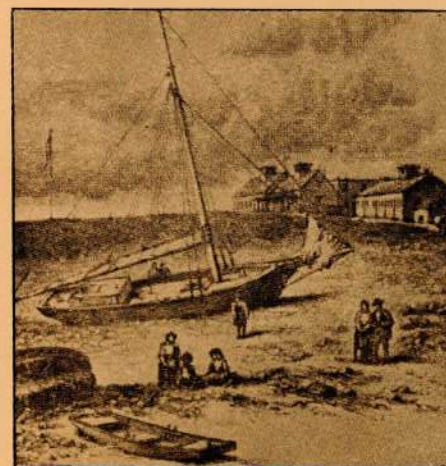




THE DUKES COUNTY INTELLIGENCER

VOL. 23, NO. 1

AUGUST 1981



The Cuttyhunk Clubhouse

A Millionaire's Retreat: The Cuttyhunk Fishing Club

by
JANET P. BOSWORTH



A Visit to Gay Head Light in 1859

The Story of a House; Perhaps the Island's Oldest

Part Two

by HENRY E. SCOTT, JR.

Chappaquiddick: A Book Review by Vance Packard

Captain Sam Hancock, Master Mariner

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The Dukes County Historical Society was founded in 1922 to preserve the history of Dukes County for the public benefit. It is a nonprofit institution supported entirely by membership dues, contributions and bequests.

The Society maintains the Thomas Cooke House, the Francis Foster Museum and Library, all located on its grounds at the corner of School and Cooke Streets in Edgartown.

Acquired by the Society in 1935, the Thomas Cooke House was built in about 1765. It has been established as a museum and its twelve rooms are devoted to historical displays that reflect past eras of Vineyard life. It is open to the public during the summer with a nominal fee being charged to non-members.

The Francis Foster Museum and the Society Library are in an adjacent building and are open to the public all year round. In the Museum is an exhibition of the Vineyard's maritime heritage with displays of fishing, coastal trade, whaling, navigation, plus a wide variety of scrimshaw. The Library contains collections of ship's logs, journals, genealogies and other Island documents.

The public is invited.

A Millionaire's Retreat: The Cuttyhunk Club

by JANET P. BOSWORTH

IN THE EARLY 1860s, Cuttyhunk Island, at the entrance to Buzzard's Bay, was very much as it had been one hundred years before. There were a few more families living there -- seven in all,¹ year-round! But their life style was little changed from that of Colonial times.

They had few luxuries, but no real wants either. They went to and from the mainland in their own boats as there was no mail or freight service. There was no church, service being held in Holder Allen's farmhouse whenever an occasional Baptist preacher came to fish. The island did have a schoolhouse, attended by 15 pupils from the seven families.

None of those families could have anticipated, when they saw the yacht *Theresa* anchor in the outer harbor and a small party of distinguished-looking men come ashore, that in a very few years their tiny island, 14 miles southwest of New Bedford, would become a gathering place for many of the nation's richest and most influential men -- even, on at least one occasion, the President of the United States.

Aboard the *Theresa* that day in 1864 was a group of dissatisfied members of the famed West Island Club of Sakonnet Point, R.I., a fishing club for New York

¹Daniel Ricketson: *History of New Bedford*

JANET P. BOSWORTH is Curator of the Cuttyhunk Historical Society and is a year-round resident of the island. Her husband, Lloyd, can trace his ancestry back to such early Cuttyhunk settlers as the Allens and Slocums. This is Mrs. Bosworth's second article in the *Intelligencer*, the first having appeared in the August 1980 issue. Its title: "Seth Daggett: Master Pilot."

millionaires.² These dissidents were looking for a site on which to start their own club.

Sport fishing in those days before the gasoline engine was done from stands built out over the water. Anglers would sit or stand on these platforms above the waves and cast out into the deep water. Their hooks were baited by chummers who threw chum into the water to attract the fish. Naturally, some stands were more productive than others and there was great competition for the better spots. It was over this point that the dissidents had broken away from West Island to form their own club.

Regulations at West Island required that to secure a stand for the next day, the angler had to take possession the previous night. Consequently, men had to be hired to sit as surrogates on the preferred stands all night, hardly a pleasant occupation, even for money. Seven members resigned in protest and thus their trip to Cuttyhunk in 1864.

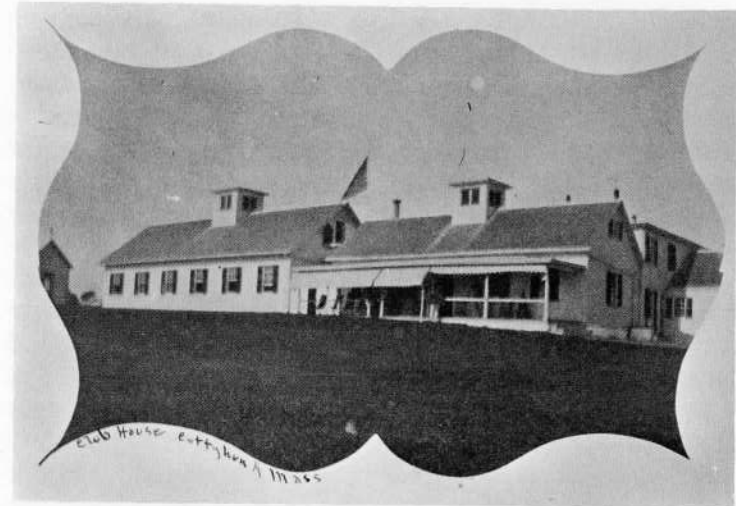
On that remote, unspoiled island they found everything they could wish for. Huge bass abounded in the waters. Plenty of land was available. Otis and Henry Slocum, whose family had bought the island in 1693, were now using it only to pasture sheep, living there just in summer. They were willing to sell most of their holdings for a reasonable price.

The island was close enough to New York, without being too close. New Bedford was nearby, just across the Bay, for supplies. There were enough natives to provide a work force and they were hard-working, skilled fishermen. The protected harbor and the high bluff looking toward Gay Head would make an ideal site for the clubhouse.

In short order they bought 221 acres, which included not only the site for the clubhouse and surrounding land, but the entire "West End" as well, except for the lighthouse and Gosnold's Island. The price was \$4050.³

²"Cuttyhunk'll Be Cuttyhunk, Just the Same," *The Sunday Standard*, New Bedford, April 17, 1921.

³Registry of Deeds, Dukes County Courthouse. Book 44, p. 315.



A postcard view of the Cuttyhunk Fishing Club during its heyday, the 1890s

The Slocums were to keep the right to wash sheep in the West End Pond and to gather seaweed for fertilizer. The club's land was to be fenced, but a lane would be left to allow cattle to reach the spring. The sellers held a mortgage for \$3000 and one wonders why these tycoons, with such great wealth at their disposal, would wish to have a mortgage. Perhaps it was good business practice. In 1880, Capt. Benjamin Church, a shipowner who lived on the west end of the island, would hold a mortgage on the clubhouse itself.⁴

The new club was named The Cuttyhunk Fishing Association, later changed to the Cuttyhunk Fishing Club. The clubhouse was completed early in 1865. Unfortunately, we have no details about the erection of the structure, but it has the appearance of two buildings joined together and painted white.

One of these two connected buildings contained many small bedrooms on each side of a long hall. These rooms were used by the members and their guests when in residence and were simply furnished with small cots and

⁴Ibid.

straight chairs. One cubicle served as the bathroom, an elemental amenity at best. The bath was a circular sheet-metal tub alongside which were placed jugs of hot water and dippers. The bather sat on a small seat on the rim of the tub while "his man" poured water over him. One must restrain a chuckle when imagining the dignified, elderly and portly gentlemen making their ablutions in the tiny tub.

At the end of the bedroom hall a door opened into the second building in which was the large sitting room or parlor. The dark furniture was very masculine, large and heavy, befitting the shapes of the members. Paintings of enormous bass adorned the walls and the bookcases were filled with leatherbound sets of the classics. A huge round table was loaded with copies of *Puck* magazine, no doubt the preferred reading material. A fieldstone fireplace provided cheer and warmth on damp, chilly spring and autumn evenings. Beside each massive chair was the ubiquitous brass spittoon, gleaming brightly.

Next came the dining salon with its long, massive table and chairs. A sideboard and serving tables held large tureens and platters for the steaming stews and main courses of lobster, fish and roasts. As the summer progressed, vegetables of all kinds from the club's garden were added to the bill of fare. At one end of the room stood a cabinet with many rectangular cubbyholes, each numbered and locked. These were the liquor lockers of members, each keeping his own stock of favorite spirits.

Outside, overlooking Vineyard Sound and Gay Head, was a covered porch and brick terraces with benches and rockers for sunny afternoons and warm evenings. Adjacent to the main building was another containing a full-size bowling alley and nearby was a covered shuffleboard court.

While everything was of the utmost simplicity, there was ample provision for the comfort of the members and their male guests. No female was to interfere with the



The bath was like a huge spittoon. The tycoon's "man" poured water over him enjoyment of masculine pleasures. (Some years later, the desire to share the club with their wives and daughters led some members to break away and join the Pasque Island Club which was not so chauvinistic.)⁵

With the building of the club a small economic boom came to the island. Not only did buildings have to be constructed but a well had to be driven and a pump house and storage tank erected. An icehouse was built on the round pond to the north of the clubhouse and each winter the ice was harvested and stored for the summer guests. Fishing stands, 26 in all, were put up around the entire

⁵See "The Story of Pasque and the Pasque Island Club" by Alice Forbes Howland. *Intelligencer*, Feb. 1962.

shoreline of the island. Substantial iron pipe formed the supports for the narrow, railed plank walk which usually ended on a rock in the deeper water. These stands were taken in each winter. Outbuildings included a henhouse, stable and a farmhouse for the large farm needed to supply the members with fresh food.

Many Cuttyhunkers were hired as laborers, chummers, gardeners and superintendents. They supplied bait and supplies and bought the fish not consumed at the club table. Their wages were good for those days -- chummers, for instance, were paid \$1 for each fish caught (\$3 if it won a prize). In 1867, records show that \$598.38 was paid to various Cuttyhunkers for lobster and menhaden.

The club brought more than jobs to the island. Regular service by a steam boat was arranged, as was regular mail service. The club contracted for dredging the channel into the harbor and put up a dock.

Probably because virtually all members were financiers, exact records were kept of all income and expenditures, right down to the penny. These men of great and mostly self-made fortunes may have spent money lavishly, but they did it with care. It is recorded that for the year 1867 the club sold fish for \$385.45 and bought hams for \$10. The names of all who received passes on the steamer were recorded as was the money received from the sale of tickets.

