

The Emergence of Portland

Early Homes and Early Maps

Matthew H. Edney

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edney@wisc.edu



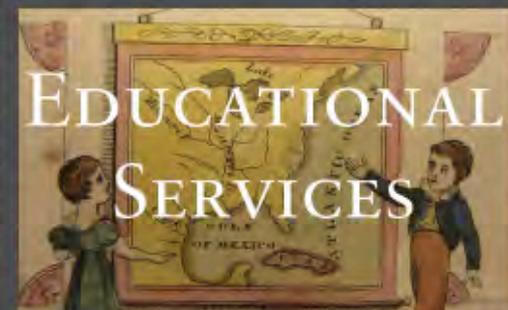
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Osher Map Library
Smith Center for Cartographic Education
<http://www.oshermaps.org/>

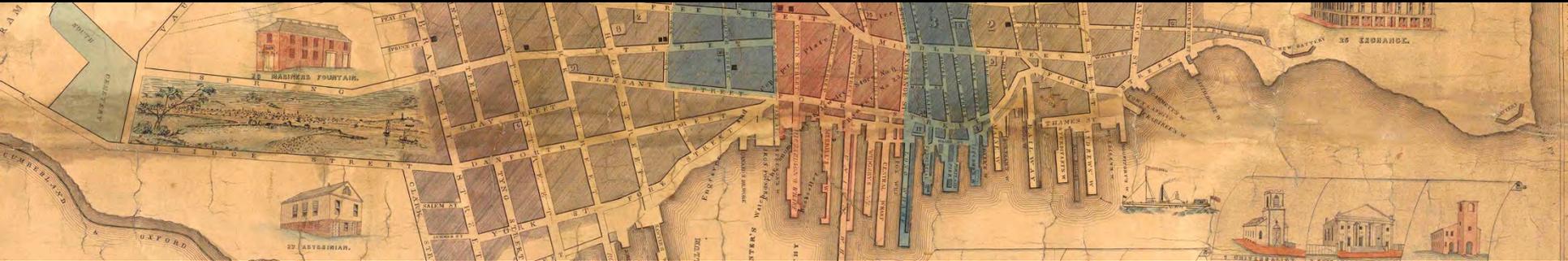
- [FIND RARE MAPS & BOOKS](#)
- [SEARCH FOR US ROAD MAPS](#)
- [SEARCH OCEAN LINER COLLECTION](#)
- [FIND REFERENCE BOOKS \(ursus\)](#)
- [OML'S COLLECTIONS](#)
- [DOING RESEARCH AT OML](#)
- [ASK A LIBRARIAN](#)



Gerhard Mercator, *Septentrionalium Terrarum Descriptio* (Amsterdam, 1633). OS-1633-2



The Emergence of Portland



Puffery

1. Framing Cities — and Portland — in Early Maps
2. Portland as Urban Place: *Urbs* and *Civis*
3. Resurgam: The Modern Narrative of Portland's Foundation
4. Portland's Ante-Bellum Growth: Internal vs External Views
5. Conclusions

Source Libraries and Archives

MHS = Maine Historical Society, many of whose maps are imaged through the *Maine Memory Network*: www.mainememory.net

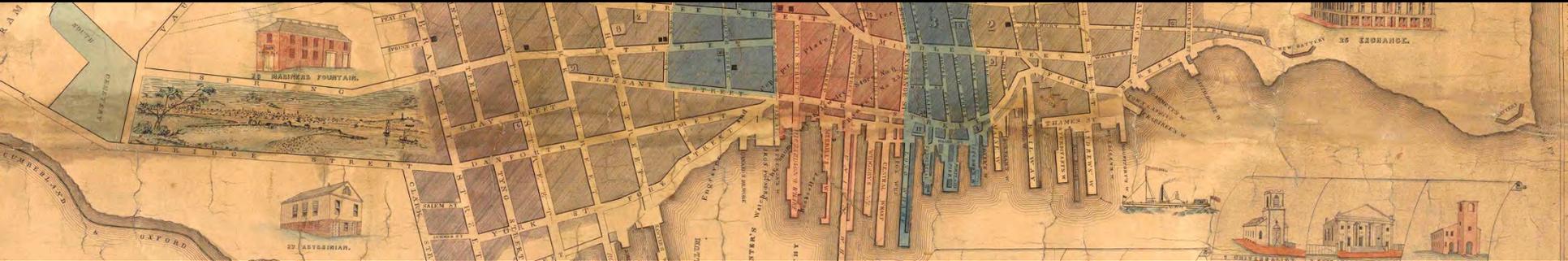
OML = Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education, University of Southern Maine: www.oshermaps.org

LC = Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress:
www.loc.gov/maps

Rumsey = David Rumsey's amazing collection of mostly nineteenth-century US maps: www.davidrumsey.com

Harvard = Harvard Map Collection, Harvard College Library, Harvard University: hcl.harvard.edu/libraries/maps/digitalmaps/

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Framing Cities in Maps

Cities are mapped in several different ways, with differing purposes and differing **spatial frames**, and must be read accordingly.

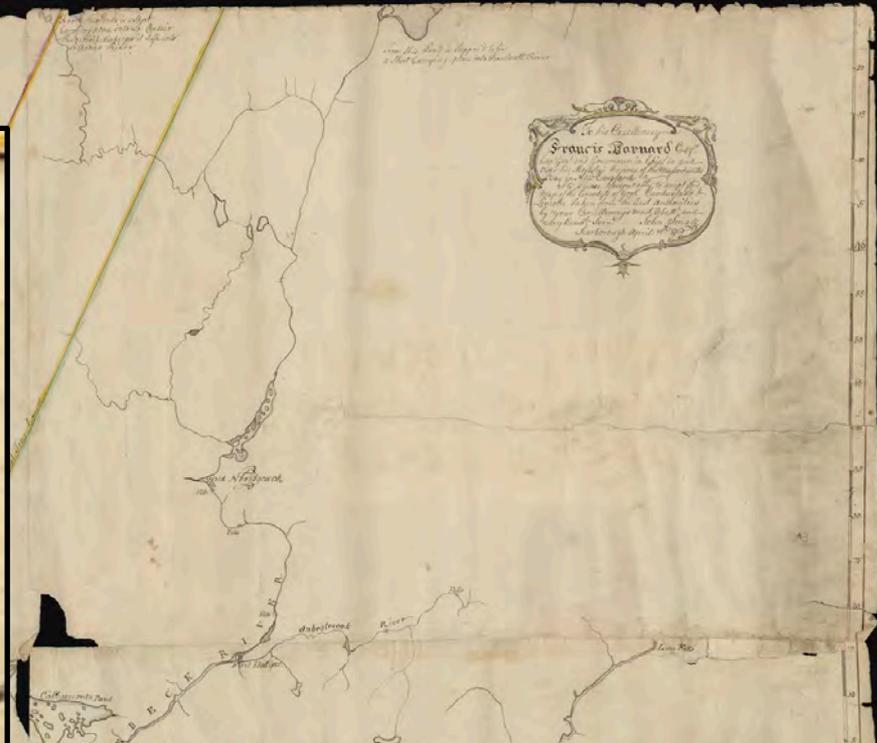
Framing Cities in Maps

Cities are mapped in several different ways, with differing purposes and differing **spatial frames**, and must be read accordingly.

Very Broad: situating the city within a wider region

city located on a regional *map*

maps of a particular city's hinterland



John Small, "... this map of the Countys of York, Cumberland & Lincoln" (1761)

www.oshermaps.org/map/42890.0003

SEE MAINE BY TROLLEY. Fast Interurban Service Connecting Portland, Biddeford, Bath, Lewiston, Auburn, Gardiner, Hallowell, Augusta, Winthrop, Togus and Waterville



Portland Railroad and Lewiston, Augusta & Waterville Street Railway



“See Maine by Trolley,” in *Trolleying through the Heart of Maine* ([Portland]: Portland Railroad and Lewiston, Augusta, & Waterville Street Railway, ca. 1900)

www.oshermaps.org/map/12140

Framing Cities in Maps

Cities are mapped in several different ways, with differing purposes and differing **spatial frames**, and must be read accordingly.

