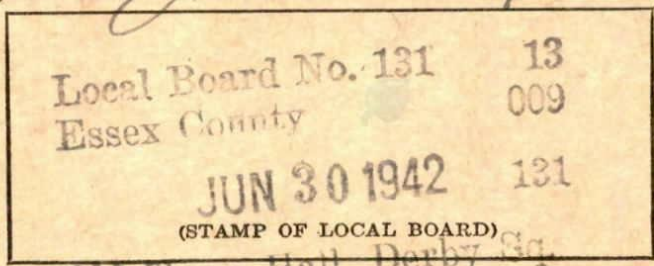
I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

None to my knowledge

L. William Jones
(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board *131 Salem Mass*
(Number) (City or county) (State)

Date of registration *June 30, 1942*



(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant shall be placed in the above space)

The second page of this report lists Doug's physical attributes.

It is unclear if Doug ever knew that he was the second resident of 3 Woodside St. to serve his country. He had enlisted to join the armed forces in Salem nearly eighty one years after Benjamin A. Reed did the same. Beginning in December 1943, a series of muster cards appeared in Doug's military records. They showed his extensive military experience in the Pacific Theatre of the war aboard the *USS Conner*. The *Conner* was a Fletcher-class destroyer built in the Boston Navy Yard in Charleston and launched in mid-1942.¹⁷⁴ Doug was a sound man on the ship and responsible for scanning the ocean for enemy submarines. In the late stages of the war, the *Conner* participated in numerous battles across the Pacific Ocean.

In late 1943, muster records indicate that he was present for the bombardment of Nauru Island. About a month later, he took part in the Marshall Island Assaults in January and February of 1944. During the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the *Conner* served as a rescue ship for planes on extreme range strikes. In 1945, the *Conner* supported Australian troops invading Brunei with pinpoint gunfire support. Later that year, the crew of the *Conner* stopped the hospital ship *Tachibana Maru* for inspection and discovered contraband and a large number of soldiers, whom they took as prisoners.¹⁷⁵ While Doug was serving Millie would stay up late at night in the family home back on 3 Woodside St. listening to the radio for updates about the war, undoubtedly worrying for her son's life. The family maintained a victory garden behind Salem High School, now Collins Middle School, throughout the war.¹⁷⁶ By the time the Japanese surrendered, Doug was fortunate to have survived the *Conner's* many battles and the Second World War.

In 1946, Doug's name appeared on a muster roll for the *USS Cushing*. At the end of the war, the *Cushing* served as a harbor entrance control vessel in occupied Japan, specifically Sagami Wan near Tokyo Bay.¹⁷⁷ On January 21, 1946, Doug was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy. A series of pictures contextualizing Doug's military service are featured in the following pages.

¹⁷⁴ "Conner II (DD-582)." *Naval History and Heritage Command*, June 30, 2015, Accessed 2021. <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/histories/ship-histories/danfs/c/conner-ii.html>.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid., <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/histories/ship-histories/danfs/c/conner-ii.html>.

¹⁷⁶ White, Curtis. Personal Interview. May 2021.

¹⁷⁷ "Cushing IV (DD-797)." *HazeGray*, Accessed 2021. www.hazegray.org/danfs/destroy/dd797txt.htm.



A modern day picture of Sagami Bay, where Doug was likely stationed at the end of the war.¹⁷⁸



U.S. and British Warships in that same bay in 1945.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁸ Quercus, Acuta. "Viewed from Miura Peninsula." January 25, 2016.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagami_Bay#/media/File:Mt._Fuji_from_Hiroyama_Park_\(Zushi\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagami_Bay#/media/File:Mt._Fuji_from_Hiroyama_Park_(Zushi).jpg).

¹⁷⁹ "Unknown American U.S. and British Warships Anchored in Sagami Wan." *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*. August 27, 1945.

<https://emuseum.mfah.org/objects/103918/us-and-british-warships-anchored-in-sagami-wan-outside-of#>



An aerial view of the USS Conner in 1943. Doug served most of his time in World War Two aboard this ship.¹⁸⁰



A photo of the USS Conner in which the background of a city skyline appears to have been edited out of the picture.¹⁸¹

¹⁸⁰ "Conner (DD 582)." *Destroyer History Foundation*. NARA photo 80-G-276724.

https://destroyerhistory.org/fletcherclass/0_allnum/582conner_01.html.