First president of the club was Henry P. McGown, who controlled a line of steamers plying the Hudson River. The original membership included George and Pierre Lorillard, of tobacco fortunes, William Woodhall, H. C. Fahnstock, H. W. Polhemus and Stanhope Callender -- millionaires all, at a time when millions meant something.

Club records show the President Grover Cleveland was a guest at the club and that while J. D. Archbold, president of Standard Oil, was a member his daughter married a titled Englishman in the tiny Cuttyhunk chapel. Other members included William McCormack of International Harvester, William M. Wood, president of



Fishstand at low tide. At the flood, with a wind, it was not this relaxing
The American Woolen Company,⁶ Hugh D. Auchincloss, stepfather of Jackie Onassis, Jay Gould, railroad tycoon and speculator, and others equally famous and wealthy.

Photographs show them standing in front of the clubhouse, fishing rods in hand, dressed in dark suits more suited for conferences in New York City than for standing on the windswept fishing stands, each with a heavy gold chain straining across an ample abdomen, all looking very imposing and dignified. The chummers stand behind the slightly to one side, looking a little bemused, their tanned and lean bodies covered by practical boots, heavy trousers and sweaters.

Unsuitable as their clothing seemed and unathletic as they appeared to be, these captains of industry were all dedicated fishermen. It was no easy trip to get to Cuttyhunk and they must have loved fishing to go as often as they did. Membership was set at 50, later increased to 60 and finally to 75. Admission fee was \$300 and a single blackball would cause rejection of an applicant. Members, who were allowed to bring one guest

⁶William M. Wood was born in 1862 in Edgartown in a small house at the intersection of Morse Street and Pease's Point Way.

per season, drew lots for choice of room and fishing stand. Two members fished from each stand and partners were chosen by lot also. They wanted to avoid the mistakes of the West Island Club. An equal amount of bait went to each member and each paid for his share.

The fisherman bringing in the largest fish on opening day would be "high hook" and would wear a diamond-studded pin in the shape of a fishhook. He would continue to wear it until someone caught a larger fish. Occasionally, a particularly skilled or lucky member would hold the pin for an entire year.

There was a small gold fishhook for the smallest fish caught. One can picture the scene each evening as the anglers returned to weigh their catches. So ardent were the millionaires that the fishing sometimes began at three in the morning. Careful records were kept each day listing the number of fish caught by each fisherman, from which stand they were caught and the weights of each fish.

As expected, July and August were the busy months at the club. At first it was opened in March, but few members came so later the official opening was on June 15th. The charge for room and board was \$1.50 a day at first. It was increased in 1882 to \$4. But that wasn't the only cost. For example, in 1866, the club took in \$930.75 for room and board and \$1191.60 for the sale of liquor. Favorites among the spirits were London Gin, Holland's Gin, 1836 and 1848 Brandy, Sherry, Rum, Rye whiskey (Scotch is not mentioned), all kinds of wine and ale.

Over the years the fish averaged about 9 pounds. The largest in 1870 weighed 47 pounds; in 1874, 55 pounds; and in 1882, 64 pounds. Striped bass was the fish most sought. Remember that the anglers had, at best, wooden reels with no drag and none of our modern refinements for landing these giants on a rocky shore. Besides the shore fishing, the clubmen fished the ponds at the West End of the island, which were stocked by the club with black bass and perch.

During the 1880s and 1890s, the club prospered and all



The Clubroom some years after club disbanded and had become a boarding house
the bedrooms were filled in season. Most years showed a profit although occasionally there were deficit years caused by some extraordinary expenditure such as dredging the channel or building a new building. Losses were made up by levies on members. Dues were \$100 a year and members bought shares in the club for \$400 each. In 1885, the total expenditures for food, freight, liquor, repairs, personnel and taxes came to \$13,966.96.

The names of virtually all Cuttyhunkers are listed in the payroll of the club: Allens, Veeders, Bosworths, Tiltens, Rotchs, Akins and Stetsons, to name some of them. Vernal Clifford from the Vineyard was Club Steward by 1877 and Daggetts, originally from the Vineyard but living in Cuttyhunk by then, worked at the club.

The early years of the 1900s brought a declining membership. Founding members died, some left to join the Pasque Island Club, and the arrival of the gasoline engine brought a way of life not compatible with the old, exclusive one. Rules were relaxed in order to retain members. In 1912, a Mrs. Dwelly stayed at the clubhouse

with her husband! The gentlemen of the 1860s would have driven her out!

In 1912, only one fishing stand was put out, although Capt. Charles Church, who caught the record 73-pound bass, put out the Cuff Rock stand at his own expense. Soon the clubhouse was closed and the few survivors and diehard anglers who returned each year were required to stay at the Allen and Bosworth Houses.

It was in 1923 when the club was disbanded. An article in *The New Bedford Standard* proclaimed that "... the old Cuttyhunk Club has at last passed into oblivion."⁷

William M. Wood, president of the American Woolen Company, was the new owner of the clubhouse and the club's other holdings. He had first visited the club in 1904, when it was still the famed and exclusive Millionaires Club. The club records show that he arrived that first time with his "man" and came back the following year with his man and his two sons, Master William M., Jr., and Master Cornelius A. Wood. He joined the club and spent a great deal of time there, often renting many rooms for his guests, finally buying it in total.

Mr. Wood had great plans for Cuttyhunk, which he called his "Treasure Island." Atop the island's highest hill he was planning to build a Tudor castle which would be reached by a road patterned after the finest roads of old Rome.⁸ Part of the road, on which he spent \$60,000, is still there but his death in 1925 ended the dream. Subsequently, the clubhouse was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moore of Concord, Mass. This was a lucky day for the old building. The Moores have restored it, keeping the main clubrooms just as they were in the glorious days of the millionaires.

The writer of the article announcing the demise of the Cuttyhunk Club in *The New Bedford Standard*, May 27,

⁷*The New Bedford Standard*, May 27, 1923.

⁸"Cuttyhunk, The True Treasure Island," by Nixon Waterman, published in 1925 by the Arden Trust, Andover, Mass., in a brochure advertising the offering for sale of the Wood holdings on Cuttyhunk.

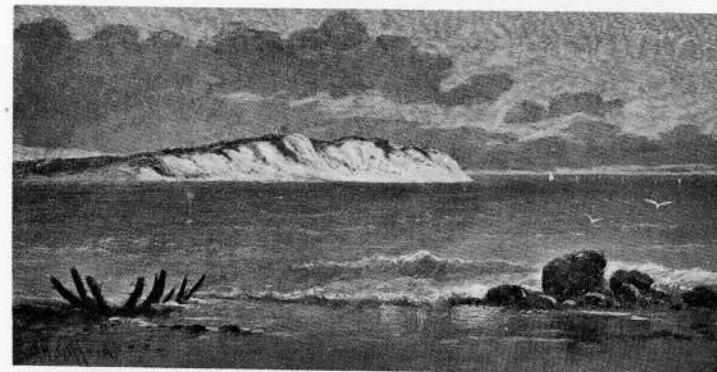
1923, caught much of the spirit of the millionaire fraternity when he wrote:

"In recalling persons and events of the past, it would be impossible to forget Alec Gwinn, who was club steward for 21 years, and also his resounding trombone. Out front on the lawn at the edge of the bank, back and forth he marched, playing 'Annie Laurie,' 'When Johnnie Comes Marching Home,' 'Swanee River' and similar masterpieces with a gusto that resounded over hill and dale.

"His sunny smile and cheerful presence were valuable assets to club life, and his manner and stentorian voice at dinner time in announcing 'Bass, gentlemen, served a la Cuttyhunk' never failed to bring forth rounds of applause.

"Then at night the fish were weighed and laid out for inspection in rows upon the lawn. Alec would awaken the echoes, playing 'See, the Conquering Hero Comes,' a little coin of the realm would change hands for the chummers had to be paid off, a tip would often drop into Alec's hand and the day would end profitably and gloriously for all."

The picture of Alex marching back and forth in front of the assembled tycoons, his brass trombone gleaming, with the magnificent backdrop of the brilliance of Gay Head Cliffs in the setting sun is one that is glorious indeed. It would be enough even to move a millionaire!



Painting by C. H. Gifford of the Gay Head Cliffs as the millionaires saw them



A Visit to Gay Head Light in 1859

From *The Atlantic Monthly*, September 1859

In September 1859, *The Atlantic Monthly* magazine published an article by an unnamed author describing a trip to Martha's Vineyard. A copy of the magazine is in the Society's files.

The style of the writing is somewhat whimsical, so it is not laden with historical accuracy, but the observations of the author are most perceptive. His description of Gay Head Light, with its brand new and famous Fresnel lens, is of especial interest to members of the Society.¹

There are three principal characters in the story: father Caleb, mother Mysie and four-year-old son Baron. After arriving at Holmes Hole on the steamer Eagle's Wing, they are taken by a very slow horse pulling a very old shay to Gay Head, where they are to spend a few days in the Light House, which at the time also served as a guest house. It is dark when they arrive and we begin our excerpt.

THE FIRST aspect of affairs was somewhat discouraging,--the parlor into which they were ushered being without fire and but dimly lighted, the bedroom not yet prepared for toilet purposes, and the hostess, as she averred, entirely unprepared for company.

Left alone in the dreary parlor, Caleb subsided into moody silence, and Mysie into tears, upon which the Baron followed suit, and produced such a ludicrous state of affairs, that the sobs which had evoked his changed to an irrepressible laugh, in which all parties soon joined.

¹This is the same lens, as members know, that adorns the grounds of the Society.

This pleasant frame of mind was speedily encouraged and augmented, first, by water and towels *ad libitum*, and then by an introduction to the dining-room, in whose ample grate now roared a fire, of what our travellers were informed was peat,--an article supplying, in the absence of all other indigenous fuel, nearly every chimney upon the island.

A good cup of tea and a substantial supper prepared the trio to accept the invitation of the excellent Mr. F. (the chief keeper, and their host)² to go up with him "into the Light."

And now our travellers suddenly found that they had made a pilgrimage unawares. They had come to the island for sea-air and pebbles, to shoot ducks, see the Indians, and find out who Martha was, and had come to the Light-house, as the only "white" dwelling upon the Head,--the rest being all occupied by the descendants of the red men,--and now found themselves applauded by their host for having "come so far to see our Light;--not so far as some, either," continued he, "for we have had visitors from every part of the Union,--even from Florida; every one who understands such things is so anxious to see it."

