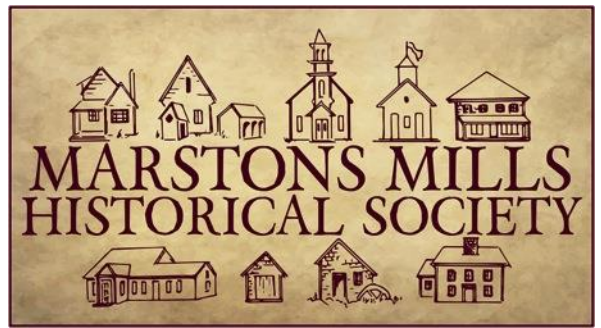


Marstons Mills Historical Society  
Lester Sutherland  
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## Seapuit

The Seapuit golf course ceased to operate after the hurricane of 1944. At that time, E K. Davis acquired the property from bankruptcy; there were originally three Davis houses – one for each of the Davis brothers. The land consisted of greens, ponds, mayflowers, blueberries, and cranberry bogs – which had “early black” cranberries. The third hole of the course had an oyster shack which served oysters to golfers, and the fifth hole was known as “Wigwam” to commemorate the place where it was supposed that early Wampanoags came to encamp for the summer. The Davis farm sold eggs, milk, and flowers. There was also a dairy with the name Seapuit, and some milk bottles still exist with the name Seapuit.

When E. K. died, the animals that he had raised on his property were sold. His son Joel subdivided the land into 15 house lots; his younger brother, Holbrook, survives as of this interview. Joel maintained an office on the second floor of a barn in Marstons Mills, which had a 50-foot scale model of the property at which he interviewed prospective buyers of the subdivided lots. Joel hired Carol Schwartz to manage the property development.

There were originally (now more than 50) houses on each of the 15 lots, with about 55 residents overall. Improvements have been made, such as the reconditioning of the roads by the Town, which then assessed each homeowner over a period of 20 years to pay for that reconditioning.

The Sutherland property is partly in Osterville and partly in Marstons Mills. In addition to the house, it has a tennis court and a swimming pool. He kept a boat at a dock on the water nearby. A neighbor, Mary Wells, has uncovered some of the pipes that were originally used for watering the golf greens. The house at 280 Ice Valley is approximately 200 feet above sea level, and is on what was called “Easy Street” at what was the 7<sup>th</sup> hole of the course. A well-preserved color map of Seapuit is in the possession of Lester Sutherland, showing the original nine holes and some historical features; the map is one of only 100 that were originally printed.



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