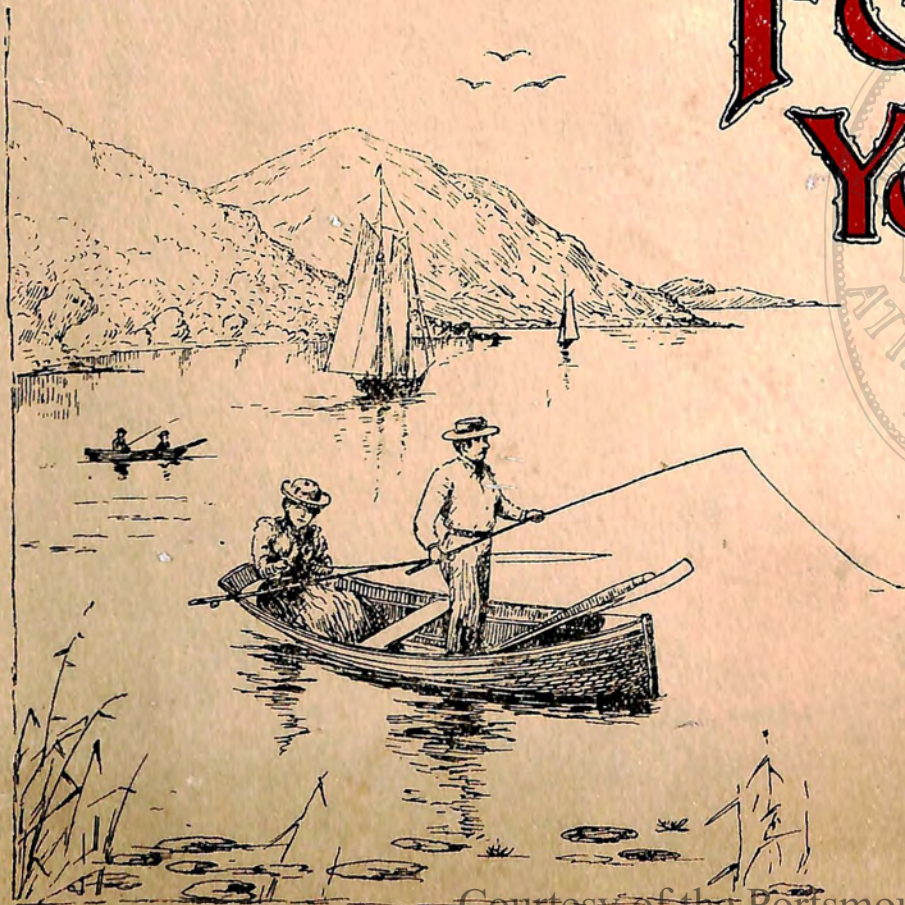


ILLUSTRATED

Memories of
**Portsmouth,
York, York Harbor,
York Beach,
Kittery,
Isle of Shoals,
New Castle & Rye.**



ILLUSTRATED MEMORIES

—OF—

PORTSMOUTH, ISLES OF SHOALS, NEW CASTLE
YORK HARBOR, YORK BEACH AND
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

G. W. MORRIS,
Publisher,
124 Franklin Street,
Portland, Maine.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., situated on the Piscataqua river, three miles from its mouth, and the only seaport in New Hampshire, though as a city only about fifty years old and with a population of but little more than ten thousand, was one of the first places in this country to be settled by colonists from Great Britain, David Thompson and his little party having located and built houses at what he called "Pannaway" — the "Little Harbor" of the early historian, and now merely Odionne's Point, in the town of Rye — in the spring of 1623, less than three years after the landing of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod. Small and relatively unimportant though it now is, in comparison with scores of cities throughout the Union, whose very sites had been unexplored by white men a century after its settlement, Portsmouth was throughout the colonizing period and up to the Revolutionary War, one of the most important seaports of the British colonies in the new world. Its shipbuilding and shipping interests were extensive for the times, and it was the residence of the royal governors of the province of New Hampshire up to the time the royal authority was defied and overthrown. As the centre of vice-regal authority and display it was of course a centre of fashion, and the trade and wealth of the province also largely centered here. And yet, although the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of Portsmouth as a town under that name (it had previously been known as "Strawberry Bank") is past, and its 300th anniversary as a British colonial settlement is not far away, the national census of 1900 was the first one to place the population of the city of Portsmouth as high as ten thousand.