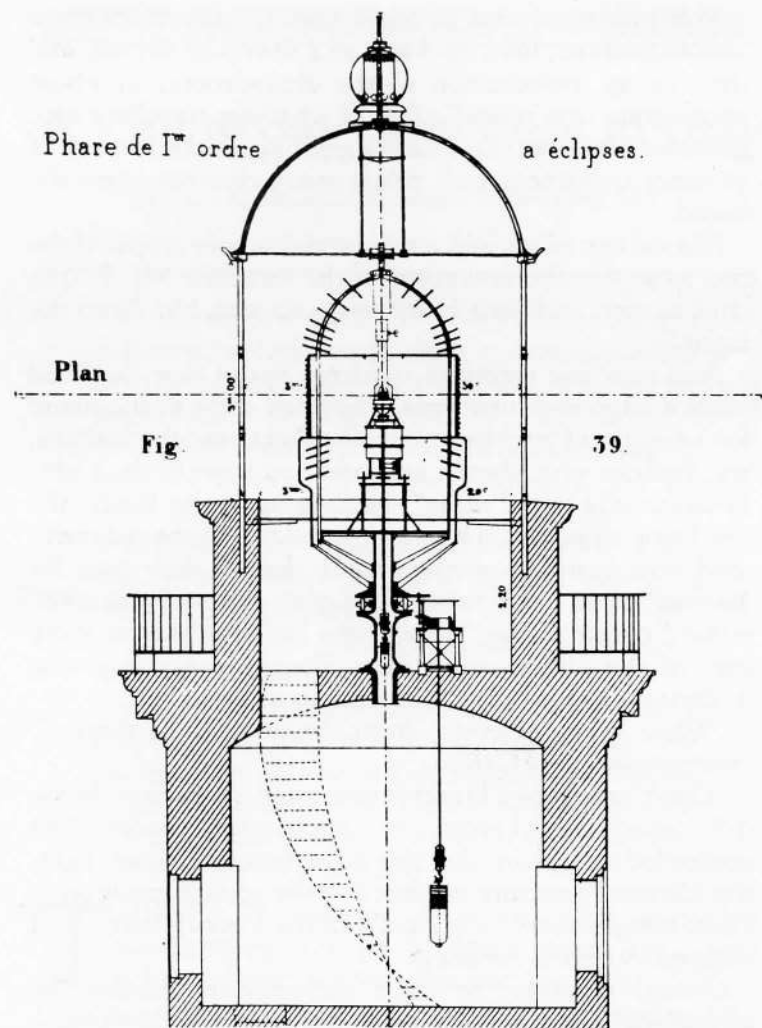
"Why, is it different from common light-houses?" carelessly inquired Caleb.

"Don't you know? Haven't you come on purpose to see it?" asked the keeper, in astonishment,--and then proceeded to explain, that this is the famous Fresnel³ light, the identical structure exhibited at the great Exposition at Paris, bought there by an agent of the United States, and shipped by him to America.

Owing, however, to some inexplicable blunder, its arrival was not made known to the proper authorities, -- and the papers which should have accompanied it being lost or not delivered, no one at the custom-house knew what the huge case contained. It was deposited in a bonded warehouse during the legal interval, but, never

²Believed to have been Samuel Flanders.

³Pronounced "Fra-nel," the "s" being silent. It is named for its inventor, Augustin Jean Fresnel (1788-1827), French physicist and engineer.



An engineering drawing of a First Order Fresnel lighthouse, as at Gay Head having been claimed, was then sold, still unexamined, to the highest bidder. He soon identified his purchase, and proceeded to make his own profit out of it, -- the consequence being that government at last discovered that the Fresnel light has been some two years in this country,



Gay Head Light and the keeper's house about 20 years after the author's visit and was then upon exhibition, if the President and cabinet would like to take a peep. The particulars of the bargain which ensued did not transpire, but it resulted in the lantern being repacked and reshipped to Gay Head, its original destination.

While hearing this little history, the party were breathlessly climbing three steep iron staircases, the last of which ended in a trap-door, giving admittance to the clock-room, where the keeper generally sits; from here another ladder-like staircase leads up into the lantern. Arrived at the top, the Baron screamed with delight at the gorgeous spectacle before him.

The lamp (into the four concentric wicks of which a continual and superabundant supply of oil is forced by a species of clock-work, causing a flame of dazzling brilliancy) is surrounded by a revolving cover, about eight feet high by four or five in diameter, and in shape like the hand-glasses with which gardeners cover tender plants, or the shades which one sees over fancy clocks and articles of *bijouterie*. This cover is composed of over six hundred pieces of glass, arranged in a complicated and scientific system of lenses and prisms, very difficult to comprehend,

but very beautiful in the result; for every ray of light from that brilliant flame is shivered into a thousand glittering arrows, reflected, refracted, tinted with all the rainbow hues, and finally projected through the clear plate-glass windows of the lantern with all the force and brilliancy of a hundred rays. If any one cares to understand more clearly the why and the how, let him either go and see for himself or read about it in Brande's *Encyclopaedia*. Mysie and the Baron were content to bask ignorantly in the glittering, ever-changing, ever-flowing flood of light, dreaming of Fairy Land, and careless of philosophy. Only so much heed did they give to the outer world as always to place themselves upon the landward side of the lantern, lest unwittingly their forms should hide one ray of the blessed light from those for whose good it was put there.

Caleb, meanwhile, sat with his host in the clock-room, smoking many a meerschaum, and listening to the keeper's talk about his beautiful charge, -- a pet as well as a duty with him, obviously.

With the same fond pride with which a mother affects to complain of the care she lavishes upon her darling child would the old man speak of the time necessary to keep his six hundred lenses clear and spotless, each one being rubbed daily with softest doeskin saturated with *rouge*, to keep the windows of the lantern free from constantly accumulating saline incrustations, -- of the care with which the lamp, when burning, must be watched, lest intrusive fly or miller should drown in the greatest reservoir of oil and be drawn into the air-passages. This duty, and the necessity of winding up the "clock" (which forces the oil up into the wick) every half-hour, require a constant watch to be kept through the night, which is divided between the chief and two assistant keepers.

(Excerpted from *The Atlantic Monthly*, Vol. IV, No. XXIII, September 1859, pp. 286-7. Additional excerpts will appear in future *Intelligencers*)



*A genuine old house,
unspoiled by changes*

The Story of a House; Perhaps the Island's Oldest

by HENRY E. SCOTT, JR.

In the first part of his two-part article (*Intelligencer*, May 1981), Henry Scott presented a carefully researched case to support the thesis that the Hancock-Mitchell house at Quansoo was built by Thomas Mayhew, Jr., either as a home or as a meeting house for his mission work. If his thesis is valid (and it is a belief that has been held by owners of the property for several generations), it would make the house the oldest on the Island.

Much of the evidence is speculative, but there are enough plausible elements to convince many of its validity. Henry Scott is content to allow the reader to decide.

Whether it was built by the junior Mayhew or not, the Hancock-Mitchell house is a very old house, one that should be carefully preserved.

In this second half of his article, Scott deals with the genealogy of the house after 1657, the year in which young Mayhew, along with his step-brother and an Indian convert, left Boston for England to straighten out the estate of his step-mother, Jane Paine Mayhew. The vessel on which they sailed and all on board were lost at sea.

Part Two -- The Families

WHEN THOMAS MAYHEW, Jr., was lost at sea, his widow was left with five young children, three boys and two girls, ranging in age from one year to nine. Communications being slow, it was more than a year before the family began to accept the loss of the father.

It is not known whether the widowed Jane and her children lived in Great Harbour (Edgartown) or at Quansoo. If they did live at Quansoo, she must have had considerable help from her father-in-law (who was also her stepfather), Thomas, Sr., then in his seventies. No doubt, she would have been helped also by the devoted and friendly Indians in the area. But it is more likely that she lived in Great Harbour. After all, the Quansoo house had, if our thesis is valid, been built with money from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in New England, so it is not at all clear who owned it. The Society? The Indians? Or the heirs of Thomas, Jr.?

There is no record of any Mayhew purchase of Quansoo land at the time the house was built although Banks (Vol. II, "Annals of Chilmark," p. 14) does state that the young Mayhew did attempt to purchase rights in Chilmark from the Indians before 1657. However, Banks states that there is no record of the sale so it can be "only surmised" when he bought it or, perhaps, even if he bought it.

It is more likely that the Indians granted Thomas Junior permission to build their meeting house on their own land. The earliest record of land sales in the area seems to be on May 17, 1664, when the Indian sachem Panhannett sold to Governor Thomas Mayhew "all my rights in Quainames." Four years later, he sold the Governor "the land east of Quainames." Apparently, it was then, in 1668, that ownership of the house came to the Mayhews, although it had been built by funds provided by the Society.

After her husband's death, Jane, thanks to the importuning of the elder Mayhew, received financial help from the Society annually. Her son, Matthew, was being educated at Cambridge with funds provided by the Society

HENRY E. SCOTT retired in 1970 from the U. of Missouri at Kansas City after 17 years as Chairman of the Art Department. He has also taught at Harvard, U. of Pittsburgh and Amherst. With his wife, Peggy, he lives in their 130-year-old Chilmark house, bought when he was here in Naval Aviation in World War II. He still does portraits and watercolors, when not probing old houses or playing violin for the Sunday Afternoon Chamber Music Ensemble.

also. The elder Mayhew, who was carrying on his son's mission work, was on the payroll of the Society, as were several teachers and translators, most of whom were Indians.

In 1665 or 1666, the widow married again. Her second husband was Richard Sarson (1637-1703), an astute and prominent man of affairs on the Island and some eight years her junior. With his marriage, Sarson became part of the Mayhew group that controlled the religious, economic and political affairs of the community.

By a curious pre-nuptial document, Jane disposed of her real and personal property, giving it to her children: "To Matthew I give 5 pounds, which is in my father's hand, and the hors colt; and the half lot, which was betwixt my mother and me, with all the privileges thereto belonging, I give unto Thomas; and the cow called by the name of yong brown, I give unto John, and if any of these three die single, it shall be given to Jerusha and Jedida, unless I shall see occasion to dispose of it otherwise. This in case this match go betwixt Richard and I.

"That which is written in this paper I, Jane Mayhew, of the Vineyard, widdow, did freely give unto my children, as I have expressed in this writing bearing date this 20th of December 1664. This writing is not to be in force except she marrieth with Richard Sarson." It was signed "Jane Mayhew" and witnessed by Thomas Mayhew and John Cotton.¹

No mention was made of the Quansoo house, perhaps because its ownership was uncertain at the time.

The marriage did take place and doubtless Jane and her five children moved into the Sarson house in Great Harbour.

