

Built 1857
By Allen Greene
PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Plat 9
Lot 185

Records of

Always a 1-family Ho

#11 HALSEY STREET...wood

#9 in 1856

#11 in 1870

1667 Plat 9, lot 185 originally was part of the Home Lot of John Greene jr...
P. 22. "Early Settlers of Providence R I" by Charles W Hopkins. (see map)
and in this year was owned by John Whipple Sr.
1768 John Whipple conveys to his son Joseph Whipple (after a complete reconciliation)... "all my homestead and other lands in the Township of Providence... Deed Book 19.36

1788 Joseph Whipple for in consideration of the natural love and affection which he bears his son Samuel, conveys to him a certain lot of land bounded: W by Benefit Street 192'; S by grantor; E by Ferry Lane (Hope Street) 237'; N by Jonathan Arnold and formerly Ezekiel Burr, thence running S and bound by the School House Lot 45'... then running W DB 22.130
bounded by the School Lot 85'

1788 Joseph Whipple conveys to his son Samuel a certain lot of land bounded: S by Joseph Jenckes; W by Benefit Street; E by Ferry Road (Hope Street) N by grantor's other land... "being all the land I own on the E side of Benefit Street together with the Barn thereon standing"... DB 21.609

1789 Samuel Whipple sells for 1000L Lawful Silver Money to Thomas Lloyd Halsey, merchant, a certain lot of land together with a Barn... "being the whole I received of my honored Father Joseph Whipple by 2 deeds (one being Deed 21.609)... DB 21.614
and D. 22.130

1847 plotted

See "Map of Halsey Street and Adjacent Lands" owned by Thomas L Halsey by M. B Lockwood in 1840... Plat 9, lot 185

1847 Halsey Street laid out and opened.

1856 Thomas E H Creighton, heir of Thomas L Halsey, sells for \$1650 to Duty Evans and Allen Greene, a certain lot of land bounded: N by Halsey Street 50'; E by Lot #6 100'; S by Lot #2, 50'; W by Lots #3 and #4 on the said Halsey Plat (see map)... DB ;38.119
being lot #7 on said map

X 1856 Duty Evans quit claims to Allen Greene 1 undivided 1/2 part of a certain lot of land on Halsey Street bounded: N by Halsey Street 40'; E by a 5' gangway 70'; W by Free Chapel 70'... said Allen Greene being the other 1/2 owner... Deed Book 147.25 (This property was in the Greene family until 1909)...

Following is a list of the occupants... Prov Directory:

1859-1864	George D Clafflin, druggist	1875	Vacant
1865-1868	Isaac B Thurber, miner	1876-1888	John H Stiness, judge
1891-1894	Mrs M A Greene, lawyer	1897-1899	Delia Walker et al
1900-1909	Hanes Woolworth, Chemist	1911-1914	Hyman Katz, tobaccoist

more...

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

#11 HALSEY STREET...continued

Following is a list of the occupants...Providence Directory:

- 1859-1864 George L Claflin, druggist - 16 Halsey 1860
- 1865-1868 Isaac B Thurber, miner
- 1876-1888 John H Stiness, judge
- 1891-1894 Mary A Greene, lawyer
- 1895 Not listed
- 1897-1899 Delia Walker et al
- 1900-1909 James Woolworth, chemist
- 1911-1944 Hyman Katz, tobacconist, and/or family

1909 Mary E B Greene, widow, sells to Hyman Katz that lot of land with all buildings and improvements thereon standing bounded: N by Halsey Street 40.12'; E by formerly Cyrus Farnum 100'; S by grantor et al 40.12'; W by Lewis Greene heirs...Deed Book 502.361