Very Broad: situating the city within a wider region

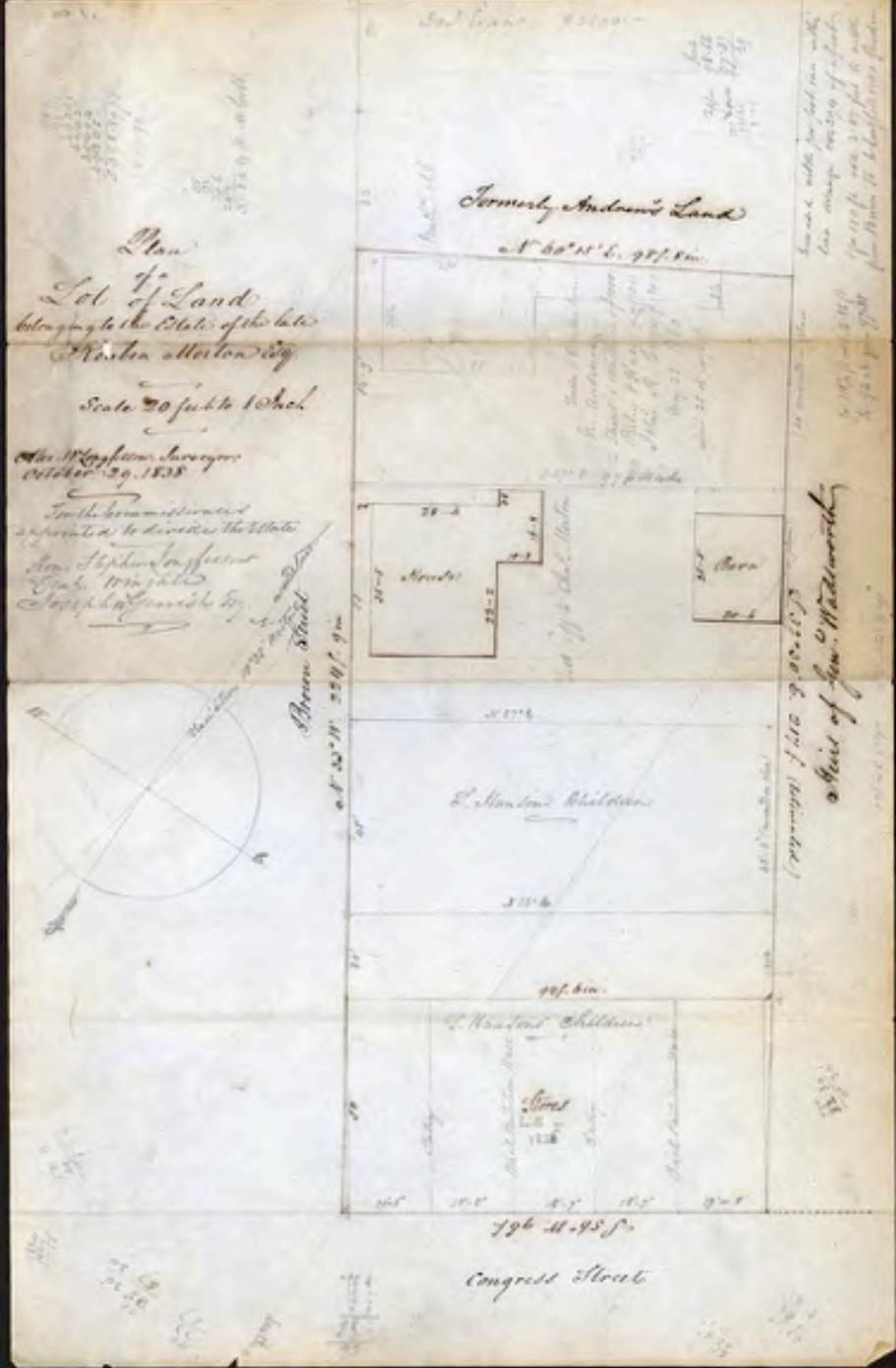
city located on a regional *map*

maps of a particular city's hinterland

Very Narrow: focusing on one fragment of the city

property *plans* of urban lots

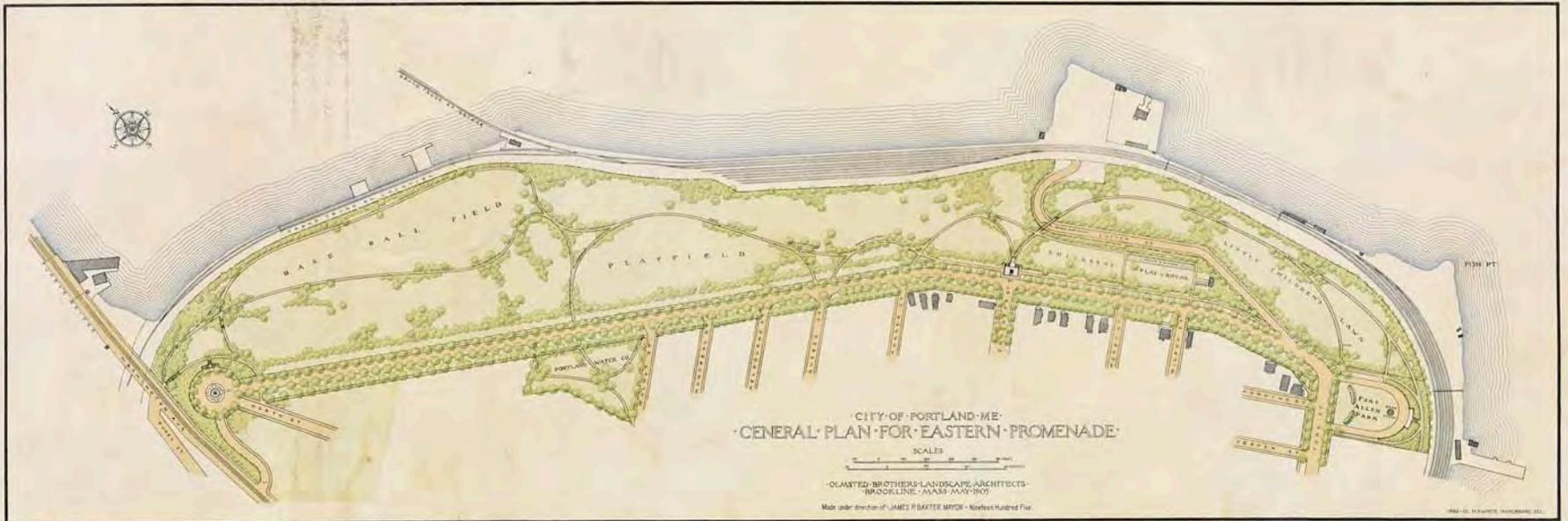
engineering and planning *plans*, from individual buildings to several blocks



Alexander W. Longfellow, "Plan of a Lot of Land belonging to the Estate of the late Reuben Morton Esq." (1838)

The parcel is at the corner of Congress and Brown streets (i.e., where we are right now!)

MHS Coll. 185, Box 4/10



Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and John Charles Olmsted, *City of Portland Me. General Plan for Eastern Promenade* (Boston, 1905)

www.oshermaps.org/map/37677

Framing Cities in Maps

Cities are mapped in several different ways, with differing purposes and differing **spatial frames**, and must be read accordingly.

Very Broad: situating the city within a wider region

city located on a regional *map*

maps of a particular city's hinterland

Very Narrow: focusing on one fragment of the city

property *plans* of urban lots

engineering and planning *plans*, from individual buildings to several blocks

Just Right: mapping cities as discrete and coherent places . . .



J. J. STONER, PUBLISHER, HARVARD, AND
BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND
 1876

REFERENCES.

1. City Hall
 2. City Office
 3. U. S. Custom House
 4. North School
 5. High
 6. Central St. Grammar School
 7. South St. School
 8. Park St.
 9. State Hospital
 10. Allen House
 11. St. Augustin School

NOTELS.

12. Palmers Hotel, L. Stevens, Proprietor.
 13. Parker House, M. B. Gilman & Co.
 14. Central House, T. Wilcox
 15. U. S. Custom House
 16. Park Hotel, J. C. Perry
 17. American House, Row Gray
 18. Commercial House, Patrick O'Malley, Prop.
 19. Union Hotel, W. R. Austin
 20. Adams House
 21. City Hotel
 22. Clifton House
 23. Grand Street Hotel, Row Gray

WAREHOUSES, PIERS, RAILROADS &c.

24. Grand Street Rail Road Depot
 25. Commercial Wharf
 26. Long
 27. Central
 28. Water
 29. Wharf
 30. Wharf
 31. Wharf
 32. Wharf
 33. Wharf
 34. Wharf
 35. Wharf
 36. Wharf
 37. Wharf
 38. Wharf
 39. Wharf
 40. Wharf
 41. Wharf
 42. Wharf
 43. Wharf
 44. Wharf
 45. Wharf
 46. Wharf
 47. Wharf
 48. Wharf
 49. Wharf
 50. Wharf

MANUFACTORIES.

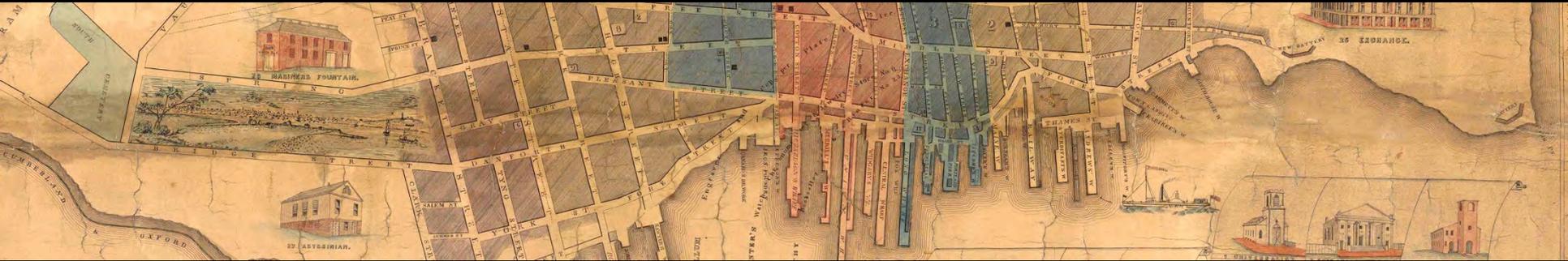
51. Portland Co's Marble Shop
 52. J. B. Brown & Sons' Paper Factory
 53. Paper City Paper Mill Co.
 54. Paper Mill
 55. Paper Mill
 56. Paper Mill
 57. Paper Mill
 58. Paper Mill
 59. Paper Mill
 60. Paper Mill
 61. Paper Mill
 62. Paper Mill
 63. Paper Mill
 64. Paper Mill
 65. Paper Mill
 66. Paper Mill
 67. Paper Mill
 68. Paper Mill
 69. Paper Mill
 70. Paper Mill

CHURCHES.

71. St. Paul's Episcopal
 72. St. Charles St. Methodist
 73. First Baptist
 74. First Baptist
 75. First Baptist
 76. First Baptist
 77. First Baptist
 78. First Baptist
 79. First Baptist
 80. First Baptist
 81. First Baptist
 82. First Baptist
 83. First Baptist
 84. First Baptist
 85. First Baptist
 86. First Baptist
 87. First Baptist
 88. First Baptist
 89. First Baptist
 90. First Baptist

Joseph Warner, *Bird's Eye View of the City of Portland, Maine 1876* (Madison, Wis.: J. J. Stoner, 1876) **LC maps G3734.P8A3 1876 .W3**

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Puffery

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Mapping Urban Places



Renaissance scholars were very clear that the **artificiality** of cities made them special places that contrasted markedly with the environment and social systems of the agricultural majority:

urbs: the built environment

See Richard L. Kagan, *Urban Images of the Hispanic World, 1493–1793* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2000).



The Portland **urbs**: Rosemary Mosher's 2014 composite image of Falmouth Neck from the map of Portland Harbor in the *Atlantic Neptune* (1776) and 2001 aerial photography. (Ms. Mosher is currently manager of digital data for the city of Auburn.) **Private Collection**

Mapping Urban Places

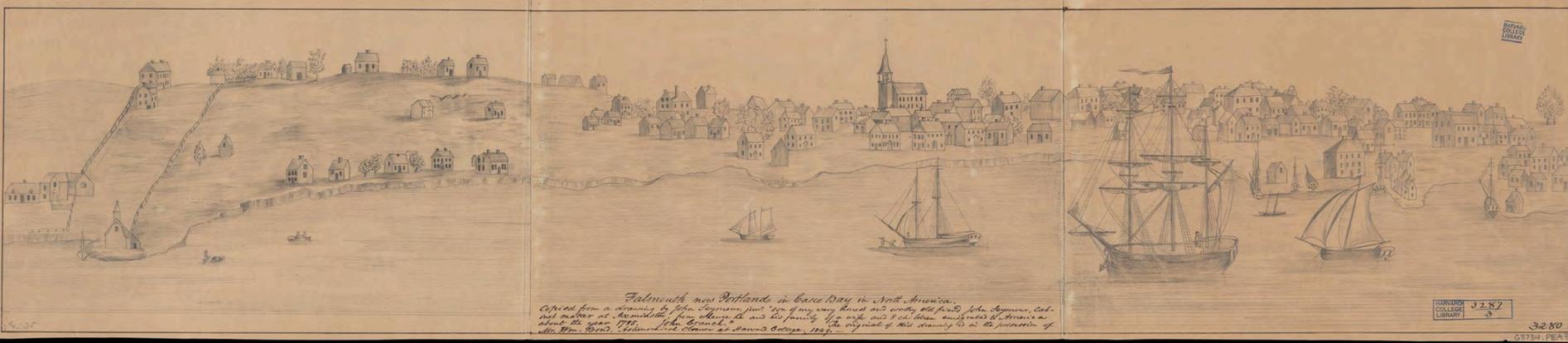


Renaissance scholars were very clear that the artificiality of cities made them special places that contrasted markedly with the environment and social systems of the agricultural majority:

urbs: the built environment

civis: the community of the city, free from feudal social strictures

See Richard L. Kagan, *Urban Images of the Hispanic World, 1493–1793* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2000).