Matthew, her eldest, had been born in 1648. In 1658, the year after his father's loss, he went to Cambridge to

¹John Cotton was the son of the famed Congregational minister of the same name. He, the son, had come to the Vineyard that year, 1664, to take up the ministerial tasks among the English, after the loss of the junior Mayhew. He was paid 40 pounds a year and lived in the John Smith house, which the town bought for the parsonage. Reverend Cotton stayed only until 1667, leaving after a series of quarrels with the elder Mayhew.

school, his expenses paid by the Society for the Propagation in anticipation that he would take up his father's work with the Indians. It is not certain when he finished his schooling, but he was still receiving money in 1667, nine years later. Banks says that he "continued his studies for four or five years," but it must have been longer than that.

Upon his return to the Vineyard, he devoted himself to learning the Indian language, not in order to continue his father's work, but to help his grandfather, the Governor, in the business of land distribution and sales, as well as in the dispensing of justice among both whites and Indians. He eventually became the "manager" of the Island, allowing his grandfather to devote more time to mission work.

Matthew may have lived for a while with his grandfather, but after marrying Mary Skiffe of Chilmark, about 1673, he undoubtedly set up his own home in Great Harbour. After his grandfather's death in 1682, he took over the responsibilities and the perquisites of the Governor. In 1695, "he created a (town) proprietary in Chilmark of thirty shareholders," keeping a controlling interest of 18 shares and distributing the balance among grantees holding land in the district.² He was appointed Chief Justice of the new Court of Common Pleas, no doubt, making the appointment himself.

He died May 19, 1710, at age 62 and, it is believed, was buried in the family plot on South Water Street, Edgartown, near the present Mayhew Parsonage, where it is believed the Governor and his wife are also buried. The graves are unmarked. Adjacent are the marked graves of Matthew's son, Matthew, and wife, Anna, and their son, Matthew.

Thomas Mayhew III, second son of the missionary who was lost at sea, married Sarah Skiffe, the younger sister of his brother Matthew's wife. They lived for some years in Tisbury where he served as Town Clerk from 1674 to

1679.³ In 1680, he purchased from his brother Matthew 60 acres in the new settlement of Chilmark and spent the rest of his life there. There is no certainty as to the location of his Chilmark house.⁴

This third Thomas Mayhew became prominent in public affairs, as did all the male Mayhews, serving as an associate justice of the King's Bench from 1699 to 1713. He died in 1715, while his wife lived on for many years, dying at age 95 in 1740. They had six children, the fifth being Zaccheus whose house, built on South Road in 1713, still stands and is now owned by a descendant, Polly Mayhew Meinelt and her husband.

John was the youngest son of the junior Mayhew. In 1672, he married Elizabeth Hilliard who had come with the Merry family to Tisbury from Hampton, N.H. He was 20 years old and upon his marriage he built a house at Quenames, scarcely a mile and a quarter west of the Quansoo house which we believe his father had built and in which he may have stayed on occasion. Banks reckoned that John was "the first white settler of Chilmark," but it is possible that his father could have claimed primacy.

Unlike his older brothers, John became a missionary to the Indians, although he had no college training for the work. Like his brothers, he was fluent in the Indian language. He was also the first minister in Chilmark and (West) Tisbury, preaching to the English population, starting about 1673.

It is likely that the Quansoo house during this period

³In those days, Tisbury meant the early settlements of Middletown (the present North Tisbury) and Newtowne (the present West Tisbury). Homes Hole (the present Vineyard Haven) was but a small hamlet. It was not until 1890 that the separate divisions that exist today were made.

⁴However, in the will of John Mayhew, his younger brother, dated 20 January 1688, there is mention of a "house on land adjoining land of my brother Thomas by beginning of new Mill river (Tiasquam River where it flows into the Old Mill River and thence into Town Cove and Tisbury Great Pond). This land, the will continues, runs "southwest until it meets said land of my Brother." Dukes County Registry of Deeds, Land Records, Book 1, p. 316. Recently, Dick Burt of West Tisbury found a cellar hole behind Daniel and Betty-Anne Bryant's house on South Road in a location that corresponds with this description. It is just non the Chilmark side of the West Tisbury boundary.

²Banks, *History of Martha's Vineyard*, II, Annals of Chilmark, p. 41.

was being used mainly for John's mission work with the Indians. There seem to be no records to indicate any other place of meeting and we do know that meetings were being held. Since John lived only a mile away at Quenames, it is probable that the Quansoo house continued to serve as a combined school and church. John died at the relatively young age of 36 years at Quenames in February 1689.

"Following John's death . . . leadership of the Indian churches remained in the hands of the native preachers for eight years until his (eldest) son, Experience, came of age."⁵ By this time, about 1699, the old sachem Josias, together with other younger Indian leaders, had set aside a tract of land "one mile square" for the Praying Indians and called the place Christiantown. It was near Middletown, the present North Tisbury. Henceforth, the center of Indian religious and educational activities shifted, it would seem, from the Quansoo house to Christiantown.⁶

Experience Mayhew, perhaps the best-known missionary in the family, was the eldest son of John and Elizabeth, born in his father's new house at Quenames in 1673. John, in 1688, the year before his death, willed to Experience "my lands commonly called Quansoo and Quenames . . . with all housing, out -housing and other buildings." To his wife, Elizabeth, during her natural life he left "40 acres of land and 6 acres of meadow and marsh, and one room in the house on land adjoining to the land of my brother Thomas by the beginning of the river called the new Mill River" (Tiasquam).⁷

A separate document, dated December 2, 1701, indicates that John's widow, Elizabeth, "came before Thomas Mayhew (III), one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, on Dec. 5, 1700, and quitted her claims to all or any of the lands given to her son Experience."⁸

It is difficult to know what prompted this

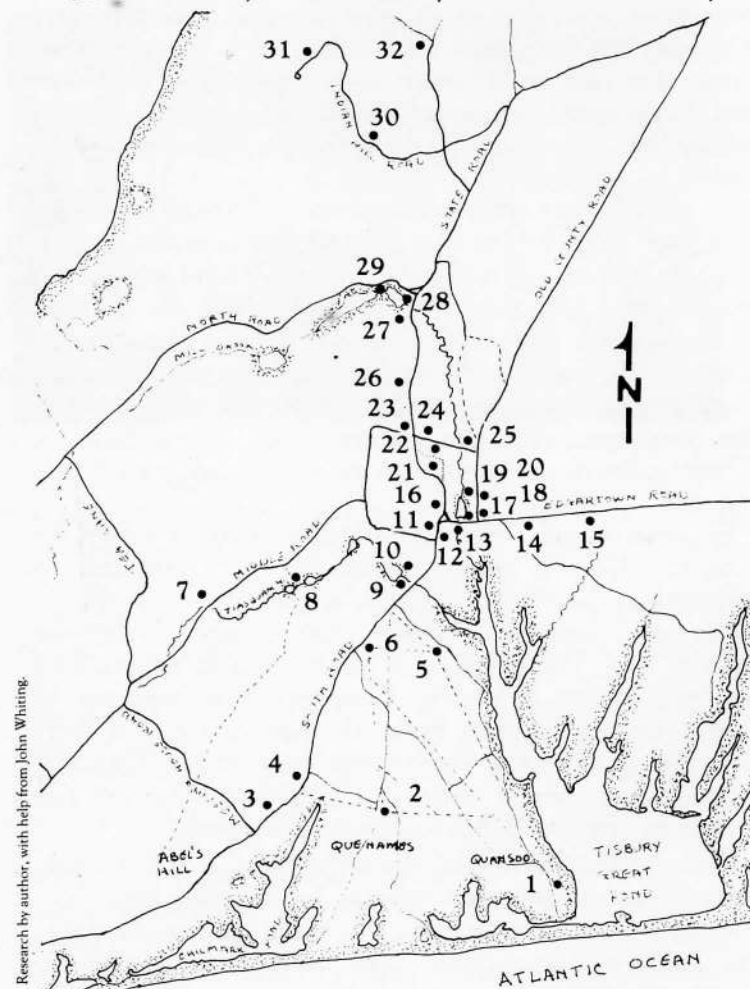
⁵E. R. Mayhew, "The Christiantown Story," *Intelligencer*, Aug. 1959.

⁶*Ibid.*

⁷Dukes County Courthouse, Edgartown. Book 1, Land Records, p. 36.

⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 396-7.

Late 18th Century Buildings and Sites in Chilmark, West Tisbury and North Tisbury



Research by author, with help from John Whiting.

1. Thomas Mayhew-Hancock (Mitchell); 2. Experience Mayhew (John Whiting); 3. Col. John Allen site (house moved, now Stanley); 4. Zaccheus Mayhew (Meinelt); 5. Thomas Mayhew III (possible site); 6. Eliashib Adams (Knowlton); 7. Reuben Tilton (Wortman); 8. Tilton mill (non-extant); 9. Church-Look mill (n.e.); 10. Look (John Mayhew); 11. Kithcart Inn (Newhall); 12. Nathan Mayhew (Waldron); 13. Cottle-Cobb mill (Garden Club); 14. James Athearn (Cleveland-Riggs); 15. John Manter-Joshua Slocum; 16. Josiah Standish - The Parsonage (E. Whiting); 17. Jailhouse (n.e.); 18. Courthouse (n.e.); 19. Robinson-Johnson (Bruno); 20. Samuel Cobb site (presently Drexler); 21. Site of Meetinghouse; 22. Cartcart (n.e.); 23. Earlier Meetinghouse site; 24. Rev. Josiah Torrey (n.e.); 25. Rev. Nathaniel Hancock (Weiss); 26. Bernard Luce (Hill); 27. Simon Athearn (Anderson); 28. Athearn mill (n.e.); 29. Crocker mill (extant); 30. Lorenzo Cleveland (Stevenson); 31. Luce (Slocum); 32. Christiantown Chapel.

relinquishment, but it is possible that Matthew and Thomas, her brothers-in-law, may have brought some pressure to bear on Elizabeth to sign her rights over to her son, Experience, possibly to prevent these properties from falling into other family hands in the event she should remarry.

In 1695, Experience, age 22, married Thankful Hinckley, daughter of Gov. Thomas Hinckley of Barnstable. It is possible that he and his bride moved in with his widowed mother at Quenames. However she had seven other children, ranging from 20 years down to 8, living with her and the young couple probably preferred to set up housekeeping in the nearby Quansoo house. Inasmuch as the meetings with the Indians were being held at Christiantown, the house was no longer needed for that purpose.

