

# The self-guided Salem Tour



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# Route Map

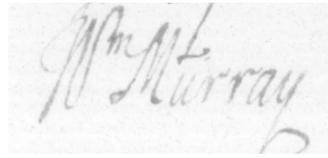




## Starting at the Daniels House

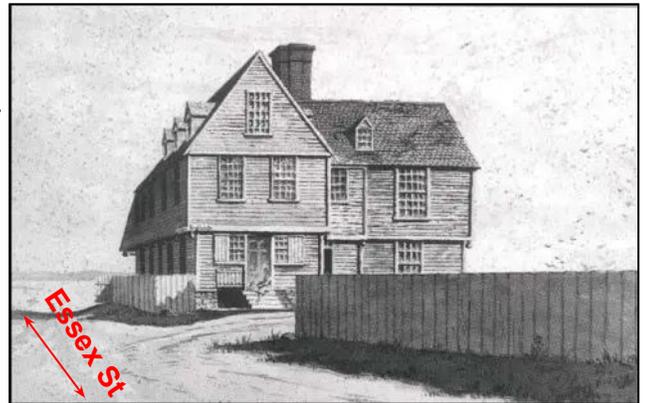
(DH), head east down Essex St.

At **39 Essex St**, a green-sided house at the corner of Turner and Essex Streets. This is the c1688 home of William Murray, a court clerk during the Witch Trials.



Continue east on Essex St until you reach English St on your right. The house now standing at 11 Essex St is on the **site of the**

**Philip English house:**



*Philip English's house as it may have looked. Sketched in late 19thc*

Philip English was one of the wealthiest citizens of 1600s Salem and an immigrant from the Isle of Jersey off the coast of France. His incredible merchant success and marriage to Mary Hollingsworth (whose mother was accused but acquitted before 1692) made them both a target for accusations of Witchcraft. Using their wealth and influence, they both escaped to New York and waited out the Trials before returning once it was all over.

## At corner of English St and Derby St are two houses:



**60 Derby St** is on the site of the **Blue Anchor Tavern**; owned by Mary English's family in the 1600s and had a wharf (originally where the asphalt road is now) where ships sailed right up to the front door. The land was extended by filling in the ocean in the mid 1800s for the use of railroad and factory supply.



Next to the old Blue Anchor Tavern is **58 Derby St**, the site of a home rented to Alice Parker by the English's. She was accused by John Proctor's servant Mary Warren of bewitching ships and sailors. William Murray, the court clerk at 39 Essex St gave his testimony in support of the accusation writing:







## Continue west down Essex St

After two blocks, on your left will be a large open green space leading to the ocean marked by a tall ship next to a dark warehouse sitting upon the edge of land with a sign saying **SAIL LOFT** upon it. This is the **Derby Wharf National Historic Site**; the site of maritime commerce during the ‘Golden Age of Sail & Trade’ immediately following the Revolutionary War. The wharves used to be lined with warehouses like the **SAIL LOFT** which held exotic items pulled from ships like the **Friendship** (docked there now). Salem introduced the US to the world

through trade: teas & silks from China, cotton and sandalwood from India, pepper and other spices from Sumatra (Indonesia) were all unloaded here and shipped across the country. **This is where Salem made its name as the wealthiest city in the United States up until the War of 1812**, when Industry took over shortly after.

## The Custom House (Cust.)



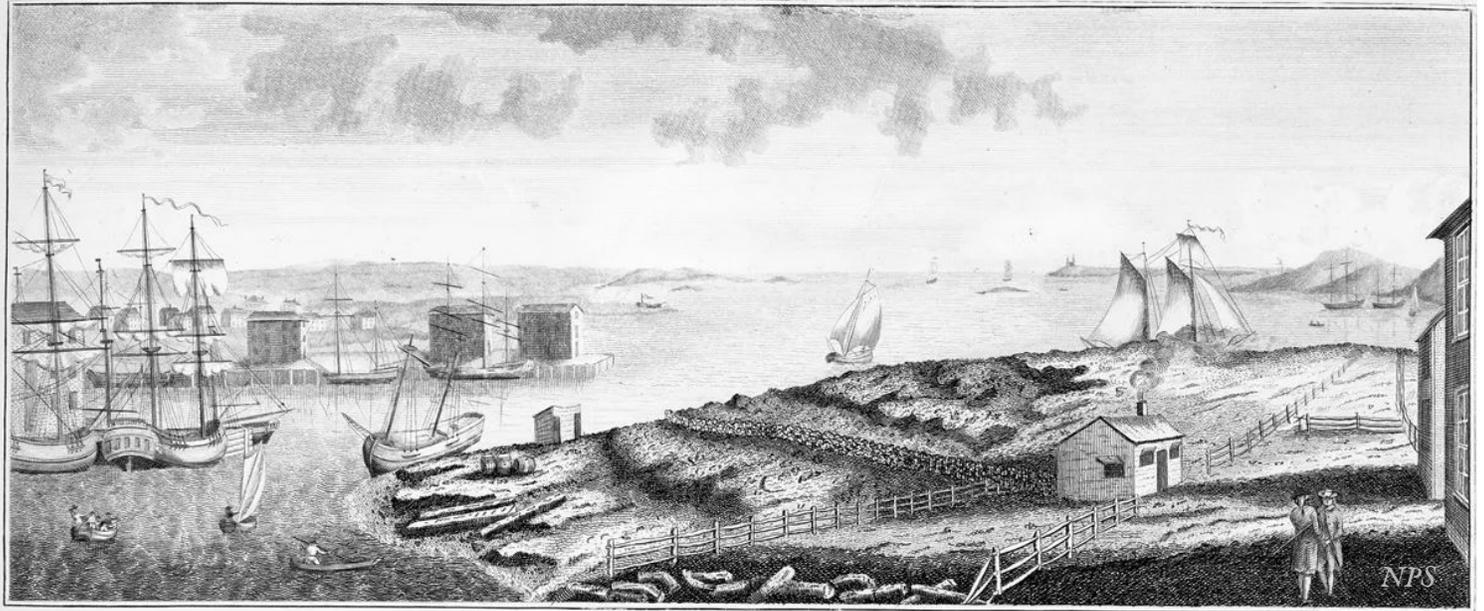
Built in 1817 to collect taxes on imported goods to help fund the newly formed United States Government. Designed in the **Federal Style**, Salem’s hallmark style, it’s an incredible example of the design marked by an all-brick exterior (an extremely expensive material when used on a whole building) chosen to show off the might and wealth of the early United States. **Nathaniel Hawthorne worked here** as Collector of the Port when he wrote the House of the Seven Gables. His office is behind the two windows to the left of the front door.

