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Aerial view showing fences introduced to close up the dunes after a storm breached them, Sept. 16, 1991, US Army Corps of Engineers photographer Anthony Blev.



JOHN F. HARTSHORNE  
115 BORDER STREET  
COHASSET, MA 02025

March 16, 2006

T. Mark Pitchell, Superintendent  
Island Beach State Park  
P.O. Box 37, Route 35 South  
Seaside Park, NJ 08752

Dear Mr. Pitchell:

The enclosed booklet describes a very special place, the "Judge's Shack," in your very special Park, Island Beach. The booklet was compiled by my sister, Penelope Batcheler, as a contribution to the history of the Park and, frankly, to prompt consideration of how this Shack might continue as a significant feature of the Park well beyond the tenancy of its current Lessee.

You will find beginning on page 52 a projection of three alternatives for the future of the "Judge's Shack" along with the pros and cons of each. This important section of the booklet was prepared by William C. Bolger, a senior preservation specialist with the National Park Service. Mr. Bolger is intimately familiar with the Shack, having visited there many times as our guest, and he is highly knowledgeable about means of perpetuating the cultural value of historic structures. He and Mrs. Batcheler both reside in Philadelphia. They would be pleased to respond to questions and to assist in any way.

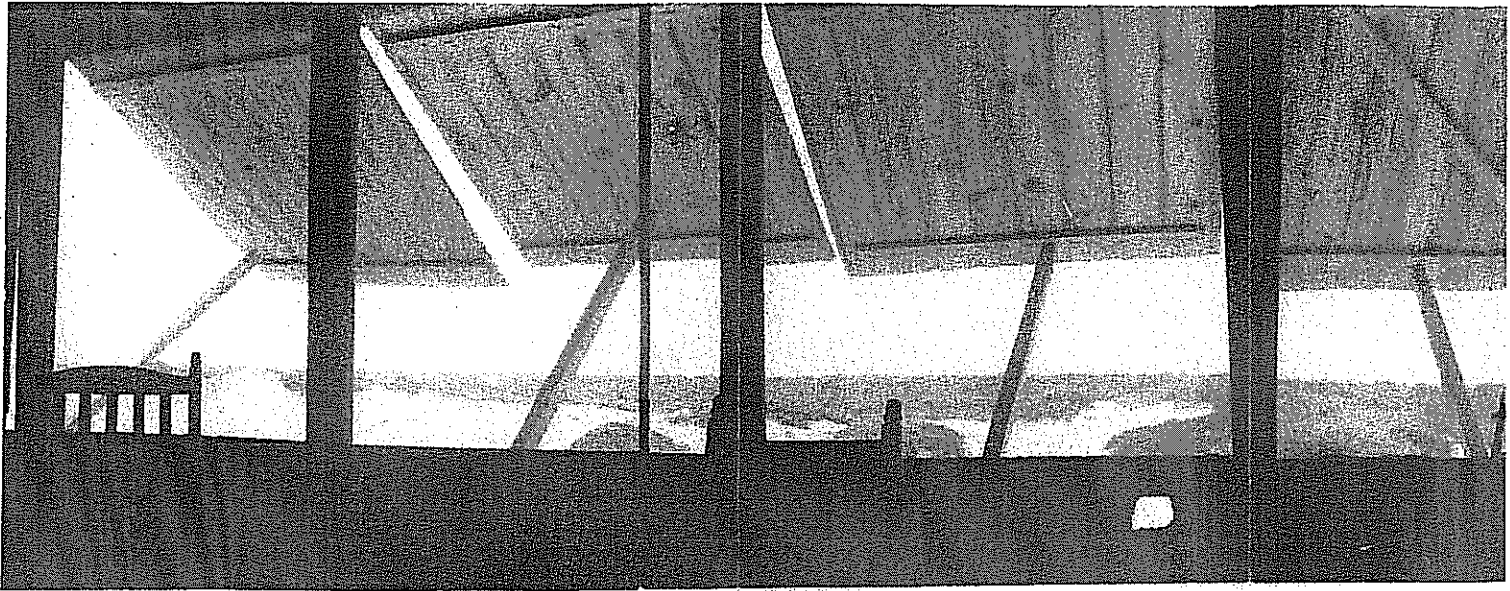
As holder of a lease on the Shack that dates back to 1942, I respectfully request that you and your colleagues in the Division of Parks and Forestry give evaluative consideration to these proposals for the future of Lease #65. It is my earnest hope that resolution in this matter may be reached within the current calendar year.

Sincerely,

  
John F. Hartshorne

Enclosure  
cc: Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler  
William C. Bolger





Historic Structures Report

“The Judge’s Shack”

at

Island Beach State Park

by

Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler  
(Daughter of the Judge)

2006



The Judge's Shack, Sept. 2005

# StriperSurf.com™

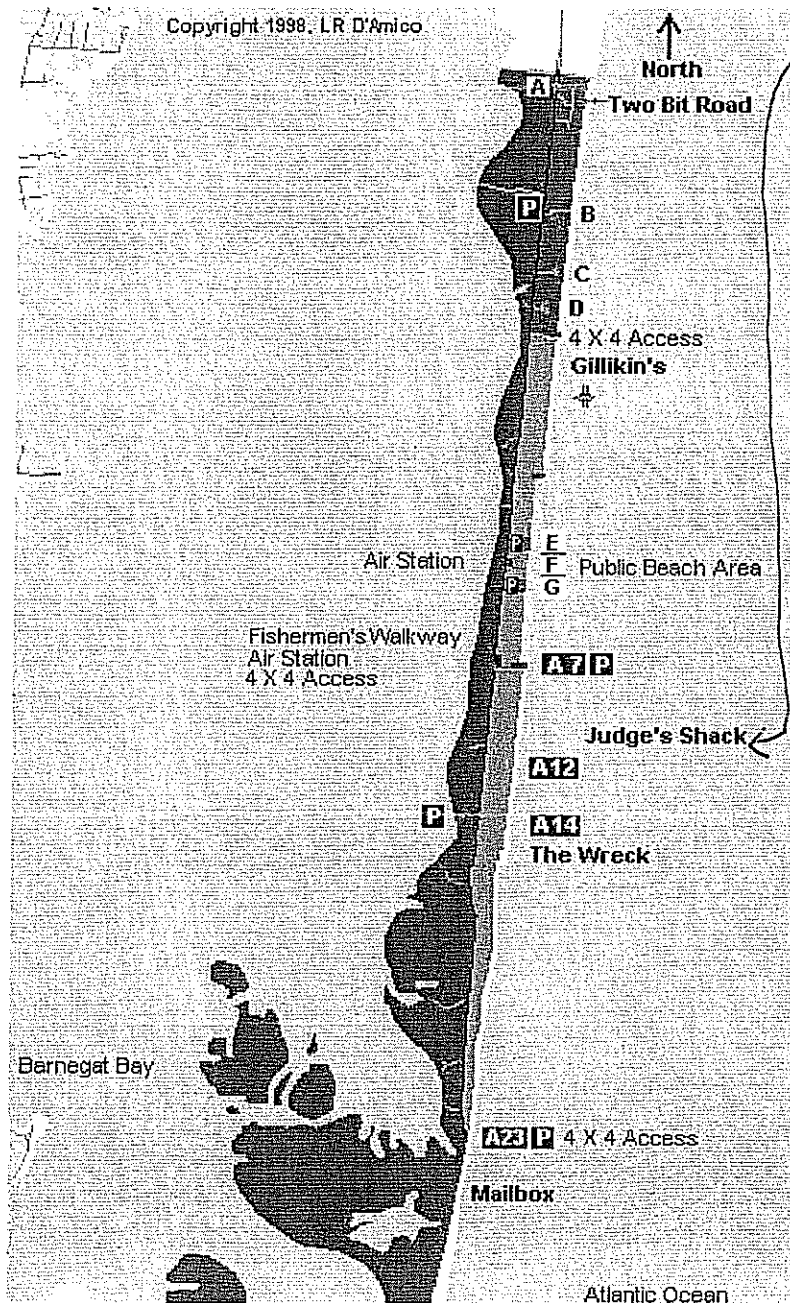
HOME, ARCHIVES, ARTICLES, BOOKS, CLASSIFIEDS

CONNECTICUT SURFCASTERS, CURRENT TABLES, E-MAIL, FAQ'S, FISH ACTIVITY PREDICTIONS, FISHING TIPS, FLY FISHING THE SALT, GUEST BOOK, ISLAND BEACH KNOT GUIDE, LINKS, MESSAGE BOARDS, PHOTO PAGES, QUIZ, REGULATIONS, SHORE CATCH GUIDE SERVICE, SITE MAP, STRIPED BASS INFORMATION, STRIPER COAST, SUN & MOON, SURF CAMS, SURF CASTING 101, SURVEYS, TACKLE SHOP, TIDES, WEATHER, WORLD RECORD

JOHN BUDISH, FRANK DAIGNAULT, BOB D'AMICO, JIM FREDA, ED ZAUN

*POP*  
 We all had a great time in Cohasset  
 Here's the Judge's Shack reference I was talking about.  
 PK

## Fishing at Island Beach State Park



### LEGEND

A	Main Entrance & Gate House
B	Station 110: Maintenance Building & Walk In Access
C	Aoleum Nature Center
D	Governor's Mansion
-	GILLIKINS 4 x 4 Beach Access
E	Ocean Bathing Unit 1 Beach
F	Park Headquarters
G	Ocean Bathing Unit 2 Beach
A7	4 x 4 Beach Access Road
A23	4 x 4 Beach Access Road
P	Parking Areas also at A3 thru A22
	4 X 4 Travel Limit
	Closed to 4 x4 (May-Sept)
	No 4 X 4's Year Round
-	Open Beach

Disappointed? If you were expecting a map with every spot clearly marked and GPS coordinates, sorry, no can do. In fact no one can draw a map that zeros in on the spot to catch bass *all the time*, it doesn't work that way, the fish won't cooperate and there are just too many variables. Success comes from work, experience, using your Eyes, Ears, Brain and doing your home

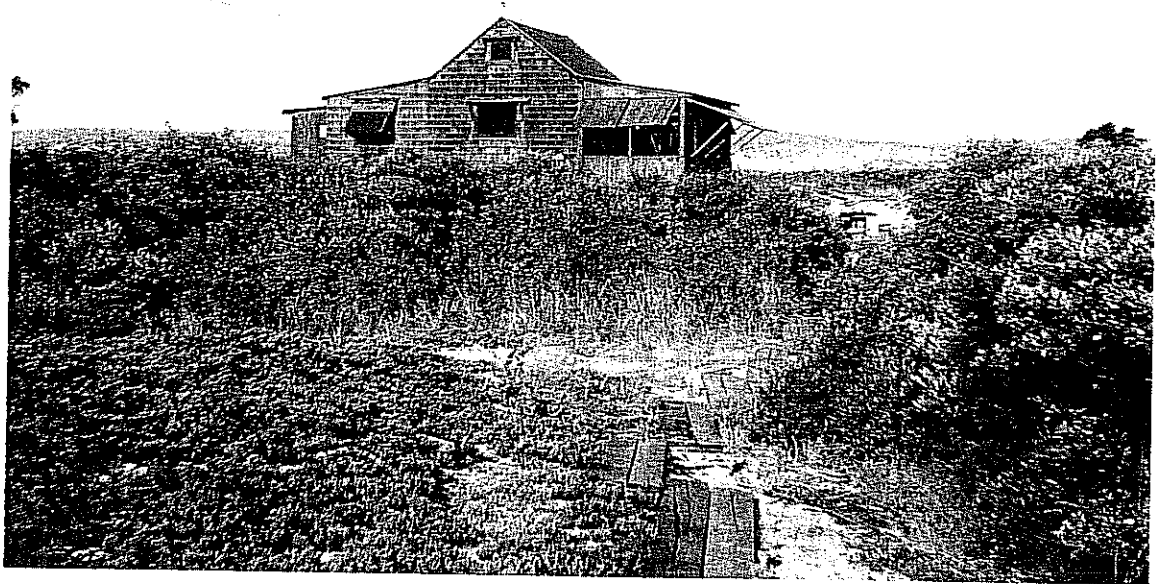




State of New Jersey Conservation and Economic Development  
Commissioner Charles R. Erdman Jr. and Judge Hartshorne examining a  
sprig of Hudsonia at Island Beach. Newark Sunday News, May 25,  
1952

## Purpose of this Report

Island Beach State Park Superintendent Vibbert, before retiring, wrote the Hartshornes that he was of the opinion that “the Judge’s shack” is “an outstanding example of the early beach shacks at Island Beach.” He went on to say “I believe that the leases are an important part of the history of Island Beach and your lease is without question the most representative structure left. In my opinion, it is a landmark at Island Beach and should remain as a part of our cultural history.” ( Letter to John F. Hartshorne, October 2, 1991) The Hartshorne family has written the enclosed report as a contribution to the Park and the State of New Jersey to help with consideration of this idea.



The shack at its original location as seen from the board walk in from the road. Note the electric service line.



“The Judge’s Shack” at its original location viewed from the dunes at the beach.

## History

### Brief Chronology :

1911 Leaseholder John Fritz Hartshorne believes the original shack was built around this time.

1929 John H. Rickard of Morristown, N. J. purchased the shack according to notes in the files of Ellen S. Hartshorne.

1942 Judge Richard Hartshorne of Newark and East Orange N. J. purchased the shack from John H. Rickard in November, 1942 for \$200. Judge Hartshorne became Leaseholder #65 with The Barnegat Bay & Beach Company.

1943 Judge Hartshorne employed Seaside Park carpenter William Endreson [Sr.] to make interior renovations to suit the wishes of the Judge's wife and family, changing it from a sparse fishing shack to a family weekend retreat.

1952 The Judge's shack was moved from just south of the north Coast Guard Station (#110) to back of the ocean dunes between parking lots 12 & 13. A driveway was put in to enable this move at this new location.

1953 In anticipation of New Jersey park regulations, Judge Hartshorne conveyed the shack ownership to his second son John Fritz Hartshorne.

1954 The N. J. Dept. of Conservation & Economic Development lease, #65, was issued to John Fritz Hartshorne.

## Narrative History :

### 1924 Diary entries of Ellen Sahlin Hartshorne :

July 3, 1924 - "... drove down to Seaside Park to the boarding house of Mrs Jacob [Joseph?] Reed. - very primitive but quiet & just what we wanted. Between the ocean & Barnegat Bay."

July 4, 1924 - "Got a sail boat & sailed up & down the bay all day. Held up fifty cars on the bridge and slowly meandered through. Sat on the beach in the evening."

July 5, 1924 - " In spite of a drizzle went on a canoe trip to Barnegat Light with Dr Carroll, zoologist from [?]. Heard the Democratic convention still going on [,] at Barnegat Light [,] by radio. Beach again in eve."

July 6, 1924 - "A swim. Walked way down the beach out of sight of any living soul. Lay in the hot sun, & on the dunes & read 'Typhoon' aloud. After dinner left via New Brunswick for home. Awful traffic."

1924 was apparently the first time Richard and Ellen Hartshorne visited Island Beach. Richard had all his life been a New Jersey shore enthusiast, having spent his childhood vacations at Sea Bright and Brielle.

Circa 1940, through his American Legion association, Judge Hartshorne met a Tom's River dentist, Dr. Loveman, who owned a shack at Island Beach. Having their 1924 visit still vivid, the Hartshornes, with some of their four children along, spent a memorable day with "Doc" Loveman's family in their large and very attractive driftwood shack. The trip in to the site by beach buggy was a new experience. Inside the shack, in the great room under the high gable roof, its ceiling was defined by a suspended fishing net decorated here and there with large sea shells of various types. The Hartshornes were hooked, and the Judge probably asked Dr. Loveman to let him know if a shack ever became available.

1942-1952 :

In November 1942 the Judge was able to purchase a small shack from weekend fisherman John H. Rickard of Morristown, N. J. for \$200. The Judge had purchased Lease #65 of the Barnegat Bay & Beach Company.

Gas restrictions of World War II made it somewhat difficult to reach the shack from the family home in East Orange. Fortunately a train from Newark went right down the beach spine to Seaside Heights. Newly purchased balloon tire bicycles reached the shack which was about the third shack south of the northern Coast Guard station (#110).

The shack stood not far in from the road, its path crossing a small wetland on a boardwalk. Somehow it stood in an open area, not hemmed in by the dense bushes one usually finds in this middle of the island location.

Wartime regulations were to be posted "IN EACH BUNGALOW" in the Borough of Island Beach. Among other rules Leaseholders were to abide by "Borough of Island Beach Wartime Dimout Rules", and were not to drive on the road at night except for an emergency. Unwritten but remembered well was the stipulation that no one was allowed on the beach after sundown. With netting protecting the horses' flanks from flies, armed Coast Guard horseback patrols rode up and down the beach day and night. Between these patrols there was just time enough to take skinny dips in the surf.

