

# The Outer Cape Summer *Guide*



Volume CII, Number 20

The Outer Cape Newspaper for 102 Years

15 Cents



The picture above shows Charles W. Hawthorne with his painting class on a wharf in Provincetown in 1921. The picture to the right may be the earliest photo of Hawthorne taken in Provincetown. The picture shows Hawthorne and his wife in their Provincetown house in 1910.



a history of  
the art colony:  
part I,  
the early years

# General Information

## Parking And Driving In The Towns

It is often fairly difficult to find a place to park in Provincetown, especially during the height of the summer season. But it is never impossible to park within a fairly short walking distance of the center of town.

Parking is banned on Commercial Street from Pearl Street to Court Street. It is also banned on parts of Bradford Street and on many of the side streets where marked. The "tow-away" zones are enforced. And a crew of meter maids patrols the streets and parking lots at regular intervals throughout the day ticketing all parking violations.

There are municipal parking lots with meters (two hours for 25 cents) at the following locations: the town wharf off Standish Street and Ryder Street; the corner of Alden Street and Bradford Street; the intersection of Johnson Street and Commercial Street; off Ryder Street opposite the Town Hall; and at the corner of School Street and Tremont Street. There are also two dozen metered parking spaces next to Town Hall on Ryder Street.

There is free parking at the High School parking lot off Bradford Street at Prince Street, and at several parking areas branching off the rear of the High School parking lot. There are three other town-owned free parking lots. One is on Shank Painter Road about 150 yards from Bradford Street. There is free parking lot in the West End at approximately number 50 Commercial Street.

And there is a lot off Conwell Street on Harry Kemp Way about 200 yards from Bradford Street.

In addition to these town-owned lots, there are several privately owned parking lots scattered around town. There is also quite a bit of unregulated parallel parking on the town's streets; but most of this is outside of the business district in the center of town.

Parking is no great problem in Truro and Wellfleet.

However, parking at the town beaches in both these towns is limited to cars with the appropriate stickers. These stickers are sold only to the residents of the towns and their house guests. The towns hire beach parking lot attendants, who have the authority of a police officer, to enforce the sticker restriction during the day in the summer.

The speed limit for all traffic in Provincetown is 20 miles per hour unless otherwise posted. The Provincetown Police just got a new radar unit this spring. The radar can measure the speed of an oncoming car instantly.

The speed limit on Route 6 is 55 miles per hour in Provincetown and Truro, and 50 miles per hour in Wellfleet.

In all three towns, bicycles are not required to follow the flow of traffic on one-way streets. So in Provincetown, in particular, drivers should look BOTH ways before entering a one-way street.

## Emergencies

**Police:** In Provincetown call 487-1212. In Truro call 487-1717. In Wellfleet call 349-2100.

**Fire:** In Provincetown call 487-1312. In Truro call 349-3917. In Wellfleet call 349-3311.

**Medical:** The A.I.M. Medical Clinic in Wellfleet is a publicly supported non-profit medical clinic. It is open from 9:00 in the morning until 6:00 at night for appointments and emergency service. It is located on Route 6 in Wellfleet opposite the flashing yellow light for Wellfleet center. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day at 349-3131. A Provincetown branch office will open July 1.

**Drop-In Center:** The Drop-In Center is a medical and service center primarily for young people. It is staffed and run by young people, and is financed by town and state funding. Its telephone line for drug and emotional crises is 487-0387. That number can be called 24 hours a day. The Drop-In Center also provides a number of other services for young people including a free medical clinic on Friday night. On July 1 the center will start a heroin rehabilitation program. It is located at 6 Gosnold Street, which is on Bradford Street one block west of Town Hall.

## Shellfish

**Provincetown:** All shellfishing in Provincetown is closed from April to October, with the exception that you can take snails or mussels during that time without a license.

**Truro:** If you have a shellfish license in Truro, you can take eels, soft-shelled clams, sea clams, razor fish, oysters, sea worms, or scallops within the town. You cannot get a shellfish license unless you are a "bona fide resident of the Town". If you get one, there are many regulations governing how much, when, and where you can take shellfish. Apply for a license in the Truro Town Hall.

**Wellfleet:** You have to be a resident of Wellfleet for six months before you can get a shellfish license. If you don't have one, you can't take eels, clams, quahogs, razor fish, oysters, seaworms, or scallops. You apply at the Wellfleet Town Hall for a license. If you get one, there are lots of regulations about how to do it.