¹⁸¹ "L45-57.07.01 USS Conner (DD-582)." *Naval History and Heritage Command*, Catalog: L45-57.07.01.

<https://www.history.navy.mil/our-collections/photography/numerical-list-of-images/nhnc-series/naval-subjects-collection/45--us-navy-ships/41-60/l45-57-07-01-uss-conner--dd-582-.html>.

HNP 605-A
(Revised October 1942)

Page 7

MUSTER ROLL OF THE CREW

of the U. S. S. CONNER (DD582)

for the quarter ending DECEMBER 31, 1943

1 NAMES <small>(Alphabetically arranged without regard to ratings, with surname to the left and the first name written in full)</small>	2 SERVICE NUMBER <small>(The service number must under no condition be omitted)</small>	3 Present Rating	4 DATE OF ENLISTMENT			5 Date first received on board
			Day	Month	Year	
MARTINSON, Allyn Ebert	329 21 91	Slc, USN	2	9	42	6-8-43
MATEJA, Walter Joseph	725 20 44	Bkrlc, V6	30	9	42	6-8-43
MAZZUCA, Albert (n)	243 62 69	BMLc, USN	4	1	39	6-8-43
MCCULLOUGH, Henry Luther, Jr.	604 14 80	EM2c, V-6	31	12	41	6-8-43
McKAY, Douglas Gilbert James	761 65 23	SoM3c, V6	15	12	42	6-8-43

The muster roll of the crew list aboard the USS Conner, the first one in which Doug appeared.¹⁸²

NAVPERS 606-B
(Revised October 1942)

Page _____

REPORT OF CHANGES

of U. S. S. CUSHING (DD 797)

Period 1946
for the month ending 1st day of January, 1946, date of sailing
from _____ to _____

16 JAN 1946

1 NAMES <small>(Alphabetically arranged without regard to ratings, with surname to the left and the first name written in full)</small>	2 SERVICE NUMBER <small>(The service number must under no condition be omitted)</small>	3 Rating at Date of Last Report	4 Date of Enlistment		5 Place of Enlistment
			Day	Month	
1 KERVAN, Donald E.	601 52 49	RdM3c(T) V6			
2 KIMBALL, Ralph P.	667 36 31	Slc V6			
3 KINNEY, Emmett W.	601 53 00	RdM3c(T) V6			
4 KIRBY, James F.	830 92 51	QM3c(T) SV6			
5 LAMOREY, Albert W.	667 35 27	Slc V6			
6 LAPPIN, Joseph M.	713 96 35	S2c(RM) V6			
7 LUCZAJ, Boleslaus J.	815 07 70	Slc V6			
8 MANKEN, John H.	669 06 60	RdM3c(T) V6			
9 MARQUEDANT, Ray (n)	645 57 76	Slc V6			
10 MARTIN, Robert E.	203 63 57	MM2c(T)			
11 McGUIRE, John (n)	246 03 80	Slc V6			
12 McKAY, Douglas G.J.	761 65 23	SoM3c V6			

The muster roll of the crew list aboard the USS Cushing, the last one in which Doug appeared.¹⁸³

¹⁸² Doug McKay, first Muster Roll. U.S. World War II Navy Muster Rolls, 1938-1949, National Archives ID: 594996. Fold3. <https://www.fold3.com/image/308137169?rec=289409697&terms=james.war.gilbert.world.douglas.mckay.ii>

¹⁸³ Doug McKay, last Muster Roll. U.S. World War II Navy Muster Rolls, 1938-1949, National Archives ID: 594996. <https://www.fold3.com/image/308046434?rec=288621830&terms=navy.war.g.world.cushing.douglas.mckay.ii>

When Doug returned home to Salem, the family must have been relieved that they were all back together safely. Despite leaving the Navy, Doug would always remain connected to the sea. He would build at least two lapstrake boats in the cellar of 3 Woodside St. In order to get the boats out of the house he had to entirely remove the bulkhead. In addition to working as a carpenter on the North Shore after the war, Doug eventually became the owner and operator of Danvers Boat & Motor in Danversport. He enjoyed saltwater fishing and clamming while recounting his old Navy stories to his friends and family.¹⁸⁴ His nephew, Curtis, wrote about Doug's character in his obituary:

He was a very generous person - taking friends & family out fishing; sharing many fascinating stories (he was one of the best story tellers), his mechanical expertise, his tools, or spare parts. He would drive from Roseway to his US Naval reunions in the US until he could no longer drive there. He enjoyed talking with others on his short wave radio.¹⁸⁵

Below is a picture of Doug McKay featured in his obituary in 2014.



As the years passed following World War Two, Doug's father David continued to work as a carpenter and Millie continued to manage household affairs. In 1957, Marjorie, the youngest McKay daughter, married Robert White Jr. of Beverly. Marjorie met her husband Bob while working at Bomac Laboratories in Beverly. Bob's obituary stated that the couple "enjoyed 28 years of marriage and had three children."¹⁸⁶ Throughout her life, Evelyn worked as a bookkeeper, partially because she enjoyed the physical work of writing penmanship.¹⁸⁷ Both Evelyn and Doug never married, though both remained

¹⁸⁴ Find a Grave Database. "Memorial Page for Douglas Gilbert James McKay," ID: 168917790.

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/168917790/douglas-gilbert_james-mckay.

¹⁸⁵ Ibid., https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/168917790/douglas-gilbert_james-mckay.

¹⁸⁶ "Robert S. White Jr." Legacy.com, Published June 18, 2008.

<https://www.legacy.com/amp/obituaries/legacy/111775543>.

¹⁸⁷ White, Curtis. Personal Interview. May 2021.

close with the rest of the family. Marjorie and Bob's children held many cherished memories at their grandparents house on 3 Woodside St. and valued the time they spent with the McKay family. David McKay, the patriarch of the McKay family passed away in 1979. In 1996, Millie would join her husband and be buried alongside him in Roseway, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Curtis White, David and Millie's grandson, fondly remembers spending time at his grandparents house through the decades. Curtis graciously agreed to be interviewed about his family. Below begins a section containing photographs provided by Curtis White along with assorted memories of his family and their time at 3 Woodside St. The modern photos are from Zillow.com.¹⁸⁸



David McKay is cutting a tree away from the house after it was downed by a hurricane. Even though the McKays bought the house in 1939, it is possible this damage was a result of the 1938 Hurricane, one of the worst storms to ever hit the area.

¹⁸⁸ "3 Woodside St, Salem, MA 01970." Zillow.com, Accessed 2021.
https://www.zillow.com/homes/3-Woodside-St-Salem,-MA-01970_rb/56118846_zpid/.



David McKay painting while sitting in the sink.



Members of the McKay family standing in the kitchen, a place that Curtis remembered as being very hectic but full of joy.



That same sink area is shown in the Zillow listing above.



Evelyn McKay standing in front of the back porch prior to its enclosure.



Evelyn was standing in front of the orange foundation immediately following the brick one.



- A. *On the southeast wall on the southern corner of the basement were wooden shelves for canned goods. Curtis recalled that his grandmother was always processing, canning, and storing fresh, homegrown vegetables. While they never had a garden on the property, Doug kept a few outside the home. One of Curtis' favorite spots in the whole house was the stairway under the bulkhead, which was used to store these vegetables. David and Millie would often transport these goods between their home in Salem and the house they owned in Nova Scotia. At Christmas time, the basement held stacks of candies, which Millie and her daughters prepared and delivered to the elderly and sick.*
- B. *A lathe, a machine often used for shaping wood, metal, or other materials, was located below the window.*
- C. *There was a raised wood floor in the cellar, which had a room with a kiln. It was a workshop used by Marjorie and Evelyn for making and glazing greenware.*
- D. *This parking space next to the garage did not exist when the McKays lived in the house. Evelyn had an aluminum screen house set on red concrete paving stones in this area.*
- E. *The garage was used to store tools and carpentry supplies. There were two sets of hinged doors rather than overhead doors. There was a large planer and jointer inside that David and Doug would use to process rough sawn lumber to make into dimensional boards. Rough sawn lumber was stored on either side of the garage to dry.*



Curtis noted that his grandparents gutted this bathroom and removed an old clawfoot tub from it. This Salem bathroom looked remarkably similar to the bathroom in their second house in Nova Scotia. They used the same materials for both.