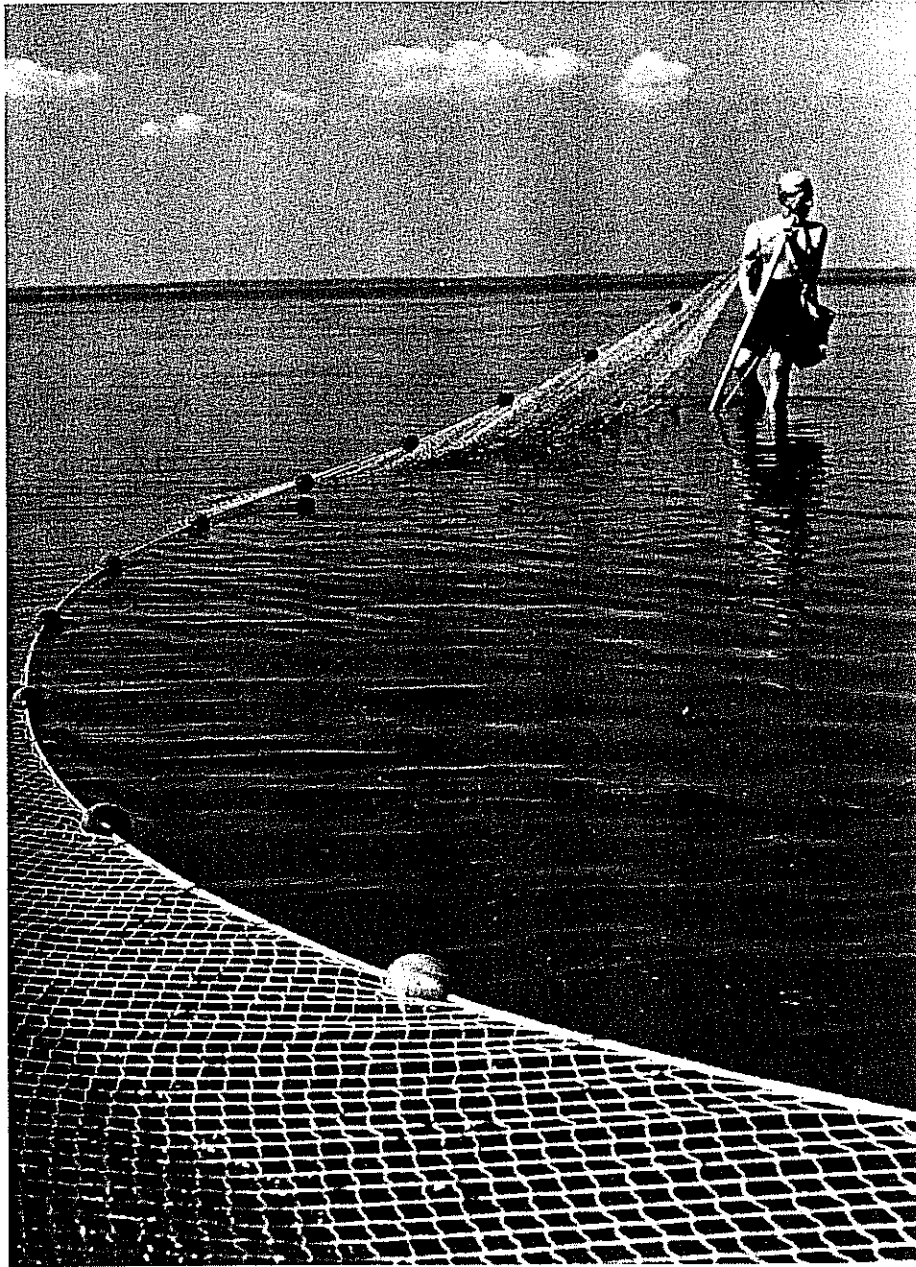
All was either heaven or hell. The present Leaseholder, John Hartshorne, remembers the July 4, 1943 weekend as being sweltering, and the assembled children exclaimed "What do you want this shack for?" But for those who could rough it, the number of times it was heaven kept them coming back. The Hartshornes' guest list was kept informally on Nabisco shredded wheat cards; the privilege was too rare not to share with others.

At this time the beaches were not cleaned up. The family found usable driftwood, cork fishnet floats, colored bottles, heavy plank boat hatches, war casualty aluminum blimp hatches, and wartime K-Rations, all of which



Judge Hartshorne presiding over breakfast in front of the shack at its original location below Coast Guard Station # 110. Note the near neighbors, the swagging fishing nets at the base of the house, and the spool table and seats.





Judge Hartshorne seining in the Bay, Island Beach State Park,  
photograph by John Fritz Hartshorne.

became part of the shack furnishings.

Walks through to the bay at this upper section of Island Beach had great holly, pine and oak woods. We marveled at their size and manicured appearance with carpets of Hudsonia. A rare treat in the fall was to see the bay shore cedar trees covered with migrating Monarch butterflies “blinking” their orange wings in unison.

A 14 foot fibreglass sailboat was kept by Judge Hartshorne on the bay at the Forsith Lease Site in the lower third of the peninsula. A long slender wood dock brought you far enough to step aboard without hitting bottom. Putting the center board down was another thing.

A great passion of the Judge’s was seining for blow fish and crabs. Old sneakers gave needed protection while trudging through the murky water. Nothing can beat fresh and unwashed soft shell crabs sauteed in butter.

The Judge was not a surf fisherman, but son John, once there when the Blues were running, hauled in a mess with only a bare hook. When sand bars provided tender white shelled clams, they were easily opened and eagerly swallowed.

When first purchased in 1942 the shack was sparse : bare wood walls with pasted calenders and newspapers here and there, a cast iron sink (still in use), a freestanding heating and cooking stove, a table, two green rocking chairs, and cots in the two small bedrooms. A low bench with hinged lid still holds tools, and surf fishing rods stood tall against the wall. The luxury of electric lighting contrasted with a wood ice box and the privy.

With a trained interior decorator wife and an aspiring architect daughter, but a budget commensurate with the shack’s temporary nature, a counter of shelving, bought at Bambergers unpainted-wood furniture department, soon separated the kitchen from the dining/living room. The living room walls were covered with Homosote fibre board, their panels edged with stock 1/4 x 1 1/2 inch stripping, and painted white. Wartime patriotism was introduced with red white and blue striped curtains, red kapok -filled cushions on the bench, a blue gateleg table, a blue end table, doors painted blue facing the living room, and red facing the bedrooms. In the

bedrooms the board walls painted white, blue bedspreads, and more of the patriotic striped curtains completed the decor. In the living room an old blue daybed acted as a couch or another bed.

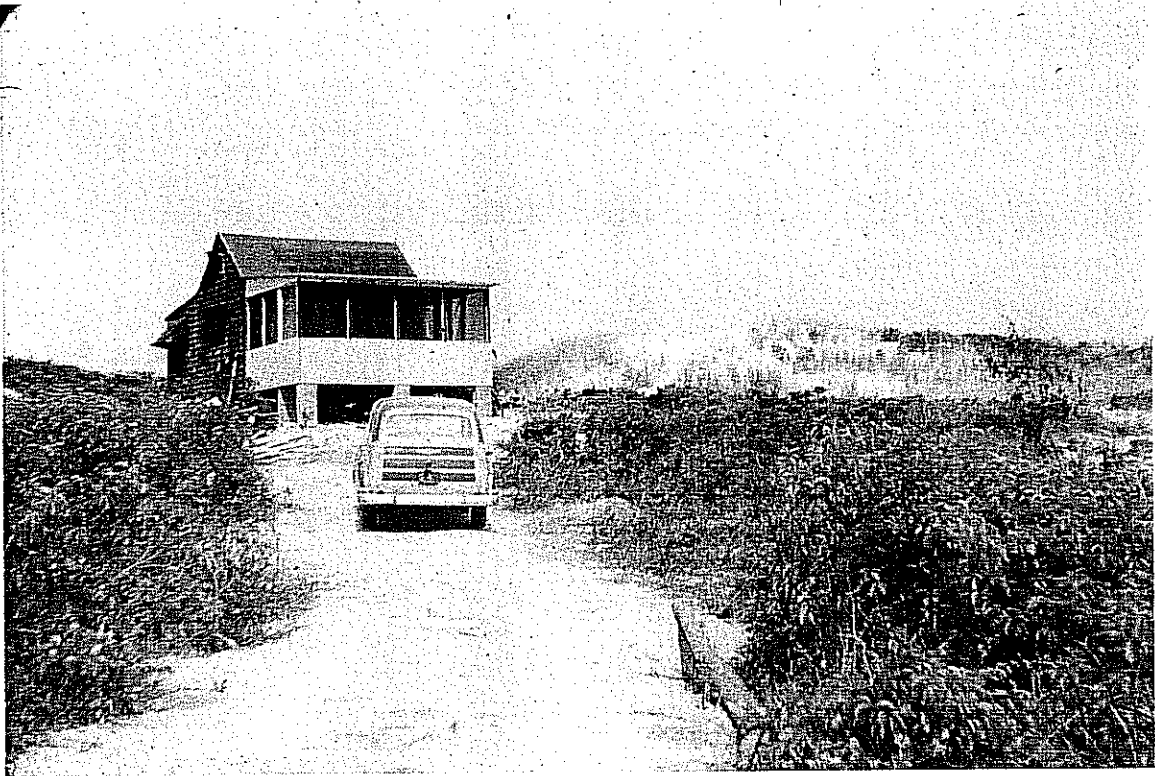
The south facing screened porch, an essential space for any beach house subject to attacks by mosquitoes or green-head flies, could just hold the blue dining table and the six rush-seat side chairs. The sun's glare was subdued by flap shutters supported with sturdy props. At the rear, or nominally north side of the house, a small shed held shovels, nets, the seine, beach umbrella, beach chairs and children's sand toys. The beach chairs included a dark green sling-back which still exists, as well as at least two wood and canvas short legged chairs made to sit low to the sand. The latter were purchased at the "B &B " in Seaside Park. A wood fish weathervane cut out by John Hartshorne in a grade school manual training course was mounted above the west gable to give the shack profile a flair.

As the shack was up off the sand two feet or so, fish nets salvaged from the Seaside Park fisheries were draped around the base, the heavy roped edges in swags. Beach finds such as a few whale vertebra were placed on the netting at the sand level.

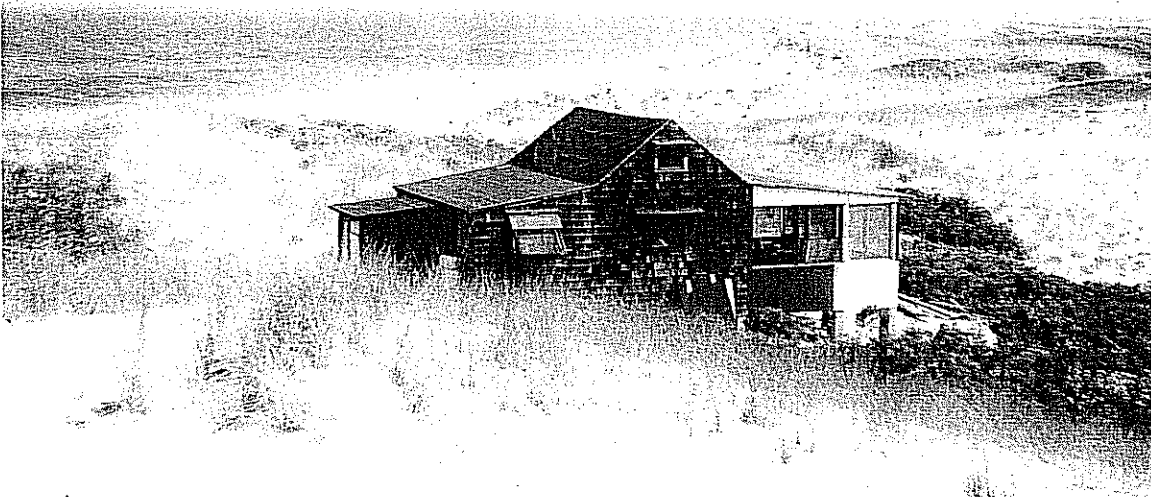
Near the shack several large cable spools became outside tables and chairs. Driftwood board walks also hastened trips to the beach, privy and parked car at the road.

Hidden from the road by high growth the shack was once broken into by an escaped convict who had been doing so at a number of the lease sites, eating the canned goods off the shelves. Eventually caught, Ellen Hartshorne testified at the Toms River Court House that the fugitive was wearing her blue jeans.

(intentionally blank)



The Judge's Shack at its new location between parking lots 12 and 13. Note the new roadway used in moving the shack, the Hartshorne station wagon and the porch new addition constructed by Seaside Park carpenter William Endreson. June 1952



Note also that the dunes were higher than the shack roof.

1952 - Present :

Judge Hartshorne read what was published about the preservation of Island Beach and the possible State Park development plans. He undoubtedly talked to the powers that be. Hearing that a public bathing facility might be placed centrally in the length of the Park, near the old Life Saving Station occupied by the author Pearl Buck, the Judge secured permission to move his shack six miles down the road, near a shipwreck's capstan which in low tide sometimes just broke water. The surf fishermen knew this dangerous landmark well.

A building mover from Moorestown, N. J., who happened to be named Hartshorne as well, was engaged. This moving company was more than able to move the shack, it's past work having included moving all housing in the way of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Hartshorne was hired by Hartshorne.

The Judge's wife, Ellen, meanwhile led the way through the brambles for a road builder to put in a drive to the new site [between parking lots 12 and 13]. The drive was laid first with layers of newspaper and then a yellow sandy gravel. It meandered between fields of Hudsonia and arrived with a turning loop at the foot of the dune which was to become the new shack site.

Over a weekend in June of 1952, somehow the movers backed a flatbed truck under the jacked -up shack and took it out to the road and headed south. To not block the road at the end of the day they parked the truck between what was then the office of the Barnegat Bay & Beach Company and what today is the State Park Aeolium. The Judge, his wife and daughter (the author of this paper) with their white angorra cat spent the night in the shack atop the flatbed.

On the following Monday Ellen Hartshorne wrote her brother a 2 cent postal saying :

“ Expected to go home with R. & Pen, but house got blocked by Coast Guard cable yesterday at new entrance & I had to stay

to negotiate with C. G.. They came & lifted cable over roof tree in less than 1/2 hour but were quite mad. Movers didn't come so now I must stay until at least tomorrow eve to see shack into location. It has been some experience. Ann Tracy & Ben [family friends] came down in time to see the procession swing into the road. ... When we get set you must see it - It's really something. Love to all, Ellen". June 30, 1952

The Judge on July 3, 1952, wrote the same brother of his wife:

“As she [Ellen] doubtless will have told you by now, the period of moving the shack and putting in the new road for some 300 yards has fallen nine-tenths on her shoulders. Not only so, but the heat and the insects drove her into the sea, with all her clothes on, at least on one occasion.

We must go down this coming week-end to get the shack in some sort of livable condition. ....

As ever, Richard Hartshorne”

At the new site William Endreson, the Seaside Park carpenter, had put in cement block pier foundations for the mover to set the shack upon, and he extended the projection of the screened porch some 4 feet to allow more comfortable space therein [See plan in the Appendices]. Endreson also sunk a new well point and pipe about 22 feet and got the hand pump going. He built a new privy and built some new steps up to the porch.

The view from the porch is what the Judge wanted in choosing this site. To the south you can see over the green inner dunes to the southern Coast Guard station (#112), and on to the Barnegat Light across the inlet. To the west you can see the masts and sails of bay daysailers, and after dark a greenish glow on the horizon from the Garden State Parkway. In the earliest years at this site the shack was backed up to dunes higher than the roof. As the illustrations show, this condition eventually changed dramatically from heavy wind storms.

At the drive entrance one of the telephone poles holding up the Coast Guard's cable also supported the rough woody nest of a pair of ospreys.

On turning the car in under the nest there was a loud screeching, and viewed from the porch the osprey could be seen bringing home the fish. More calming have been the calls of the whip -poor- whils at dusk.

There are two 19th century shipwrecks near the shack. The closest , of heavy timbers which were once clad in copper, according to Park Superintendent Vibbert, was called "The Ropes" and was a schooner of the 1850's turned into a coal barge. Not visible always, Supt. Vibbert said he once saw it move in the 1980's. The second wreck, near parking lot 13, is "The Eleanor", a 20th century clam vessel whose iron capstan was the one which threatened both swimmers and fishing lines.

Swimming of course was the big draw, from the very young who tentatively put their feet in the wave edges to the rest of us, including the Judge, who with great respect for the power of the ocean, loved to throw ourselves at waves, occasionally conquering for a good body surf, and occasionally being rolled over to come up dazed and disoriented.

As Judge Hartshorne aged the shack activities became less oriented to the bay. Occasional walks discovered fox dens with cubs either sleeping curled up under the spread of an oak, or rolling down small dunes just as young humans are wont to do. The sailboat was shipped to the western branch of the family to use, and the seine net was allowed to rot in the shed. The next generation was more prone to stretch out with a good book or "The New Yorker".

Life at the shack has included gathering beach plums for jam, and picking many quarts of blueberries. Uninvited guests have been gatherers too. The shack has been broken into many times. Treasures lost included antique glass kerosene lamps, a US Navy waterproof battery lantern, a US surplus tubular aluminum and canvas stretcher, sleeping bags, mirrors, beach towels and grass woven beach mats, enamel picnic dishes and table ware, kitchen utensils, carpentry tools and an eagle statue carved by John Hartshorne. One other robbery stands out: the Judge had bought a 50 lb. lobster which he cooked and carefully cleaned to hang on the wall above the sink. It was handsome as long as it lasted. Another time several abstract posters were taken, even an Earth Day poster plus the Holy Bible !

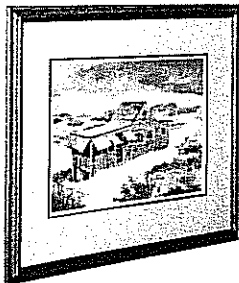
In the 60's some ruffians did worse than steal. They broke in the front





An unknown artist was photographed in 1992 leaving with a very able shack portrait . Photograph by shack friend Carl Holm.

Two watercolor sketches of the shack by Howard L. Worner done in the 1990s , owned by Hector W. Griswold Jr. whose family have been many times guests of the Hartshornes.



door, broke the muntins and glass out of the window sash, dug holes in the Homosote wall lining with viciously swung chairs, tipped over the shelving and scattered and broke the crockery and utensils. (The posters mentioned above were used to hide these holes.) This same era brought a drug addict up the dune to collapse in front of the shack, and several times #22 bullet holes were found in the window glass, one bullet was found embedded in the wood door.

