

RECORDS OF
106 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

NATHANIEL SMITH HOUSE
built between 1795 and 1798

Compiled by:

Wendy L. Baker

by direction of
Carole B. Pace, Archivist
Providence City Archives

August 1991

Records of
106 Benefit Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Nathaniel Smith House
built between 1795 and 1798

Plat 10, Lot 104
Current Owner - Paul W. Streicker

The first mention of a house on the southwest corner of Howland and Benefit Streets was in the Direct Tax of 1798, which listed a two story building "shingled and partly planked" owned by Nathaniel Smith. There was no house on the property when Smith bought it in 1795, and the 1798 tax notes have been interpreted to mean that the building was unfinished at the time of assessment. While it is possible that Smith immediately set about building a house the same year (1795) or the next, no evidence of such has come to light as yet. If, as the tax notes suggest, the house was unfinished in 1798, it is likely that it was started a short time before. Given the above, 1798 is the most probable date for the house.

During the course of its history, Benefit Street has been renumbered several times. In 1824, Nathaniel Smith lived at #58 Benefit Street; by 1850, his son, also Nathaniel Smith, is listed as living at #84. In 1864, after the property had been sold to Jabez Gorham, his son, Charles Field Gorham, lived at #84 while Jabez Gorham lived next door at #86. Two years later, Charles Gorham lived at #108 and Jabez Gorham at #110; there is no mention of a #106 Benefit Street in the City Directory. In 1868, Charles Gorham moved in with his father at #110, and a sister-in-law of Jabez Gorham, Mrs. Isaac Thurber, occupied #106, which number the house still carries. It is possible, of course, that #108 was an extension of #110, and that no one occupied #106 for two years, or that #108 is a misprint. It is equally possible that the Smith house changed in the space of four years from #84 to #108 to #106.

The Smith house, far more than its grander neighbors, is representative of the history of Benefit Street. Unlike the mansions which boast the great names of Providence (and Rhode Island) history, the owners and occupants of the Smith house reflect the changing fortunes of the neighborhood from one of well-to-do merchants and wealthy entrepreneurs to that of an immigrant working-class population. The first owner, Nathaniel Smith, was a merchant, not on the scale of the Browns, but successful enough to build a large and stylish house, which his family occupied until his son's death in 1863. His neighbors were men whose names figure in Rhode Island history books - Howland, Dorr, Olney, Bowen - representatives of the upper middle class, reformers, politicians, and businessmen. His son held a high position at one of the large banking firms; his son's friend and inheritor was Hugh H. Brown, the publisher, who boasted that he had learned his trade from an apprentice of

Benjamin Franklin.

Both Nathaniel Smith, jr. and Hugh H. Brown died in 1863, and Brown's heirs, only one of whom lived in Rhode Island, sold the property to Jabez Gorham, who had previously purchased the southerly adjoining lot, and had built an imposing brick residence on the corner of Benefit and Bowen Streets.

Jabez Gorham belonged to a rising group of successful businessmen and entrepreneurs that combined old blood with infusions of new money. The Gorham family tree included such old Rhode Island names as Thurber, Dexter, Field, Waterman, and Angell - names of his neighbors as well as of his relatives. Gorham established several jewelry manufacturing businesses; the last - J. Gorham & Son - was the forerunner of today's Gorham Mfg. Co., specializing in silverware. After retiring from active business, he built a fashionable brick house next to the Smith house; having bought the Smith property, various members of his family occupied the Smith house, including his youngest son, his sister-in-law, and his widow, who lived there from his death in 1869 until her own in 1873.

The entire Gorham estate was divided between six heirs, none of whom lived at the Smith house. For almost forty years the house was used as a rental property by its absentee owners, and the occupations of the renters - a bank treasurer in 1890, a printer in 1895, a driver in 1901, a caterer in 1911 - suggest that the income levels of the people residing there were steadily shifting downward. The Scullians, who bought the property in 1912 and lived there until 1923, turned it into a boarding house; the occupations - ticket seller, cook, ironworker, cutter - suggest lower income residents, the names are foreign, and the majority of the boarders stayed less than a year.

Along Benefit Street and throughout the surrounding neighborhoods, the old houses were being converted for multi-family use, and duplexes and triple-deckers were being built in the vacant lots that once were gardens. The old Gorham House, (#110), had become a roominghouse, then again a single-family dwelling, then apartments. The neighbors had Greek, Polish, German, Irish names, reflecting the increasing immigrant population. The Smith house was bought in 1923 by Paraskive Tomadjoglou, a Greek immigrant, who lived there with her husband, Demosthenes, and children, and continued to run it as a boardinghouse.

Demosthenes Tomadjoglou (spelled alternately as "Tomagloglon" (1913), "Tonagoylow" (1914), "Tomagogoulou" (1915), "Tomadjoglon" (1916), "Tomazoulos" and "Tomadjoghlu" (1923), and "Thomzglow" (1924)) was a cook and part owner of a succession of restaurants. After his wife's death in 1935, he continued to rent out a portion of the house, while he and his children occupied the rest. Upon his own death in 1973, his children inherited the property in equal shares; one daughter continued to live there until 1980 or 1981. In 1979, three of the children - Maria, Christina, and Nicholas - conveyed their shares to their brother, Emmanuel, who in turn sold the house in 1983 to Paul W. Streicker, the current owner.

Records of
106 Benefit Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Nathaniel Smith House
built between 1795 and 1798

Plat 10, Lot 104
Current Owner - Paul W. Streicker

1782 July 5. Will Book 6/413. Benjamin Bowen leaves part of his estate to his natural daughter Mary Bowen, born of Mary Thomas, and the rest to his natural son Joseph Bowen, born of Mary Randall.

1795 June 1. Deed Book 24/94. Joseph Bowen, apothecary, of Gloucester, RI, conveys to Nathaniel Smith, merchant, of Providence, for 100 Pounds silver money "...one lot situated on the west side of Benefit or Back Street so called, measuring forty by one hundred feet, bounded as follows, viz. Beginning at the South E(ast) Corner of Bowen's Alley, thence running West parallel with the South Side of said Alley one hundred feet, thence South forty feet to the N(orth) W(est) Corner of Olney Winsor's Lot, then East on the North Side of said Winsor's Lot one hundred feet to Benefit or said Back Street, thence North to the first mentioned Corner...". See Appendix for discussion of "Bowen's Alley".