## Friendship



A replica of the original; the Friendship was **originally built in 1797** just across the harbor at the South Point area of Salem (where the big white buildings stand today; see image next page), a hub of shipbuilding in the 18th/early 19th century. The original made voyages to Batavia, India, China, South America, the Caribbean, England, Germany, the Mediterranean and Russia; typical for a Salem ship during this time but exceptional for any other port city in the United States.

## Shipbuilding at the South Point

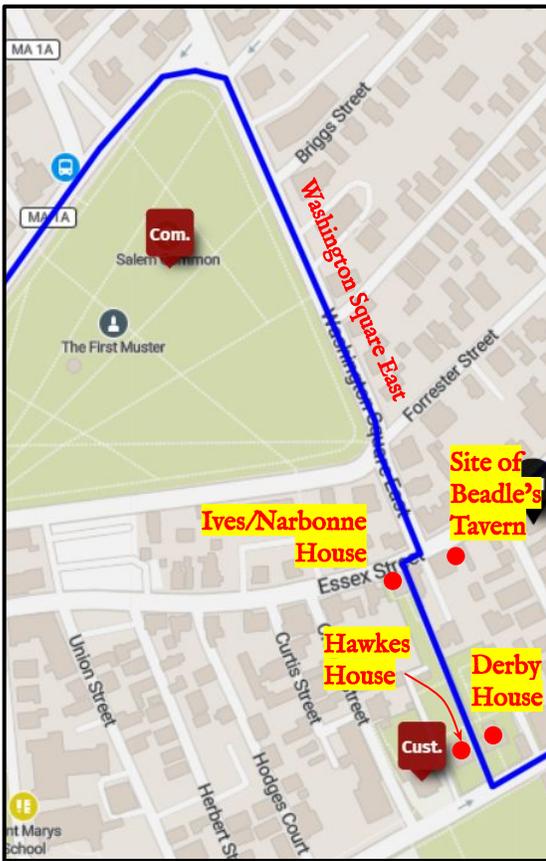


One of the earliest views of Salem harbor comes from a Certificate of acceptance into the Salem Marime Society; established in 1766 as an aid group for ship Captains and owners if they became ill or destitute. This image shows the **South Point** (where the white buildings across the harbor are today) of **Salem's shipbuilding industry in action**. This is where the Friendship was originally built. To the left, with the three large buildings (warehouses), is Derby wharf extending into Salem harbor.

## Industry at the South Point, the end of the Golden Age



The white buildings now standing at the South Point were originally the **Naumkeag Steam Cotton Factory**; the first of its kind when built in 1839. Salem embraced the Industrial Era when President Jefferson, during the War of 1812, placed an embargo on shipping; preventing Salem ships from continuing their world trade. This was the death blow to the Golden Age. Once the embargo was lifted, the new ships being used for worldwide trade were so large, they couldn't fit in Salem's shallow harbor. The trade epicenters shifted to deepwater ports like Boston and New York.



Take the footpath that runs between the Hawkes House and Derby House towards Essex St, head to the Salem Common (Com.)

### Derby House c1762

Built as a wedding gift for Elias Haskett Derby (the first self-made millionaire in the United States), this house is the oldest all-brick home in Salem. Built in the Georgian Style, when bricks were *extremely* expensive, this home exuded grandeur to anyone looking upon it at the time.



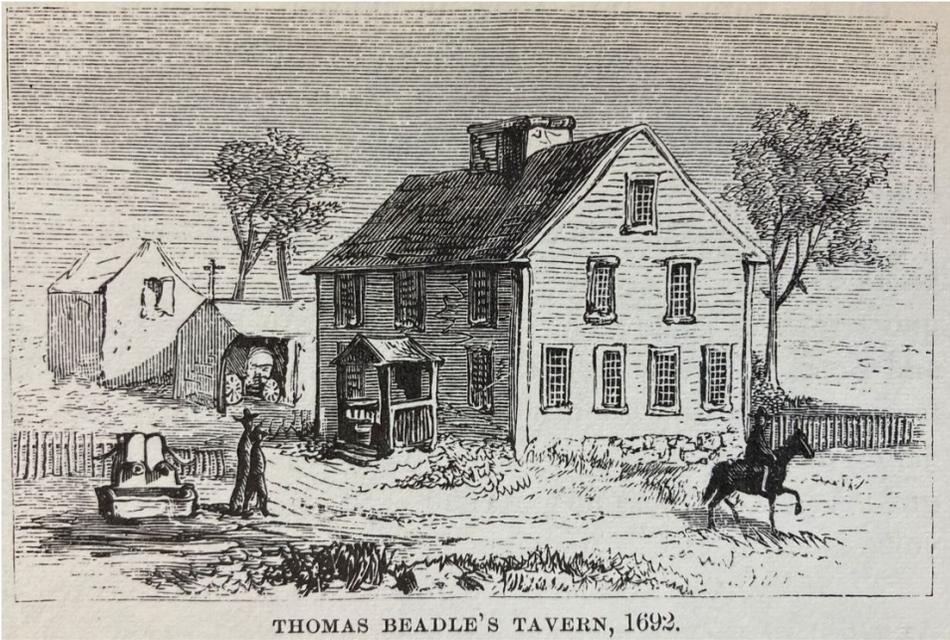
### Hawkes House c1780/1800

As the Derby family outgrew the Derby House, they commissioned Samuel McIntire, Salem's famous architect and woodcarver to design them a home in the fashionable new Federal Style. However, halfway through completion of the home the Derby's decided to abandon the site and move inland to what is now Derby Square. The house stood as a shell before merchant Benjamin Hawkes bought and altered the home to its current configuration in 1800

### Ives/Narbonne House c1675

One of Salem's 10 houses still standing from the 1600s, this ancient home built for butcher Thomas Ives as a 2-room half house. If you look at the front door and facade (perpendicular to Essex St), you'll see two different roof shapes. The taller gable roof contains two rooms (one up/one down) and a staircase. This was considered a 'half-house' as it was expected future generations to build a matching addition to the other side of the door. Later generations did eventually, but designed the new addition during the Georgian era when the gambrel-style roof was popular, giving the home its current (rare) multi-era configuration.

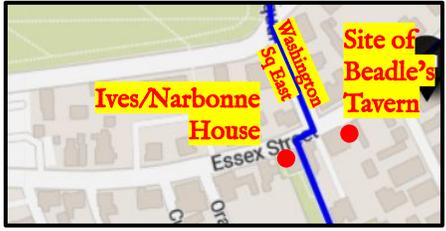




THOMAS BEADLE'S TAVERN, 1692.

**Site of Beadle's Tavern, 67 Essex St.**

The original building is no longer standing but likely looked like this as sketched in the 19th century. This is where Reverend George Burroughs was jailed for witchcraft after being accused by a young girl of spectral attacks.