Other uninvited guests however have given rather than taken. Several times some old time fisherman/artists have left driftwood paintings. Several artists have been observed, one letting the family purchase his rendering of the shack after he added the Judge's great grandsons in the foreground.

A professional photographer recorded the shack and its setting in its fall coloring, depositing the images in a photobank where the photos were chosen by no less than L.L. Bean for a catalogue and Hallmark for two calenders. There have been more than 20 of these published. They are listed in the Appendix.

Park visitors have found the shack romantic also. One couple came up to tell us they had been married at the top of the dune with the shack as the backdrop. A fisherman photographed a Christmas wreath hanging below the porch shutters for his Christmas card. The fishermen have long rendezvoused in front of "The Judge's Shack". Such a landmark it is that it can be seen so named on a fishing web site map [see frontispiece].

Over the fifty years that the shack has been at its second site it has not only been an attraction for succeeding generations of Hartshornes, but also for the children and grandchildren of the first generation of the Judge's guests. Two young boys had unforgettable experiences: a fox took one sneaker of the eldest boy, and the younger one looked out over the scene saying "I want my ashes to be spread around here." The guest lists were for a brief time kept as a log in a school workbook. Eventually no lists were kept. Memory and occasional thankyou notes can reconstruct most names - since 1942 well over a hundred or so friends from the U. S. and abroad have fallen in love with the shack, its simplicity and site. One interesting guest was a Japanese lad who in 1985 was attending Hampshire College. During his visit we were told no one was to know who

he was. He was Emperor Hirohito's grandson [ Yoshihisa Shimazo, son of Takako Shimazo, youngest daughter of the Emperor].

Judge Hartshorne's grandson Prescott while working in New York City especially enjoyed weekends with his friends, turning some meals into festive occasions. They supped by candlelight on the porch, the men in white dinner jackets and bathing trunks, the ladies in long dresses. In a letter to the author describing the party he went on to say : " I think of Granddaddy often when enjoying his treasures. Once, when joking what fun it would be to have a hot-tub at the shack I pointed out that Granddaddy didn't think of everything. My friends were quick to chorus, Oh yes he did ! "



The Judge, photographed by son John Fritz Hartshorne, 1950s.

## The Judge 1888 - 1975

Born in the blizzard of '88, in Newark, N.J., Richard Hartshorne's parents were William Sydney Hartshorne from Newark and Margaret Bentley Harrison from Jersey City.

Judge Hartshorne was oriented to the New Jersey shore as he was descended from a long line of Hartshorne shore residents. The first Richard Hartshorne came to America from Hathern, Derbyshire, England, and by 1670 was a landholder on the Atlantic Highland side of the Navesink River. The next four generations lived in the Rumson area raising salt hay, and running a boarding house which brought the 18th century Philadelphia Drinker family and others to bathe in the ocean (see "Extracts from the Journal of Elizabeth Drinker", edited by Henry D. Biddle, Philadelphia, 1889, p.42, Oct. 26-29,1776).

As a child Richard Hartshorne was taken to Brielle and Sea Bright where he learned to crab, row and sail in the bay. At Princeton he made the varsity team for eight man shells. In the early 1920's he bought a large cat boat with center board. Kept on the Raritan Bay, "The Agadon" provided not only an escape but a way of entertaining . In 1923 he and his wife, Ellen Fritz Sahlin, purchased a small island on Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire, looking forward to this becoming the main summer retreat for their growing family. In the spring and fall he took his young family, via special passes, to the military base at Sandy Hook for swims and, alas, bad cases of poison ivy.

In winters he taught his wife to ice skate. They took lessons in dancing with figure skates. He was also a 'mover and shaker" in the Skate Sailing Association, on weekends taking his family for long days to New Jersey's frozen lakes. In the 1920's the Judge purchased long wood skis with leather straps over the toes, and drove up to the Orange Mountains to aim them straight downhill on the roads. This sport was the family winter favorite. The Judge took lessons at the age of 40 and continued until he was at least 60. Clearly the Judge liked the out -of -doors on water, or on ice or snow.

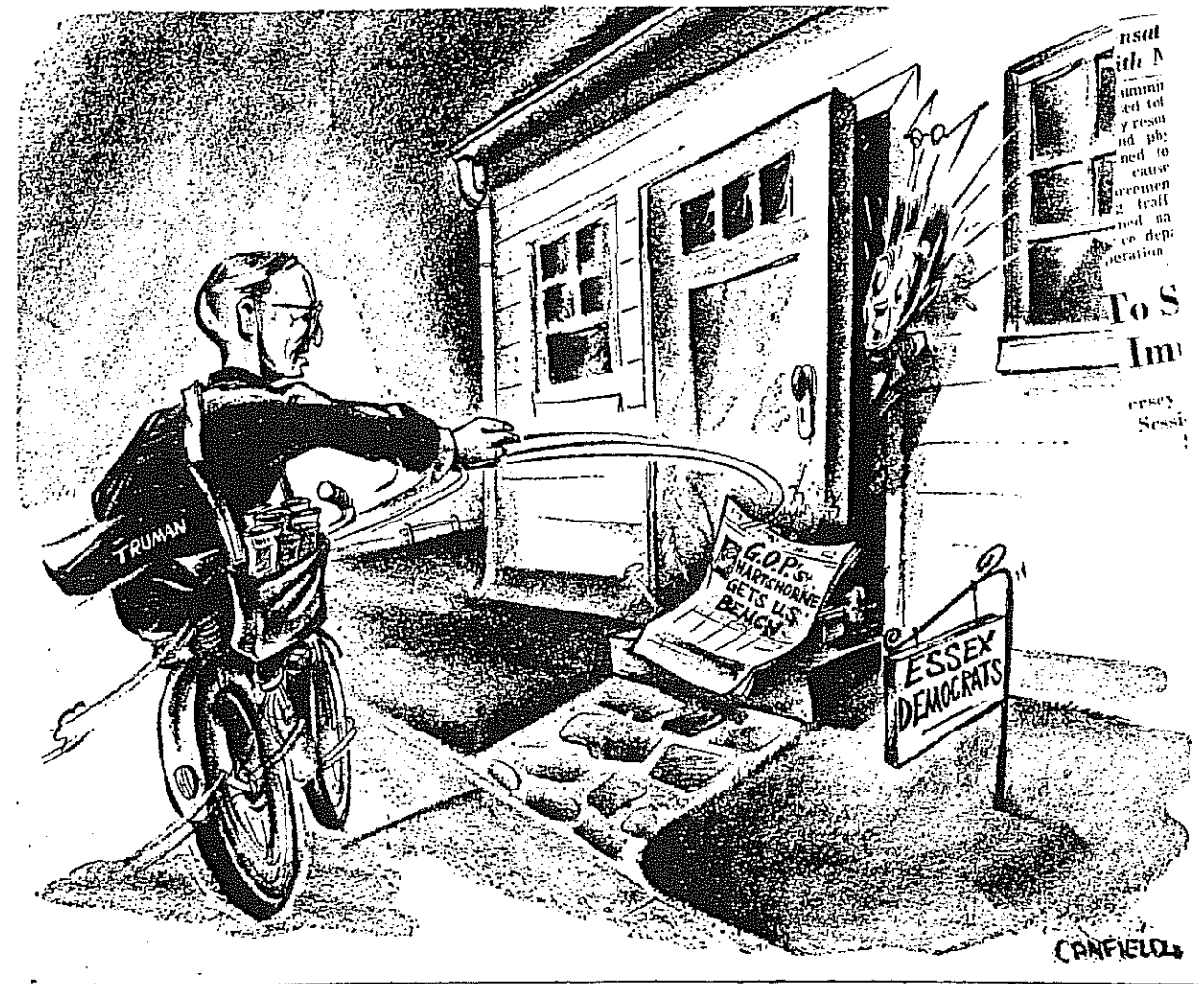
The Judge played tennis year round, coming off clay courts to play paddle

tennis in the winter. His exuberance was especially heard in this sport, even at the cellar ping pong table. Competitive sports he liked to watch at his alma mater Princeton : football, baseball, track meets, and rowing. In the 1970's when suffering from arthritis he cheered on the United States Olympic team to beat the Russians in hockey.

It was undoubtedly because of the seriousness of his daytime work that he arranged these diversions, particularly the weekend shack at Island Beach. He spent 49 years in the profession of law, 30 of them as a judge in the Essex County, N.J. court, and then on the Federal District Court, as a Republican appointed by the Democratic President Harry S. Truman.

NEWARK EVENING NEWS, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1951

EXTRA!



The following New York Times obituary fills in his other leadership roles ;

## Richard Hartshorne, 87, Dead; Was Senior U.S. Judge in Jersey

Richard Hartshorne, retired senior judge of the Third United States District Court in Newark, died Sunday at a Bryn Mawr, Pa., nursing home. He was 87 years old and had moved with his family to Philadelphia less than a month ago after having resided in East Orange, N. J., for 58 years.

1909  
1912

Judge Hartshorne was a graduate of Newark Academy, Princeton University and the Columbia Law School. He was later awarded honorary L.L.D. degrees from Upsala College and Howard University.

In 1925, after several years in private law-practice, Judge Hartshorne was made special assistant to the United States Attorney (New Jersey) in charge of Prohibition enforcement. From 1931 to 1951, he was a judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Essex County, N. J., and then served as senior judge in the Third District Court of Newark from 1951 to 1961. A Republican, he was named to that bench by President Harry S. Truman over the bitter opposition of the state's Democratic organization.

A leader in the national drive for more uniform legislation, Judge Hartshorne served as chairman of the New Jersey Commission on Interstate Cooperation from 1935 to 1950. He was a strong advocate of effective parole systems and was president of the Interstate Commission on Crime in 1938.

Active in the work of the Council of State Government, Judge Hartshorne was a founder of Boys State, a project in practical education for citizenship and government sponsored by the New Jersey American Legion. He was prominent in the work of the Legion, serving as past commander of the New Jersey department. He had also been chancellor general of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

A lieutenant (jg.) in the Navy during World War I, Judge Hartshorne served as a lieutenant colonel in the New Jersey State Guard in World War II. In 1942, while in his 50's, he began commuting from his home to the Essex County court house, a distance of 10 miles, to cut down on the use of his car and save rubber and gasoline.

by biography

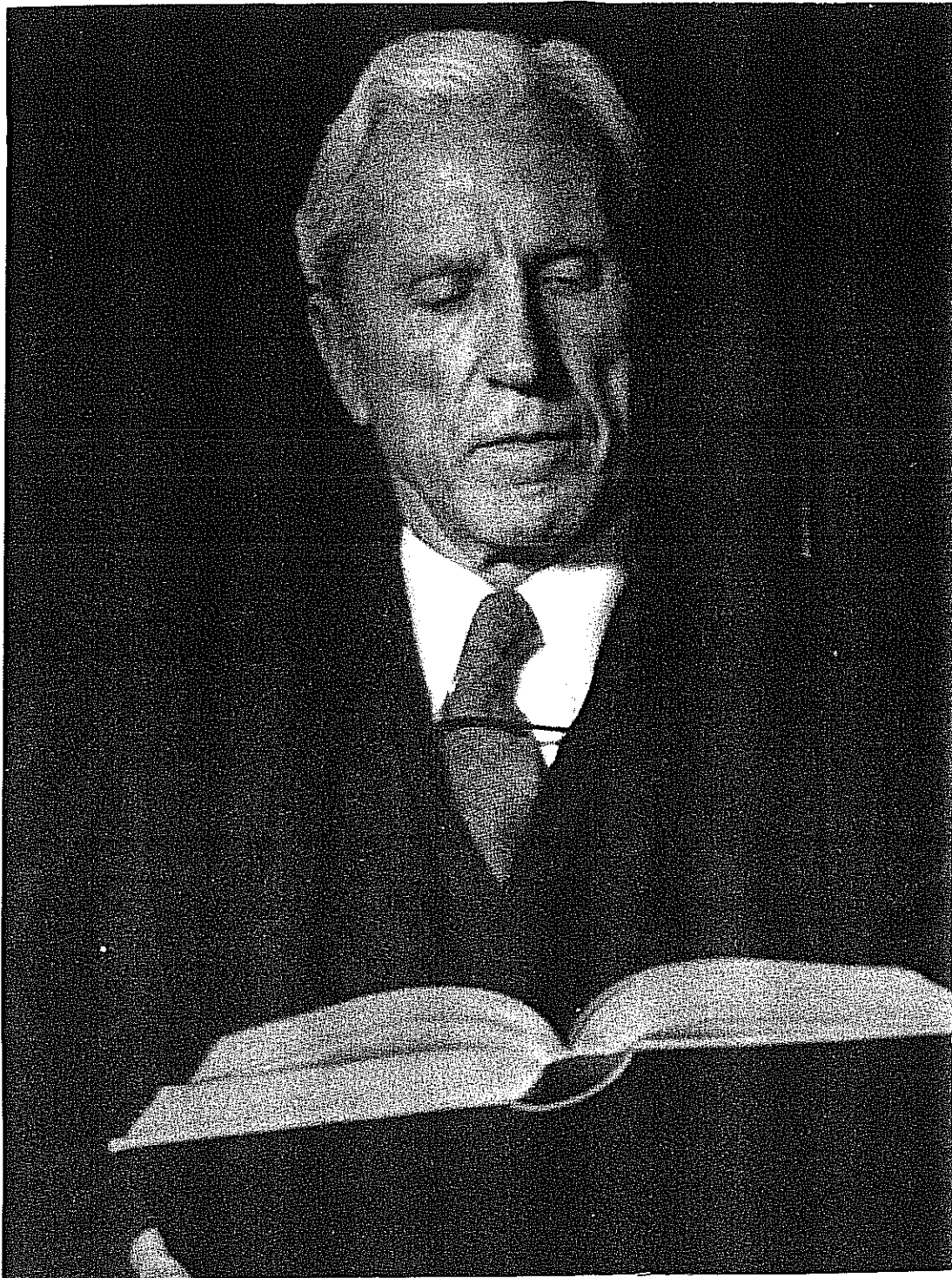
Princeton's class of '09 crew returned to the campus for its 50th anniversary and Judge Hartshorne was one of the oarsmen. Their average age was 72 from stroke to stern.

Surviving are his widow, the former Ellen Sahlin; two sons, Richard Jr. and John Fritz; two daughters, Nancy H. Bell and Penelope H. Batcheler; and seven grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 3 P.M. on Thursday at the Old First Church (Presbyterian) in Newark.

N.Y. Times  
9-16-75

At the Judge's memorial service, on September 18, 1975 at Old First Church, Newark, N.J., his son John said : " Pa lived by maxims. 'Present good against future good' was a guiding precept for his every choice of action ... 'Moderation in all things' was to Pa a living creed --part of his essential being ... 'Pro bono publico' -- for the public good -- would well serve as his epitaph. Certainly it was the driving force in Pa's life: his instinctive sense of duty to God and man."



Federal Judge Richard Hartshorne, photographer unknown.





Ellen Sahlin Hartshorne at “The Judge’s Shack”, c. 1950.



Ellen Sahlin Hartshorne at “The Judge’s Shack”, summer 1983.

The Judge's Wife  
Ellen Sahlin Hartshorne, 1895-1988

Born of a Swedish steel engineer father and a Pennsylvania mother, Ellen Sahlin grew up on both sides of the Atlantic, speaking Swedish, English, French and German. She attended the Dana Hall School in Wellesley, Massachusetts, traveled around the world with her mother in 1914, and attended Parsons School of Design in New York City to practice interior decorating. During WW I she volunteered to the Red Cross until she married Navy Lieutenant Richard Hartshorne in 1919.

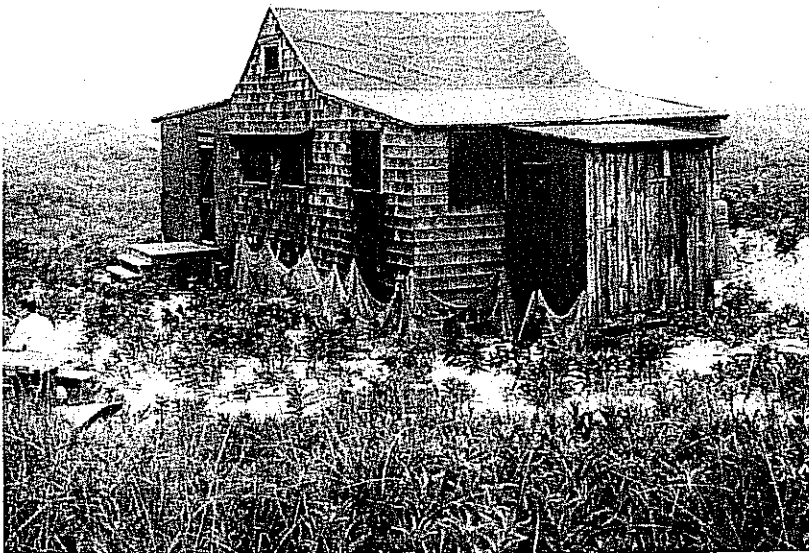
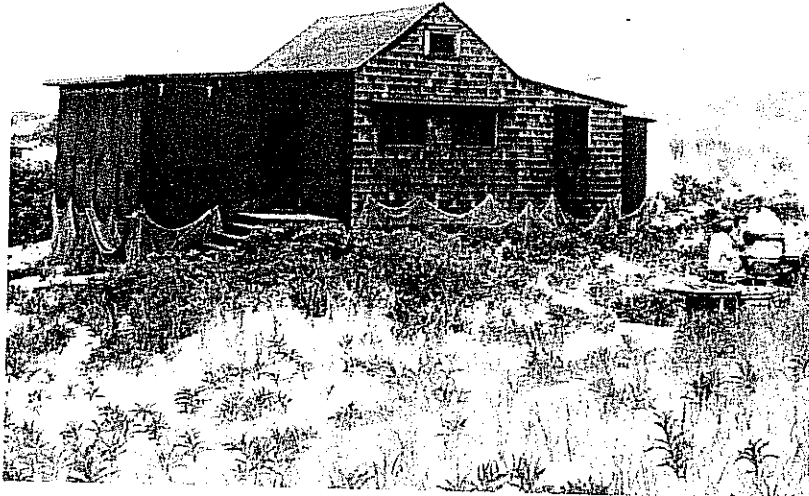
The Hartshornes had four children, Richard Jr., Nancy, John Fritz and Penelope. They lived in what started as an 1825 farmhouse in East Orange, New Jersey. "Mrs. H", as she was called by young friends, was active on the Boards of the Newark Orphan Assylum, the Essex County Girl Scouts, the Dana Hall School Trustees, and the Women's Board of the New Jersey Historical Society.