To this very slowness of growth may be ascribed undoubtedly the preservation throughout the older parts of the city of so much of the old-time aspect and "atmosphere" that so attracts visitors from the newer, larger and more actively progressive cities of the country. The thickly settled area of the city has at least doubled within fifty years, although the population has not doubled with it; the city has a good water service, owned by the municipality; the streets are kept in very good condition, and well lighted every night and all night by electricity; and electric railway cars run through several of the streets, around the "Plains loop" and the "Christian shore loop," and to Rye and the Hamptons and to Exeter; and by steam ferry which runs from early morn until late at night there is easy and close connection with the electric railways across the river running through Kittery to York Beach, and through Eliot to South Berwick and Dover. And when a number is tapped out by the electric fire alarm, in place of the simultaneous clanging of all the church bells of the city and the shouting of "fire" by every public spirited citizen at the top of his voice, as was the method of indicating the outbreak of a fire a very few years ago, fire apparatus drawn by galloping horses appear on the streets in a few moments. But with all these modern innovations, and the business activity evident in the business section — for a large country traffic comes here, and during the season of summer travel it is the shopping centre for the summer visitors at Hampton, Rye, Kittery, York and Isle of Shoals — the visitor from inland districts who pass through the streets of the older sections find the atmosphere of antiquity created by the architecture of the buildings, their surroundings, etc., most impressive.

In the modern parts of the city the houses are of many styles of architecture, or no style at all, the same as in other places of the size of Portsmouth; but in the old parts there are three principal styles to be seen, and it is possible from the style of roof on a building to make a guess at the date of its erection, with a fair chance of being correct within fifty years or so. The oldest houses were built with very steep pitch roofs, a good example being the old Governor Wentworth house on Manning street, in which Lieutenant Governor John Wentworth lived, and in which his sons, Governor Benning Wentworth and Mark Hunking Wentworth, father of the last royal Governor of the Province, Governor John Wentworth, were born. About 1730 the gambrel roof came in vogue, and held its popularity until the Revolutionary War or later; and then came the building of many large, square houses of three stories with nearly flat roofs, the upper story having considerably

less height than either of the other two. These big, three-story houses, of which there are a large number, have about them an air of solidity, wealth and respectability that makes the average beholder very desirous of owning one or two of them. So an old house with a high pitch roof may be set down as having been built before 1730; a gambrel roofed house, between that date and the Revolution; and a three-story house with flat roof, between the revolutionary period and the middle of the nineteenth century. In most cases this will prove correct. Practically all the brick buildings in the city were erected after the great fires of 1802, 1806 and 1813, by which a large part of the town was destroyed.

The people of New Hampshire boast that no armed enemy, other than Indians, ever trod the soil of their State; but some of the most stirring and important incidents preceding and leading up to the Revolutionary War occurred in Portsmouth and its vicinity, and no place has more localities and buildings of historic interest, a few of the buildings having been marked with bronze tablets by a patriotic society.

A point of special interest to many visitors is St. John's Episcopal Church. The church, although the oldest one in the city still used as such, is not very old, as buildings in Portsmouth go, having been built in 1808; but its historical interest is very great, it being the successor of Queen's Chapel, which was built in 1732, and so named in honor of Queen Caroline, consort of King George II. The queen presented the new chapel with the books for the altar and pulpit, silver communion service and christening basin, and two heavy mahogany chairs, in one of which President Washington sat when he attended service at St. John's in 1789. A bell, captured at Louisburg, Cape Breton, by Sir William Pepperrell's expedition in 1745, was presented to the chapel, by the officers of the New Hampshire regiment; and, several times recast and augmented by the addition of more metal, now hangs in the belfry of the present church. A baptismal font of African porphyry, captured by Col. John Tafton Mason from the French at Senegal, Africa, in 1758, and believed to have been taken by the French from a Mohammedan mosque, was presented to the chapel by Col. Mason's daughter in 1761. All these articles were saved when the old St. John's church — the parish had been incorporated by that name in 1791 — was burned in December, 1806.

Although Portsmouth has no so-called summer hotels, and from its position is unsuitable for them, it does have a large summer trade; the hotel patrons and cottagers of the neighboring resorts, Newcastle, Rye, Kittery, York and the Isles of Shoals making it their headquarters for shopping, and enlivening and often thronging the business streets with their handsome teams and automobiles. The merchants of the city recognize that this trade is of value, and cater for it.

