1870 MASHPEE 1995

125th Anniversary

Errata Sheet for:

1870 – MASHPEE – 1995

125th Anniversary

A pictorial History by Rosemary H. Burns
Edited by Ann Whitlow

Page 20:	Present church erected in 1937
Page 24:	Back Row 2nd from Left – James Gaffney
Page 31:	Public Library completed in 1987
Page 48:	Date is 1960
Page 75:	Delete "since the 1842 land distribution" from picture at top right

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Complete documentation of manuscript
and sources of information provided by
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A Pictorial History

by

Rosemary H. Burns

edited by Ann M. Whitlow

Mashpee, the town, incorporated one hundred and twenty-five years ago on May 28, 1870, is home today to nearly 10,000 people year-round and 35,000 during the summer months. While today only a small percentage of year-round residents are descendants of the area's earliest inhabitants, in 1870 the large majority could claim an Indian heritage. The road to recognition as a town was long and often fractious, as various forms of government were tried and proven unsatisfactory because of the severe and most often unjust restraints placed upon the Indians.

One need read only a single petition of the many written in the 18th century to recognize the distress suffered by the area's Indians. However, a study of the hundreds of pages of records of the 19th century is necessary to discover the diverse feelings held by Mashpee's inhabitants about the distribution of the land and its government, especially as it referred to the change from restrictive district status to independent township.

As the English arrived on this continent in the 17th century, they quickly took up the land, establishing towns in the English form known to them - building meeting houses for religious and governmental purposes and electing officials among themselves, all the while displacing the Indians who had occupied the land for centuries before.

1670 - 1788

Already weakened by smallpox and the plague of 1616 and King Philip's War, the Indian population was diminished and their welfare was left to a few missionaries, in particular on Cape Cod, to Richard Bourne of Sandwich. Through Bourne's efforts, the Indians then in possession of the area now known as Mashpee deeded that area to the South Sea Indians with the stipulation that it not be sold without the permission of all of the Indians. In the setting aside the land, many acres were deeded to Richard Bourne.

Unlike the English settlers, who created a town center and expanded from that location, the Indians followed their own traditions and settled in separate small villages close to the several large bodies of water in Mashpee. In his report on the area in 1674, Reverend Richard Bourne mentioned: Santuit, Pawpoesit, Coatuit, Mashpee, Wakoquet, Codtanmut, Ashimuit and Weesquobs as settlements of the praying Indians.

Unhappy under the restrictive and severe forms of guardianship placed upon them by the Governor, the Indians forwarded petitions of their complaints to Boston, including one in 1748 concerning the intermedling of their three guardians "...we are likely to starve to death from hunger or from want." Still another was sent in 1753, recording the encroachments by the whites, the distances they had to travel for supplies and their best lands being given out.

By 1758, the Reverend Gideon Hawley had been sent to minister to the Indians at Mashpee, subsidized by philanthropists in England, The C orporation for Propagating the Gospel in New England. At this same time, Reuben Cognehew, described as "a Mohegan of the South Sea Indians concerned with the lack of attention Boston was giving the plight of the Indians at Mashpee, set out on what became a perilous sea voyage to go directly to the King of England with the Indians' complaints. His mission was successful, and Mashpee was given a certain degree of autonomy in its government through the Act of 1763.

The Preamble began

Whereas it hath been the repeated, and is the importunate desire of the Indians and Molattoes Proprietors in Mashpee, in the County of Barnstable, to be incorporated and vested with certain Priviledges,

The Act directed an annual meeting in the public Meeting House to elect a moderator, five overseers (two of whom were to be Englishmen), a Town Clerk and Treasurer, they also to be Englishmen, two wardens and one or more constables. The overseers had sole power to regulate the fishery and to allot out and proportion the uplands and the meadows. They were empowered to eject any persons who illegally came into possession of the land. It was further enacted that the Indian and Mulatto inhabitants could admit other Indians or Mulattoes to be inhabitants and proprietors. The Commissioners from the Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in New England and Parts Adjacent were to handle the llands for these newcomers and the interest arising from sales of lands was to be placed into the hands of the overseers" ... for the support of the poor and indigent Indians and Molattoes of said District of Mashpee."

By law, the Act was to continue for three years, but by then the entire countryside was embroiled in a call for independence from England, and the American Revolution occupied the government for the next several years. It would be fifteen years before another means of governing Mashpee was enacted.

In 1788, an Act was passed which returned the area to guardianship. Three proper persons were appointed and empowered to take into their

hands the lands, allotting them out from time to time. The income was applied for the support of the proprietors and for providing necessaries to them:" ...at the discretion of their said guardians." The guardians were, as before, to protect the land from trespassers. The section concerning indenture contained in the 1763 Act was once again enacted:

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Indian, Mulattoe or Negro Proprietor of said Lands, shall bind out his or her children, to any person or persons whatsoever by Indenture or in any other way, without the approbation of the said Guardians, or a Major Part of them...

Within six months, a new act was passed, repealing all other passed before . It began

...Whereas the provisions already made by law. . .
. . .are insufficient to the well ordering & managing their affairs, and protecting them against the arts & designs of those who may from time to time be disposed to take advantage of their weakness...

This new Act, approved February 2, 1789, provided for a board of five overseers having full power to establish rules and regulations, leasing the lands, regulating the streams and ponds, meting out lots. The regulations concerning indentures was changed to read:

And may also bind by Indenture, the Children of the poor of the said proprietors to suitable persons, of sober life and conversation, as they the said Overseers or Guardians may judge necessary and convenient.

1788 - 1833

The Overseers were allowed to appoint guardians to carry out their regulations and as in previous Acts, attention was paid to trespassers upon the proprietors land. The rents and profits from the lands, tenements and fisheries were to be distributed by the Overseers to the proprietors

... after deducting the reasonable expense of conducting their said business, payment of their just debts, and (from the common profits,) providing for the sick and indigent and reserving from time to time, such sum or sums as can conveniently be spared, for the support and continuance of religious instruction among them, and the Schooling of their children...

The next year, this Act was deemed "insufficient" and still another Act passed allowing the Overseers to appoint a constable, two fence viewers, two surveyors of highways, two hog reeves and one warden, all inhabitants of the Plantation. The Act also gave strong powers to the guardians to remove from the Plantation the several persons who had entered upon the lands of the proprietors and set up houses there without paying rent. Each of the acts referred to "Proprietors," but did not describe them.

The Act of 1789 attended to this in its preamble

Whereas many of the Indian Mulatto and Negro Inhabitants who occupy lands within the Plantation, have no other title to the same but what they derive from grants or assignments made to them by the original Proprietors, and it being necessary clearly to ascertain who are the Proprietors of said Plantation; Be it further enacted that the Guardian or Guardians shall make out a fair record of all the names of the Proprietors of said Plantation who usually reside within the same, and in all cases where the title of proprietorship shall appear doubtful, the Guardian or Guardians shall examine into the same, and if they find the claim of such Indian Mulatto or Negro either by descent, marriage or otherwise well founded (the Overseers confirming the same) his name shall be entered on said record, and such Indian, Mulatto or Negro shall be considered as a Proprietor of said Plantation to all intents and purposes.

In 1819, an Act in addition to the previous acts was passed and specified that henceforth to constitute a proprietor the person had to be a child or lineal descendant of a person who was already a proprietor. An important new concept was introduced in the 1819 Act, recognizing private ownership of real estate acquired by the industry of the proprietor, allowing him to enjoy, sell, alienate and dispose of land by deed, will or otherwise. Special attention was given in the Act of 1819 to the timber on the proprietors lands which was being illegally cut by some of the proprietors, as well as by trespassers.

Distinct from the common lands, separate parcels of land were attributed to private owners in the 1753 petition to the Legislature, but it was not until the Act of 1819 that the lands held in common began to be divided in earnest among the proprietors. By this time, the many acres given to Richard Bourne in the 1660s, and the lands awarded to several of his descendants for their services over the next 150 years, were sold to others. The 1820 Mashpee census lists twenty white families living and owning land in Mashpee.

Injustices and trespasses upon the proprietors' lands continued and great discontent prevailed, especially against their minister, Phineas Fish. In 1833, Pequot Indian William Apes, a Methodist minister from Connecticut, arrived in Mashpee (where by then the Baptist religion had become popular among the Native Americans) and helped the inhabitants organize themselves for a strong plea for self government. Aided by Osterville resident Benjamin Hallet, a lawyer and editor of the BOSTON ADVOCATE, many arguments were presented to the legislature by the Indians and their representatives. House Document #11 1834 page 13 refers to a peti-

tion praying that "our town" may be incorporated and called "Marshpee." It was signed by Israel Amos and 78 males 92 females on the Plantation and in behalf of 79 males 37 females absent "...who will not return to live under present laws - Total 287."

The Legislature's response was the Act of 1834 -- An Act to Establish the District of Marshpee. The Act recognized as voters all Indian and Mulatto proprietors of the district, including those "...as may be proprietors in right of a wife..." All had to be male and twenty-one years of age upwards. That Act called for the appointment of a commissioner of Marshpee by the governor, who was to be a resident of the county of Barnstable. He was to keep a list of the proprietors qualified to vote and was to call a meeting of those voters who would elect a clerk and three selectmen and one or more constables, all proprietors of Marshpee.

The responsibility for the care and management of all the proprietary lands held in common, including the fisheries, was placed in the hands of the Marshpee selectmen, as well as the allotments of the marsh and pasture lands, with the approbation of the Marshpee proprietors. The Act confirmed all the lands which had already been set off in severalty by the Act of 1819, and included the new allotments which continued to be given out - all duly recorded and described in a book called The Records of Deeds Allotments and Proprietaries Held in Severalty By The Proprietors of Marshpee (RDAP). By 1836, over ninety such allotments were recorded.

1833 - 1842

Section 7 of the Act of 1834 empowered the Marshpee selectmen to set off to proprietors, from the common land, as much land as they deemed "...just and proper." Determining what was just and proper created major decisions for the selectmen and the district meetings, as families grew and more proprietors requested property rights. Major decisions were also required as proprietors requested the selectmen to exchange pieces of property already allotted to them for other acreage. In addition, each year the handling of the common marsh and meadows took more and more of the Marshpee selectmen's time because expenses for the District grew and increased income from the auctioning of the common lands annually was needed to pay for the support of the poor, support of the schools, and any other charges incurred by the District.

As was the case for so many of the Acts enacted by the Legislature in the past, the Act of 1834 did not please all of the proprietors. Within three years, in 1837, eighteen Marshpee proprietors sent a petition to the General Court complaining that "...matters are worse then ever..." They complained that the selectmen were using the best lands, that the marsh was not producing income as before, and too much was being spent on legal fees.

The proprietors and their representative selectmen discussed two major issues during the late 1830's. The first pertained to the dissatisfaction with the Reverand Phineas Fish and his control of the Meeting House and use of the Parsonage Lot, which was resolved by the Parish Enactment Law of March 21, 1840, allowing the proprietors sole rights to their Meeting House and Parsonage Lot.

The second pertained to the white families owning lands in Marshpee -- lands purchased from the heirs of the Bourne descendants. An Agreement (pages 432 and 433 of The Records of Deeds and Allotment) was reached between the Selectmen of the District of Marshpee: Solomon Attaquin, Daniel B. Amos, and Matthias Amos and eleven men, including three Bournes, two Phinneys as well as the Messrs. Weeks, Childs, Hatch, Tobey, Crocker and Smalley agreeing that for "a fair price..." their properties would be set to the town of Falmouth, with the approval of the Legislature. That approval was given by the Act of 1840, placing the area known as Waquoit in Falmouth.

Tremendous activity continued concerning the common lands, incuding a vote made at the April 1839 District Meeting requesting the Marshpee selectmen to set off to each male Proprietor 21 years and older "Privilege Lots" of 20 to 25 acres each, but stipulating that timber was not to be cut nor transported from those lots without the selectmen's permission annually. However, this action lasted for only three years, when the District Meeting of January 1842 voted 31 to 1 to petition the Legislature to set off 60 acres to each male and female proprietor of the age of 21. The Legislature acted quickly, and on March 3, 1842, the Governor approved the Act of 1842 dividing the major portion of Marshpee's lands into private ownership, stipulating, however, in Section 8 that the lands could not be conveyed to anyone other than a proprietor. Each of the 184 names of proprietors entitled to receive land and the description of the lands given to them are all listed in The Records of Deeds and Allotment book.

There were many, including the Commissioner of Marshpee, Charles Marston, who warned against giving out so much acreage to persons who had never had the opportunity of acquiring the habit of husbanding their resources. Many of the dire predictions of disaster came true as evidenced in the Reports to the Governor in both 1849 and 1859, which described the wood being cut at improper seasons and sold for much less than its value. House Document No.46, dated 1849 states

...it will correct itself in one way because as the law allows the transfer of land among themselves, the indolent and improvident will gradually dispose of portions of their lands to the more thrifty and economical habits will be formed.

John Milton Earle in his Report to the Governor and Council (Senate No. 86 1861) said that because the lands could not be sold to other than proprietors, land that could be bought cheaply was not bought even by others in the District because "...such proprietors as are able to buy, already hold in severalty more land than they have occasion for." Devasting fires in the 1840s and 50s, consumed over 5,000 acres and added to the discontent. Mr. Earle reported that at a public hearing held in the District regarding the extension of full citizenship, "...the vote was unanimous in favor of remaining the way they are."

1842 -1869

Marshpee was in continual debate about individual land holdings, as well as the sharing of the common lands in the mid 1800s, as evidenced by the District Meeting records, but the residents were also well aware of the greater debate absorbing the entire nation -- more than just the abolishing of slavery, more than just recognition of each person's equality, it was a time of opportunity -- a time to succeed and prosper determined by each person's own efforts. Even though the Indians had been given the right to vote by the Commonwealth by the Act of 1869, they were not allowed to participate in state and federal elections, because Marshpee was not a town. Several of the white families in Marshpee, anxious to belong to a recognized town, in 1859 and again in 1860, requested and were granted the right to annex to the town of Sandwich. The properties and polls of several longtime residents, including the Jones, Howlands, Collins, Goodspeeds and Harlows, were moved to Sandwich jurisdiction.

During the years of Marshpee's existence as a District, 1834-1870, votes on minor and major issues are recorded in the Records of District Meetings, yet no mention of a vote to petition the Legislature about the important issue of town incorporation is found in a careful research of the Records. An alternative to town incorporation was proposed at the District Meeting of March 2, 1869, when the citizens were asked if they would like to be annexed to an adjoining town. The vote was unanimous against annexation.

