History of owners and some occupants 24 North Street, Salem

By Robert Booth, June 2017

According to available evidence, this house was built as a barn for Capt. Samuel West Jr., shipmaster and sadler, in 1753, and was converted to a residence in 1769. It once stood about 50' to the north, facing south; it was moved to this spot in 1949 when North Street was widened. The original lot was taken for the widening of North Street in 1949.

Samuel West Jr. (1722-1790) was born in June, 1722, in Salem, the son of Mary (Gale) West and her husband, a sadler, Samuel West. Samuel was the fourth of their eight children, of whom four evidently died in childhood. The family resided at the southern corner of Essex and Summer Streets. Mary (1715-1803), the eldest, would never marry. Elizabeth (b. 1719) married William Stacey and then Jonathan Ashby. William (b. 1728) would become a distiller and merchant, the husband of Mary Bickford, and the father of (among others) Capt. Nathaniel West (1756-1851) one of the leading men of his generation in Salem and the husband of Elizabeth Derby, daughter of the great merchant E. Hasket Derby.

As a boy circa 1735, Samuel West Jr. was apprenticed to his father to learn the business of a sadler; in addition, he was probably allowed to ship out as a cabin boy and then as a deckhand, probably on board vessels engaged in trade to the West Indies (Caribbean). Salem's main export was salt cod, which was caught far offshore, mainly by Marbleheaders, and then "cured" until it was hard and dry and could be shipped long distances. To Europe went the "merchantable" cod (high-grade), and to the Caribbean went the "refuse" cod (low quality). Either sort, put into a pot of boiling water, would turn into nutritious food. Lumber, horses, foodstuffs, and furniture were also sent to the Caribbean, whence came sugar, cotton, mahogany, and molasses, which was made into rum in Salem's distilleries. From Europe came back finished goods, wine, fruit, feathers, and leather. There was also some trade between Salem and the Chesapeake Bay area, which provided corn, wheat, and tobacco, while South Carolina provided rice.

Most merchant vessels were small, under 60 tons. The salt water came in as the South River along Derby and New Derby Streets all the way to the present Post Office; and in this secure inner harbor were most of the wharves and warehouses, although some wharves were built along the North River too. The Brownes were leading merchants of the 1740s-1750s, along with Benjamin Pickman (1708-1773), Samuel Gardner, Timothy Orne, and Richard Derby (1712-1783). The imperial authorities limited the Salem merchants to trade with designated British possessions. Salem merchants broke the rules by smuggling

and trading with un-approved partners and many made good profits. Some came to feel disdain for the British, who sought to hold them back and keep them in their place.

Samuel West married Mary Massey in 1747. Between 1749 and 1764 they would have six children, most of them born at this house.

By the 1750s, having survived the perils of the sea and mastered the arts of navigation and seamanship, Samuel West Jr. was a shipmaster. In December, 1750, he commanded the small 40-ton schooner *Sparrow* as she cleared Salem on a voyage to Maryland, probably to exchange fish for flour or tobacco. Captain West and crew arrived home on board the *Sparrow* on March 29, 1751. He made another roundtrip voyage to Maryland on the same vessel (Nov. 23, 1751-March 24, 1752), and then was given command of the 42-ton schooner *Jolly Robin*, making a round trip voyage to Virginia (Dec. 4, 1752-March 19, 1753). Perhaps he commanded other vessels as well. Then he left the sea and took up the business of saddle-making.

It was as a sadler that Samuel West Jr. on May 12, 1753, for about 29 li bought from Judge Benjamin Lynde a piece of land 22 poles in area on the corner of Lynde Street and North Street ("the way or street leading to the great bridge over the north river"), bounded westerly 113' on that way or street, northerly 59' on Samuel Deland's land, easterly 111' on Lynde's land, southerly 50 on Lynde's Street (ED 98:94). The land had formerly been part of the homestead of Mitchell Sewall Esq. Note that Federal Street, east of North Street, did not then exist.

Capt. Samuel West Jr. proceeded to build a large gambrel roofed house, two rooms deep and five bays across, with offset chimneys, fronting directly on now-Lynde Street (it was evidently razed when North Street was widened in 1949; see photo appended). This would be his homestead for the rest of his life. On the land well to the rear of this house, on the back (northernmost part) of the lot, he had a barn built, probably in 1753; and in 1769 he converted the barn to a house (now#24). We know this because Samuel Curwen made a list of houses built in 1750s to 1770s. In the list he notes that a house was built for Samuel West Jr. in the period 1750-1760, and that in 1769 Samuel West Jr. ("barn into a tenement") converted his barn into an income-producing house (EIHC 58:293).

That house (converted from the barn) is the one now #24, which was, in 1949, moved from its original spot to its present location. Eventually, in between the two houses, Captain West had a small house built (site, #22). The small house was enlarged by later owners. I have appended a photograph of all three houses in situ, before the 1949 road-widening, which evidently caused the demolition of the Lynde Street and #22 North Street houses.

Evidently Samuel West Jr. prospered as one of Salem's few sadlers. It is likely that he made an array of leather goods, and not saddles only. He moved into

¹ Early Shipping of Salem, EIHC vols. 67,68,69.

the new house with his family probably in 1753, perhaps a year or two later. It was a fairly typical house of the time, just one room deep, with a gambrel roof instead of a pitch roof. The lower angle of the gambrel roof had an unusual flare or Dutch kick to it. Federal Street did not then exist. The house stood end-to-the street on North Street, overlooking the North River and the North Bridge below, a drawbridge that led to North Salem (see photo of the house on its original footprint, appended).

Samuel West (1722-1774), son of Samuel West & Mary Gale, died 1774. He m. 8 Oct. 1747 Mary Massey (b. 1720, dtr. of John Massey & Sarah Wells). She was his widow in 1791. Known issue:

- 1. Sarah, bp 1749
- 2. Samuel Massey, bp 1750, m. 1773 Mary Young
- 3. Martha, bp 1753, m. 1770 Alex Walker
- 4. Mary, bp 1757, m. 1777 Caleb Smith
- 5. Benjamin, c.1760, v. 1774
- 6. Abigail, bp 1764

In September, 1755, the Salem selectmen, who were selling the drawbridge at the North River to private parties, sold to Samuel West a large section of the Bridge and the piers that it stood on (ED 102:170).

In the 1750s the British fought a war against the French in Canada and drafted many Salem-area men into the army and navy. In the 1760s, after Canada was taken from the French, the English, who had spent down their reserves in the war, decided to squeeze tax revenues out of the colonials' trade. Although they had been under royal governors for two generations, the Americans had been allowed to self-govern at the local level by town meetings, and, at the provincial level, through a legislature and Governor's council. Over time, they had come to regard themselves as a free people, and not as dependents of a far-away mother country. Merchants and mariners deeply resented the British crack-down on their trade, accompanied by privateering against American vessels by both the French and the British.

In 1761, a group of Salem and Boston merchants sued to prevent the use of search warrants ("writs of assistance") by the Customs officials who were trying to inspect their vessels and warehouses. In the courtroom, attorney James Otis Jr. electrified the audience with his attack on British arrogance and his argument for American rights and liberties—an event that John Adams later identified as the birth of "the child independence." Later in the decade, Salemites were roused against the Stamp Act, and applied tar and feathers to a couple of men who disagreed. In Boston, the opposition was even larger and more determined, as mobs attacked the loyal officials' houses. The British authorities

were surprised at the Americans' resistance to their policies, and feared an insurrection. In 1768, they sent over a small army of occupation and installed it in Boston. Now the Americans were forced to see themselves as misbehaving colonials, and to realize that they were not free. They did not like this picture, and the result was bitter public opposition and more street violence in Boston. The Boston Massacre took place in March, 1770; in short order, all of Massachusetts turned openly against the British, and the clouds of war gathered on the horizon.

In 1770 when members of the First Church could not agree on an assistant pastor for their minister, Thomas Barnard Sr., a large minority withdrew amicably and formed the North Church. The new North Church meeting house was built in the spring of 1772, at the corner of North and Lynde Streets. By this time Capt. Samuel West Jr. was working once again as a mariner; and he was a proprietor of the new meeting house and a member of its new religious society, which had some of the richest families in town, including many who were Tories, meaning pro-British and anti-independence in the politics of the time.² Pre-revolutionary Salem had more than its share of Tories; but the Sons of Liberty were in the majority. Wealthy scions of families like the Curwens, Pickmans, and Brownes, stayed loyal to the King, as did many others who had married into the merchant families.

By this time, two of the West children had grown up and married. Martha, 17, married Alexander Walker in 1770. They would have several children. Possibly they occupied this house (#24) which had just been converted to a residence. Samuel M. West, 23, a mariner, married Mary Young in 1773. They too would have several children. Perhaps they resided here.

On April 21, 1774, Samuel West Jr., mariner, and wife Mary, for about 123 li sold the northerly house (now #24) and a small lot to Joseph Mansfield, cordwainer (ED 133:89). A cordwainer was a shoemaker. The property was described as "my dwelling house and homestall messuage" containing 7.4 rods of land bounded north on land of James Cook 3 poles 16 links (about 60'), west two poles 15 links (about 45') on "the street leading into town from the North Bridge", south on West's other land 3 poles and 9 links (about 56'), and east on land of Nathaniel Foster one pole 19 links (about 30').³

Soon after the sale, Samuel West Jr., mariner, died at age 52, of causes now unknown. He made his will on April 6, 1774, devising to his son SMW his interest in the sloop *Two Brothers*, subject to his paying some of her earnings to his mother Mary; and devising to his son Benjamin, then aged perhaps 12, the amount of about 13 li when he turned 21 and all sorts of clothes in the meantime during his apprenticeship; and devising to his daughter Mary the same sum he had

² See p. 547 H. F. Worthley, Inventory of Records, Harvard Theological Studies XXV, 1970.