"Mrs. H" loved the shack and the nature. Leftovers in the home refrigerator were swept into freezer bags, and the shredded wheat et. al. went into canvas coal bags (the antecedents to LL Bean's tote bags). Her Mainx cat came along gladly, to stand up and stretch in anticipation when the sea air could first be smelled in crossing the bay bridge.

A sling bag always held "Mrs. H's" latest reading, a sketch pad, and with a bandana holding her hair in place, she was ready to make the trudge over the hilly sand paths. She and the Judge almost always had friends come to share this special place. Only a few times did friends leave before expected - the onslaught of a swarm of green flies could do it.

The grandchildren who lived far away look back on their few visits fondly, especially when "Grammie" had put up a Swedish Midsommer pole decked with flowers so that her young granddaughters could dance around in their Swedish costumes to observe the holiday.

Everyone, old and young, loved the shack and all it had to offer, but their visits were made just that much more enjoyable by "Mrs. H" thoroughly enjoying their being there.



The Shack nestled in back of the dunes at its new site c. 1953.

## Architectural Description of the Shack

The Judge's Shack, a wood frame structure sitting atop concrete block piers dug into the sand dune, is essentially made up of three units, the nucleous living room, flanked by two bedrooms, and a porch. Until recently it had a storage shed attached to the bedrooms.

The distinctive profile of the shack, nominally facing east and west, has a center gable at the living room, with lower sloping roofs at the porch to the south and bedrooms to the north (See measured drawings in the Appendix). The missing storage shed continued the bedroom roof slope.

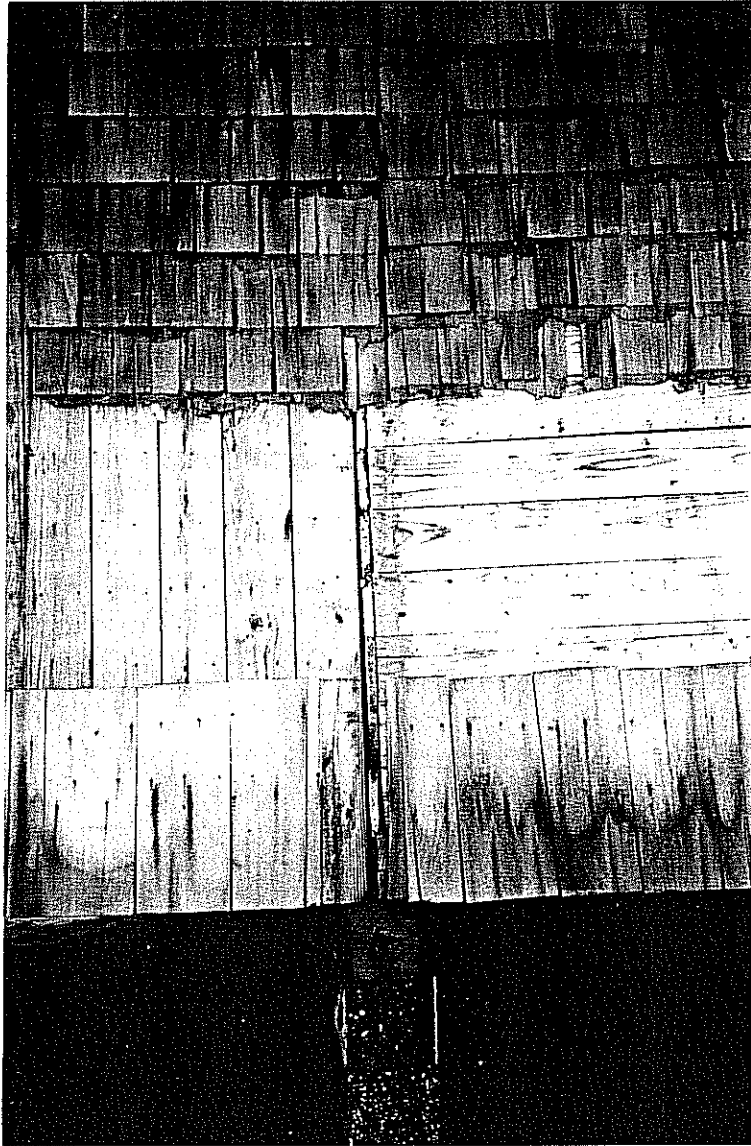
The exterior walls are clad in cedar shingles, (western red cedar which get darker brown over time and weather well in sea air). Window openings which are close to square have six lights except for two small bedroom windows facing north which originally had four. The shed's windows facing east and west had four lights. Originally the living room window facing west, and the kitchen windows, had board hoods supported by ogee curved brackets that shielded the openings from the sun. The northwest bedroom had a projecting frame which held mosquito screens.

The porch when built had large "awning" battened shutters of wide t & g beaded pine boards which recently were rebuilt of t & g cedar boards. These large square shutters, three to the west, four to the south, and three to the east, when propped to irregular heights give the shack a lively playfull look. From the interior they reduce the power of the sun very effectively.

The overall form of the shack is so rudimentary that it is not surprising to find similarly shaped structures at other seaside locations (see the Appendix for views of similar shacks at Cape Cod, Roanoke Sound, North Carolina, and at Island Beach Captain Lewis Mitchell's house north of Coast Guard Station 110).

The shack has no architectural style. What one can say is that it is a vernacular building which has survived largely intact.

The sequence of construction can be seen by looking at the roof from



Record of west wall layering at the juncture of the horizontal sheathed livingroom unit (right), with the vertical sheathed NW bedroom unit (left). The finish shingling had a vertical joint reflecting this juncture of the building units. Just why this was done is a question. Fall 1996.

inside and noting the material changes from one section to the next. Clearly the gable roofed living room was built first. It's roof was completed before the bedrooms and porch were added as these two roofs bear on the finished eaves of the living room roof.

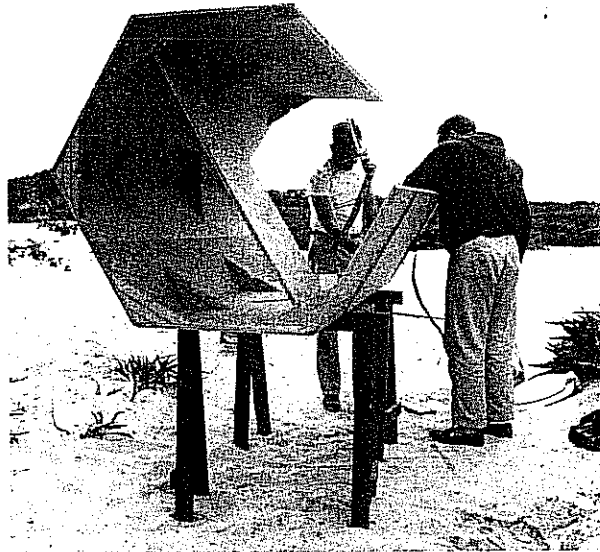
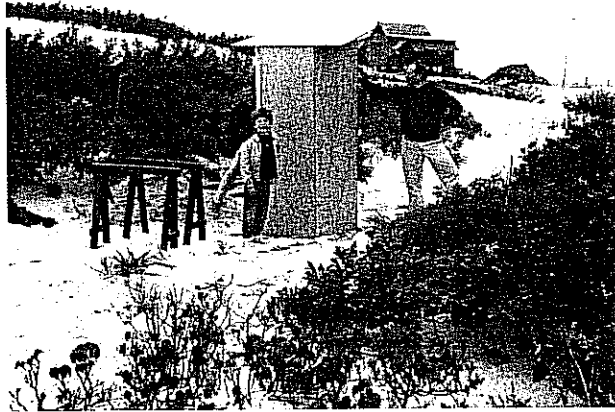
That the porch and bedrooms were anticipated is best shown by the wall materials as they change. The living room exterior east and west end gables were shingled as also was the south wall facing the open porch. The walls facing the bedrooms however are of only horizontal sheathing. Once the bedrooms were built their exterior walls were also shingled, leaving a vertical joint between the living room section and the bedroom section. The bedroom exterior shingling also stopped where the storage shed was to be attached showing that the shed was anticipated. In sequence the shed 's roof also was not constructed until the bedroom roof was built as the shed roof was tucked up under the bedroom roof. The storage shed was treated as a lesser structure; it's walls were not shingled, just covered with beaded vertical board sheathing.

The wall framing system of each unit is very simple. The gable roofed living room has vertical studding or posts at each corner and at each opening (windows and doors), and horizontal wall plates at the bottom and tops of each wall and also at the window sill levels. The roof is made up of rafters bearing on the side wall plates and connected at their tops to a ridge board. The outward thrust of the rafters is controlled by horizontal ties connecting the bottoms of the rafters. Halfway up the roof slope horizontal purlins run between each principal rafter, supporting the vertical roof sheathing boards at their mid-points.

The bedroom, shed and porch wall framing is similar, and their roof framing is simpler made up of single sloped rafters.

Due to the period of construction the wall framing members are full 2 x 4's or full 2 x 6's. Connections are made with common head wire nails.

The floor framing in each unit is of nominal north-south joists, 2 x 4's or 2 x 6's depending on the spans. These in turn bear on east-west headers, 2 x 6's or 2 x 8's. At the junctures of the livingroom unit and those of the porch and bedrooms the wall sheathing extends down over the livingroom headers. The porch and bedroom headers were then sistered



Building the “Hexajohn”, May 1971, Designer George Batcheler and helpers John and son Prescott Hartshorne.

up to the livingroom sheathing (see sketches). These headers span between concrete block piers, their bearing leveled by blocking and wood shims. The concrete block piers put in when the shack was moved to its present location in 1952, were of single block courses (8x8x16). Due to the shifting sand some square block piers (8x16x16) have since been introduced for stability. The height exposure of the piers depends on the height of the dune, in all cases when built the first course was laid on an excavated damp layer of sand, as deep as possible.

The roofing of the shack has for most of its life been of mineral surface roll roofing. To extend its life it has been coated with an acrylic mastic. The edging of the roof perimeter for years was of aluminum, but after many replacements this material was changed to long lasting stainless steel.

### Description of the Privy

Counting the privy of the 1942-1952 site there have been three privies associated with the Judge's shack. The one built by William Endreson at the new site in 1952 was consumed by a dune over the winter of 1971. The present privy was designed and built in May of that year. Called by the family the "Hexajohn", it was designed (the drawings still exist) by the author's architect husband, George Batcheler, to be made from as few sheets of plywood as possible. The parts pre-assembled in the Batcheler Philadelphia backyard, were put together on site with the help of John Hartshorne and his then young son Prescott. Besides the economy of construction, the unit has the great advantage that it can be tipped over for the late winter cleanout chore, and then easily righted.



## Maintenance Approach

The repairs and reinforcements of the shack have followed in the spirit - Do what you can in the time available.

Some of those who have both enjoyed the shack and contributed maintenance have been preservationists, architects, carpenters and contractors. Yet there are shims, cats, sistered members, and ledgered reinforcements - weekend solutions.

Major problems called forth more organization. At its present location, in the late 1960's, a bad storm almost ripped the porch off, the 1952 Homosote panels below the porch shutters added no structural stability. A few of the 1952 cemented block piers also fell over, their single block construction not being stable. The Homosote was replaced with stabilizing exterior grade plywood once the sagging porch was jacked up. And some of the single block piers were replaced with square piers laid up from leveled sand well below grade. These concerted efforts took planning and lugging and labor. Interspersed swims, laughter, lunches and anticipated further enjoyment of the place made it all worthwhile.

The sand dunes have come and gone continuously. Either they have undermined the shack piers as during the above storm, or they have filled in above the house floor level. Much labor has gone into digging out around the shack and in placing fencing at various locations to try to control the blowing sand. The Park has placed fences at the base of the ocean-front dunes, and the Hartshornes and friends have backed these up with more rows above, generally to good effect. Recently the Park has enabled many rows of dune grass to be planted atop the dune east of the shack. This solution is clearly the most effective dune stabilizer.

In 1996-7 a preservationist friend of the shack, William C. Bolger, undertook replacement of the very weathered exterior red cedar shingling. He fashioned driftwood scaffolding and with much lugging of shingle bundles and heavy bags of box -nails, he shingled the shack with even courses at the corners, improving on the original shingling where the courses varied around corners.

There has been an effort since to improve window sash, and particularly

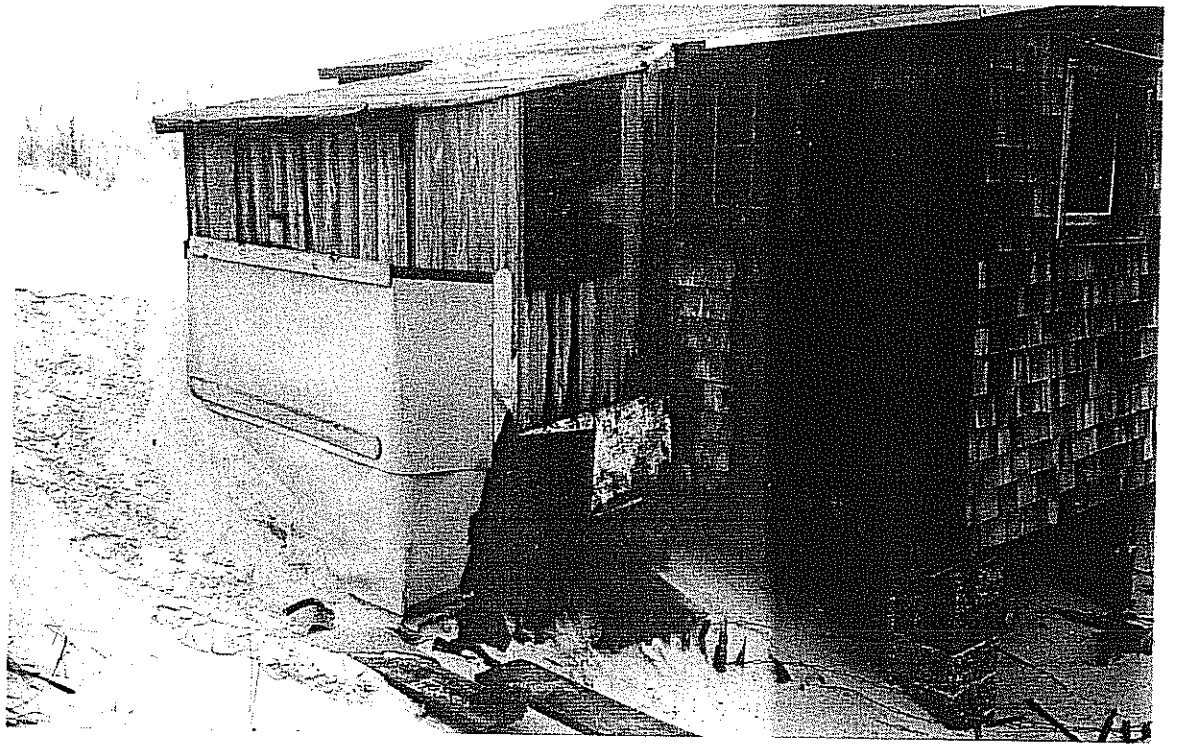
the porch shutters. With the contribution of a friend of the shack, preservation contractor Theodore H. Nickles, new battened cedar shutters have replaced the old pine ones which were falling apart, and new sash were introduced at the nominal east windows, and the west living room window, replacing those which had been badly damaged by the 60's vandals.

Ted Nickles and his best preservation carpenter, Jack Abgott, also edged the newly shingled walls with uniform cedar barge boards, and new stainless steel roof edging which will withstand salt air corrosion. The roofing itself, amazingly some 30 years old, has been given an acrylic coating to prolong its life. Jack Abgott also built very stable front steps.