In the late 1860s, as the newly introduced cranberry culture brought added importance to the land, a petition signed by several of the proprietors was sent to the Legislature requesting incorporation as a town, and a remonstrance against signed by many other proprietors quickly followed.

On February 9, 1869, the Governor sent his Committee on Indians to Marshpee "...mainly for the purpose of getting at the reasons which induced you and the rest to sign the remonstrance..." according to Chairman Mr. Holden. Thirty-four pages of testimony are recorded in House Document No. 502. George Thomas Sewall, the first speaker of the day, strongly urged full citizenship for all of Marshpee's residents. Not one of the speakers asked that the District <u>not</u> be incorporated as a town, but asked only that it be put off. Reverend Joseph Babcock Amos, the blind Baptist minister spoke eloquently:

...I have come to this conclusion, knowing and believing that the time would come, that the time must come when the honorable legislature of this State would take away the entailments upon our properties, and would place us upon the ground of equal rights -- take away all the restrictions, and make us in every respect in that matter, like other men. That I look for, -- that I am looking for now. It was not with opposition against that proceeding that we remonstrated against the petition, but it is my view, when I say we are not ready for it now...

Samuel Godfrey, the widower of Hannah Mye, was a supporter of town incorporation when he said, "I have been trying to make Marshpee shine with any other town..."

Mariner Matthias Amos observed:

I have accumulated a trifle, and make a good comfortable living, wholesome and healthy. I have done it by going out. I could not have done it here, because my property was not worth anything. I could not go and mortgage my land for three or four hundred dollars and get money to work it with.

Finally, Committee member Mr. King asked the last speaker of the day, in referring to the remonstrators,

"If they had acted independently, and according to their own feelings and views, they would like these young men to be citizens?" to which Solomon Attaquin, a strong proponent of incorporation, answered, "Yes, sir."

The following questions were then put to the meeting by Mr. Holden:

First. How many are in favor of the petition asking that restriction may be taken off of the lands, so that the lands may be sold to strangers as well as others?

Second. How many would like to be citizens?

Upon the first question, fourteen voted in the affirmative, and twenty-six in the negative; upon the second question, eighteen voted in the affirmative, and eighteen in the negative. The meeting was then dissolved.

The 1860s was a very significant decade in America's history, when the effects of the civil war and amendments 14 and 15 to the Constitution were felt throughout the nation, including the District of Marshpee. Discussions continued for another year, until finally a decision on the matter was reached by the Legislature. On May 28, 1870, An Act to Incorporate The Town of Mashpee was approved.

Be enacted as follows:

The district of Marshpee is hereby abolished, and the territory comprised therein hereby incorporated into a town by the name of Mashpee; and said town of Mashpee is hereby invested with all the powers, privileges, rights and immunities, and subject to all the duties and requisitions to which other towns are entitled and subject by the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

1870

Many names of early families still exist in Mashpee: Coombs, Hendricks, Hicks, Jonas, Mills, Oakley, Pells, Pocknet--while many others have disappeared including Amos, Attaquin, Keeter, Mingo, Mye, Simon, Queppish, and Webquish.

Oaks Coombs

Ellsworth Oakley (Later"Chief Drifting Goose")

Lizetta Pocknet Barbar, Anne Attaquin Pocknet, Dorcas Coombs Gardner

Amanda Hicks Gardner Coombs

George Thomas Sewall

Ann Foller Sewall

Sally Hirsch

Three generations of the Frederick Jonas family

The DeGrasse house pictured c. 1925 stood on the site of the New Seabury Reception Center. The house barely visible in the background was the Pells homestead on the south shore of Ockway Bay.

Ambrose Pells "Chief Rain in the Face"

Leonard Pells

Osmond Pells

DeGrasse girls: Rosamond "Cotton Blossom" chosen the prettiest at the 1928 Pow Wow and her sisters Cora and Reliance

Earl Mills "Chief Flying Eagle" with four of his five children: Roxanne, Shelley, Robert, and Earl Jr.

Robert and Lambert Mills

George Oakley (originally Okrey)

Ferdinand and Emma Oakley Mills

Members of the Hammond family with Flora Amos

Family of Selectman Stephen Peters and his wife Clara. Many of the Peters family have served Mashpee in various positions L-R: Anne, Randy, John, Russell, Muriel, Clara, Stephen, Amelia

Mashpee's Indian heritage is nurtured by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council incorporated July 11,1976. Headquartered on a fifty-five acre site on Great Neck Road South. It was purchased from the Town for $500, May 28, 1975.

Marcia Averett Lindsey displays a quilt raffled as a fund raiser for the Tribal Council.

Before restoration, the present Museum building was the home of Mabel Avant from 1924 until sold to the Town in 1970. It had earlier been the homestead of Timothy Pocknett, which he purchased in 1863. Captain John Phinney owned and lived in the house earlier in the century. (Barnstable Registry of Deeds Book 99 Page 524).

An early view of the present Museum.

The Mabel Avant homestead before restoration.

Restored with Federal funds, the Mashpee Indian Museum was dedicated July 1973.

Amelia Peters Bingham, an important figure in the Museum's beginning, sits in the front room of the museum.

Dedication of Lorenzo Jeffers Memorial Plaque November 29, 1974.

Mabel Avant, standing left pictured at a pow wow.

Bourne/Jones/Besse farm pictured c. 1900.

On August 2, 1833, Nathan Bourne's widow, Patience Jones Bourne, and her sons sold twenty-five acres and their dwelling house, barn, cornhouse and other out buildings to Patience Bourne's nephew Isaac Jones for $845. It remains in the family today, having passed from Isaac to his son Edwin, then to Edwin's daughter Lillian who was married to Edward Besse of Fairhaven. Divided among the Besse children in 1935, Allen Besse retained the dwelling house. Surrounded by five acres, today it is owned by Barbara Besse Nichols.

Edward and Lillian Besse in front of the house which still stands on the eastern shore of Mashpee Pond.

The Bourne/Jones/Besse farmhouse pictured c. 1920.

Hotel Attaquin pictured c. 1920.

The Parsonage as it stands today opposite the Museum. Ebenezer and Benjamin Attaquin sold this building on present Route 130 to the Inhabitants of the Parish in 1852 for $550 to house the presiding minister.

For only a few years in the 1880s, the early 19th century homestead of Nathan S. Pocknet was used as the town's Poor House. It stands today on the western banks of Ockway Bay.

Early view of the house which exists to the left rear of today's Country Store on Route 130. It was Solomon Attaquin's home at the time of his death in 1895. It was then sold to Irving and Christine Oakley.

The Meeting House. The Congregational Church ministered to the local residents until the establishment of the Parish Act of 1840, placing the centuries old Meeting House in control of the Proprietors. It was used for town meetings until 1888, but is now used only on special occasions.

Elwod Mills Sr. and Elwood Mills Jr. in regalia.

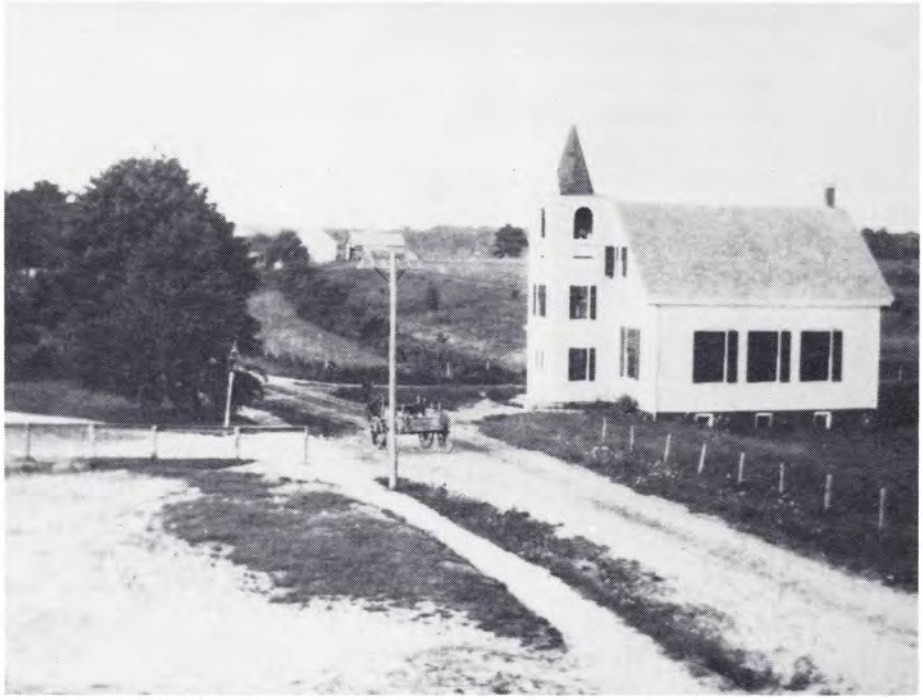
The Meeting House before it underwent several renovations, the last, changing to one front entrance.

While today all local burials occur at the Burial Ground surrounding the Meeting House, several old family cemeteries exist in Mashpee. The identification and protection of these plots, begun by the Bi-Centennial Committee chaired by Hazel Oakley, is an on-going project of the Historical Commission.

A Mashpee VFW Memorial Day ceremony at the Meeting House Burial Grounds

Earle Marsters, second from left, donated the Ashumet Pond cemetery to the town in 1994. Pictured are Ken Marsters, Marie Scalley and Ann Tanneyhill both of the Mashpee Historical Commission, and Hicks family descendants Lucinda Lashley, Estella Booker and her son Keith.

John Freeman introduced the Baptist religion to Mashpee. It soon became the prominent religion, flourishing in the 1830's with the preaching of blind native son Joseph Babcock Amos. The Williams Fund, administered by Harvard College through a bequest of Englishman Daniel Williams in 1711 to help spread the Gospel to the Indians, continues in a small way to support the Baptist Church in Mashpee.



Built in 1888, for the Good Templars, a Masonic rite. the building known as The Dawn of Hope, was purchased by the Mashpee Baptist Church in 1898. It burned in 1935.

Views in 1920's

Present church erected in 1935.

On November 25, 1984, the Parish of Christ the King was established by Daniel A. Cronin, Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Fall River. Reverend Ronald A. Tosti was appointed Pastor of the new parish whose members lived within that portion of the Town of Barnstable to the south and west of a boundary line formed by Route 6, Route 149 and Prince Avenue and the entire Town of Mashpee. Church was dedicated on November 26, 1989.

Built in 1939 in Santuit, St. Jude's Chapel was moved on December 28, 1988, to become part of Christ the King complex.

The Pentecostal Society held its first meetings at the old town hall, until 1939, when it built this church.

Laura Newcomb Green, one of the Pentecostal Society's founders.

Queen of All Saints Chapel was completed on Great Neck Road South in 1967, and used as the Catholic Church until 1989. It is now used for services of the Jubilee Christian Fellowship.

In the 1950's, Sunday Mass was said for the Roman Catholic residents at the Popponesset Community Center, built in 1953 where the Waquoit Congregational also held services.

Built in 1888, for the Public Hall Library Society, this building stood to the left of today's Country Store on Main Street then known as Snake Pond Road. Mashpee rented the hall for town meetings until 1905, when it purchased the building for $700 and installed a corrugated iron ceiling at that time. In 1908, the selectmen and town clerk moved their offices into the town hall, vacating their room in the schoolhouse. To the left of Town Hall was Annie Pocknet's house and store, later the tea room of Lara Couett and still later the American Legion's headquarters. Eventually, a new structure was built behind the Town Hall by the American Legion, which later was destroyed by fire.

Steven A. Peters, Harrison R. Frye and Leo H. Peters served as selectmen in the 1940's

Pictured in 1934 when the town hall was reshingled, new windows added and the town office extended. The building served for town meeting until 1946 and as the polling place until 1948, when all activities were moved to "Legion Hall," the former USO building located to the east of today's ballfield on Route 130.

Sample Ballot 1941

To Vote for a person mark a cross X in the square at the right of the name.

MODERATOR, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- EDMUND B. AMOS — Nom. Paper 80
- FRANK H. HICKS — Nom. Paper 99

SELECTMAN, for Three Years — Vote for ONE
- HARRISON R. FRYE — Nom. Paper 120
- STEVEN A. PETERS — Nom. Paper 75

TOWN CLERK, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- FLORA E. AMOS — Nom. Paper 151

TOWN TREASURER, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- EMMA O. MILLS — Nom. Paper 158

ASSESSOR, for Three Years — Vote for ONE
- LAURIE GREEN — Nom. Paper 153

HIGHWAY SURVEYOR, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- NATHAN J. PETERS — Nom. Paper 128