³ Note: a house occupied by an owner was invariably referred to as the "mansion house," not a "dwelling house."

given her sister Martha when she had married Alex Walker; and devising to his wife Mary all the rest of his estate for her lifetime, and then equally to the four children, with Mrs. Mary West and Samuel M. West to be executors. He was deceased by May 23. In 1777 the daughter Mary, 20, would marry Caleb Smith, a cordwainer who became a trader (grocer). After Mary's death, the big West house on Lynde Street and its land went to the heirs, who (some, anyway) occupied it.

This ended the connection of the Wests to this house, which became the residence of Joseph Mansfield and family. For many years thereafter, the Wests (and Caleb Smith) continued to reside in other houses in this neighborhood. In the Revolutionary War, Capt. Samuel M. West would become a privateer. He would serve as lieutenant in 1779 on board the privateer brigantine *Oliver Cromwell*, 16 guns, under Capt. James Barr. Evidently Capt. S.M. West would eventually serve as a privateer commander himself.

In 1774, military rule was imposed from England as Gen. Thomas Gage became governor of Massachusetts and the port of Boston was shut down in punishment for the Tea Party. On June 2, 1774, Salem became the new capital of Massachusetts, as a reward for its supposed loyalty. Governor Gage and his officials relocated to the North Shore, and the Customs operation was conducted from Marblehead, while Salem became the major seaport of New England. handling virtually all of the commercial business that Boston had done. Hundreds of new people moved to Salem, and the legislature met in Salem's Court House. In short order that legislature, led by Sam Adams, turned into a rebel body, and voted to ignore British laws and to send delegates to a continental congress. Gage tried to shut it down, but it was too late: he had lost control of Massachusetts to the rebel assembly gathered in Salem. The town still had a powerful and outspoken group of loyalists, led by Peter Frye, a prominent merchant and magistrate whose wife was a Pickman. One night in October, Judge Frye learned just how far the rebels were willing to go: his fine house on Essex Street was burned down and his family barely escaped with their lives as half a block of houses and stores and a church all went up in smoke. Next day, the rebel assembly met again and voted to move their proceedings to Concord. Gage and his officials moved to Boston, and many of the loyalists followed. Outside of Boston, all of Massachusetts was under the control of the rebels.

By January, 1775, loyalists had been purged from the Salem militia regiment, and Col. William Browne was replaced by Col. Timothy Pickering, who was writing a book on military drill. One Sunday in February, 1775, the Revolutionary War almost began in Salem. When everyone was in church, Col. Leslie's redcoats marched overland from Marblehead and arrived in downtown Salem, hoping to seize cannon and munitions in North Salem. They came to a sudden halt at the North Bridge—the Salem men, alerted by a Marblehead rider,

had pulled up the draw of the bridge. Rev. Thomas Barnard Jr., of the North Church, engaged Col. Leslie in discussion; and Capt. John Felt, warned Leslie that blood would flow if he did not turn back. No doubt Captain West and his family turned out for this event. Negotiations followed, and agreement was reached: the draw went down, Leslie's men advanced a short distance into North Salem, faced about, and marched back through Salem's South Fields and Marblehead, whose own regiment, led by Col. Jeremiah Lee, could have slaughtered them. Instead, the Marbleheaders fell in behind them, marching in mockery of Leslie's Retreat as the British made their way back to the beach and boarded their whaleboats to return to the transport vessel.

With the battle at Lexington & Concord, April 19th, 1775, the die was cast. Of course no one knew how the war would end, and there was little to indicate that the colonials could actually defeat the King's army and navy, but virtually every able-bodied Salem man and boy gave himself over to the cause. Salem's regiment participated in the siege of Boston, as George Washington took command of the army in Cambridge. The British left Boston in March, 1776, never to return. Washington's army was pushed southward from Long Island in a series of defeats, during which Salem's Col. Timothy Pickering became one of the General's most trusted officers, and Quartermaster General of the army. Washington's first victory was the Battle of Trenton, on Christmas Day, 1776, made possible by the Marblehead regiment of Gen. John Glover. Eventually most of the Salem men came home and sailed in privateers for the duration of the war, which continued at sea until 1783.

The new owner of the house (#24, Joseph Mansfield (1743-1820), occupied it with his family. He was a cordwainer (shoemaker) by trade, and a soldier of the Revolution (per his death notice). There was another Salem man by that name; and he worked as a hatter. The two appear not to have been closely related. The Joseph of #24 was the son of Andrew and Mary (Newhall) Mansfield; Mary was born in Lynn, Andrew in Salem, probably descended from the Paul Mansfield who was in Salem, a fisherman, in the 1600s.

In some places, the post-war loss of the former colonial connections and trade routes was devastating, for Americans were prohibited from trading with most British possessions; but in Salem, the merchants and mariners were ready to push their ships and cargoes into all parts of the known world. They did so with astonishing success. For a period of about 25 years, Salem was a famous center of commercial enterprise: by virtue of competing fiercely, pioneering new routes, and opening and dominating new markets, Salem won a high place in the world. Hasket Derby, William Gray, Eben Beckford, and Joseph Peabody were the town's commercial leaders. In 1784, Derby began trade with Russia; and in 1784 and 1785 he dispatched trading vessels to Africa and China, respectively.

Voyages to India soon followed, and to the Spice Islands and Pepper Islands (Sumatra, Java, Malaya, etc.).

Once again, Salem was a boom-town, fueling much new construction. It is worth noting that Samuel M. West, mariner, in July, 1787, mortgaged to Mrs. Lydia Cook a "small dwelling house" occupied by widow Lydia Gavett and "lying between the house that was my said father's mansion in his lifetime and the house of Joseph Mansfield." (ED 148:155). The small house will be traced below.

Joseph Mansfield (1743-1820), born 17 April 1743, son f Andrew Mansfield & Mary Newhall of Salem, died of lung fever 16 Feb. 1820. He m. Hannah (1744-1789), died Sept. 3, 1789. He m/2 29 Oct. 1807 (Mrs.?) Hannah Manning. Known issue:

- 1. Betsy, c. 1774, m. 1794 Frederick Coombs.
- 2. Polly/Mary, c. 1780, m. 14 March 1802 Timothy Brown.

Joseph Mansfield's wife Hannah died in September, 1789, aged 45 years, and was buried at the Burying Point (off Charter Street). Her gravestone is still there, as is Joseph's. In 1790 Joseph Mansfield resided here (#24), with 3 females and a male under 16. The near neighbors were Elizabeth Gavett, John Francis, and Lydia Cook (per 1790 census, p. 578, column two). The other Joseph Mansfield lived quite nearby.

By the 1790s, the new foreign-trade markets—and the coffee trade, which would be opened in 1798 with Mocha, Arabia—brought great riches to the Salem merchants, and raised the level of wealth throughout the town: new ships were bought and built, more crews were formed with more shipmasters, new shops and stores opened, new partnerships were formed, and new people moved to town. In 1792 Salem's first bank, the Essex Bank, was founded, although it "existed in experiment a long time before it was incorporated," per Rev. William Bentley. From a population of 7921 in 1790, the town would grow by 1500 persons in a decade. At the same time, thanks to the economic policies of Alexander Hamilton, Salem vessels were able to transport foreign cargoes tax-free and essentially to serve as the neutral carrying fleet for both Britain and France, which were at war with each other.

In the 1790s, it is likely that this house was the home of the senior Mansfields, their daughter Mary ("Polly"), and their daughter Elizabeth ("Betsy") and her husband Fredrick Coombs, a baker. Frederick was born in 1771, the son of Frederick Coombs & Abigail Brown of Salem. He married Betsy Mansfield on Nov. 2, 1794, and they would have children Lydia M. (1795), Christopher (1797), and Hannah (1798). Sadly, Betsy died on Jan. 23, 1800, aged 25 years; and

Frederick survived her. In 1803 he would marry Lydia Symonds and have several more children including a daughter Betsy born in 1805. The three Coombs children were probably raised by their Mansfield grandparents here, along with their father. In the 1790s, too, Federal Street was put through between Washington and North Streets; it was first known as Marlborough Street.

In the late 1790s, there was agitation in Congress to go to war with France, which was at war with England. After President Adams' negotiators were rebuffed by the French leaders in 1797, a quasi-war with France began in summer, 1798, much to the horror of Salem's George Crowninshield family (father and five shipmaster sons), which had an extensive trade with the French, and whose ships and cargos in French ports were susceptible to seizure. The quasi-war brought about a political split within the Salem population. Those who favored war with France (and detente with England) aligned themselves with the national Federalist party, led by Hamilton and Salem's Timothy Pickering (the U.S. Secretary of State). These included most of the merchants, led locally by the Derby family. Those who favored peace with republican France were the Anti-Federalists, who later became aligned with Pres. Jefferson and his Democratic-Republican party; they were led locally by the Crowninshields. For the first few years of this rivalry, the Federalists prevailed; but after the death of Hasket "King" Derby in 1799 his family's power weakened.

In 1800, Adams negotiated peace with France and fired Pickering, his oppositional Secretary of State. Salem's Federalists merchants erupted in anger, expressed through their newspaper, the Salem *Gazette*. At the same time, British vessels began to harass American shipping. Salem owners bought more cannon and shot, and kept pushing their trade to the farthest ports of the rich East, while also maintaining trade with the Caribbean and Europe. Salem cargos were exceedingly valuable, and Salem was a major center for distribution of merchandise throughout New England: "the streets about the wharves were alive with teams loaded with goods for all parts of the country. It was a busy scene with the coming and going of vehicles, some from long distances, for railroads were then unknown and all transportation must be carried on in wagons and drays. In the taverns could be seen teamsters from all quarters sitting around the open fire in the chilly evenings, discussing the news of the day or making merry over potations of New England rum, which Salem manufactured in abundance" (from Hurd's *History of Essex County*, 1888, p. 65).

