

The Old Wharf Theater used to be up the West End opposite Nicker-son Street (there are pictures & articles there). The new one is now located on Gosnold Street, the shore end of the road.

THE PROVINCETOWN PLAYHOUSE

ON THE WHARF

Gosnold Street

SEASON OPENING July 1st

"BEYOND THE HORIZON"

EUGENE O'NEILL'S PULITZER PRIZE PLAY

Performances through July 10th

Including Sunday evening July 4th

Box Office now open

On The Wharf

\$1.30, \$1.75 and \$2.20 (Tax inc.)

For Reservations Call 955-W

June 24, 1954

Playhouse On The Wharf

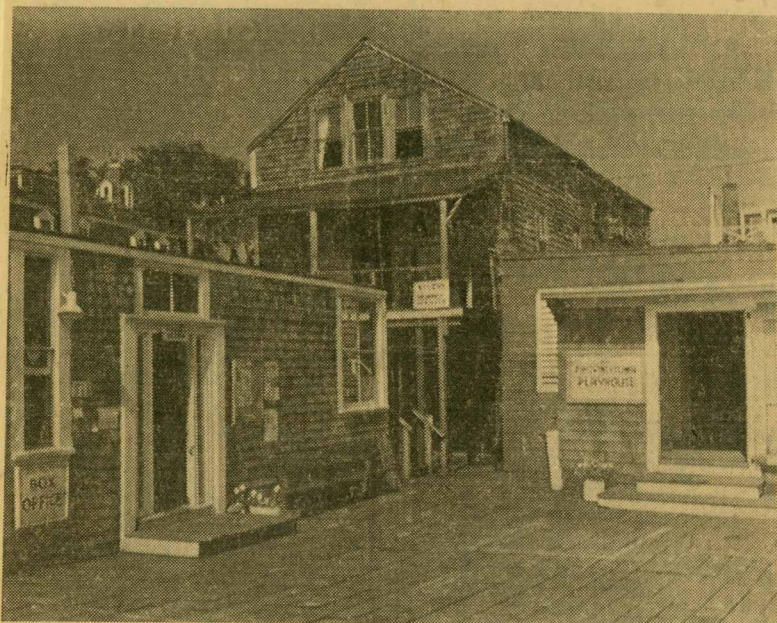


Photo by Clarence Le Peer

The Playhouse on the Wharf where the season will open July 1 with O'Neill's "Beyond The Horizon".

PROVINCETOWN, MASS. January 3, 1957

New Owners of Wharf Theatre



Virginia Thoms



Catherine Huntington

Villain Foiled, Wharf Playhouse Saved As Bank Steps In With Mortgage Loan

Catherine Huntington and Virginia Thoms, co-managers of the Provincetown Playhouse on the wharf at the foot of Gosnold Street since 1940, had a few very bad hours last week when it appeared that they might lose this most unusual site for their Summer theatre rated among the most famous of the country.

The property, long held by the Heinrich Pfeiffer family, had been for sale for some time and it had been the firm intention of the managers to ultimately meet the price of \$12,000 which would make the wharf, theatre and adjoining shed their own. However, on Christmas Eve Miss Huntington received a message from Chester Pfeiffer who is in St. Augustine, Florida with his father and mother, that an offer had been received from other interests willing to meet the price and that the property would be sold for gift shop use although the owners greatly preferred having it go to the Players for continued use as a theatre.

The company had \$6,000 available and Miss Huntington decided to make a quick trip to Provincetown to see what, if anything, could be done in raising the other \$6,000. Making her first plane trip, she was the guest of the Provincetown - Boston Airline president John C. Van Arsdale on the Boston round trip.

At first it was feared that there might be technical difficulties in arranging a loan as Miss Huntington said she had been unable to obtain a first mortgage before on the grounds that Playhouse

buildings and wharf would be used for commercial purposes. However, this detail was quickly ironed out and the loan arranged through the Seamen's Savings Bank and the deal is being closed with the Pfeiffer family with less than a week to spare.

Various Cape End civic leaders and others interested in the cultural development of the town marked the satisfactory conclusion in saving the Playhouse with a telegram of New Year greetings and appreciation to the Pfeiffer family in St. Augustine. It follows:

"All public spirited Provincetown citizens join us in wishing you a Happy New Year and in gratefully congratulating you for the loving interest you have shown in our town by your recent sale of the Wharf Theater property. By the preservation of the Wharf Theater in Provincetown, you perpetuate our cherished heritage of art and culture."

The telegram is signed by John C. Van Arsdale, president of the Provincetown Chamber of Com-

merce; James V. Coyne, Jr., town manager; Francis A. Santos, chairman of selectmen; Frank D. Henderson, selectman; Fred W. Rogers, president, Provincetown Civic Association; Joseph Hawthorne, conductor, Provincetown Symphony Society Inc.; Mrs. Manuel Macara, president, Nautilus Club; Mrs. Beaty V. Davis, president, Parent-Teacher Association, and Mrs. Natalie Grace Patrick, secretary, trustees Public Library.

September 1957

The Cape Cod season is over and it was the greatest ever. Records were broken left and right—by restaurants, art galleries, theaters, yacht clubs, golf courses, swimmers and fishermen.

Even the Provincetown Playhouse, after 17 years of losses or meager gains, came up with a substantial profit.

"It was enough to make a healthy payment on the mortgage," said Miss Catharine Huntington, one of the two owners. "We're delighted!"

After operating the Playhouse for 17 years, Miss Huntington and her partner, Miss Virginia Thoms, bought the place this spring. Both act as well as attend to business affairs.

The company comprised 16 persons, including the management, regulars and apprentices. The season opened July 1 and closed Sept. 2. Edward Thommen of the Poets' Theater in Cambridge was director.

Scott Corbett, who wrote "We Chose Cape Cod," and family are moving next week from East Dennis to Providence. His daughter, Janie, is to attend the Mary C. Wheeler School there.

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