1798 Chace Notes: Nathaniel Smith.. North on gangway; west side of Benefit Street 40' x 100'. A house frame thereon 36' x 30'...two stories shingled and partly planked ...Taxed for \$150.

1814 Direct Tax (to pay for War of 1812): Nathaniel Smith...one lot of land 40' x 100'...one wooden dwelling house 36' x 28'...two stories high.
January 17. Will Book 11/487. Nathaniel Smith devises "...to my wife Abigail, my house and lot where I now dwell on Benefit Street..." for the term of her widowhood.

1824 City directory lists Nathaniel Smith living at #58 Benefit Street.

1826 Policy Records 4.3283. Abigail Smith, widow of Nathaniel...west side of Benefit Street...wood...36' front and 34' front to rear...two story high front and three story in rear...occupied as a dwelling house. Addition 12' x 18'...one story high...used for wood house and washroom.

1839 October 24. Death of Abigail Smith. The estate is inherited by Nathaniel Smith, jr., son of Nathaniel Smith.

- 1841-44 City Directories list Nathaniel Smith living at #58 Benefit Street.
- 1850 City Directories list Nathaniel Smith living at #84 Benefit Street.
- 1860 January 19. Will Book 20/266. Nathaniel Smith, jr..."to Hugh H. Brown of said Providence I give devise and bequeath the house and lot I now occupy situate on the west side of Benefit Street adjoining southerly the estate now owned by Jabez Gorham, the house being No. 84 on said street..."
- 1863 September 13. Death of Nathaniel Smith, jr., in Providence.
October 4. Death of Hugh H. Brown, in Rochester, NY.
- December 5. Deed Book 164/471. Indenture. Ann F. B(rown) Cooley, wife of Darwin H. Cooley, of Appleton, Wisconsin, quitclaims to Sewall S. Cutting of Rochester, NY, all the equal undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ part of No. 84 Benefit Street, for consideration of \$2000.
- 1864 January 5. Deed Book 166/483. Sewall S. Cutting and wife Elizabeth B(rown) Cutting, of Rochester, NY, and George Allin and wife Mary B(rown) Allin, of Brooklyn, NY, convey to Jabez Gorham for consideration of \$7500 three undivided fourth parts of a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements thereon bounded east by Benefit Street; south by grantee; west by Jesse Howard; north by Howland Street.
- February 8. Deed Book 167/63. Rhodes B. Chapman, guardian of Mary Ella Brown, of Providence, (a minor and granddaughter of Hugh H. Brown) conveys to Jabez Gorham for \$2500 a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements being the one undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the same conveyed by Joseph Bowen to Nathaniel Smith and devised to Hugh H. Brown under will of Nathaniel Smith.
- City Directory lists Charles F. Gorham living at #84.
- 1866-67 City Directories list Charles F. Gorham living at #108.
- 1868 April 24. Will Book 22/319. Jabez Gorham bequeaths to his wife, Lydia Dexter Gorham, his real estate in Providence, for the term of her natural life. After various other bequests, John Gorham (son), Henry A. Webb (son-in-law), and John F.P. Lawton (friend), as trustees of his estate, are directed to divided the rest and residue of his estate into equal shares, which will be drawn by lot by his heirs. The heirs named are: John Gorham (son) $\frac{1}{5}$ part, Amanda G(orham) Harris, wife of John C. Harris (daughter) $\frac{1}{5}$ part, Susan (Gorham) Farnum, wife of Caleb Farnum (daughter) $\frac{1}{5}$ part, Harriet R(aymond) Webb and Amey Webb (daughters of Amey Gorham

Webb, deceased, and grand-daughters of Jabez Gorham) 1/5 part, and Charles F(ield) Gorham (son) 1/5 part.

May 2. Will Book 22/319. Codicil. Jabez Gorham directs that the 1/5 part bequeathed to Amanda G. Harris be transferred to his son John Gorham to be held in trust for said Amanda G. Harris.

City Directory lists Mrs. Isaac Thurber living at #106.

1869 March 20. Will Book 22/319. Codicil. Jabez Gorham directs that the 1/5 part bequeathed to Susan Farnum be transferred to her husband Caleb Farnum to be held in trust for said Susan Farnum.

March 24. Death of Jabez Gorham.

City Directory lists Mrs. Isaac Thurber living at #106.

1870 February 21. Deed Book 190/62. John Gorham, Henry A. Webb, and John F.P. Lawton, as trustees of the Jabez Gorham Estate, convey to Caleb Farnum, as trustee for wife Susan Farnum, for consideration of \$1, "...one undivided fourth part of a lot of land situated in said city (Providence) with all buildings and improvements thereon bounded as follows: easterly on Benefit Street, northerly on Howland Street, southerly on Bowen Street, westerly on land of Jesse Howard. Said estate consists of lots numbered 84 & 86...recorded in Book of Plats No. 5 page 44, ...conveyed subject to an estate for life in Lydia Gorham, widow of said Jabez Gorham.

February 21. Deed Book 190/63. John Gorham and John F.P. Lawton, as trustees of the Jabez Gorham Estate, convey to Harriet R. Webb and Amey Webb, grand-daughters of Jabez Gorham, for consideration of \$1, "...one undivided fourth part of a lot of land situated in said city (Providence) with all buildings and improvements thereon bounded as follows: easterly on Benefit Street, northerly on Howland Street, southerly on Bowen Street, westerly on land of Jesse Howard. Said estate consists of lots numbered 84 & 86...recorded in Book of Plats No. 5 page 44, ...conveyed subject to an estate for life in Lydia Gorham, widow of said Jabez Gorham..."

City Directories list Mrs. Jabez Gorham living at #106 until her death September 4, 1873.

1875 January 1. Deed Book 248/276. John Gorham, trustee for the Jabez Gorham estate, conveys to Amanda Harris "...one undivided fourth part of a lot of land situated in said city (Providence) with all buildings and improvements thereon bounded as follows: easterly on Benefit Street, northerly on Howland Street, southerly on Bowen Street, westerly on land of Jesse Howard. Said estate consists of lots numbered 84 & 86...recorded in Book of Plats No. 5 page 44,..."