The Crowninshields, led by brother Jacob, were especially successful, as their holdings rose from three vessels in 1800 to several in 1803. Their bailiwick, the Derby Street district, seemed almost to be a foreign country: in the stores, parrots chattered and monkeys cavorted, and from the warehouses wafted the exotic aromas of Sumatran spices and Arabian coffee beans. From the wharves were carted all manner of strange fruits and blue and red patterned china and piles

of gorgeous silks and figured cloths. The greatest of the Salem merchants at this time was William "Billy" Gray, who owned 36 large vessels--15 ships, 7 barks, 13 brigs, 1 schooner--by 1808. Salem was then still a town, and a small one by our standards, with a total population of about 9,500 in 1800. Its politics were fierce, and polarized everything. The two factions attended separate churches. held separate parades, and supported separate schools, military companies, and newspapers. Salem's merchants resided mainly on two streets: Washington (which ended in a wharf on the Inner Harbor, and, above Essex, had the Town House in the middle) and Essex (particularly between what are now Hawthorne Boulevard and North Street). The East Parish (Derby Street area) was for the seafaring families, shipmasters, sailors, and fishermen. In the 1790s, Federal Street, known as New Street, had more empty lots than fine houses. Chestnut Street did not exist: its site was a meadow. The Common was not yet Washington Square, and was covered with hillocks, small ponds and swamps, utility buildings, and the alms-house. As the 19th century advanced, Salem's commercial prosperity would sweep almost all of the great downtown houses away (the brick Joshua Ward house, built 1784, is a notable exception).

The town's merchants were among the wealthiest in the country, and, in Samuel McIntire (1757-1811), they had a local architect who could help them realize their desires for large and beautiful homes in the latest style. While a few of the many new houses went up in the old Essex-Washington Street axis, most were erected on or near Washington Square or in the Federalist "west end" (Chestnut, Federal, and upper Essex Streets). The architectural style (called "Federal" today) had been developed by the Adam brothers in England and featured fanlight doorways, palladian windows, elongated pilasters and columns, and large windows. It was introduced to New England by Charles Bulfinch in 1790. The State House in Boston was his first institutional composition; and soon Beacon Hill was being built up with handsome residences in the Bulfinch manner.

In April, 1802, for \$740 Joseph Mansfield, cordwainer (owner of #24) purchased from cordwainer Caleb Smith (one of the Samuel West heirs) a piece of land fronting 24' on North Street and bounding northerly on Mansfield's own lot (ED 170:199). Smith had bought the same from another West heir, Alex Walker, in 1801 (ED 168:274). Although not mentioned, it is likely that the small house stood on this small lot. By June, 1809, Joseph Mansfield had become a yeoman (crop farmer); at that time, for \$172.50 he bought from Samuel West, bookbinder, a small piece of land fronting 5' on North Street and running along Mansfield's other land bought in 1802. This completed the Mansfield homestead land.

A new bank, the Salem Bank, was formed in 1803, and there were two insurance companies and several societies and associations. The fierce politics

and commercial rivalries continued. The ferment of the times is captured in the diary of Rev. William Bentley, bachelor minister of Salem's East Church and editor of the *Register* newspaper. His diary is full of references to the civic and commercial doings of the town, and to the lives and behaviors of all classes of society. On Union Street, not far from Bentley's church, on the fourth of July, 1804, was born a boy who would grow up to eclipse all sons of Salem in the eyes of the world: Nathaniel Hawthorne, whose father would die of fever with most of his crew while on a voyage to the Caribbean in 1808. This kind of untimely death was all too typical of Salem's young seafarers, who fell prey to malaria and other diseases of the Caribbean and Pacific tropics.

In 1806 the Derbys extended their wharf far out into the harbor, tripling its previous length. This they did to create more space for warehouses and shipberths in the deeper water, at just about the time that the Crowninshields had built their great India Wharf at the foot of now-Webb Street. The other important wharves were Forrester's (now Central, just west of Derby Wharf), and Union Wharf at the foot of Union Street; and then, father to the west, a number of smaller wharves extended into the South River (filled in during the late 1800s), all the way to the foot of Washington Street. Each had a warehouse or two, and shops for artisans (coopers, blockmakers, joiners, etc.). The waterfront between Union Street and Washington Street also had lumber yards and several ship chandleries and distilleries, with a Market House at the foot of Central Street, below the Custom House. The wharves and streets were crowded with shoppers, gawkers, hawkers, sailors, artisans ("mechanics"), storekeepers, and teamsters; and just across the way, on Stage Point along the south bank of the South River, wooden barks and brigs and ships were being built in the shipyards.

Salem's boom ended with a crash in January, 1808, when Jefferson and the Congress imposed an embargo on all shipping in hopes of forestalling war with Britain. The Embargo, widely reviled in New England, proved futile and nearly ruinous in Salem, where commerce ceased. As a hotbed of Democratic-Republicanism, Salem's East Parish and its seafarers, led by the Crowninshields, loyally supported the Embargo until it was lifted in spring, 1809. Shunned by the other Salem merchants for his support of the Embargo, the eminent Billy Gray took his large fleet of ships—fully one-third of Salem's tonnage—and moved to Boston, whose commerce was thereby much augmented. Gray's removal eliminated a huge amount of Salem wealth, shipping, import-export cargos, and local employment. Gray soon switched from the Federalist party, and was elected Lt. Governor under Gov. Elbridge Gerry, a native of Marblehead. Salem resumed its seafaring commerce for three years, but still the British preyed on American shipping; and in June, 1812, war was declared against Britain.

Although the merchants had tried to prevent the war, when it came, Salem swiftly fitted out 40 privateers manned by Marblehead and Salem crews, who also served

on U.S. Navy vessels, including the frigate *Constitution*. Many more local vessels could have been sent against the British, but some of the Federalist merchants held them back. In addition, Salem fielded companies of infantry and artillery. Salem and Marblehead privateers were largely successful in making prizes of British supply vessels. While many of the town's men were wounded in engagements, and some were killed, the possible riches of privateering kept the men returning to sea as often as possible. The first prizes were captured by a 30-ton converted fishing schooner, the *Fame*, and by a 14-ton luxury yacht fitted with one gun, the *Jefferson*. Of all Salem privateers, the Crowninshields' 350-ton ship *America* was most successful: she captured 30-plus prizes worth more than \$1,100,000.

Salem erected forts and batteries on its Neck, to discourage the British warships that cruised these waters. On land, the war went poorly for the United States, as the British captured Washington, DC, and burned the Capitol and the White House. Along the western frontier, U.S. forces were successful against the weak English forces; and, as predicted by many, the western expansionists had their day. At sea, as time wore on, Salem vessels were captured, and its men imprisoned or killed. After almost three years, the war was bleeding the town dry. Hundreds of Salem men and boys were in British prison-ships and at Dartmoor Prison in England. At the Hartford Convention in 1814, New England Federalist delegates met to consider what they could do to bring the war to a close and to restore the region's commerce. Sen. Timothy Pickering of Salem led the extreme Federalists in proposing a series of demands which, if not met by the federal government, could lead to New England's seceding from the United States; but the Pickering faction was countered by Harrison G. Otis of Boston and the moderate Federalists, who prevailed in sending a moderate message to Congress.

At last, in February, 1815, peace was restored. Post-war, the Salem merchants rebuilt their fleets and resumed their worldwide trade, slowly at first, and then to great effect. Many new partnerships were formed. The pre-war partisan politics of the town were not resumed post-war, as the middle-class "mechanics" (artisans) became more powerful and brought about civic harmony, largely through the Salem Charitable Mechanic Association (founded 1817). Rev. William Bentley, keen observer and active citizen during Salem's time of greatest prosperity and fiercest political divisions, died in 1819, the year in which a new U.S. Custom House was built in 1819, on the site of the George Crowninshield mansion, at the head of Derby Wharf. Into the 1820s foreign trade continued prosperous; and new markets were opened with Madagascar (1820), which supplied tallow and ivory, and Zanzibar (1825), whence came coffee, ivory, and gum copal, used to make varnish. This opened a huge and lucrative trade in

which Salem dominated, and its vessels thus gained access to all of the east African ports.

Joseph Mansfield was ill with lung fever in February, 1820. He made his will on the 14th, devising all of his property to his (second) wife Hannah for life. His daughters, Polly and Betsy were dead. After Hannah's death, his property was to go in two shares, one to his grandson Joseph Mansfield Brown (of Boston) and one to his three Coombs grandchildren (Hannah, Lydia, and Christopher). Frederick Coombs was still alive, but was afflicted with alcoholism and would die in November, 1824, aged 53.

The Coombs siblings probably resided here in the 1820s. Christopher worked as a laborer; Hannah would marry Simon Stodder/Stoddard in January, 1822; and second she would marry Thomas Symonds, Salem trader (grocer); and Lydia Mansfield Coombs would remain unmarried.

Salem's general maritime foreign commerce fell off sharply in the late 1820s. Imports in Salem ships were supplanted by the goods that were now being produced in great quantities in America. The interior of the country was being opened for settlement, and some Salemites moved away. To the north, the falls of the Merrimack River powered large new textile mills (Lowell was founded in 1823), which created great wealth for their investors; and in general it seemed that the tide of opportunity was ebbing away from Salem. In an ingenious attempt to stem the flow of talent from the town and to harness its potential water power for manufacturing, Salem's merchants and capitalists banded together in 1826 to raise the money to dam the North River for industrial power. The project, which began with much promise, was suspended in 1827, which demoralized the town even more, and caused several leading citizens to move to Boston, the hub of investment in the new economy.