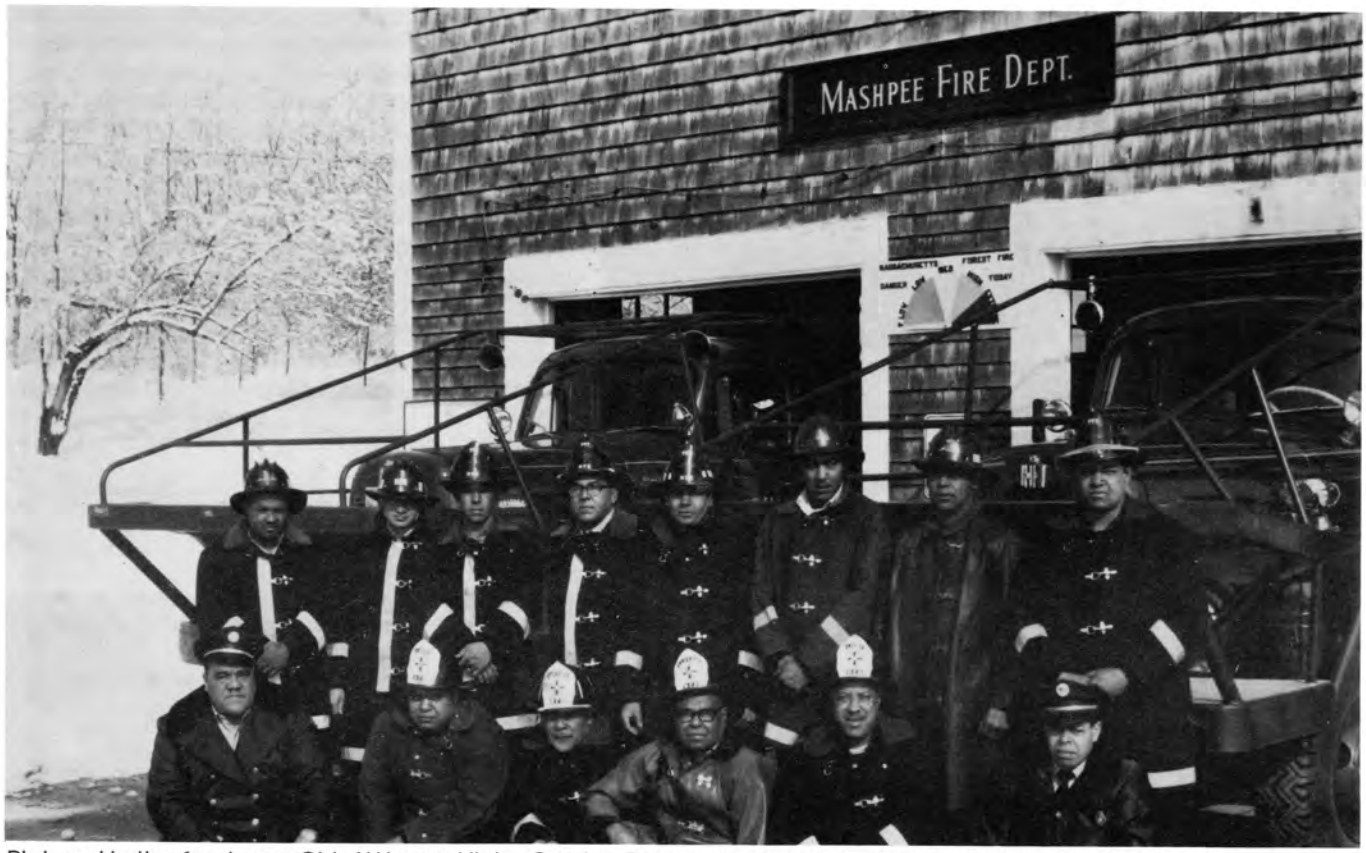
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, for Three Years — Vote for ONE
- CLARA J. PETERS — Nom. Paper 85
- BESSIE B. STURGIS — Nom. Paper 112

TREE WARDEN, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- GEORGE E. AVANT — Nom. Paper 79
- MILTEER H. HENDRICKS — Nom. Paper 107

COLLECTOR OF TAXES, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- EMMA O. MILLS — Nom. Paper 153

CONSTABLE, for One Year — Vote for ONE
- BERNARD H. CARTER — Nom. Paper 66
- EDWIN L. WHITE — Nom. Paper 1

TRUSTEE PUBLIC LIBRARY, for Three Years — Vote for ONE
- STELLA A. HICKS — Nom. Paper 113
- ETTA F. TOBEY — Nom. Paper 74



Pictured in the front row: Chief Warren Hicks, Gordon Peters, Donald Hicks, Chester Peters, Gordon Green, Edward Peters. Back row: Larry Dove, Vernon Lopez, Milton Hendricks, William Mills, Domingo Texeira, Leigh Potter, Daniel Frye, Seaman Turner Jr.

First Fire Chief Ellsworth Peters who served from 1950-1968

A new truck, acquired in 1958. The combination brush breaker, pumper, tanker is still owned by the Mashpee Fire Department.

Built in 1941, the USO building on Route 130 was used by the armed services until 1944. While it served as the USO building, several large groups gathered to watch boxing matches, including one in 1943 when 500 people saw local favorite, "Mashpee Clipper" Honeyboy Newcomb, win once again. Located next to Pocknett Field, the town voted $15,000 in 1946 to purchase it and the next year another $1600 for renovations. The building was headquarters for the Police Department and was used for recreational and community purposes. In the 1950's, it was rented for the summer to the University Show Company for presentations by the Oberlin College Group.

Legion Commander Charles Hicks and American Legion Auxiliary member Violet Peters raised the first town flag at Mashpee's Centennial opening ceremonies July 25, 1970.

Leroy Aiken, Clara Peters Bigelow (Keliinui) Mashpee's first woman selectman and William Mills.

Emma Oakley Mills, Mashpee's longtime tax collector and treasurer served from 1930 until 1961.

Mashpee selectmen and school committee members witness Governor Michael Dukakis signing special legislation which excluded the land where the Middle School was being built, from the class action suit during the Land Suit, in order to facilitate financing construction of the school in 1977.

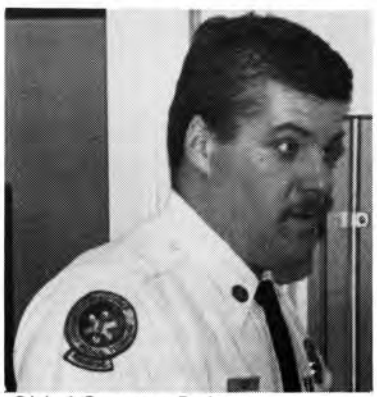
When the Middle School was completed in 1977, town offices moved into the Samuel G. Davis School.

A town meeting in the Middle School.

The Town Barn, Mashpee's first Town Hall on Route 130 opposite Great Neck North pictured in the 1970s.

1939 Maxim fire truck.

Mashpee Fire Department building completed 1979.



Chief George Baker

The Rescue truck

L-R Chief Frank Hicks, John Peters, Bernard Carter, Edward Tavares pictured in 1955 in front of the town's first cruiser car.

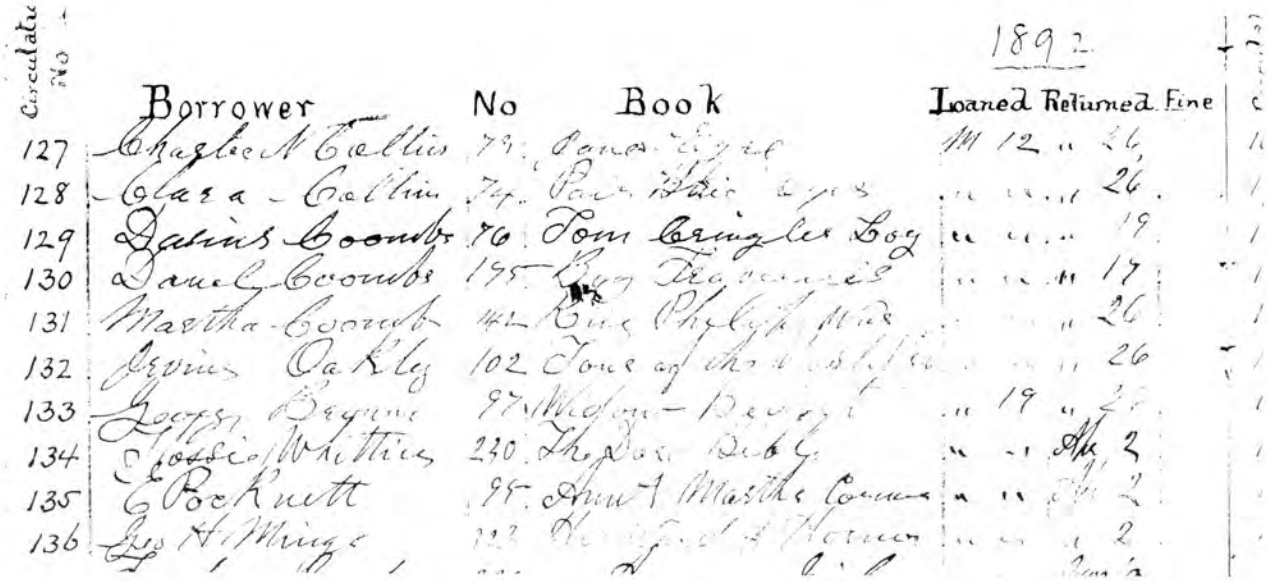
Police Department 1970

The Department 1975: L-R Ptl. David Fitzgerald, Chief George Bingham Jr., Ptl. Bradford Fish Sr., Dep. Chief Curtis Frye, Ptl. David Aitchison, Det. Edgar Burroughs, Sgt. Albert Gonsalves, Ptl. Frederick Peters Sr., Ptl Vernon Thomas, Ptl. Lawrence Frye, Sgt. Robert Costa, Ptl. Mitchell Swierz Jr., Ptl. Remmert Kokmeyer, Ptl. Wilson Landers.

Mashpee Police Department building completed 1979, addition added 1991

Pictured in the 1930s. early law officers: William James, Lewis Mills and Frederick T. Gardner. Wilbur Oakley was Mashpee's first full-time police chief appointed in 1960.

Curtis Frye, a Mashpee native, served as Police Chief from 1981 until 1994. His successor, Chief William Przybylek on his left.



Circulation No	Borrower	No	Book	1892 Loaned	Returned	Fine
127	Charles N Collins	79	Pauline Eyre	M 12	"	26
128	Clara Collins	74	Paul Blake Eyes	"	"	26
129	Lasius Coombs	76	Tom Bringles Boy	"	"	19
130	Daniel Coombs	195	Guy Deacons	"	"	17
131	Martha Coombs	42	Rue Phyllis Mid	"	"	26
132	Irving Oakley	102	Tone of the Castle	"	"	26
133	George Bagnell	97	Midge Bessy	"	19	25
134	Jessie Whittier	230	The Dear Baby	"	"	Ap 3
135	E Pocknett	95	Ann A Martha Comes	"	"	[illegible] 2
136	Geo H Mingo	122	[illegible]	"	"	2

Mashpee's first library was housed in the Public Hall Library Society building in the 1890s, and later in the North Mashpee School. In 1928, $1625 was appropriated for a library building. That building is pictured in 1961 when it was moved north a few hundred yards while the addition to Davis school was completed. The building was sold and the library operated for three years in the cafeteria of the school.

Emil Hanslin, developer of New Seabury for the Chace family, initiated a building fund for a new library and in 1963 is shown presenting a check for $3700 to Alice Hicks, a member of the library committee.

The Mashpee Library 1966

Public Library built 1985

Librarian Helene DeFoe (3rd from left) receives an award as Employee of the Month in 1993 from Selectman Nancy Caffyn. Also pictured Executive Secretary Robert Whritenour Jr. on the left and Chairman of Personnel Board Robert Sullivan.

Rosemary Burns and Ann Tanneyhill, who served as Commission Chairman for 10 years and as a Library Trustee.

In 1985, the Town voted to house the Mashpee Archives in the old library building under the supervison for the Mashpee Historical Commission. Available for public use at the Archives are all of the 1842 and 1870 land distributions which have been microfilmed and printed.

The Treasurer's book, beginning 1820, plus the District Meeting Records starting in 1834, as well as census records, vital records and mortgages. The Historical Commission maintains a research library of over 300 books, both rare and new volumes pertaining to Indians and local history.

L-R George Benway, Marian Griffin, Clara Peters Dickson, Amelia Studley Miller and Mial Folkins are shown in front of an old building (reportedly the old beauty salon) moved from Camp Edwards and converted into The Mashpee Senior Citizens Center.

The converted building 1976.

Mashpee Council on Aging
cordially invites you to attend
the formal dedication of
The Mashpee Senior Citizens Center
on Sunday, October 24, 1976
at two o'clock
Great Neck Road
Mashpee, Massachusetts

Walker Talkers

Nutrition: Elaine Baker, Josephine Cardello, Jennie Morris, Theresa Davignon, Shirley Peters, director

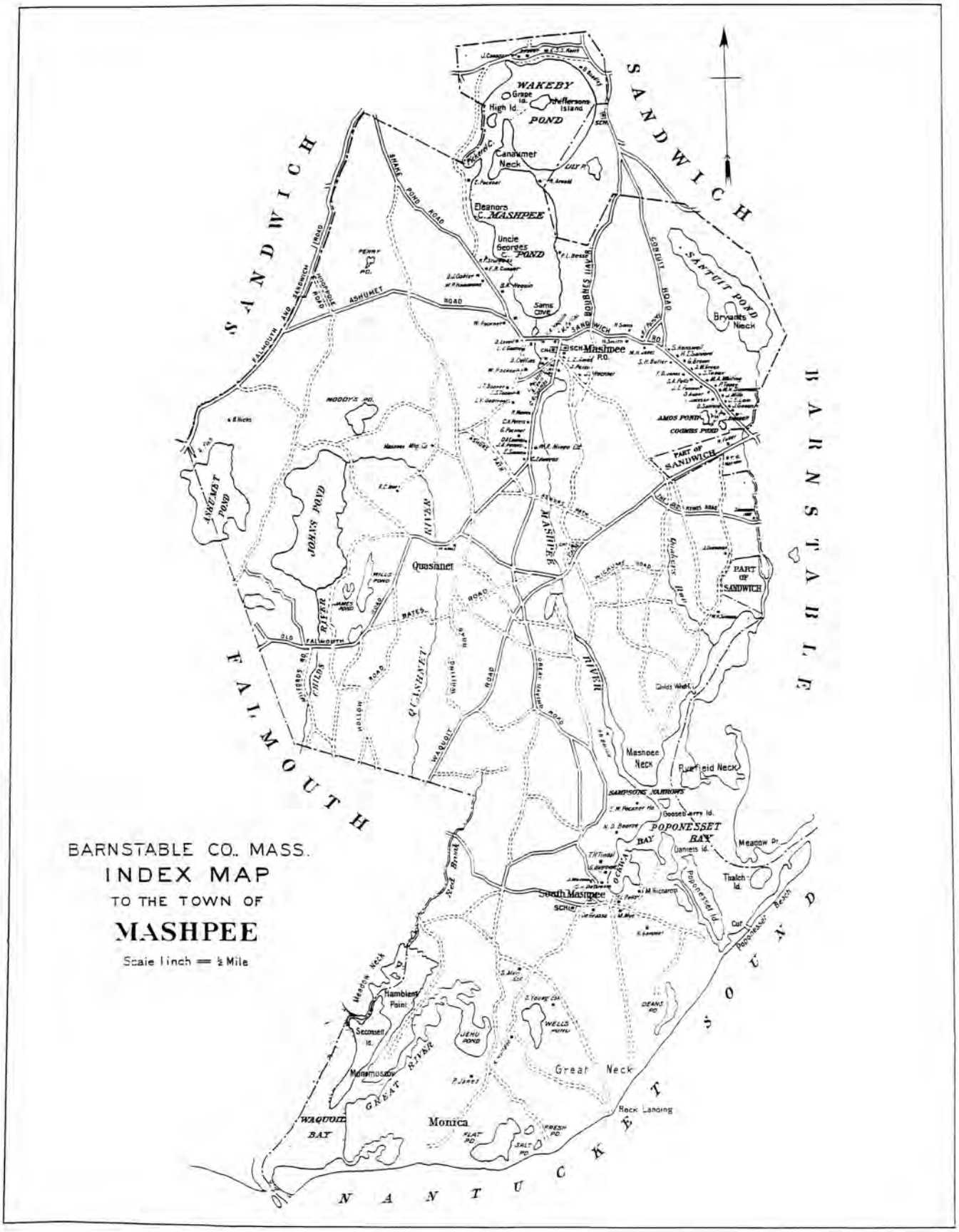
Off to the Flower Show: Flo Buckingham, Florence Wall, Marian Folkins, Ellie Hatcher, Viola Spousta

Selectman James Vaccaro presents first Citizen of the Year Award to Ellie Hatcher

The remodeled Senior Citizens building 1994

Director Jim Long, Outreach Director Lynn Waterman, Aurora Bird, and 1995 Council on Aging President Betty Jones.