1876 December 18. Deed Book 291/310. Amanda Harris requests that the trust be ended (see May 2, 1869) and that the property and estate held in trust by John Gorham

be transferred to her.

December 18. Deed Book 291/310. John Gorham conveys to Amanda G. Harris $\frac{1}{4}$ of the property at Benefit and Howland Streets as part of the estate formerly held in trust for her.

1879 December 9. Deed Book 306/220. Amanda Harris conveys $\frac{1}{2}$ part of "...a certain lot of land with two dwelling houses...being lots 84 and 86...recorded in Book of Plats no. 5 page 44..." to Caleb Farnum for \$15,500.

1891 City Directory lists Robert L. Keach, treasurer of Mercantile Trust Co. (28 Market Square), living at #106.

1895 City Directory lists Charles W. Capron & Walter S. Southwick, a printer, living at #106.

1899 January 1. Deed Book 417/406. Harriet W(ebb) Greenwood, wife of Benjamin Greenwood of Providence, conveys her $\frac{1}{4}$ part in the Jabez Gorham Estate to Mary G. Lanard, wife of Delphis J. Lanard of Providence, for consideration of \$100, described as follows: "...that tract of land with all buildings and improvements thereon, situate on the westerly side of Benefit Street between Bowen and Howland Streets in said Providence, bounded and described as follows: southerly on said Bowen Street whereon it measures one hundred and $\frac{72}{100}$ (100.72) feet, westerly on land of Benjamin F. Arnold and Howard W. Preston, trustees, on which it measures eighty-three and $\frac{10}{100}$ (83.10) feet, northerly on said Howland Street one hundred and $\frac{28}{100}$ (100.28) feet, and easterly on said Benefit Street, whereon it measures eighty-one and $\frac{91}{100}$ (81.91) feet, and is known as the Jabez Gorham Estate..."

January 1. Deed Book 422/249. Susan G. Farnum requests and directs Daniel P. Williams, as her trustee, to sell and convey her undivided $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Jabez Gorham Estate, and to invest the proceeds "...in exchange therefor, that estate at the junction of Richmond and Ship Streets in said Providence, now belonging to Delphis J. Lanard..."

January 2. Deed Book 422/249. Daniel P. Williams of Providence, trustee for Susan G. Farnum, conveys her $\frac{3}{4}$ in the Jabez Gorham Estate to Mary G. Lanard, wife of Delphis J. Lanard of Providence, for consideration of \$100. Same description as in DB 417/406.

Mortgage Book 198/407. Delphis J. Lanard and Mary G. Lanard take out a mortgage on the property of \$2250, held by Daniel P. Williams.

Mortgage Book 202/200. Delphis J. Lanard and Mary G. Lanard take out a mortgage on the property of \$750, held by Amey W. Wheeler and Harriet W. Greenwood.

January 16. Deed Book 417/405. Benjamin J. Wheeler and Amey W(ebb) Wheeler of Ithaca, NY, convey an undivided $\frac{1}{8}$ part of the property to Mary G. Lanard, wife of Delphis J. Lanard for consideration of \$100.

December 18. Deed Book 425/389. Delphis J. Lanard

and wife Mary convey to Horatio A. Hunt of Providence
"...Beginning at the southwest corner of Benefit and Howland
Streets, thence southerly bounding easterly on Benefit Street
39.45 feet to land of Henry A. Pallman, thence westerly on said
Pallman land 32.8 feet to a corner, thence northerly on said
Pallman land 2.53 feet to a corner, thence again westerly on
said Pallman land 28.96 feet to a point on said Pallman land
39.42 feet southerly of said Howland Street, thence northerly
on said Pallman land 39.42 feet to said Howland Street to a
point 58.05 feet from said corner of said Benefit and Howland
Streets, and thence easterly on Howland Street 58.05 feet to
place of beginning....Premises now subject to a mortgage of
\$3000....".

1900 Property taxed to Horatio A. Hunt.
City Directory lists Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Capron, Orlando
Capron, and Mr. & Mrs. W.S. Southwick living at #106.

1911 City Directory lists E.R. Covell, a caterer, living
at #106.

1912 April 12. Deed Book 524/489. Horatio A. Hunt conveys
the property to Mary A. Scullian, wife of Hugh F.
Scullian for consideration of \$10. Conveyance subject to two
outstanding mortgages from Delphis J. and Mary G. Lanard: one
to Daniel P. Williams, trustee, and one to Amey W. Wheeler and
Harriet W. Greenwood. Description of property same as DB
425/389.

December 31. Mortgage Book 202/200. Mortgage of
\$750 taken by Delphis J. Lanard and Mary G. Lanard in 1899,
and held by Amey W. Wheeler and Harriet W. Greenwood, is
discharged.

Mary A. Scullian, wife of Hugh was taxed for the
property.

1913 February 8. Deed Book 535/28. Rhode Island Hospital
Trust, as trustee for Susan G. Farnum, in consideration
of \$1030 paid to them by Mary A. Scullian, discharges the
mortgage taken by Delphis J. Lanard and Mary G. Lanard in 1899.
City Directory lists Hugh F. Scullian living at #106.

1922 City Directory lists #106 as a lodging house run by
Hugh F. Scullian. Tenants include a manager, a ticket
seller and a clerk.

1923 July 11. Deed Book 647/257. (recorded 8/23/1923)
Hugh F. Scullian and wife Mary A. Scullian, of 129
Benefit Street, Providence, convey the property to Paraskive
Tomadjoglou for consideration of \$10, described as follows:
"...that lot of land with all buildings and improvements
thereon... beginning in the southwest corner of Benefit and
Howland Streets; thence southerly, bounding easterly on said
Benefit Street 39.45 feet to land now or formerly of Herman
Hassenfeld; thence westerly on said Hassenfeld land 32.08 feet

to a corner; thence northerly on said Hassenfeld land 2.53 feet to a corner; thence again westerly on said Hassenfeld land 28.96 feet to a point on the said Hassenfeld land 39.42 feet southerly of said Howland Street; thence northerly on said Hassenfeld land 39.42 feet to said Howland Street at a point 58.05 feet ± from said corner of said Benefit Street and Howland Street; and thence easterly on said Howland Street 58.05 feet ± to place of beginning..."