Experience and Thankful had three children before she died in 1706. He married again in 1711, this time to Remember, daughter of Shearjashub Bourne of Sandwich. With her, Experience had five more children before she died in 1722. The youngest of the five was Jonathan, who was to become a leading Congregational preacher in Boston during the years before the Revolution. It is likely that this outstanding activist was born in the Quansoo house, which would make it a landmark structure not merely for the Island, but for the nation as well.⁹

It was during this period, the early 1700s, that the house was enlarged to become a full-size dwelling (see May 1981 *Intelligencer*). Experience, who was living there at the time, was doing well financially, both from his own work in preaching, translating and publishing, and from his marriages. Certainly he could afford to enlarge the house to accommodate his growing family.

Experience was not only the missionary to the Indians, paid by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel,

⁹The Rev. Jonathan Mayhew, who preached in Boston, is credited with inciting the Boston Tea Party by his incendiary sermons opposing the Stamp Act. Unfortunately, he did not live to see the successful Revolution.



Photo from Stan Lair collection

Hancock-Mitchell house (c.1900) with original chimney, without front porch from 1694 to 1758, he also conducted services for the English in the Tisbury church. He had three books published in the Indian language, plus others in English, the most noted being the classic, *Indian Converts*. He travelled around New England often and was honored for his work by groups everywhere he went. Like his father, he never went to college, but Harvard, in 1723, conferred the degree of Master of Art on him (he had refused the honor some years before). If he did live in the Quansoo house while doing his writing, as we have reason to believe he did, it gives the old building even more significance.

About 1740, his mother's house at Quenames was destroyed by fire. It was rebuilt on the same site by Experience in about 1745 and very likely he and his family moved into the new house. In any case, his mother died the following year and Experience inherited the Quenames property. Experience and his family lived there until his death in 1758 and today it is known as the Experience Mayhew house.¹⁰

To come back to our Quansoo house: one might

¹⁰The most likely successor to ownership of this house was Zachariah (c.1718-1806), the last of the Missionary Mayhews. Regarding the subsequent history of the house, Dr. John Whiting, the present owner, says that it was bought from the Mayhews by a bachelor, a fancied horse-doctor, something of a hermit. He ran it as a farm. He cut

suppose that it might have been used in some way by John's other sons, all three of whom became farmers. After all, it was surrounded by good farm land. But they all located elsewhere in Chilmark. Experience no longer needed the old house, having inherited the one at Quenames.

In a somewhat roundabout way, the Quansoo house came to John's daughter, Deborah (1681-1772), although he had not mentioned either her or her sister, Ruhamah, in his will. Deborah was the fifth child of John and Elizabeth and in 1715, when she was 34 years old, she avoided spinsterhood by marrying a man some 10 years younger than she -- Ebenezer Norton (1691-1769) of Farm Neck at Major's Cove, in what is now the Segekontacket section of Oak Bluffs. Evidently, she moved there to live in the Norton family house where she bore four children, between 1716 and 1724. At the time of her marriage, the Quansoo house was being lived in by Experience and his family, who moved out in about 1745 or 1746.

How the enlarged Quansoo house was used in the 20 years between 1746 and 1766 is a mystery. We find no clue to its occupants. Perhaps it was used as a summer farm by the Mayhews or Nortons, or it may have been rented to a tenant farmer, it being surrounded by fertile land. Although we don't know who lived there, we do have clues as to its ownership.

Deborah's first child was Eliakim (1716-1805), who married Maria Presbury, the only child of John and Abigail Presbury of Tisbury, in about 1737. They had no need for housing as Maria had inherited her father's house located above the Lagoon.¹¹ In some manner, Deborah

marsh hay with a scythe, wearing a shirt, but no pants. When the Hancock girls from nearby appeared, he would hastily put his pants back on. The house was in quite a shambles when he died. For a while a Dr. Allen owned it. Johnson Whiting bought it in 1890 and made major restorations, his carpenter being Russell Hancock, great grandfather of the present Herbert Hancock. When Johnson Whiting died, his son, John, inherited the property and made further changes.

¹¹Maria's husband, Eliakim Norton, moved the house down to the shore at the southern end of the Lagoon, where it stands today. Altered considerably, it is now the home of a descendant, Jim Norton, his wife and three daughters.



Photo from Stan Lair collection

Old well (c. 1900) showing rear wall of summer kitchen. Men are not identified because the owner of the Quansoo house. Her brother, Experience, who had owned it, must have given or sold it to her after inheriting their mother's house at Quenames.

Eliakim and Maria had nine children, one of them being Deborah, namesake and granddaughter of Deborah Mayhew Norton, who was still living at the time. The young Deborah apparently became a favorite of the grandmother, Deborah. Whatever the reason, she inherited the Quansoo house. It is not known whether the grandmother willed it directly to her namesake or whether

she inherited it through her parents.

The young Deborah married Russell Hancock, son of Rev. Nathaniel Hancock, pastor of the church in Tisbury (the part that is now West Tisbury). The Reverend was a cousin of the famed John Hancock, first signer of the Declaration of Independence, thus bringing another illustrious name into the Mayhew-Norton family. The preacher had married Sarah Torrey, daughter of his predecessor, and built a house on the east side of Mill River on land his wife had inherited (the house, at the intersection of County Road and Scotchman's Lane, is presently owned by Harry Weiss).

Reverend Hancock made several purchases of land in the vicinity and when he died in 1744 he left the family house, together with his "large land holdings," to his sons, Josiah and Russell, "with provisions for the care of his daughters, Mary and Martha."

With the inheritance from his father, plus the Quansoo property inherited by his wife, Deborah, Russell became a major landowner. It was said of him that he was "a farmer and owned several tracts of land . . . including the old homestead, 'Quansoo,' near the Atlantic Ocean, about 2½ miles southwest of West Tisbury, in the town of Chilmark, where his children were born."¹²

Thus Russell and Deborah Hancock, with their seven children, lived in the Quansoo house during the period of the American Revolution, no doubt feeling closer to the struggle than most Chilmark farmers because the cousin of Grandfather Hancock was the famed John Hancock.

Undoubtedly, Russell, the large landowner that he was, had herds of cattle and flocks of sheep and hogs. Flocks of 1000 or more sheep were not uncommon up-Island during this period. We must assume that he, like so many Vineyard farmers, lost many of his animals to the British when they made their seizures of Grey's Raid of 1778. Those must have been traumatic days around the remote Quansoo farmhouse.

¹²From notes on the Hancock family by Emma Mayhew Whiting, now in the Dukes County Historical Society.

Russell and Deborah Hancock apparently lived there most of their married lives, until 1804 when Deborah died. In that same year, Russell's brother, Josiah, died without issue and left his inherited share of the West Tisbury property to Russell and to Russell's daughter, Mariah, who had never married.

It appears that with the death of his wife and brother, Russell left the Quansoo house, moving in with his daughter, Mariah, who was to take care of him until his death in 1818. Mariah continued to live in the Reverend Hancock house until she died in 1868, doing a man's chores, looking after the cattle, sheep and hogs, even mending the gates and fences that kept them within bounds. What an extraordinary woman she must have been!

Russell and Deborah had had four sons: James, John, Freeman and Samuel. James and Freeman died before their father did. There were three daughters: Prudence, Deborah and the youngest and the favorite, Mariah.

When he died, Russell left nothing at all to John, his second and oldest living son. Evidently, John had incurred his father's displeasure in various ways: taking firewood without asking; not helping on the Quansoo farm when needed; shunning responsibilities; coveting the benefits bestowed quite rightly on his youngest sister, Mariah, who did so much for her father in his old age.

As might be expected Mariah was especially favored in her father's will with "part of my homestead [in West Tisbury] . . . and all my household furniture . . . several tracts of woodland." The children of his deceased son, James, were taken care of with bequests of land.

The Quansoo house already belonged to his fourth son, Samuel, having been left to him in 1804 by his wife when she died, the house being hers by inheritance. Samuel, a master mariner sailing cargo ships between America and Europe, lived an adventurous life, much of it being described in letters in the possession of a descendant, Mrs. William Hickie of West Tisbury. He clearly was a favorite

of his mother, for what reasons we do not know.

In 1801, after a trip to England in the ship *Polly*, he had married Frances Thompson of Liverpool, an English woman born in Cumberland County in 1775. He brought his bride back to the Island and she settled in the Quansoo house, living with her husband's parents until her mother-in-law died in 1804, when the house became her husband's (see page 36).

Frances always wanted to go back to England. It was said that she would stroll to the South Beach dunes and look out over the vast ocean, yearning for her native land. She never did get back. The couple had five children, all no doubt born at Quansoo, making the house less lonely during the long absences of Captain Sam, as he was called.

When he was not at sea, Captain Sam took part in Chilmark town affairs, being named Field Driver in 1809 and to the School Committee the same year. But most of the time he was at sea and, during the War of 1812, he was held prisoner by the British for some time.

Financially successful, Samuel added to his holdings by several major purchases of land and property. He bought considerable land at Quenames, adjacent to the Quansoo property, from Gilbert Mayhew, great-great-grandson of Jonathan Mayhew. He bought from Cornelius Dunham a half interest in the mill at the north end of the millpond near the West Tisbury parsonage.

About 1840, he divided the Quansoo and Quenames properties, about 200 acres each, between his two sons, who had come of age. Quenames went to the older son, Samuel T., and Quansoo, to Cyrus.

In 1842, Samuel T., after his marriage, built a house on Quenames overlooking the sea. This house was inherited by his grandson, Herbert C. Hancock, and now belongs to Herbert C.'s daughter, Esther of Vineyard Haven and Menemsha, and her nephew, Herbert E. Hancock of Chilmark.

When Cyrus married Thankful Manter in 1844, it seems likely that Captain Sam, as his father had done before

him, moved in with Mariah, his unmarried sister, in the house at Scotchman's Lane (the one now owned by Harry Weiss), leaving the Quansoo house to the newlyweds. Confirmation of this comes from these facts: the record of his death, 20 June 1849, is in the West Tisbury Vital Records, not Chilmark's; his obituary in the *Vineyard Gazette* states that he died in West Tisbury; and he is buried in the West Tisbury cemetery.¹³

Cyrus and Thankful had two children: Sophronia, born 1846; and Josiah Torrey, born 1848. When Cyrus died in 1859, at only 53 years, his widow continued to live at Quansoo with her two children. She was much younger than her husband and outlived him by 37 years. In the Dukes County Probate records, dated 25 September 1859, she was appointed guardian of the two minor children at her husband's death. There is an inventory of the estate left to the children:

"One dwelling house, two barns and out-buildings with the lots they stand on, including the orchard and one lot north of it, amounting to Eleven Hundred and Fifty Dollars, \$1150.00; the East Pasture, east of Quansoo road, \$1800.00; Seeded Meadow. . . three lots, ten acres, more or less, \$500.00; Pond Meadow, \$900.00; Quansoo Meadow, including Great Island, \$600.00; Cobs Hill, \$1200.00; Wood lot, a certain lot of land that Lear Meyers Dwelling House stand upon, \$1600.00 R. E. Total: \$9562.00 . . . Personal Property . . . Total \$2777.50. The Whole amounting to \$12,339.50. Signed John W. Mayhew, Clerk."

