

ONCE UPON A TIME

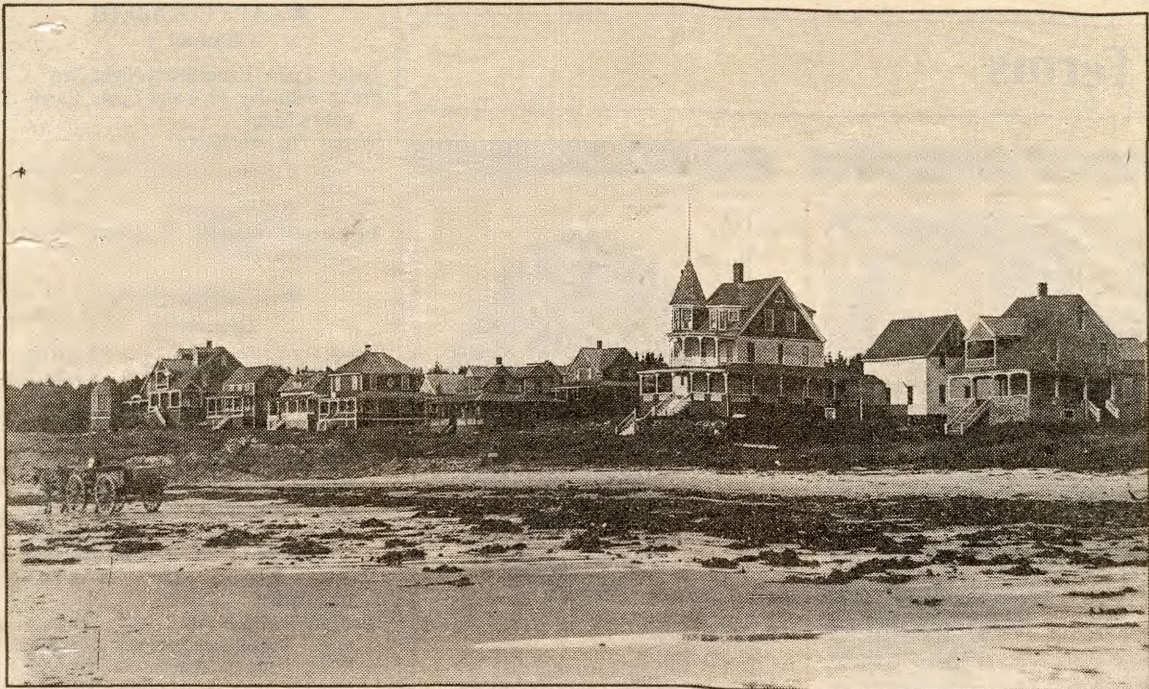
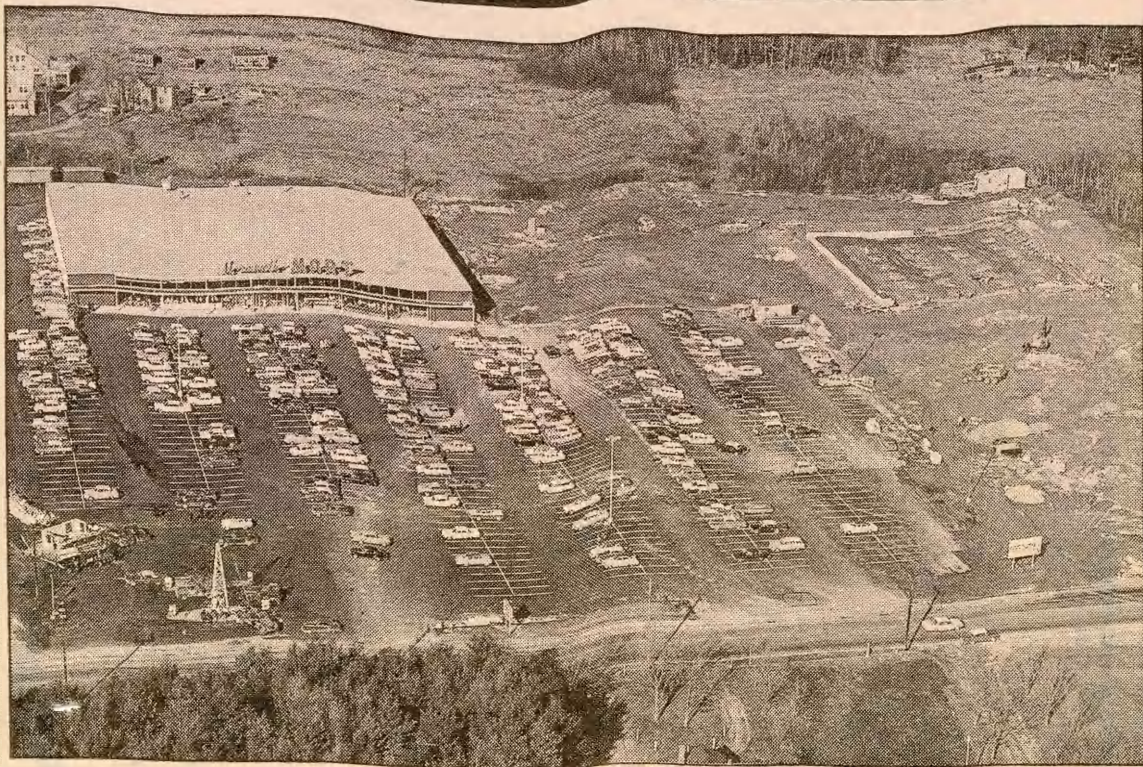


Photo courtesy of Rodney Laughton

A day at the beach

This is a picture of Higgins Beach in Scarborough in about 1910. The horse and wagon on the beach belongs to a farmer gathering rockweed to be used as fertilizer. The large building slightly to the right is the Breakers, then the private home of Franklin P. Cummings of Cummings Brothers Chicago Beef Co. The first cottages were built at Higgins Beach in the 1870s on lots leased by Hiram Higgins, operator of a large saltwater farm. The community was subdivided and streets were laid out in 1897.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

A first for Scarborough

Route 1 cuts across the lower portion of this 1962 aerial shot of Mammoth Mart at the former Scarborough Plaza. Located just south of the former Portland Twin Drive-In and north of Scarborough Downs, the shopping center was the town's first. In 1979 Mammoth Mart became a King's Department Store, and in 1982 the center was converted to Orion Park, a high-tech business park.