Charles Harris, after John Cranch, after John Seymour Jr., "Falmouth now Portland in
 Casco Bay in North America" (ca. 1790|1849)
 Harvard map G3734 .P8A35 1790 .S4 1849

Mapping Urban Places

Renaissance scholars were very clear that the artificiality of cities made them special places that contrasted markedly with the environment and social systems of the agricultural majority:

urbs: the built environment

civis: the community of the city, free from feudal structures

Mapping of cities as places always captures both aspects, to various degrees.

AND, there is the question of the situation of the map's makers and readers, whether they are **internal** or **external** to the city and its community.

See Richard L. Kagan, *Urban Images of the Hispanic World, 1493–1793* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2000).

1858



*Geo. R. Davis & Bros.
53 Exch. St.
Portland*

*J. Chace Jr. Publ.
53 Exch. St.
Portland
1858.*

SCALE,
48 Rods



W^m J. Barker & C^o Lithographic Engravers & Map Publishers N^o 23 N. 6th St. Phil^a



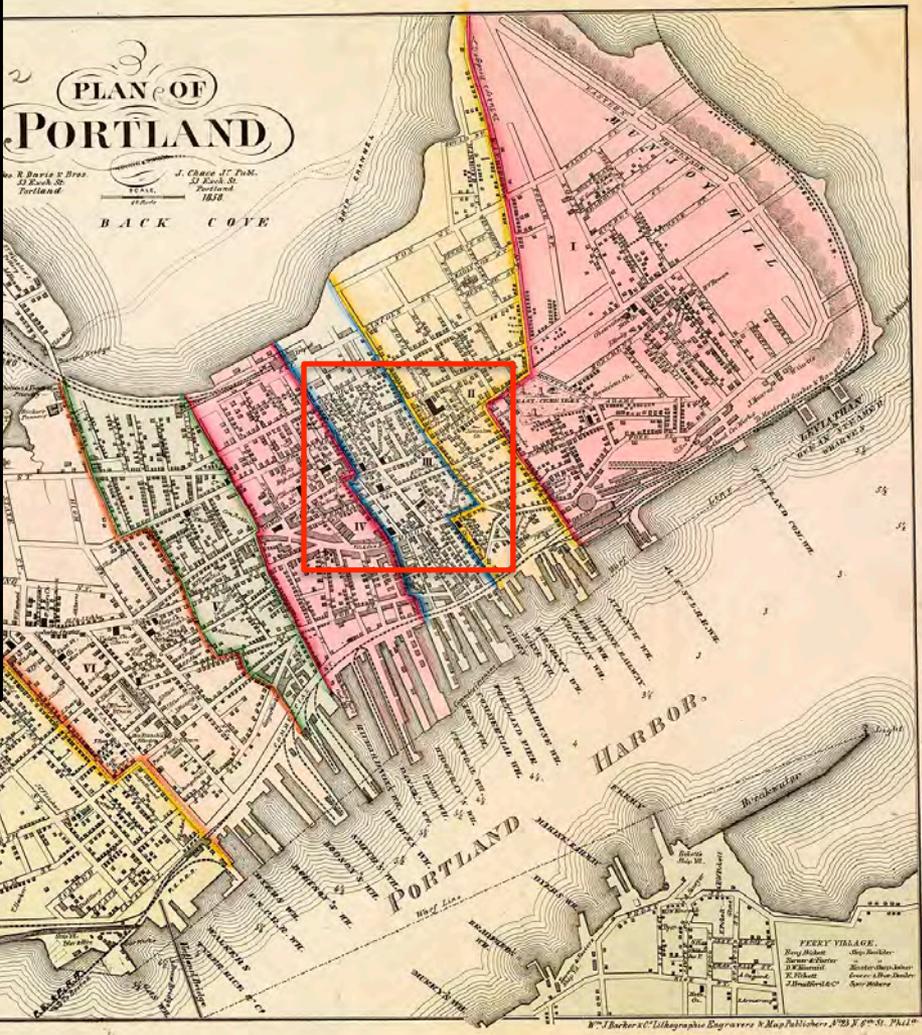
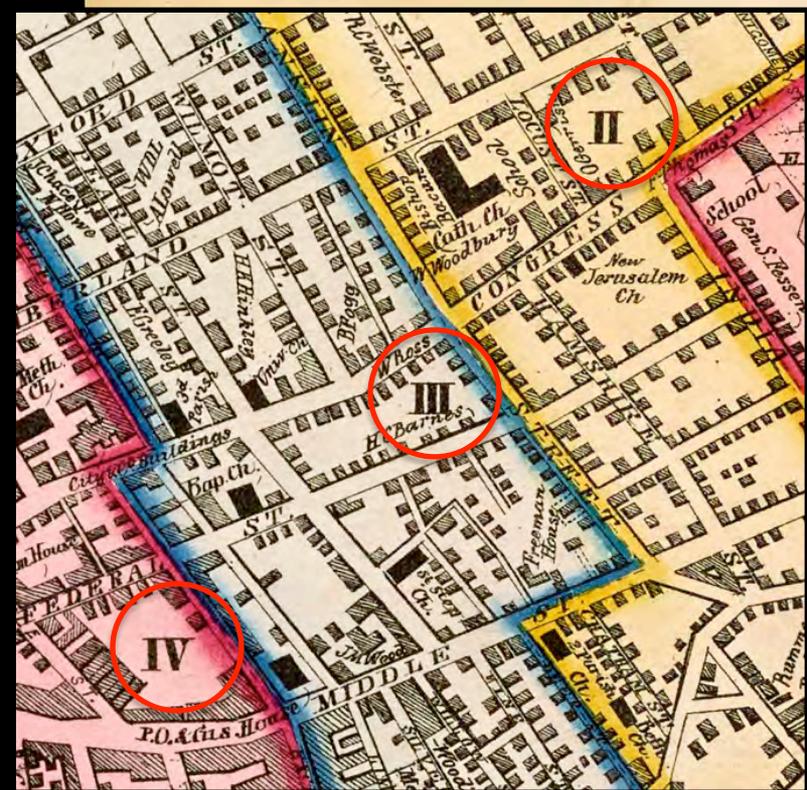
Portland 12

*Portland 12
streets of Portland*

12-3

Plan of Portland (Portland: Geo. W. David & Bros. and J. Chace Jr., 1858)

MHS map FF 310

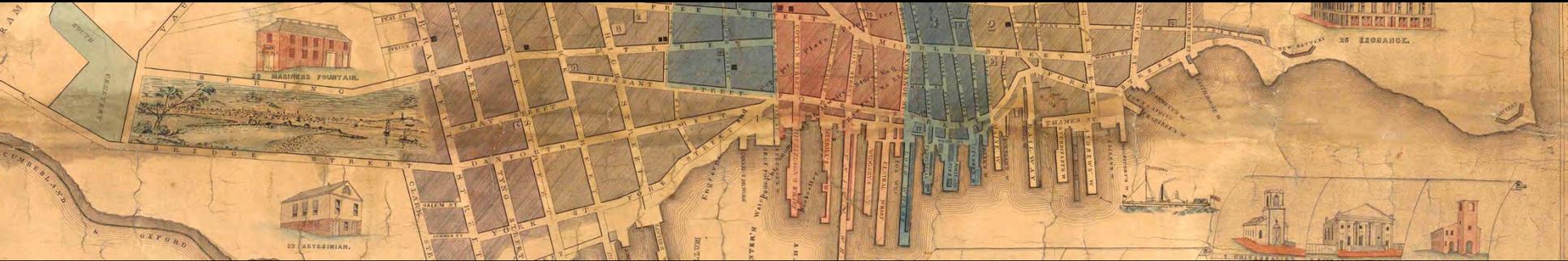


Portland 13

Portland 72
streets of Portland

Plan of Portland (Portland: Geo. W. David & Bros. and J. Chace Jr., 1858)
MHS map FF 310

The Emergence of Portland



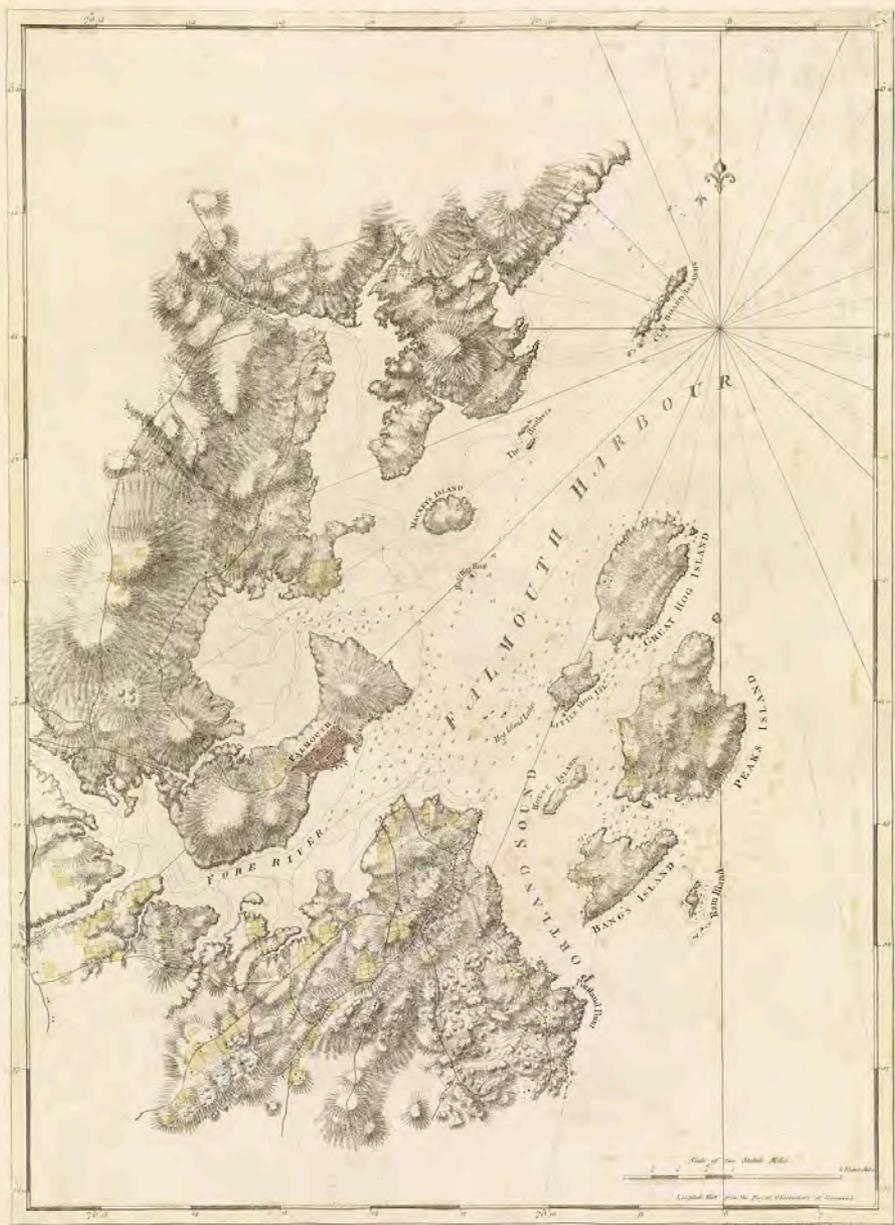
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THE TOWN of FALMOUTH, *Burnt, by Captain MOET,* Oct^r: 18th 1775.