*Evelyn used to decorate the bay window sill every Christmas, as shown above.
Shown below is that same bay window today.*





Millie's parents, Gilbert MacKenna and Minerva "Minnie" Doane, opening presents at Christmas time. This photo was taken sometime before Minnie passed away in 1966. Doug's middle name was Gilbert and Evelyn's was Minerva, both named after their maternal grandparents. Below is a picture of the living room space with those same bookshelves today.





The living room space shown above used to be the McKay family dining room. Below is a picture of David and Millie McKay on their fiftieth wedding anniversary. One cannot know what David and Millie were thinking that day as they cut their cake surrounded by family in the dining room of the home where they raised their children. Even with a brief glimpse into their life through photographs and historical records, one can infer that they were proud of the loving family they created.



The Kennedy Family

On April 15, 1983, Mildred J. McKay sold her family home on Woodside St. to Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy for \$53,200.¹⁸⁹ Because Paul and Ellen are still alive, the details of their life and time at 3 Woodside St. will not be listed. However, they were the second longest tenured residents of the house, living there for nearly thirty-eight years. In 1984 the Board of Registrars released a book titled *Street List of Persons*. Of particular note in this book, Paul Kennedy and the McKays are listed as the residents of 3 Woodside St. After this entry, Paul and Ellen will be sole homeowners listed.¹⁹⁰

WOODSIDE ST				
D	1	COWAN MARTHA L	U S ARMY	03 15 58
D	1	RYAN ANN J	HOUSEWIFE	01 15 33
	1	RYAN ANNA	STUDENT	10 26 63
	1	RYAN EDWARD	STUDENT	10 19 65
I	1	RYAN JAMES P	STUDENT	01 13 61
D	1	RYAN JAMES T	DENTIST	09 27 30
	1	RYAN JOSEPH	STUDENT	11 28 66
D	1	RYAN JULIE A	TEACHER	10 28 59
I	1	RYAN THOMAS J	STUDENT	11 21 62
I	2	ROSS DENNIS M	PLUMBER	04 29 45
		RLY 24 WALTER ST		
D	2	ROSS JOANNE H	NURSE	08 26 45
		RLY 24 WALTER ST		
D	2A	KOZLOWSKI GENEVIEVE J	HOUSEWIFE	04 06 08
D	2A	KOZLOWSKI JOSEPH A	RETIRED	01 04 07
I	3	KENNEDY ELLEN A	CREDIT MGR	10 03 46
		RLY LEACH ST		
I	3	KENNEDY PAUL R	ELECT TECH	03 22 50
		RLY LEACH ST		
R	3	MCKAY DOUGLAS G J	CARPENTER	10 12 23
D	3	MCKAY EVELYN M	RETIRED	08 22 27
I	3	MCKAY MILDRED J	HOUSEWIFE	08 20 99
		LANGTIE DANIEL		

Paul Kennedy is listed as an electrical technician and Ellen Kennedy is listed as a credit manager.

The McNiff and Allison Family

On February 17, 2021, Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy sold “the land in Salem, together with the buildings thereon” to Joseph L. McNiff Jr. and his husband Robert L. Allison.¹⁹¹ Joe and Rob were living in the Boston area for more than twenty years before they moved to Salem. They bought the house on 3 Woodside St. while navigating the complexities of a global pandemic, which changed the housing market, among many other cultural transformations. Joe noted that the couple was seeking a LGBT-friendly community, and that they “have long been charmed by Salem’s eclectic and welcoming nature.” He added, “the ability to have our forever home in a place with such a rich historical past is more than we could ever ask for.”¹⁹²

¹⁸⁹ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Mildred J. McKay; Grantee: Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy. April 15, 1983. Book 7133, Pg 444.

¹⁹⁰ Board of Registrars, Salem Massachusetts. *Street List of Persons*. January 1, 1984. City of Salem. Pg 136.