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Photo courtesy of Rodney Laughton

A first for Scarborough

This 1905 Rambler automobile is pictured at the Scarborough Beach train station off Black Point Road. Scarborough resident George E. Robinson (behind the wheel) was the first year-round Scarborough resident to own a car. Robinson and his car were mentioned in a story from the 6/24/06 Portland Sunday Telegram: "Still more competition regarding transportation to and from trains. Not only will Mr. Tripp and Mr. Plummer carry passengers, but a new vehicle, an automobile, run by George E. Robinson, will add just a touch of variety in the way of locomotion over the country roads."

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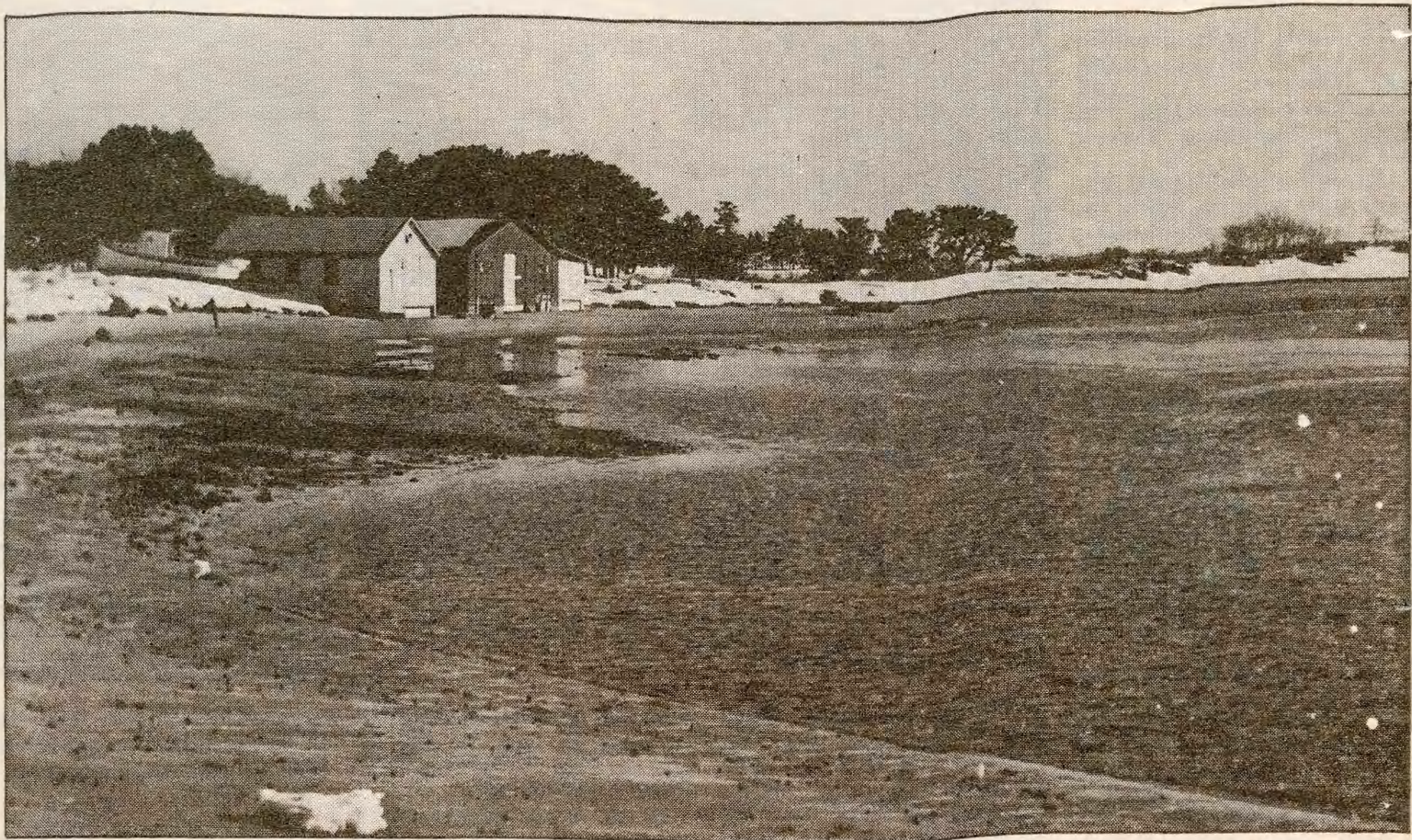


File photo/Library research by Susan Butler

An earlier look at Oak Hill

In 1963, Route 1 at Oak Hill in Scarborough was still mainly rural and residential with the Town Hall, middle left, and a few businesses, including the Portland Twin Drive-In at lower left. At center is Bessey School, which opened in 1927 as the high school, while the current high school is at the upper left. Nowadays, numerous fast-food restaurants, service stations and other businesses dot that stretch of road.

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File photo/library research by Anne McNaughton

Bartered beach property

This is a 1962 photograph of the Back Shore beach property on the Scarborough River at Prouts Neck. The town was about to acquire the property from the Prouts Neck Association in exchange for some shore frontage and land to the left of the photo. The two boathouses were owned by the Prouts Neck Yacht Club, which was run by the association. The town's plan was to build a beach parking lot and toilet facilities and operate the area as a public beach.