1924 City Directory lists Demosthenes Thomz glow, a cook, living at #106. Other tenants listed are an ironworker, and a cutter.

1928 City Directory lists Demosthenes Thomz glow, a cook and part owner of the Pullman Restaurant (877 Westminster) living at #106.

1935 Paraskive Tomadjoglou dies intestate.

1973 Demosthenes Tomadjoglou dies intestate.

1975 City Directories list Maria Grana living at #106 until 1980 - 81.

1979 March 17. Deed Book 1212/688. (recorded 4/30/1979) Nicholas Alexander Tomadjoglou, aka Nicholas Alexander, and wife Kathleen Tomadjoglou, aka Kathleen Alexander, both of San Francisco, CA, convey their right title and interest in the property to Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou of Providence, as tenants-by-entirety, for consideration of \$10.

April 27. Deed Book 1212/690. (recorded 4/30/1979) Maria Grana of Providence, conveys her right title and interest in the property to Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou, as tenants-by-entirety.

April 27. Deed Book 1212/691. (recorded 4/30/1979) Christina Tsagarakis and John Tsagarakis of Providence, convey their right title and interest in the property to Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou, as tenants-by-entirety.

April 27. Deed Book 1212/692. (recorded 4/30/1979) Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou of Providence, convey their right title and interest in the property to Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou, as tenants-by-entirety.

April 27. Deed Book 1212/693. Emmanuel Tomadjoglou signs an Affidavit of Family Facts, stating that his parents Demosthenes and Paraskive Tomadjoglou both died intestate, that the children of the marriage were Nicholas, Christina, Maria, and himself, Emmanuel, and that there were no other children.

1982 City Directory lists Emmanuel and Kay Tomson living at #106.

1983 August 2. Deed Book 1247/83. Emmanuel Tomadjoglou and wife Kay Tomadjoglou convey the property to Paul W. Streicker of Providence.

LIST OF FIGURES

(following page 8)

Figure 1. Map of Providence, 1857.

Figure 2. Plat of Estates No.84 & 86 Benefit Street belonging to Jabez Gorham, by Cushing Dewitt, Sept. 1864.

Figure 3. City Atlas of Providence, Rhode Island, 1875.

Figure 4. Atlas of City of Providence & Environs, R.I., 1882.

Figure 5. Providence Plat Book, 1908.

(Note: Location of property is circled on Figures 1, 3, 4 & 5.)

Appendix:

Figure A. Drawing of Lots of Land on Benefit Street between Howland and Bowen Streets, 1798, by Henry R. Chace.