## Dune Buggies

Any dune buggy, jeep, or other vehicle must get an oversand vehicle permit from the Race Point Visitors Center in Provincetown before it is allowed to be driven through the dunes or on the beaches.

There is no charge for the permit. But each vehicle must have a shovel, a jack, a board or other support for the jack, a tow rope or chain, a low pressure air gauge, and extra territorial insurance coverage.

Because the beach grass and other dune plants keep the dunes from being blown away, and because they are so fragile, it is prohibited to drive or walk over the vegetation.

Oversand vehicles must follow the designated routes, and may not drive over any vegetation. Local residents take this driving-over-vegetation very seriously. The dunes are already being eroded somewhat because of the increase in traffic over them.

An oversand vehicle can have its permit lifted and its driver can be prosecuted before a United States Magistrate for driving outside the designated route or driving over vegetation.

Operators of oversand vehicles can stay in their vehicles on the beach in the National Seashore overnight if they get a special 72-hour overnight vehicle permit from the Race Point Visitors Center first. To get these permits, vehicles must have permanently installed self-contained water or chemical toilets. Tents and camping trailers are not permitted.

The dune routes are closed between 10 pm and 6 am, although the routes to and along the beach are open at all hours for fishermen.

## Beaches

You can use almost any of the beaches on either side of the Cape. The only difficult thing is finding a place where you can legally park.

The towns of Truro and Wellfleet allow only cars carrying beach parking stickers to park at the parking lots next to their town-owned beaches. These beach parking stickers are sold only to residents of the town or to the house guests of the residents. House guests must get their application for a sticker signed by their host.

The Cape Cod National Seashore maintains four beaches in the three towns with complete facilities and parking lots. It costs you one dollar to enter any one of these parking lots on any given day. Or you can purchase a Golden Eagle pass from the Seashore Headquarters in South Wellfleet. This pass will grant you free admission to the facilities of any national park in the country this year.

The Seashore beaches are at Herring Cove (at the end of Route 6 in Provincetown), at Race Point (off Race Road in Provincetown), at the Head of the Meadow (off Route 6 in North Truro on the ocean side), and at the Marconi Headquarters Area (off Route 6 in South Wellfleet on the ocean side).

Each of the Seashore beaches has showers, rest rooms, telephones, lifeguards, and a ranger on duty. The Herring Cove Beach has a snack bar.

In addition, you can use any beach within the Seashore lands or on town-owned land if you can find some way to get to it (such as by walking). Both the Seashore beaches with facilities and the town-owned beaches have designated areas where sunbathing is allowed.

## Bylaws Of The Towns And Other Local Idiosyncracies

If you don't live on Cape Cod, you are a stranger in an only slightly strange land.

The voters at the Annual Town Meetings of each town have the power to pass a certain number of bylaws.

These bylaws not only define the governmental structure of the town; but they also cover (to quote the title of Article IV of the bylaws of the town of Provincetown) "The Security and Conduct of Persons and Property". In brief, the bylaws tell you what you're not allowed to do.

Some of the bylaws may be anachronisms, and will never affect you. For example, Section 5 of Article XI of the Truro bylaws reads: "No person shall suffer horses or grazing beasts or swine to run at large in this town, or to feed at the roadside either with or without a keeper."

Some of the bylaws may be anachronisms, yet they will be enforced. Here is a run-down of the local customs, practices, and bylaws which might affect you.

### OFFENSES FOR WHICH YOU ARE USUALLY NOT ARRESTED

**Unleashed Dogs:** Dogs in Provincetown must be kept on a leash on all public streets, ways, and property. That's the law. Loose dogs may be impounded. You also ought to curb your dog when the need arises.

**Bare Feet and Pets:** You are not allowed to take your unshod feet or your pets into Provincetown's stores with you. Most stores have a little sign in the window announcing that the Board of Health has so decreed.

**Not Keeping Your Shirt On:** You are not allowed to walk down the street in Provincetown without a shirt on. In Truro, you can't go into public buildings without one. One Provincetown bylaw which touches upon this topic reads: "No person shall appear in any public place, except a bathing beach, in a bathing suit, unless covered by a wrap

**Dancing in Bars on Sunday Nights:** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts leaves in the hands of the Selectmen the decision whether to allow this unbridled merrymaking in their town. After giving dancing in bars on Sunday nights a 90-day trial this past winter, the Provincetown Selectmen voted, by a margin of three to two, not to allow it. The Truro Selectmen picked up the cue and denied a request for Sunday dancing. Wellfleet, however, allows it to go on.