Selectman Carol Jacobson ,who died in 1994, for whom the Senior Citizens building is named


BARNSTABLE CO. MASS.
INDEX MAP
TO THE TOWN OF
MASHPEE
Scale 1 inch = ½ Mile
SANDWICH
SANDWICH
FALMOUTH
BARNSTABLE
NANTUCKET SOUND
WAKEBY POND
Grape Id.
High Id.
Jeffersons Island
Canawmet Neck
Eleanors C.
MASHPEE POND
Uncle Georges C.
POND
Sams Cove
Mashpee P.O.
SANTUIT POND
Bryants Neck
AMOS POND
COGGINS POND
PART OF SANDWICH
PART OF SANDWICH
MOODY'S PD.
JOHNS POND
ASHUMET POND
Quashnet
MASHPEE RIVER
QUASHNET RIVER
Mashpee Neck
Rushfield Neck
SAMPSONS SQUTTERS
POPONESSET BAY
Daniels Id.
Meadow Pt.
Thatch Id.
Poponesset Id.
Cut
South Mashpee
Hambletons Point
Seconsett Id.
JEHU POND
WELLS POND
Great Neck
Rock Landing
Monomoscoy
GREAT RIVER
WAQUOIT BAY
Monica
FLAT PD.
SALT PD.
FRESH PD.
DEANS PD.
Meadow Neck
Nobb Bank
Childs River
Childs Wharf
Old Falmouth Rd.
Falmouth and Sandwich Road
Ashumet Road
Shape Pond Road
Cobbs Hill Road
Conduit Road
Sandwich Road
Mashpee Road
Quashnet Road
Waquoit Road
Great Neck Road
Rushes Road
Rushes Road
Mashpee Road
Quashnet Road
Old Falmouth Rd.
Childs River Rd.
Holden Road
Waquoit Road
Great Neck Road
Mashpee River
Quashnet River
Great River
Nobb Bank
Meadow Neck
Poponesset Id.
Poponesset Beach

The Legislature voted $400 for two schools in Mashpee in 1831. The South Mashpee School was built in 1831 at the southwest corner of today's Great Oak and Red Brook roads. It was used as a school until 1900, and it was purchased the next year by the Young People's Baptist Society and used for religious services. Sold to Fields Point Mfg. Co. in 1953, it was donated by the New Seabury Company to the Town in 1975 as part of the Bicentennial celebration and moved to its present location next to the Meeting House.

The South Mashpee School later known as the Ockway Chapel.

Charles Hammond, teacher in South Mashpee.

To better serve the South Mashpee students, the Town purchased the old South Sandwich school for $200 in 1900 (paying another $300 to move it to its present location on the north side of Red Brook Road). Closed in 1906 for lack of students, the building was sold to the Haynes family in 1927 for $450.

The North Mashpee School was built in 1831 on the west side of the Mashpee River about a mile south of Route 130. In 1851, it was moved to the location of today's Town Hall and remained there until 1890 when it was sold for $20, and removed when a new school was voted by Town Meeting, and built on the same site.

North Mashpee School built 1831

North Mashpee School built 1890

Forestdale July 1 1890

Mr Charles G Ellis agrees to erect School House in Town of Mashpee as per plan and Specifications for the sum of $2,070=00 Two thousand and Seventy Dollars".

C G Ellis.

This picture of the North Mashpee School in 1939 shows the construction of the Samuel G. Davis School in the rear and the Library building to the north.

TOWN OF MASHPEE, MASS.

TEACHERS'

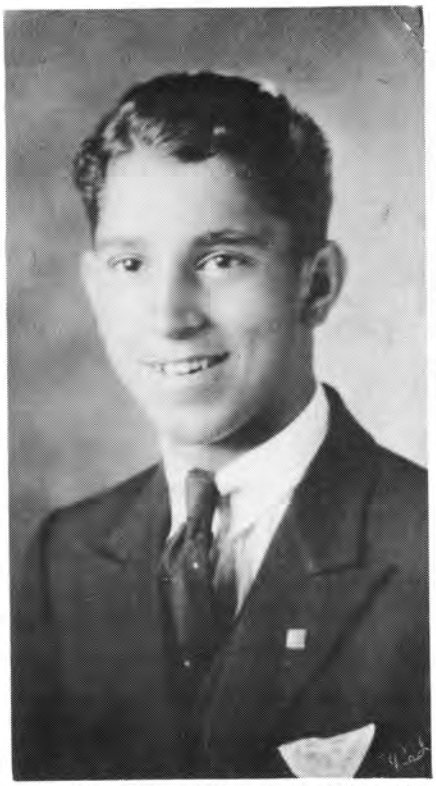
MONTHLY REPORT

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT.

SCHOOL CENSUS OF , 190 PAGE

(This line for such use as may be deemed convenient.)

Nos.	Names.	Sex.	Date of Birth.	Age, Sept. 1. Yrs.	Age, Sept. 1. Mos.	Name of Parent or Person in charge.	Residence.	R
1	Degrass Irving S.	M.	1892	13	8	Elias. J. Degrass	So Mashpee	
2	Degrass Beatrice L.	F	1893	11	8	"	"	
3	Degrass Alston	M	1894	10	3	"	"	
4	Degrass Cara A.	F	1899	7	7	"	"	
5	Tobey Avis F	F	1899	6	3	Tobey Louisa P.	So Mashpee	
6	Pells Florence A	F	1898	7	5	Pells Osmond A.	S Mashpee	
7	Pells Esther M.	F	1900	5	5	"	"	
8	Peters Richard L.	M	1892	13	9	Peters Samuel H.	Mashpee	
9	Peters Frank A.	M.	1898	7	5	"	"	
10	Mingo Daisy F.	F	1893	12		Mingo Russel B.	"	
11	Peters Nathan J.	M	1891	14	7	Peters Charles	"	
12	Peters William H.	M.	1894	10	11	"	"	
13	Peters Mary E.	F	1896	9	3	"	"	
14	Peters Stephen A	M.	1897	7	8	"	"	
15	Pells Genevieve E.	F	1897	8		Pells Ambrose A.	"	
16	Pells Bernard H.	M.	1898	7	2	"	"	
17	Cowett Julius W.	M.	1899	6	2	Cowett Julius J.	"	
18	Sandford Oswald J.	M	1899	6	2	Sandford Harvey	"	
19	Jonas Edsie V.	F	1893	11	10	Jonas Frederick L.	"	
20	Webster Walter M.	M	1891	14		Brown Geo. A.	"	
21	Webster Byron A.	M.	1890	15		Tobey Philena	"	
22	Sturges Mary A.	F	1898	7	3	Sturges Christine	"	
23	Pells Emma G.	F	1898	6	11	Pells Silas A.	"	



Teacher Theodore Jonas pictured c. 1930.

Principal Simeon Kinsley and teacher Alvema Consolini from the North School return to a reunion with their students sixty years later in 1991.

School Committee members Stella A. Hicks, Gustavus Couett and E. Abigail Peters meet with Superintendent James Peebles, 2nd from left.

Principals of the North School Harold Fenerty and Simeon Kinsley.

Samuel Gross Davis was a benefactor of the school children of Mashpee. Born in Brunswick, Maine, in 1841, he moved to Boston to pursue a career in the wholesale fish business and later in real estate. He married Josephine A Ellery, a teacher of the Salem Normal School. An only child of the couple died at birth. According to an earlier study, Samuel Davis lived for over forty years in a large house at 120 Highland Street in Roxbury, built by a former mayor of the city. "He became so attached to this house that as the better class of people who had been his neighbors, moved away to give place to more commercial interests, he bought all the property adjoining his own so that he could remain in his house which he loved so well." Mr. Davis also owned a cottage in West Falmouth on Cape Cod.

He was a very private man, according to letters written after his death in 1932, little known even by his cousins to whom he bequeathed money in his will. In 1908, Samuel G. Davis wrote a will, providing among many bequests distribution of funds to three school districts to be awarded annually to students exhibiting "kind good manners." In so doing, he referred to a schoolmate, "Hattie C. Boutelle, who was distinguished for her good manners."

To Brunswick Maine he left $5000. To the City of Boston he left one-fifth of his estate to be used exclusively in the Roxbury school district. To Mashpee he left one-tenth of the residue of his estate because as his will reads,"...by family tradition one of my ancestors was an Indian woman of Concord, Massachusetts, and as the inhabitants of Mashpee which is near beautiful West Falmouth are mostly Indians and negroes."

Mashpee requested and received permission from the Probate Court to use some of these funds to construct a new school in 1939, which bears the name Samuel G. Davis. Each of the three school districts mentioned in his will continue to benefit from his generosity.

Beverly Green and Cheryl Green holding hands on steps of the Davis school

LLOYD M. HENDRICK
ARCHITECT
COUNTY ROAD, POCASSET, MASS.

September 21, 1940.

To Grade School Building Committee,
Town of Mashpee.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Fee - 6% on cost of construction -

Cost of Construction: $43,043.10

Amount of Fee $2,582.59

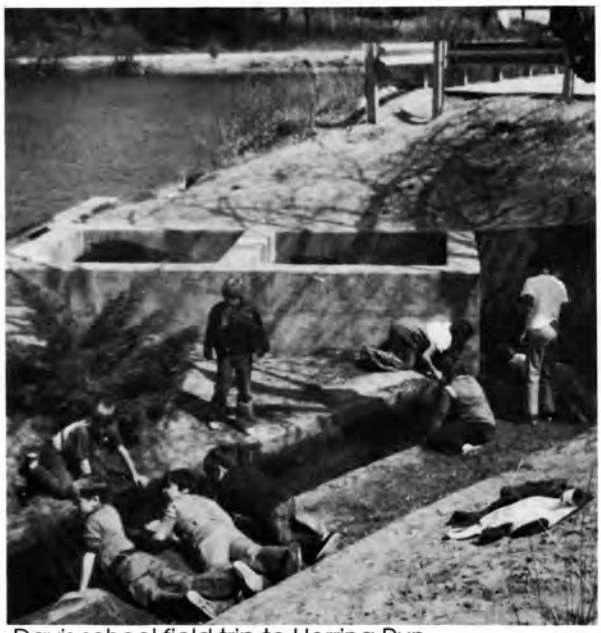
Received on Account 2,570.58

Balance due $12.01

Received Payment!

The Samuel G. Davis School built 1939. An addition was added to left side of building in 1961, and portable classrooms added in 1973

Teacher Ellen Pike (Davis) in classroom in 1971.



Davis school field trip to Herring Run

Front Row: Kathy Donovan (Penney), Ellen Pike (Davis), Pat DeConto, Mr. Kenneth Coombs (Principal), Priscilla Rollins, Marilyn Strauss, Betty Pierce Middle Row: Mary Ryder, Tess Crimmins, Karen Berube, Mary Durham, Dotty Fernald, Betty Burke, Grace Day, Eleanor Ringling, Trish Parolksi, Kathy McGonagle Back Row: Fred Jordan, Bob Sisson, Dave Konigsburg, Mike Horne, Dave Velesig, David Consolvi

Middle School group

1994 graduation ceremony

Middle School students participate for D.A.R.E. in Falmouth parade.

Charles P. Liberty, Assistant Principal at the Davis School in 1977, served as Principal at Mashpee Middle School from 1978 until his retirement in 1993.

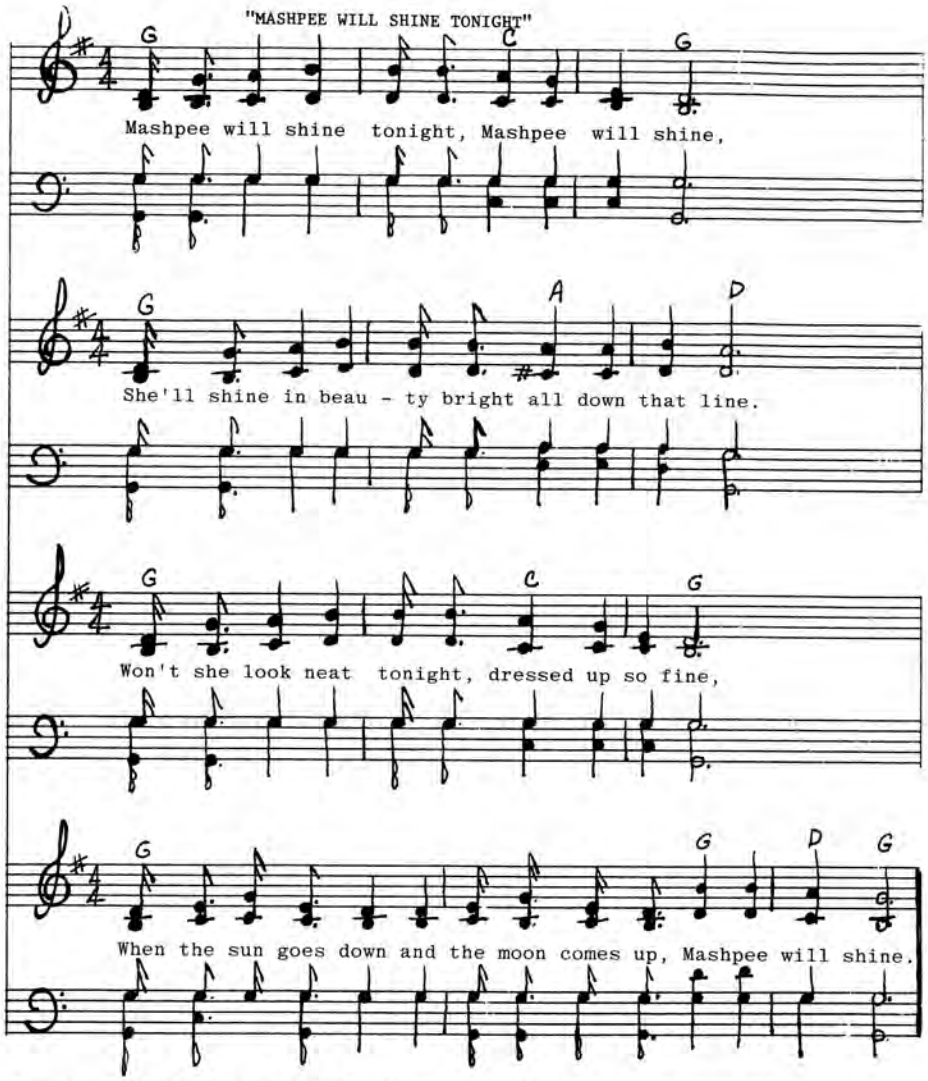
Kenneth C. Coombs School

Kenneth C. Coombs active with the Mashpee school system as a teacher and later principal from 1937 until his retirement in 1978.