In 1830 occurred a horrifying crime that brought disgrace to Salem. Old Capt. Joseph White, a wealthy merchant, resided in the house now called the Gardner-Pingree house, on Essex Street. One night, intruders broke into his mansion and stabbed him to death. All of Salem buzzed with the news of murderous thugs; but the killer was a Crowninshield (a fallen son of one of the five brothers; after he was put in jail he killed himself). He had been hired by his friends, Capt. White's own relatives, Capt. Joseph Knapp and his brother Frank (they would be executed). The results of the investigation and trial having uncovered much that was lurid, more of the respectable families quit the now-notorious town.

As the decade wore on, Salem's remaining merchants had to take their equity out of wharves and warehouses and ships and put it into manufacturing and transportation, as the advent of railroads and canals diverted both capital and trade away from the coast. Some merchants did not make the transition, and were ruined. Old-line areas of work, like rope-making, sail-making, and ship

chandleries, gradually declined and disappeared. Salem slumped badly, but, despite all, the voters decided to charter their town as a city in 1836—the third city to be formed in the state, behind Boston and Lowell. City Hall was built 1837-8 and the city seal was adopted with an already-anachronistic Latin motto of "to the farthest port of the rich East"—a far cry from "Go West, young man!" The Panic of 1837, a brief, sharp, nationwide economic depression, caused even more Salem families to head west in search of fortune and a better future.

In January, 1834, the heirs of Joseph Mansfield sold for \$20 a small piece of the southeast part of the homestead to bricklayer William B. Kehew (ED 273:143). Mr. Kehew had already (in November, 1832) purchased an old store and land immediately to the south (ED 271:112). He converted the old store (formerly the "small house") back to a dwelling. In January, 1834, for \$50, Mr. Kehew had bought another small piece of land, fronting 3' 4" on North Street, adjoining northerly on the 1832 purchase.

On May 5, 1835, Lydia Mansfield Coombs died at the age of 38 years. After her death, the homestead was sold. On August 13, 1836, for \$800, The Joseph Mansfield heirs—the Coombs siblings and their cousin, Joseph M. Brown, Boston merchant—conveyed the homestead with the house now #24 to William B. Kehew, bricklayer (ED 293:296). It consisted of the buildings and land "cornering on North Street and Marlborough Street", bounding west on North Street 39' 6", north on Marlborough Street 49', east on land late of John H. Andrews, and south on land of the grantee Kehew 54' 6". Mr. Kehew would mortgage the same to Thomas Saunders for \$500 in November, 1836 (ED 294:77).

A few months later, in October, 1836, Mr. Kehew for \$900 sold to Leverett Sawyer, jeweler, the lot (fronting 25' on North Street) and the house that had replaced the store (ED 300:222). Presumably this sale helped Mr. Kehew to afford the house (now #24) he had recently purchased. It is worth noting that in in March, 1835, Mr. Kehew, then termed a Salem mariner, had mortgaged his property hereabouts (ED 279:269). Note: the house formerly #22 (now gone) was owned by Augustus Hardy, painter, by 1854, when he sold it to Mrs. Lucy Ann Marden (land fronted 25' on North Street); and it would remain in the Marden family for many decades. Like the Lynde Street house to the south of it, it was removed for the street widening of 1949.

Salem had not prepared for the industrial age, and had few natural advantages. The North River served not to power factories but mainly to flush the waste from the 25 tanneries that had set up along its banks. Throughout the 1830s, the leaders of Salem scrambled to re-invent an economy for their fellow citizens, many of whom were mariners without much sea-faring to do. Ingenuity, ambition, and hard work would have to carry the day.

One inspiration was the Salem Laboratory, Salem's first science-based manufacturing enterprise, founded in 1813 to produce chemicals. At the plant built in 1818 in North Salem on the North River, the production of alum and blue vitriol was a specialty; and it proved a very successful business. Salem's whale-fishery, active for many years in the early 1800s, led, in the 1830s, to the manufacturing of high-quality candles at Stage Point, along with machine oils. The candles proved very popular. Lead-manufacturing began in the 1820s, and grew large after 1830, when Wyman's gristmills on the Forest River were retooled for making high-quality white lead and sheet lead (the approach to Marblehead is still called Lead Mills Hill, although the empty mill buildings burned down in 1960s).

These enterprises were a start in a new direction for Salem. In 1838 the Eastern Rail Road, headquartered in Salem, began operating between Boston and Salem, which gave the local people a route to the region's largest market. The new tracks ran over the middle of the Mill Pond; the tunnel under Washington Street was built in 1839; the line was extended to Newburyport in 1840.

In 1840 (per census, p. 307), this house was occupied by the owner, William B. Kehew, and the family: two women, two girls under 5, and one boy aged 10-15 (perhaps an apprentice). Rachel Gardner (1805-1897) was one of the six children of Jonathan Gardner (1774-1839) and Rachel Brown (1775-1876) of Salem. The family belonged to the First Church.

William Becket Kehew (1803-1872), born 1803, son of Aaron Kehew & Mary Becket; died on Jan. 16, 1872 of kidney disease. He m. 26 Jan. 1829 Rachel Gardner (1805-1897), b. 20 Dec. 1805, daughter of Jonathan Gardner & Rachel Brown, died 30 Sept. 1897. Known issue:

- 1. William Henry, 1 Nov. 1829, m. 1855 Sarah H. Field (1833-1903); watchmaker and jeweler.
- 2. Edward Augustus, 1831-1833.
- 3. Edward Augustus, 1834-1836.
- 4. Harriet Ellen, 25 Feb. 1837, m. 1888 John Boden, d. 14 Jan. 1921.
- 5. Rachel Matilda, 1839, died 31 May 1911.
- 6. George Francis, 1841-1842.

In the 1840s, as more industrial methods and machines were introduced, new companies in new lines of business arose in Salem. The tanning and curing of leather was very important by the mid-1800s. On and near Boston Street, along the upper North River, there were 41 tanneries in 1844, and 85 in 1850, employing 550 hands. The leather business would continue to grow in importance throughout the 1800s. In 1846 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company

completed the construction at Stage Point of the largest factory building in the United States, 60' wide by 400' long. It was an immediate success, and hundreds of people found employment there, many of them living in tenements built nearby. Also in the 1840s, a new method was introduced to make possible high-volume industrial shoe production. In Lynn, the factory system was perfected, and that city became the nation's leading shoe producer. Salem had shoe factories too, and attracted shoe workers from outlying towns and the countryside. Even the population changed, as hundreds of Irish families, fleeing the Famine in Ireland, settled in Salem and gave the industrialists a big pool of cheap labor.

In the 1840s, William B. Kehew evidently prospered as a master mason. His firm built foundations, chimneys, and buildings. His son William H. Kehew (born in 1829) was apprenticed to the noted Salem clockmaker Edmund Currier. His father spent a great deal of money on this apprenticeship; and William proved to be an apt apprentice. He would be given his "freedom" as a journeyman in 1851, and would, for more than 50 years, hold the position of one of Salem's most notable watch- and clock-makers and jewelers.

The Gothic symbol of Salem's new industrial economy was the large twintowered granite train station—the "stone depot"—smoking and growling with idling locomotives, standing on filled-in land at the foot of Washington Street, where before had been the merchants' wharves. In the face of all this change, some members of Salem's waning merchant class continued to pursue their seaborne businesses; but even the conditions of shipping changed, and Salem was left on the ebb tide. In the late 1840s, giant clipper ships replaced the smaller vessels that Salem men had sailed around the world; and the clippers, with their deep drafts and large holds, were usually too large for Salem and its harbor. The town's shipping soon consisted of little more than Zanzibar-trade vessels and visits from Down East coasters with cargoes of fuel wood and building timber. By 1850 Salem was about finished as a working port. A picture of Salem's sleepy waterfront is given by Hawthorne in his mean-spirited "introductory section" to *The Scarlet Letter*, which he began while working in the Custom House.

In 1855 census, house 45, we find William B. Kehew, 52, mason, Rachel, 50, and daughters Harriet E. 18, and Rachel M., 16. Across Federal Street resided the Stephen Daniels family, living above their grocery store. Next door on North Street lived Lemuel Marden, carpenter, and family.

Salem's growth continued through the 1850s, as business and industries expanded, the population swelled, new churches (e.g. Immaculate Conception, 1857) were started, new working-class neighborhoods were developed (especially in North Salem and South Salem, off Boston Street, and along the Mill Pond behind the Broad Street graveyard), and new schools, factories, and stores were built. A second, larger, factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was added in 1859, down at Stage Point, where a new Methodist

Church went up, and many neat homes, boarding-houses, and stores were erected along the streets between Lafayette and Congress. The tanning business continued to boom, as better and larger tanneries were built along Boston Street and Mason Street; and subsidiary industries sprang up as well, most notably the J.M. Anderson glue-works on the Turnpike (Highland Avenue).

As it re-established itself as an economic powerhouse, Salem took a strong interest in national politics. It was primarily Republican, and strongly antislavery, with its share of outspoken abolitionists, led by Charles Remond, a passionate speaker who came from one of the city's notable black families. At its Lyceum (on Church Street) and in other venues, plays and shows were put on, but cultural lectures and political speeches were given too.

In 1860 (per census, house 1908), this house was occupied by the senior Kewhews and their two daughters, along with "servant" (maid) Mary B. Kehew, 58, probably William's sister. By 1860, with the election of Abraham Lincoln, it was clear that the Southern states would secede from the union; and Salem, which had done so much to win the independence of the nation, was ready to go to war to force others to remain a part of it.