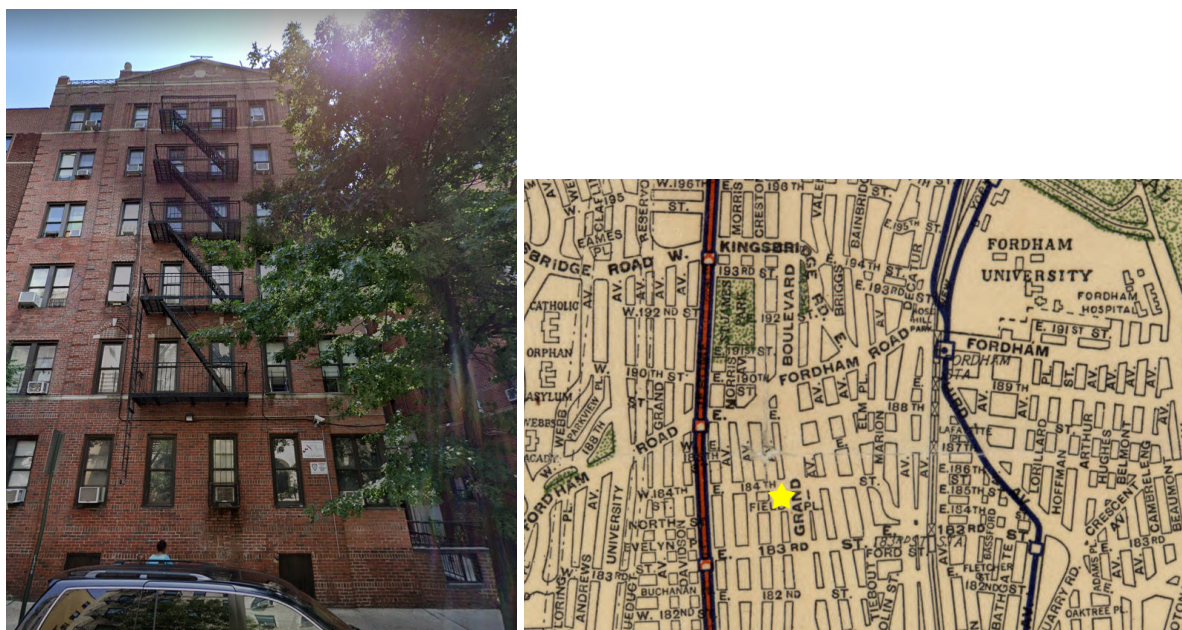
¹⁹¹ *Salem Registry of Deeds*. Grantor: Paul R. Kennedy and Ellen A. Kennedy; Grantee: Joseph L. McNiff Jr. and Robert L. Allison. February 17, 2021. So. Essex #606 Bk: 39542 Pg 390.

¹⁹² McNiff. Personal Interview. May 11, 2021.



The Converses

Mary J. Converse, the first name on the deed to the house at 3 Woodside St., passed away in New York City on April 7, 1933.¹⁹³ The headlines in the *New York Times* that day covered the end of Prohibition: “BEER FLOWS IN 19 STATES AT MIDNIGHT AS CITY AWAITS LEGAL BREW TODAY.”¹⁹⁴ Buried on page 10 were headlines about the Nazi rise to power in Germany: “HITLER CHALLENGES AMERICAN PROTESTS: Asserts We Have Least Right to Attack Anti-Semitism in View of Our Ban on Yellow Race.”¹⁹⁵ Mary had been living in the Bronx in an apartment building on Creston Ave. She had been widowed since 1904 when her husband George died.¹⁹⁶ It is not clear why Mary was living in New York City at the time. Perhaps she had wanted to remain close to her family. Her daughter, Carrie, had married and had children with a police detective named Robert Duggan. The Duggan family also lived in New York City. Without question, Mary had a much different life than the one she held in the quiet suburbs of North Salem in the 1870s.



Mary J. Converse's apartment building on 2330 Creston Ave. in the Bronx, as well as a map showing its location.

¹⁹³ "Certificate of Death for Mary J. Converse." *Department of Health of the City of New York: Bureau of Records*, 1933. Registration No. 5920.