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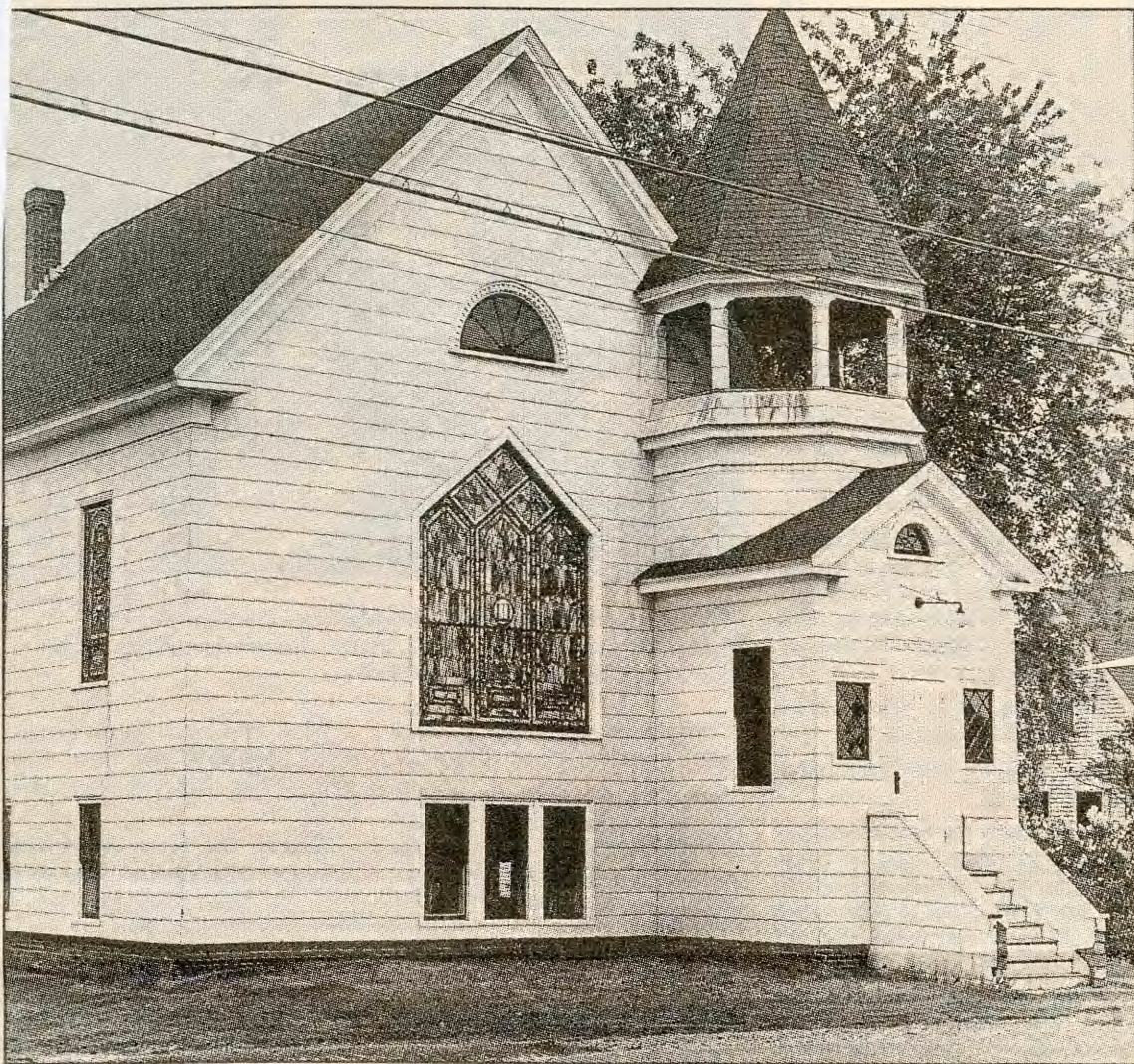


Best quality boots

File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

The Herman Shoe factory on Route 1, near the Scarborough Marsh, was built in 1960 at a cost of \$140,000. It had a payroll of over 300 workers before closing in 1986. Founded in 1879, Herman was headquartered in Millis, Mass. The company specialized in some of the nation's best quality boots and work shoes for men, including government issue Army boots and the "Official Boy Scout" shoe. The Scarborough plant is currently a business park.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen/Susan Butler

Blue Point Church

The old Blue Point Church at Pine Point and Ocean View roads in Scarborough was a Congregational church until the early 1960s, when the building was sold by the congregation for \$1,500. It served as a community building for youth, a ceramic pottery shed and again a church before being converted in 1985 into a 3,400-square-foot private home. This photo was taken in 1964.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Buggy Meeting House

The First Free Baptist Church at Scarborough was for years commonly known as the Buggy Meeting House. Founded in 1831, the original structure was built at Mussey and Gorham roads, in the Eight Corners area, on a grant of land from John Burgey. The Buggy Meeting House name evolved over the years as a corruption of the Burgey name. The church was enlarged in the late 1930s. 1931 photo.

A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY EVENTS



Staff photo by Merry Farnum

Barbara Griffin of Scarborough helps prepare the main course at a bean supper held recently at the North Scarborough Grange Hall. The supper, sponsored by the Gorham Fire Department Auxiliary, raised about \$380 to help refurbish the department's canteen unit. The unit is a remodeled rescue vehicle equipped to serve coffee and sandwiches at a fire scene.

