

built about 90 years ago by Benjamin R. Lancey, for his mother, who wanted to live in the biggest house in Provincetown. Unfortunately, she died before it was completed. Mr. Lancey's wife, a socially prominent woman from Providence and an opera singer, moved out after six months, when his sister Maria refused to permit any entertaining or any music in the house. The couple were divorced and Mrs. Lancey remarried and lived in Osterville, where she died at a very old age. Their son inherited the house at Mr. Lancey's death, and it was purchased from him by the Research Club.

After his wife's departure Mr. Lancey and his sister moved into an apartment in the basement of the house, which had originally been constructed as a summer home and could never be heated properly. They remained there until their deaths, living almost as recluses. Many old Provincetown residents still remember Mr. Lancey, out in the streets on cold days, collecting horse dung, which he used as fuel and as fertilizer for his garden.

The house was constructed by Mr. Lancey, using a process which he had discovered and invented to finish wood so that it resembled the then-fashionable brownstone. With this method of treating wood he hoped to make a fortune, and although he did manage to accumulate a sizeable amount of money, none of it came from his discovery.

The building still contains much of its original French wallpaper, marble fireplaces and wide floorboards. A narrow circular staircase on the top floor, constructed of plaster and wood, leads to a lookout or widow's watch, built for no apparent reason except the owner's whim and the architecture of the times.

Cape End Victorian Landmark Acquired By Art Dealer



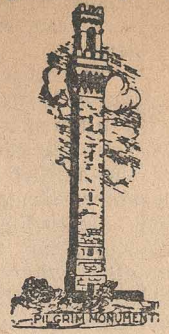
Photo by Town Camera Shop

Robert Campbell, owner-director of the Shore Studios of Provincetown and Boston, founded here 16 years ago by the late Donald F. Witherstine, has bought the mid-Commercial Street building used until this Summer by the Historical Museum. Mr. Campbell will in no way alter the exterior appearance of the building which he considers a perfect specimen of mid-Victorian architecture. Plans to be completed by next June include quarters on the first floor for Shore Studios exhibition rooms and shops offering high quality merchandise in the basement and the second floor areas. The top floor, with its unique floating staircase to the cupola affording a beautiful view of the harbor, will be made into living quarters.

Note: All future articles on the Historical Museum will be filed under its new location on the site of the Monument.

- August 2, 1962 -

PILGRIM



MONUMENT

From the summit of the Pilgrim Memorial Monument — 352 feet above sea level — you will enjoy an unparalleled view of the whole end of Cape Cod and its surrounding waters.

The ascent of the Mounment is extremely easy, an inclined plane, after the manner of the famous Campanile San Marco in Venice, with ramps taking the place of stairs. Persons upward of ninety years and young children have ascended the Monument without fatigue.

Cornerstone laid August 20, 1907 by
President Theodore Roosevelt
Dedicated August 5, 1910 by
President William Howard Taft

AND THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Here are exhibits of the furniture and utensils dating back to the earliest days, whaling gear, ship models, mementoes brought home from distant lands by sailing captains.

Also an unusual exhibit of Arctic equipment used by ADMIRAL DONALD B. MACMILLAN, PROVINCETOWN'S NATIVE SON, FAMED ARCTIC EXPLORER, and game brought back by him from the frozen north. Admiral MacMillan, who has his home in Provincetown, is the only living member of the Peary expedition who discovered the North Pole.

Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Adults 75c Children under 12 — 25c
Admission charge covers both Museum and Monument