**Cross Essex St onto Washington Square East (it's a street name) and head towards the park at the next intersection.**

**Salem Common, aka Washington Square (Com.)**



This is Salem's Central Park. Originally a swamp\* it was the town's common land for gatherings and militia training (the birthplace of the US National Guard was on the Common when the East Regiment of the militia gathered and trained here in 1637); it was developed into the refined Washington Square Park in 1804 in an effort to 'modernize' the burgeoning city during the 'Golden Age'. Hills were cut down, ponds filled in and any sign of the swamp erased when the paths were laid and trees planted in an effort to create a European-style park to reflect Salem's success.

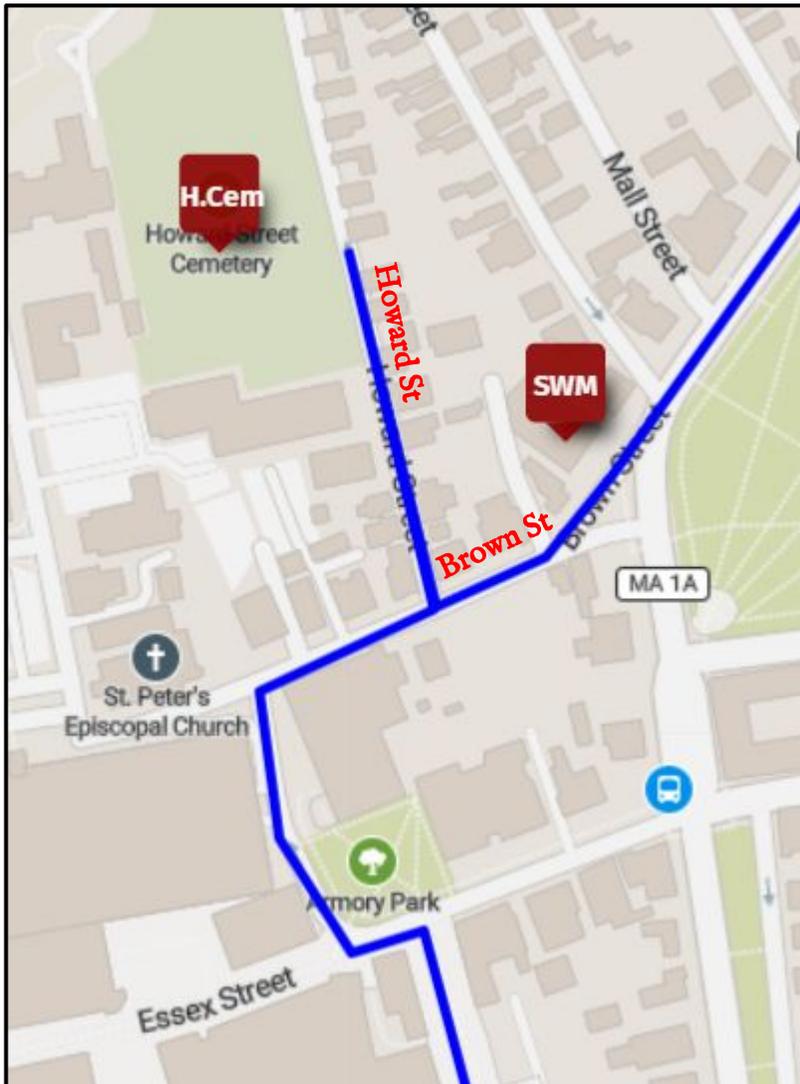
\*with 5 little ponds fed by a small creek that ran east - down what is now Forrester St - towards Collins Cove.

*The Salem Common from a map of the town in 1700.*



**Salem Common on Training Day, by George Ropes Jr., 1808**

This view shows Washington Square as it looked just after its renovation. The wooden fence was replaced with the current cast iron fence in 1850, and the Cypress trees were all knocked down by a wind storm a few years after this image was painted (Cypress trees have notoriously shallow root systems) and replaced with the elms and oaks that are now there.



## Salem Witch Museum

(SWM)



The building housing the Salem Witch Museum was the old Unitarian Church built in 1845. Its Gothic Revival exterior has been preserved; the style has been used to further the creepy and/or dark feeling the Witch Trials exudes when the reality of the Trials is recognized.

**Follow Brown St and take the second right down Howard St**



# Howard St Cemetery

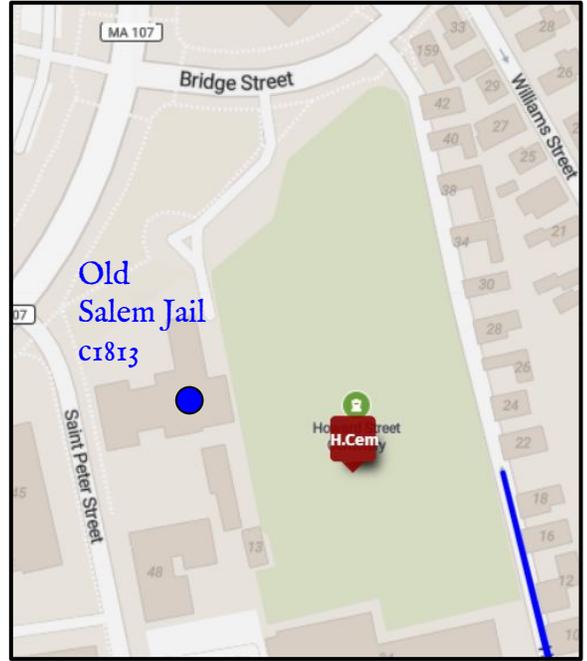
C1801 (H.Cem)

Established in 1801, it originally overlooked the North River; an estuary leading to Salem harbor and the greater Atlantic. Cemeteries were traditionally sited at points of grand vistas. It has since been filled in and the borders of Salem expanded. The cemetery contain the graves of Revolutionary War veterans, 17 ship captains that were likely more familiar with India and China than New York, space was even set aside for “colored people and strangers”. The most well-known event happened before the cemetery was established:

## The Pressing of Giles Corey



Accused of witchcraft in 1692, Giles Corey refused to admit or deny the charges. Infuriated at his silence, the judges used a form of torture called ‘pressing’ upon him in a field across the street from the old jail (a different jail than the granite one standing at the edge of the cemetery today), which likely took place near the fence opposite the entrance to the cemetery. Corey was laid down, a board placed upon his chest and heavy stones were slowly added, with the intention that he would admit guilt.