Easter egg hunt on Coombs' school grounds

Halloween pageant Principal Nick Feldman on left

Lincoln DeMoura Ed D became Superintendent of Schools for Mashpee in 1987, when Mashpee separated from Union 10 School District.



Mashpee Rally Song c. 1930's -- Transcribed by Carol A. Lopez 1995

The Wamps

We are the four directions
We are East, West, North and South
We are Punkhorn Point, Popponesset Bay
We are the Mashpee River
We are the Flume that separates the pond from the ocean
We are the herring and the scup
And the venison and the rabbit
We are the scrub pine and scrub oak
We are the protectors of the land
We are the Mashpee Wampanoag

Russell Peters 1993

The start of the balloon race at New Seabury to benefit The Brain Center.

John Eliot 300th Celebration at the Meeting House

Gertrude Aiken, "Princess Evening Star," Anita Nielsen and Ernestine Gray at the Meeting House.

Hannah Peters Averett, an active member of many Mashpee committees including the Museum, the Historical Commission and the School Committee

Debra Peters Mills and Yvonne Frye Peters

The Town Bog

Besse girls in their father's bog.

Frederick Jonas II works his cranberry bog on Santuit Pond

Joanne and Tony Ferragamo oystering at Great River.

The Larsson and Silvio children at Pirate's Cove.

Aerial view of New Seabury and Popponesset. In 1963, The Chace family hired William Warner to plan and Emil Hanslin Associates to develop New Seabury.

The third hole on the famous Blue Course at New Seabury

View west from Popponesset Inn

Quashnet Valley Country Club, John Umina began the development of the first nine holes of the Quashnet Valley Country Club in 1976. The remaining nine holes were completed by Tony LaCava and opened in 1986.

Bill McKay's sailboat CALICO built in 1890, and rebuilt by Gerry Monjeau and purchased by McKay in 1990.

Canoeing on Mashpee River:Selectman B. Jean Thomas and Tony Ferragamo.

Mashpee River scene

In 1986, a long-planned four hundred acre golf course resort was begun in Mashpee by Daniel C. Hostetter and John A. Largay. Originally called Foxfire, it was renamed Willowbend. Troubled by the real estate depression of the late 1980s, Willowbend was sold to Paul Fireman, a Massachusetts resident, owner of Reebok International Ltd.

Mashpee children benefit from the Willowbend Children's Charity Fund funded by tournaments at Willowbend starring internationally known golf professionals such as Greg Norman, pictured and tennis greats.

President George Bush greeted by L-R: Skye Hendricks, Natana Hicks, Janez Hicks

Mashpee remained quietly the home of the Native Americans after the incorporation for the Town in 1870, recognized by a select few avid fishermen and cranberry entrepreneurs, but it was not, however, ignored by the ever-present land accumulators and speculators. The acreage on Mashpee's shores -- the beaches and bluffs known today as Popponesset and New Seabury was gathered into large parcels.

Theodore Tyndale, a Boston lawyer who represented the Town of Mashpee in legal proceedings in the 1870s, was one of the Town's early South Mashpee real estate investors. The Horatio Amos family of Mashpee had also accumulated much land in South Mashpee through inheritances and purchases, which later became the property of The Greater Cotuit Shore Company, established in 1917. On January 28, 1929, that firm sold the hundreds of acres to Nantucket Sound Associates, a real estate trust. By June 1929, the trustees were the Messrs. Pope Stanwood, Dunn, Pearson, Carpenter, and Malcolm G. Chace.

As the years went on, new firms grew out of the original: Popponesset Corporation, Realty Operators, Fields Point Mfg. Co., and New Seabury Corporation. In 1995, New Seabury Limited Partnership owns much of that property. Its president, Christopher Burden, is the grandson of Malcolm G. Chace.

In 1934, Norma Armstrong leased the Popponesset shores and operated a tourist camp and small store. An article in the May 3, 1940 ENTERPRISE describes sixteen cottages already completed at Popponesset and a restaurant with "...large mullioned windows offering a view of the sea in all directions" (today's Popponesset Inn). Two tennis courts, shuffleboard court and outdoor dancing were added amenities. Nearby, eight houses were already completed on Daniels Island, the first built in 1937. By 1941, there were sixty-nine summer dwellings in the area and a uniquely styled lodge on today's Sandy Beach, including ten rooms built in a semi-circle. The lodge was destroyed by the 1944 hurricane. The ENTERPRISE reported on April 25, 1941, that a "new bridge has been built from the shore to Popponesset Island ...one house is completed."

When the tourist camp ceased operations in 1939 with the arrival of the National Guard, (In 1942 the ENTERPRISE alerted residents of "Anti-aircraft firing off Popponesset Beach between 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays."), several of the early campers including the Sharps and Ev Haynes purchased property from Roy Wilson at Wilson's Grove, while others bought nearby Popponesset beach property.

Campers on bluff
c.1935

The Sharp family

POPONESSETT BEACH

TOURIST CAMP

In the town of South Mashpee, Mass. Mail address Falmouth, Mass.

Ideal Camping and Picknicking

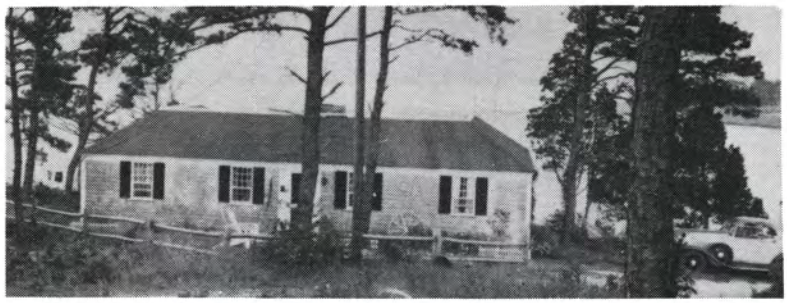
Whispering pines and ocean waves are calling you to the most beautiful spot in New England. Be as secluded as you wish within 4,000 acres pine grove and six miles of sandy, ocean beach. The warmest ocean bathing on the New England coast -- no undertow. Bluefish one mile out. All conveniences -- Cabins, Lunch Service and Chain Store. Trained Nurse on premises.

50c per Night -- Any Site

Leave Route 28 at South Mashpee and follow Poponessett Beach Signs

NORMA ARMSTRONG, Manager, Mail Address, Falmouth, Mass.

Norma Armstrong's house (where she also operated a store) built in the 1930s still exists.



One of the first houses built on Daniels Island was razed in 1994. It stood just north of the Amos oyster shack.

Seated Mary Lawson and Annette Wilson standing L-R Wilfred Lawson, daughter Chickie, Roy Wilson

The old pump at Wilson's Grove c. 1938

Cottages at Popponesset

Deans Pond in the foreground

"Shingled mansions" dwarf original cottages on the bluff.

Popponesset Inn built in 1940 pictured c.1970

Celebrities often visited the Inn, including movie actor Joseph Cotton, pictured.

POPPONESSET BEACH

SOUTH SHORE CAPE COD

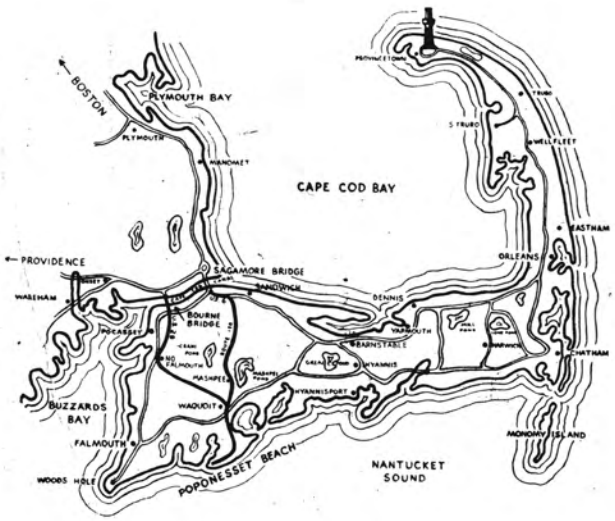
OPEN MAY 15

Cottages By Week or Month
Delicious Food
Four Miles of Private Beach
All Sports Available

RESTRICTED BUILDING LOTS
FOR SALE
ON BEACH OR BAY

For Reservations, Rates
Or Land Sales
Write
The Manager

POPPONESSET BEACH
BOX 86, WAQUOIT, MASS.



At the end of each summer season, the staff and Inn guests entertained with The Popponesset Follies.

Earl Mills left, owner of today's Flume Restaurant, performs with his sister Delscena, far right. They learned their baking skills from their father, Ferdinand, who was chef at the Inn for many years, when Hilda Coppage was manager.

The Popponesset Follies

The Mashpee Follies was the opening event for Mashpee's 125th Anniversary celebration. Pictured L-R: Jan Harris, Joanne Ferragamo, Susan VanTol, Dori Jones, Kathy Knowles, Sandra Grayson

Burke McHugh introduces the cast

Ken Porter and Shirley Kalnin costumed for a performance

Both the Men's and Women's clubs of New Seabury award several scholarships to Mashpee students annually. Pictured at a fund-raising fashion show in 1993 L-R: Andrea Smith, Pat Welch, Beverly Evans, Mildred Lower, Connie Goggin, Marion Porter, Joan Ledwith

The popular concert and fireworks display in Mashpee Commons

Several members of the Mashpee Community Concert Committee of 1993: L-R: Front Mollie Reis, Melinda Gallant, Bernard Doiron, Janet Willis, Mary LeClair Back: Roberta Petersen, John Ferguson, Jackie Basile, Geoff Willis, George Hathaway

Gertrude Aiken "Princess Evening Star"

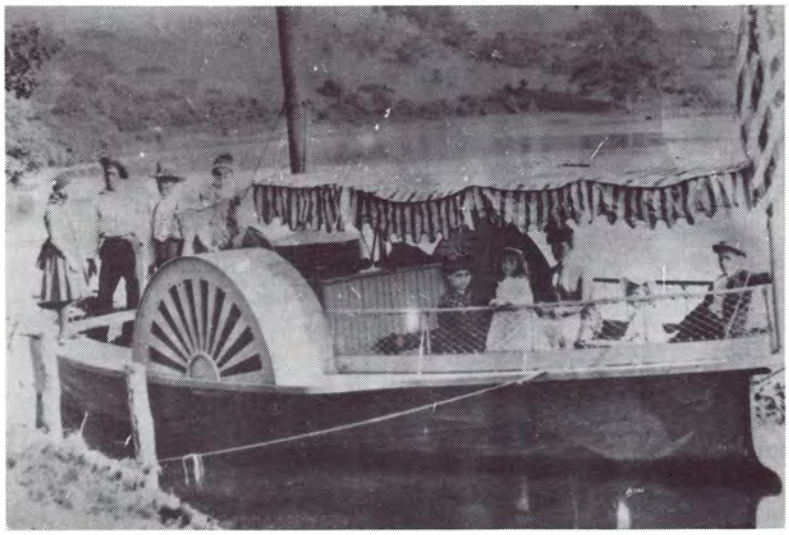
The Aiken home pictured c.1950 at the corner of Red Brook and Great Oak roads where "Princess Evening Star" conducted many programs preserving Mashpee's Indian heritage

Author Jack Campisi in his book published in 1991 about the Mashpee Indians states "Beginning in the early part of the twentieth century, the Mashpees underwent a cultural revitalization, sparked, in part, by the return of two men with dissimilar personalities: Eben Queppish who had spent much of his life in wild west shows, and Nelson Drew Simons, who had been educated at the Carlisle Indian School. This movement was also ignited by a growing nostalgia among easterners concerning the Indian heritage of New England." He goes on to say: "Simons and Queppish were soon joined by others interested in renewing their Mashpee heritage, and by 1928 a new organization had formed - the Wampanoag Nation - combining leaders from Indian groups on and near the Cape." It was the beginning of the popular pow wows which are held each July 4th weekend in Mashpee.

Clambake at Mashpee Centennial celebration

Leigh Potter prepares a clambake at the Senior Center

Joan Tavares prepares traditional Indian food



Described in a Mashpee record book as a small steam yacht about 35 feet long and 9 feet broad, it was built for use on Wakeby and Mashpee lakes by Herbert Crosby of Osterville for Benjamin Boardley. Originally named QUICHATASETT, when it cruised on Mashpee Pond in the 1880s and 1890s, it was later named RUTH reportedly in honor of President Grover Cleveland's daughter, who died. The President fished in the ponds at the turn of the century.

The kitchen staff at Camp Wanaweta on the eastern shore of Mashpee Pond in the 1930s

Camp Farley group pictured in the 1930s. In 1934 the 4-H organization purchased twenty-five acres on the west side of Mashpee Pond, where a camp continues each summer. It was named for George L. Farley, the first Massachusetts 4-H Club leader.

Daily Program

7.00	Reveille	1.50	Rest Hour
7.45	Flag Raising	2.50	Crafts
8.00	Breakfast	4.15	Swimming
8.45	Sick Call	4.45	Free Time
9.00	Camp Duties	6.20	Flag Lowering
9.30	Camp Lore	6.30	Supper
10.35	Swimming	7.00	Games and Boating
11.45	Group Meetings	8.30	Camp Fire
12.30	Dinner	9.30	Retire
1.15	Canteen	9.45	Taps

Cost

The camp fee is $7 for each week, $1 of which is a registration fee due with the registration blank. The registration fee for two weeks is $2. The balance must be paid upon arrival at camp. Checks should be made payable to the Camp Treasurer, Lee I. Towsley.

The right is reserved to send a camper home if necessary. In this case refund of fees for the

CAMP WAQUOIT

Waquoit Camp in the 1930s on the site of today's Little River Boat

A private vacation camp for girls from 8 to 16 years of age.

