

## 112, 114 Bartlett Street (circa 1842)

From Boston Landmark Commission's Charlestown Historic Resources Study 1981 (E. W. Gordon, Consultant)\*:



112, 114 Bartlett Street

1981

Numbers 112 and 114 Bartlett Street is a double Greek Revival house constructed of wood, with three bay main façades. At the gabled roofline is a simple molded cornice, which is continuous with numbers 116 and 118 Bartlett Street. Both halves have side hall plans and paired entrances with attractive enframements. The front doors are flanked by Doric pilasters and are surmounted by bracketed and cornice-headed entablatures. The windows are simply enframed and have 2/2 wood sash.



112, 114 Bartlett

2015

Builder: Otis Clapp

Original owner: Phineas J Stone

Built circa 1842, 112/114 Bartlett dates to the first phase of the intensive house construction activity (1835-850) in the area bounded by Elm, Main, Walker, and Bunker Hill Streets. Architecturally, it represents a solid, modestly scaled double wood frame house with Greek Revival entrance enframements.

This property has historical Association with Phineas J Stone, Mayor of Charlestown during the Civil War. He was instrumental in raising and forming several companies for the defense of the union during the Civil War. During his administration water was introduced from Mystic Pond, yielding an ample supply for both Charlestown and several surrounding towns.

Numbers 112 and 114, as well as 116 and 118 Bartlett Street represent the work of prominent Charlestown carpenter/trader/philanthropist Otis Clapp. (Apparently this is Otis Clapp Junior, who is the son of the Otis Clapp who came to Charlestown circa 1805, operated Clapp's wharf and was described by T T Sawyer as "always a prosperous and prominent citizen of the town". In addition, Otis senior was one of the original members of the First Universalist Society.) Otis Clapp Junior was active in Charlestown building trades circa 1830-1850. From 1850 until his death on May 26, 1870, he was a trader. He bequeathed property valued at \$6000 to the Old Ladies Home, and, to the city of Charlestown, 800 volumes for the use of the library.

In any event, Otis Clapp, a "housewright", sold 112, 114's lots to Phineas J Stone, a Charlestown trader (Middlesex deeds 412:25) on April 4, 1842. Presumably 112 and 114 were built in the spring's/summer of 1842. It is not clear if Stone lived in either of these houses. In 1842 he is listed as "West India goods, 100 Main Street, house 37 High Street". Phineas Jones

Stone was the eldest son of Col. Phineas and Hannah (Jones) stone. He was born in Weare, New Hampshire on May 23, 1810. He lived in New Hampshire until 1824 when his family moved to Charlestown. He operated a "West India Goods" business from 1834-1851. He was Selectman of Charlestown in 1839 and 1840, and held numerous other political posts including inspector of the Massachusetts State Prison (1856-59). He was mayor of Charlestown in 1862, 1863, and 1864. He was U S Assessor, Sixth Massachusetts District, from 1867 to 1873. He was one of the forces behind the North and South Channels of the Mystic River. In addition he was president of the Charlestown Savings Bank from 1854 to 1891 and was a director of the Charlestown Gas Company and Mutual Protection Fire Insurance Company.

Phineas Stone sold 112-114 Bartlett Street to Arthur Mechan, a carpenter, on December 9, 1868 for \$3400 (1041:491). This deed notes that 112-114 comprise "two of a block of four dwellings." Mechan owned these houses until at least the early 1900s.

Note: For many years 116 and 118 Bartlett Street were owned by Joshua Linnell and George W Linnelly, respectively. Joshua Linnell is listed as a carpenter from circa 1860-early 1900s. They bought 116 and 118 Bartlett from Phineas J Stone on October 2, 1866 (Middlesex 981:6, seven) George W Linnell was a painter and lived at 118 until at least the mid-1880s. By 1901 a Joseph E Ingalls owned 118 Bartlett Street.

#### Bibliography:

Maps-1818, 1833, 1839, 1848, 1851

Atlases-1875, 1885, 1892, 1901

Charlestown and directories-1834-1874 Middlesex deeds  
*Bunker Hill Times*, "souvenir of Charlestown" 1843-1893

*Old Charlestown*, Timothy T Sawyer, 1902, pages 315, 493, 196, 265, 277, 458-59, 479

\*Digitized and edited, without change in content, from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, and with addition of current photographs. In the case of houses that have been altered since the survey, these photographs may not entirely correspond to the architectural description. If earlier photographs of suitable quality are available, these have been included.

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