Figure 1. Map of Providence, 1857

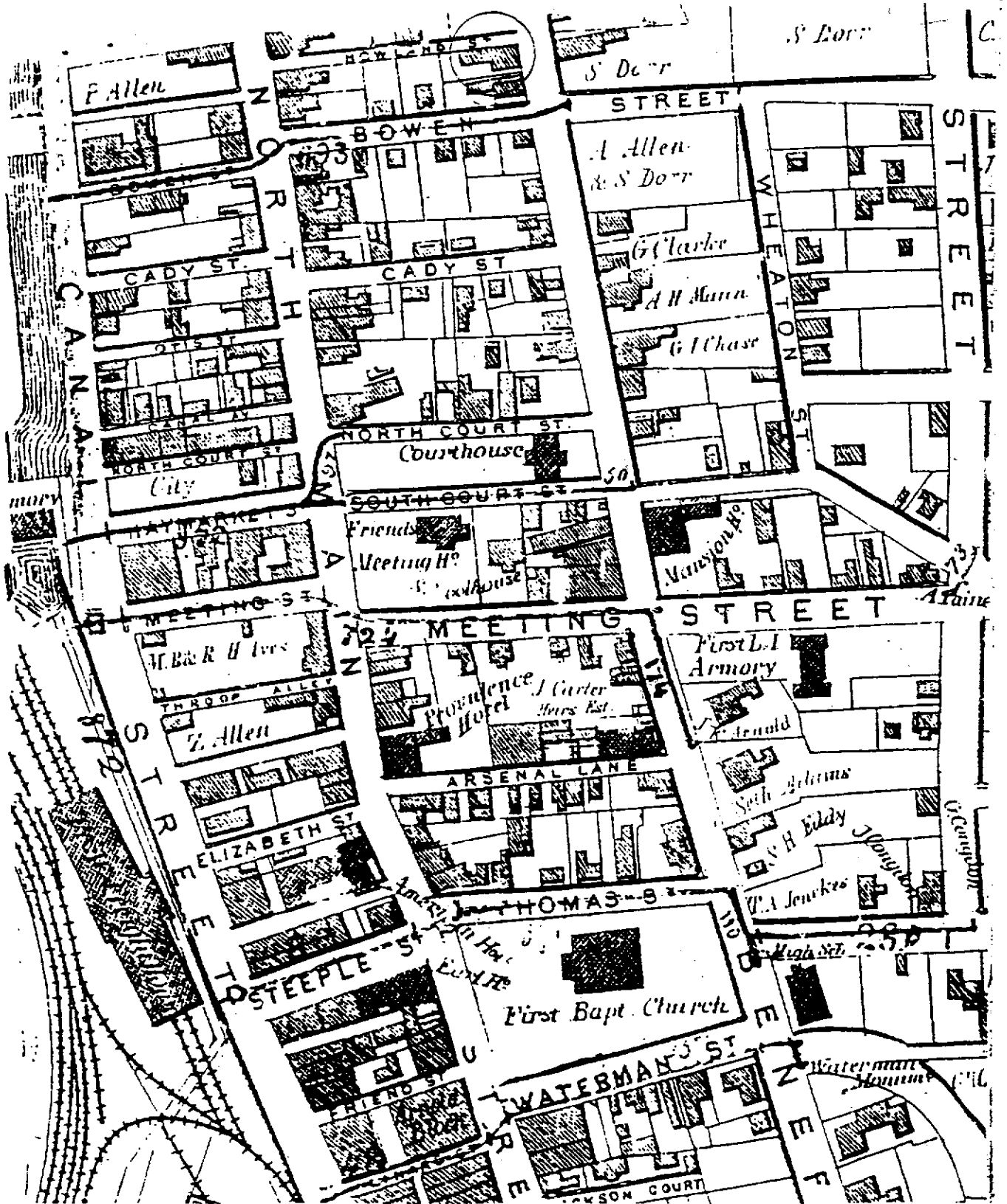
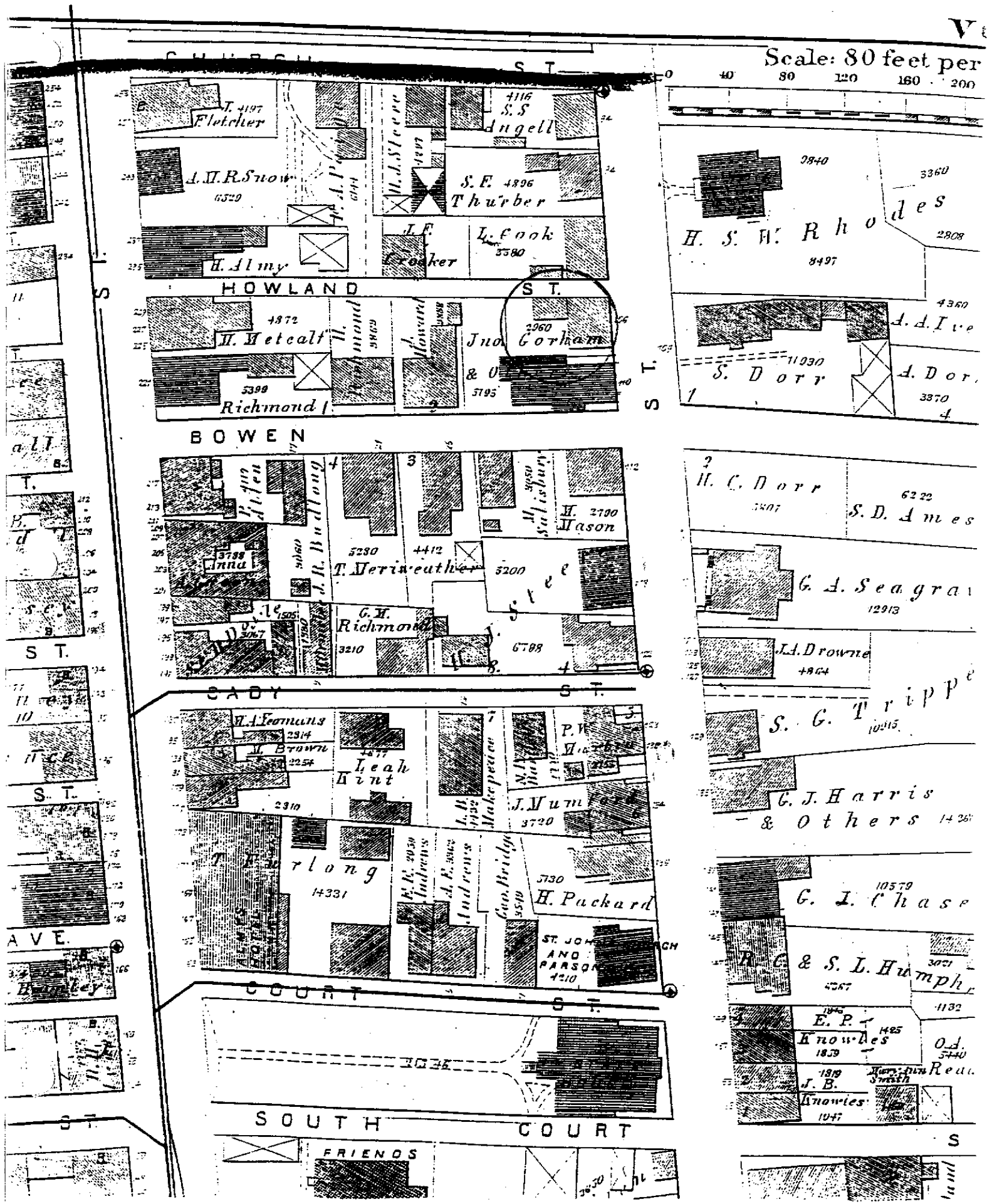