However:

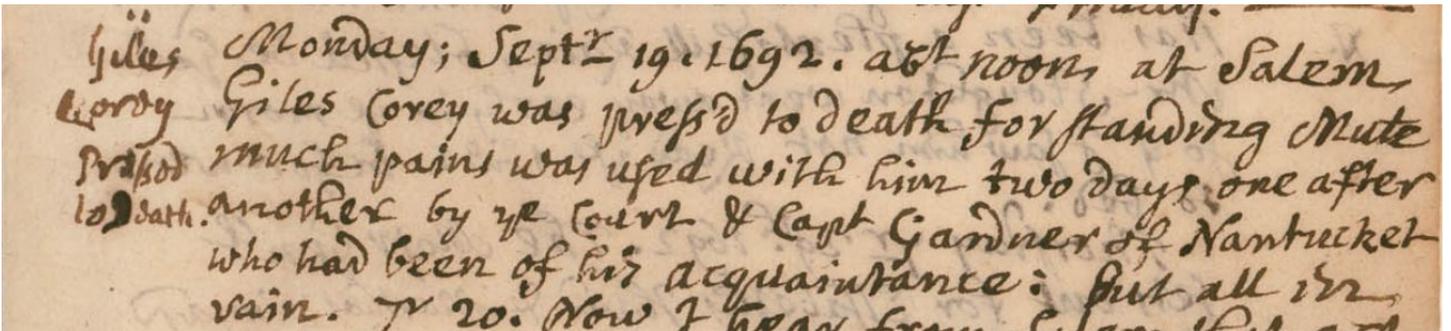
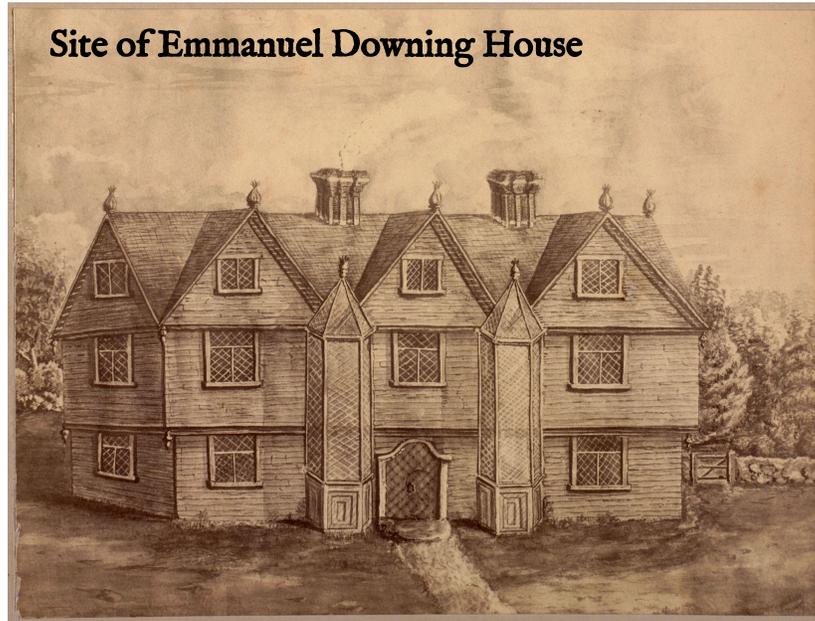
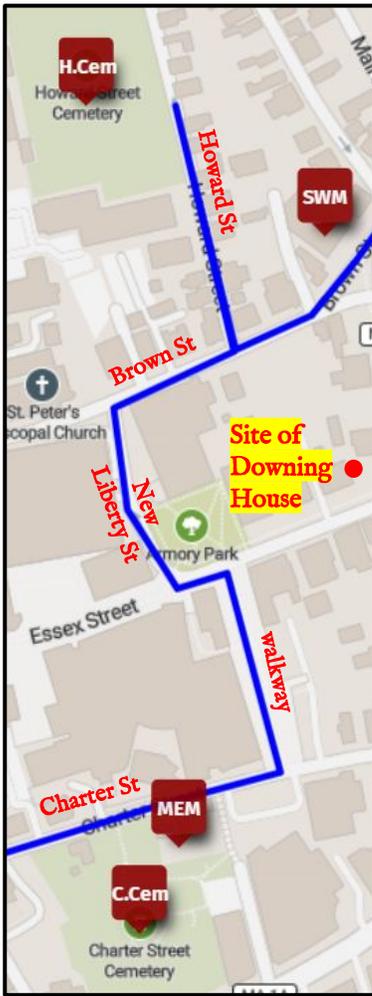


Image of the original diary entry of Samuel Sewell (a former Witch Trials judge before recusing himself) describing the pressing of Giles Corey. If you can’t read the handwriting, the translation:

“Monday; Sept 19 1692. About noon, at Salem, Giles Corey was pressed to death for standing mute. Much pains was used with him two days, one after another, the the Court and Capt Gardner of Nantucket who had been of his acquaintance; but all in vain.”

Take Howard St back up to Brown St, taking a right and heading toward the large concrete parking garage at your next left down New Liberty St, leading you toward Essex St.



Built in 1656 by Emmanuel Downing with two glass towers flanking the front door (glass is extremely expensive in the 1600s and candles are placed inside and illuminate the front yard). Emmanuel's son, George Downing is the man for whom Downing St in London is named after.

## Witch Trials Memorial (MEM)

Created in 1992 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Witch Trials, the simple memorial is packed with symbolism. The granite slabs sticking out from the stone walls each have the name of a Trials victim inscribed with their date of execution and how they died. The trees in the memorial are black locust; believed to be the same type of tree used to hang (murder) the accused witches. The granite slabs at the entrance have phrases carved into them; the final words of those executed, the words are obscured representing the lives cut short.

## The Pickman House (Visitor's center for the Memorial and Cemetery) c1666



This 17thc home (drawing at right) was rediscovered under many Victorian additions (drawing at left) in the 1960s and restored to its current glory. The interior has amazing details carved into the posts supporting the floor framing on the first floor.



# Charter St Cemetery (C.Cem)

The oldest cemetery in Salem, aka The Olde Burying Point, was established in 1637. Located on a bluff overlooking the South River (go to the far end of the cemetery, opposite the entrance and look out over the street. This view would've been incredible! A large river where ships sailed by and docked to unload goods is where the street is now. At the opposite bank would have been miles of open fields and farmland and forest way off in the distance).

A number of notable figures are buried here;