**Building a Fire on a Beach:** A newly-passed state law prohibits the setting of open fires anywhere — including beaches and everywhere else. Charcoal fires are allowed under certain circumstances.

### OFFENSES FOR WHICH YOU USUALLY ARE ARRESTED

Many of the visitors who are arrested find they have broken laws that they were more or less unaware of. The standard procedure in arrests for bylaw violations is to 1) take the offender to the police station to be booked, 2) require the offender to post bail or (if he doesn't have the bail money) hold him in jail, and 3) arraign the offender at the Second Barnstable District Court in Orleans on the morning of the first weekday following the arrest. Fines for bylaw violations are about \$20 or so. To avoid all that trouble, don't do any of the following things.

**Sleeping in the Open:** You are not allowed to sleep (at night) on the beach, under the pier, in the dunes, or in the woods. The National Seashore rangers patrol the dunes at night. Hundreds of people are arrested for sleeping in the open each summer. You cannot sleep outside anywhere unless you have the permission of the owner of the land.

**Sleeping in Motor Vehicles:** You are not allowed to sleep in motor vehicles parked on public streets or in municipal parking lots. You can, however, sleep in a vehicle on the beach or in the dunes. The National Seashore if your

vehicle permits."

**Setting Up Camp at Night:** You are not allowed to set up a tent or anything similar (even if you are not sleeping in it) on any public land during the time between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

**Trespassing:** You are not allowed to go on other people's land. And you cannot go into the houses of others. Those little beaten-up cottages you may stumble upon in the dunes and other wild places are private property, and you have to stay out of them.

**Skinny Dipping:** You are not allowed to go swimming from any beach without any clothes on. This is true of even the most isolated beaches in Truro and Wellfleet.

**Panhandling:** You are not allowed to beg on the street, or solicit "spare change", or anything of the sort.

**Lewd and Lascivious Speech and Behavior:** You are not allowed to use foul language or act indecently, whatever that means.

**Rude and Disorderly Conduct:** As the Provincetown bylaw puts it: "No person shall behave in a rude, indecent, or disorderly manner, or use profane, indecent, or insulting language, or shout, scream, and/or utter loud outcries without reasonable cause in any public place in the Town to the annoyance or disturbance of any person there being or passing, or loiter on any sidewalk or street or about doorways or places of business to the annoyance or disturbance of any person."

**Hanging Around:** If you are standing on a sidewalk, or in the street, or anywhere, and if you are blocking the movement of others, and if a police officer then tells you to move on and you don't do so, you can be arrested.

If any of these bylaws seems to you to be unnecessary or silly, you might mention it to the residents of the towns. After all, it is the voters at the Town Meetings who make

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# Provincetown Artists: The Colony's Birth, Hawthorne, World War I, And Some Hassles

By E. J. Kahn III

Is art dead in Provincetown?  
Is the art colony?

These questions have been asked with increasing frequency over the past few years. They were the subject of a forum sponsored last summer by the Provincetown Art Association. The Association is the structure that the original Provincetown art colony developed around in the 1920's.

There is no doubt that the symptoms of some kind of sickness are all around.

Old timers wince as they pass the hordes of protrait artists who line Commercial Street (some of whom make over \$30,000 a summer doing caricatures) and the commercial galleries (which make as much money off mass-produced "prints" and made-in-Hong-Kong ceramics as they do off original art).

Young artists complain of the scarcity of heated studios for year-round work, the exorbitant summer rents, and the pressure to sell, sell, sell.

And the old and the young look at each other with a sense of mistrust—both feeling that the other should be contributing more to the colony and to the community.

The comments of some key members of the present colony are instructive:

Victor Candell, the director of the Provincetown Fine Arts Workshop, finds "signs of erosion and separation" in the colony. "We as a group cannot offer the collective potential to attract the kind of people we want," he says.

Ronald Shuebrook, a Fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center (which is considered by many to be the one organization truly making an effort to revitalize the year-round arts community) criticizes the colony for turning out "quantity art" instead of "quality art."

"We need to put out an all-out effort to embrace the new, to embrace the difficult," Shuebrook said last summer at the Art Association's forum.

Mervin Jules, an Association honorary vice president, says about the organization, "Many on the Board of Trustees would like to turn over responsibility to the young. For some reason there isn't a nucleus of dedicated, willing young people."

Fred Tasch, the director of the Art Association, has been having trouble finding galleries to advertise in the Association's program. He wonders if, in fact, Provincetown has an art colony at all.