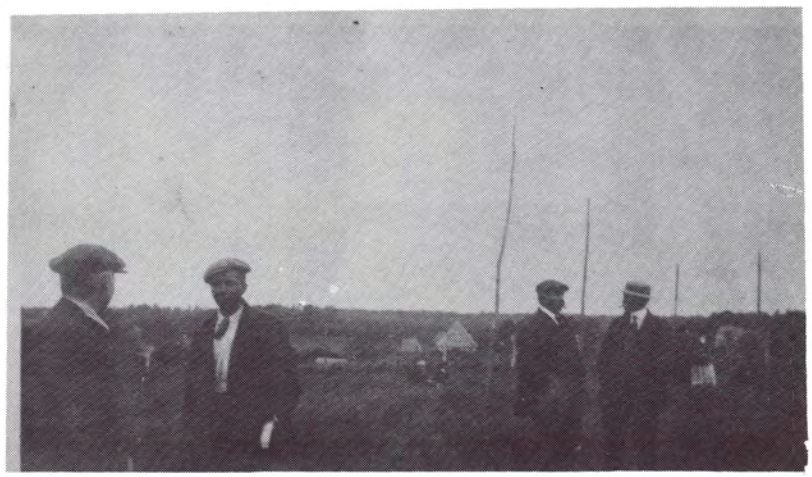
Located on famed Cape Cod, with its sea breezes and healthful air.

Combines all out-door life with home care and comforts.

On a safe, pine-sheltered bay, with clean bathing and safe boating.

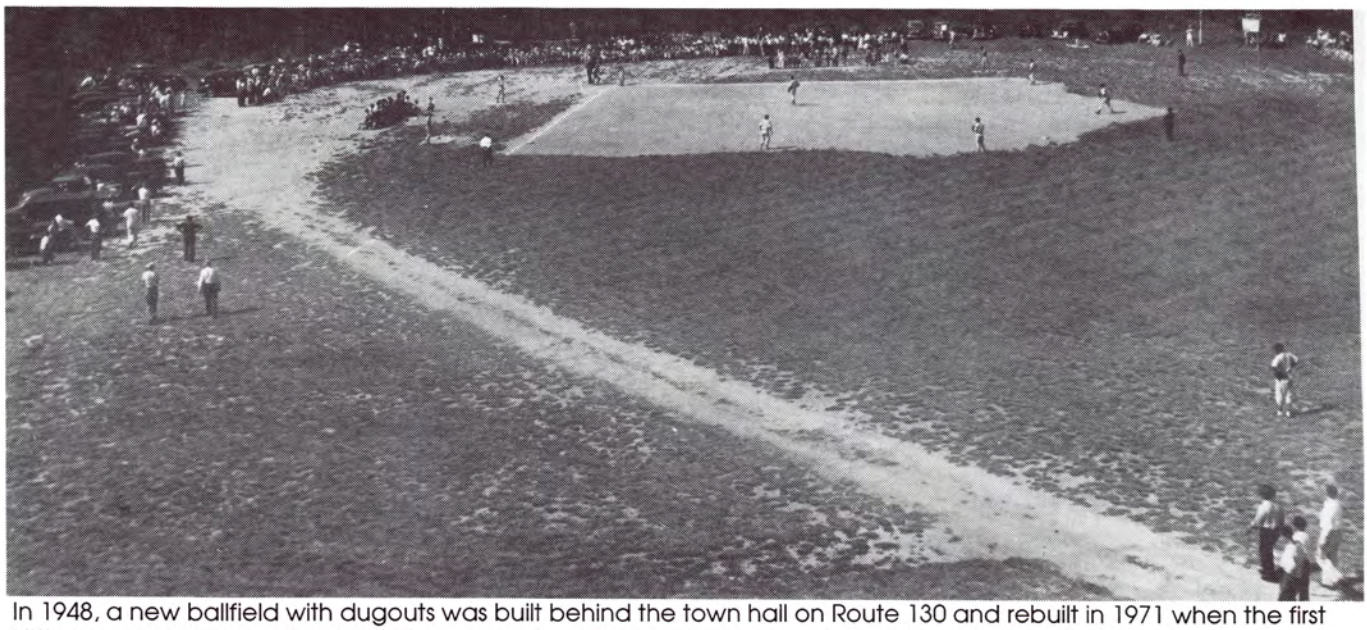
We limit our Camp to twenty-five girls which enables us to give them personal care.

Pictures from the Besse photo album c. 1920 showing the grandstand of the annual ball game. The field was named Attaquin Park in 1953.



The Mashpee Townies won the 1948 Cape Cod League Championship. Pictured: Front L-R Donald Hicks, Gordon Green, Morris Oakley, James Cash, Douglas Pocknett, Fred Peters BACK L-R Manager Herb Gardner, Oliver Pocknett, Richardson Jonas, Warren Hicks, Earl Mills, Silas Newcomb

Richardson Jonas at bat



In 1948, a new ballfield with dugouts was built behind the town hall on Route 130 and rebuilt in 1971 when the first Little League team was formed. That same year, Mashpee's first women's softball team was organized.

Dedication ceremony officially naming the ballfield The Douglas Pocknett Field in 1973 Pictured Front Row L-R Phil DiOrio, Fred Pocknet, Frank Hicks, Randy Peters, Rev. Fred Nagle Back: ..., Mike Horne, George Green

A fund-raiser for the Mashpee Historical Commission featured a ball game. Pictured on right Representative Thomas Cahir and former Selectman Robert Maxim.

Mashpee Little League has room for girls: L-R Megan Santos, Sarah Ginn, Katherine McNeil, Shannon Merrifield, Mary Canario, Crystal Cassell, 1994

New Seabury championship Blue Course being constructed in 1963; (another eighteen holes started the next year and completed in 1965, is known as the Green Course.)

Golfers on the putting green at New Seabury

Members Bill Mone and J. Norman Fitzgerald give out prizes at an early 1970s Member-Guest tournament at New Seabury

Mashpee seniors compete weekly during the summer months at Woodbriar in Falmouth.

A happy crowd at the beach

The annual July 4th Maushop parade in 1952. Payson Jones Jr. driver of the firetruck

Laughing face of Selena Edwards (Coombs), the child far right

Leach family and friends enjoy Washburn Island c. 1931

South Cape Beach in the late 1950s

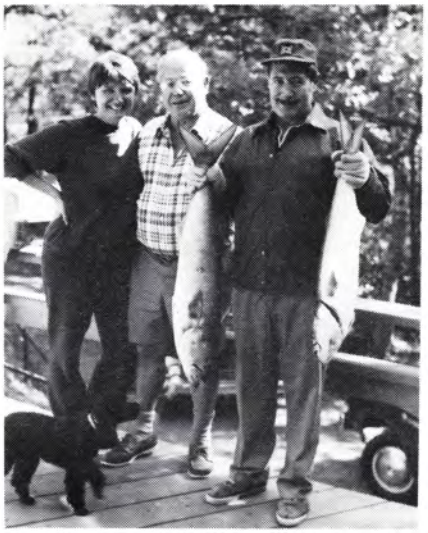
The original Jonas snack bar at South Cape Beach. It was destroyed by the 1954 hurricane. In Front: Ernestine Peters and Mary Hinds (Morrison)

South Cape Beach proprietor Ada Jonas, wife of Frederick Jonas II, Parents of Richardson and Frederick Jonas III. The beach property was owned by the Jonas family since the 1842 land distribution. It is now part of the State Park.

Another view of South Cape Beach

The new canteen built in 1955

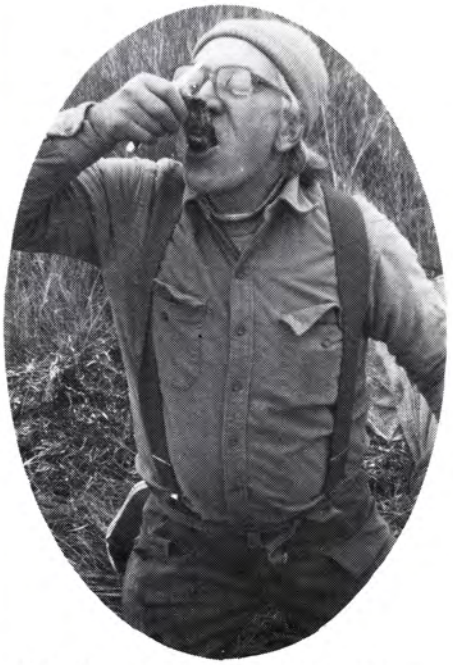
Dipping for Blue Crabs at South Cape



Bluefish caught off South Cape Beach

Twilight fishing at South Cape Beach

A group enjoys a Mashpee Conservation Commission outing on the Mashpee River



Ed Baker swallows a fresh oyster.

1920s Allen Besse far right

1940s seated L-R George Sharp, Al Frost, Bill Wilson, Roy Wilson standing L-R Sam Manley, Dean Phinney

Sailboats waiting to race

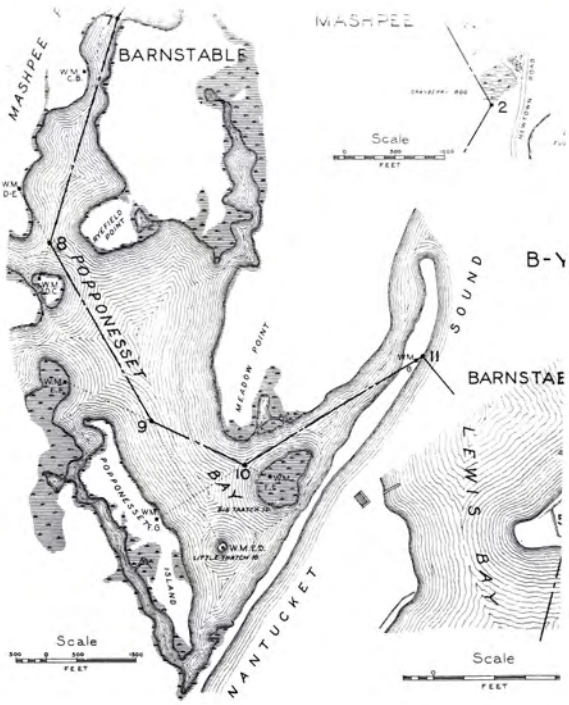
1960s tents of New Seabury Beach Club which were washed away by a storm a few years after being built on the Spit in 1963

Pirates Cove property owner Rod Larsson shown in 1954 next to the 1894 stone survey monument placed on the shoreline to determine the Mashpee-Barnstable boundary line in the middle of Popponesset Bay.

Rod Larsson stands at the same monument in 1994

Pirates Cove eastern shore 1955

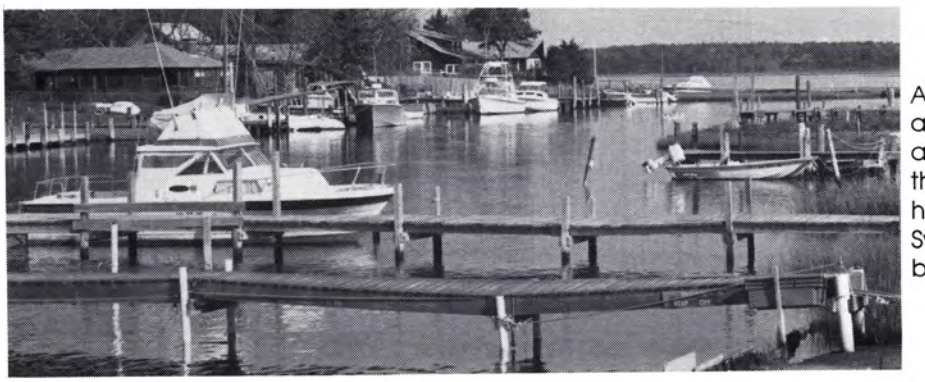
Same shoreline pictured in 1994



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission Atlas of Boundaries

Johns Pond c.1950s

Johns Pond recreational facility on the pond built by the military personnel of Camp Edwards and later used by the Otis Air Force personnel and families.



A busy view of Little River. Sixty years ago it was a quiet place when Arthur and Edith Koch bought the house at the north end of Little River, the only house in the area at the time. (John Swift's house on Monomoscoy Island built in the early 1800s was long gone.)

Sandwich, June 4, 1825
Saturday mor'g, 6 o'clock

Dear Sir:

I send you eight or nine trout, which I took yesterday, in that chief of all brooks, Mashpee. I made a long day of it, and with good success, for me. John was with me, full of good advice, but did not fish-nor carry a rod.

I took 26 trout, all weighing	*17 lb., 12oz*
The largest (you have him) weighed at Crokers	*2 lb., 4oz.*
The five largest	*3 lb., 5oz.*
The eight largest	*ll lb., 8oz.*

I got these by following your advice; that is, by careful and thorough fishing of the difficult places, which others do not fish. The brook is fished, nearly every day. I entered it, not so high up as we sometimes do, between 7 & 8 o'clock, and at 12 was hardly more than half way down to the meeting house path. You see I did not hurry. The day did not hold out to fish the whole brook properly. The largest trout I took at 3 P.M. (you see I am precise) below the meeting house, under a bush on the right bank, two or three rods below the large beeches It is singular, that in the whole day, I did not take two trouts out of the same hole. I found both ends, or parts of the Brook about equally productive. Small fish not plenty, in either. So many hooks get everything which is not hid away in the Manner large trouts take care of themselves. I hooked one, which I suppose to be larger than any which I took, as he broke my line, by fair pulling, after I had pulled him out of his den, and was playing in fair open water.

Of what I send you, I pray you keep what you wish yourself, send three to Mr. Ticknor, and three to Dr. Warren: or two of the larger ones, to each will perhaps be enough-and if there be any left, there is Mr. Callender and Mr. Blake, and Mr. Davis, either one. -As he promised to come, and fell back, I desire to excite his regrets. I hope you will have the large one on your own table.

Irving Oakley, hunting and fishing guide at the turn of the century to President Grover Cleveland, actor Joseph Jefferson, Governor Russell and many others

The day was fine-not another hook in the Brook, John steady as a judge-and everything else exactly right. I never on the whole, had so agreeable a day's fishing tho' the result, in pounds or numbers, is not great;-nor ever expect such another.

Please preserve this letter; but rehearse not these particulars to the uninitiated.

I think the Limerick not the best hook. Whether it pricks too soon, or for what other reason, I found or thought I found the fish more likely to let go his hold, from this, than from the old-fashioned hook.

