

Provincetown where he opened a school and became champion of the moderns. Although by that time the warring factions had cooled their heels and to a large degree borrowed techniques from one another, Hoffman's appearance gave the fire a renewed flame.

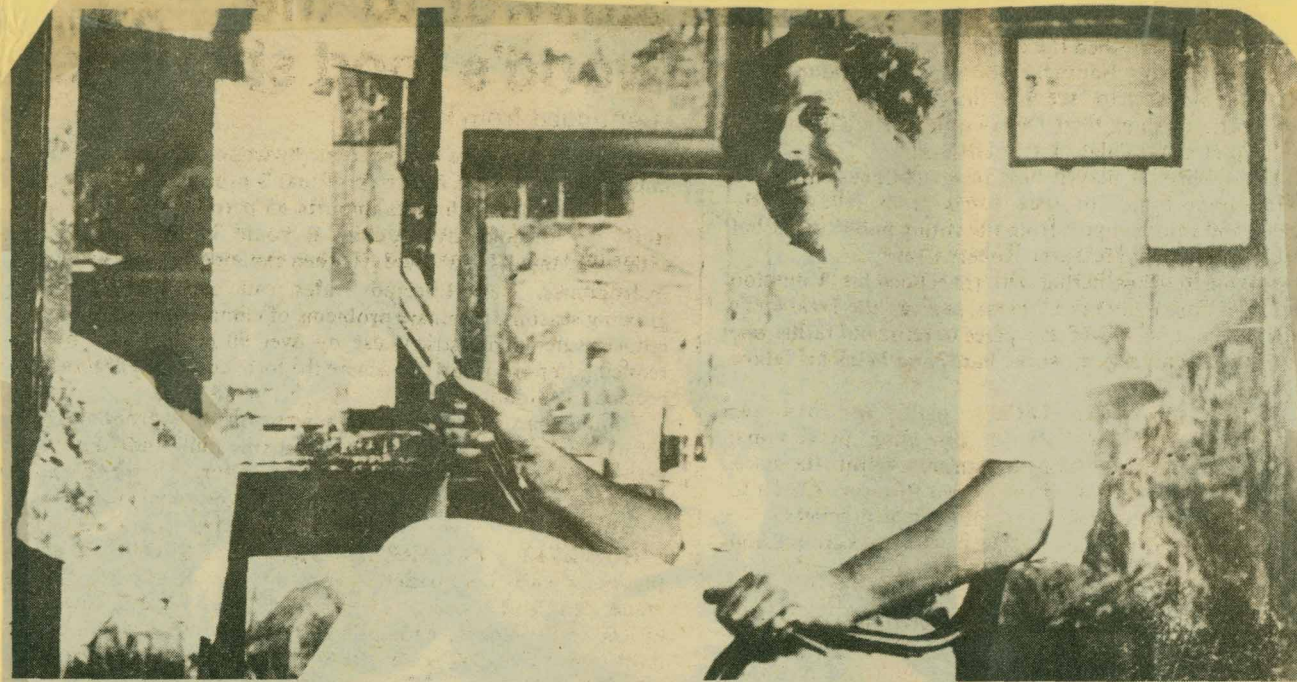
There was a real art boom during the Forties and Fifties. There was money around and people came to buy art. Private galleries sprang up to accommodate collectors until at one time 25 galleries were operating simultaneously.

According to Brooks this was another exciting time to be an artist in Provincetown. "There was a lot of debate over questions like 'Is abstract impressionism really art, when you can't see houses and people?'"

In the Sixties, private galleries began to close and collectors stopped coming, in part theorized Brooks, because of a "honky tonk" tourist-oriented atmosphere that developed. When Hoffman died in 1966 the community suffered a great blow, losing attraction for many artists.

Still the long-standing art community did not completely die out and in fact Andy Warhol brought Pop Art to Provincetown during that period.

With the disappearance of the galleries, the Art Association is again a center for artists, if art can be said to have a center anymore. "Art is going in so many directions, and Provincetown too," said Rodgers. "It is hard for artists to get together. In one sense an artist is an artist, but a portrait artist is not the same as someone doing abstracts."