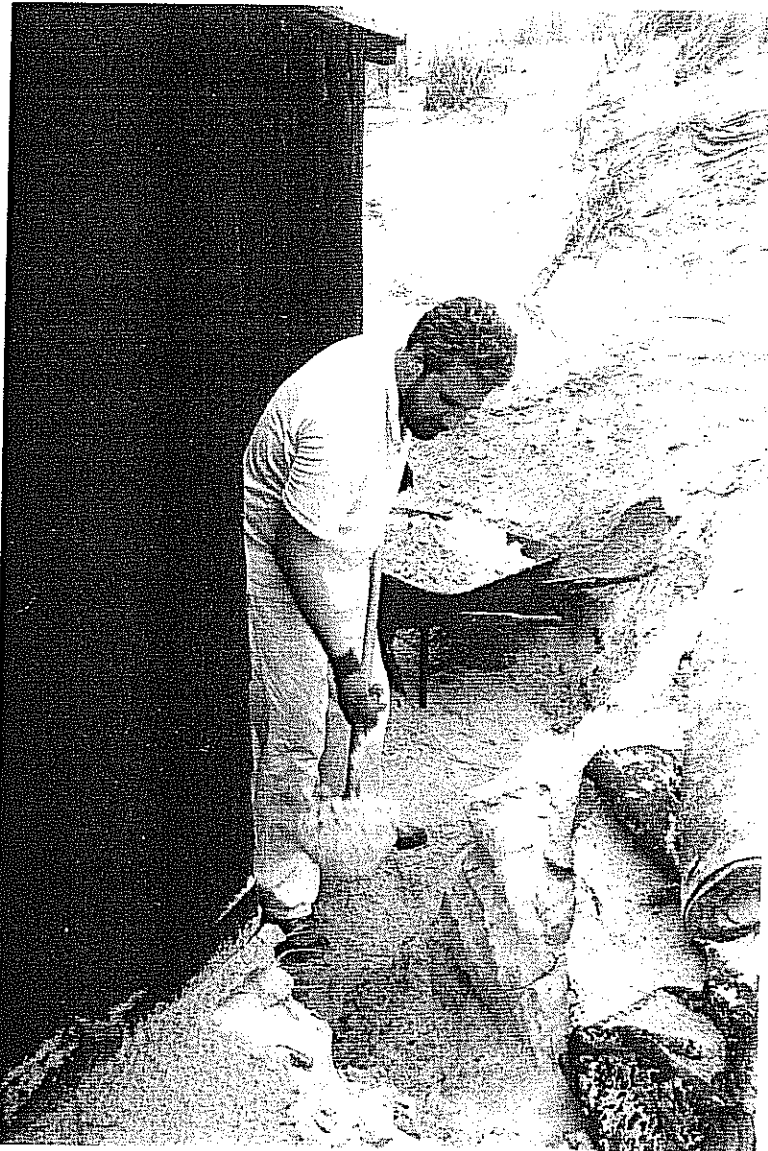
There has been no attempt to restore the shack. After all it has been a weekend retreat which all have loved for what it has offered, and the contributions made have only been aimed at prolonging the shack's life. Its character however has remained the same all these years.



Weekend maintenance by John Hartshorne and George Batcheler, 1968.



Encroachment of dune against the shed at north end of shack, April 1992.

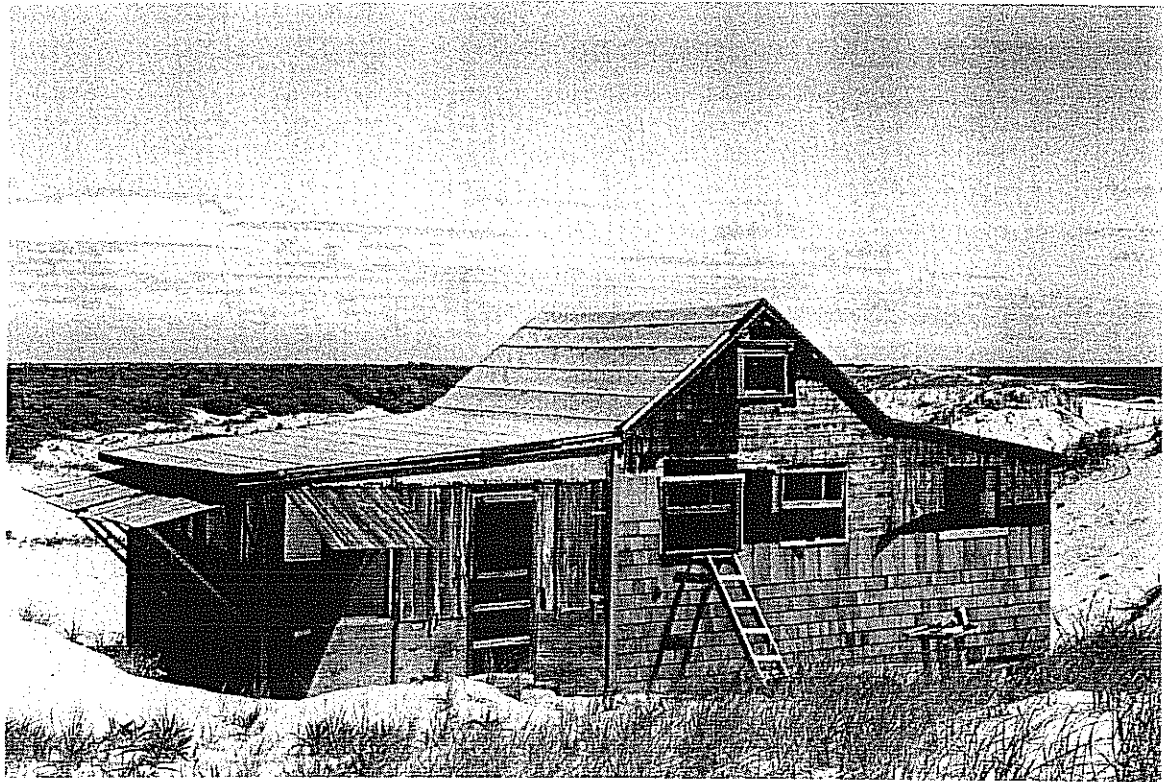


William C. Bolger digging sand away from the shack NE corner, summer 1992.



A winter storm ripped off the north shed. April 30, 1993.  
George Batcheler helps with wall repairs where the shed had been, and  
with reshingling the shack. Fall 1993.





The east wall reshingling done by friend of the shack William C. Bolger. Driftwood scaffolding helped him reach the upper wall. Spring 1993.



By the fall of 1997 the shack reshingling was complete, and the first of the porch repairs done. Note that the dunes facing the ocean had eroded over the last four years.



By 2001 the roof had been coated with an acrylic mastic, new barge boards with stainless steel roof edging added, new cedar shutters and new steps installed to meet the lower dune level. This work was done by shack friends Restoration Contractor Theodore Nickles and Restoration Carpenter Jack Abgott.



Early spring 2004 shows the dune made more stable by the Park having instituted the planting of dune grass in front of the shack.

## Present Condition Assessment

**Structure:** The floor structure needs reinforcement and leveling.

**Roof:** The roof framing is fine. The roofing needs repair and periodic coats of acrylic mastic will prolong its life.

**Siding:** The present shingles will have a good life. The exterior grade plywood of the porch walls is delaminating at its exterior surface.

**Floors:** The floor boards are fine, but at the entrance door the framing below has in some way shifted to raise the floor boards to conflict with easily opening the door.

**Shutters:** The porch shutters have been replaced in cedar. The shutter just north of the porch screen door needs rebuilding. So also does the screen door and its frame.

**Windows:** Due to the vandalism several of the window sash need replacing to restore the original number of lights, and a few sash hinges need replacing. Some of the window sills need rebuilding and all the windows need flashing.

**Interior finishes:** The homosote wall panels still have holes from vandalism, but with a fresh coat of paint and strategically placed posters the walls will be refreshed.

**Water Pump:** The hand pump is in place, but a new "well" pipe must be sunk to have water on site. The parts to do this are stored in the bench. Only the galvanized pipe lengths have yet to be purchased.

**Lighting:** Several kerosene lamps are on the shelf, as well as candles.

**Furnishings:** Cold storage boxes (ice chests) have taken the place of the missing ice boxes. The old rocking chairs need replacement in kind.

**Privy:** With the original drawings on hand the privy ("Hexajohn") could eventually be replaced with a new undercarriage.

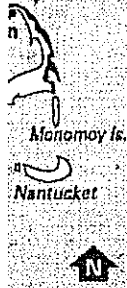


Paths & Drive: The original drive has disappeared except for its first hundred feet or so. Access paths meander between the Hudsonia, Hollies, Oaks, Blueberry bushes and Catbriers. Occasionally tracks have been found of four wheel drive vehicles that have come in the drive to turn around where the path narrows. Annually the paths get careful pruning.

# cks lory

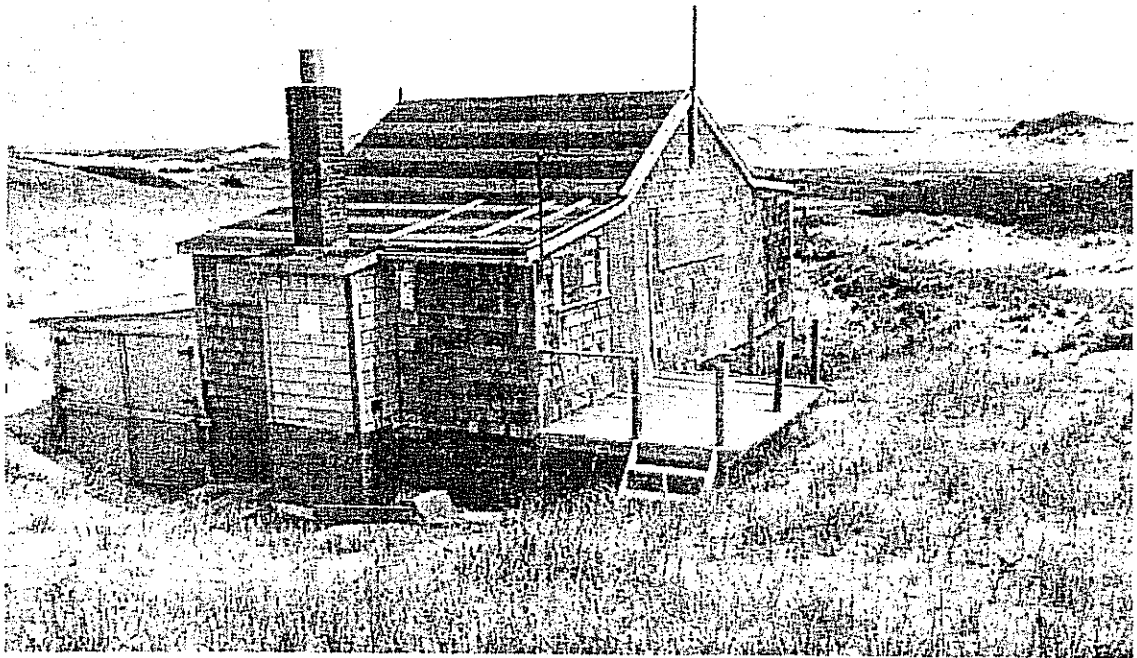
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Cape Cod  
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Seashore



Director / RAY WHITE

poet-writer  
"full of the  
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Special to The Inquirer / PETER A. STEELE

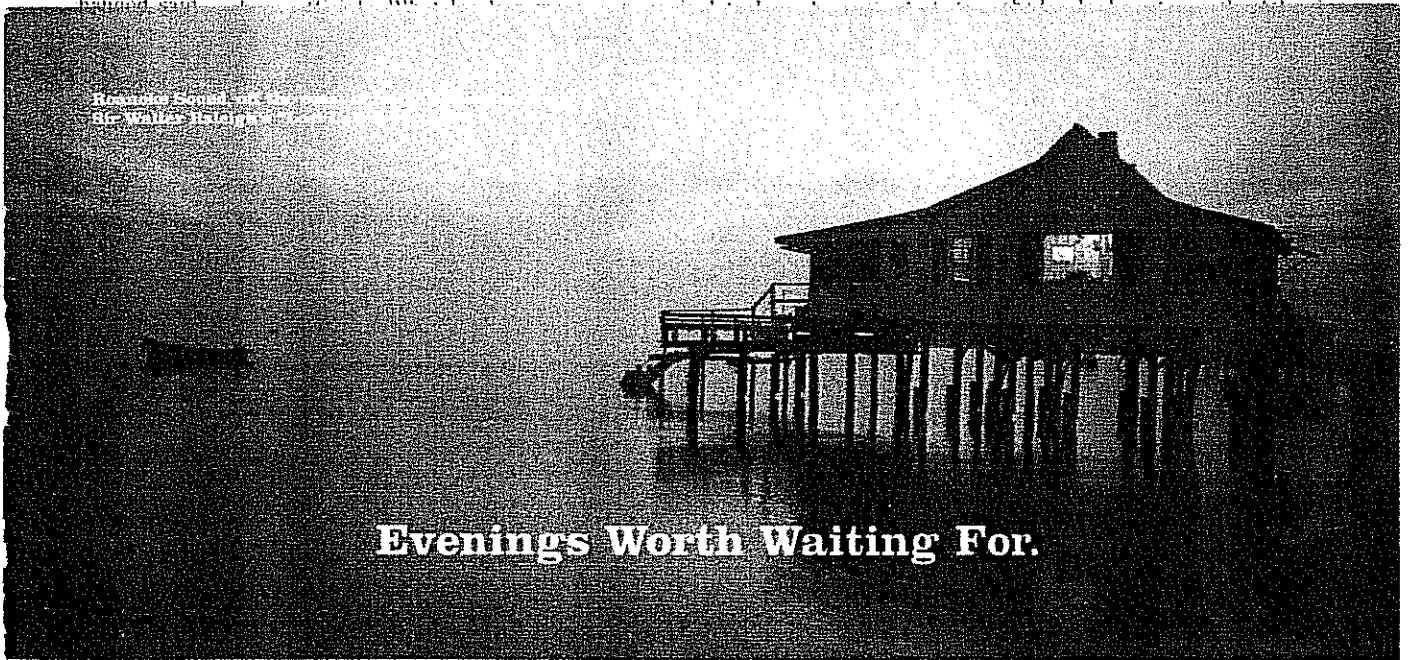
The 18 shacks, with no running water and no electricity, are scattered over several miles of dunes.

By 1987, several vacated  
shacks had been torn down by sea-

oak and pine — Superintendent Her-  
bert Olsen sighed. On a warm after-

noon, he walked to a small, well-  
beaten shack called Tasha — built  
from flotsam, smaller than a tool

Roanoke Sound  
shack on stilts



Evenings Worth Waiting For.

B



**M**idsummer nights are the stuff of  
dreams. Sirius, the Dog Star (the  
brightest star in the sky), rises and  
sets in conjunction with the sun  
in a seemingly endless string of longer, hotter  
days. Whether these dog days of summer are  
spent on the water or around the water cooler,  
the cool rush of evening brings a welcome  
respite from the heat as we settle down in an  
Adirondack chair, listen to the lapping of the  
tide, and follow the familiar patterns of the sum-

Philadelphia Inquirer article on Cape Cod shack; Orvis clothing catalog with Roanoke Sound shack on stilts

## THE JUDGE'S SHACK: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(prepared by William C. Bolger and Penelope H. Batcheler)

“Outermost cliff and solitary dune, the plain of ocean and the far, bright rims of the world, meadow land and marsh and ancient moor, this is Eastham; this the outer Cape. Sun and moon rise here from the sea, the arched sky has an ocean vastness, the clouds are now of ocean, now of earth. Having known and loved this land for many years, it came about that I found myself free to visit there, and so I built myself a house upon the beach.”

This passage, from Henry Beston's classic work, *The Outermost House*, describes the setting and inspiration for his life among the dunes of Cape Cod in the 1920s. It is a description that resonates with those familiar with the Judge's Shack on the outer dune of New Jersey's Island Beach State Park some 250 miles to the southwest.

The Judge's Shack is significant for three main reasons. First, it stands as a rare survivor of a once ubiquitous vernacular building type found along the New Jersey shore and throughout the east coast and beyond (NR Criterion C). Second, it documents the rustic lifestyle of sportsmen in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (Criterion D), and in particular, it documents the lives of the Hartshorne family who have been the owners of the property since 1942 (Criterion B). Third, it is significant to the history of Island Beach State Park and its cultural landscape as it has evolved over the past century (Criterion C).

It is eligible for inclusion in the National and State Registers under Criterion C for exhibiting the distinctive characteristics of its type, period, and method of construction. The Shack is a rare and endangered specimen of a once common vernacular building type, distinguished more by use and character than formal design. Once a common feature of coastal areas, fishing or sportsmen's shacks have now been displaced along the New Jersey coast by modern development. In rare instances where they have survived they have been heavily modernized and expanded and bear little resemblance to their original design and function. These kinds of structures are so humble and simple that they have attracted little or no attention by architectural historians and have generally been omitted from architectural inventories. For instance, the survey of coastal heritage resources by the National Park Service's New Jersey Coastal Heritage Program in the 1990s focused on major resources such as lighthouses, hotels and boardwalks, that is, major design works that provide entertainment and interpretive opportunities for the general public. By the time that most cultural resource inventories were undertaken there were so few fishing shacks remaining on the Jersey coast that they did not present a clear pattern of historic land use. Yet the early development of the Jersey coast was primarily undertaken by sport fishermen and wild-fowl hunters in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Simple and even make-shift structures were a dominant part of the material culture associated with this period along with frame hotels that have also largely disappeared.

The Judge's Shack typifies the vernacular building form in all aspects. It consists of a central 12 by 16 foot, one-story, gable-roofed unit with a shed-roof addition on the south for the porch and an equally simple shed-roof addition on the north for the bed rooms. The structure contains about 512 square feet of roofed space. The exterior is covered in

cedar shingles, the generic siding material for traditional Jersey shore buildings. Windows are simple six-light single sash either hinged or sliding except for the smaller single-pane single-sash windows in the north wall. The interior is either unfinished with exposed light frame construction or sheathed with fiber board in the main room.

This type of structure, borrowed from the vernacular architecture of traditional baymen culture common throughout the New Jersey coastal area, is functional, inexpensive and durable. It once constituted one of the most pervasive architectural forms along the coast but is now only represented by a few extant structures. Similar structures can be observed along the coast as far afield as Massachusetts and North Carolina.

