

**Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives, Inc.  
8 Meetinghouse Lane  
Madison, Connecticut 06443  
203 245 5667**

**Number 11**

**Hammonasset House Hotel**



*The Hammonasset House Hotel*

Herman Coe spent his youth on the shore of the Horse pond. One of a family of farmers Herman was not interested in farming and after his marriage, he left farming and had a house on Liberty Street. Close to Long Island Sound. The Coe Family built a fine sloop and launched it near Clam Rock just off the beach at Seaview Avenue.

The sloop was named the "Emeline" ad Herman was her captain.

In 1828 Herman bought a piece of land on the point on the west bank of Fence Creek near what is now 275 Middle Beach Road. There he built a house for he, his wife and family.

In time vacationers discovered the pleasures of the Madison shore and some began to ask Herman to allow them to board at his house. As the number of boarders grew Herman added to his house, raised a second story, and began to feed his guests so well that his reputation grew and he had to increase the size of house again.



In later years he tired of running the hotel, which was then known as the Hammonasset House, sold out and moved to another house on East Wharf Road. In the ensuing years the Hammonasset House grew and prospered. Owners came and went. Between the years 1828 and 1919 the property had ten different owners.

About 1902 J. M. Hull and A. A. Snow purchased the hotel and others pieces of land and prepared a plan for a development called the Hammonasset House Property. Hull and Snow sold the hotel building to William Pierce in 1911 and once more the guests came and the hotel flourished.

In 1919 Mr. Pierce sold the property to Alfred Hart who demolished the building and built a new saltbox house as a summer home. In 1955 Florence Gates Judd purchased the house and removed the second story replacing it with a gambrel roof. For many years thereafter the house was known as the "Judd House".

At one time a small wooden bathhouse stood on rock just east of the main house. It was destroyed in the 1938 Hurricane.

Fence Creek, the bathhouse rock and the house still remain but the Hammonasset House Hotel is only a memory- a memory of a grand dinner on July 4, 1894 when William Pierce served his guests Blue Point Oysters on the Half Shell, Consomme Lincoln, A Grille of Bluefish a la Monitor, Filet of Sole a la Merrimack, Chicken Cutlets, George Washington Style Prime Rib, New Peas and Floating Island for dessert with an incomparable view of Long Island sound.

**Directions:** From Madison Center follow the Boston Post Road east to Liberty Street. Turn right on Liberty Street and then right again Waterbury Avenue. Follow Waterbury Avenue to Seaview Avenue and turn right. Follow Seaview watching for the bridge over Fence Creek. Park at the side of the road before the bridge and look southwest to the house on the point where Fence Creek empties into Long Island Sound. The house you see is the Judd House built on the site of the Hammonasset House Hotel.

**Please Note:** This property is privately owned and not open to the public.