Cape Cod News - August 23, 1978

ARTHUR V. DIEHL

Library to host show of Diehl paintings

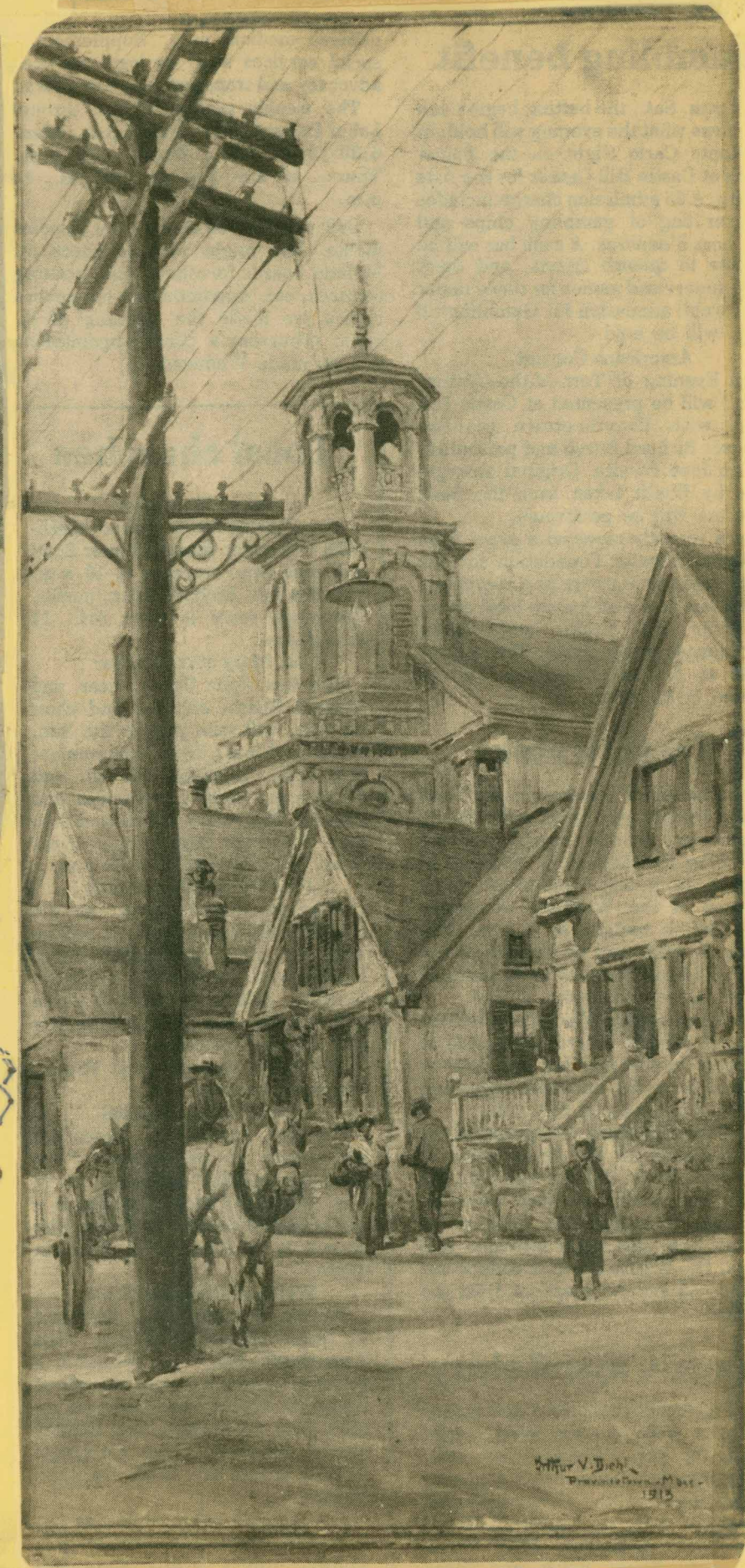
SANDWICH — The Sandwich Historical Society will sponsor, for the first time, a showing of paintings by the late Arthur V. Diehl (1870-1929) to be held at the Sandwich Library, opening Sunday, Aug. 27 until Saturday, Sept. 2.

Until a year ago, little was known about the eccentric artist who could paint as many as 25 paintings in a single day. This extraordinary speed painter came to Provincetown in 1912 where he worked every summer for the rest of his life, while his family lived in Bourne.

A direct descendant of Napoleon, he often mentioned this

fact while doing his daily stint of "speed paintings" for tourists in his Provincetown studio. He also did large and serious marines, and specialized in sand dune scenes at which he became uniquely skilled. He sold these paintings direct, never to dealers and was indifferent to price and his artistic reputation.

Many works will be provided by his son, A. C. V. Diegl, and others will be loaned by private owners along with the Society's two Indian and dune scenes.



'Provincetown,' Arthur Diehl

№ 348. Artists Sketching, Provincetown, Mass.



1905 view. Standpipe: Johnson Street Cold Storage Co.

This is the little shop where Mr. Diehl worked, later a cobbler shop.

He painted a dollar bill on the floor, so real, everyone tried to pick it up