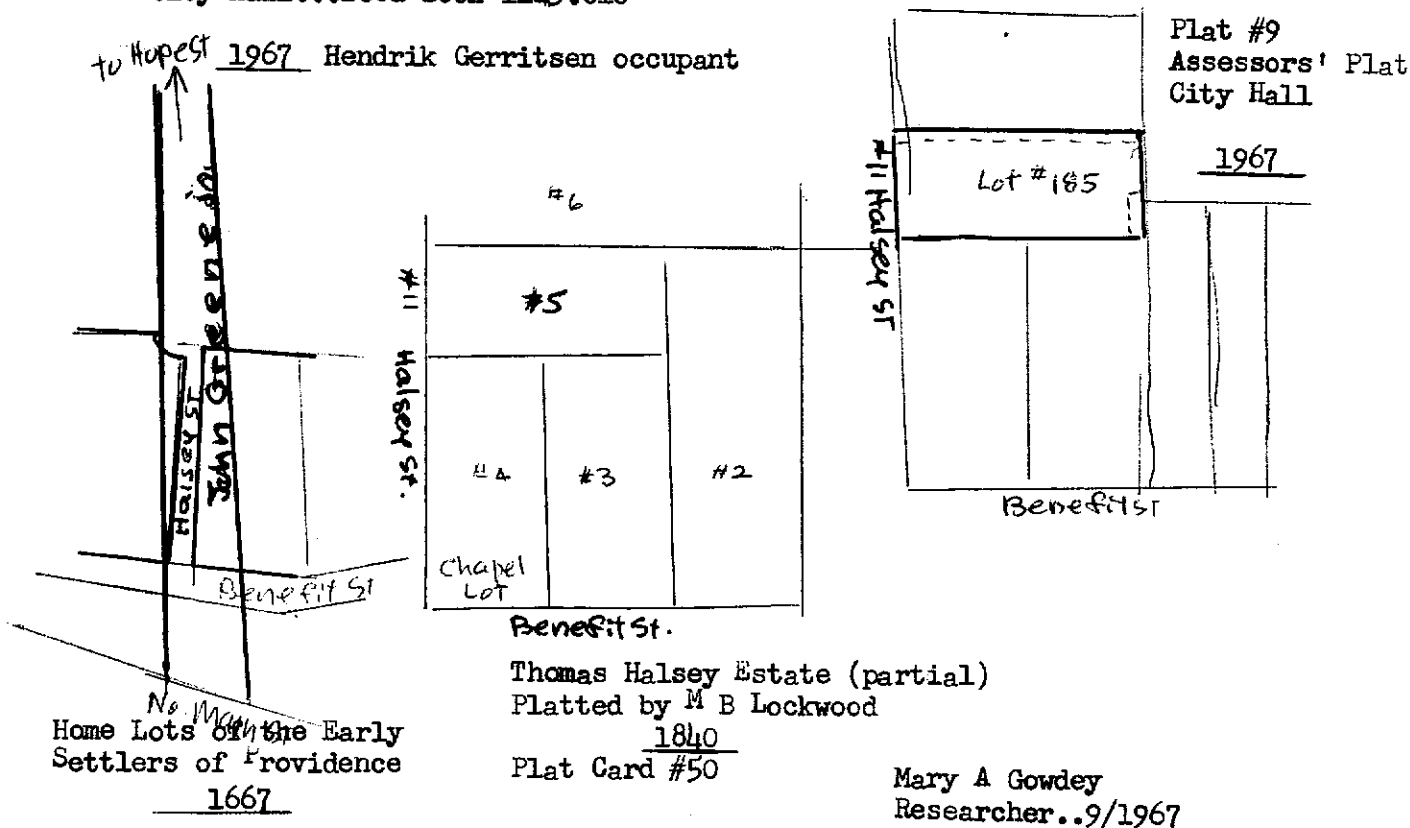
1945 Matilda Katz, widow, sells the above property to William E Oliver and wife Lillian E...Deed Book 875.186

- 1945 Vacant
- 1946-1960 William E Oliver lived here...Prov Directory
- 1961-1967 Vacant

1961 Property purchased by the Burnside Corporation...DB 1109.706

1967 Beatrice O Chace quit claims to Hendrik Gerritsen and Lida Gerritsen his wife a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements being Lot #7 on the Plat entitled "Benefit Square in Rhode Island belonging to Beatrice O Chace" by Waterman Engineering Company, September 1962 and also shown on Plat 9, Lot 185 on the Assessors Plat in the City Hall...Deed Book 1143.810

to Hope St 1967 Hendrik Gerritsen occupant



BOORUM & PEASE "NOISEAR" ®

BOORUM & PEASE "NOISEAR" ®

Mary A Gowdey
Researcher..9/1967

**NUMBER ELEVEN HALSEY STREET
THE ALLEN GREENE HOUSE (1857)
OWNERS: Mr. and Mrs. Hendrick Gerritsen
OCCUPIED BY: Owners
FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS BY:**