Figure 3. City Atlas of Providence, R.I., 1875



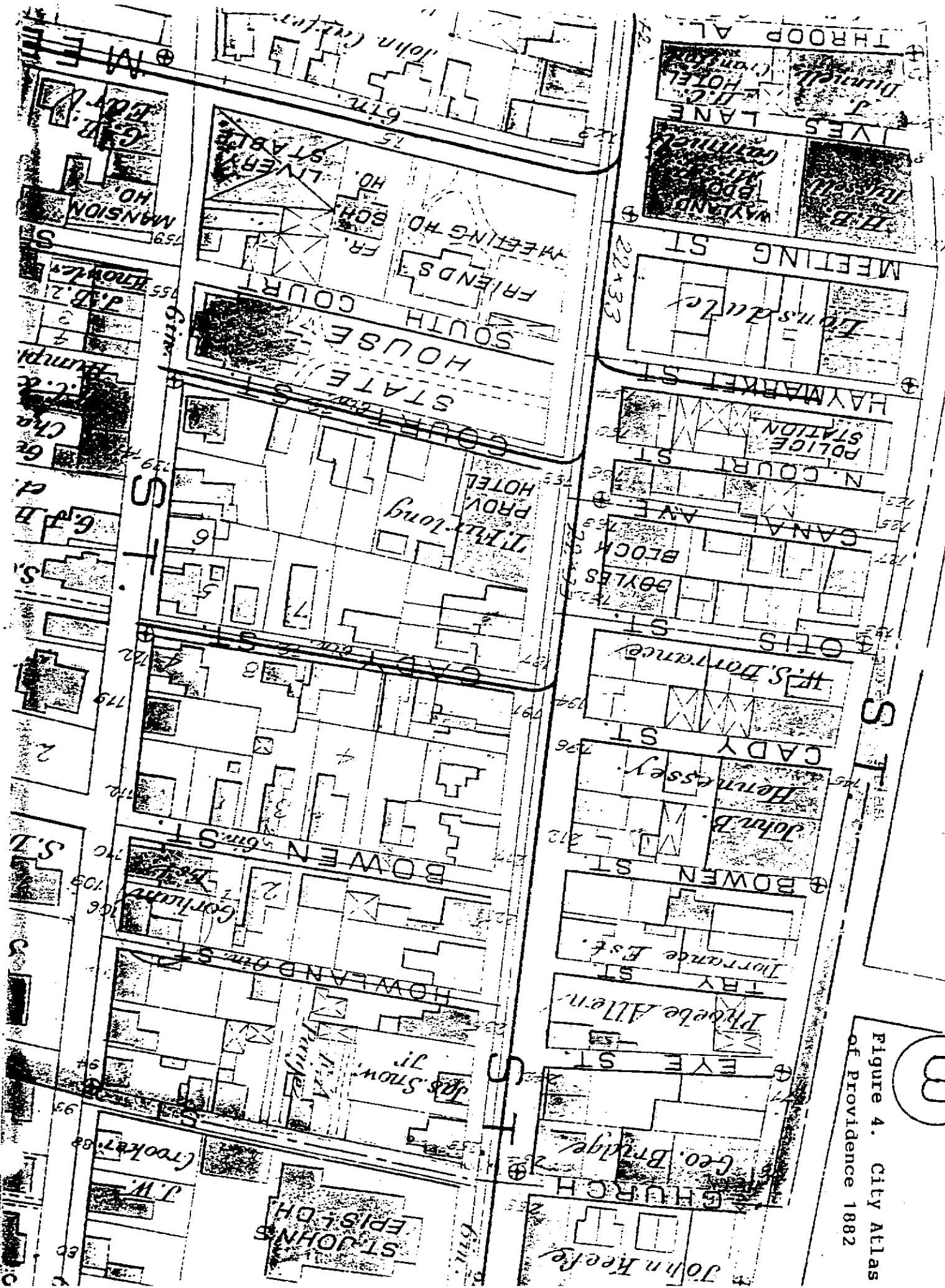


Figure 4. City Atlas
of Providence 1882

8

Figure 5.
Providence Plat Book, 1908

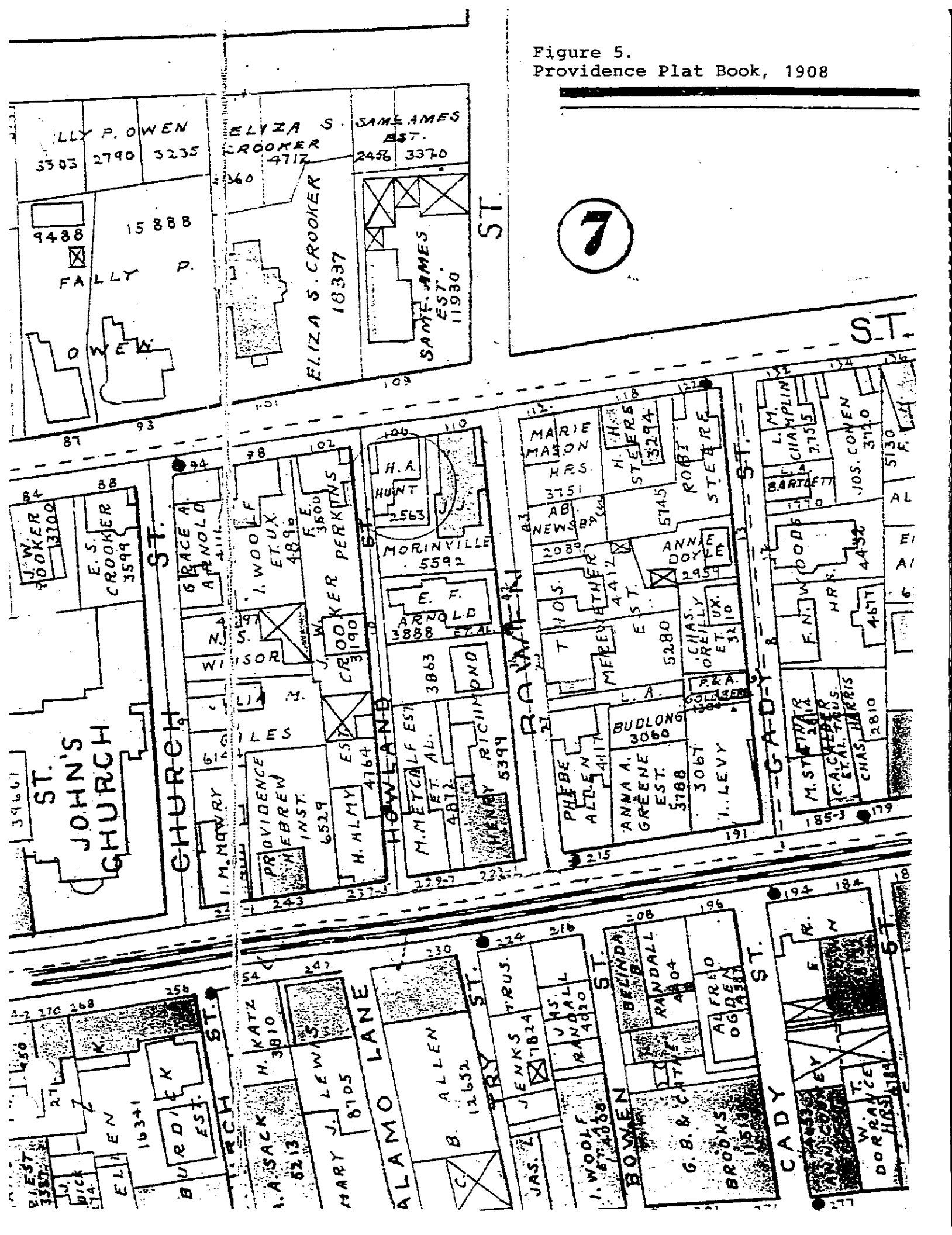
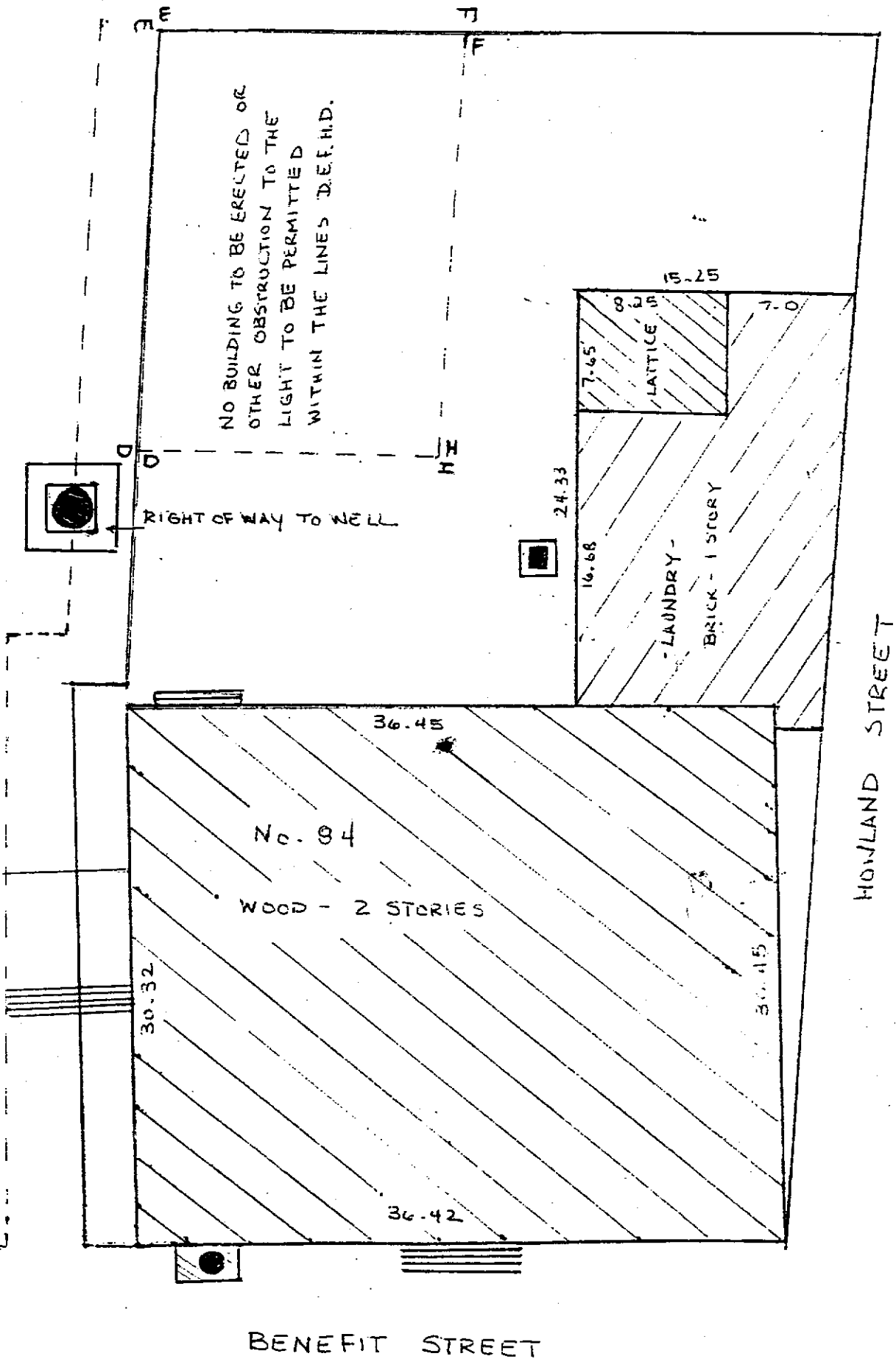


