

Providence Preservation Society

Records of

Plat 10
Lot 147

83-85 BENEFIT STREET

Built before 1844

- 1783 Darius Sessions et al, the committee appointed by the Benevolent Congregational Society, sell for 400 Spanish milled dollars, to Josiah Draper, yeoman, a certain lot of land near King's Chapel on the east side of Benefit Street bounded: north by Nathaniel Wheaton 180 feet, east by the grantor 50 feet, south 120 feet and 60 feet by grantor, west by Benefit Street 56 feet (Deed Book 19.424).
- 1792 Josiah Draper of Attleborough, sells to Abner Daggett, innholder, for 450 pounds, a certain lot of land heretofore belonging to the Benevolent Congregational and bought by him in 1783 together with the dwelling house and all other buildings ... and the uninterrupted use of a gangway sixteen feet in width from Benefit Street 130 feet eastward ... laid out ... by agreement dated August 3, 1785 (Deed Book 23.91).
- 1798 Chace Notes on the Tax Records for this year show a dwelling house on this lot; it is the building which is now 87 Benefit Street.
- 1814 Direct Tax for this year lists only one dwelling house.
- 1830 Abner Daggett has a policy with the Providence Mutual Fire Insurance Company (Volume 8 #4320) on the above-named dwelling for \$1600.
- 1842 Ann Daggett et al grant to George Owen for \$3600 a certain lot of land with all the buildings and improvements thereon situated on Benefit Street in Providence No. 51 and is the mansion house estate of the late Abner Daggett deceased (DB 84.51).
- Providence Directory lists George Owen, a jeweler on Steeple Street, with a residence on 59 Benefit Street; this is a neighboring lot.
- 1843 There is no Providence Directory available for this year.
- 1844 This is the first year that the Providence Directory has a listing for 51 Benefit Street, rear (now 83-85); it is a large, double house at the rear of Lot 147 and reached by a gangway. Occupants are Henry R. Congdon, a boot and shoe dealer, and Lydia Owen, a widow. Jonas Hartwell, a grocer and George Owen occupy 51.
- 1854 George Owen owns lot 147, containing 8256 square feet and a building (or buildings) valued at \$3700 (Tax Ledger A2.181).

83-85 BENEFIT STREET (Continued)

Tax Records at Providence City show these owners:

1892 Fally P. Owen

1911 Francis G. Wallinder

1923 Alfred A. Fisher and wife Louvenia L. (Jan) ..
Charles Irons (Nov)

1930 Charles Irons Estate

1931 Henrietta F. Irons widow Charles

1932 Mary W. Brown

1934 Martha A. Greene

1948 Martha E. Greene and Martha A. Greene, Joint Tenants

1950 Martha E. Greene

1974 Richard M. Gibbs (DB 1179.753)

1975 Candace F. Byers (DB 1188.359)

Barbara Levine
March 1979