

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
26	462

1. Town Salem

Address 15 Summer Street

Name John P. Peabody House

Present use Offices

Present owner Bay Realty Trust
Thomas W. Burke, Tr.
5324M Camelot Dr.

3. Description: Fairfield, Ohio 45014

Date 1867-68

Source Tax records

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Wood

Outbuildings (describe) None

Other features slate gambrel roof with
triangular and segmental pedimented dormers
entry with sidelights and fan

Altered No Date _____

Moved No Date _____

5. Lot size: 8,160 sq. ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 71 ft.

Approximate distance of building from street
12 ft.

6. Recorded by A. Crump

Organization Salem Redevelopment Authority

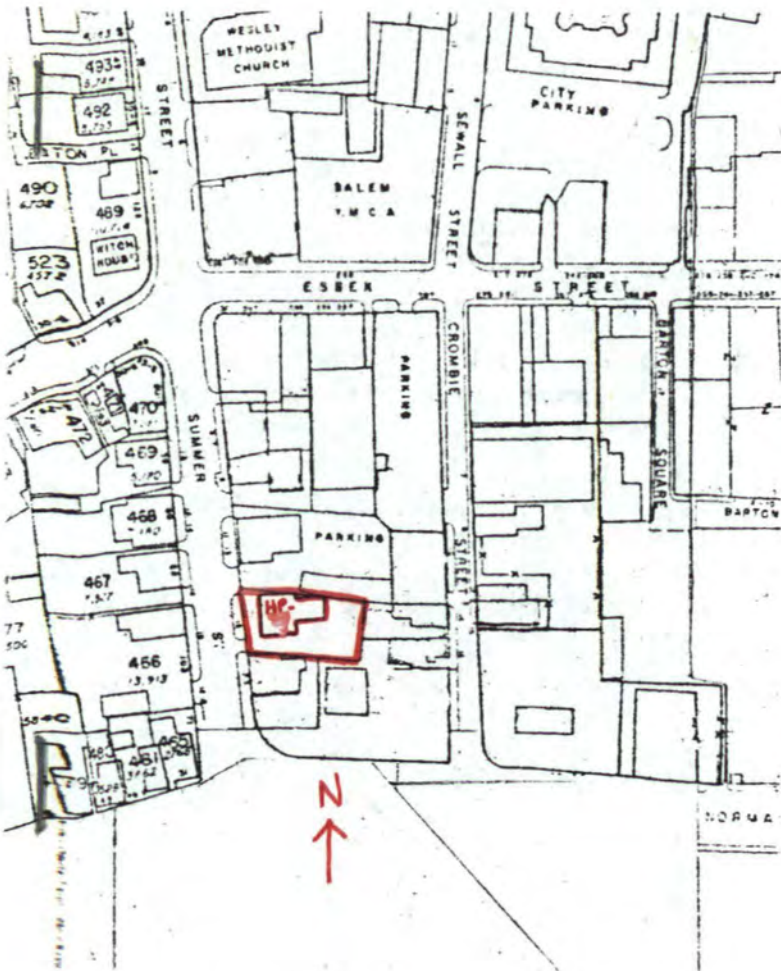
Date November 1979

UTM Reference: 19/344030/4709080

Assessor's Number: 26-462

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location
in relation to nearest cross streets and
other buildings. Indicate north.



7. Original owner (if known) John P. Peabody

Original use Residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The residence built by Salem merchant John P. Peabody at 15 Summer Street in 1868 prefigures the emergence of the Colonial Revival style as a popular expression of patriotism in conjunction with the nation's Centennial celebration.

A grey slate gambrel roof dominates the composition of the two-story, three-bay facade. The central emphasis created by the fanlit doorway, framed by a square portico, is reinforced by the rhythmic bay configuration of the central second story window, and by the interruption of the pattern of the pedimented dormers with a single segmental pediment at the center. While the stylistic character of the building is primarily Colonial Revival, the contrast of the shiplap facade with clapboard side walls in conjunction with a broken pitch roof belies its derivation from the prevalent Mansard idiom. The generous setback from the street is unusual for its downtown location, and serves as an effective transition to the predominantly residential neighborhood across Summer Street.

John P. Peabody was a prosperous dry goods merchant whose business was prominently located in the center of Town House Square. He was also the publisher of Peabody's Fireside Favorite, a literary monthly. Peabody's social standing, combined with the presence of distinguished Colonial prototypes in the immediate vicinity, create a comprehensible context for the appearance of this stylistic expression well in advance of its popularization.

This Colonial Revival structure is one of a series of similar period and style buildings just east of the downtown area. The style was more predominant in the adjoining neighborhoods on Beckford St., Broad St., and Cambridge and Chestnut Streets. Possessing integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and setting, the Peabody House meets criteria B and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

City Directories
Essex County Registry of Deeds

*Commerce
Literature*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 2

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Downtown Salem Multiple Resource Area
State Massachusetts

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Bowker Place | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 2. | Federal Street District | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 9/16/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 3. | First Universalist Church | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 4. | Monroe, Bessie, House | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 5. | Downtown Salem District | Substantive Review | for
Keeper | accept Patrick Andrews 10/18/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 6. | Peabody, John.P., House | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 7. | Salem Laundry | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 8. | Shepard Block | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 9. | Wesley Methodist Church | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 7/29/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 10. | Crombie Street District | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | Melous Byers 9/16/83 |
| | | | Attest | _____ |



Downtown Salem MRA, Ma
Peabody, John P., Heuse
15 Summer St.

NOV 1979

Large Prints

by Berkeley

NOV 1979

1-21

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000277