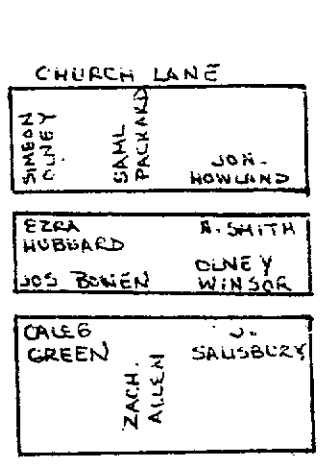
Figure 2. Plat of Estates No. 84 & 86 Benefit Street, 1864



- No. 86 -

APPENDIX

According to the Henry R. Chase Map of Owners of Lots in Providence, RI in 1798 (compiled 1912) Nathaniel Smith owned a parcel of land on the westerly side of Benefit Street, bounded to the north by an unnamed street. Abutting owners were Ezra Hubbard to the west, Olney Winsor to the south, and Joseph Bowen to the southwest. Owners across the unnamed street were John Howland, Samuel Packard, and Simeon Olney (see figure below). By checking the deeds of each name listed, as well as those to the south of Olney Winsor and Joseph Bowen, and also subsequent owners of the lots, I tried to determine the names of the streets, and approximately when the names changed.



From Henry R. Chace, Owners of Lots in Providence, R.I., (Providence, 1912), page 3.

The following excerpts from the deeds are listed in order of date.

Owners of land on what is now Howland Street

1783 Simeon H. Olney (DB 19/424) "...southerly by a gangway..."

1784 Ezra Hubbard (DB 21/78) "...beginning at the corner of Bowen Alley..." (emphasis mine)

1784 John Howland (DB 21/164) "...and is bounded by a certain gangway or alley called Bowen Alley..." (emphasis mine)

1785 Olney Winsor (DB 21/252) "...beginning on Benefit Street forty feet south of Bowen's Alley to a twenty foot gangway..." (emphasis mine)

1791 Samuel Packard (DB 23/41) "...to a thirteen foot gangway..."

1797 John Perris (DB 24/420) "...Bowens Alley..."

1801 Abel Allen (DB 29/226) "...to a gangway..."

1817 Samuel Richmond (DB 41/81) "...northerly on Howland Street..."

1824 Robert Crandall (DB 48/208) "...bounding north by Howland's Alley..."

1828 Benjamin S. Olney (DB 54/396) "Howlands Alley" on drawing of land of Simeon Olney, deceased.

1833 Josiah W. Crooker (DB 60/538) "...southerly to Howland's Alley..."

Owners of land on what is now called Bowen Street

1785 Olney Winsor (DB 21/252) "...beginning on Benefit Street forty feet south of Bowen's Alley to a twenty foot gangway..." (emphasis mine)

1788 Jeremiah Russell (DB 21/555) "...Bowen Street, so called..."

1791 J. Salisbury (DB 23/38) "...Bowen Street..."

Using the preceding information, it appears that the current Howland Street was known as Bowen's Alley from at least 1784 to the late 1790's, and as Howland's Alley, or variously Howland Street, from at least 1817. A book in the Providence City Archives titled "Street Commisioners Office - Streets Received" (date unknown) states on page 112 that Howland's Alley was renamed Howland Street April 29, 1839. Another entry in the same paragraph "...named Novemeber 12, 1805..." may refer to the name change from Bowen's Alley. The designation "Howland's Alley" was still in use in 1855 (see DB 141/59). "Bowen Street" has been in use since at least 1788, but probably not before 1785.

