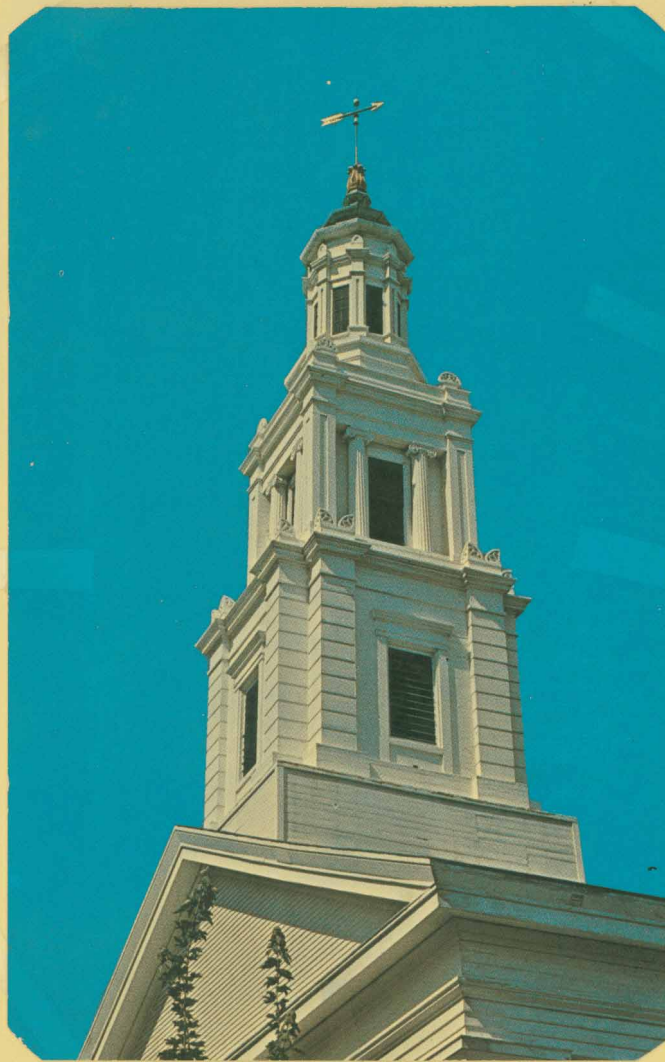


- October 2, 1969 -

"I was much interested in your dissertation on the organ at the Universalist Church. It brought back memories of when I used to play the hymns for church service, way back in 1907, before it was electrified, and someone had to pump the organ, and that was part of my job when someone else played, but it was fun."

Many years ago at Wellfleet High School we remember the Baccalaureate services for the graduating class used to be held alternately at the Methodist and the Congregational churches. The Congregational Church, if memory serves, had electrified their big pipe organ, but the Methodist organ was still hand-pumped. Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson, rest her soul, was vocal music teacher in those days, and we recall she'd appoint a pair of underclass boys to spell off at the boresome and arduous task of pumping the air in to the bellows.

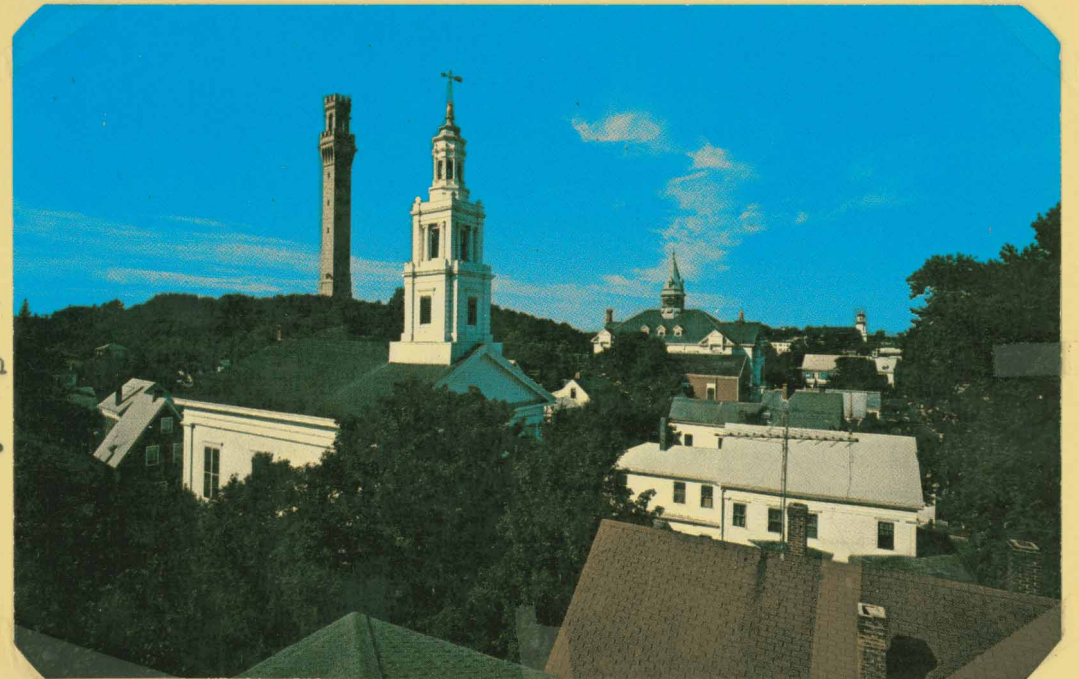
In the tiny cubicle in back of the organ a worn, shiny handle protruded from a slot in the wall. All's you had to do was everlastingly work the thing up and down, regulating your stroke so's the plumb bob dangling on a string was maintained between two critical marks on the wall, indicating that the bellows, weighted down by a sizable load of sandstone blocks, were reasonably full of air. But on one occasion Miz' Patterson made the mistake of delegating a pair of non-singers to the pumping task — and one of the lads — could it have been Ernie Snow? — had a jack knife in his pocket, and he and his buddy got interested in a game of mumblety-peg, and half way through Kipling's Recessional the pressure fell off and the organ groaned into an embarrassing silence. Miss Elizabeth Freeman, then principal of the High School, was moved to offer the following bit of homespun Cape Cod philosophy — "Mrs. Patterson," she observed, "One boy is a boy — two boys, half a boy — three boys, no boy at all. Lucky thing you didn't put another drone in here with those lads. You wouldn't have got by the Processional."



The Beautiful Steeple of the Christopher Wren Universalist Church - - 1965



Patrick house, left; former Pfeiffer home right - October 1980 -



The Monument, the Universalist Church Town Hall, and far right, Center Meth. Church - 1969 -