New Castle has a summer hotel widely known as one of the largest and most finely furnished of any along the New England coast, several small hotels and boarding houses, many cottages for rental, and a number of cottages generally occupied by their owners during the warm season. Formerly, and from the first settlement up to a comparatively recent date, it was distinctively a fishing town; in recent years it has become distinctively a summer resort town. The town being entirely surrounded by water, the summer temperature is usually a few degrees lower than it is farther inland; and there are neither railroad trains nor trolley cars to disturb the peace and quietude of the inhabitants. At the northeast extremity of the island is Fort Constitution, in colonial days called Fort William and Mary, which in December, 1774, six months before the battle of Lexington and four months before the battle of Bunker Hill, was captured by a party of men led by Capt. Thompson and John Langdon of Portsmouth, (the latter of whom was afterward several times governor of New Hampshire), and all the powder carried off; and which was again visited the following night by a party led by John Sullivan of Durham, (who also later became governor of the State), who removed all the light cannon. It is claimed that this was the first overt act of armed rebellion against the authority of the crown, and this was a deliberate attack upon a

fort flying the king's colors, and not, like the affairs at Lexington and Concord, resistance to an attack. After the civil war the government commenced building a stone fort outside of and around the old one of bricks and earth, but abandoned the work after a large sum of money had been expended on it. Within a few years a battery of heavy disappearing guns has been installed there, and a company of coast artillery is now kept at the fort. The new battery visitors are not allowed to inspect at close quarters, although anybody can see the big guns from the river; but they can roam over the old fort, and the condemned stone fort outside of it, at will. A few rods from the fort stands Portsmouth harbor lighthouse, on the site of one built in 1765 by Gov. John Wentworth, the last royal governor of the province. At Jaffrey's Point, the southeastern extremity of the island, is the Jaffrey's Point station of the life-saving service, and a new fort, Fort Stark, said by military experts to be one of the best forts on the coast, but to which visitors are not admitted. There was a battery of eight 24-pounder and 32-pounder guns at this point when the Revolution broke out, and these guns were seized by a party of colonists in May, 1775, and taken to Portsmouth, although two British men-of-war were in the lower harbor at the time.

Rye was one of the first places in this part of the country to have summer hotels and a summer colony, and the business is now, and long has been, one of much importance. There are two large hotels, the Farragut and Sea View, at the southerly part of the town; a somewhat smaller one, the Ocean Wave, at North Rye Beach; villages of cottages at Straw's Point, Concord Point, the North Beach and Wallis' Sands, and boarding houses, large and small, and cottages are sprinkled thickly throughout the length of the town, some of the cottages being large enough and costly enough to be termed mansions if they were used for other than summer homes. The summer colony affords a good market for much of the poultry, milk and garden produce raised by the farmers of the town, and in other ways contributes to its prosperity. The taxable property added to the town since the summer visitors commenced to arrive is of very large amount. A pretty little Episcopal church, St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, has been built by the summer people, and services are regularly held in it during the summer. The town itself is one of much quiet beauty, the farms being fertile and well cultivated, the farm buildings and fences maintained in good repair, as also are the schoolhouses and the two town churches, the Congregational and Baptist. The town roads are well kept and the State boulevard, which has been completed nearly the length of the town's ocean front, affords an excellent place for speeding. The several extensive beaches afford facilities for sea bathing that cannot be surpassed. The beaches shelve off gradually for a long distance, there is no undertow except after the very heaviest storms, and then only for a few hours; and of the scores of thousands who have enjoyed the exhilarating sport at the beaches no one has ever been drowned.

Kittery, across the river from Portsmouth, appears to have reached its limit in summer hotels, as is also apparently the case with New Castle and Rye, no new structure of the kind having been built or, so far as is known, projected in either town for years, but new cottages, some for rental but more for the summer occupancy of the owners, are put up every year. There are three summer hotels in town, two of them, the Champernowne and Park Field, being at Kittery Point, with old Fort McClary between them, and the third one, the Pocahontas, at the southwest extremity of Gerrish Island, on the northerly side of the harbor's mouth. At this point and along the ocean front of the island are a number of cottages, and the island's entire harbor frontage, excepting the portion taken up by the Fort Foster reservation, is occupied by the grounds of cottage owners who with their families usually pass the summer there. At Kittery Point and along the water front from there nearly up to the navy yard are many summer cottages, a good proportion of them being of considerable size and cost. There are also several quite large boarding houses for summer visitors, and many of the farm houses are conducted as boarding houses on a small scale during the season. The town is much diversified by hills and valleys and