Given the above evidence, the entry in Deed Book 24 page 94 is correct. The mentioned "...southeast corner of Bowens Alley..." is the southwest corner of the junction of Howland and Benefit Streets. The mentioned "...Olney Winsor's lot...", directly south of Nathaniel Smith's lot, was subsequently purchased by Jabez Gorham, who later purchased the #106 property (see DB 166/483 and 167/63).

Built 1795-1798 (unfinished in 1798) by Nathaniel Smith

See... #1
H. Mason's
ALBUM

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Records of

Flat 10
Lot 104

#106 BENEFIT STREET...Wood

#58 in 1824

#58 in 1844

#84 in 1847

#106 in 1866

1795 Joseph Bowen, apothecary, sells for 100 L silver money to Nathaniel Smith " one lot on the West side of Benefit or Back Street, beginning at the S/E corner of Bowens Alley then running W parallel with the S side of said alley; then S to N/W corner of Olney Winsor's Lot; the E on N side of Windsor's lot to Benefit Street; the N to first mentioned corner...Deed Book 24.94

1798 CHACE NOTES: Nathaniel Smith..N on gangway; W side of Benefit Street 40' x 100'. A house frame thereon 36' x 30'...2 stories shingled and partly planked..Taxed for \$150

1814 DIRECT TAX; (to pay for the War of 1812): Nathaniel Smith..1 lot of land 40' x 100'...1 wooden Dwelling House 36' x 28'...2 stories high *died 1839*

1814 ~~WILL~~ Nathaniel Smith devises: " to my wife Abigail my house and lot where I now dwell on Benefit Street " ..Wills 11.487

1824 Smith family still here until 1864
1798 The Smith family lived here and until 1866...Providence Directory

1860 WILLS: Nathaniel Smith jr..."to Hugh H Brown of said Providence I give devise and bequeath the house and lot I now occupy ~~at~~ situated on the W side of Benefit Street adjoining S/ly the estate now owned by Jabez Gorham ~~Brown~~, the house being #84 on said street to be and remain to the said Brown his heirs and assigns forever...Wills 20.266

1863 INDEMTURE: Ann F B Cooly wife of Durwin H Cooly quit claims to Sewall S Cutting all the equal undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ part of #84(now 106) Benefit Street...DB 164.471

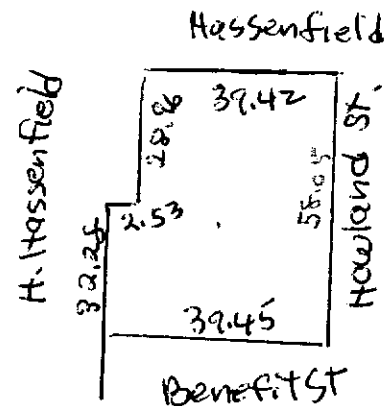
1864 Sewall S Cutting & wife Elizabeth B Cutting..George Allin and wife Mary B Allin sell for \$3000 to Jabez Gorham 3 undivided 4th parts of a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements bounded E by Benefit Street; S by grantor; W by Jesse Howard; N by Howland Street. 2 of the above 4th parts inherited by Elizabeth C and Mary B Allin as heirs-at-law of Hugh H Brown ..the other $\frac{1}{4}$ part inherited by Ann F B Cooly...DB 166.483

* 1864
1899 Harriet Greenwood ^{heir of Jabez Gorham} sells her $\frac{1}{4}$ interest (DB 417.406) and Daniel P Williams, trustee for Susan G Farnum, sells her $\frac{3}{4}$ interest of the Jabez Gorham Estate to Mary G L Larned wife of Delphus L Larned bounded: E by Benefit Street 81.91'; S by Bowen ~~Street~~ 100.72'; W by B F Arnold and H Preston trustees 83.10; N by Howland Street 100.28'..

1864 Rhodes B Chapman guardian of Mary Ella Brown (granddaughter of Hugh H Brown) sells for \$25000 to Jabez Gorham a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements being the 1 undivided $\frac{1}{4}$ part fo the same conveyed by Joseph Bowen to Nathaniel Smith (24.94) and devised to Hugh H Brown u/w Nathaniel Smith...DB 167.63

#106, BENEFIT STREET...continued

- * 1899
1900 Property was taxed to Horation A Hunt
- 1912 Mary A Scullian wife of Hugh was taxed for the property
- 1923 Mary A Scullion wife of Hugh sell to Paraskive Tomadjoglous a certain lot of land with all buildings and improvements bounded: E by Benefit St 39.45'; S 32.28'; W 2.53'; ~~W~~ S 28.96' by Herman Hassenfield; W by Hassenfield 39.42'; N by Howland Street 58.05'...DB 647.257 (see map)



- * 1899 Delphis J Lanard and wife Mary sell to Horatio A Hunt a certain lot of land bounded: E by Benefit Street 39.45'; N by Howland Street 58.05'; W 39.42'; S 28.96'; W 2.53'; S 32.28'..the last 4 courses bound by Harry A Hassenfield being a PORTION of land conveyed to said Mary G Lanard by three deeds viz; 417.505/6 and 422.249...DB 425.389
- © 1826 Policy Record: Abigail Smith - w side Benefit St wood - 36 x 34 ft. to rear - 2nd high front + 3 in rear. Add. 12 x 18 - 1st high - occ. for a DH. Add. for woodhouse & washroom. NB, Mrs. Smith owns Estate for her life in the premises - PR 4.3283
- 1973 Owned by