**Richard More** - a Mayflower passenger

**Col. John Hathorne** - A merchant and judge in the Witch Trials

**Bartholomew Gedney** - Was a part of the Witch Trials Court

**Elias Haskett Derby** - America's first self-made millionaire

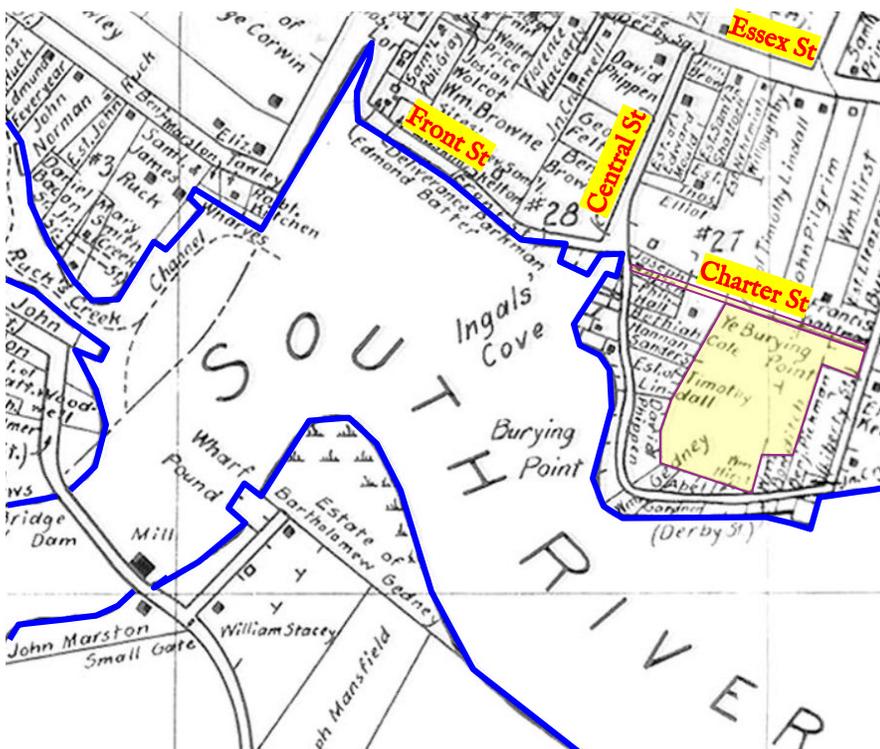
**Samuel McIntire** - Salem's noted woodcarver and architect



Some of the most beautiful Puritan-era grave carvings exist on these stones, take the time to admire the craftsmanship.

**Note:** No Witch Trial victims are buried here or within Salem, they were not deemed worthy to have a proper burial and, after they were hung, their bodies were cut down and unceremoniously thrown into a shallow ditch at the hanging site.

**Head back out to Charter St, with the Cemetery to your left, head down Charter St and straight onto Front St**



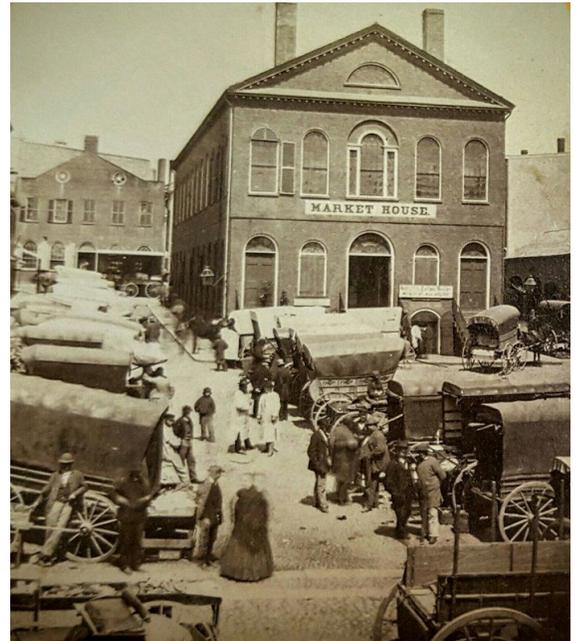
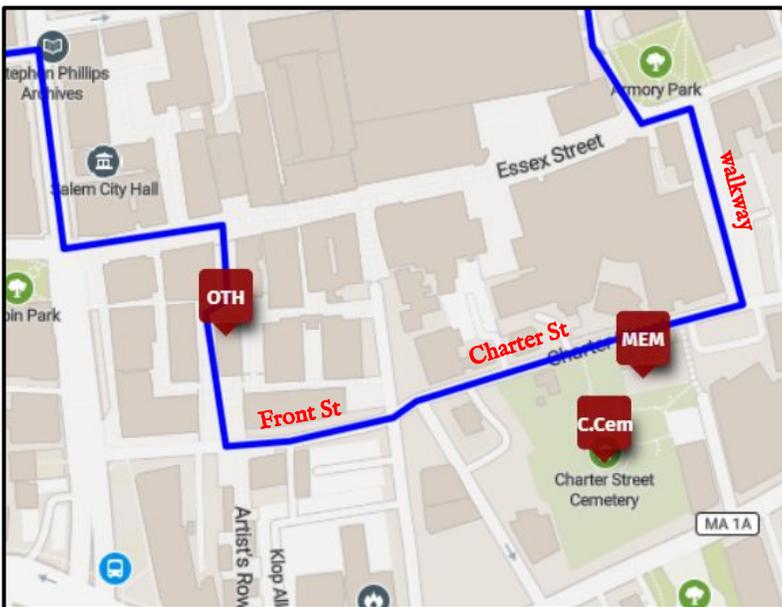
## Salem's Original Waterfront

The waterfront originally came much further into what is now downtown Salem. The South River was the primary shipping lane where wharves dotted the whole approach into town.

At the intersection of Charter, Front and Central Streets was the Town Wharf where the old Custom House is still located at the corner of Central and Essex St.

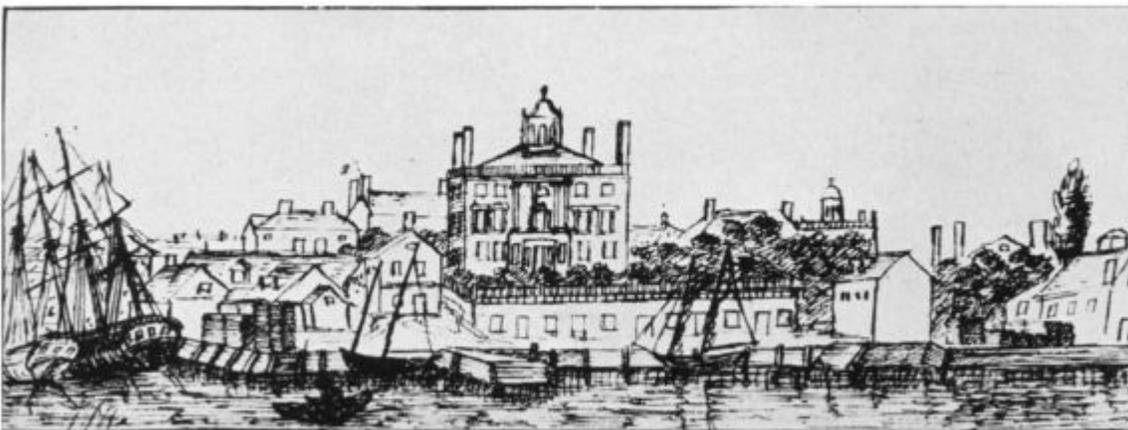
When Salem's 'Golden Age' declined, the waterfront was no longer needed and most of the South River was filled in to make way for massive industrial wharves holding raw materials to help run the local factories.