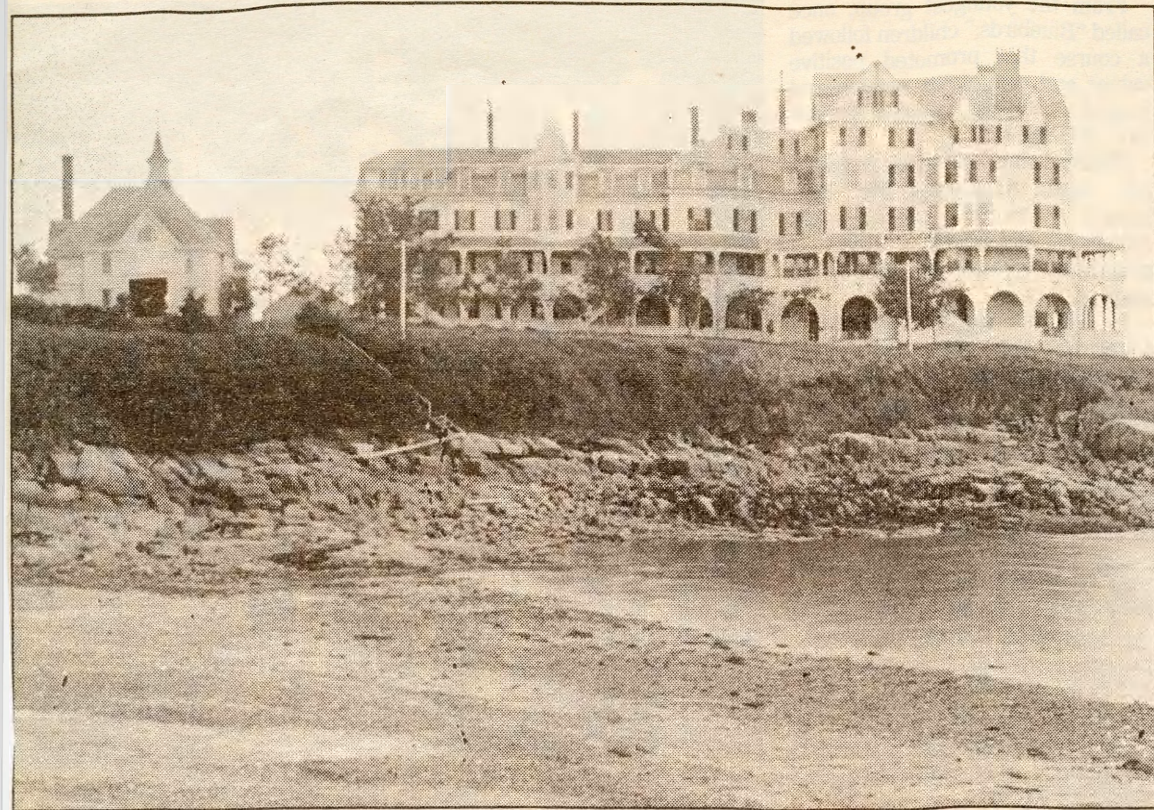


Photo and information provided by Rodney Laughton

Checkley House

This is the Checkley House at Checkley Point on Prout's Neck. Near the entrance to Winslow Homer Road, it was built in the late 1880s by Ira Foss, its first proprietor. The hotel was popular with Canadian visitors in the early part of this century, causing the Foss family to build additions almost annually. The hotel fell out of use sometime during the Depression, and was torn down by the mid-1940s.

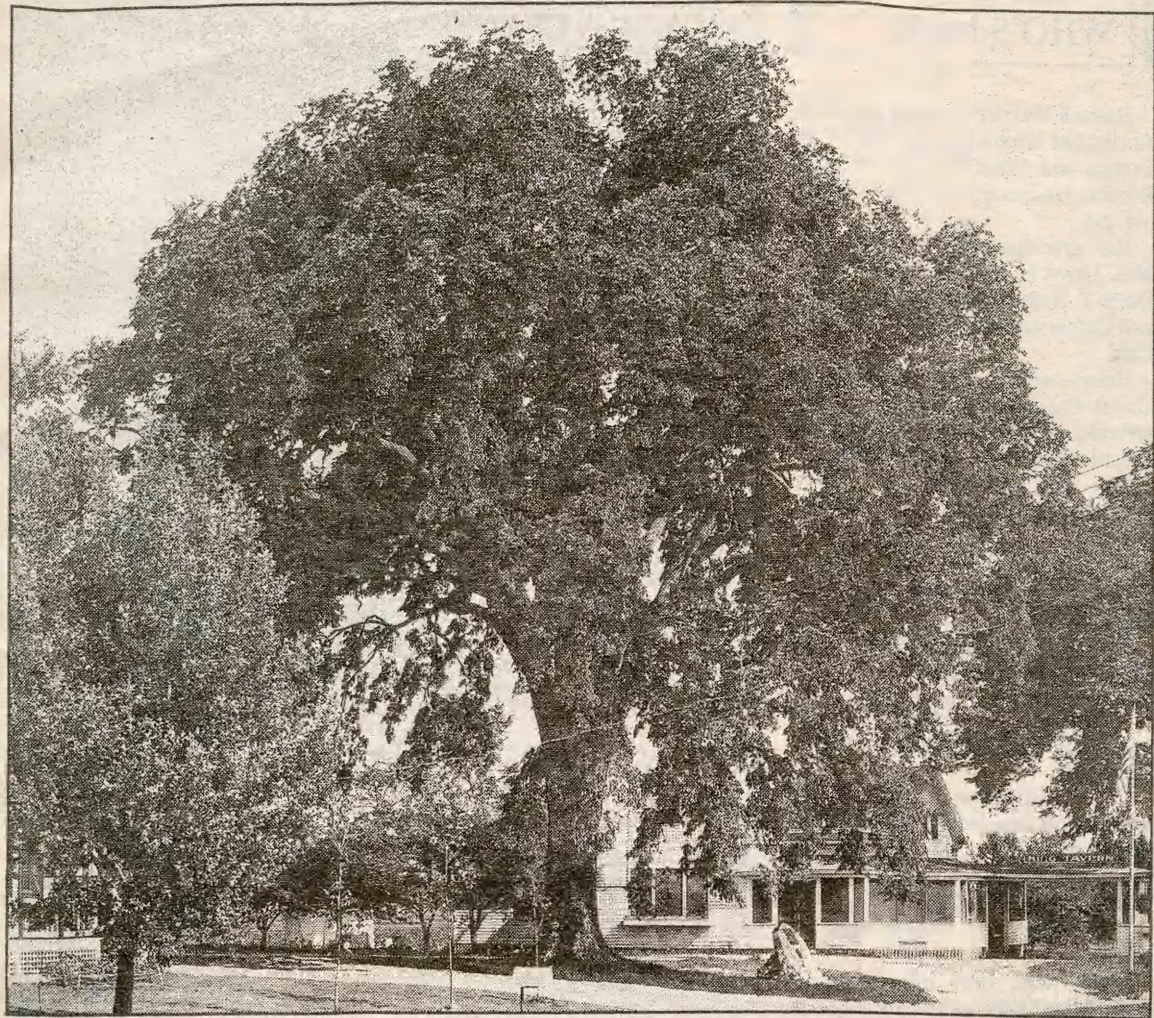
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Photo and research courtesy Becky Delaware, Scarborough Historical Society

Dunstan Corner business

This is a 1910 photo of the George W. Knight store on Route 1 at Dunstan Corner in Scarborough. It was run by members of the Knight family from the mid- to late-1800s until just before World War II. The woman is unidentified, but the back of the picture says the colt was born in April 1909. Knight's sold everything from barrels of molasses, grain, hay, farm implements, food and cloth. It also contained the West Scarborough Post Office. The building later housed an IGA Store, which burned down in 1964, along with the adjacent Murray's Drug Store.