Except for the barns and the Meyers dwelling, the property is much the same today.

¹³After Captain Sam's death, Washington Adams, husband of Sam's daughter, Cassandra, complained to his brothers-in-law, Cyrus and Samuel T., that she should have been a beneficiary. They came to an agreement, signing over to their sister, in her husband's name (as was often the custom), "for other grants and considerations" all the land which lies within the towns of Tisbury and Edgartown, and northwardly of the highway or road that leads from Edgartown to Tisbury and Chilmark, with a few exceptions. Also included in the agreement was one tract of meadowland at Quansoo called the Moses lot.



Photo from Iva Mitchell collection



Elaine Cosgrove photo

Left, Sophronia and Adelbert (1873). Right, Iva Mitchell and grandchild (1950)

When Cyrus's daughter, Sophronia,¹⁴ came of age, she married West Mitchell, a whaling captain whose father had come from Cork, Ireland, and founded the Chilmark brickyard, where Roaring Brook empties into Vineyard Sound. The couple had only one child, Adelbert C., who was born in the Quansoo house in 1872. Like many of his forebears, he was a farmer, raising sheep and cattle and became well known for the exceptionally fine potatoes he cultivated. In 1910, "Dellie," as Adelbert was called, married Iva West (1889 -), a daughter of Edgar West. They raised a family of two sons and three daughters.

"Dellie" died in 1939 and there are still those who remember him and his long beard. His widow, Iva, stays in the house at Quansoo in the warmer months (as of this writing, June 1981) and her children, a grandson and a great-grandson come there to be with her and to enjoy the natural beauty of Quansoo.

This, then, brings the story of the old house at Quansoo down to the present. It is the story of a house that is more

¹⁴When Josiah Torrey, Sophronia's brother, became terminally ill many years later, he returned to the family homestead at Quansoo where he was born, dying there in 1929.



Alton Tilton photo

"Dellie" Mitchell at the old wellsweep. He wore no beard in his later years than 300 years old and of the many individuals who have lived in it, some famous, some little known except by their families. Many were born in it, a few perhaps were married in it, and many died in it. It has housed a succession of four families over at least 13 generations.

Scores of Indians were taught English and converted to the white man's God within this house. Famous theologians were born there.

How quickly knowledge of our forebears can fade. We must forestall this by gathering and holding onto what is known about them. It is equally essential that we respect and cherish the houses, like this Quansoo house, that were their homes.

Captain Sam Hancock, Master Mariner

ONE OF the many interesting owners of the Quansoo house during its 300-year life was Samuel Hancock (1772-1849), fourth son of Russell and Deborah Hancock. Letters in the possession of a descendant, Mrs. William (Drusilla Greene) Hickie of West Tisbury, relate part of his adventures as a master mariner of sailing ships that carried cargo between America and Europe.

One letter, dated October 28, 1797, is from a firm in Rotterdam, Holland, to "Captain Sam," who was waiting at Helroct Roads, nearby, with his ship, the *Madison* of Boston. The letter instructs him to sail to Cadiz, Spain, and to sell the ship there if a suitable offer is made or, if not, to procure a load of salt and return to Rotterdam. These instructions were "in conformity to the directions... from Mess. John Skinner & Sons, Boston, owners of the *Maddison*" (sometimes spelled with two d's).

Captain Sam proceeded to Cadiz, but the hoped-for sale did not take place so he procured a load of salt and on December 23, 1797, he set sail for Rotterdam. Off the coast of France, outside the port of Lorient in Brittany, the *Madison* was intercepted by a cutter of the new French Republic. This was at the time after the French Revolution when England and France were at war.

The French captain who boarded the *Madison* was not satisfied that the ship's papers were in order, so had her escorted by the frigate *la Reunion* into Cherbourg where Captain Sam and crew were brought before a Tribunal of Commerce, which claimed that his ship was English, then at war with the French. The ship was confiscated as a prize of war and put up for sale.*

A letter from a Saml. Eakin, dated Lorient 18th May 1798, to Captain Samuel at Orleans, France, revealed that Samuel was being held there unjustly as a prisoner of war. Friends were working for his release which must have occurred shortly thereafter because a letter in 1800 from London shows that he was then with the ship *Polly*. Soon afterwards, he must have been in Liverpool where he met Frances Thompson, marrying her the following year, 1801.

Among the letters owned by Mrs. Hickie are a few written by the newlyweds. One is from Frances to Sam, written at Quansoo, September 13, 1801. Another is from Sam to his wife at Quansoo, dated May 27, 1803, informing her that his ship was "now bound to Cherante (?)" and closing with "God bless you, my dear Fanny. I am your loving husband until death -- Sam'l Hancock."

In another letter, this one from a firm in New York, May 29, 1810, Sam was instructed to take the

schooner *Mary*, now "being loaded and ready to proceed to sea with the first fair wind," and to "make the best of your way with every possible dispatch to Gottenburg in the Kingdom of Sweden and from thence to St. Petersburg in the Empire of Russia. Arrived at Gottenburg, you must address yourself to our Consul... and should that market not answer your purpose, you are immediately to proceed to St. Petersburg; and on your arrival there address yourself to Messr. Stiglitz Co., who will render you every assistance in the disposal of your present cargo and the purchase of a return one."

The master mariner, in those days, had not only to be a capable ship commander, but also to have a smart business sense in negotiating over cargoes, whatever their nature.

Captain Sam fell victim of the unsettled international conditions again in 1812, aboard the brig *Minerva*. Two letters from Edward Perkins at Halifax, dated July 1812, written to Frances Hancock at Chilmark, tell of the seizure of the ship by the British at the very start of the War of 1812, before the Captain had received the news that it had begun. The first letter reads in part:

"I have to regret, Madam, that it should have fallen to my lot to Communicate to you the painful intelligence of the detention of your Husband by the British, and I feel more peculiarly for your situation... He left Liverpool on the 2nd. June in the Brig *Minerva* for Boston (in which

I was also passenger). Nothing material occurred... until Monday last when, being about 75 miles to the Southward of this port, we fell in with a British squadron, who informed us of the declaration of War by the American Government against England.

"Your husband with all the Brig's crew was put on board the *Africa* of 64 guns; the Passengers and Captain only being permitted to proceed in the Brig to this port. All his baggage he has with him, except some small articles left in my charge, and which, if possible, shall be sent... your Husband was in perfect health, and I doubt not will experience very civility from the Captain to whose lot he has fallen Prisoner... I have great hopes (as the Squadron were most probably bound to cruize off New York) that he may be set on shore in your neighborhood, and that you may have met before this reaches you..."

Perkins' second letter, dated Halifax, July 14, 1812, and sent "by another conveyance," repeats the essence of the first, but adds "in the Brig *Minerva*, Capt. Trott, bound for Boston."

We don't know how long he was held prisoner as this is as much as we have been able to learn about his sea career. Six years later, in 1818, he was appointed Administrator of his father's will in Chilmark, but we don't know what happened to him in the intervening six years.

*From *Extrait*, Office of the Tribunal of Commerce, Lorient, Department of Morbihan, France, a pamphlet in French, inherited by Esther Hancock from Freeman Hancock.

The Vineyard and the Sea

AN EXHIBITION

FRANCES FOSTER MUSEUM
DUKES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE THEME of our first exhibit in the redesigned Francis Foster Museum is "The Vineyard and the Sea." As Islanders, people of the Vineyard have always had a close dependence on the sea and this exhibit provides a historical overview of that dependency.

Displayed is a multiplicity of artifacts from the Society's collection, not only objects, but photographs, documents and literary quotations related to the role the sea has played in the Island's development.

The room's layout has been designed in an open format so that the visitor is free to wander as his interest dictates. There is, nonetheless, a loose chronological order to the displays.

An introductory panel presents some quotations that give an insight into early explorers' impressions of our Island. There are two beautifully detailed, if somewhat fanciful, rare early maps of the area.

The first display case contains an exhibit of Ferries and Packets and includes two oil paintings of old Island paddlewheelers, the *Monohansett* and the *Nantucket*, the latter by Antonio Jacobsen, a well-known marine artist in the late 1800s. A number of photographs of ferry and wharf scenes of that period are shown.

The flavor of the little-known era of the sailing packet, that preceded the steam era, is captured by contemporary descriptions by Island visitors, quotations from the *Gazette* and excerpts from letters of the period, including such shipping instructions as "put the cigars on the sailing

packet which will be by your place the first wind."

Until the early 20th Century, goods were brought to and from the Vineyard on board coastal schooners and prior to the opening of the Cape Cod Canal in 1914, Vineyard Sound was one of the busiest maritime thoroughfares in the world. Vineyard Haven harbor was a renowned port of refuge and it was not unusual to see 300 vessels leave the harbor on a fair wind and tide.

In the display are some examples of items grown or manufactured on the Vineyard for export to the mainland by coastal schooner: a brickmold from the Roaring Brook brickyard; cannon balls made of Vineyard bog iron; stockings knit of Island wool; and even beach stones destined for cobblestone streets of New Bedford. A large and lovely model of a coastal schooner dominates the display. Captain Henry Rice built the "old stone horse" in Oak Bluffs. The backdrop is a rare photograph of Vineyard Haven harbor filled with similar coasters. Thomas Hart Benton's portrait of Zeb Tilton, the most renowned and beloved of Vineyard coasting captains, is featured.

An adjacent wall panel explores the aspects of coastal trade in which Vineyarders were involved: Jamaican rum, the Clipper trade with the Orient, the TransAtlantic merchant trade. Account books, logs, photographs and documents give fascinating glimpses into the Vineyard economy of the 18th and 19th Centuries.

There is much emphasis in our new exhibit on the whaling era. The Indians were the first whalers and from them the white settlers learned the skills necessary. Vineyard men, both Indian and white, were in great demand by whaleship owners. Many Vineyarders captained whalers from almost every Eastern port. The prowess of the Gay Head Indians as harpooners is well known in fact and in fiction. A handsome model of the whaleship *Coggeshall* is on display in a separate wall case.