Halfway down Front St, on your right, will be Derby Square, the site of **Old Town Hall (OTH)**

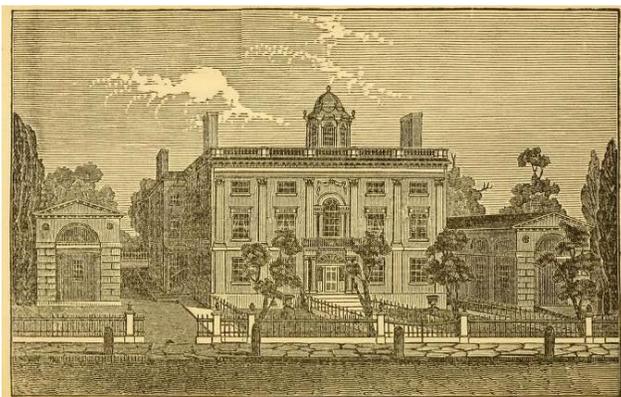


The oldest Public building in Salem, Old Town Hall served as a public meeting place and market since 1816. The first floor of the building housed market stalls (the open square facing Front St has always been the site of an open-air market) and the second floor was a meeting space

**Before Old Town Hall was built, this was the original site of the Derby Mansion**



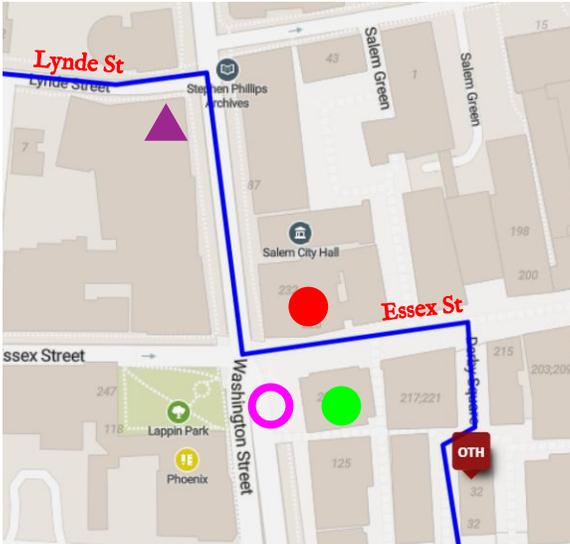
*View from the water (Front St)*



*View from Essex St*

Elias Haskett Derby and his wife Elizabeth Derby abandoned what is now the Hawkes House next to the original Derby House on Derby St to build this ornate and unrivaled mansion on this site. Completed in 1799, but lived in for only a few months before Elias and Elizabeth passed away. Their children didn't want the home and it was torn down in 1815, the land donated to the City of Salem and Old Town Hall was built in 1816 for the use of the town in perpetuity.

**Cross Derby Square, heading North toward Essex St. Take a left onto Essex and you'll be at the intersection of Essex and Washington Sts.**

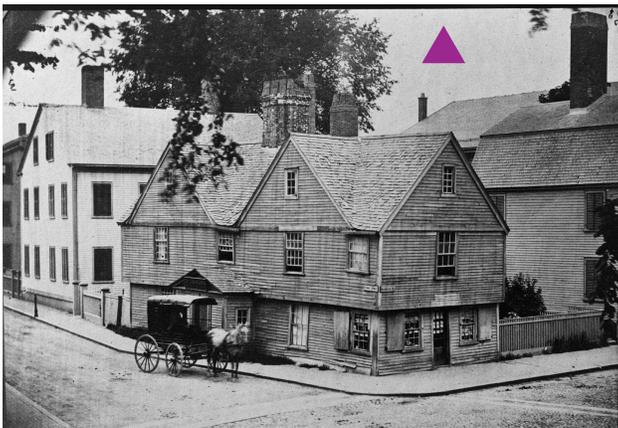


*Of the three buildings shown in the drawing at right, only the buildings with solid-filled circles still stand (although greatly altered). The third building (hollow pink circle) no longer stands but would have likely been near the middle of the intersection.*

This is the main intersection of Salem, **Washington and Essex Streets**. The location of these streets predate the settlers - they used to be Native American paths when the Natives had been using Salem (known as Naumkeag under them) to fish and live here during the summers.

Historically known as **Town House Square**, this was the location of Salem's First Meeting House (green dot). It was here in the 1630s that **Roger Williams** preached, and was exiled from Salem for his 'dangerous' views (to the Puritans) that he spread; paying the Native's fairly for their land and the separation of Church and State (Puritanism was a theocracy - ZERO separation). Williams would go south and found the State of Rhode Island. The building has been remodeled many times over the years, it's current look in the Victorian Gothic style from the late 1800s. It later became the site of the famous jewelry store Daniel Low & Co (producer of the Witch Spoons) and then a restaurant, including its current use as the bar Rockafella's.

**Head up Washington St (take time to stop and read the bronze plaque next to 72 Washington St) to the corner of Lynde St:**



Formerly standing at the corner of Washington and Lynde Streets (*purple triangle on map*), this 17th century house survived long enough to be photographed, but eventually succumbed to demolition. **This is how most houses would have looked in 17th century Salem**; there were no styles back then, just a traditional way of building. This was an incredible house and an extreme rarity to have survived so long in a relatively un-altered state.

## Continue down Lynde St and to the **Witch Dungeon Museum (WDM)**



The Witch Dungeon Museum is housed in a former c1898 First Church of Christian Scientists. The building is a **rare Salem example of the New England Shingle Style**, which draws its inspiration from the old shingled 17thc houses but uses their aesthetic on large, imposing buildings.

The Museum has recreated the cell the accused witches were held.

## Continue down Lynde St to North St



Off to your right is a bridge that crosses the North River. In 1775, it was a drawbridge. On Feb 26 of that year it was the site of an Salem effort to repel the British from capturing cannon and weapons on the other side of the Bridge. The heated encounter between British Lieut. Col. Alexander Leslie, 240 British soldiers and a handful of Salem townspeople was bloodless; the British were convinced to turn back. Thankfully, if it had escalated, as it could have been the start of the Revolutionary War. This encounter is known as **Leslie's Retreat**.

*Repulse of Leslie at the Old North Bridge. Early 20thc.*

## Take left on North St, toward Essex St and the **Witch House (WH)**



The imposing black house on the corner of North and Essex streets is the Corwin House, aka the **Witch House**. It was renovated from its greatly altered form (see photo to left) to its current potential look in the 1940s. It had also been picked up and moved back 40ft for road widening. It's an incredible preserved piece of history; the only structure standing with direct ties to the Witch Trials as the home of Trials judge George Corwin. The museum giving a great overview of the Witch Trials world and home interiors.

*The Corwin (Witch) House in the 1850s/60s. PEM.*

With the Witch House on your right, head down Essex St.



At **318 Essex St** is the **The Ropes Mansion** c1729; one of the most well-preserved high-style example of the Georgian Style.