“The Town of Falmouth. Burnt by Captain Moet, Octbr. 18th 1775,” engraved by John Norman, taken from Vol. 2, pt. 1, of *An Impartial History of the War in America* (Boston: Coverly & Hodge, 1782) oshermaps.org/map/43443



[Samuel Holland], [Falmouth Harbor]
 (London: J. F. W. Des Barres, 1781)
oshermaps.org/map/849

THE
HISTORY OF PORTLAND,
FROM ITS
FIRST SETTLEMENT :
WITH
NOTICES OF THE NEIGHBOURING TOWNS,

AND OF THE
CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT IN MAINE.

IN TWO PARTS.

BY WILLIAM WILLIS.

PART I.

Portland:
Printed by DAY, FRASER & Co.
1831.

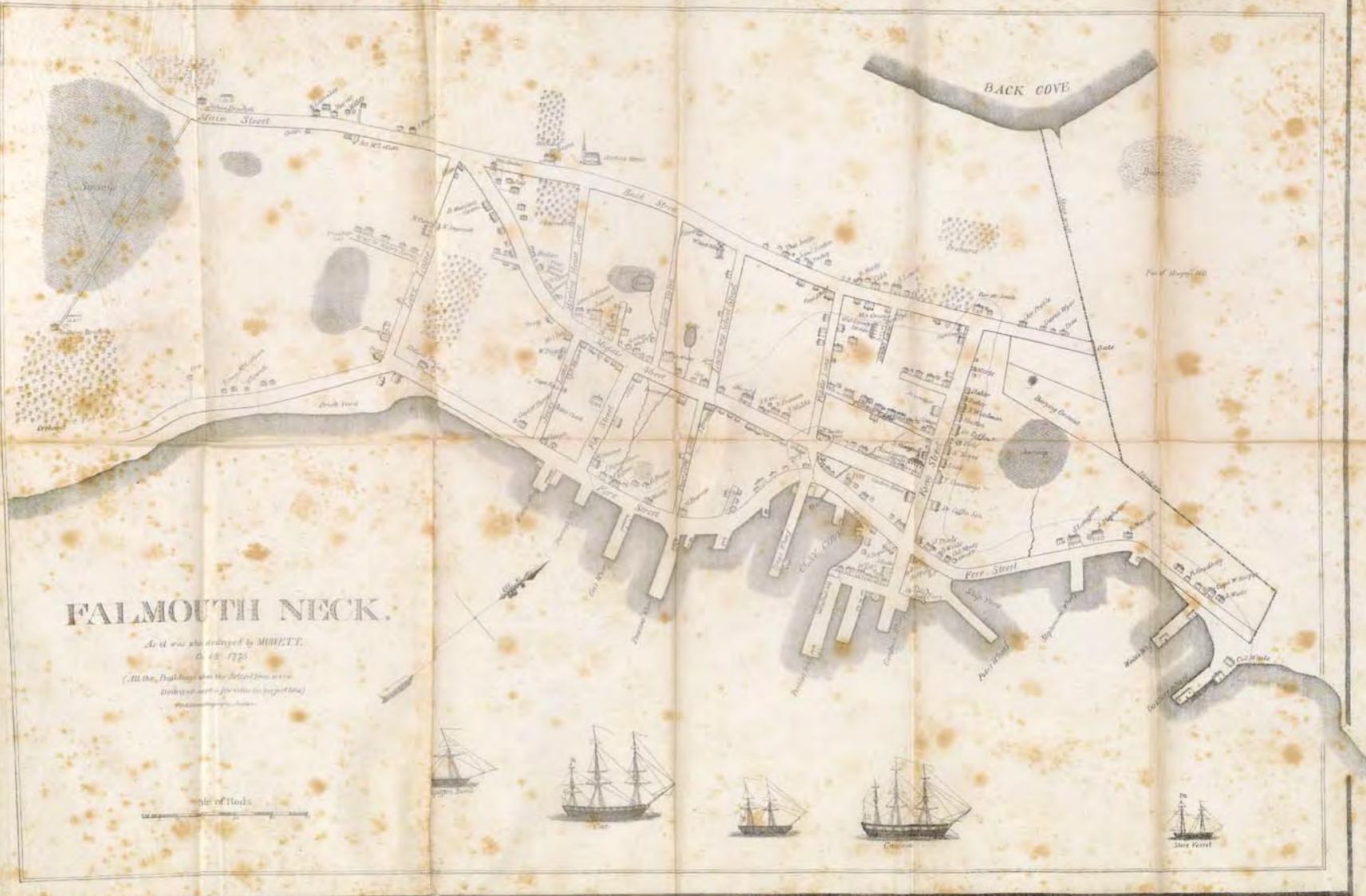
William Willis, *The History of
Portland*, vol. 1 (Portland, 1831),
title page
oshermaps.org/map/7529.0015

“Ancient Falmouth, from 1630 to 1690,” engr. Pendleton’s Lithography, Boston, in vol. 1 of Willis, *History of Portland* (Portland, 1831), frontispiece
oshermaps.org/map/7529.0013





“Grants made by the proprietors of Falmouth . . . between 1722 & 1728,” engr. Pendleton’s Lithography, Boston, in vol. 2 of Willis, *History of Portland* (Portland, 1833), opp. 21 oshermaps.org/map/7529.0284



FALMOUTH NECK.

As it was destroyed by MOWETT.
O. S. 1775

(All the Buildings on the Neck were
destroyed except a few which are marked blue)

Scale of Faths.

“Falmouth Neck, as it was when destroyed by Mowett,” engr. Pendleton’s Lithography, Boston, in vol. 2 of Willis, *History of Portland* (Portland, 1833), opp. 156

oshermaps.org/map/7529.0426



FALMOUTH NECK.

As it appeared in the month of
JULY 1759
By the Honorable the Secretary of War
and the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy

Limit of destruction

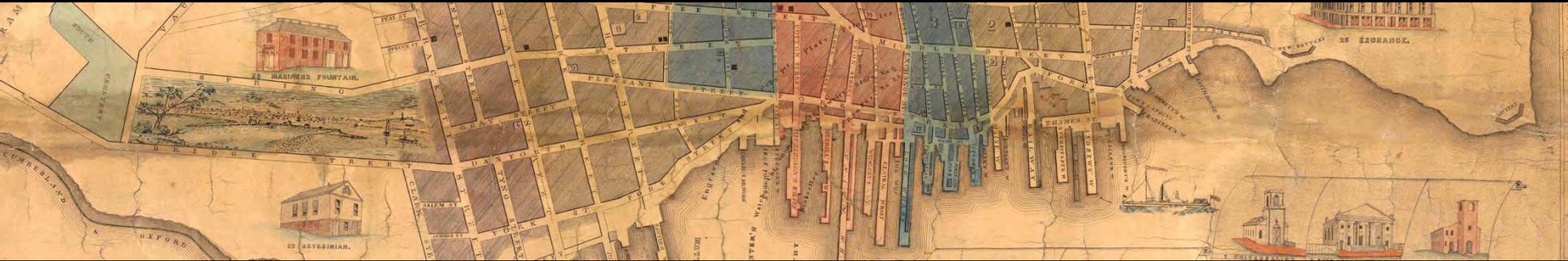


We are here (approx.)



[Lemuel Moody?], "Plan of Falmouth now Portland" (?) **MHS map F 219**

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Cornelius Barnes, *Plan of Portland*, engr. F. Buxton (n.p., ca. 1815)
 Harvard map G3734 .P8 1800 .P6

Portland Directories



Portland in 1820s was still a **walking city**: small, intimate, compact

Yet its growth and new status led some locals to promote a new, boosterish, commercial product: the directory

Abijah W. Thayer, *The Portland Directory; Containing Names of the Inhabitants ... together with a Map of the Town* (Portland: A. W. Thayer, 1823).

Alas, as Thayer's preface made clear, "circumstances beyond his control" meant that "he [was] disappointed in what he considered his just expectation of procuring the Plate" for the map.



