

1977
House & Land at 5 Carlton Street, Salem, Mass.

This house was built by James Fairfield Jr, Salem housewright, in the year 1858.

In 1850, Susan Ingersoll, Salem singlewoman (a friend & relative of the writer Nathaniel Hawthorne), owned the empty lot at the eastern corner of Carlton & Essex Streets; this land fronted 100' (approximately) on Carlton Street. She divided this property into three lots: the corner lot, lot #2 (which ran about 33' on Carlton Street) and lot #3 (which ran about 32' on Carlton Street).

On 22 July 1856, Miss Ingersoll, for \$400, sold lot #3 to James Fairfield Jr, a Salem housewright (545:18 & plan); on 10 Oct 1856 she sold the corner lot & lot #2 to George E Berry for \$900. A few months later, on 10 Jan 1857, James Fairfield Jr for \$400 released his lot #3 to his father, James Fairfield Sr, a Salem ship's captain who lived next door in what is now 7 Carlton Street (545:19). The Salem Directories show that from at least 1853 to 1857, James Jr lived with James Sr at the 7 Carlton Street house.

Although James Sr owned the land (lot #3), he evidently allowed his son to build a house thereon, for his son's own use--although James Sr technically owned the dwelling. The Salem tax records for 1858 show James Sr's real estate assessment jumping from \$14.28 in 1857 to \$22.20 by 31 Dec 1858; this jump probably reflects the construction of the house at 5 Carlton Street. There is no extant Salem Directory for 1858, but in 1859 James Fairfield Jr, carpenter (with a place of business at 29 Essex Street) is listed as having a house at 5 Carlton Street; he was still there in 1861, but by 1864 had moved to Becket Street. At that point James Sr probably rented the house out.

On 20 Ap 1870, James Fairfield Sr sold the house and land to Benjamin W Getchell for \$3000 (794:146); Mr Getchell, a cooper with a place of business first at Phillips wharf and later at Cedar Court, lived at 5 Carlton Street for 15 years, selling the premises for \$2300 on 3 July 1885 to Frank T Berry of Salem (1154:65). Forty years later, on 26 June 1925, Mr Berry granted the premises to Sally J Jowders of Salem, reserving to himself a life estate therein (2645:45). After his death, Sally J Jowders sold the place on 20 Oct 1928 to Justyna Sawicki of Salem (2784:293).

On 7 June 1941 Justyna Sawicki granted the premises to Joseph Wilinski and his wife Mary, both of Salem (3257:432). The premises were owned by Mrs Wilinski at her death and, in 1974, descended to her daughter Amelia N, wife of Anthony F Aline, the present owners (#321926).