Number 11 Halsey Street stands on lot #5 of the Thomas Lloyd Halsey Farm as platted into lots in 1840. In 1850, Thomas Creighton, one of Halsey's heirs, sold this lot to Allen Greene and Dury Evans, both of whom were ^{soon to} ~~already~~ building houses at 27-29 and 31-33 Benefit Street, where they ~~were to~~ live for many years. Evans ~~soon~~ quitclaimed his share of the Halsey Street lot to Greene who, by 1857, had built the house, and it still belonged to the Greene family in 1909. The house was built for investment, and among the long list of occupants was George Claflin, who founded in 1842 the drug firm still in existence today; John N. Stiness, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island; Miss Mary A. Greene, lawyer, who was the second woman to be admitted to the Massachusetts bar. The house, acquired in dilapidated condition in 1961 by Burnside Corporation, has since been restored as part of Benefit Square.

A square two-story wooden house, it is surmounted by a hipped roof with a charming glazed center cupola. With its one-story classic Tuscan portico, heavy corner quoins and modillion-like cornice, it belongs to the group of early Victorian houses that have academic Italianate derivations. The double-leaved door with glazed and diamond-patterned upper panels, doubled windows with four over four sash and the round-headed windows in the cupola are all typical of early Victorian detail.

The interior is laid out on the old side hall plan, inherited from the eighteenth-century and seen in other houses on Benefit Square, including the Federal Nicholas Brown house at 8 Jenckes Street, the Greek Revival Nathan M. Briggs House at 35 Halsey Street and the later Greek Revival houses at 17 and 23 Halsey Street. The scale is Victorian, with doors and windows framed by heavy mitred moldings of rotund profile. The curving stairway, with its heavy

turned novel and stocky balusters, especially reflects the tendency toward massiveness. The ceiling medallions in deep relief in the north and south parlors are original. The one in the north parlor is composed of Rhode Island anchors and heraldic devices.

All the interiors are painted white. They form an effective foil for the Victorian architectural detail, and set off admirably a mixture of old Dutch, American and contemporary, chiefly Danish, furniture, prints and paintings. The needle work and woven rugs are by Mrs. Gerritsen.

The handsome German painted cupboard in the hall was made in 1790.

~~It came down in the Gerritsen's family.~~ The wall clock in the north parlor is Dutch, ^{and came down in the family} Made in the early ^{eighteenth} century, the horses turn when it

strikes. Also in this room is a Dutch chest, dated 1701. The Chippendale desk-on-frame is American. Hanging on the walls are a series of Dutch tiles

and contemporary prints ~~and~~ ^{and water colors. The sampler, made by an eleven year old girl, is English. The lace picture was made by}

The southwest room is furnished as a library. As in the parlor, most of the furniture is contemporary Danish. The map of Leyden hanging over the mantel piece is dated 1578.

In the dining room, the handsome chandelier, made of blue and clear glass with stamped medallion pendants, is Swedish, and the wall cupboard is filled with Dutch pewter. The set of measures on the top shelf is complete, and each one bears the notch marks that show it has been periodically officially checked to make sure nothing had been done to short the measure. The great pear-shaped pewter coffee urn, an accoutrement of every Dutch household, is two-hundred years old. The wall hangings were woven by Mrs. Gerritsen.

the noted

lace maker, Luba Krejca.

NUMBER ELEVEN BALSLEY STREET

(3)

Most of the cell is occupied by the sunny kitchen, now finished with red tiled floor, white walls and delft blue counters, edged with Dutch blue and white tiles. Blue and white checked curtains hang at the windows, and gleaming copper pots add to the serene Dutch look. Here, a partition wall has been removed, so that the staircase, originally enclosed in a rear hall, now leads directly into the kitchen.

As in most of the Benefit Square houses, the kitchen overlooks the Gerritsen's private yard, which leads into the Common Court.