The Civil War began in April, 1861, and went on for four years, during which hundreds of Salem men served in the army and navy, and many were killed or died of disease or abusive treatment while imprisoned. Hundreds more suffered wounds, or broken health. The people of Salem contributed greatly to efforts to alleviate the suffering of the soldiers, sailors, and their families; and there was great celebration when the war finally ended in the spring of 1865.

Through the 1860s, Salem pursued manufacturing, especially of leather and shoes and textiles. The managers and capitalists tended to build their new, grand houses along Lafayette Street (these houses may still be seen, south of Roslyn Street; many are in the French Second Empire style, with mansard roofs). A third factory building for the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company was built in 1865.

In July, 1862, William B. Kehew and C. H. Fifield received a U.S. patent for their design of an improved hot air register (see appended).

In February 1869 he made his will, devising his property to his wife Rachel for life and then to their two daughters. He devised nothing to his son, having already expended greatly on him.

In 1870 Salem received its last cargo from Zanzibar, thus ending a once-important trade. By then, a new Salem & New York freight steamboat line was in operation. Seven years later, with the arrival of a vessel from Cayenne, Salem's foreign trade came to an end. After that, "the merchandise warehouses on the wharves no longer contained silks from India, tea from China, pepper from Sumatra, coffee from Arabia, spices from Batavia, gum-copal from Zanzibar, hides from Africa, and the various other products of far-away countries. The boys have ceased to

watch on the Neck for the incoming vessels, hoping to earn a reward by being the first to announce to the expectant merchant the safe return of his looked-for vessel. The foreign commerce of Salem, once her pride and glory, has spread its white wings and sailed away forever" (Rev. George Bachelder in *History of Essex County*, II: 65).

Salem was now so densely built-up that a general conflagration was always a possibility, as in Boston, when, on Nov. 9, 1872, the financial and manufacturing district of the city burned up. Salem continued to prosper in the 1870s, carried forward by the leather-making business. In 1874 the city was visited by a tornado and shaken by a minor earthquake. In the following year, the large Pennsylvania Pier (site of the present coal-fired harborside electrical generating plant) was completed to begin receiving large shipments of coal. Beyond it, at Juniper Point, a new owner began subdividing the old Allen farmlands into a new development called Salem Willows and Juniper Point. In the U.S. centennial year, 1876, A.G. Bell of Salem announced that he had discovered a way to transmit voices over telegraph wires.

William B. Kehew died on Jan. 16, 1872. He was survived by his wife Rachel (Gardner) Kehew (1805-1897) and their surviving children, William H., 42, Harriet E., 35, and R. Matilda, 33. His property was valued at \$3500 in real estate and \$2000 in personal estate. For the next three decades, the house would be occupied the widow Rachel and her daughters.

In this decade, French-Canadian families began coming to work in Salem's mills and factories, and more houses and tenements were built. The better-off workers bought portions of older houses or built small homes for their families in the outlying sections of the city; and by 1879 the Naumkeag Steam Cotton mills would employ 1200 people and produce annually nearly 15 million yards of cloth. Shoe-manufacturing businesses expanded in the 1870s, and 40 shoe factories were employing 600-plus operatives. Tanning, in both Salem and Peabody, remained a very important industry, and employed hundreds of breadwinners. On Boston Street in 1879, the Arnold tannery caught fire and burned down.

In the 1880s and 1890s, Salem kept building infrastructure; and new businesses arose, and established businesses expanded. Retail stores prospered; horse-drawn trolleys ran every which-way; and machinists, carpenters, millwrights, and other specialists all thrived. In 1880, Salem's manufactured goods were valued at about \$8.4 million, of which leather accounted for nearly half. In the summer of 1886, the Knights of Labor brought a strike against the manufacturers for a ten-hour day and other concessions; but the manufacturers imported labor from Maine and Canada, and kept going. The strikers held out, and there was violence in the streets, and even rioting; but the owners prevailed, and many of the defeated workers lost their jobs and suffered, with their families, through a bitter winter.

By the mid-1880s, Salem's cotton-cloth mills at the Point employed 1400 people who produced about 19 million yards annually, worth about \$1.5 million. The city's large shoe factories stood downtown behind the stone depot and on Dodge and Lafayette Streets. A jute bagging company prospered with plants on Skerry Street and English Street; its products were sent south to be used in cotton-baling. Salem factories also produced lead, paint, and oil. At the Eastern Railroad yard on Bridge Street, cars were repaired and even built new. In 1887 the streets were first lit with electricity, replacing gas-light. The gas works, which had stood on Northey Street since 1850, was moved to a larger site on Bridge Street in 1888, opposite the Beverly Shore.

More factories and more people required more space for buildings, more roads, and more storage areas. This space was created by filling in rivers, harbors, and ponds. The once-broad North River was filled from both shores, and became a canal along Bridge Street above the North Bridge. The large and beautiful Mill Pond, which occupied the whole area between the present Jefferson Avenue, Canal Street, and Loring Avenue, finally vanished beneath streets, storage areas, junk-yards, rail-yards, and parking lots. The South River, too, with its epicenter at Central Street (that's why there was a Custom House built there in 1805) disappeared under the pavement of Riley Plaza and New Derby Street, and some of its old wharves were joined together with much in-fill and turned into coal-yards and lumber-yards. Only a canal was left, running in from Derby and Central Wharves to Lafayette Street.

Rachel (Gardner) Kehew died Sept. 30, 1897, age 94 years. Per her husband's will, the homestead went to their two daughters after her death. In 1888, Harriet, 51, had married John B. Boden, who would die in 1891. Rachel Matilda Kehew had come to be known as Matilda by 1865. She was ill for a long time before she died on My 31, 1911, here at #24. Thereafter, Mrs. Harriet E. (Kehew) Boden was sole owner.

Salem kept growing. The Canadians were followed in the early 20th century by large numbers of Polish and Ukrainian families, who settled primarily in the Derby Street neighborhood. By the eve of World War One, Salem was a bustling, polyglot city that supported large department stores and large factories of every description. People from the surrounding towns, and Marblehead in particular, came to Salem to do their shopping; and its handsome government buildings, as befit the county seat, were busy with conveyances of land, lawsuits, and probate proceedings. The city's politics were lively, and its economy was strong.

On June 25, 1914, in the morning, in Blubber Hollow (Boston Street opposite Federal), a fire started in one of Salem's fire-prone wooden tanneries. This fire soon consumed the building and raced out of control, for the west wind was high and the season had been dry. The next building caught fire, and the

next, and out of Blubber Hollow the fire roared easterly, a monstrous front of flame and smoke, wiping out the houses of Boston Street, Essex Street, and upper Broad Street, and then sweeping through Hathorne, Winthrop, Endicott, and other residential streets. Men and machines could not stop it: the enormous fire crossed over into South Salem and destroyed the neighborhoods west of Lafayette Street, then devoured the mansions of Lafayette Street itself, and raged onward into the tenement district. Despite the combined efforts of heroic fire crews from many towns and cities, the fire overwhelmed everything in its path: it smashed into the large factory buildings of the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company (Congress Street), which exploded in an inferno; and it rolled down Lafayette Street and across the water to Derby Street. There, just beyond Union Street, after a 13-hour rampage, the monster died, having consumed 250 acres, 1600 houses, and 41 factories, and leaving three dead and thousands homeless. Some people had insurance, some did not; all received much support and generous donations from all over the country and the world. It was one of the greatest urban disasters in the history of the United States, and the people of Salem would take years to recover from it. Eventually, they did, and many of the former houses and businesses were rebuilt; and several urban-renewal projects (including Hawthorne Boulevard, which involved removing old houses and widening old streets) were put into effect.

In 1920 (per census), this house was occupied by Mrs. Boden and her old, widowed brother, the well-known retired jeweler and watchmaker, William H. Kehew, then 91. He would outlive her. On Aug. 24, 1920, she sold the homestead to Joseph Smith Metcalfe (wife Edith) of Salem (ED 2462:323). A few months later, on Jan. 14, 1921, in her 84th year, she died at Salem Hospital. She was survived by her brother William and his grandchildren.

Mr. Metcalfe was a cabinet-maker and antique dealer. His wife was Edith, and their daughter Doris boarded here in 1921, as did daughter Gertrude, a milliner with a store adjoining her father's antique shop (73-75 Federal). In September, 1922, Mr. Metcalfe (wife Edith) purchased from Julia Sullivan some property across the street, fronting on a curved line by North and Federal Streets (ED 2526:539).

In the 1920s, Salem was once again a thriving city; and its tercentenary in 1926 was a time of great celebration. The Depression hit in 1929, and continued through the 1930s. By 1931 Doris Metcalfe had married Lloyd Marsters, who was running the Metcalfe "Genuine American Antiques" store (per Salem Directory). After Mr. Metcalfe's death in the 1930s, the property went to their mother Edith and then to Gertrude Metcalfe (ummarried milliner) and Doris (Metcalfe) Marsters, wife of Lloyd K. Marsters, of Hamilton. In April, 1949, Gertrude and Doris made a deal with the city of Salem, which wished to widen North Street. In exchange for a piece of land belonging to this house (#24), they would be given

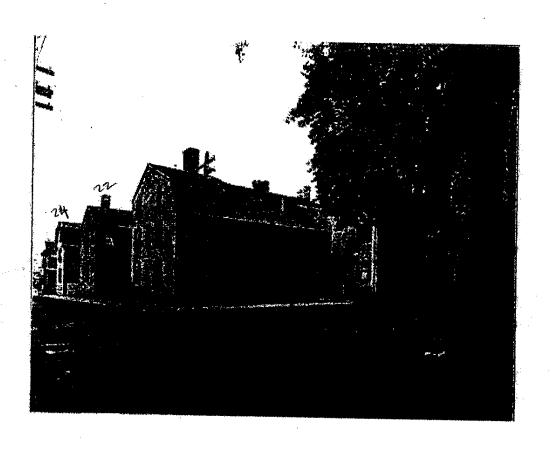
an adjoining piece that enabled them to move the house perpendicular to its original foundation, and so remain on North Street on a spot to the southwest of its original location. They sold to the city of Salem a piece of land fronting 57' on Federal Street and 35' on North Street (ED 3666:293). The city sold them a lot too (ED 3666:294). It was formally agreed that the house would be moved at the expense of the city of Salem (ED 3666:294).