File photo; library research by Anne McNaughton; historical information from Scarborough Historical Society

Elm at King Tavern

The King Tavern at Dunstan Landing operated during the 1920s at the former estate of Richard King, one of the town's earliest and wealthiest settlers. King's son, William, was Maine's first governor in 1820. The great elm tree, commonly called the King Elm, grew to more than 22 feet in diameter before it died of Dutch elm disease about 1960. The tavern is gone, but the stump of the elm remains, as does a millstone marking the 1768 birth of William King.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

First of its kind

The 62-bed Pine Point Manor Convalescent Hospital on Pine Point Road in Scarborough opened in 1960. First of its kind in Maine, the T-shaped nursing and convalescent home was equipped with "all the latest medical equipment," according to a Press Herald story. It had 21 full-time employees and cost \$255,000 to build. The facility, now called Pine Point Nursing Care Center, recently underwent a \$2.4 million expansion.

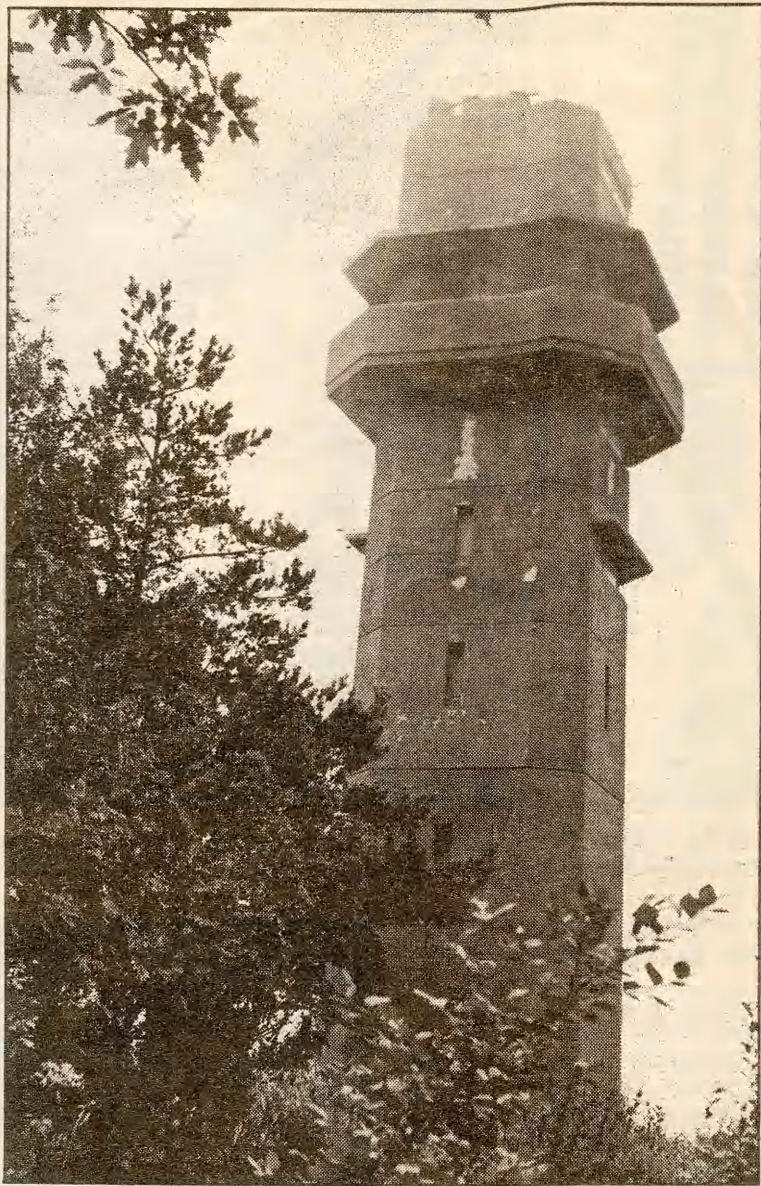
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Kaler-Vaill Home

File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

The historic 14-room Kaler-Vaill Home on Black Point Road in Scarborough was owned for years by Mrs. Addie K. Vaill, one of Scarborough's wealthiest women. Mrs. Vaill and her mother, Elmira Coolbroth, owned the Black Point Inn prior to World War I. Mrs. Vaill and her husband, Edward Griswold Vaill, and other relatives were active in developing Prout's Neck. Mrs. Vaill died in 1957 and bequeathed the home and \$100,000 to provide for "respectable, aged and needy Protestant women of Scarborough." This photo was taken in 1960.



File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Keeping watch

This observation tower at Prouts Neck is one of many built on the islands and shores of Maine during World War II. Coastal artillery forces stationed in the United States manned the towers to protect the country against a German invasion. The tower, on Winslow Homer Road at Prouts Neck, was on land owned by E.Y. York Jr., a descendant of Lemuel Moody. Moody was responsible for building a similar structure from an earlier period: The Portland Observatory on Munjoy Hill. 1960 photo.



File photo/Library research by Anne McNaughton

Looking down on Pine Point

This is an aerial photograph of Pine Point in Scarborough taken in 1962, just after a major dredging project had been completed in the Scarborough River. The large building near the top center is St. Jude's Church on Pine Point Road. The F.H. Snow Canning Co., which specialized in clam and fish chowder, was at upper right. Yet to be built was the Clambake Restaurant, which is now across the street from the church.



Massacre Pond

File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

This is a 1949 aerial photograph of Scarborough Beach and Massacre Pond, also known as Great Pond and Prouts Neck Pond. There were two massacres of settlers in the Prouts Neck area, the first in 1688, involving a regiment from New Hampshire that was sent to the Black Point Garrison. Between 80 and 100 of the men were killed in an Indian ambush, according to Becky Delaware of the Scarborough Historical Society. In the other massacre in 1702, Indians killed 19 settlers, including Richard Hunnewell, the famed Indian fighter from Scarborough folklore.