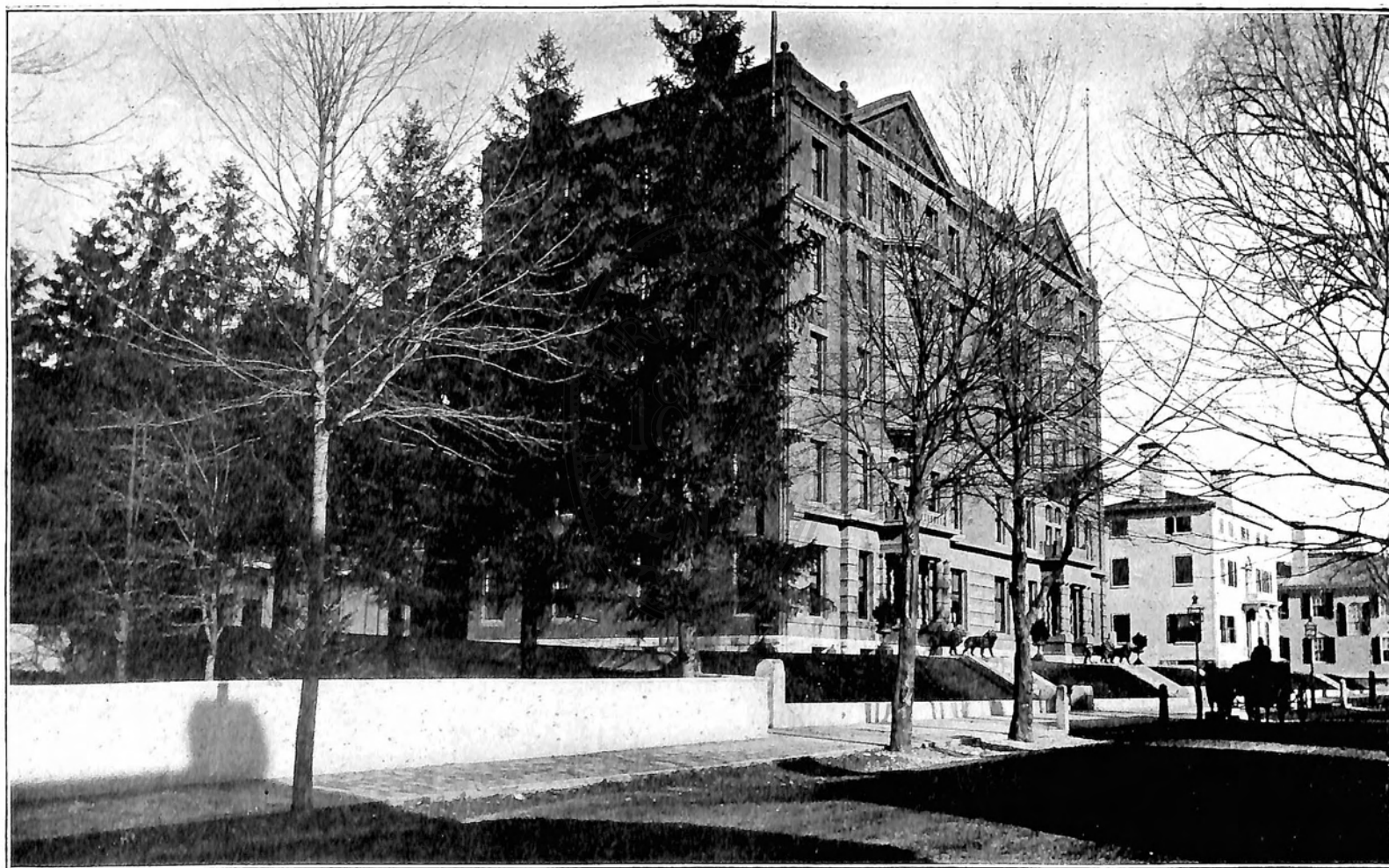
indentations of the river, and many of the streets crook and turn in an extraordinary manner, affording walks and drives of rare beauty but few facilities for racing. Everywhere close to the waters of the harbor, boating, fishing and smooth water bathing are the favorite diversions, and during the yachting season it is rarely that one or more cruising yachts are not anchored in Pepperrell's Cove. An air of thrift, prosperity and progress that is most pleasing pervades the town everywhere, but much attention has of late years been paid to the preservation of whatever of the ancient landmarks remain. The former homes of the Pepperrells, of the Cuttses and Gerrishes, and other families prominent in the town and province affairs before the Revolution, are now viewed with much interest and veneration; and the old cemeteries, with their many quaint inscriptions have many visitors. Old Fort McClary, which the government after the civil war started to enlarge into a fortress and then abandoned, can be strolled over at will at any hour of the day or night, it having been condemned as a fortification. It is one of the places that all visitors to the town feel bound to inspect before departing and the little blockhouse perched up on the highest elevation within the old fort, and intended to serve as a citadel should the fort ever be stormed, is "taken" by kodakers hundreds of times every season. Not a sign of a soldier's uniform is ever seen in the old fort now, although several heavy cannon were mounted there during the Spanish war. The navy yard, to which visitors are freely admitted every day in the year, including Sundays and holidays, is a place of never ending interest and has thousands of volunteer inspectors every summer.