#166 cabinet 2, drawer 12, folder 3 Streets of Portland

M&P
FF 299

Abel Bowen, "A New and Correct Plan of Portland ... Population 9000," from Nathaniel G. Jewett, *The Portland Directory & Register ... with a New and Correct Plan of the Town* (Portland: Todd and Smith, 1823) **MHS map FF 299**

REFERENCES

- 1 First Parish Meeting House
- 2 Second
- 3 Third
- 4 St. Pauls Church: 5 Friars
- 6 Baptist Meeting House
- 7 Methodist
- 8 Universalist
- 9 State House
- 10 Court House and Gaol
- 11 Academy
- 12 Central Row
- 13 Preble
- 14 Jones'
- 15 Merchants
- 16 Musseys
- 17 Union
- 18 Exchange
- 19 Columbian
- 20 Hay Market
- 21 West Market
- 22 School Houses



REFERENCES

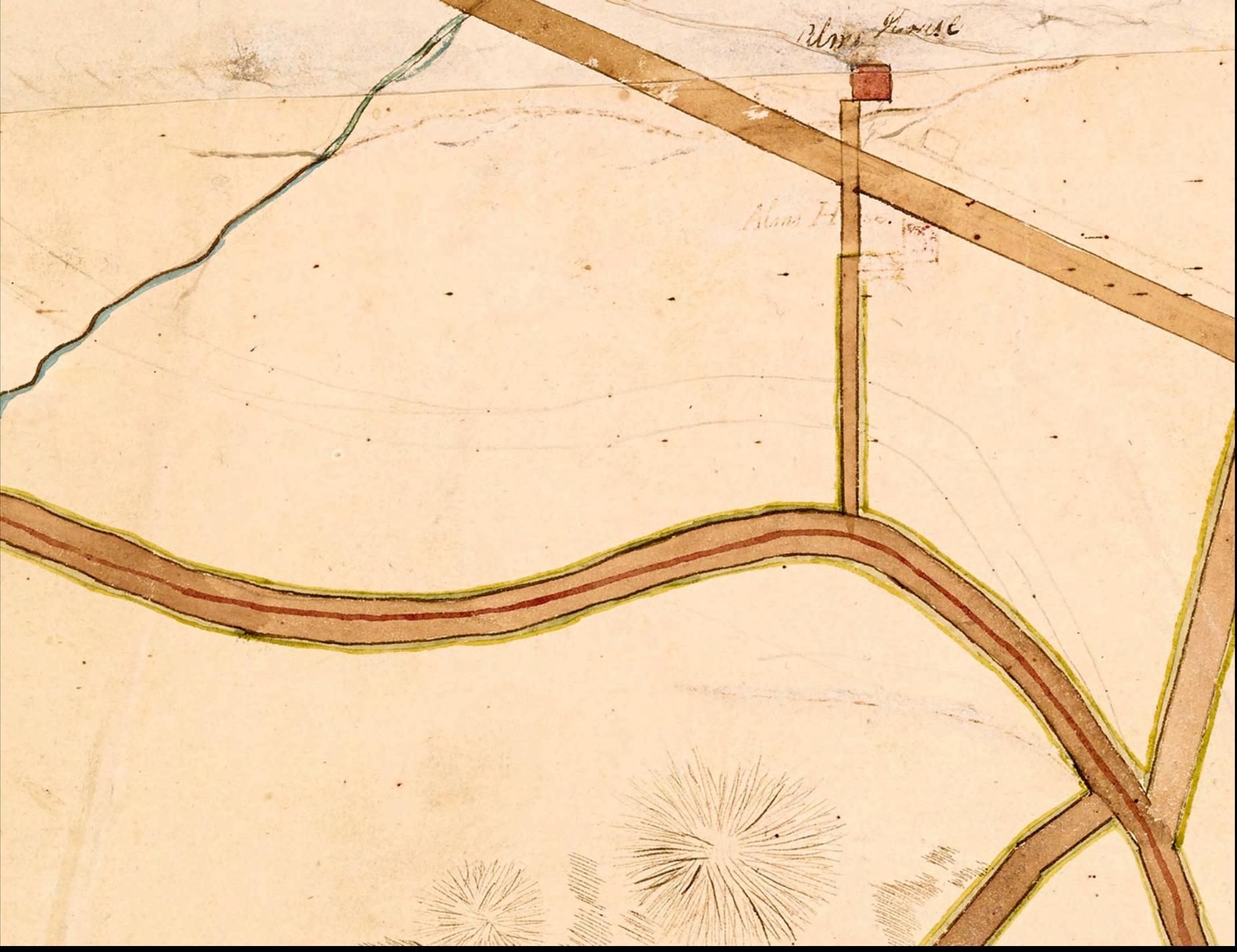
- 1 *First Parish Meeting House*
- 2 *Second*
- 3 *Third*
- 4 *St. Pauls Church*; 5 *Friends Meeting H.*
- 6 *Baptist Meeting House*
- 7 *Methodist*
- 8 *Universalist*
- 9 *State House*
- 10 *Court House and Gaol*
- 11 *Academy*
- 12 *Central Row*
- 13 *Preble* ..
- 14 *Jones'* ..
- 15 *Merchants* ..
- 16 *Musseys* ..
- 17 *Union* ..
- 18 *Exchange* ..
- 19 *Columbian* ..
- 20 *Hay Market* ..
- 21 *West Market* .. & *School Houses*



Lemuel Moody, "Portland with a View of the Different Streets" (1826)
MHS map RR8

Alms House

Alms House



References

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Meeting House 1 st Parish | 10 Meeting House 2 ^d Parish |
| 2 Town Hall | 11 Custom House |
| 3 Methodist Meeting House | 12 Cumberland Bank |
| 4 Court House & Jail | 13 Merchants Bank |
| 5 Meeting House 3 ^d Parish | 14 Portland Bank |
| 6 Universal Meeting House | 15 Casco Bank |
| 7 Baptist Meeting House | 16 Canal Bank |
| 8 Friends Meeting House | 17 Post Office |
| 9 St Pauls Church | |

Chestnut

3

Schuyler

Pearl

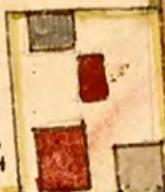
Wilcox

Franklin

Cong



4



5

6

7



8

Federal St

Temple St

Court St

Line alley

School St

Church Lane

Lessee St

15

15

9

Middle St

Fort Sumner



Mount Joy St.

Observatory



Monument St.



