

LONG POINT, THE TIP END OF CAPE COD



This narrow strip of land was at one time quite thickly settled, there being 32 houses, 20 stores, and 3 salt-works located there. The first building that was put up there was built by John Atwood, and occupied November 1818. Prince Freeman, Jr. born on November 7, 1822, was the first child born on the Point. The nearness to the fishing grounds, and the abundance of fish that could be taken from the shore, induced many families to locate there. These fish brought a good price, selling for \$16 a barrel of 200 lbs. The seines were all knit by hand for the most part by the women.

There was no fresh water on the Point, plank cisterns were laid and afterwards some were made of cement. During a long protracted drouth, the drinking water had to be brought from the town in barrels. Eldridge Nickerson built the first saltworks which comprised about 3,000 ft. Others were built, and at one time there were 6 mills for pumping water for about 8,000 ft of works, with an annual output of between five and six hundred hogsheads of extra quality of salt. The only wharf was built by John Atwood, Jr. on the north side of the Point. And now, in 1940, the only buildings left on the Point are those belonging to the Lighthouse.