

Harbour Point

A Small History
(Formerly Called Rocky Point up to 1971)
Presently located at
55 Poppasquash Road
Bristol, Rhode Island

One day as I was showing the outside of the house to a woman friend, she looked up and said, "1872 . . . hmmmm . . . no 1873. That is when the house was built." I asked, "How do you know the difference?" This woman is an historical architect. She said that the design of the Queen Ann's Tower was typical of the design of a Queen Ann's tower except that in 1873 it was changed to a slightly different style in the trim at the top of the tower. The rest of the house appeared to be of the 1872 style.

This house was originally located where the condominiums on Poppasquash road are located at Windmill Point. Prior to the condominiums, the Castle Restaurant was located there. Prior to that, it was the Castle that was being built for a woman of means that was having the Castle built. She died before the Castle was completed.

Prior to that, the Harbour Point House was located there. The house was moved to its present location when it was offered to anyone who would move it away so that this woman would be able to build her castle. John Church, Bristol Town Clerk, offered to move it to the location, which he owned, where it is now. Poppasquash Road was a dirt road. In 1917, the house was put on a platform and moved by horses with rollers under the platform in mid to late fall. Halfway to the new location, it started to rain. It rained for several days and finally the house on rollers bogged down in the mud. It stayed there all winter with letters to the editor in the Bristol Phoenix upset by "that house in the middle of the road". In the spring of 1918, the house was finally moved to its new location. The movers rotated the house 180 degrees before setting it down. So now the picture window and the front porch are facing Colt Park.



Post card photo image of Paul's Harbour Point at Windmill Point (house name)

The postal mark date is 1907. The house is rotated 180 degrees from how it is now.

Note porch on water side. Also note the beach house to right of the main house.

Note dirt road and last telephone pole on "Poppasquaw" Road (1907).

The House was built in 1873.



This has been a fun project!

Enjoy!