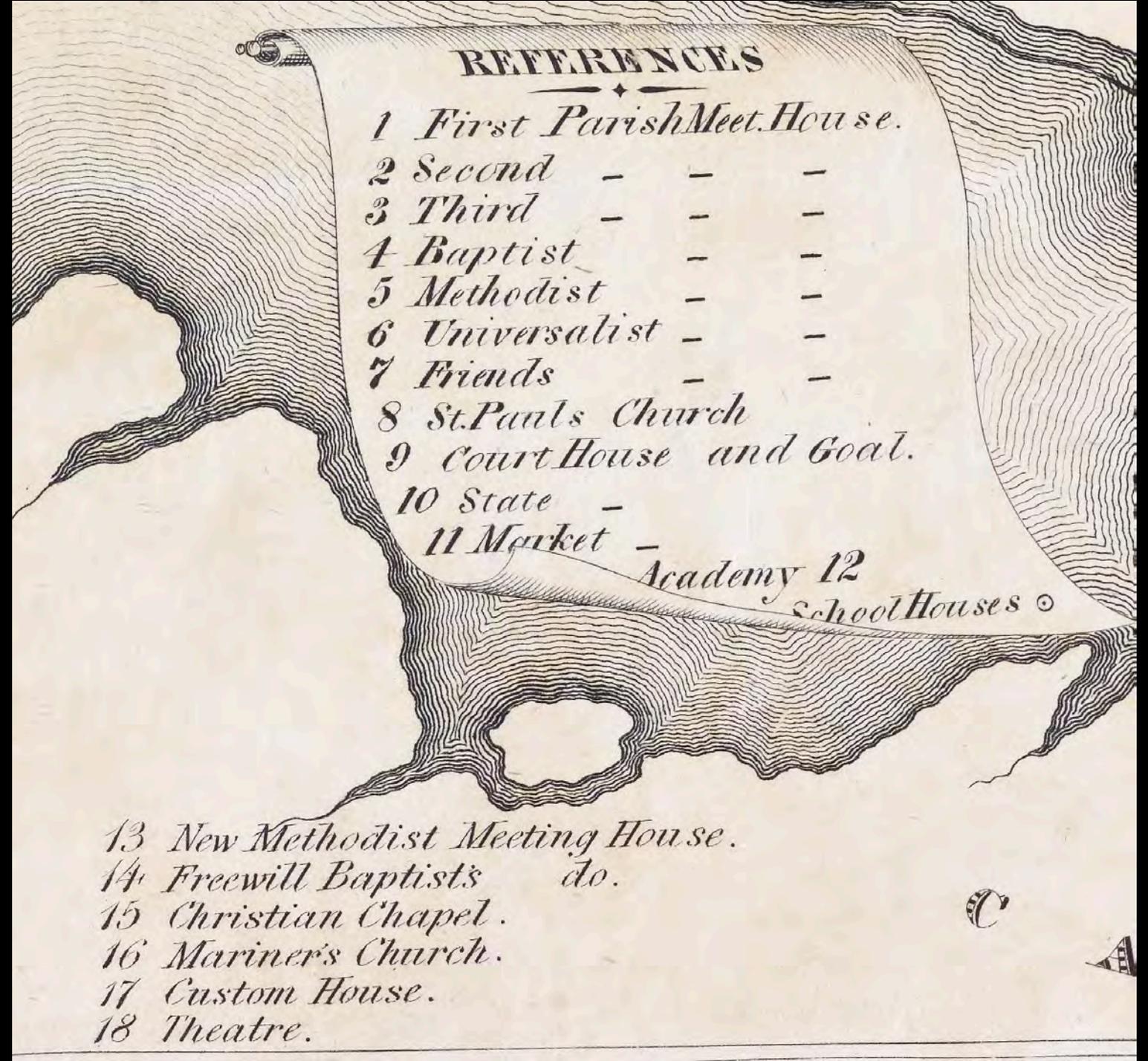
Montgomery

Burying Ground

Battery



St. Andrew



REFERENCES

1 *First Parish Meet. House.*

2 *Second* - - -

3 *Third* - - -

4 *Baptist* - - -

5 *Methodist* - - -

6 *Universalist* - - -

7 *Friends* - - -

8 *St. Paul's Church*

9 *Court House and Goal.*

10 *State* -

11 *Market* -

Academy 12

School Houses ☉

13 *New Methodist Meeting House.*

14 *Freewill Baptist's do.*

15 *Christian Chapel.*

16 *Mariner's Church.*

17 *Custom House.*

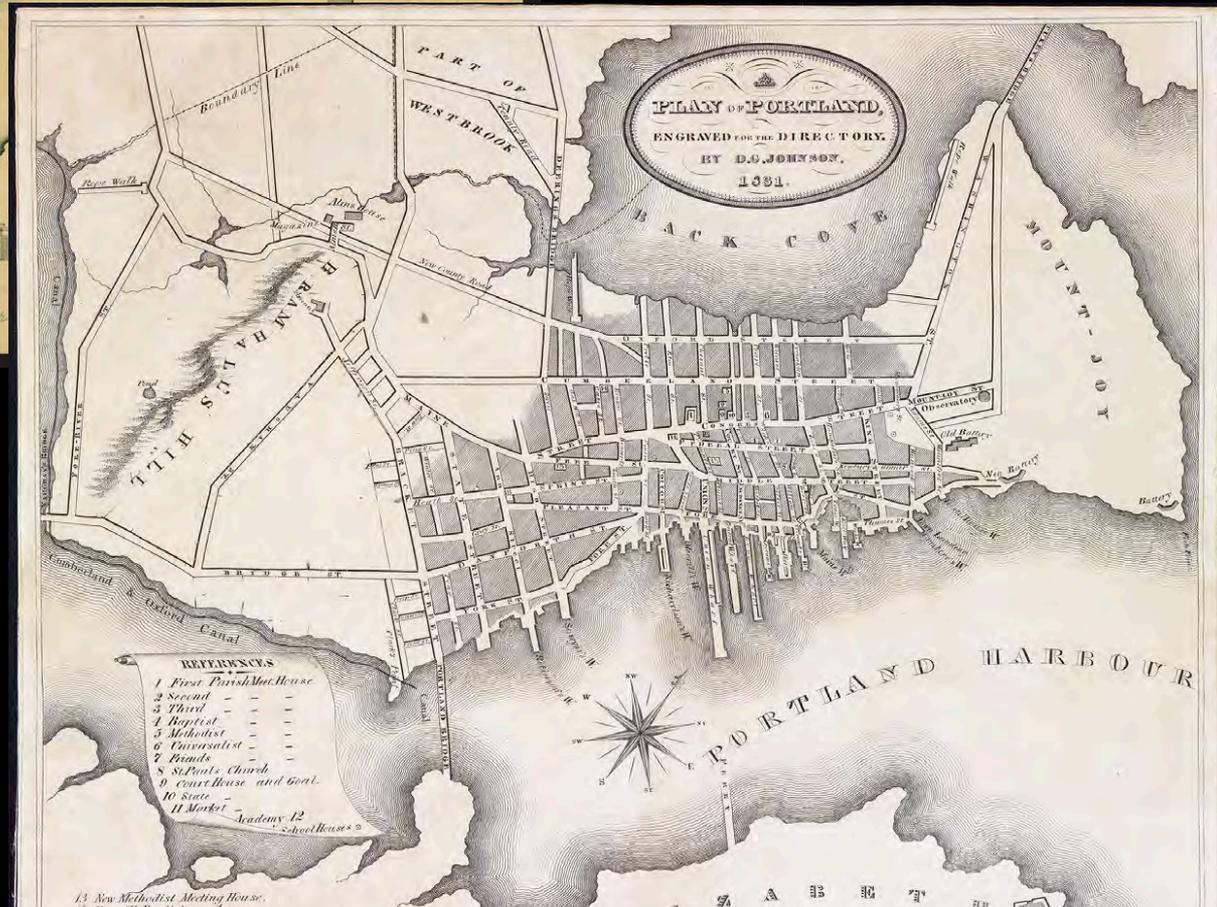
18 *Theatre.*

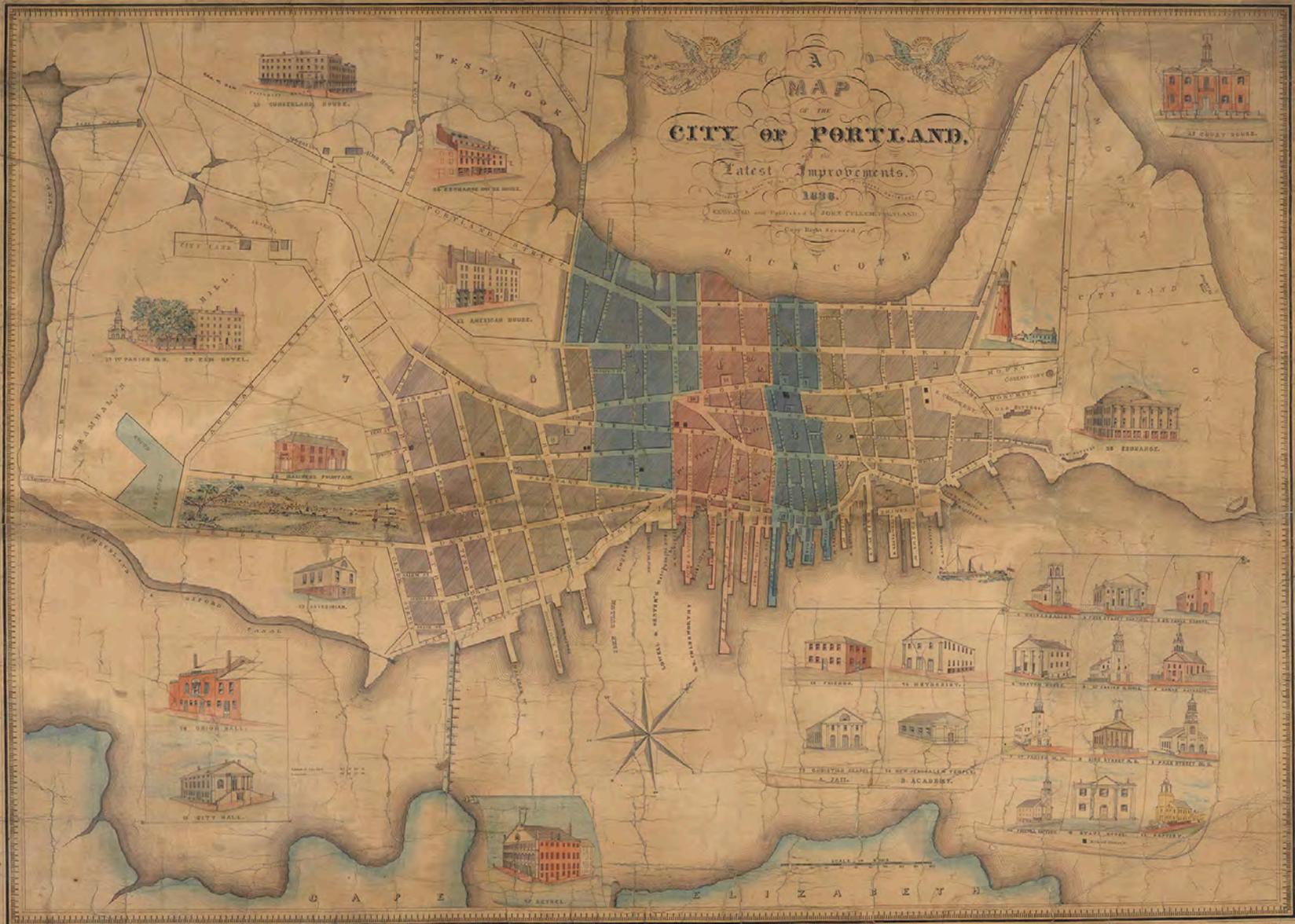
Bowen, 1823



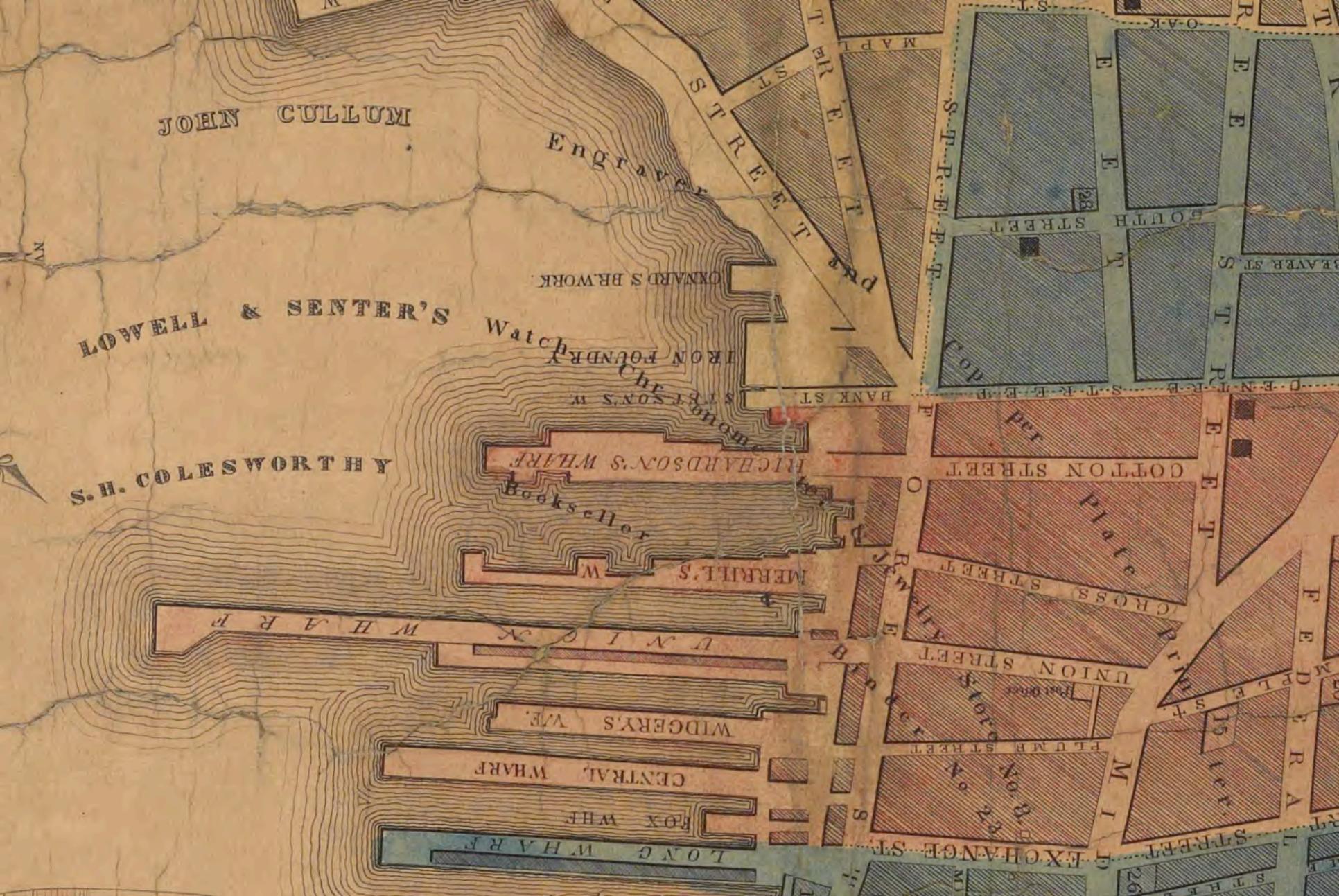