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File photo/Research by Press Herald Library Assistant Susan Butler

Moving the Hunniwell House

This photo, which first appeared in the Press Herald on May 7, 1976, shows Stanley Robinson and his team of oxen pulling Scarborough's historic Hunniwell House onto a new foundation. The house, one of the oldest in Cumberland County, was built in 1684 by Lt. Richard Hunniwell, one of Scarborough's first selectmen who was in charge of garrisons at Blue Point, Black Point and Spurwink. Restoration of the house was undertaken as part of the town's bicentennial project.

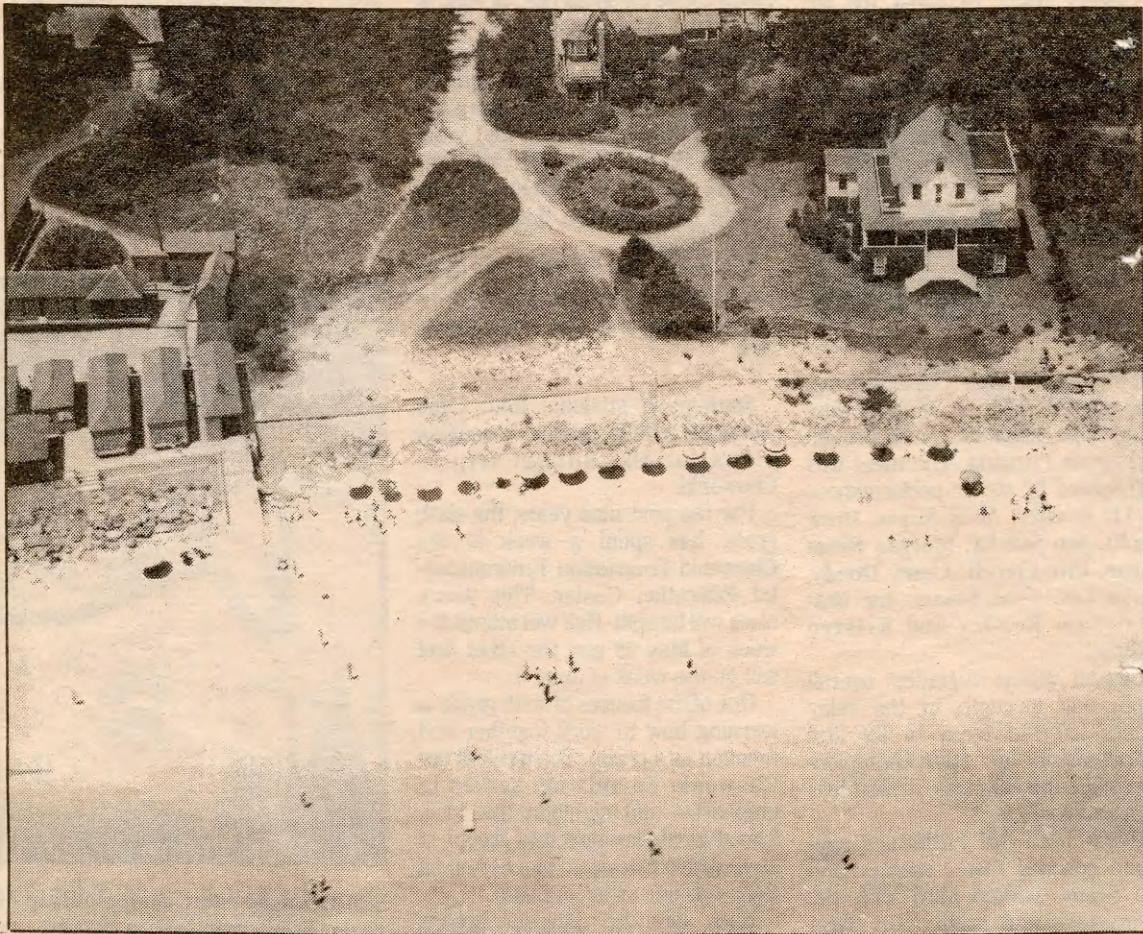
Pinedale Dining Room



File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

This is a 1958 photograph of Pinedale Restaurant on Route 1 in Scarborough. The elegant English Tudor estate was built in the 1930s by Frank J. Harrigan, millionaire owner of the old West End Hotel across from Portland's Union Station. In 1967, the restaurant had to be moved 17 feet back to accommodate the widening and raising by 10 feet of Route 1 just north of the Scarborough Marsh. It has been home to a variety of businesses since then.

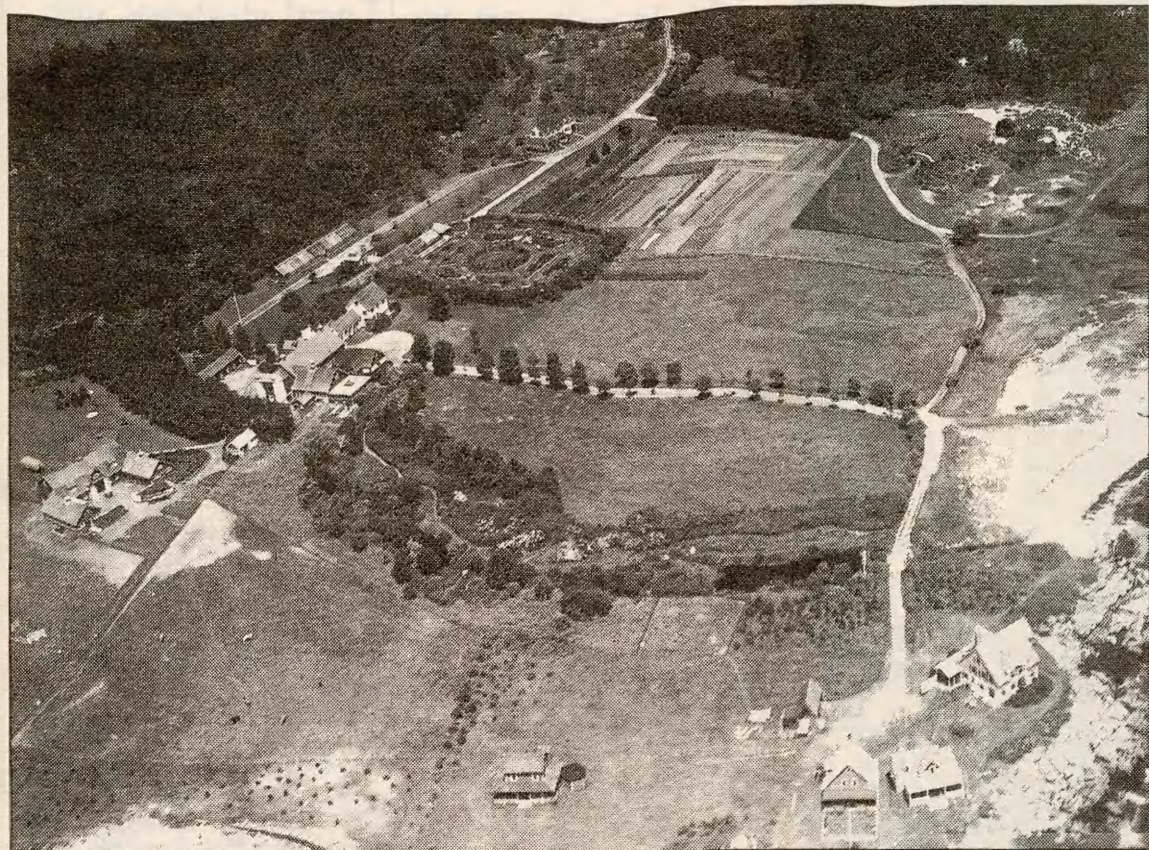
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Private beach