¹⁹⁴ "BEER FLOWS IN 19 STATES AT MIDNIGHT AS CITY AWAITS LEGAL BREW TODAY." *The New York Times*. April 7, 1933, Accessed 2021.

<https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1933/04/07/99302932.html?pageNumber=1&auth=login-smartlock>.

¹⁹⁵ "HITLER CHALLENGES AMERICAN PROTESTS." *The New York Times*. April 7, 1933, Accessed 2021.

<https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1933/04/07/99303029.html?pageNumber=10>.

¹⁹⁶ *Death Record of George A. Converse*. Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915, 1921-1924, FHL microfilm 2,069,838. FamilySearch. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N7FC-L1W>.

A 123295 14-II 25-2608-31-B.P.

STATE OF NEW YORK
Department of Health of The City of New York
BUREAU OF RECORDS
STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH
 BOROUGH OF Bronx

No. 2330 Creston Ave St. 3377
 Character of premises, whether tenement, private, hotel, hospital or other place, etc. Apartment Registered No. 5320

2 FULL NAME Mary J Converse

3 SEX <u>Female</u>	4 COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (Write the word) <u>Widow</u>	15 DATE OF DEATH <u>April 7</u> , 19 <u>33</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)
-------------------------------	----------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

5A. WIFE } OF George Converse
HUSBAND }

6 DATE OF BIRTH....., 1 (Year)
 (Month) (Day)

7 AGE
85 yrs.....mos.....ds. If LESS than 1 day.....hrs. or.....min.?

8 OCCUPATION
 (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Housewife
 (b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer).....

9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) U.S.A.
 (A) How long in U. S. (if of foreign birth)..... (B) How long resident in City of New York 50 yrs

10 NAME OF FATHER James Muller
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) Ireland
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Mary Beriman
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) Ireland

14 Special INFORMATION required in deaths in hospitals and institutions and in deaths of non-residents and recent residents.
 Usual Residence.....

16 I hereby certify that the foregoing particulars (Nos. 1 to 14 inclusive) are correct as near as the same can be ascertained, and I further certify that I attended the deceased from April 6 1933
to April 7 1933, **that I last saw** her
alive on the 7 day of April 1933
that death occurred on the date stated above at 1:10 P.M.,
and that the cause of death was as follows:
Myocarditis
Arterio-sclerosis
 duration 20 yrs.....mos.....ds.

Contributory.....
 (Secondary).....
 duration..... yrs.....mos.....ds.

Witness my hand this 7 day of April 1933
 Signature Alexander Rios M. D.
 Address 1450 Jessup Ave
Salem

17 PLACE OF BURIAL Harmony Grange Mass **DATE OF BURIAL** April 8 1933
18 UNDERTAKER John Collins & Son **ADDRESS** 1898 Hedgcock Ave
Permit 220 1658

NO MUTILATED CERTIFICATE WILL BE RECEIVED

FILED
 1933 APR 10
 BUREAU OF RECORDS
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
 CITY OF NEW YORK

A copy of her death certificate.

It was a cloudy day on April 8, 1933, when Mary J. Converse returned to Salem and was buried next to her husband George in Harmony Grove Cemetery.¹⁹⁷ Mary, who had built the home at 3 Woodside St. in French architectural traditions, now rests in a place patterned after the rural cemeteries in France.¹⁹⁸ When she and her husband built the home at 3 Woodside St., who knows what dreams they held for the house. Through the generations, the home's central structure likely remained remarkably similar to the time when it was built, even as the neighborhood and the character of the city changed around it. Long past the quiet days of Ephraim Woods' nurseries, 3 Woodside St.'s residents shaped their town and country in small ways. From Benjamin A. Reed and Douglas G. McKay, who risked their lives to end destructive forces of oppression; to George A. Converse who simply helped a railroad company connect Boston and Maine; to Charles H. McGee who edited the day's news; to the mothers that raised dozens of future Salem residents; each shaped the city Salem is today.

¹⁹⁷ "Weather." *Salem Evening News*. April 8, 1933. Salem Library: Microfilm.

¹⁹⁸ "Harmony Grove Cemetery." *Harmony Grove: About Page*, Accessed 2021.
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