Salem, the county seat and regional retail center, gradually rebounded, and prospered after World War II through the 1950s and into the 1960s. General Electric, Sylvania, Parker Brothers, Pequot Mills (formerly Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co.), Almy's department store, various other large-scale retailers, and Beverly's United Shoe Machinery Company were all major local employers.

In July, 1955, Gertrude Metcalfe and Doris (Metcalfe) Marsters sold the homestead to Harold J. and wife Gertrude E. Lyons (ED 4185:51). During the Lynoses long ownership through the 1970s and beyond, the arrival of suburban shopping malls and the relocation of manufacturing businesses took their toll on Salem, as they did with many other cities.

The Lyonses sold the homestead to Thomas D. & Grace Q. O'Brine in the 1980s (ED 6960:23, 7883:308). The O'Brines were attorneys; they conveyed the same in April, 1987, to The O'Brines Inc. (ED 8905:260).

More recently, the property has passed through several hands. In 1999 Two Girls Renovating acquired the premises and sold the same in 2006 to Susan V. Allen (ED 25680:85). In June, 2017, as a result of transfers among Susan Allen, Laurie Estey and Cora Pilcher, the premises were owned by Laurie J. Estey Trust (ED 35987:268).



Google Maps 33 North St

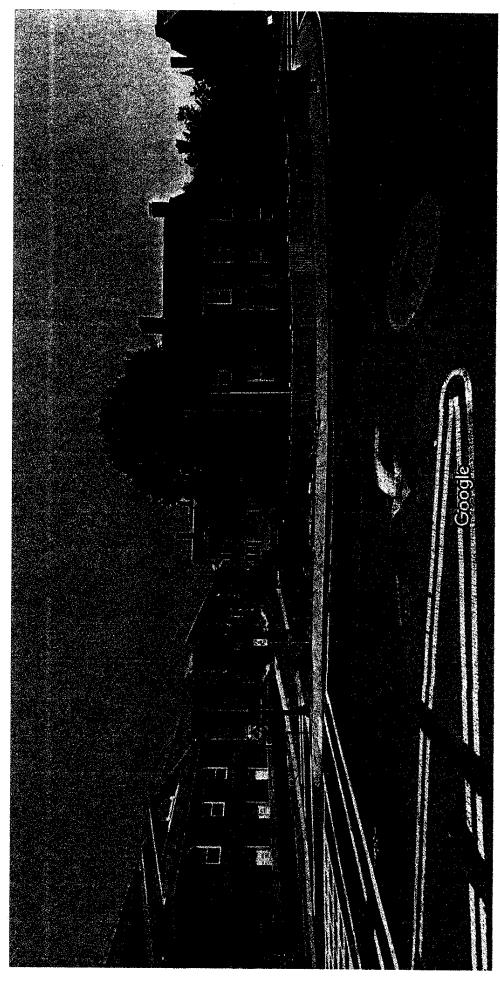


Image capture: Jul 2015 @ 2017 Google

Salem, Massachusetts

Street View - Jul 2015

Glossary & Sources

A figure like (ED 123:45) refers to book 123, page 45, Essex South registry of Deeds, Federal Street, Salem.

A figure like (#12345) refers to Essex Probate case 12345, on file at the Essex Probate Court, Federal Street, Salem, or on microfilm at Mass. Archives, Boston, or at the Peabody Essex Museum's Phillips Library, Salem.

MSSRW refers to the multi-volume compendium, Mass. Soldiers & Sailors in the Revolutionary War, available at the Salem Public Library among other places.

MSSCRW refers to the multi-volume compendium, Mass. Soldiers, Sailors, & Marines in the Civil War, available at the Salem Public Library among other places.

EIHC refers to the Essex Institute Historical Collections (discontinued), a multi-volume set (first volume published in 1859) of data and articles about Essex County. The indices of the EIHC have been consulted regarding many of the people associated with this house.

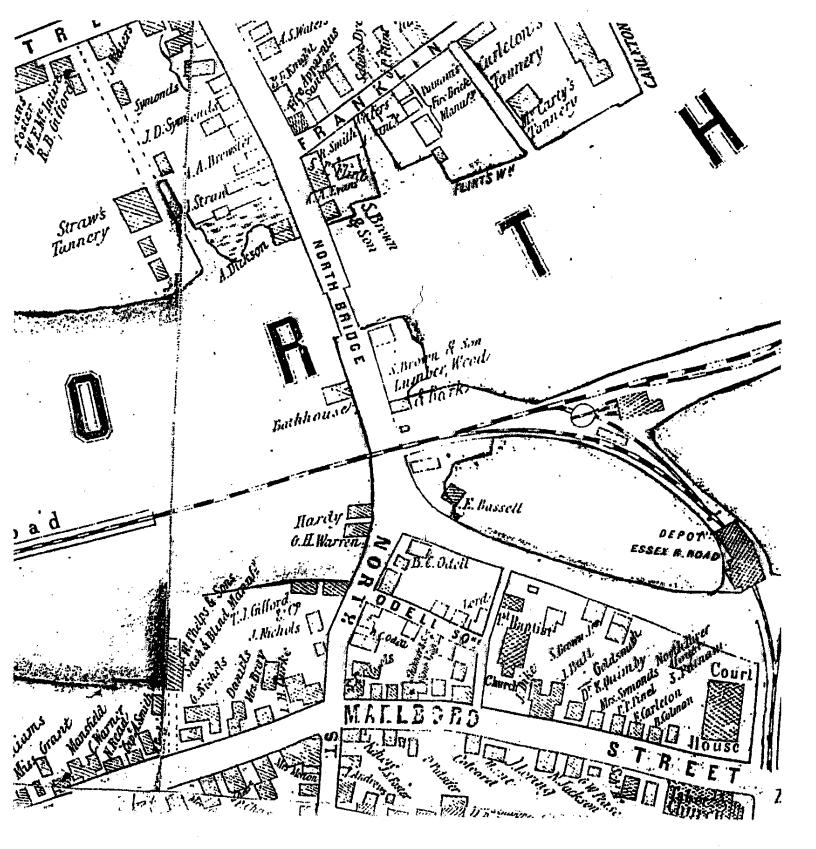
The six-volume published Salem Vital records (marriages, births, and deaths through 1849) have been consulted, as have the Salem Directory and later Naumkeag Directory, which have information about residents and their addresses, etc.

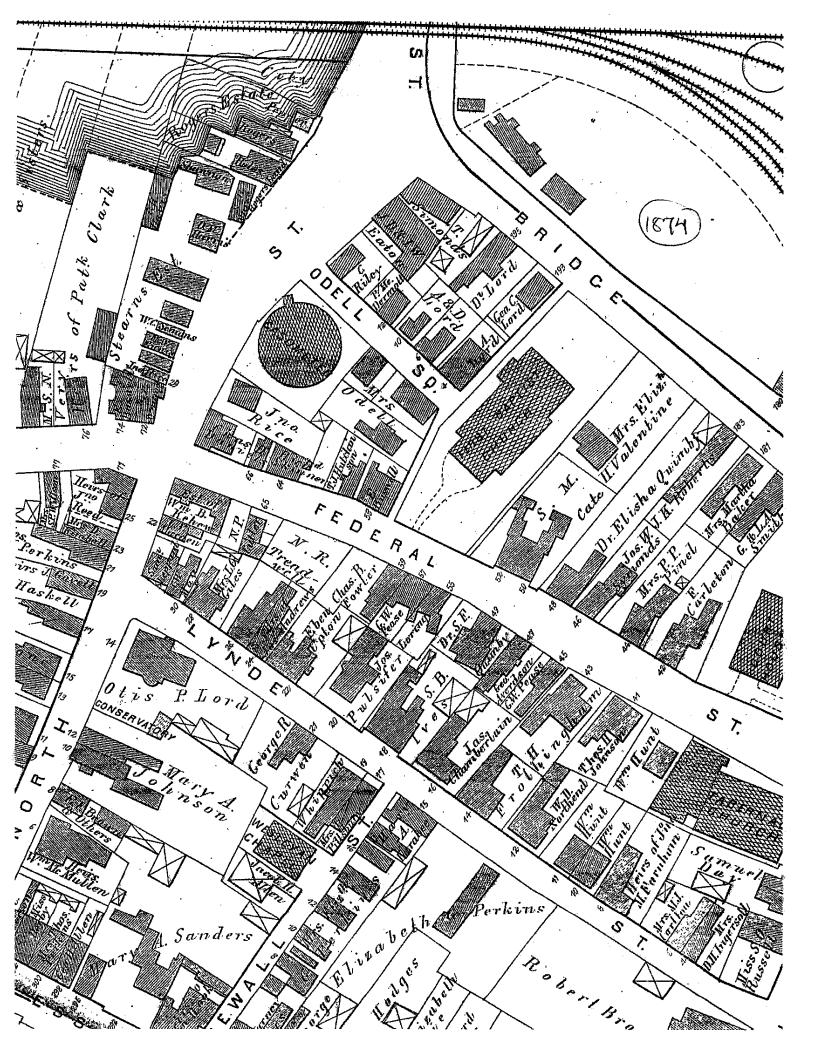
Sidney Perley's three-volume *History of Salem, 1626-1716* has been consulted, as has the four-volume *William Bentley's Diary*, J. Duncan Phillips' books, some newspaper obituaries, and other sources.