#166 cabinet 2, etc

Colesworthy, 1831

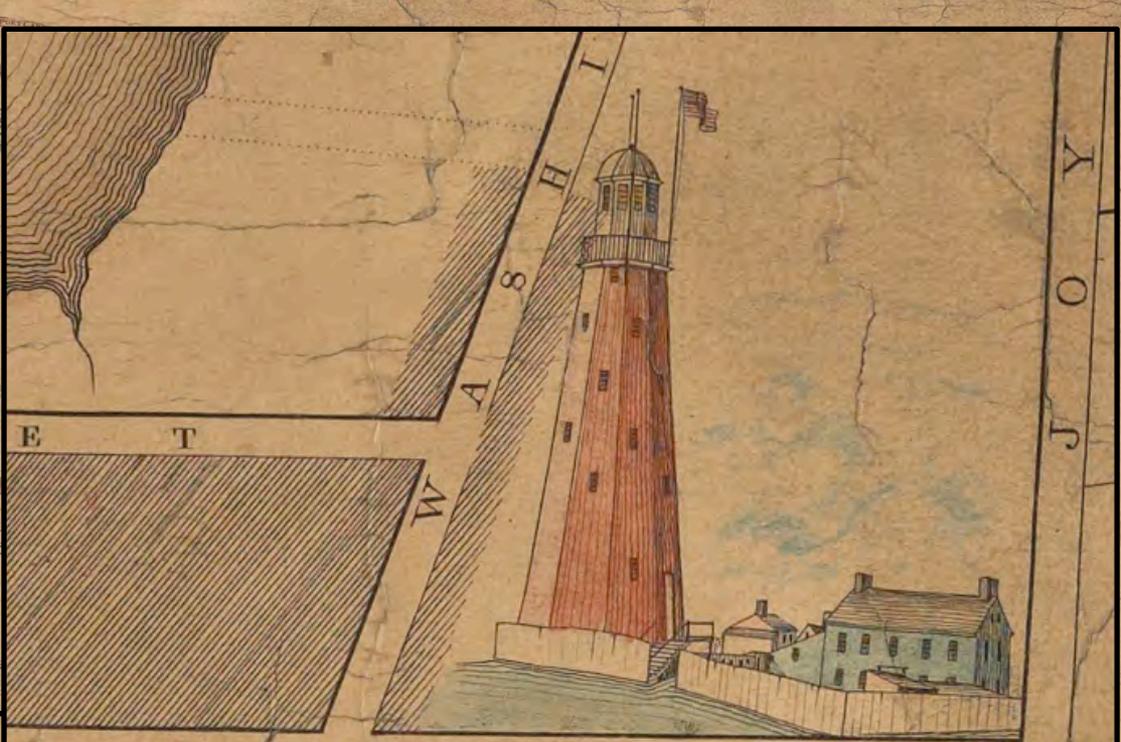
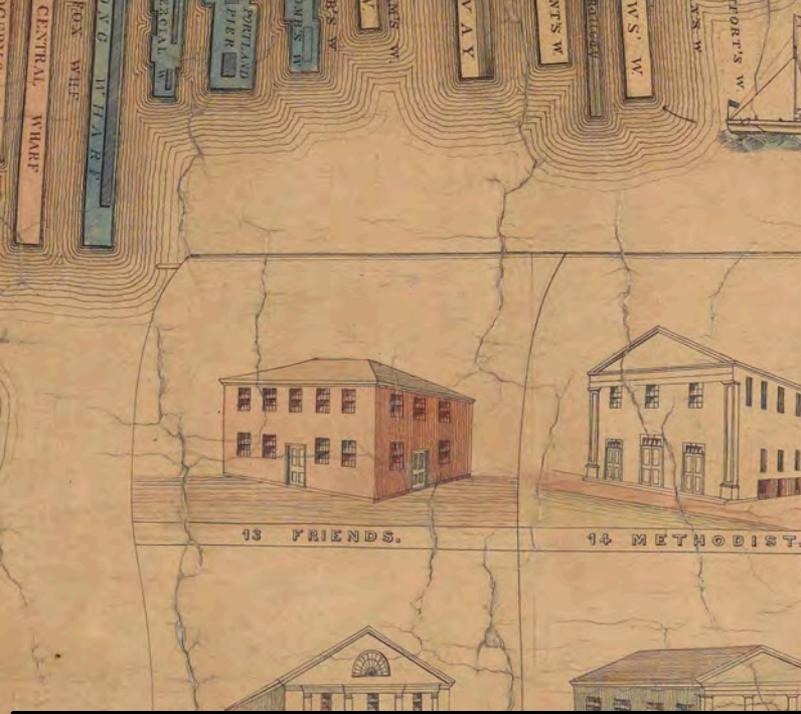


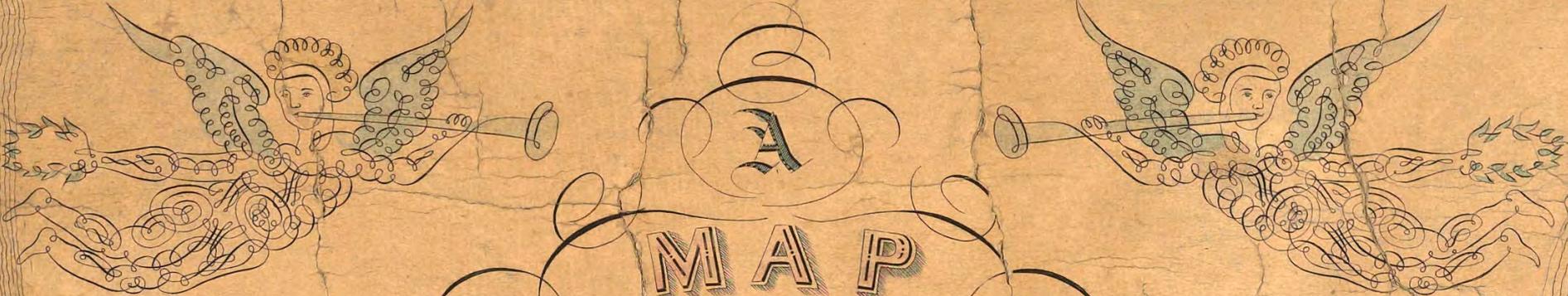


John Cullum, *A Map of the City of Portland with the Latest Improvements*
(Portland: John Cullum, 1836) oshermaps.org/map/11753



Rotated 90° clockwise . . .





A
MAP
OF THE
CITY OF PORTLAND,

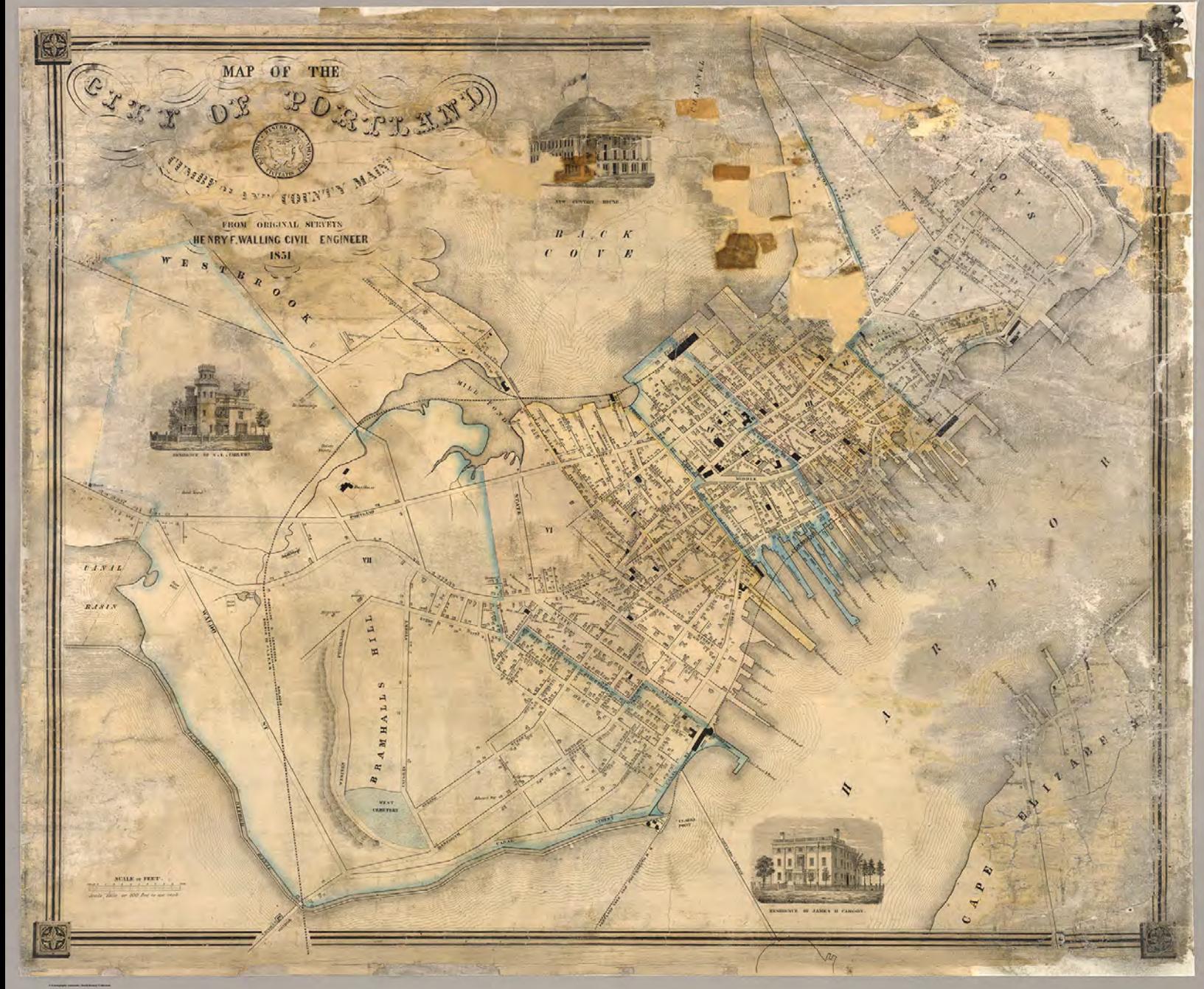
with the
Latest Improvements.
Including A View of the Principal Buildings.
1836.

ENGRAVED and Published by JOHN CULLUM, PORTLAND.

Copy-Right Secured.

B A C D E

Brightened slightly, to bring out the herald angles . . .