Photographer Peter A Steele recorded a shack of similar profile and massing at Provincetown for the Philadelphia Inquirer (July 10, 1989), and from an Orvis sporting goods catalogue we see a similar profile sitting on high stilts above Roanoke Sound (see illustrations). The passages from Beston's *The Outermost House*, describing the construction of his house, bear an uncanny similarity with the Judge's Shack. Named the Fo'castle (a.k.a., the forecastle or fo'c'sle which is a ship's crew's quarters usually located in the bow of the vessel) it "... stood by itself atop a dune..." and "... consisted of two rooms, a bedroom and a kitchen-living room, and its dimensions over all were but twenty by sixteen." (The Judge's Shack measures twenty by sixteen without the porch.) "The house... proved compact and strong..." and "showed, perhaps, a somewhat amateur enthusiasm for windows. I had ten. In my larger room I had seven... Seven windows in one room perched on a hill of sand under an ocean sun..." (The Judge's Shack has exactly ten windows with seven in the main room counting the two in the gable ends.) Another strong similarity between the two buildings is their water supply. Beston continues: "To get drinking water, I drove a well pipe directly down into the dune." And other features also match. Beston... "had two oil lamps and various bottle candlesticks to read by" and for furniture he had a table, a couch, two chairs and a rocker." His kitchen was built "yacht fashion all in a line..." with its oil stove and the sink with a hand pump.

The Shack is also important for the cultural information that it provides (National and State Registers under Criteria D). "Certain important research questions about human history can only be answered by the actual physical material or cultural resources." (NR Bulletin: How to Apply NR Criteria for Evaluation, page 21.) While Criteria D is probably most often used with prehistoric archeological resources it applies to resources like the Shack for the simple reason that there is so little documentation on aspects of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century subjects like the life-ways of hunters and fishermen. The Shack possesses a rare degree of integrity documenting this life style. In its most basic aspect the purpose of this type of sports activity was to "rough it". Men like Judge Hartshorne and his family, members of a well established family with New Jersey origins dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, typify the late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century movement to maintain or reestablish a connection with the virtues of a simple rustic life style that emphasized vigorous physical activity in a primitive setting. The values of this life style stand in stark contrast to our contemporary prevailing trend for recreational dwellings at the shore to be large and luxurious, featuring all of the conveniences of suburban living.

While much is known about the domestic architecture of upper middle- and upper-class families like the Hartshorne's, far less information has been gathered on ephemeral facilities exemplified by the Shack. Sportsmen's shacks brought the occupants close to the reality of traditional cultures, such as baymen, who would have still been using similar structures in plying their trade at the time that this shack was constructed. Hand pumped water, wood stoves, oil lamps and out houses were intended to reverse the onset of what was considered the soft life provided by modern accommodations.

Most of the Jersey Shore shacks appear to have been located along the bay side or at least inland from the beach. By comparison, the most distinctive characteristic of the Judge's Shack is its bold location on the outer dunes. This location, chosen by Judge Hartshorne himself at the time the State Park was being designed, exemplifies his desire to be in an exposed location and in close contact with the sea. The house is craftily sited with a minimal exposure to the northeast allowing it to withstand the most severe winter storms, the infamous Nor'easters that frequently ravage the coast for days at a time. No doubt, the Judge's experience as a sailor provided him with a keen understanding of the need to address the environment.

The Shack is also eligible under Criterion B for its close association with two generations of the Hartshorne family, and in particular Richard Hartshorne, the Judge, and his son John and daughter, Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler. Judge Hartshorne (see biographical sketch) acquired the Shack in 1942 and used it regularly for over twenty years. John Hartshorne has held the lease for the Shack since 1953. It is daughter Penelope's influence as a noted historical architect that is largely responsible for its conservation and its retention of very high integrity. Ms Hartshorne (later Batcheler), together with colleagues such as well known National Park Service historical architect Lee H. Nelson, were working to maintain the Shack on weekends during the years they were undertaking what is arguably the most significant historic restoration of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, Independence Hall and other associated buildings at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. The conservation of the Shack by these experts offers a noteworthy contrast or counterpoint to their work on major "high style" monuments. Their approach addressed the particular character and nature of this type of vernacular resource and preserved the "feel" of a sportsman's shack (see Maintenance Approach section).

Finally, the Shack is eligible under Criterion C for its importance in the history of Island Beach State Park and the status that it has achieved as perhaps the most distinctive photographic icons of the park, and in fact, the entire New Jersey Coast.

The shacks that became part of the park when it was created in 1953 had all been constructed under lease agreement with the Barnegat Bay and Beach Company. Pauline S. Miller's book *Three Centuries on Island Beach* offers the context for understanding the history of the residences along this portion of the Jersey coast. Perhaps the first cottage was the one created in 1899 out of the Life saving Station No. 14 with an added board porch on two sides. This was owned by the first recorded artist resident at Island Beach, a painter who exhibited in Philadelphia in 1906-9 and who used the cottage as a studio. Another noted resident of the area, the wife of Francis Parkman Freeman

(manager of the Barnegat Bay and Beach Company), Augusta Huiell Seaman authored many children's books while living at Island Beach. Pearl Buck may have also drawn inspiration from her summers at the Cedar Creek Life Saving Station No. 15 (see page 24). Research into the other owners would no doubt turn up other artists and writers. But the eighty some other shacks which were built in the ensuing years seem to have been owned mostly by sports fishermen and duck hunters.

The Island Beach shacks varied in form and execution. One of the most unusual shacks was built by Judge Hartshorne's American Legion friend, Tom's River dentist Dr. Loveman. This was a nearly square two-story high driftwood shack that may be pictured to the right of the Forked River Coast Guard Station No. 112 (Miller, page 25). Others, in contrast hugged the ground such as the two pictured on page 36. One built on the bay with a long dock to reach water of any depth that has the look of being pasted together in "weekend" projects. The other much more orderly, resembles the Judge's Shack with its center gable roof, but with shorter side shed roof additions. Also clearly visible in an image of a fisherman's Model "T" beach buggy (page 37) is a shack raised off the ground with a ladder to reach its raised deck, clearly a "weekend" solution to threatening water or shifting sand. Another notable shack associated with what eventually became Coast Guard Station No. 110 was lived in by Captain Lewis Mitchell from c. 1920 to 1948 (page 23). The profile of this shack is almost identical to the Judge's Shack which was originally located in the same vicinity, suggesting that they may have even been put up by the same builder.

The Judge's Shack is one of the very last of the structures associated with the Barnegat Bay and Beach Company and it is the most important to park visitors for several reasons. It serves as a landmark in the most essential meaning of the word. The surf fishermen clearly use it as such. If they are not just using it as a rendezvous with friends, they are returning to a site where good catches have been made. It is identified on at least one fishing map as "The Judges Shack". Island Beach visitors paint views of it, get married in front of it, and hang Christmas wreaths on it for photos to put on their greeting cards.

The Shack has been seen by many throughout the nation and perhaps around the world. Photographer Gene Ahrens captured its solitary strength and the glory of its site in photographs that have been used and reused over the years (see appendix). It even appeared in Hallmark calendars in company with such national icons as the Grand Canyon, Yosemite and Mt. McKinley. The artist saw in this subject an inspiration that he returned to often. He no doubt found this site an irresistible chance to be alone with nature, unfettered by the frantic world beyond. In his photographs the shack is revealed in all of its impertinent posture standing alone against the sea.

The Shack represents the human desire to get away, to unleash, to commune, to create. This image is inextricably linked to the park itself and is the result of the natural setting of the shack, the distinctive outer dunes with their grasses and goldenrod, having been preserved through the creation of the park. The Shack would not have survived the past half century without the park and the park, without the Shack, would lack one of its most defining elements.

## **THE JUDGE'S SHACK: PLANNING ALTERNATIVES**

(prepared by William C. Bolger)

The following alternatives explore three major courses of action for the treatment and management of the Judge's Shack. These alternatives take into account both practical considerations of cost and code restrictions as well as historical and cultural significance. They are general in scope intending to offer a starting point for considering the question of how best to manage the site. Each alternative describes a treatment concept, management structures and financing and a quick identification of pros and cons in each instance.

**Alternative One: "Demolition"** This alternative calls for the current IBSP management policy to remain in effect. That is, upon termination of the lease the property is to be demolished and the site returned to a natural condition. Upon execution of this alternative the site would require no special provisions for management.

**Pros:** This alternative relieves the state of any further management requirements for the Hartshorne lease site and it returns the approximately one-sixteenth acre site to its natural habitat.

**Cons:** This alternative results in the destruction of one of the most distinctive cultural resources of Island Beach State Park and the Jersey Shore. (See significance section for information on the Shack as a rare example of a once ubiquitous vernacular building type and also information on the emergence of the Shack as an iconic image of the old hunting and fishing culture of the Jersey shore.) Park management would need to process a proposal for the destruction of a historic resource that needs to be considered for possible inclusion in the state and national registers of historic places. Removal might bring with it objections and impediments under the historic review procedures for the state.

**Alternative Two: "Preservation In-situ"** This alternative calls for the retention and long-term maintenance of the Shack in its current location with no significant alterations. Historic site interpretation would be low-key and unobtrusive. Such activity could include having information posted on the park web site, displayed in a binder at one of the interpretive centers in the park and having a wayside exhibit at the bottom of the dune directly in front of the Shack. Maintenance would observe current standards for the building as maintained by the Hartshorne's for the past 65 years. (See "Maintenance Approach section). This alternative would specifically not seek to bring the building up to code in order to avoid dramatic changes to the structural and aesthetic characteristics that define the building. Use as a seasonal cottage would be retained. This alternative is similar to ones being employed at Cape Cod National Seashore for sportmen's shacks (see appendix for National Park Service article from *Common Ground*, Summer 2005: "A Place By The Sea").

**Management:** This alternative could be managed in one of three ways: Either A) directly by the park, or B) by a private lessee or lessees, or C) by a special non-profit group lessee

(perhaps known as The Judge's Shack Association) operating under a cooperative agreement with the Park.

Rehabilitation items that will be needed over time include the following:

- Renew rotted floor framing members and tie together for a level platform to enable all doors to work effectively.
- Replace window sills, skirts and weather-strip to make weather-tight.
- Some repair and new coating to roof.
- Renew porch screen sash and door frame as well as porch plywood skirting.
- Replace plywood shutter (to right of porch door) with cedar board shutter.
- Replace privy and foundation.
- Consideration will need to be given to the eventual possibility of moving the structure back from its current location in order to maintain its historical relationship to the beach and protect it from rising water levels.

Pros: This alternative maintains the status quo, allowing the full preservation of the resource. This would be a treatment that would produce a finding of "no effect" under historic review procedures. Both the distinctive building type and the iconic value that it has come to command would be preserved. The Shack would continue to serve as a major landmark on the ocean side of the park and information would be made available to the public on the history of the property and those associated with it. It would serve as an important example of life-ways that were once common along the Jersey shore and the early history of the park itself. The building would continue to offer photographers and painters a unique subject for representation. Preservation would also fulfill the Park's obligation under state law to preserve important cultural resources under their management. This is also a low-cost option. The lease arrangement could stipulate that the lessee will maintain the structure at no cost to the State in lieu a lease hold fee. This would achieve the primary goal of providing the public with the amenity value of a distinctive visual and historic resource but at no cost to the government.

Cons: This would possibly require a modification to park management policies to allow for the in perpetuity leasing of the site. If park management were to assume the full responsibility for the site it would also add an obligation to the park maintenance budget. Also, if maintained by the park without a lessee, the site will be less guarded and maintained on a weekly basis. If it remains empty its use characteristics will change and be less authentic.

**Alternative Three: "Museum Building Development"** This alternative calls for restoring the Shack as a museum quality restoration with visual access (not interior physical access) for the public and historic curatorial management on both the interior and exterior. Access to the general public is limited to the visual primarily due to the limits on floor loading and doorway clearances imposed by the historic design. Full visual access could be achieved by means of a walkway that could be added along side the building allowing visitors to look into windows along one side of the Shack. This alternative is not possible at the current location due to access restriction for the general



public onto protected dune areas from the beach. There appear to be two practical versions of this alternative:

Version A: To be at the original (1908-1954) location up-island.

Version B: To be at a central interpretive facility like the USCG station one mile south of the current location.

**Management:** This type of museum project would need to be maintained by either the state park staff or by a nonprofit organization operating under an agreement with the state. All versions would require the same rehabilitation work as specified above in Alternative Two. Funding for relocation and a rehabilitation program would be required and would probably be at least \$150 K. A full furnishing plan and interpretive plan would need to be developed and personnel would be required for its interpretation.

**Pros:** Like Alternative Two this provides for the continued maintenance of the resource. It allows for public display. Version A does this in its original setting. Version B does this at a central interpretive setting.

**Cons:** This alternative requires alterations to provide for a change of use from a seasonal cabin to an artifact on display. The introduction of a platform along one elevation to enable visibility through windows for the public, and fire suppression, and security features with requisite utilities would be required. Any of the versions of this alternative would yield a determination of "effect" and probably yield a determination of "adverse effect". Version A would result in the loss of the relationship of the Shack to the outer dunes and the surf as well as the location that it has occupied for the past fifty years. This current location accounts for the majority of the building's history. Version B, while placing it in a more accessible location would deny it either of its historic environments. It is not clear that public access for this structure is warranted in terms of existing interpretive programs, public interest or staff capacity. It is also important to note that these alternatives are not reversible. They could, however, be pursued in the future if park planning and management considerations call for it.

## NEWS CLOSEUP

# A PLACE BY THE SEA

## A Question of Access at Cape Cod National Seashore

For generations, writers, painters, nature lovers, and those in search of seclusion have gathered at a group of tiny cabins at the tip of Cape Cod. Spare and rustic, and removed from the outside world, they offer a dramatic view of the Atlantic on a stretch of Cape Cod National Seashore.

Many of the dune shacks, as they are known, are a product of nearby Provincetown's evolution as an artists' colony. At the turn of the 20th century, people began using deserted structures such as boathouses, chicken coops, and a former lifesaving station as studios or vacation retreats. In time, a small number of modest structures sprang up, still in use today. Seasonal pilgrimages to the shacks have become a tradition, posing a challenge to the National Park Service, which acquired the land in 1961.

Under a decades-old agreement, ownership of the structures is gradually being transferred to the seashore. But those who visit the shacks are concerned about continued access, so the place may warrant special treatment because of its past and its importance to people's experience of the seashore.

An ethnographic study, commissioned by the National Park Service, is looking at whether the people who use the shacks could be considered a culture. Last summer, anthropologist Robert J. Wolfe sought people to

The study seeks to clarify who the dune dwellers are as well as ascertain their values and why they come here.

Maintenance is key too. The shacks, built with makeshift materials, don't fit conventional preservation strategies. Plus the fragile environment is subject to violent change.

**MANY OF THE DUNE SHACKS, AS THEY ARE KNOWN, ARE A PRODUCT OF NEARBY PROVINCETOWN'S EVOLUTION AS AN ARTISTS' COLONY. AT THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY, PEOPLE BEGAN USING DESERTED STRUCTURES SUCH AS BOATHOUSES, CHICKEN COOPS, AND A FORMER LIFESAVING STATION AS STUDIOS OR VACATION RETREATS. IN TIME, A SMALL NUMBER OF MODEST STRUCTURES SPRANG UP, STILL IN USE TODAY.**



talk about their memories. Such ways of life, like habitat for nesting shorebirds, are an aspect of the seashore that the National Park Service is obliged to preserve. "This is a whole new arena for us," says chief of cultural resources Sue Moynihan. "We're used to dealing with the tangible," like the remains of Marconi Station, which sent the first transatlantic wireless message.

When the seashore was established, the shacks were inside the boundary drawn by Congress. Since the dune dwellers did not own the land, they entered into agreements in which they got money and use of the shacks for a specified term. The National Park Service intended to demolish the structures as terms expired.

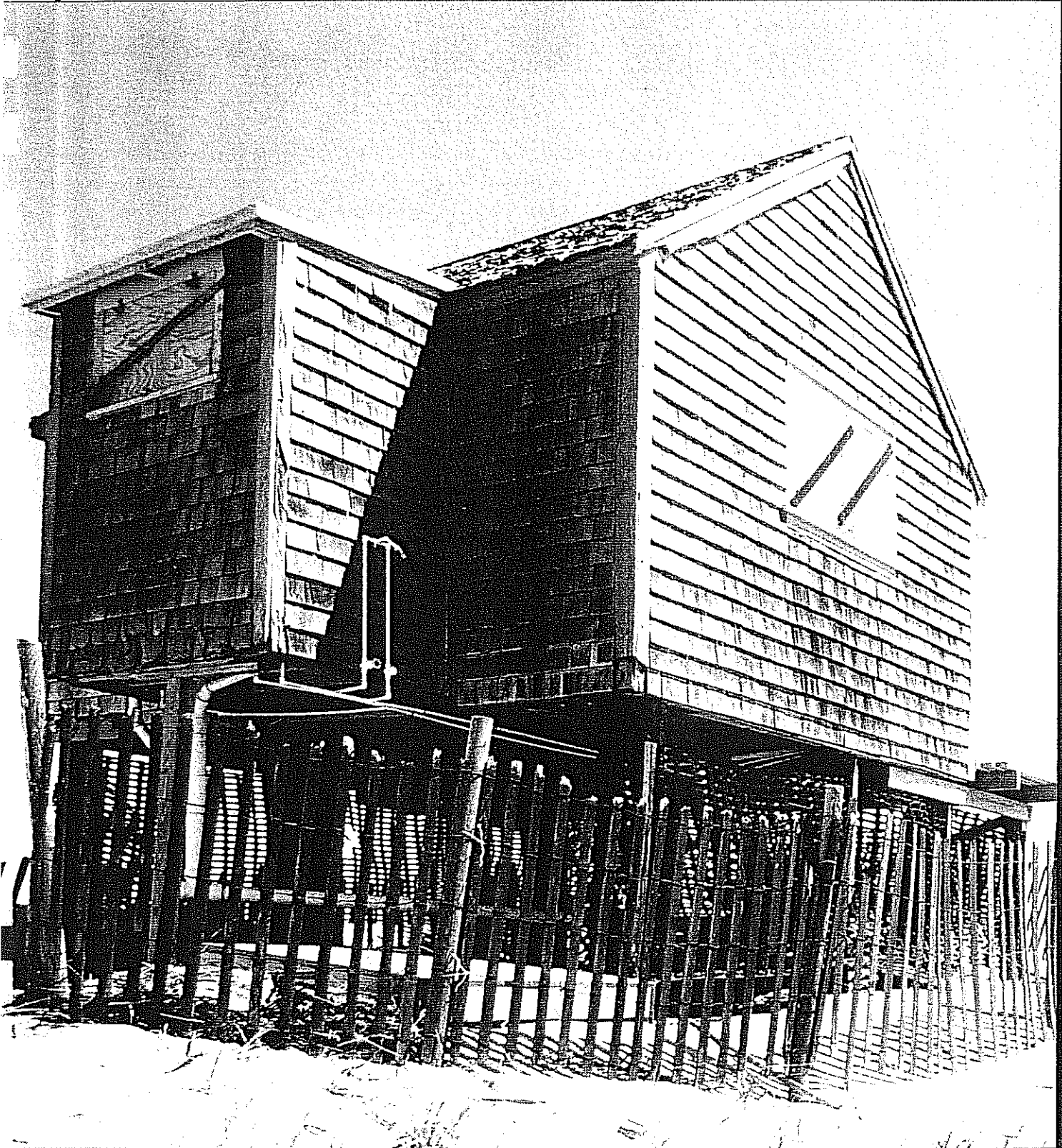
This prompted local citizens to form the nonprofit Peaked Hill Trust—after the ridge where the shacks reside—with preservation as its aim. The group got the area designated a state historic district, eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The determination was based primarily on an association with the development of American art, literature, and theater (Eugene O'Neill—among others—lived here).