File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Prout's Neck Beach in Scarborough was in earlier years set apart for the exclusive use of the summer residents of Prout's Neck. During the first half of this century the beach and neck were used chiefly by wealthy summer cottage owners, chiefly from New York and Pennsylvania. At left are rows of private bathing lockers. This aerial photo was taken in 1935.



File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Ram Island Farm

"Ram Island Farm is but one of several farms and but a small area of the total acreage that makes up the private estates of Phineas W. Sprague, prominent coal merchant of Boston, summer resident of Maine, and proprietor of Black Point Inn at Prout's Neck (Scarborough). The total estate is estimated to run upwards of 2,000 acres, ranging almost from Prout's Neck to Pond Cove on the cape (Cape Elizabeth),..." (from the Portland Sunday Telegram, 1928).



File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Scarborough landmark

This old house at 626 U.S. Route 1 has been a doctor's office for most of its 244 years at Dunstan Corner in Scarborough. Built in 1750 by a Dr. Rice, it has 10 rooms with fireplaces and decorative moldings. General Lafayette stopped here for rest and refreshment during the American Revolution, a guest of then-owner Dr. Alvin Bacon. It was called the Provost Inn for a while, but the 19-room annex and barn built for that purpose were destroyed by fire in 1972. It continues to this day as a doctor's office, although it was recently moved back 100 feet from Route 1, according to Wendell Whitten of the Scarborough Historical Society.

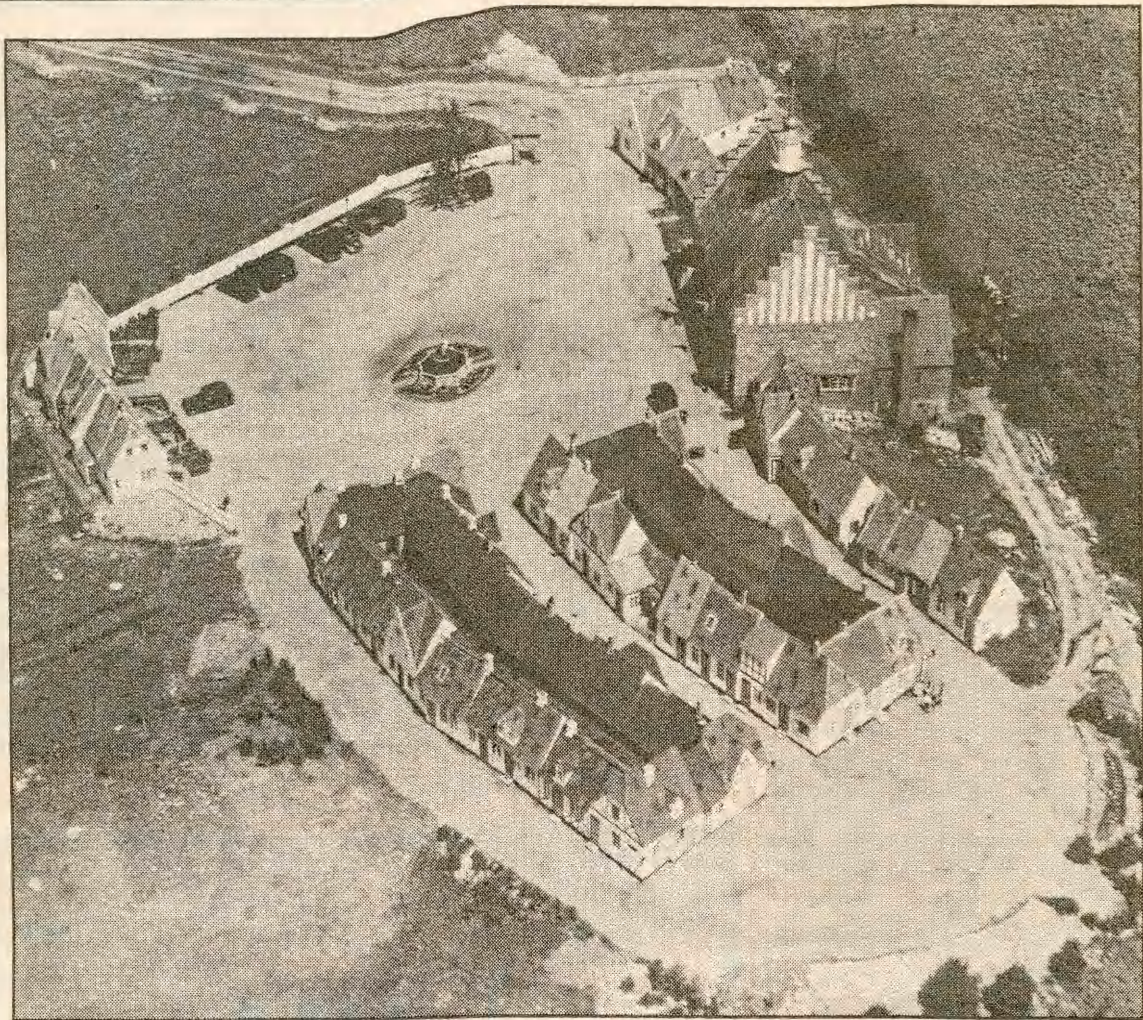


Scarborough trailer camp

File photo/Library research by Anne McNaughton

The Pine Haven Trailer Camp in Scarborough, just across the South Portland line, was under pressure from the town in 1944 to stop polluting the nearby Nonesuch River, and cut back on their 138 spaces. Selectmen were also trying to get the inhabitants established as legal residents of Scarborough in order to collect property taxes. The camp was one of many established during World War II, when Greater Portland's population grew dramatically.