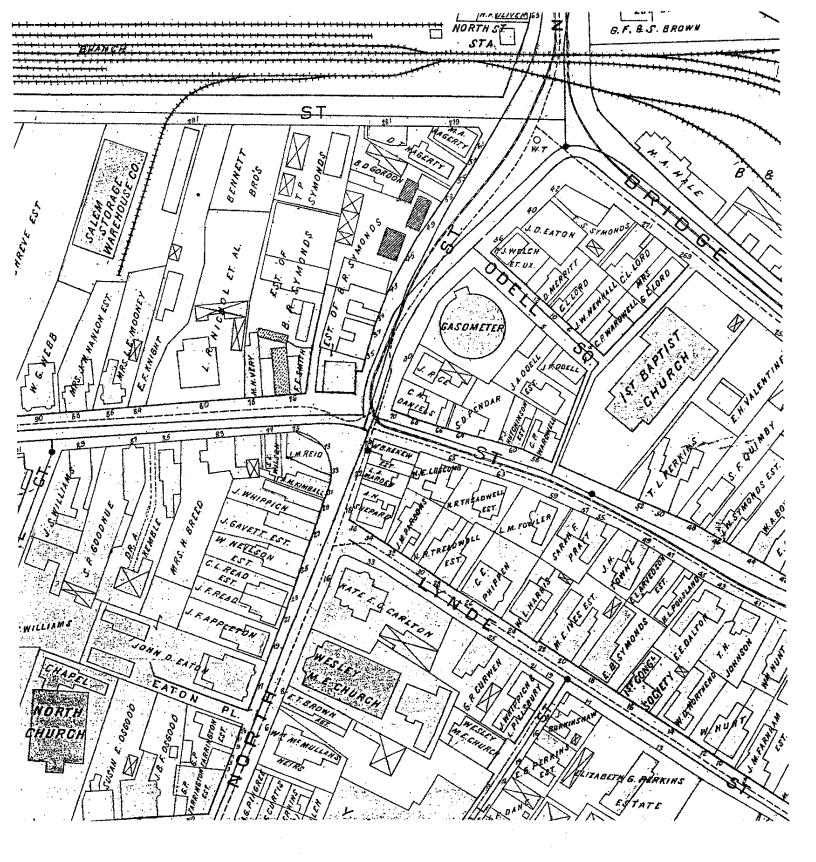
Salem real estate valuations, and, where applicable, Salem Street Books, have also been consulted, as have genealogies.

There is much more material available about Salem and its history; and the reader is encouraged to make his or her own discoveries.

-- Robert Booth







1911 1897



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William . It a court of probab bollenat Schoon in and for said county on the first Sucretary in April 300 1810 The firegrang interiment propertieng to be the last will and tediment of Joseph Assistelli late of Libra in sold consely, continuous, demarked, having been deily presented for probate, and it being made to approve that no liver has been given according to order to all persons interested; Sursucl Borby, Joseph Secrets and farmed thete juries, the witnesses than to believe bed, thing present, make walk that they war he wish freigh Man efield sign and said the said in discount and beaut him shallow llissema to bashis lith with and tellarmout, and that they all inhamibal their names together, as not mased to the execution thereof in previous of will testation, and that he was then, to the last of their judgement, of ward and disposing wind; and the same is provide It is thenupen cannidered and beared by he court layer but his some be approved, although in vecated, as the last will will belowered of the below word deceard, and that it have full force and effect no such eigeneality to the burs of the commonwealth afterwards in such were much and provided

D. M. White , judge of probate. Paritid from the improval, and evariand by a 12th 2014/12 register.

Set tel Vi. N. S. 1. 152.

Know all men by these Fresents. Heat lice, Joseph M. Brown of Boston in the County; of Suffork, Hererchart, Christopher Combs, labourer, W.B. Thornas Lymonds, trader, and Hannale his wife in her eight all of Salem in the Courty of Care The said you ple M. Christopher and Namate, being grand children and all the Rever at law of Joseph. Man sheld late of the Jame Valen, deceased in com sideration of eight hundred dollars to us paid by William B. Hehow of the same Salem, bricklager the rescipt whereof we do busely acknowledge, do hereby give, grant sell and convey unto the said Kehen a certain lot of land in Salem aforesaid cornering on North Accetant Marlboungh Accet bounding twesterly on North Heet Mirty nine feet six inches, Northingon Markownich Street about Forty nine feet, Easterly on a small lot owned by the Reins of the late John N. andrews, die Two feet and four inches, and northerly on the same nice fectario six inches, Casterly again on said Andrews, thirty two fee faced four inches and Southerly on said Keheer Fifty four feet and sin inches be the length of lives more or less or how ever otherwise bounded. Together with all the

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buildings thereon and are the privileges and appurteness. ces - The said foreph being soined of one undivided half part thereof and the said Gristopher and Hammali of one undivided quarter part thereof each as hiers To Have and at law of the said Mansfeed. to Note the afore quantity presences to the said Ulliam 10. Kilion this theirs and apigoes to this send their war. and beloof forener. And we do cover and with the said duttion of the how this hours and affigue, that we are lawquely siezed in fee of the aforegranted from ises, that they are free of all incumbrances that we llave good right to sell and convey the sume to the said twilliam it thehow in mainin appressed. and that we will warrant and defend the servers promises to the said twice can B. Hohow his theirs and aptigns forener against the lawful chims and demands of are persons, and I margant wife of said Joseph to hereby consent to this doed and release are my right of down in the granted pumises. In Wineforetherant dec wie said Sough stuge and Phristopher and Thomas V Him. mak have becometo set our leaneds and seals this Thirteenth day of August in the year of our told me thousand eight hundred and thirty sin. Synd saw and delivered of Which M. Brown Seal. M. J. Brown " feet. in presence of ends Christopher Combinate Sat "Sim weeker, Each ; fire fin bolland Sept. Thomas Symonds Edward Symonds Militagito f.M. Binan, Hinny) . Hannak Synnaid Seat. Esse, ss Augt 23. 1836, Then the above named Combs. Symonds & St. Symonds & H. Symonds acknowledge the above Intrument to be their fees act and deed, before me, Jos Houtman, Justice of the Peace. Suffalk, sombler, the said to ept the Brown acknowledge the above instrument to be his free act and down Jus. Praco. . before of Binney

Essep, ss. Account Och 26, 1836 10 minutes before 8 0,000.

WB Kehew 1869 will z przes

I William B. Keliew of Scham in the Country of reser, here of sound and disposing much and memo. my do make and publish this my last will and testermente, as follows; after the payment ofall just Methand charges against my Estate, I give device and bequeath all the rechand residue of my setere, both reel and personal, to my beloved wife, whave and whold the same during her natural life with have tracke such use of the farance property by as the man think proper and necessary, and afre her decease the real estate and such personal estate as may remain tomy two daughters Harriet Elle Kelew and Rachel healda Keliew in Equal horains also. butely and frever, and if Either of my said daughters Shall die Lefore my infe, leaving issue then be share the issue if untent issue then to her sister or her issue; and if both my said daughters the de-Cease without issue before my Land wife, then the real and personal held by my said wife surver this will to make persons or objects as my said wife may by her last will affinite, and without mehal. printment to my hear. My sm William Henry Keliew Lawing a good him was and some property, and I having Expended for him while obtaining his trade a larger own of money

than his disters can either of them receive under this will I make no provision for him herein. I herely affinit my said wife excenting of this my will, and request that the he not required to five any bonds. In intues whereof I have hereuto set my hand and seal this thinteenth day of February as 1869. William B. Kehew Tipued sealed published and declared by the Daid William B. Kehew a and for his last will and testament, Infresence of us, who in his presence, and in presence of each other and ablis request have subscribed an names as hitnesses hereto Twend personal erased in 10th line, pict fage; unds sale or otherwise interlued in 11 to line: words " such" enterlined, and und the timeli wared in 12th line; word property weathered in 20th line, all before arguing!

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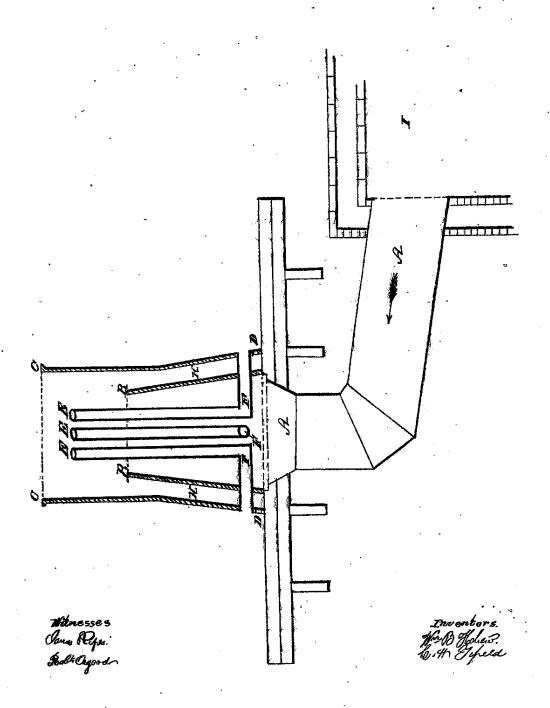
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KEHEW & FIFIELD.