If 17thc houses are marked by rustic simplicity: dark exposed wood, asymmetrical facades (windows don't line up, etc), Georgian-style houses were an attempt to move away from a frontier look to a more refined style and design that reflects

Salem's status as it became a flourishing British colony in the 1720s. Colonial owner, Judge Nathaniel Ropes II had loyalist ties; "During the Revolutionary War a mob is said to have raged outside of the house to protest Judge Ropes...". Also this was Allison's house in the 1993 movie Hocus Pocus.

Symmetry is key along with the use of hand-carved wood moldings, especially ones that replicate Classical forms (columns are the obvious ones), were piled on and built up to express wealth with a greater show of detail. Paint became more accessible; bright and rich colors were everywhere.



Similar design rules were used in this extremely exuberant and gloriously preserved c1872 Victorian beauty (Italianate/Second Empire) across the street at **329 Essex St**, known as **Greymoor**. Frank Balch, who invented a quicker way to take x-rays (from 20sec to 1/8 sec, less radiation exposure) lived in this home in the early 1900s.

With the Ropes Mansion on your right, continue down Essex St to your second left, **Botts Ct**

This stunning little lane represents the old paths that wound through many of Salem's neighborhoods. While many of them became lost, absorbed into private property or widened to make a road, this is a rare survivor.

## Botts Ct ends by intersecting with Chestnut St



This street...there's nothing else like it.

Completed in 1805 for the wealthiest ship captains and merchants of Salem's 'Golden Age'. Tired of living along the waterfront (where all the shipping activity was right outside their front door) they abandoned their houses (like the Derby family did when they moved to Derby Square) and developed land in a more peaceful environment.

Some of the finest Federal Style houses in America were built on this street, some by Samuel McIntire. His most famous architectural work is at **9 Chestnut St, Hamilton Hall**. The Federal style is an attempt to reign-in the exuberant Georgian style, to make it more refined. With Federal, it's all about proportion and minimal use of applied details; less is more. *More* was achieved through the presentation of all three floors of a house exposed to the street, giving a stately, imposing presence to any passerby.

Architectural style (in a nutshell) can be interpreted as a reflection of society at a certain point in time, presenting what it thinks is beautiful, as a way to represent their ideals.

The Federal style represents the grandeur of this then-new United States, as represented by the Merchants and Captains that played a large part in laying the economic foundation for this country.

## Turn right at Hamilton Hall onto Cambridge St

Cambridge St has a number of examples of smaller 18th/19thc houses. The small scaled homes on the densely built street makes for a beautiful example of an old New England neighborhood.

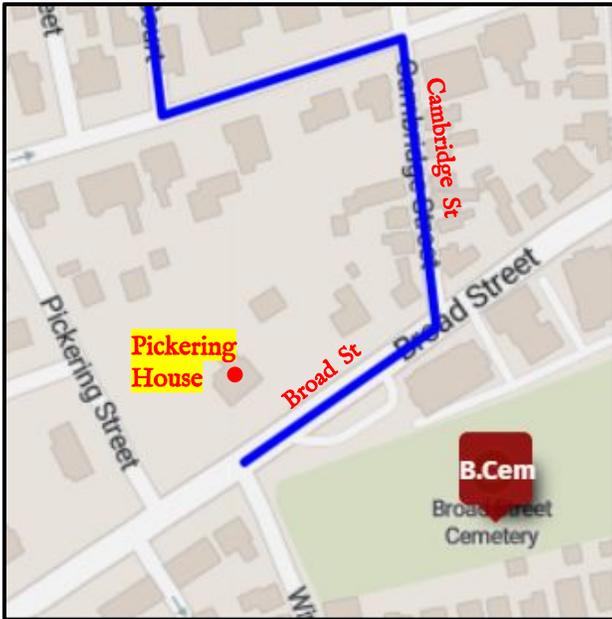
**14 Cambridge St** is a home designed by Samuel McIntire in 1806. The major interior details would have been executed by McIntire himself including the grand curved staircase and the fireplace mantles:



15

PEM

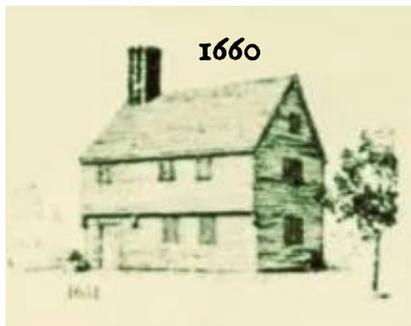




**Chestnut St ends at Broad St, take a right onto Broad Street and head to the Pickering House, on your right.**

**The Pickering House** is the oldest house in Salem. It's date of 1660 was verified through a dating method called dendrochronology (simplified version: the method of taking a core sample from the oldest timber, comparing it against a control timber sample, and counting the rings to see how old the tree was when it was cut down).

**It has expanded and evolved over the years:**



The house's current exterior detailing dates to the Gothic Revival era, when in 1841 the home was given the current treatment. Interestingly, the Gothic Revival style *revived* the Gothic era, which this home's 17th century design had its roots in originally. The Gothic Revival added more flair to the home, evidenced by the ornate woodwork throughout.

**Across the street is the Broad St Cemetery (B.Cem) ends at Broad St, take a right onto Broad Street and head to the Pickering House, on your right.**



Established in 1655 on a plot of land that bordered on farmland further down Broad St (sticking with the beautiful view theme of historical cemetery locations). An almshouse was built at the far corner of the cemetery, opposite the entrance.

Here is buried:

**George Corwin**, Sheriff during the Salem Witch Trials

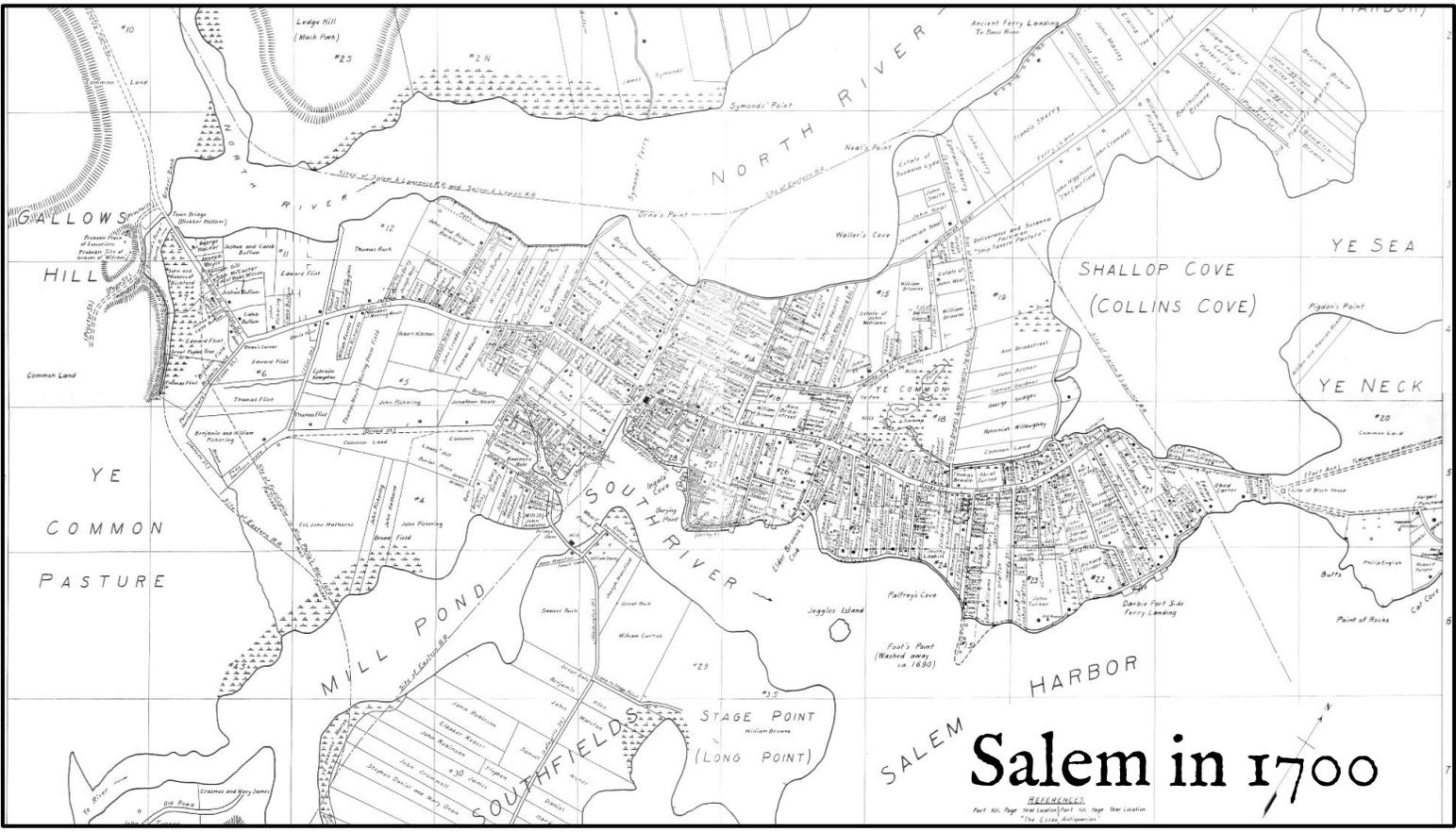
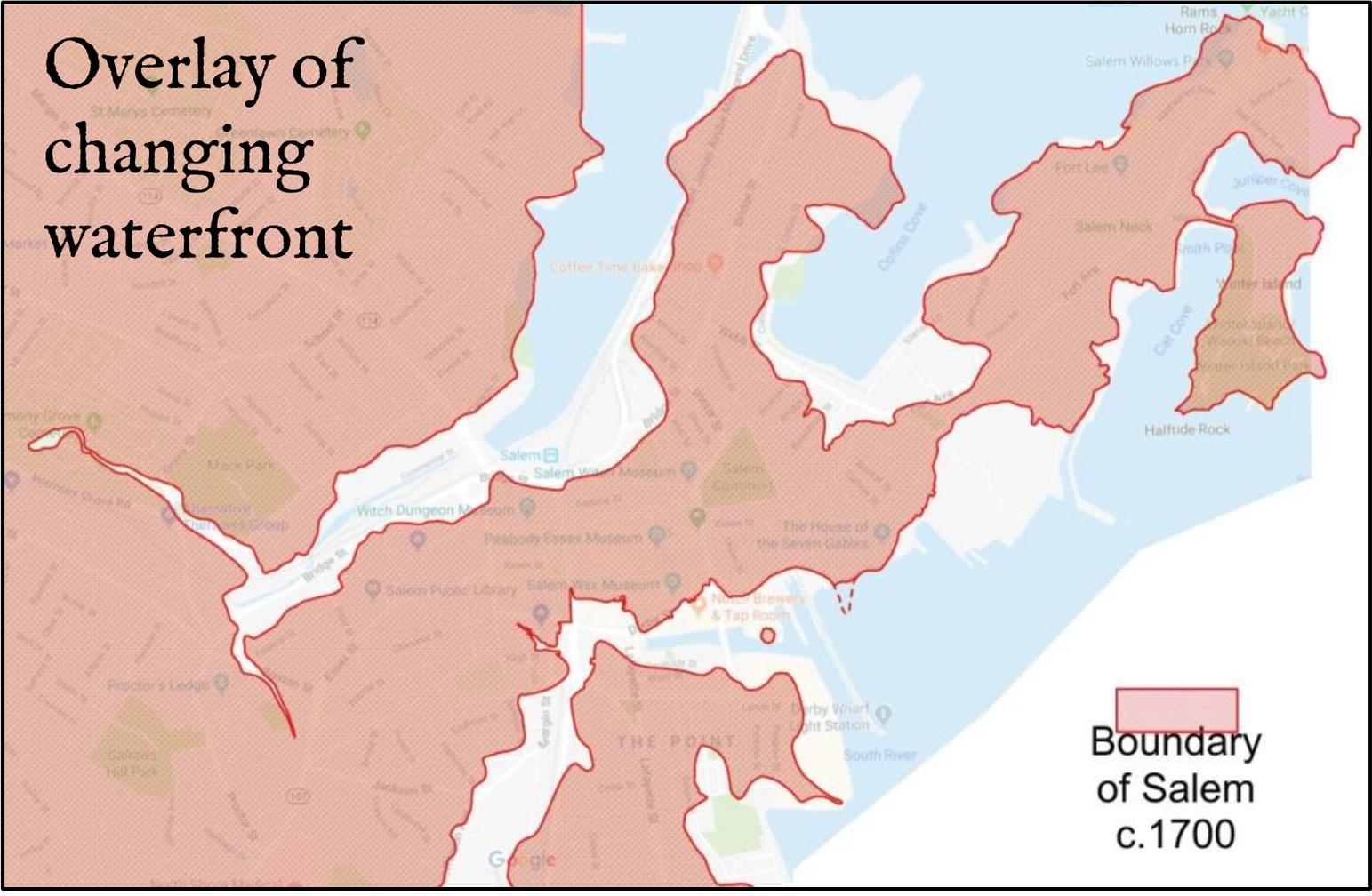
**Judge Jonathan Corwin**, Judge in the Salem Witch Trials

Both are buried in the Corwin family tomb (pictured here)

The artwork on these graves and tombs are great examples of funerary art in early America.

*Corwin Family Tomb. PEM*

# Overlay of changing waterfront



“When you travel, the most valuable souvenir you bring home is a broader perspective.”

-Rick Steves, legend