Tools of the whaleman's trade are shown: blubberhooks, flensing knives, harpoons and lances.

Another major display is the case devoted to rare

scrimshaw from the Society collection. The impressive scrimshaw swift, the intricate pic jiggers, the embroidery stilleto needles and carpenter's tools made of scrimshaw, are all tributes to the talents of sailors and the boredom of long, empty months at sea. Whale teeth and walrus tusks are decorated with freehand maps and naturalistic drawings of bears and porpoises. There is even a stylized portrait of Martha Washington.

Ambrotypes of 110 whaling captains of Edgartown provide a clearer look at the fascinating range of character and temperament that made up those men of the sea.

The display devoted to what the whalemens brought home gives further insight into the character of our Island mariners. Polynesian war clubs, a Pacific island ceremonial adz and a variety of warrior ornaments benefit the classic image of a proud, autocratic whaling captain. A suggestively shaped cocodemer nut indicates a ribald sense of humor. In a quieter vein, the brightly colored seashells and tiny carved Eskimo animal totems brought back to children and grandchildren suggest that the whalemens' thoughts were often with those at home on the Vineyard.

Still in preparation is a large wall panel of artifacts, portraits and daguerrotypes pertaining to Vineyard families. Also to be included are some of the Society's whaling logs, notably the log of the whaleship *Iris* with its wonderful watercolors of whaling scenes.

Another wall display includes some of the gear used by Vineyard fishermen, both Indian and white. From the beginning, the typical Vineyarder had to be a combination farmer and fisherman, tending crops and fishing in appropriate seasons. The fishing gear on display is not only functional but handsomely shaped as well. A large eel pot, woven with white oak and pine root, is displayed above a photograph of Josiah Cleveland weaving just such a pot. These pots were set in the openings to the Island's Great Ponds to trap eels as they migrated from the ponds to the ocean on their way to the Sargasso Sea to

spawn. As one old Island fisherman put it, "The Neeshaws would start to run the first stormy night after the full moon in October and we'd set the pots out."

Equally graceful are the trident-like spears used to catch eels through holes cut in the ice. Displayed also is a herring dip net, flanked by a photo of a Gay Head Indian using one at Herring Creek in Gay Head. Two photographs of the Mattakesett herring creek indicate how large the herring catches were. The Indian fishnet anchor, ingeniously fashioned from a split oak log bound around a granite weight, is evidence of the Indians' knowledge of all types of fishing. Quahaug bull rakes, clamming forks and scratch rakes provide further evidence.

The fourth case in the exhibit is devoted to Navigation, an art of vital importance to seafaring Vineyarders. Basic tools of navigation are displayed: compasses, maps, telescopes, a sextant and its more primitive antecedents, the backstaff and quadrant. On a chart of the South Atlantic, dated 1843, the captain of the whaleship *St. George* pencilled the daily course markings for his 1851 voyage, indicating good whaling grounds, whales taken and comments on weather and winds.

Also shown are artifacts relating to two Vineyard men who made major contributions to the science of navigation: Joshua Slocum, the first person to sail alone around the world, and George Eldridge, founder of the Eldridge Tide Book.

A small display on Island lighthouses flanks this case and includes a tin candle round, used in the Edgartown lighthouse.

This display of some of the Society's treasures is arranged with the hope that it will inspire a greater appreciation and understanding of the Vineyard's maritime heritage.

Project Director for the Society: Stanley Murphy
 Assistant to the Director: Lorna Livingston
 Designer and Builder: William Donnelly
 Researcher and Planner: Linsey Lee

Books

Chappaquiddick: That Sometimes Separated But Never Equalled Island

Edited by Arthur R. Railton. Published by Chappaquiddick Island Association. 138 pp. Illus. \$6. Limited copies are available from the Association.

AT LONG LAST a fine book dealing with the history of Chappaquiddick Island is available. The area's inhabitants insist upon calling it an island even though for twelve long years it has not been one. Residents find it reassuring to see in the new book maps going back more than two centuries showing that their area is indeed an island.

This new book, *Chappaquiddick: That Sometimes Separated But Never Equalled Island* has been published after four years of effort by the Chappaquiddick Island Association. It is a handsome, richly illustrated paperbound volume adroitly edited by Arthur R. Railton. It is available at \$6 through Mrs. Leland Brown of Chappaquiddick who has been the prime mover of the project.

The book is comprehensive for the past century and contains a report written by Dr. James Freeman in 1807 which contained the earliest complete account of the island.

Originally, the book was conceived as a way to capture the memories of

people still alive who could describe life on Chappaquiddick 40 to 85 years ago. One of the more delightful recollections in the book is that of William Pinney, Sr., who first came to Chappaquiddick in 1898 and has summered here ever since. He recalled the relaxed life on the island and expressed his puzzlement that people today go so often to Edgartown. He said he had been coming to the island for 54 years before he "had dinner in Edgartown."

Mr. Railton and Mrs. Brown, with their good sense of history, lead off the book of individual recollections with broader historical accounts, starting with that of Dr. Freeman.

In 1807, according to Freeman, there were "thirty eight families of whites" on the island. They were mostly whaling boat sailors, living near Wasque Point. One third of the "whites" had the name of Fish or Fisher. The Indians even by 1807 were a pretty modernized and intermixed group, mostly farmers living in frame houses. There was an 800-acre reservation for those who chose it. The Indians in 1807 were begging for a "final division of land" as the only means of "ending all confusion." The dividing process led to confusions that persist in a couple of instances even today.

Then come essays by Henry Beetle Hough and George Adams, indicating other reasons why "all the confusion" persisted until very recent times. Starting around 1889, some well-to-do Summer People started

arriving on Chappy and building handsome houses on hills for grand views rather than the year-round natives' practice of tucking houses in snug hollows. The first Summer Person mentioned by Mr. Hough was Horace W. Gridley, a New York businessman who built a massive 14-room house with five fine fireplaces, overlooking the widest point in Katama Bay. Most of the early Big Houses were built on the Katama, or Inner Harbor, side of Chappy, but by the turn of the century the excellent but less grandiose Seager and Marshall houses were appearing on the Outer Harbor.

By the 1890s, Chappaquiddick was still viewed by Edgartown residents as a pretty uninteresting, remote place reachable by a rowboat ferry. The Chappy landscape was more like that of Nantucket than it is at present. Occasional clumps of scrub trees dotted its hills and moors. David Seager II recalled that North Neck was so open then that you could keep an eye on the Outer Harbor "about all the way to the main road."

Land on Chappaquiddick was really dirt cheap, going for about \$1.50 an acre in some areas that now go for about \$7500 an acre. The arrival of the few rich Summer People inspired greed in a number of local people. Mr. Hough and Mr. Adams describe the proliferation of land development plans. There were at least five major ones involving hundreds of sliver lots that sold for as little as \$5 a lot. The most ambitious of the various developments was

Chappaquiddick-by-the-Sea, a grand scheme to put 775 houses on Wasque, complete with boulevards and bandstands. Though many lots were sold, few houses were ever built.

One reason was the problem of getting building materials or large animals to Chappy. Cows and horses had to be swum across. Gridley barged all the materials for his vast house directly from New Bedford. Then there were the taxes. Edgartown insisted on taxing property on Chappaquiddick two to five times as much as it spent on island services, a practice that is not unfamiliar today. In 1926, there was a formal movement to secede.

In the 1920's, a grand plan to end the awkwardness of transporting persons and possessions to Chappaquiddick was developed. A three-span iron bridge would be built, about 50 feet above the water, across the Inner Harbor near the entrance to Caleb's Pond. The American Bridge Company got up designs, shown, and estimated it could be done for about \$100,000. Ideas for financing the bridge were explored before the idea was shelved. There was also exploration of the possibility of building a tunnel, but that would have been more expensive.

The transportation problem was eased in 1927 when Tony Bettencourt became an island hero by operating the first motorized ferry. Twenty years later, Foster Silva became another hero by building and operating a full-fledged car ferry, the first of the *On Times*.

The combination of Indian claims, sliver developers and transport slowed up the development of Chappaquiddick, which was fine with the summer residents. Today, there are many fairly new houses built in the past 15 years, mostly in the interior. But if you take the houses that are at least 30 years old they are still occupied rather overwhelmingly by families that have roots going back more than 30 years on Chappaquiddick. The names change since many daughters and sisters and cousins are involved. Mr. Pinney mentioned, for example, that the Turnbull girls are now Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Phinney.

Nicely complementing the historical background are the seventeen recollections by people with long memories, some of whom I have cited. A great deal of work by Mrs. Brown went into persuading them to be interviewed on a tape recorder. Some were wary of such newfangled devices and took pens in hand. A few of the contributors, alas, have passed away since making their contributions.

Other samples of recollections:

Matilda Jeffers recalls the 35 or 40 years she waited on table at the famous little restaurant, "The Chappaquiddick Outlook," which her wonderful and imperious stepmother Sally Jeffers ran. The cost of her chicken-and-gravy supper, with corn on the cob, spoon bread and blueberry pie, was, according to Clare Barnes' recollection, \$1.25. By the time my family got here in 1950 the

price had gone up to \$1.65. Sally also staged opulent clambakes for Edgartown excursionists.

Robert Marshall recalled the Dike when it was really a dike. He tells of catching three bushel bags full of crabs "none of them less than 22 inches claw to claw." And as recently as 1945 he caught 40 barrels of herring at the Dike. Scales from the herring were used to make Priscilla Pearls, a successful Vineyard enterprise.

Gladys Pease Reid, whose memory of living at Tom's Neck Farm went back to the 1890s, recalled that she was offered 1000 acres of farmland on Chappy complete with a house and two barns for \$1500. Not having that kind of money herself, she tried to raise the purchase price from relatives, but "they were of the opinion that no one would ever want to live on Chappaquiddick."

The 17 persons who contributed their recollections to this book are Matilda Jeffers, William Pinney, Sr., Robert B. Marshall, Milton Birch, David C. Seager II, Libby Seager, Hope J. Heath, Gladys Pease Reid, Gertrude Smith, Edith Alger, Ruth Welch, Foster Silva, Milton Jeffers, Joanne Patterson, Russell Stearns, Ruth E. Franzen and Clarence Barnes, Jr.

VANCE PACKARD

VANCE PACKARD has been a "part-time" resident of Chappaquiddick for 31 years, coming first in 1950 in response to a house-to-rent ad in *The New York Times*. He caught the Chappy "bug" and three years later bought the property where he and his wife, Virginia, the well-known Island artist, spend six months each year. The list of his published works is too long

to print here and the titles too familiar to need to be. Presently, he is completing his most ambitious work to date, so watch the book reviews for the announcement.