By the end of this year, the National Park Service will be responsible for managing 10 of the 17 shacks. "The ethnographic report is a key component in deciding what to do," says Moynihan.

The study, along with an environmental assessment, will guide decisions on preservation and use.

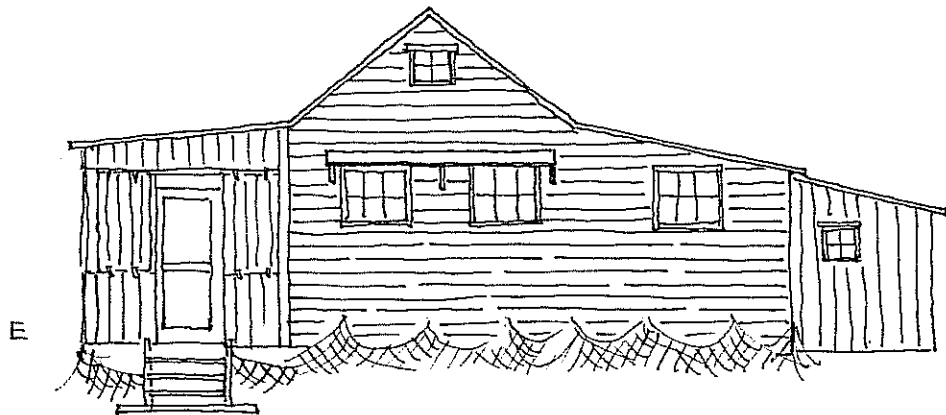
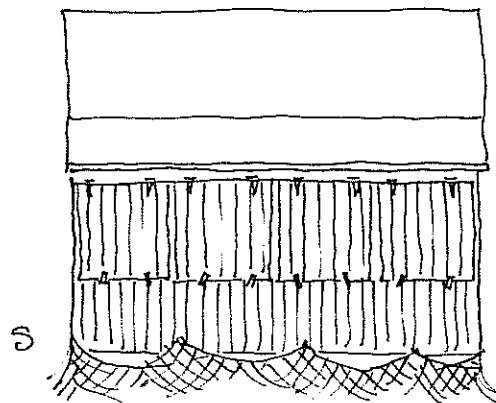
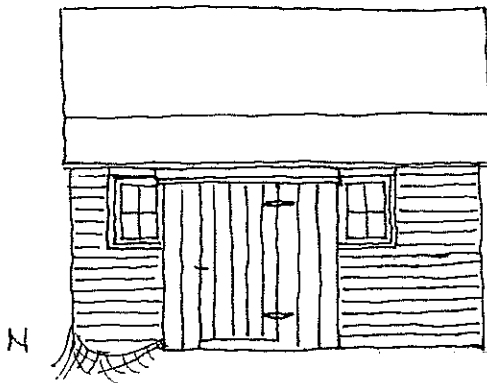
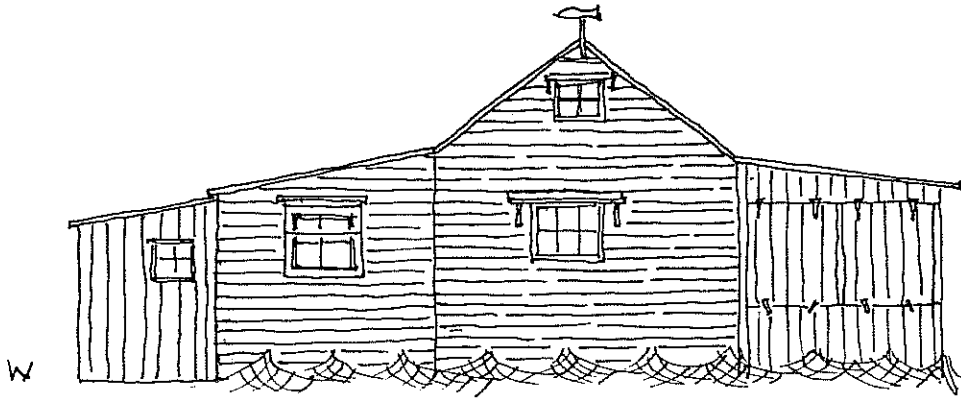
For more information, contact Chuck Smythe, National Park Service, 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109, (617) 223-5014, email [chuck\\_smythe@nps.gov](mailto:chuck_smythe@nps.gov).

Below left: Families have summered in the shacks for generations. Local groups conduct artist-in-residence programs in the structures under agreements with the National Park Service; others have leases. Below: One of the diminutive dwellings.



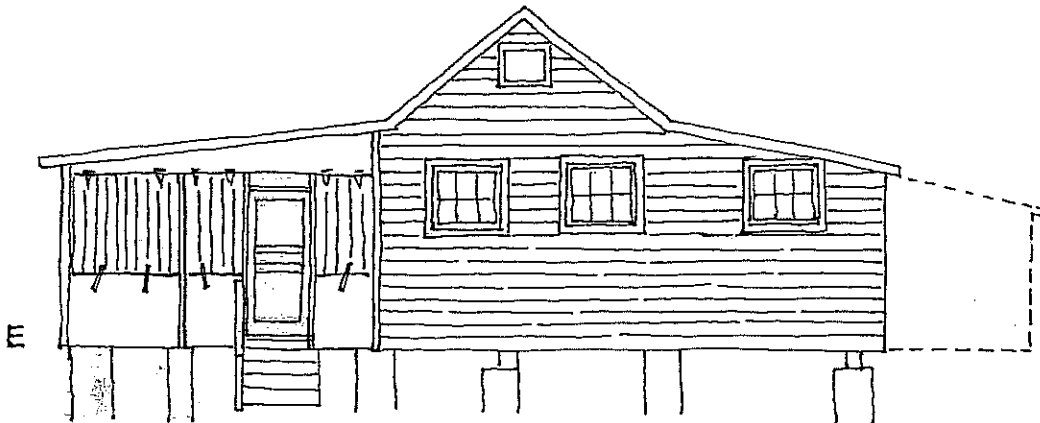
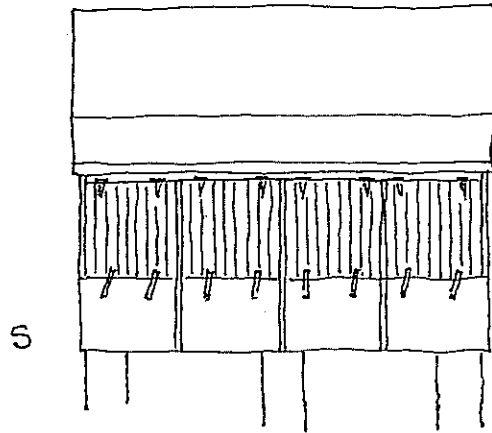
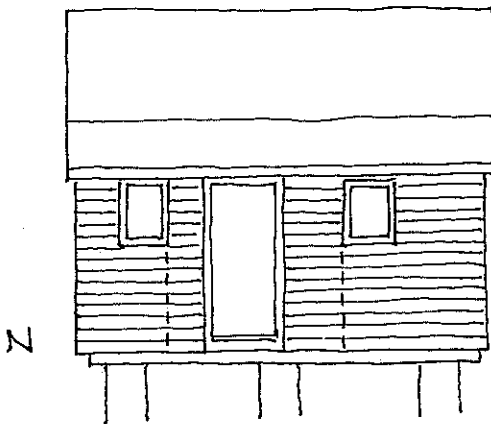
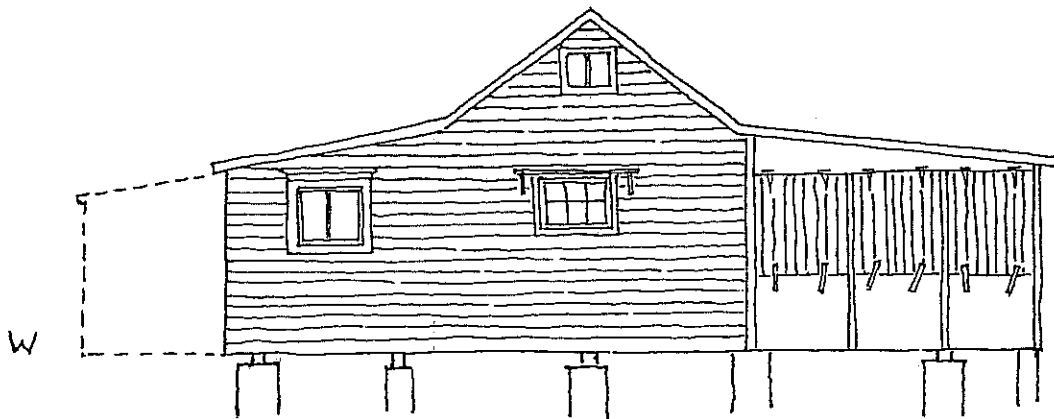
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APPENDICES



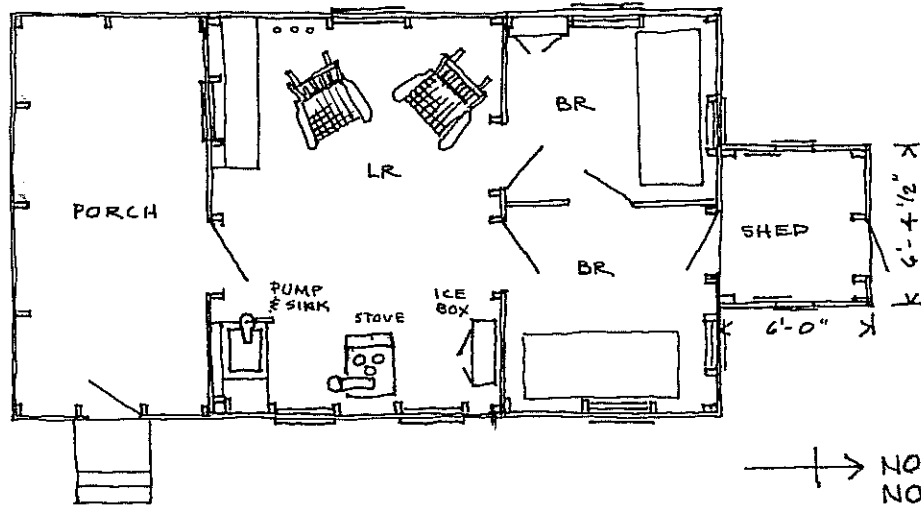
"THE JUDGE'S SHACK" - LEASE 65 - 1942-1951  
 ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK  
 SEASIDE PARK, NEW JERSEY

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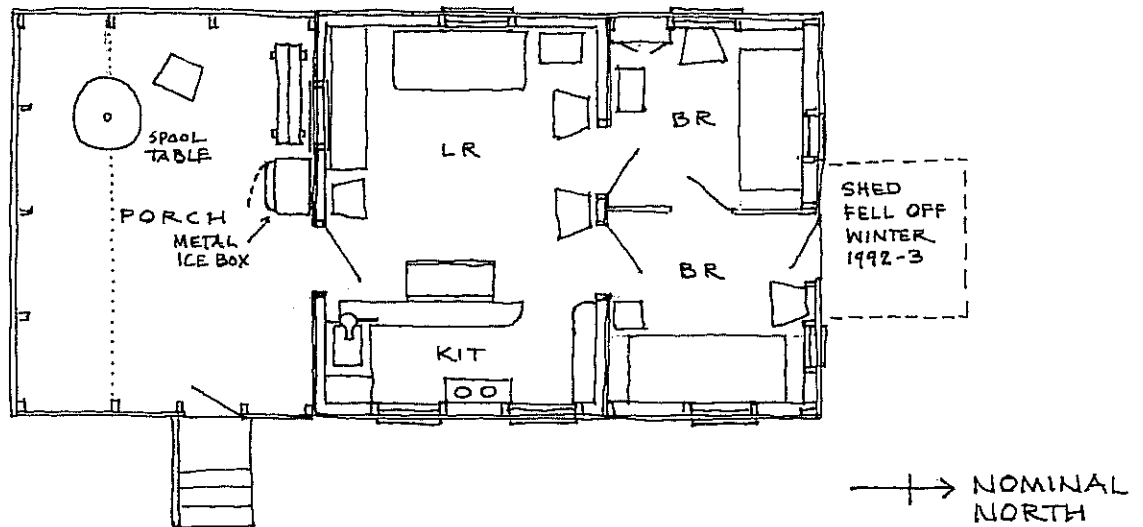


"THE JUDGE'S' SHACK" - LEASE 65 - 2003  
 ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK  
 SEASIDE PARK, NEW JERSEY

$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$  5 FT.



1942 +  
 LOCATED SOUTH OF  
 COAST GUARD STATION #111

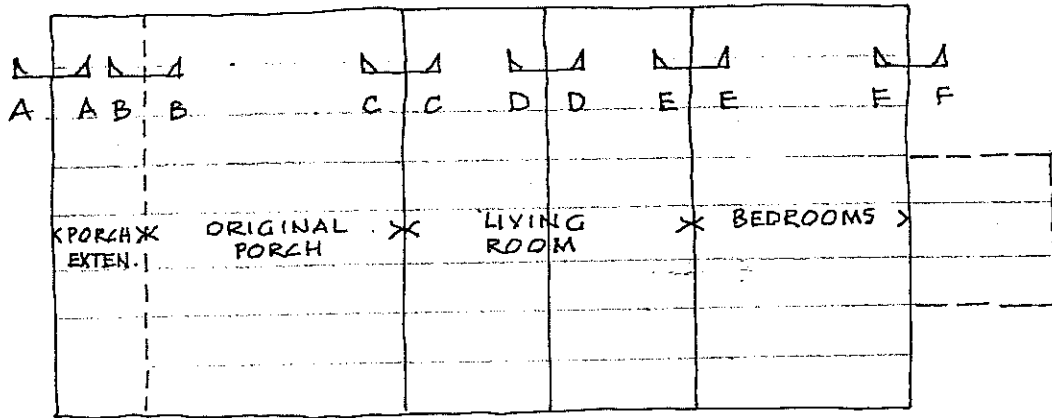


1952 +  
 LOCATED BETWEEN  
 PARKING LOTS 12 & 13

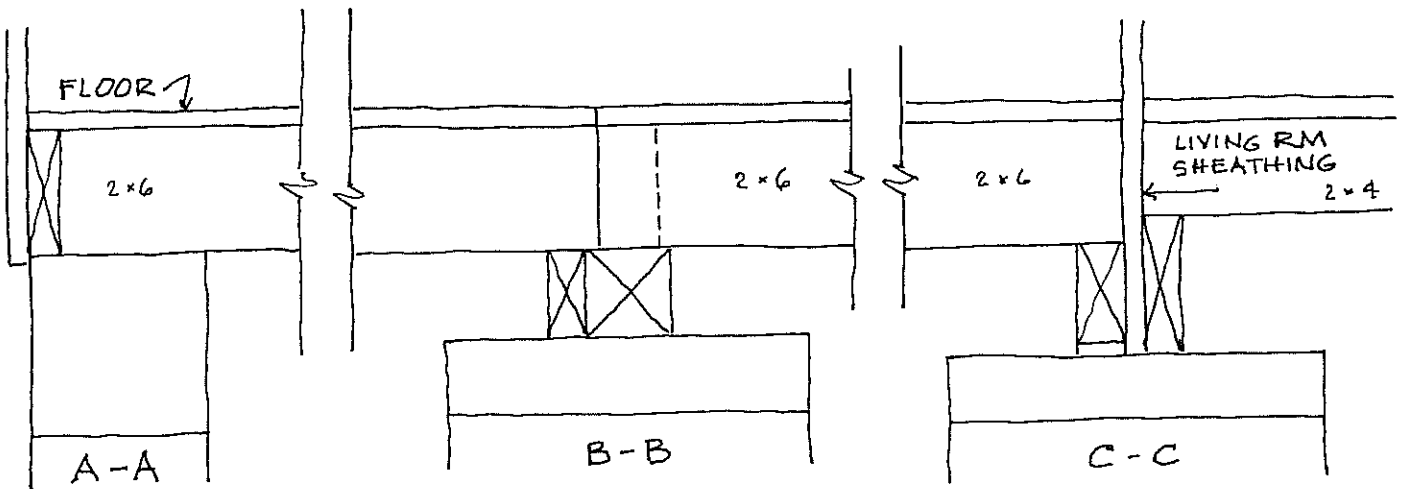
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"      0      5 FT.  
 P.H.B. NOV 2003



