

95 Baldwin Street (circa 1855-1860)

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



95 Baldwin Street

Number 95 Baldwin Street is an extremely narrow three-story Italianate wood frame house with a two bay, 12 foot wide main façade. The building has a bracketed cornice.

It has a side hall plan, with a single granite step leading to a front door with simple enframements surmounted by a six-pane transom. There is a single cornice-headed window on the first floor. The windows have 1/1 wood sash.

Original owner: Jeremiah Stimpson

This wood frame Italianate house is a charming, curious anomaly on a street dominated by red brick Greek Revival row houses. Apparently, its extremely narrow lot was originally intended to be an alleyway between 93 and 97 Baldwin Street. Number 95 was built circa 1855-60 after the portion of Baldwin Street north of Bunker Hill Street had been almost completely developed with masonry row houses.

Further research is needed to pinpoint 95's construction date more specifically. It was apparently built for a Jeremiah Stimpson. The Middlesex County deed index contains numerous listings for Jeremiah Stimpson as grantee during the 1850s. Stimpson owned 95 until at least the mid-1880s.

By the early 1890s this house was owned by Frances Foster Tabor of Malden, executor of the will of Jeremiah Stimpson, "late of Boston". On December 9, 1892, Elizabeth Lynch of Boston paid Tabor \$1400 for this house.

What is now Baldwin Street, and adjacent house lots north of Bunker Hill Street, was part of the upland pasture of William Symmes (1818 map of Charlestown). Baldwin Street north of Bunker Hill Street apparently existed in an informal state as

early as 1837 and was originally called Coggins Street. It was renamed Linden** Street in 1844, apparently the time of more formal development. The portion of Baldwin Street between Bunker Hill and Main Street was set out circa early 1850s.

Bibliography:

Maps-1818, 1833, 1839, 1848, 1851

Atlases-1875, 1885, 1892, 1901

Charlestown directories-1834-1874

*Digitized and edited, without change in content, from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, with the 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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** Lincoln Street in the Felton and Parker map, 1848, and the McIntire map, 1852