Certainly it used to. And many of the problems it faces today seem to be extensions of those that artists have ex-



Hawthorne painting at his home in Provincetown in 1923.

perienced throughout the history of their stay on the Outer Cape—a history that dates back to before 1914, the year the Art Association was founded. But 1914 was the first year records were kept.

Provincetown before World War I was a quiet, insular place. A heavy snowstorm could cut the town off from the rest of the world for as long as three days.

Huge elms lined the street, (which were traveled by horsedrawn carriages), the sidewalks were made of wood, and artists and fishermen could get a good meal for 25 cents at the Surfside Cafe.

For amusement, there were movies at the Star Theater, and two Town Criers wandered through the town, informing visitors and residents of the day's events.

When the Art Association was founded in 1914, Provincetown's better-known artists included the venerable Charles Hawthorne, E. Ambrose Webster, William Halsall (famous for his huge nautical scenes), and Englishman Arthur Diehl.

The prevailing style was impressionism. The colony, which, with the founding of the Association, had a structure to build around for the first time, immediately began to become involved in community affairs.

Money was donated to the town for mosquito control, \$100 was given to the District Nurse Association to establish a Lower Cape clinic, and a "Harvest Ball" was held—the forerunner of the traditional Art Association masquerade ball, held every summer.

World War I brought many famous artists to Provincetown for the summer, and put the art colony on the national map for perhaps the first time.

Max Bohm, Richard Miller, and George Elmer Browne—all members of the National Academy of Design—were among the new summer residents. They ended up on the Outer Cape because travel to Europe had now been prohibited.

Then, in 1921, Frank Days and Sons were contracted to build the present Art Association structure, located in the East End on Commercial Street. Things got going.

Throughout this period, artists were attracted to Provincetown because of the low cost of living. Studios could be had for as little as \$50-\$60 per season (or per year, if

you could stick it out that long). Mrs. Angus Matheson would feed artists three meals a day for six dollars per week, and Annie MacDonald would provide room, board, and laundry for eight dollars per week.

But, despite the large influx, Hawthorne's presence remained the dominant one in the community. His school was one of three operating during the summer. And his naturalistic style had not yet been threatened by the modernist movement, which was due to create the first major split in the community.

Ross Moffet, who died this year—an artist, trustee of the Association, leader of the modernist movement, and author of a history of the Association (and the colony) entitled *Art In Narrow Streets*—remembers one of Hawthorne's classes:

"The climactic moment in the Hawthorne class came on Saturday morning. With the pupils assembled, numbering about 40 at that time, and the first batch of pictures on the rack, promptly at 9:00 Hawthorne entered in a white flannel suit.

"Complete silence would have fallen on the room as Hawthorne rapped with his pointer and asked, 'Whose are the first?' And he who was first, and each one of the others in turn, would stand before the whole world, or so it seemed, aware that all of his deficiencies in talent were about to be laid bare.

"Halfway through the session there was a short intermission, and Cesco, the Hawthorne cook, entered with a tray bearing a glass of milk for the master. We suspected, but never knew for sure, that the milk had been enriched with an auxiliary liquid."

Although Hawthorne's haughtiness tended to set him apart from the rest of the community, he was not above using the community itself for his work. The *Crew of the Philomena Manta*, a large work which hangs in the Provincetown Town Hall, consists of a crew made up of painters Edward Dickinson, Charles Kaesela, Moffett, a few gardeners, some workers from Days lumber yard, and one fisherman, who was used as the central figure.

But, where Hawthorne could afford his own cook, many of the artists were not so fortunate.