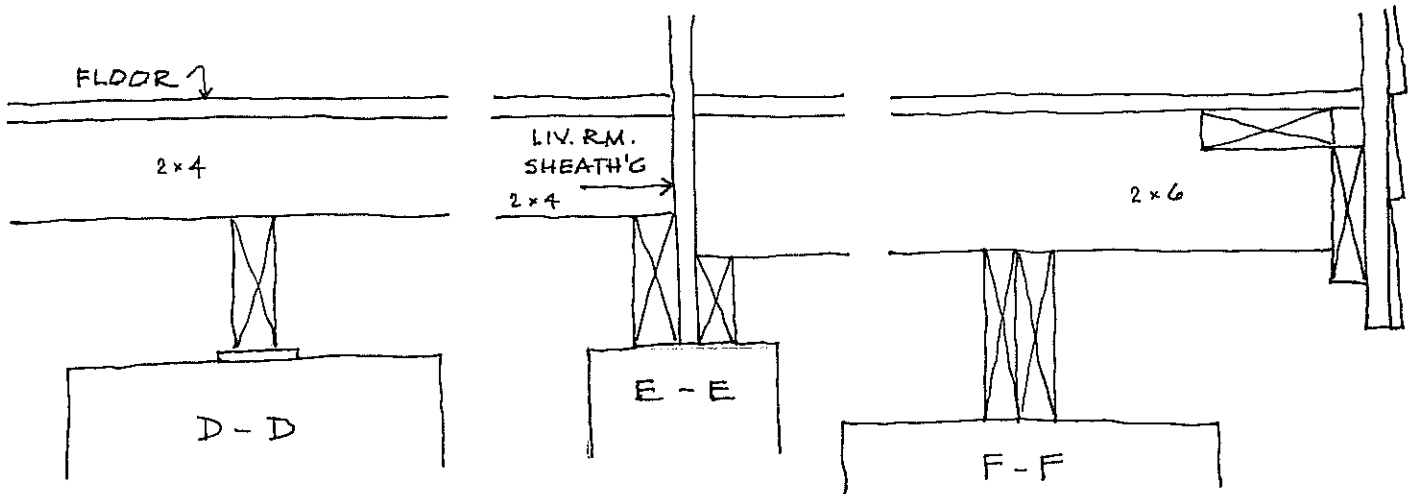
# "THE JUDGE'S SHACK"



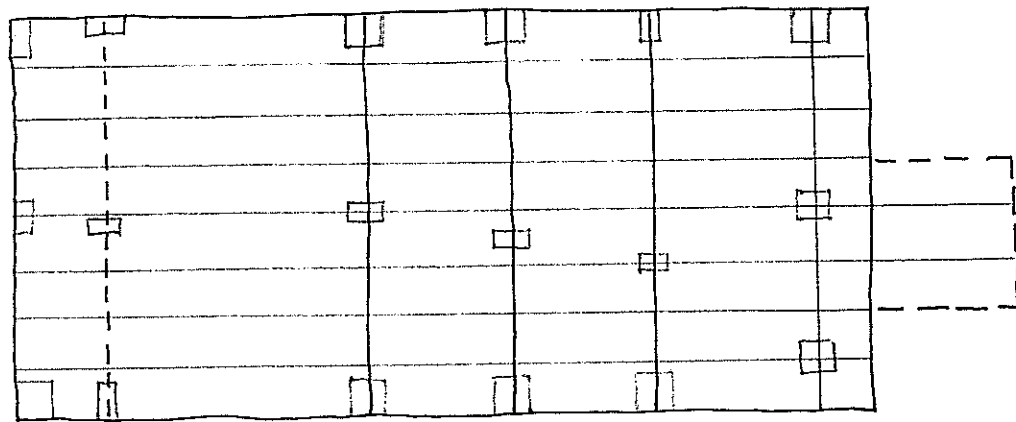
FRAMING PLAN      $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$       $\longrightarrow$  NOMINAL NORTH



$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1$  INCH



"THE JUDGE'S SHACK"



PIER (CONCRETE BLOCK) PLAN

$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

→ NOMINAL NORTH

List of Published Photographs of "The Judge's Shack"  
Island Beach State Park, N.J.

1952 The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine, August 17, 1952, pages 27 & 28, "Primeval Island Beach", by A.H. Alexander, showing a view of the Judge's Shack west elevation, at its original site, with the caption "Most shacks on Island Beach are jerry-built".

1981 "Low Cost Shore Protection", U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, both covers of 36 page pamphlet, photographer Anthony Bley, view from nothwest, print reversed, color, 16 1/2" x11".

1983 "The Campground Directory" by Woodall's, fall/winter view from west, color, 8 1/4" x 11".

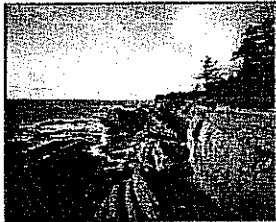
1983 Postcard, by The Scheller Co., Hackettstown, N.J., "Sand Dunes at the New Jersey Shore", fall/winter view from west, color, 5 1/2"x3 1/2", sold at a Pennsylvania Turnpike service area.

1984 L. L. Bean Summer Catalogue Cover, reversed print from west with raking light on the west facade, color, 7 1/2"x8 1/2" with an overlay 7"x 6" of summer apparel for sale.

1984 "Towers Supermarket at Society Hill Towers, 275 St.James Place", Philadelphia, cover, advertising calendar, "Copr. A. Fox-Lites", fall/winter view from west, color, 6"x3 3/4".

1985 "Silent Beauty", 1984 Hallmark Cards, Inc., "A 13-month Calendar for 1985", illustration for month of May, "Island Beach", photographer Gene Ahrens, Sepia print, 11"x9 1/4". Other views are nature studies.

1986 "America 1986 Calendar", Landmark Calendars, P.O. Box 1100, Sausalito, CA., 94966, Copyright@Landmark General Corporation 1985, Graphic Design : Don Lindquist, ISBN #0-87616-012-7. View fom Southeast, illustration month of September. "Island Beach, New Jersey, Photography by : H.Armstrong Roberts/GeneAhrens", color, 13 1/4"x10". Other views include : Yosemite Valley, CA.; Ecola State Park, Oregon; Mt. Mckinley, Alaska; ShoreAcres State Park, Coos Bay, Oregon; Hamilton



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**Published photographs of the Judge's Shack**

Creek, Sequoia Nat'l Park; Monument Valley; "The Mittens", Utah and Ariz.; Sullivan's Island, Charleston, South Carolina; Mill Brook, Vt.; Lake McDonald, Glacier National Park, Montana; Maroon Creek, Aspen, Co..

1988 "The Sea", 1987 Hallmark Cards, Inc., "A Calendar for 1988, illustration for month of November, untitled, fall/winter view from west, color, 12 3/8"x9". Other views : Shore Acres State Park, Coos Bay, Oregon, and other unidentified seaside views.

1993 Unidentified calendar, "Island Beach State Park, New Jersey", illustration for month of June, fall/winter view from west, color, 10 7/8"x 7 7/8".

1993 "Season's Greetings 1993", calendar Tanabe Service Inc. 2809 East Manoa Road, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822, "Island Beach State Park, N.J.", view from west, illustration for month of August, color, 9 7/8"x7 7/8". Other views include : Garden Wall above McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park; Mt. Humpback Covered Bridge, Covington, VA.; Poolenalena Beach, HI.; El Capitan, Guadalupe Mtns Natl Park, TX.; Marblehead Light, Lake Erie, OH.; Harris Beach, OR.; Bryce Canyon Natl. Park, UT.; Winter on South Rim, Grand Canyon Natl Park, AZ..

1993 Postcard, "New Jersey Shore" overlay on face of card, Shellmark, Inc., Hackettstown, N.J., 07840-0751, fall/winter view from west, color, 5 1/2"x 3 1/2".

1993-4 AAA, American Automobile Association New Jersey map cover, "Island Beach State Park, N.J., G.Ahrens/H.Armstrong Roberts", fall/winter view from west, color, 3"x7".

1995 "Third Edition Guide to the Jersey Shore From Sandy Hook to Cape May" by Robert Santelli, A Voyager Book, The Globe Pequot Press, Old Saybrook, Connecticut, cover photograph, fall/winter view from south, 4 3/4"x 6".

1995 "Hagstrom Ocean County Atlas" Fourth large scale edition, copyright 1995 Hagstrom Map Company, Inc. 46-35 54th Road, Maspeth, New York 11378, "Cover Photo of Island Beach by Gene Ahrens", fall/winter view from the west, color, 8 5/8"x 6".

1996 "Wilderness America 1996 Calendar", Wise Corporation Largo Florida, Hoyle Products ASI 61960, All Rights Reserved 1995, fall/winter view from the south, illustration for the month of July, color, 10 1/2"x 8". Other views include : Kalalau Valley, Kauai, Hawaii; Shiprock, New Mexico; Harris Beach State Park, Oregon; Logan Creek, Glacier National Park, Montana; Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah; Mt.Shuksan, Washington; Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona.

1997 "1997 Scenic Miniature Calendar", Hoyle Products ASI 61960, Kroll Office Products, 145 East 54 Street, New York, NY 10022, "Island Beach, New Jersey", fall/winter view from the south, illustration for the month of July, color, 6 1/2"x 4 7/8". Other views include same as 1996 calendar but also Grand Tetons, Wyoming.

1997 "Reflections 1997 Religious Appointment Calendar", Hoyle Products, ASI 61960, Fryar's Dry Cleaners & Laundry, Browns Mills, N.J., fall/winter view from south, illustration for January, color, 10 1/2"x 7 1/2". Views unidentified.

Postcard, "NEW JERSEY" superimposed on face photograph, fall/winter view from west. Undated, but purchased in a bookstore in the Cherry Hill Mall, N.J., in 2004. "Photo c. Pendor Natural Color NJ5-401...Box 33, Pearl River, NY 10965" "New Jersey Collector Prints", color, 7"x5". Text : "New Jersey, Island Beach State Park, The perfect retreat to get away and unwind. Enjoy the tranquility of strolling the miles of sandy beaches or relax and enjoy basking in the sun. This state park also offers other activities such as bird watching and surf-fishing."

2001, 2003, 2005, Teldoncalendars "New Jersey", " Island Beach", 10 3/4" x 8".

NOTE : The photographer of the above views of "the Judge's Shack", except where noted otherwise, was Gene Ahrens, of Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. He, and his wife Astrid, made "pilgrimages in the month of December" to Island Beach State Park to photograph : the beach and snow fence patterns, across the inlet to Barnegat Light, or the "cottage", as Mrs Ahrens called the shack. Gene Ahrens died on April 11, 2001, having had a self employed photography career. He approached his subjects in

hiking boots with his camera gear in a knapsack, and his tripod under his arm. H. Armstrong Roberts of Philadelphia was his agent.

[ These notes courtesy of Mrs. Astrid Ahrens, Telcon, Jan. 24, 2005 ]

## List of Furniture in 1942

When Judge Hartshorne purchased the Shack from John H. Rickard in 1942 the furniture of the Shack was sparse, just what a fisherman would need. The following list is to the best of the writer's memory :

A stove was not there, but the hole in the roof sheathing indicates that there had been one .

The iron sink which is still in use has remained in the same location as found. It drains down into the dune, diverted from the well area by a drain pipe today.

A cast iron hand pump was mounted adjacent to the sink as it is today. The original pump was larger than the Chinese ones available today.

An oak wood ice box with zinc lined compartments lasted to be moved with the Shack in 1952. Years later it was stolen off the porch. Its size was approximately 36 x 18 x 40 high.

Built into the southwest corner of the living room is a combination bench and tool storage bin. The battened board lid is attached with "T" hinges and a large hasp takes a padlock. It is presently painted white with an unpainted interior. It may have been unpainted on the exterior originally.

There must have been a table. My dim memory says it was homemade, square legged, and the top covered with oil cloth tacked down. There also must have been some straight chairs to use at the table, but I have no memory of them.

Two ample wood rocking chairs with vertical slat backs, wide-cane woven seats and arm rests, survive but are in poor condition.

Against the west wall the surf fishing poles stood on the floor caught by several large wire common head nails. The nails still exist.

In the western bedroom, in the southwest corner, hanging on the west wall is the original wood toiletries cabinet. It has two small doors hung on butt hinges with a small hasp. The interior is unpainted and the exterior is now painted white, having probably originally been unpainted.

The cots may have been those which have since rusted, having a second bedspring which could swing up from beneath the principle cot.

The living room and bedroom walls were unpainted, with newspapers pasted up on the sheathing inner face, probably with the



intent to keep down the drafts. There also was a calendar.

At the old location there was electricity but I also believe there was at least one large decorative shade kerosene lamp.

In the shed there were some old buckets, an old shovel, a wood ladder and some old poled crabbing nets. One galvanized bucket had tapered sides ending in a flared base and a top which slanted inward. With a bale handle, its design was clearly meant to carry water without spillage. There may have been some old waders.

### List of furniture in 1952 +

Much of the furniture added by Judge and Mrs. Hartshorne is still at the Shack. For those items which date from 1942 they will have an \*.

At the old site there was electricity. The Hartshornes had a two burner electric stove and one cheap brass plated wall lamp with small shade. At the new site, not having electricity, a two burner LP stove was installed to be fueled by two large cylindrical cans which stood on a portable oval shaped concrete slab at the northwest corner of the house just west of the shed. The copper tubing came under the floor to the stove which was seated between the two east windows on boards across piers of two concrete blocks each. Presently a portable propane stove is used. Pots and pans have always hung from hooks under the southern of these windows, or stood on a shelf made of boards spanning between these piers one block above the floor. Some of the pots and pans that are still there date from at least 1942.

The iron kitchen sink and drainboard with wood support \* is still in use. The original pump has several times been replaced.

The wooden icebox has been stolen \*. A white 1950's insulated metal ice box had a top door accessing the drained ice storage, and a larger lower door to the food storage section divided by metal grill shelving. This approximately five foot high box with rounded front edges was eventually painted red iron oxide rustoleom to make it less obtrusive. These ice boxes both stood on the porch just west of the wood door to the interior.



The kitchen is defined by 1940s unpainted wood shelving, One set of two creates a separation from the living room area, the other single unit is along the north wall. They end with a separate small quarter round shelf unit.

A simple turned leg, drop leafed unfinished wood table, painted blue, became the dining table. It is still used.

Six rush seat side chairs were bought along with the other unfinished furniture at Bamberger's department store in Newark. The wrungs on a few of the chairs have been broken by vandals.

An old upholstered daybed with three rectangular cushions , at first covered with a blue bedspread, and later an India print cloth, served as a couch and extra sleeping. A futon has taken its place in the last decade.

A bedside table with a single drawer and a shelf near the floor still stands in the northwest corner of the living room. It too has been painted blue.

Opposite, in the southwest corner is the original tool chest bench. The outside was painted white by the Hartshornes and at least four square red oil-cloth and kapoc filled cushions sat on the closed lid.

The arm rocking chairs\* survive, painted dark green by the Hartshornes. They have been kept for sentimentality though unuseable.

Two metal cots with the capability of adding an additional sleeping surface by swinging it up from below may have dated from 1942. They rusted badly and have now been replaced with plywood slabs with foam pads.

Each bedroom also has a bedside table. In the east room the table is a 1930's small square dark stained oak telephone table, with a square stool which slides in between the legs. The table in the west room has a single drawer, dark stained veneer, with open work end legs and bottom stretcher.

Each bedroom has "dime store" single mirrors, and wire coat pins.

On the porch there have been spool tables of varying sizes and low tables of driftwood seated on short timbers laid flat. The rocking chairs were taken out to the porch along with a green folding sling back chair, and miscellaneous folding chairs of wood or aluminum tubing.

For sitting on the beach there have been low to the ground folding seats, woven grass mats, or beach towels. A large green umbrella provided shade. For eating outside, a large ship hatch table and driftwood board benches lasted a long time.

Decor : Over the inside sink decor has ranged from a stuffed

pheasant, a preserved 50lb lobster shell, a large red, white and blue poster made by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission for a conference, two paper American flags with an old rusted blade frame saw superimposed on it. Above the kitchen north shelving there has hung a woven mat from the South Pacific islands, brought home as a trophy from WWII. A large map, about 24 x 40 inches, mounted on cardboard, hung on the north wall, west of the doors. The map of c.1900 showed Seaside Heights, Seaside Park and Island Beach when a railroad bridge crossed from Toms River. This map was given by the writer to the Park for their Archive. I do not know if it still exists. Free posters from other Philadelphia events have also decorated the walls : Earth Day, Tall Ships, Japanese Art shows, and four of the same Carpenters' Company, Phila., exhibit posters hung pinwheel fashion, plus a frog drawn by the writer, etc.. An amateur oil here and there, and other accidental found art added interest. On a shelf in the west bedroom are assembled sea shells and decorative flotsam. The same has found its way to the living room "cornice" and a small hanging blue shelf with small drawer which is on the south wall of the living room just west of the wood door. Several rusted long iron rivets dropped from the old wrecks were salvaged. And more recently lobster pot markers hang in the east bedroom. This list changed over time due to theft and fading etc..

After "fighting" mice making nests in blankets we finally thought of throwing the folded blankets over one of the living room tie beams. Less attractive have been the winter storage of pillows tied in a bundle, hung next to the blankets. After the good blankets were robbed from the Shack there have been an assortment of cast-offs.

One item which we keep for sentimental reasons is the Judge's old dark leather jacket, its seams apart, thus unwearable.

More useful has been an "H2 -O" bag which can hang on a nail near the porch steps for warm rinses after a salt water swim.