York's summer resort business, which had its practical beginning when the Marshall House at York Harbor opened its doors for summer patronage, has now attained great proportions. Where at that time on the harbor shore were a few farms and farm houses is now a large and wealthy summer colony. New streets have been made and old roads improved, other hotels and large and high class boarding houses built, and many fine cottages for rental, while scores of large and costly buildings for the summer occupancy of the owners have been erected. A village precinct has been established, and under it many improvements carried out while others are projected. Unitarian and Episcopal churches have been built, the old churches of the town being Congregational or Baptist, and the York Country Club, composed of summer residents of the Harbor, is one of the most noted summer organizations in this section, with an exceptionally fine clubhouse and extensive grounds. At Long Beach a long row of cottages has been created, separated from the broad sand beach by the highway and the tracks of the electric railway. Most of these cottages are of moderate size and cost, many of them being for rental, while others are occupied by their owners every summer. Several large hotels that were formerly at the beach were at different times destroyed by fire. The promontory, at the end of which is the Nubble, which is between Long Beach and York Beach, is dotted along both its edges with summer homes, whose numbers are annually increasing; and at York Beach is quite a village of large and small hotels, cottages and business establishments, and a Catholic church, and the terminal station of the York Harbor & Beach steam railroad and the Portsmouth, Dover & York electric street railway. The cottage colony is gradually extending itself from the beach to York Cliffs about three miles distant, a large hotel, the Passaconaway, having for several years been successfully conducted at the Cliffs. The shore line of York is as a whole more broken and bluff than that of Rye, and more rocky, but there is abundant room and desirable situations for hundreds of summer homes yet, and it may safely be assumed that the town has not yet nearly reached the summit of its prosperity as a summer resort.

The Isles of Shoals, seven miles offshore to the southeast of the entrance to Portsmouth harbor, the seat of an extensive fishing business at the time New Hampshire was settled nearly 300 years ago, and which supported a quite large resident population up to a comparatively recent date, are now known only as a summer resort. There are two large hotels, the Oceanic, on Star Island, and the Appledore House, on Appledore, and a number of cottages on each island. The ancient