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File photo/Research by Press Herald Library Assistant Susan Butler

Scarborough's Danish village

In the 1930s, Paramount Pictures shot part of a Santa Claus film at the once-famous Danish Village on Route 1 in Scarborough. The replica of the ancient town of Ribe in Denmark was built in 1930 and was used as a lodging complex — a predecessor to the modern motel — until World War II, when it housed workers from the South Portland shipyards. Most of the village burned or was torn down during the 1960s.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madson

Scarborough's Moulton Homestead

This is a 1958 photograph of the former Moulton Homestead on Route 1 near Dunstan Corner in Scarborough. The 16-room house, earlier known as Elm House because of the giant elm tree in front, has been a restaurant on several occasions. It was originally a tavern and store owned by Henry R. Williams. Henry ran a blacksmith shop, his wife, Mary, ran the tavern, and there was also a cobbler's shop at the rear, according to Becky Delaware of the Scarborough Historical Society. Currently, Dunstan Hardware store has been constructed around it, and some small businesses are in the original house.

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File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

Scarborough's Valle's

This is a 1958 photo of Valle's Inn & Steak House on Route 1 at Dunstan Corner, Scarborough. It opened in 1936 as the second in what would become a chain of restaurants founded by Donald D. Valle. Valle's Inn enjoyed its greatest success during the 1940s and 1950s and in 1948 brought one of the first televisions to the area. The 3½-story house at right was built in 1816 and was a stopping place for stagecoach travelers along the Boston Post Road. It was destroyed by fire in 1971.

History notes

Snow Canning Co. was a major industry in 1938

Editor's note: The following was taken from the 1938 Annual Report of the Town Officers of the Town of Scarborough. This book was loaned to the *Leader* by Zandy Clark of Clark's Unfinished Furniture in Scarborough.

Scarborough's Largest Industry

A century ago, three Cape Cod fishermen discovered the famous Scarborough river clams. The discovery was made by Captain Snow, Captain Baker, and Captain Leavitt.

Early spring found three Cape Cod vessels in the mouth of the Scarborough river. Their purpose at this time was to obtain salt bait which was salted clam meats. Their cargo required approximately twelve thousand barrels of shell clams or two thousand barrels of clam meats. The vessels would remain in Scarborough river for two months and many of the natives obtained employment from them.

May first the vessels prepared for their return trip to Cape Cod. Some of the bait was sold to the various fishing vessels and the balance retained. From Cape Cod the fishing vessels left for the Grand Banks where they would remain for six months returning with a cargo of salt cod fish prepared on the vessels.

Captain Snow, Captain Baker and Captain Leavitt were veritable three wise men. Their keen minds soon realized that the town of Scarborough had great possibilities. They purchased three tracts of land on Blue Point Hill and built homes. Later their families were brought from Cape Cod to Pine Point, Maine.

At this early date clams were not regarded as a seafood by the majority of New England people. Through their efforts clams were introduced into the various New England markets and in a comparatively short time the succulent bivalves were being consumed in great quantities.

The development of the clam business has been difficult and confronted with many obstacles. The inhabitants have worked diligently and have had their feasts and famines.

Many times the clams have become depleted. This has not been caused wholly by the men digging them from the beds because the sea gulls, crabs and eels have proved to be the clams worst enemies. The spawn and seed have been devoured by them before

they get a chance to become imbedded in the sand.

The town of Scarborough has at various times assisted in the work of transplanting clams. Money has been raised to pay men to dig clams from beds where there is an abundance of seed and transplant it on the barren beds.

Mother Nature has helped to preserve the Scarborough clams. Severe winter weather will form ice over the clam beds. The ice kills the crabs and starvation causes the death of a great many gulls. The State of Maine has

recently enacted a law which prohibits the taking of clams less than two inches in length. This law helps considerably in the propagation and preservation of them.

The town of Scarborough is proud of its famous shore dinner houses and fried clam stands. Thousands of people annually enjoy these delicious clams which are served steamed, fried and in cakes. Scarborough's choice seafoods served with the famous Pine Point lobsters have become known in all parts of the world.

The F.H. Snow Canning Co., Inc. is the only clam factory located in Scarborough. A wholesale clam business is conducted here and several thousand barrels of clams are shipped annually. This company also operates a cannery where approximately fifteen thousand gallons of clam meats are packed annually. The clams are used in clam chowder, clam cakes, pickled clams and clam cocktail. The major part of the clams used in packing are in the clam chowder. Snow's Clam Chowder is the only clam chowder packed in Pine Point, Maine.

The town of Scarborough cordially extends an invitation to all who have not enjoyed our delicious seafoods to come to Scarborough and dine at one of our famous hotels or shore dinner houses.



THE F.H. SNOW CANNING CO. as shown in the town's Annual Report of 1938.



File photo/Library research by Linda Madsen

The end of the line

This is a 1958 photograph of the old West Scarborough railroad station that was formerly on Pine Point Road. The station was built in 1842 along the Boston & Maine Railroad's eastern division. Passenger service was discontinued there in 1944. From 1926 to 1958, this building was located in a field near Dunstan Corner, far from any rails and well back from Route 1. Town volunteer firefighters burned it down in a training exercise.

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File photo/library research by Linda Madsen

Thomas Lancaster House

The Parson Thomas Lancaster House on Black Point Road in Scarborough was celebrating its 300th anniversary in 1958 when this photograph was taken. Lancaster purchased the house from the Rev. Thomas Pierce, and he and his family occupied the house throughout the American Revolution and for many years after. The house remained in the Libby family for many years after that.