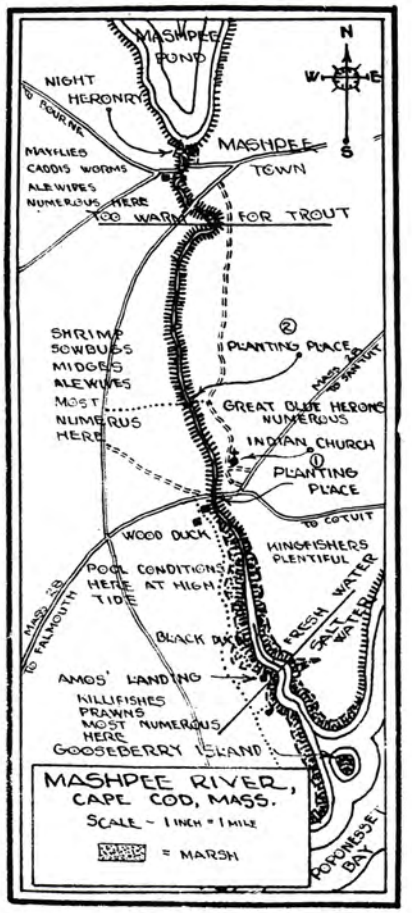
Yrs,

H. Cabot, Esq. */s/ D. Webster*

A View of the Mashpee River c.1914

Tom Mingo Riverkeeper for the Mashpee River Trout Club.

The fishing camp of John Welles Farley, a Boston lawyer, who owned much land on both sides of the Mashpee River from 1914 to 1959



A biological study of river done for Farley c. 1933 by William Dunlop Sargent

The Camp

Where the woods end and the marshes begin stands the Camp.

It looks over the stream that winds through the salt meadow until it goes out of sight behind a pine grown bluff.

There one may loaf before the fire, or sit on the porch and listen to birds that fill the woods, watch the eagles soaring over the pines, or the herrons flying past, and see the ever-changing episodes of the stream.

It is a pleasant place to spend a week-end, but we value it most as a base for fishing.

- excerpt from Mashpee Trout Club Fishing Records

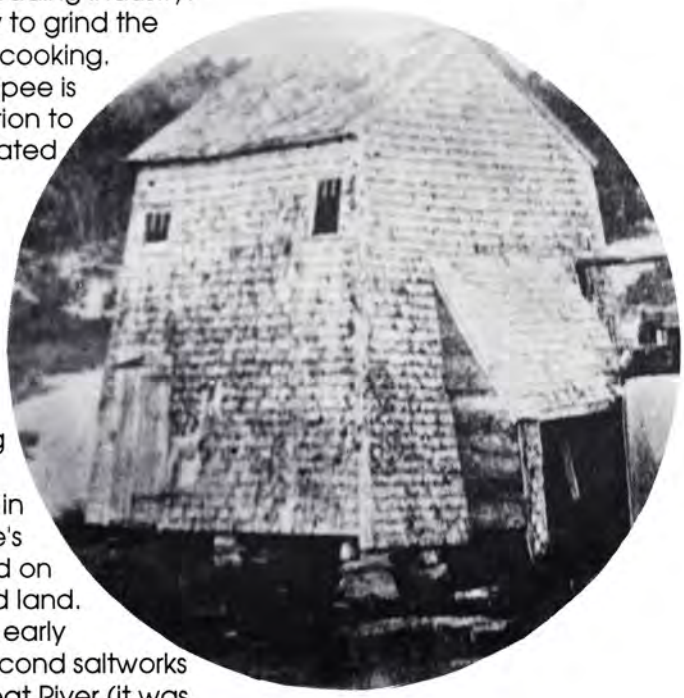
MASHPEE
COMMONS

MAGGIE'S

Farming, fishing and hunting occupied many of the Mashpee residents during the early 1800s, however, the majority of Mashpee men went to sea worldwide aboard whalers and on ships sailing from Boston to the West Indies with processed fish, returning with molasses and sugar. Others served locally on packet ships in the coastal trading industry.

For the farmers at home, mills were necessary to grind the harvested grains into flour or meal in preparation for cooking. The earliest reference found to date of a mill in Mashpee is that of Isaac Nautumpon's mentioned in a 1753 petition to the legislature as a "gumpa mil." It was probably located south of Mashpee Pond, where Nathan Bourne purchased mill rights in 1788.

Besides these mills, Sampson's Mill, pictured, was located until the late 1800s on the west shore of Santuit River, now part of the Willowbend golf course. There were several other mills mentioned in the land and District Meeting records, including Coleman's (later Collins) on the Mashpee River, Holland's Mill in South Mashpee and Robinson's, using the waters of Johns Pond.



Sampson's Mill

Two salt works may have existed in Mashpee in the early 1800s, as references are found of Lawrence's Salt Works Bay. The salt works were probably located on Mashpee Neck where William Lawrence was allotted land. Because tax lists are not available during Mashpee's early years, a definitive statement cannot be made. A second saltworks was probably located on what we now know as Great River (it was called Wells River in 1802 land records, and the road now called Wills Work Road is documented as the Road to Wells Works).

Ice house on the western shore of Mashpee Pond at the turn of the century

Besides the ice house pictured, the 1877 Cahoon map of Mashpee locates the ice house of Silas Pells on Deans Pond in South Mashpee. Longtime Mashpee residents remember the ice house next to the Hotel Attaquin.

The arrival of rail service to Cape Cod in 1848 affected coastal trading, eliminating jobs for men aboard the packet ships. The introduction of petroleum for illumination by 1860 was one of the causes of the collapse of the profitable whaling business, and timber cutting for export all but ceased because poor reforestation and major fires destroyed much of the woodlands. Therefore the need for employment at home became a priority. The Marshpee Basket and Broom Company and the Marshpee Manufacturing Company, involved in cranberry culture, were established in the 1860s. Recognizing the profitability of cranberry growing on land not suitable for farming, many acres of Marshpee's land were utilized as bogs.

Fishing for sustenance and for profit continued in the Marshpee waters. The selectmen of the District of Marshpee leased the privilege of using the waters of Johns Pond for the purpose of a herring river in 1868, to the Waquoit Herring River Company, and sold oyster grants in Popponesset Bay to Silas Pells and Samuel Godfrey, among others, also leasing to Pells the use of the fishery at Flat Pond in the 1870s.

Early stores included one owned by Virgil Collins on Collins Lane. (In the 1930s, a Collins grandson owned a small store near the southwest corner of Route 130 and Great Neck Road North) Darius Coombs, the mail carrier who picked up the Mashpee mail by carriage from Sandwich, owned a store in the 1880s, and later Lysander Amos maintained a store at his home on Great Neck Road North next to today's town hall.

While much of Cape Cod was being developed for summer vacationers, Mashpee did not see an influx of summer visitors until 1914, when waterfront properties on Monomoscoy, Santuit and Mashpee Neck were subdivided into very small lots, and it was not until the 1930s that the Popponesset area became popular.

With the development of the golf courses and resort homes in the area known as New Seabury in 1962, a need for more shopping conveniences was created, and in 1965 ground was broken and building started for a "...modern shopping center at the Mashpee Rotary Circle." That same year, fifteen subdivisions were approved by the Planning Board, including Clipper Ship Village.

In 1966, the Barnstable County National Bank opened, which later became the Bank of New England. By the spring of 1968 Christy's Market, Gadides drug store, Steve Smith the Barber, as well as Hinckleys Lumberyard, Abeona Hairdressers and the Cherub Shop with charming window displays described "like out of a fairy tale," were opened. Soon the House and Garden store, an indoor golf driving range and a movie theater, as well as Bobby Byrnes' Pub and the office of Dr. DiOrio became part of the complex.

Ferdinand Mills catching herring

On Route 151, Dick and Ellie Wasil leased Henry LaBute's Lakeside restaurant, gas station and store, when they first came to Mashpee in 1958. For several years in the 1970s, Chris and John Cahalane operated "The Farm" at that location. Today it is Cherrystones Restaurant. The Wasils established several businesses in Mashpee, including The Little Dipper, Helena's Drift In (which became later The Hilltop and still later Chet Wright's "On the Rocks). The Wasils then moved just to the south and opened Dick and Ellie's Drive-In, which later became Dan and Bills and Pickwicks.

A small flea market was opened on the old "On the Rocks" property after the nightclub burned. The flea market was moved to the Wasil property in 1973, when they closed their driving range. It continues today as the popular Dick and Ellie's Flea Market.

Many businesses arrived in Mashpee during the past thirty years, including Augat which opened in 1967, employing one hundred people. Residential development flourished in the early 1970s including South Cape Beach,Quail Hollow, Cotuit Corners, Bay Ridge Villas, Seabrook Village and Quashnet, as well a Timberland Shores also known as Santuit Woods and Ockway Bay Estates, Mashpee Shores and Lakewood.

Permits for condominiums were approved in 1972 and one near Quinnaquisset Avenue on Route 28, as well as the Massasoit Tennis Center near the Mashpee/Falmouth line opened.
More building continued into the middle 1970s when Anthony Gargiulo purchased 60 acres and began the Greenwood development, off Great Neck Road South.

With the beginning of the Land Suit in 1976, building activities came almost to a halt, not to be resumed until the 1980s. In 1984, Deer Crossing, Sea Oaks and Oak Hollow all began building and in 1986, Willowbend, Stratford Ponds, Southport, Windchimes and other developments got under way.
In 1985, planning of Mashpee Commons by Fields Point Limited Partnership began in earnest.
As Mashpee continues as one of Massachusetts' fastest growing towns, plans are underway for a high school and an addition to the town hall.

Known since the late 1800s as Hotel Attaquin, it was destroyed by fire in 1955. An 1882 magazine article refers to "...the excellent Inn operated by Solomon Attaquin."

Hotel Attaquin pictured in 1947 when it was operated by Alice and Tom Lyons. In the 1970s, Joseph DiMaggio operated a bar and grill "Mother's" in a building which stood behind the original building.

Since the 1880s, the oyster shack of Horatio Amos stood on the present open space on the south shore of Daniels Island. It withstood the 1938 hurricane, but was destroyed by the storm of 1944.

Horatio Amos
Photograph courtesy of National Museum of the American Indian Smithsonian Institution

The house of Horatio and Ella Amos, which remains opposite the entrance to New Seabury. Horatio married Ella F. Gardner of South Mashpee on July 5, 1881. They had no children. The probate inventory of Horatio's estate in 1925 showed 700 bushels of oysters, one power boat and three scows as well as the oyster house.

The store and bait shop of Irving and Christine Oakley built c. 1915. Their house left rear

Changes to the store known for many years as "Ockry Trading Post," named in a contest held in 1949 by the store's proprietors, Irving's grandson Elwood and his wife Josephine Millls. It is now known as "The Country Store."

Melia's Restaurant pictured in the 1940's. It was later Greenway, The Red Rooster, Red Top Steak House, Ma Glockner's and today's Davy's Locker

In the 1940's, Eddie Mitchell came to Mashpee from Wareham and opened the Wigwam restaurant on Great Neck Road North, and expanded it into a motel. In 1986, it was renamed Riverbend.

Ann Tanneyhill and her brother Bill Tanneyhill bought their first piece of property in Mashpee in 1948. In the mid 1950s they built a small, then a much larger building housing a gas station and general store with living quarters on the second level. Called "Tisit's," the Tanneyhill operation remained at the Pine Tree Circle rotary until the late 1970s.

$1.10 Special $1.10

SHRIMP IN THE BASKET

French Fries

Rolls and Butter

SANDWICHES

Hamburg	.35
Cheeseburg	.45
Beefburger, ¼ lb.	.50
Grilled Frankfort	.25
Cheese	.20
Egg Salad	.30
Fried Egg	.25

Trout Pond Cottages

Popponesset Rotary-Junction Routes 28 & 151
(On Cape Cod, halfway between Falmouth & Hyannis — 3 miles from Nantucket Sound)
Mashpee, Massachusetts
Mailing address P. O. Box 152, Waquoit, Mass.
Telephone GArden 8-4804
16 Units with overnight and weekly accommodations for 2-3-4-5 people at moderate rates.
Free beach privileges Restaurant Gift Shop

Owned by Fields Point Mfg. Co., Trout Pond Restaurant has been leased by many including Wimpy's from Osterville, Dick and Ellie Wasil (The Little Dipper) Al Broussard, Ralph LaFournier, Leo Sweeney, the Wolfes and Carl Gallasso. The last restaurant was called Kitchen Magician and today an antique store is located in the building shown in the right foreground at the rotary.

Home of Dorcas Gardner used as the Post Office in the 1920s. The house no longer exists.

Eddie Amos, postmaster until 1956 is pictured with young Ann Peters.

Ann Peters (Marcellino), who was appointed postmaster in 1956, is shown at the Route 130 location with her sister Clara, a Mashpee selectman

Award winning post office in Mashpee Commons designed by Anthony Ferragamo. A book, MASHPEE 02649, was written by Joanne Ferragamo and published by the Mashpee Historical Commission in 1993. It describes the history of the Mashpee post offices and the town.

The shopping center opened in 1966 was the beginning of the commercial area known as Mashpee Commons.

Barnstable County National Bank, Mashpee's first bank opened in 1966

The bank's first manager in 1966, Clyde Andersen, shown with Mary LeClair who was named manager in 1968

Mashpee's newest bank, Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank opened in 1995. The bank donated a room for the 125th Anniversary headquarters.

In 1929, Malcolm G. Chace began to purchase the land which has been developed into Popponesset, New Seabury and Mashpee Commons. His grandsons Christopher Burden and Arnold B. Chace Jr. continue his vision.

Pictured above, Christopher Burden, President of New Seabury Limited Partnership. Pictured next page far right, Arnold B. Chace Jr.