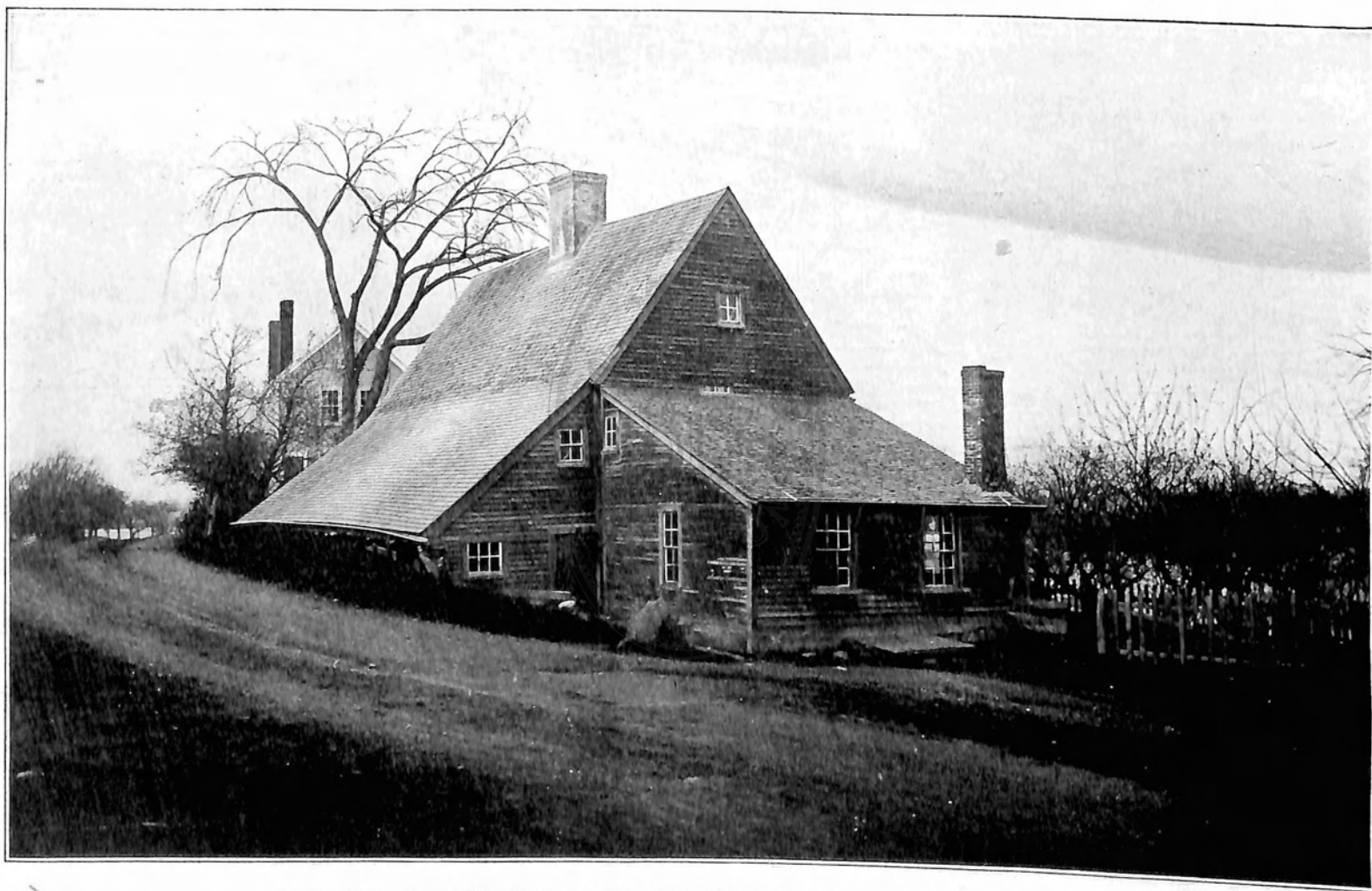
stone church on Star Island is the most noticeable reminder of the former town of Gosport and the former life of the islands, though many graves of unknown decedents, marked only by rough stones bearing no inscriptions, can be seen on Star by persons who know how to look for them, and the foundations of several scores of houses that were abandoned more than a century ago are plainly visible on the southerly slope of Appledore. The annual summer meetings of the American Unitarian Association have been held at the Shoals for several years, on which occasion services are regularly held for a week in the old church, and services are conducted in it through the season by clergymen of different denominations staying at the hotels. Boating and fishing, sea bathing, pure air, a temperature more even than that of the mainland, and magnificent storm effects whenever there is a storm, are the attractions the islands offer the summer guest. A steamer runs between Portsmouth and the islands every day, including Sundays, during the season making close connection with trains of the Boston & Maine railroad.

Their proximity to each other, and the facilities for inter-communication, make of Rye, New Castle, Kittery and York practically one summer-resort district, with Portsmouth as its centre and distributing point. The roads throughout are in summer easy for teams, auto-cars or bicycles, and the distance not too long for a pleasurable drive or ride; and electric cars run from one end to the other of the district, over well laid lines at short intervals from early morning to late at night throughout the season of beach travel. Party excursions from one beach to another are frequent, and the base ball and golf teams of the several resorts are often seen on each other's grounds. The Isles of Shoals are in a district and a class of their own, although fishing, sailing and motor-boat parties from the shore resorts frequently pass a few hours at the islands; and less frequently parties from the island hotels take a trip in to Newcastle, Kittery or York. Next to Rye is North Hampton with its Little Boar's Head summer colony of wealthy cottagers; and then comes Hampton Beach, which, though it has hotels, boarding houses and a good number of cottages, and is the most "lively" of any summer resort in this section, differs from the places previously named in that it caters especially for the transient patronage which comes in the morning and leaves in the evening, its brass bands and Sunday concerts, daily sporting events, etc., giving it a "sporty" character which the other resorts sedulously avoid. As a whole the section of sea-coast between Hampton River, N. H. and Ogonquit Harbor, Me., offers many and varied attractions for the summer visitor, whether his means be limited or abundant and whatever his tastes; and that the limit of its popularity has not yet been reached is demonstrated by the success and increases of each succeeding year.