The artists, a perceptive lot, noticed the

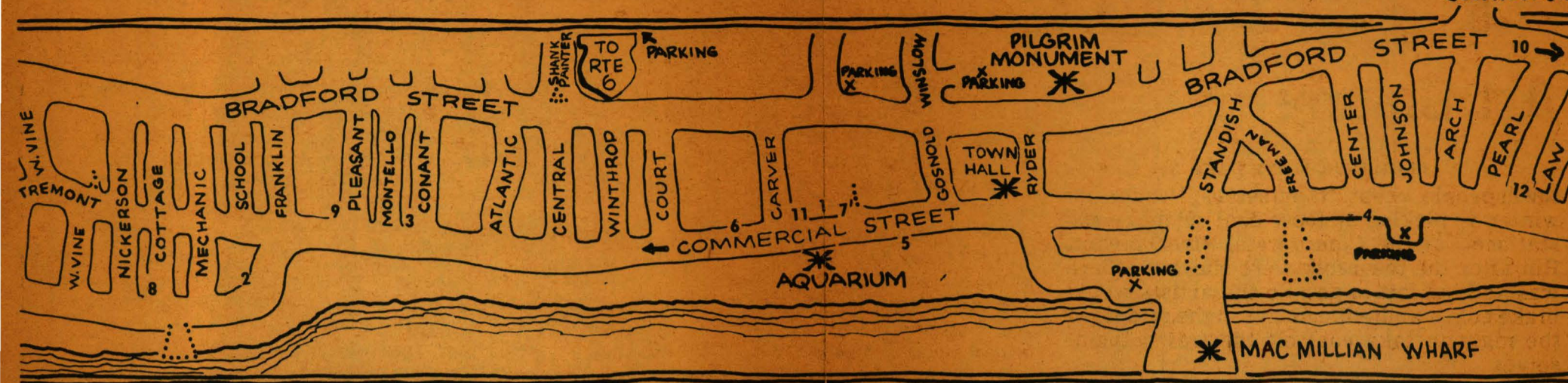
(continued to page 5)



Detail from Hawthorne's painting "Cleaning Fish".

# Handcraft Work

TO RTE. 6  
CONWELL ST.



## LIDO I

CLOTHING BOUTIQUE INTERNATIONAL

## LIDO II

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS INTERNATIONAL

## LIDO III

HEAD BOUTIQUE HIGH

Only four pages of this paper survived

## LIDO IV

HANDCRAFTED DOMESTIC  
& INTERNATIONAL JEWELRY

OPPOSITE SEAMEN'S SAVINGS BANK  
222-224 COMMERCIAL STREET

### LISTINGS

- 1 **CRAZY QUAIL**  
214 Commercial Street—Hand-painted canvases. Bargello. Rya Crewel. Pillows, pictures, belt and coaster kits. Canvas by the yard, and a wide selection of Persian and tapestry yarns. Also fine-tailored sports clothing.
- 2 **RAE BLUM. OBJECTS BIG AND SMALL**  
120 Commercial Street—One of the most challenging spots for bargain hunters who like to browse. For her Greenwich Village shop she has brought a hodge-podge of jewelry of all kinds. Prices from one dollar to \$100. A grouping of antiques and unusual and rare trinkets, beads, and rugs.
- 3 **THE FAMILY**  
146 Commercial—A little old and a little new. Patchwork quilts and fashions, crafts from local artists, antiques from Grandma's attic. A colorful shop.
- 4 **GAMBELLA DESIGN: LEATHER**  
359 Commercial Street—Gambella is the well-known designer and craftsman of soft leather handbags. She has been in Provincetown for 19 years. Original designs. New additions to her line include men's belts and handmade buckles.
- 5 **HANDCRAFTERS**  
241 Commercial—Handmade works of art.
- 6 **LEATHER BY MARCHOF**  
194 Commercial Street—Sandals of Rilleau design, belts, bags. All in sensuous leathers.
- 7 **LIDO I, II, III, IV**  
222-224 Commercial Street—New concepts in shopping. See below.
  - LIDO I**  
The world in one. Clothing from 12 different counties. Handbags, sandals, clogs, bedspreads, belts, knick-knacks, toys.
  - LIDO II**  
Karata', Chimta, clay drums, tambourines, flutes, koto, reed harmonica. An international array of music.
  - LIDO III**  
A high head shop—above the stratosphere. Pipes, posters, papers, candy, glasses, candles, lights, kites, smile tee-shirts, and Zap Comics.
  - LIDO IV**  
A fine selection of handcrafted silver. Lisa makes sterling silver artworks before your eyes.
- 8 **PHYLLIS**  
84 Commercial Street—Handwrought jewelry.
- 9 **REMEMBRANCES OF THINGS PAST**  
136 Commercial Street—A veritable time machine. Come in and feel the past. All sorts of indescribable memorabilia. Clock and watch collectors welcome. Antiques bought. 487-1910.
- 10 **SORCERER'S APPRENTICE**  
208 Bradford Street—Excellence in the design and production of fine gifts and artwork in metal, clay, enamels, glass, wood, and jewelry.
- 11 **HENRY STEIG**  
200 Commercial Street—(next to The Advocate)—Jewelry and Paintings. Fine craftsmanship for 23 years.
- 12 **STITCHERY**  
386 Commercial St.—Needlepoint design. Their motto is 'your design or ours.'