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just to remind you

# The Atlantic House

will open friday, april 1, 1960

drop in for a pleasant drink by the fireplace and enjoy the exciting series of murals painted by james wingate parr.

*hors d'oeuvres being served*



ATLANTIC HOUSE, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.

- 1920 -

- October 27, 1960 -

## Atlantic House Bar Awakens Memories Of Long Ago History Of Fishing Town

By Joyce Koch

And I say it's 'some pleasant' to spend a chilly rain-soaked afternoon in any of our local pubs these last closing-time days of the season. A particularly pleasant watering-place is the Atlantic House Bar of Reggie Cabral. Here one can meditate on a most unique collection of historic paraphernalia. With these trappings it becomes a small Historical Museum in its own right.

Reggie has kept the Atlantic House bar strictly representative of both the historical nautical past and the contemporary artistic present of Provincetown. Its owner for eleven years, he considers himself to be still perfecting its atmosphere.

### Dates Far Back

The bar itself is located in a room that dates back to the late 1700s. The Atlantic House, located on the little alley known as Masonic Place, was the last stop of the Lysander Paine Orleans-Provincetown stagecoach line. Thoreau mentions his stay at the Atlantic House in his history of Cape Cod. With such ghosts afoot, the atmosphere is a natural.

For instance, included amid the collection of items on display in the bar is a telescope brought from France by a Provincetown whaler. And speaking of whalers, there are harpoons, whaling ladles used to dip oil from shipboard pots, and whaling lillies, the metal tips of the harpoons which remained inside the unlucky whales after the strike had been made. A rope was attached to the lily, and was in turn attached to a floating keg.

For that matter, all the items suspended over the bar dangle from old whaling dory oars, and they include . . .

### Ancient Utensils

. . . early American pewter candlesticks, fog horns dating back to the early 1800s, handmade bottles and candle molds, the tooth from himself, the whale, and a block off the "Portland", an ill-fated passenger steamer wrecked off Peaked Hill Bar circa 1898 while making its run from Boston to Maine.

Overlooking the bar in a disquieting way are two dark hued hand-carved oak stanchion heads, dating back to the early 1700s. Reggie says they were used inside Captain's quarters and are much rarer than figureheads. Two port-holes from a ship wrecked in a Cape Cod hurricane are also behind the bar, and a collection of old medicine bottles, one of which

guarantees its contents to mend broken legs. Ice water is poured through the spout of an early Victorian white china pitcher, placed in the center of the bar, and inscribed "For Water".

### Sandwich Glass Shades

All the light from behind the bar comes through early milk and opal Sandwich glass shades and many of the establishment's lanterns boast ruby red Sandwich bullseye glass panes. In such gentle light all the whiskey is lined up on early Victorian marble shelves.

Buckets there are—two early American cast iron pots dating back to the 1800s contain pretzels and chips in contemporary cellophane packs, and at the end of the bar dangles an old leather fire bucket unearthed from the Atlantic House attic. In the far dormer window reposes a very early brass milk measure.

Taking a step to the end of the bar we almost trip into the blazing driftwood crackling in the raised fireplace. An early American bed-warmer, a copper base lamp with a sandwich glass globe and an early Victorian clock enliven the fireplace.

Question and answer time comes around and we ask Reggie how he has come by so many worthy items. "Many things were acquired," he says, "when I was in the antique business associated with Captain and Mrs. Cabral in the old shop now operated by Bellardo. Also many of the objects from the old fishing school were given us by Captain Gaspar, known as Captain Vardee, who sailed with my grandfather, Seraphine Taves, on the fishing schooners in the early 1900s."

### Priceless Collection

And approximately what valuation would you place on this room and its contents? "Artistically and historically speaking," Reggie replies, "the objects here are priceless".

And does nothing come off the beach, we wonder. "Oh, yes! There is a display of colored sand-

blasted bottles found in the Peaked Hill Bar area over one of the murals," Reggie asserts with the pride of a Provincetown beach-comber.

Contemporary artistic Provincetown is represented by one of the most exciting set of murals in America today, created by James Wingate Parr, whose paintings were the first in Provincetown to be bought for the Chrysler collection. Paintings by contemporary artists have long hung throughout the Atlantic House. In the bar, art work from early Hawthorne to Taro Yamamoto have been displayed. At the present time "Bouquet of Flowers" by the latter can be seen on the far wall.

A glance past the Provincetown-acquired ice cream tables and chairs and the stools lining the bar which have come from the old Central School brings us to the magnificently glowing contemporary jukebox. Reggie assures us it is a 'work of art' too, with each selection hand-picked.

"The Atlantic House Bar has always been famous for the writers and painters who frequent it," says Reggie. "It has been called one of the most creative bars in the world."