News

EACH YEAR, awards for outstanding contributions to the preservation effort are made by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Among this year's ten winners was the Oak Bluffs Historical Commission for its work in "advancing the recognition and preservation of Oak Bluffs' unique architecture."

The citation states that in "the past two years, the commission has greatly enhanced the historical integrity of Oak Bluffs" by its work on historic sites and structures, publishing literature about the town's architectural history, by preparation of a National Register nomination and educational programs for the public. It also, the citation added, "was responsible for obtaining a grant for the Tabernacle."

EDGARTOWN is among five towns chosen by the State for its Main Street Center Program. Others are Amesbury, Northampton, Taunton and Southbridge.

The project goal is to bring "economic development within the context of historic preservation." It urges that Main Street stress such assets as "local ownership, personal service, unique architecture and a

sense of community."

According to a pamphlet from the State promoting the program, the key is "small-scale, inexpensive and appropriate change." Locally, the Edgartown Board of Trade has been active in bringing the program to the town.

IN A cooperative action by the Cuttyhunk Historical Center and the Penikese Island School, honor was finally bestowed upon Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Parker, who for 15 years treated and nurtured a small band of lepers isolated on Penikese Island by the State of Massachusetts in the early years of this century.

A plaque memorializing the two Parkers, mounted on a field stone at the entrance to a tiny cemetery for lepers who died on the island, was unveiled Sunday, June 21st.

Prior to the unveiling, Thomas Buckley, a teacher at the School, described the colony and the lepers buried on the island. He praised the devotion and dedication of the two Parkers and told how the Doctor became a world authority on the dreaded disease. Despite this, when the colony was closed in 1921, the Doctor, then aged 65, was dismissed without any pension or recognition by the State.

President Alexander Brown and Curator Janet Bosworth of the Cuttyhunk Historical Center assisted in the unveiling and thanked Mr. Buckley, the rest of the staff and the boys at the School for making the belated recognition of the Doctor and

his wife possible.

Attending from our Society were Shirley Erickson, Secretary, Muriel Crossman, Librarian, and Arthur R. Railton, Council member.

AT THE Cuttyhunk Historical Center this summer, there is a new exhibit entitled "The Wood Years: 1910-1960."

It shows what the island was like before the famous William M. Wood bought up almost all of it from the Cuttyhunk Fishing Club (see article this issue), and what happened afterwards.

Letters

Editor:

I enjoyed reading the May 1981 *Intelligencer*, as always, but find myself saddened by your news item that the historic Methodist Church has been sold. My father, Rev. Florus L. Streeter, was pastor of the Edgartown Methodist Church from 1905 to 1909.

Did the Methodist Society disband, build a new church, merge or (I hope) is still permitted to worship in the historic church?

I realize that maintaining a structure of that size could become impossible for a small group and it is certainly good if the new owners can treat it with sensitivity rather than having some nut try to convert it into a gas station.

DANIEL I. STREETER
Glastonbury, Conn.

We should have provided more details in our brief news items on the church renovation.

The Methodist Society of Edgartown will continue to use the church for services, using the ground-floor chapel in winter and the upstairs sanctuary in summer. It will pay a proportionate share of heating and lighting costs.

The Preservation Society will pay for maintenance of the building except for the clock and tower, which will be maintained by the Town of Edgartown. The clock, considered the town clock, was given to the town by Charles Darrow of Boston in 1889. The church was built in 1843.

Editor:

A fine article on "our friend," Tom Morton, in the May *Intelligencer*. Thank you for giving me credit for bringing it to your attention.

It might only have been added that Banks wrote the article some 14 years after completing his monumental history of the Island. Perhaps it was the last thing he ever wrote on the Vineyard.

As a child of Barn House "radicals," I loved the last two paragraphs of the review of Polly Burroughs' *Tom Benton*. Chilmark has changed.

Also I have heard that Frederick Baylies, Jr., was the one who designed the present Chilmark Methodist Church. That would make four of his churches still extant.

Perhaps one of your members might have more information on this.

PETER COLT JOSEPHS
Chilmark

Director's Report

A BEAUTIFUL summer season has arrived once again on the Vineyard and we at the Historical Society have been enjoying the opportunity to meet the many visitors from around the world who come to see our splendid historical collections.

This year we are able to show our guests the extraordinary changes in the Francis Foster Museum. After many months of work, we have reopened this museum to the public with an exhibit on the Maritime History of Martha's Vineyard; it is truly something that should not be missed.

As usual visitors to the Thomas Cooke House are delighted with its many wonders and this year they are treated to tours by a particularly fine group of guides: Emily Bridwell, Sara Fuller, Sharon Fuller, Hilda Gilluly, Linsey Lee, Bob McLane, and Eck Wolff. With the combination of the Thomas Cooke House and the Francis Foster Museum, we are sure that visitors will leave the Society with a feeling of satisfaction and with a very good sense of Vineyard history.

Our Society's ability to provide information about the Island's heritage is not confined to our museums and the library. When secure public areas are available, we gladly participate in other historical exhibits. Last year, several of our artifacts were on display at the Oak Bluffs branch of the Martha's Vineyard National Bank, and again this year we are providing some items for an exhibit in that bank by the Martha's Vineyard Archaeological Society. At the Bunch of Grapes Bookstore, we have on exhibit a Walling's 1858 map of Martha's Vineyard and a Mayhew family tree, and the Martha's Vineyard Historical Preservation Society has some of our furnishings in the Vincent House. Incidentally reprints of the Mayhew family tree and the insets of individual Vineyard towns in

the Walling map are available from us for a dollar each. In addition to loaning artifacts, we also unofficially sent out Art Railton to give a series of lectures on Island history to a class sponsored by the Edgartown Council on Aging.

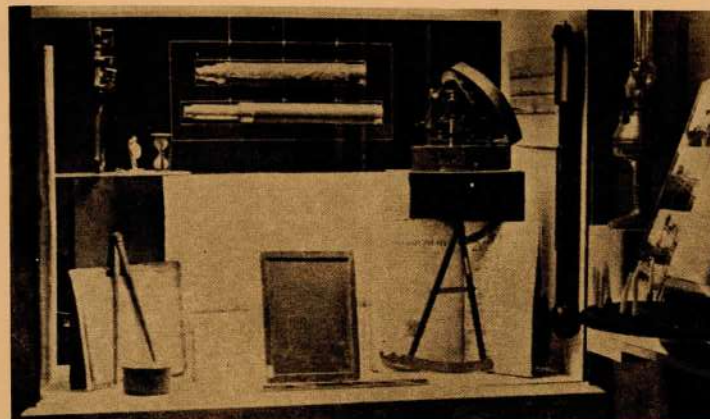
Sitting here in cool comfort on a muggy day in July, one must note with appreciation the gift of an air conditioner from the Dukes County Savings Bank. It is a large one that they had been using in their Vineyard Haven Branch and it should keep the library and the Francis Foster Museum happily cool throughout the summer. If not, another donor noted the addition of the new lighting in the museum, and pledged the money for a separate air conditioner in that room if one proves to be necessary to handle the heat from the lights. Another monetary donation came from the Chappaquiddick Island Association to note their appreciation for the Society's help in the production of their book *Chappaquiddick: That Sometimes Separated But Never Equalled Island* (See Books). We are also happy to report that the Society's various clocks remain in good repair due to the annual visit of the Snowden Taylor family.

By now, you all should have belatedly received a bill for annual dues. The delay resulted from a problem with our tax exempt status and although vigorous efforts are being made to resolve the problem, we must note that dues and donations this year should not be considered as tax deductions, at least not until we notify you that the matter has been cleared up. We hope it will be completed shortly. In the meantime, we do hope that you will continue to provide the Society with your support both as members and as contributors to the Preservation Fund.

The annual meeting of the Society will be Thursday, August 20, in the parish hall of the Federated Church at 8:00 p.m. We hope that many of you will attend to enjoy a special treat in the form of a presentation by the editor of the *Intelligencer*, who will present an intimate history of our favorite journal.

THOMAS E. NORTON

The Vineyard and the Sea



Shown here is a small sample of the various displays in our new exhibit. Above is part of the display devoted to navigational aids, including some historic charts



Left, souvenirs the whalers brought back. Right, a coaster and some Island exports



Our scrimshaw collection is now displayed in a manner appropriate to its quality

DAILY EXCURSIONS.

Martha's
Vineyard,
Oak Bluffs,
Vineyard
Highlands,
Edgartown,

Katama,
Falmouth
Heights,
Wood's Holl
and
Nantucket.

Summer Arrangement.

1880.

STEAMERS

RIVER QUEEN, ISLAND HOME,
MARTHA'S VINEYARD,

Will Run Daily on and after Monday, June 23, Sundays excepted.

Leave New Bedford for Oak Bluffs,—7.15, 10.15 A. M., 1.30, 4.30 P. M. Return—Leave Oak Bluffs at 6.30 and 9.50 A. M., 1.15 and 3.10 P. M.

Leave New Bedford for Nantucket,—7.15 A. M. and 1.30 P. M. Return—Leave Nantucket 7.30 A. M. and 12.45 P. M.

Leave New Bedford for Wood's Holl,—10.15 A. M., 1.30, 4.30 P. M. Return—Leave Wood's Holl 7.10, 10.40 A. M., 4.00 P. M.

Leave Wood's Holl for Oak Bluffs,—11.25 A. M., 2.40, 6.20 P. M. Return—Leave Oak Bluffs 6.30, 9.50 A. M., 3.10 P. M.

Leave Oak Bluffs for Nantucket,—9.15 A. M. and 3.30 P. M. Return—Leave Nantucket 7.30 A. M., 12.45 P. M.

Leave New Bedford for Vineyard Haven,—4.30 P. M. Return 6.00 A. M.

*Saturdays excepted, when passengers can take Steamer leaving New Bedford 4.30 P. M., and connect with Steamer leaving Oak Bluffs 7.00 P. M.

†SUNDAYS.†

Leave New Bedford,—8.45 A. M.; Wood's Holl 10.10; Oak Bluffs 10.50 A. M. for Nantucket. Return—Leave Nantucket 2.30; Oak Bluffs 4.45; Wood's Holl 5.40 P. M.

Excursion Tickets good until October 1st, 1880.
NEW BEDFORD TO OAK BLUFFS and return,..... \$1.00
" NANTUCKET 2.00
OAK BLUFFS TO NANTUCKET and return,..... 1.50

Limited tickets from Oak Bluffs to Nantucket, to go and return same day, \$1.00.

ANDREW BULLOCK & CO.,

No. 27 William Street, New Bedford, Mass.

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