Hot Air Register.

No. 35,938.

Patented July 22, 1862.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. KEHEW AND CHARLES H. FIFIELD, OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT, IN HOT-AIR REGISTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 35,038, dated July 27, 1802.

To all whom it may concern:

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Be it known that we, WILLIAM B. KEHEW and CHARLES H. FIFIELD, of Salem, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Attachments to Registers or Oatlet-Pipes of Hot-Air Furnaces; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, which represents in section an apparatus by which our invention may be carried out.

The nature of our invention consists in a special arrangement for increasing the draft through the outlet-pipes of hot air furnaces, and by the same means to combine the highly-heated air from the furnace (previous to its entrance to the apartment) with the cold air at the lower part of the room, modifying its temperature, and avoiding the injurious effect of the highly-heated air and making a better circulation and ventilation.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe the same, reference being had to the drawing, which represents in section the attachment placed over the register of the out-

let-pipe of a furnace.

We provide the register or outlet-pipe A with two upright tubes, B and C, arranged one within the other, the inner tube, B, being the same diameter of the register A and fitting over it. The outer tube, C, is made larger and higher, with openings or perforations D,

extending entirely around the lower end.

We construct the tubes B and C of sheetiron, although other materials may be used,
and for ordinary purposes we make the outer
tube thirty inches high and the inner tube a
little less than two-thirds of that height, the
diameter of the inner tube, B, being the same
as that of the register or outlet over which it
is placed, and the outer tube, C, is made large
enough to leave a space of from one inch to two
and a half inches between the tubes. We prefer to make the outer tube at least one third
higher than the inner, and it is necessary that
the inner tube should vary in height under the
different conditions in which it is required to
operate, some places requiring a longer or

shorter tube to draw the air up, as it is more or less sluggish in ascending.

In the center of the inner tube, B, are placed the upright tubes E E E, the lower end forming an elbow, F, and passing through the tubes B and C to the circumference of the tube C. These tubes are made from one inch to two and a half inches in diameter and about three quarters of the length of the outer tube, C. We prefer to use three of these tubes; but any number may be used which will accomplish the object hereinafter stated.

In the use of hot-air furnaces it is well known that in many places from various causes it is impossible or extremely difficult to cause the hot air to ascend freely. Among others, the most common causes are registers too remote from the furnace, the hot air not having force enough to get through the great length of pipe in entries and halls where there are strong down-currents of cold air, &c.; and it is the particular object of the inner tube, B, to overcome this difficulty, which it accomplishes by protecting the mouth or outlet of the register from the currents of cold air near the floor, and by making a conducting tube higher than the floor to draw up the warm air, and by the combination, with the inner tube, B, of the onter tabe, C, a thorough circulation of all the air in the apartment is made. The lower end of this tube being perforated, a current of cold air from the lower part of the room is drawn up through the space H, combining the hot and cold air previous to its passing into the room, and avoiding the injurious effects of the highlyheated air from the furnace, and this combination of the hot air from the furnace I with the cold air in the lower part of the apartment is made more perfect by the use of the tubes E E. E. These tubes are placed so as to receive the direct heat of the hottest part of the as-cending current of air, and by the heat a strong draft of air is made through them, which becomes thoroughly heated previous to reaching the outlet of the tubes, and is then thoroughly mingled with the ascending current of. air direct from the furnace, and the spartment is more equally warmed, a thorough circulation is made, there is better ventilation, and the injurious effects of bighly heated air

avoided.

It is obvious that the exterior of the pipe C

may be made highly ornamented when desired, and thus offer no objection to its appearance in a room.

In many places where previously it was impossible to obtain a current of hot air this attachment is working admirably, securing an manner and for the purpose substantially as reginters unted current of hot air and product. In many places where previously it was impossible to obtain a current of hot air this attachment is working admirably, securing an uninterrupted current of hot air and producing a thorough circulation and ventilation with a mild warm atmosphere.

Having thus fully described the nature of our invention, what we claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is

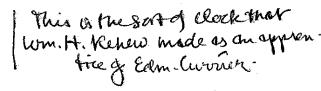
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1. The employment over the registers or out-

set forth.

WILLIAM B. KEHEW. CHARLES H. FIFIELD.

Witnesses: James Ropes, ROBT. OSCOOD.



Adams Brown Co., Antique Clocks

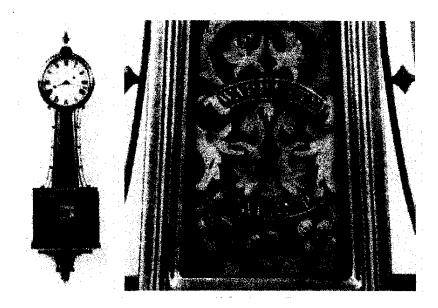
Antique American Tail Case Grandfather Clocks, New Jersey Tail Case Grandfather Clocks, New England Weight Driven Banjo, Weight Driven Wall Regulators, Early American Shelf Clocks 973 723 7947 Voice & SMS Text, info@adamsbrown.com, Copyright C. 2016

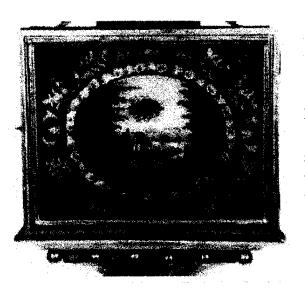
Edmund Currier Salem MA Presentation Banjo Clock

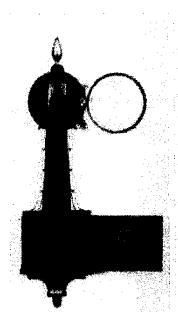
Edmund Currier Salem

Currier was born in Hopkinton New Hampshire on May 4, 1793. He lived long and active life and died in Salem, Massachusetts on May 17, 1853. Edmund manufactured and repaired tools, wagons, sleighs and harness. He was also a fine clockmaker and repaired some watches. A small number of clocks are listed as being made in this New Hampshire location. Edmund moved from Hopkinton in 1825 to the corner of Essex and Central Streets in Salem, Massachusetts, In 1828, he moved relocated to 7 Derby Square, centrally located "In the market." This is a very nice second generation timepiece with original reverse glass paintings and original signed painted iron dial. The brass eight day weight driven timepiece has typical period details including a single bridge suspension, steel crutch, recoil escapement, and rear center bolt mounting. The original cast lead weight in the manner of the Willard school with a "duck bill" hook. Accompanying the clock is an original repair receipt from 1843. The throat glass is original and in the lower section of the tablet the decoration includes "WARRANTED, PATENT." The box tablet is a wonderful country scene framed in an oval panel and has only very minor touch up/in-painting however this is single hairline crack that has been expertly conserved by Linda Abrams. The bracket is original to the case and the weight has never gone through the bottom. All in all a wonderful gold front presentation timepiece.

SOLD









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WE, GERTRUDE METCALFE, being unmarried, and DORIS M. MARSTERS, both of Hamilton, Essex County, Massachusetts, for consideration paid, grant to CITY OF SALEN, a municipal corporation duly established in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for street widening purposes, a certain parcel of land situated in said Salem, bounded and described as follows:

Mortherly by Federal Street, 57.27 feet; Southerly on a curved line of a radius of 55.35 feet, by land of grantors, a distance of 61.75 feet, Southerly by land of the City of Salem, 12.76 feet; Westerly by North Street on two lines, 16.25 feet and 19.04 feet.

The above described parcel of land contains 760 square feet of land and is shown on a plan to be recorded herewith, entitled, "Proposed Widening Lynde St. - North herewith, entitled, "Proposed Widening Lynde St. - North St. - Federal St. Scale 1 in. = 10 ft. - Oct. 1348.

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St. - Federal St. Scale 1 in. = 10 ft. - Oct. 1348. release to said grantee all rights of tenancy by the curtesy and

other interests therein. WITNESS our hands and seals tois ______ day of April, 1949.

COMMONWEALTH OF HASSACHUSETTS

Basex, ss.

April 21, 1949

Then personally appeared the above named Gertrude Metcalfe and Doris M. Marsters and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be

their free act and deed, before me

BUCHANG D. Dr. on HOTELE FOR SET 10, 1958.

Essex ss. Received May 23, 1949. 17 m. past 1 P.M. Recorded & Examined.

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CITY OF SALEM.

In City Council, April 14, 19 49

Ordered:

That the Mayor be and heraby is authorized to enter into an agreement with Gertrude Matcelfe and Doris M. Mareters, owners of the real estate at the corner of Federal Street and North Street in said Salem under the terms of which certain land owned by the City will be conveyed and transfarred to the said Certrude Matcalfe and Doris M. Marsters, and certain other land will be conveyed and teansferred by the said Gertrude Metculfa and Doris M. Mareters to the City of Salem, all as shown on a plan entitled *Proposed Widening Lynde St. - North St. - Federal St. Scale 1 in. = 10 ft. October. 1948. Salem, Mass. Frank P. Morse City Engineer, and to further agree that the dwelling house now located upon the property of the said Gertrude Metcalfe and Doris M. Marsters will be moved from its present location and re-located upon adjoining land to be conveyed and transferred by the City of Salem as hereinbefore provided, all in accordance with said agreement and the specifications attached thereto.

It is further ordered that the Mayor be and bereby is suchorized in the name and behalf of the City of Salem to execute, acknowledge and deliver all deeds, contracts, agreements and instruments of conveyance and transfor incidental to the foregoing.

In City Council April 14, 1949, adopted by a unanimous roll cell vote. Attest:

CITY CLERK

Essex as Received May 23, 1949. 17 m. past I P.E. kecorded and Examined.

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