Popponesset Marketplace

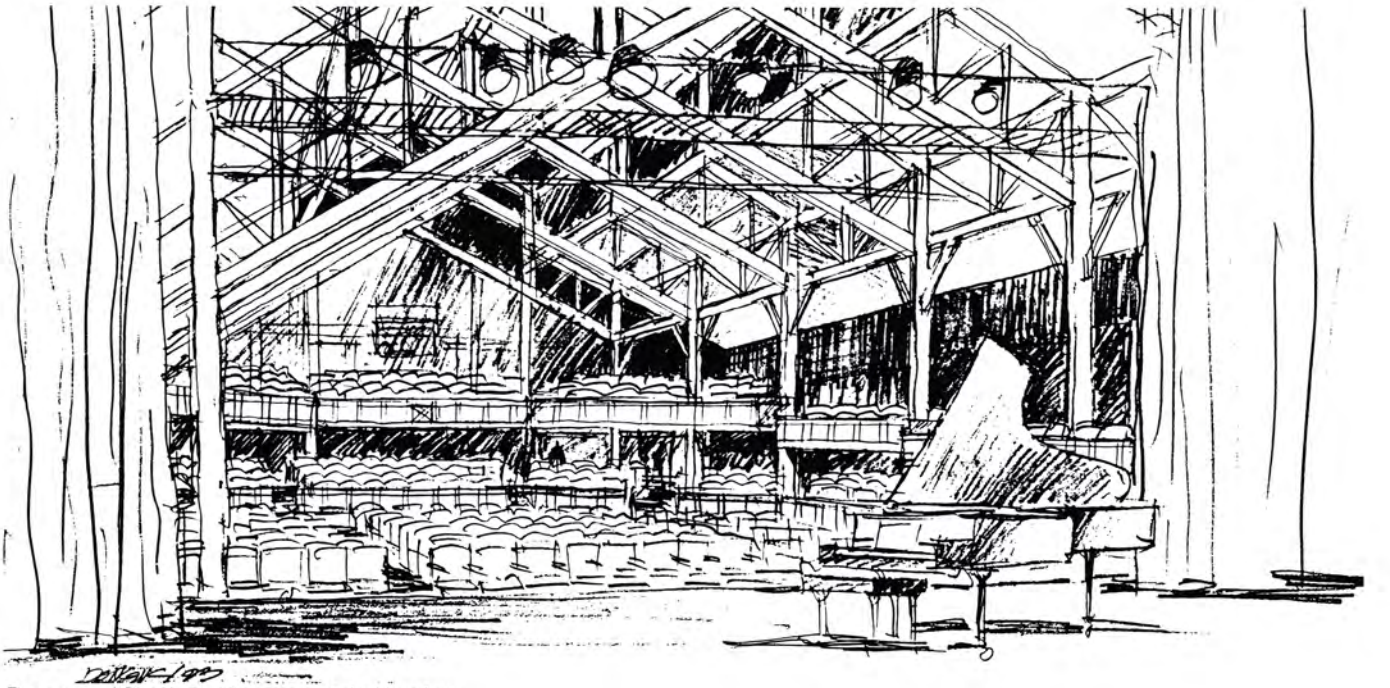
The Rawbar

The Brain Center opened April 1987 on land donated to The Doreen Grace Fund Brain Center by the New Seabury corporation on Promontory Point at New Seabury. The Brain Center serves as a conference center dedicated to the study of neuroscience. It is guided by a medical-scientific board of advisors and by a board of directors headed by Richard and Eleanor Grace of Acton, MA whose 21 year old daughter Doreen died of a rare viral brain infection.

Selectmen Nancy Caffyn, George Costa, James Vaccaro, and Judy Mills are shown at the groundbreaking in 1994 for Stop & Shop at North Market Place with State Representative Thomas Cahir and Arnold B. Chace Jr., managing partner of Fields Point Limited Partnership, owners of Mashpee Commons.

Plans for Mashpee Commons

Proposed High School



Proposed Boch Performing Arts Center

Through the efforts of state and local officials, residents and private organizations nearly 2,500 acres of land are dedicated to conservation in the Town of Mashpee. A system of protected open space has been established throughout the town, which includes a nearly completed green belt corridor, proposed in 1985, linking open space from Mashpee Pond to South Cape Beach.

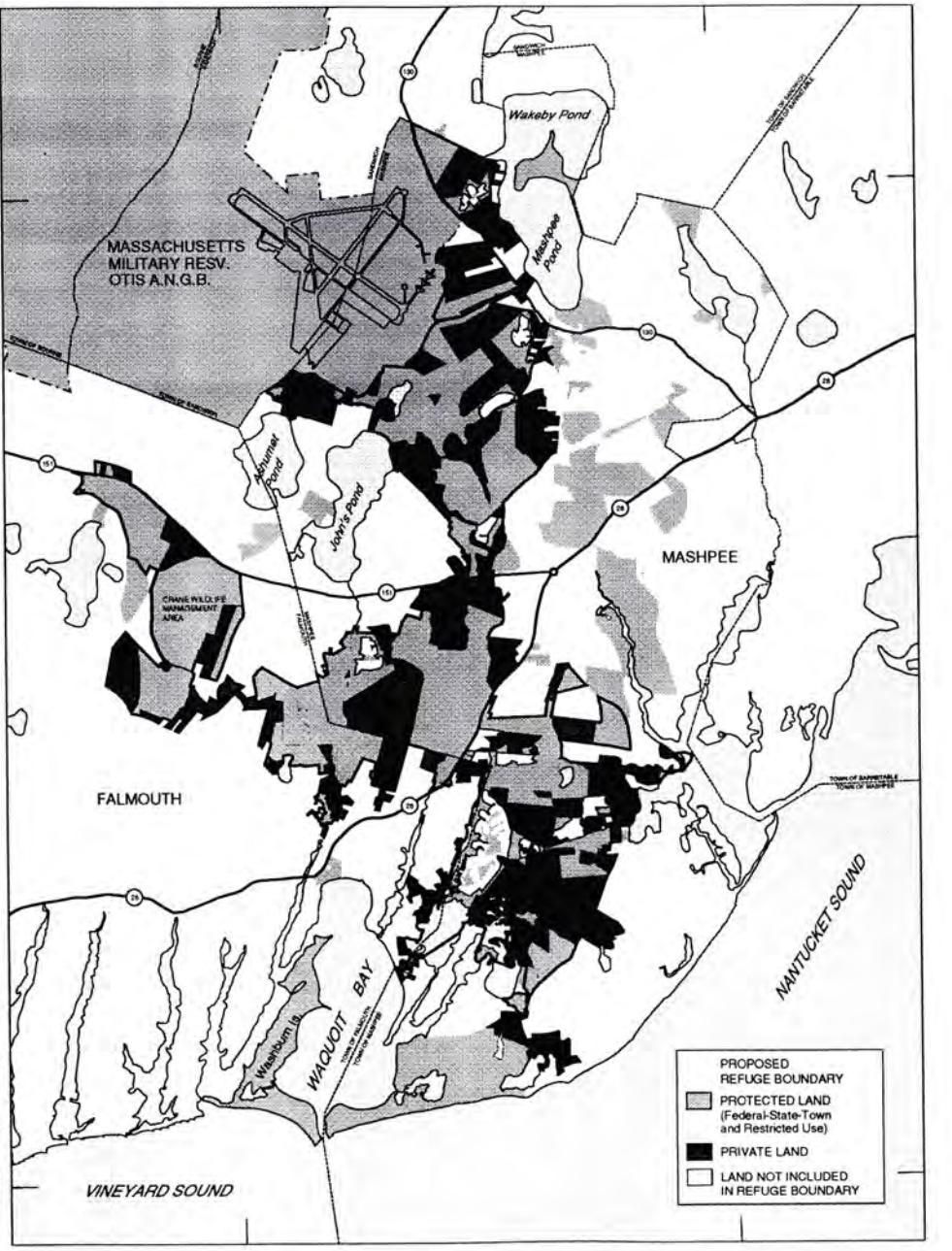
The corridor begins at the 135 +/- acre Lowell Holly Reservation, owned since 1943 by The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR). It continues through land along the Mashpee River owned by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) 60 acres, the TTOR 200 +/- acres and the town's 391 acre Mashpee River Woodlands, acquired 1985-1988.

The corridor winds through the Pine Barrens and Cedar Swamps of South Mashpee 370 acres owned by the town and DPW, past Abigail's Brook and Jehu Pond to South Cape Beach State Park acquired in 1983 by the Division of Environmental Management (DEM).

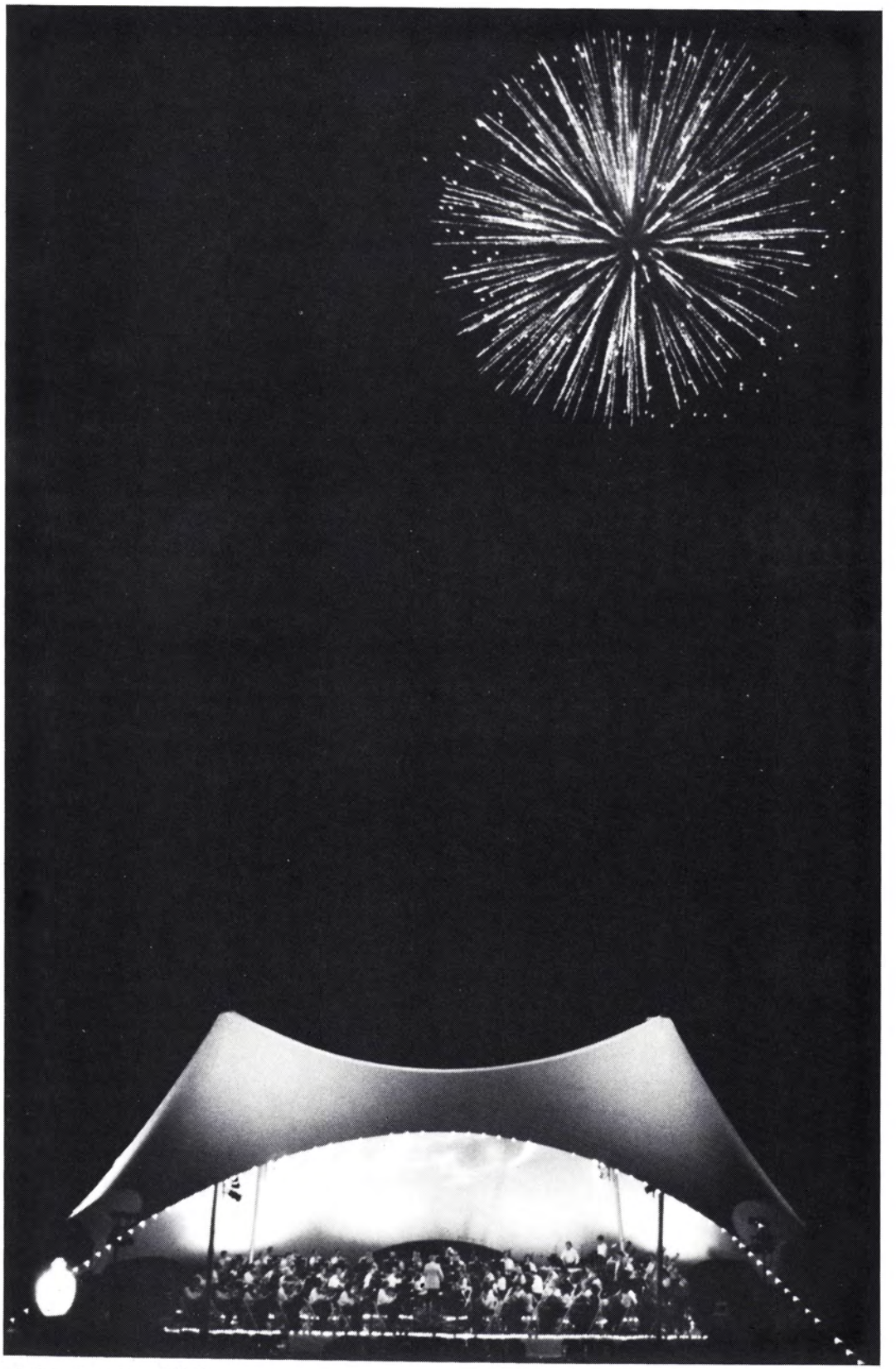
A proposal by DEM to acquire an additional 50 acres near Great Flat Pond, along with the creation of the nearly 6,000 acre Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge by the US Fish and Wildlife Service which was established when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on April 19, 1995 by nine parties, will add to the protection of Mashpee's open space.

Environmental awareness and education is promoted by the Mashpee Conservation Corps, volunteers who do trail maintenance and habitat enhancement projects, and by the Mashpee Conservation Commission, who provide free guided nature tours throughout the year on the Town's conservation lands.

A recent proposal by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, focusing on the greenway corridor along the Mashpee river, includes an authentic Wampanoag village at Mashpee Pond, canoe trips on the river and other programs that focus on Mashpee's natural resources and Native American history and culture.



Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge



Mashpee Shines

Eleanor Glorioso

Many people have helped to make this book a reality, in particular:
Joanne Ferragamo, chairman of the Mashpee Historical Commission, who has spent hours collecting and identifying pictures, all the while cheering us on.

Frank Hicks, with a long list of Mashee service credits including executive secretary and a member of the Board of Selectmen, Historical Commission, and Council on Aging among others, has donated a large portion of his Mashpee memorabilia and provided a thoughtful insight into Mashpee's past.

The other members of the Mashpee Historical Commission: Ernestine Gray, Robert Lynch and Hazel Oakley.

Special appreciation is extended to Janice Walford, Managing Editor of the *Mashpee Enterprise,* and staff: Paul Ott, Katherine Lussier, Brenda Sharp and Ben Allsup who have contributed many photographs used in this pictorial history.

The following people have also contributed information and photographs to this publication:

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Lee LeBlanc
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Mashpee Police Department
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Bob and Pat Welch
Willowbend
Audrey and George Woods

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Nancy Caffyn
George Costa
Peter Dinizio
Judy Mills
James Vaccaro

PATRONS

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Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-3675

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East Falmouth, MA 02536
(508) 563-3366

B/N Electric, Inc.
dba John Noonan Electric
P.O. Box 478
Cataumet, MA 02534
(508) 563-5436

Cape and Islands Engineering
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133 Falmouth Road
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-7272

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Mashpee, MA 02649
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West Yarmouth, MA 02673
(508) 778-0885

Cape Cod Five Cents
Savings Bank
5 North Market Street
Mashpee Commons
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 539-2500

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681 Falmouth Road A-7
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-3000

Christ the King Parish
The Commons
P.O. Box 1800
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-7151

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451 Nathan Ellis Highway
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-3347

Deer Crossing Marketplace
681 Falmouth Road
P.O. Box 957
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-7151

Desirae's Nails
185 Route 130
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-8339

Economy Fuel and Services
610 East Falmouth Highway
East Falmouth, MA 02536
(508) 548-6878

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Falmouth, MA 02540
(508) 477-4700

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(Dunkin' Donuts)
401 Nathan Ellis Highway
Mashpee, MA 92649
(508) 477-0873

Fields Point Limited Partnership
and Mashpee Commons
P.O. Box 1530
Mashpee, MA 02649
(508) 477-5400

The Friday Bridge Group
Carol Jacobson Senior Center
500 Great Neck Road
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