Henry F. Walling, *Map of the City of Portland* ([Philadelphia], 1851) **Rumsey 1145000**

MAP OF THE

CITY OF PORTLAND



CHIEF OF THE COUNTY MAP

FROM ORIGINAL SURVEYS

HENRY F. WALLING CIVIL ENGINEER

1851

WEST B

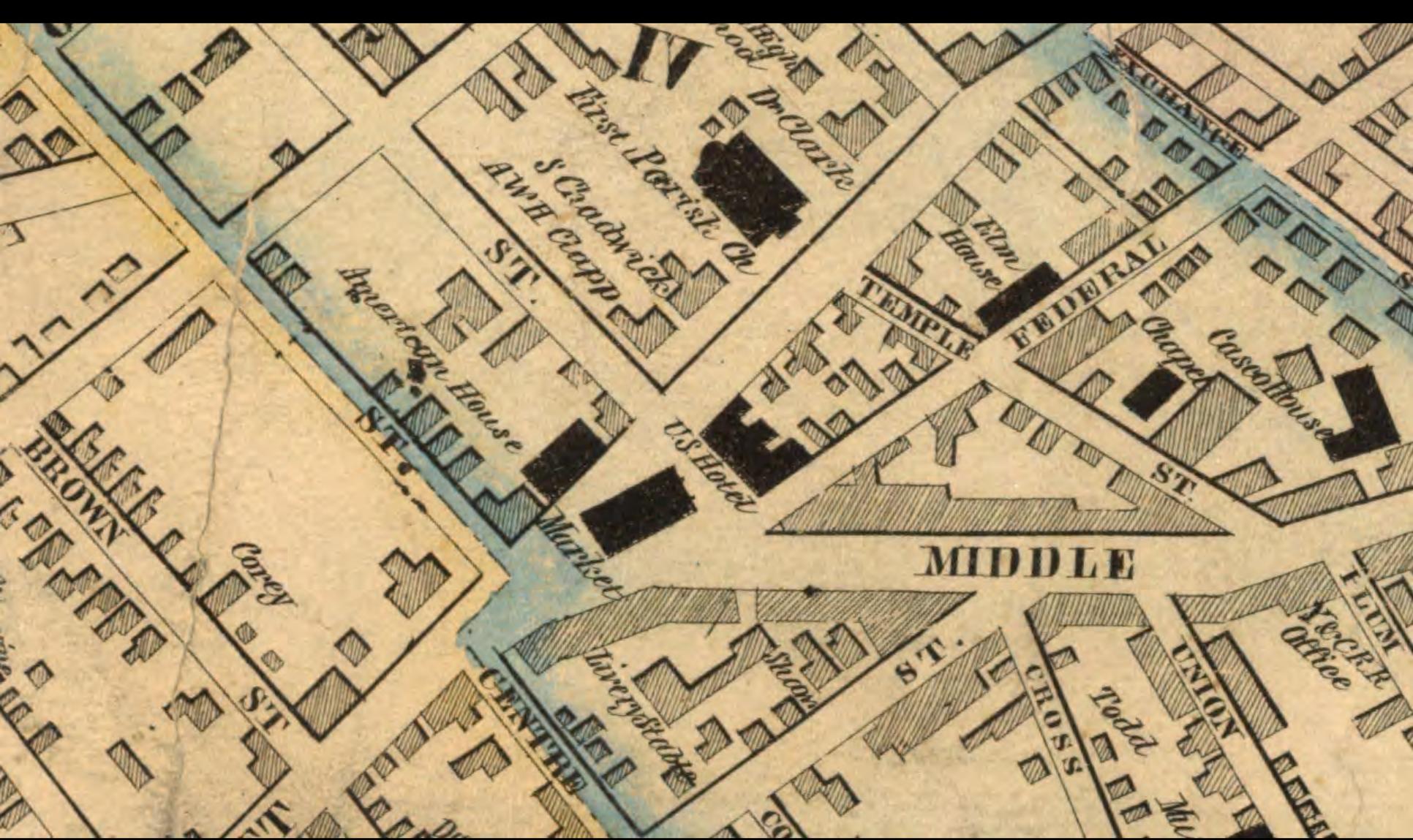


RESURGAM

SIGILLUM

PORTLANDIAE

CIVITATIS



High
road
Dr. Clarke
First U. Parish Ch.

S. Chadwick
A.W.H. Clapp
ST.

American House
ST.

U.S. Hotel

TEMPLE

TEMPLE
FEDERAL

Chapel
ST.

Casco House

MIDDLE

Corey

BROWN

ST.

MARKET
ST.

Hirey Stable

Steam

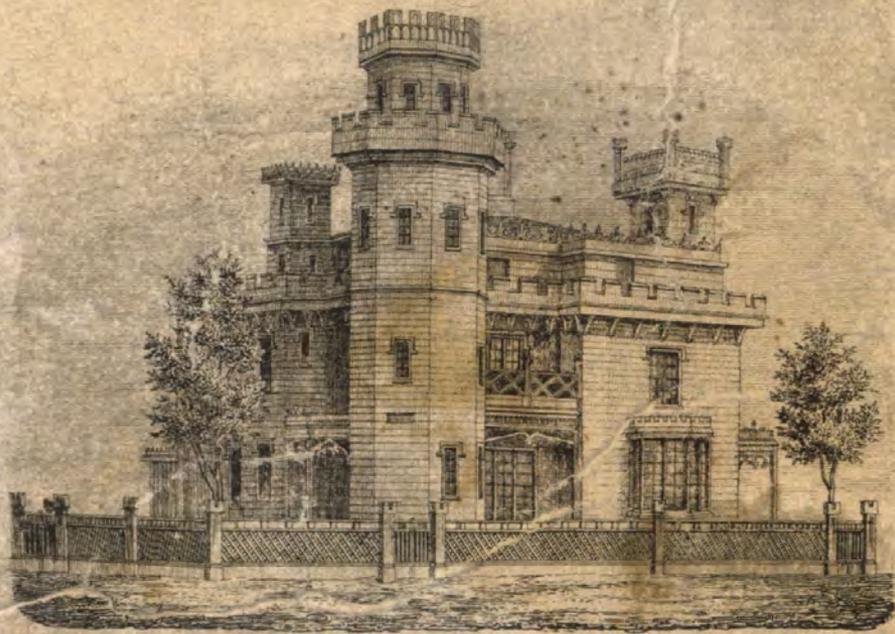
ST.

CROSS
ST.

TODD

UNION

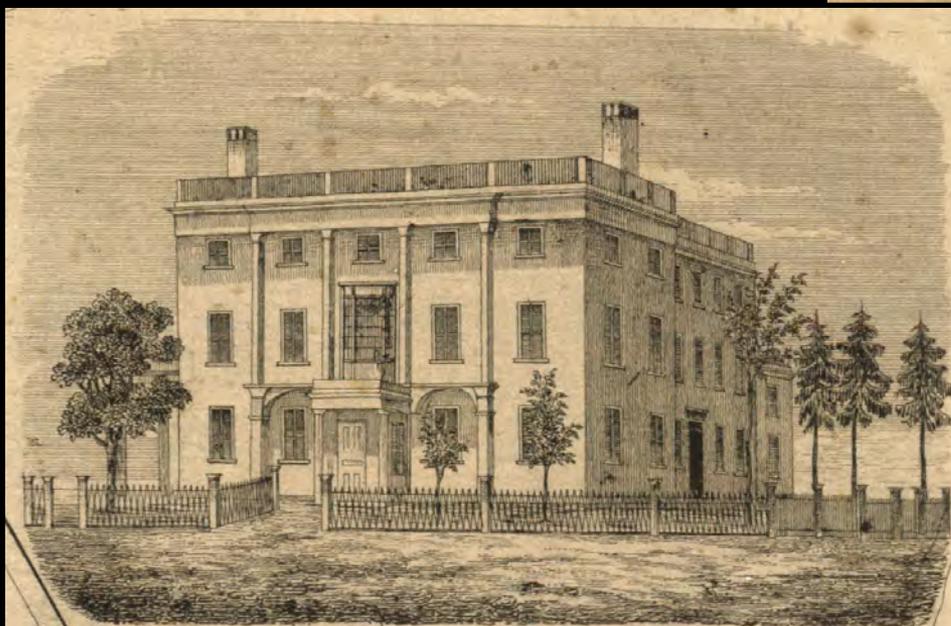
Y.C.R.
Office



RESIDENCE OF S. L. CARLTON

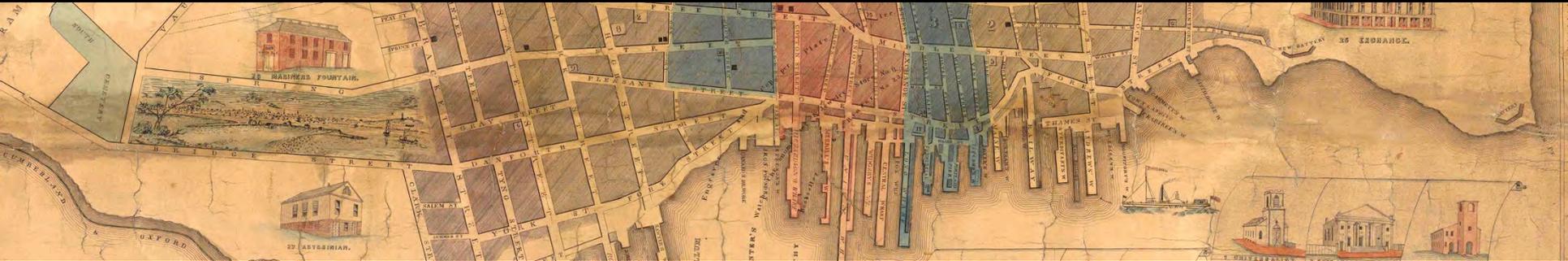


NEW CUSTOM HOUSE



RESIDENCE OF JAMES B CAHOON.

The Emergence of Portland



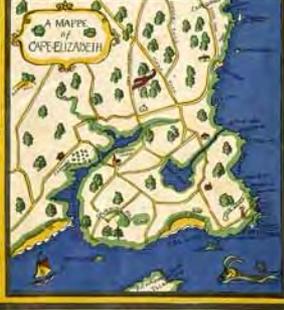
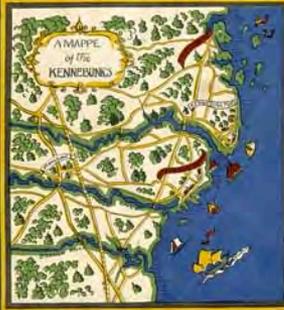
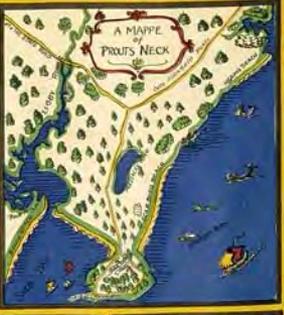
Puffery

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A MAP of PORTLAND MAINE and SOME PLACES THEREABOUT

Copyright 1928 The Tudor Press, New York
Published by BRADLAND DAVIS HYDENE, & COMPANY, DEWEESBERRY GREEN, PORTLAND, MAINE
DESIGNED AND DRAWN BY
KATHERINE DUDLEY
AND COLORED BY
THE CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION



Copy Right Secured



22 AMERICAN HOUSE.

CITY LAND



MOUNT OBSERVATORY



NEW BATTERY 26 EXCHANGE.



1. HOLY TRINITY, 2. FREE STACY BAPTIST, 3. ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.



13 FRIENDS.



16 METHODIST.



4 QUEYER HOUSE.



5 ST. PAVEN A. B. P.



6 ABBAY CATHEDRAL.



12 CHRISTIAN CHAPEL.



14 NEW JERUSALEM TEMPLE.



7 ST. PAVEN M. M.



8 HIGH STURKEY M. M.



9 PARK STURKEY M. M.



10 JERSEY BAPTIST.



11 STATE HOUSE.



13 BAPTIST.

■ School Houses.