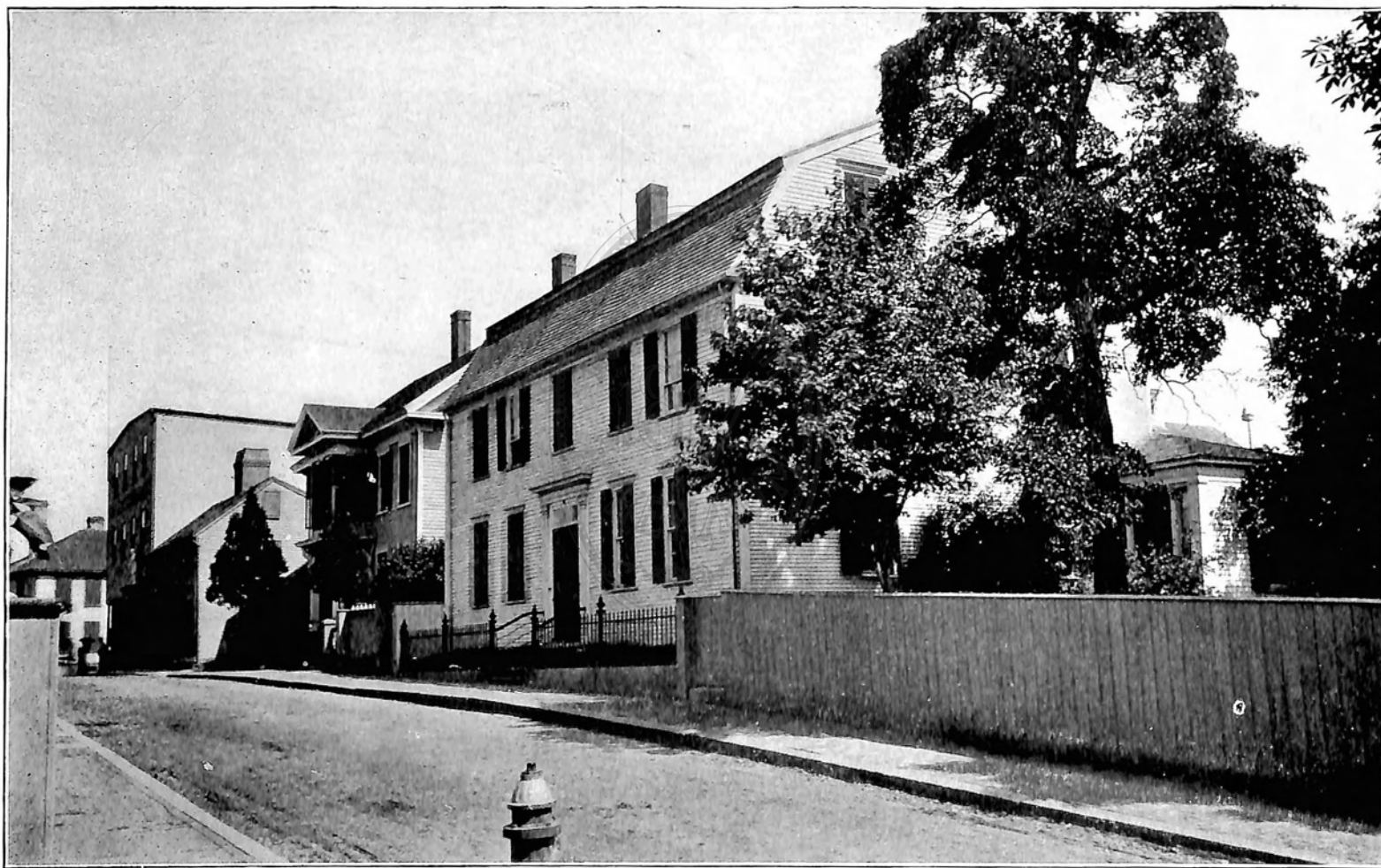
THE ROCKINGHAM — PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



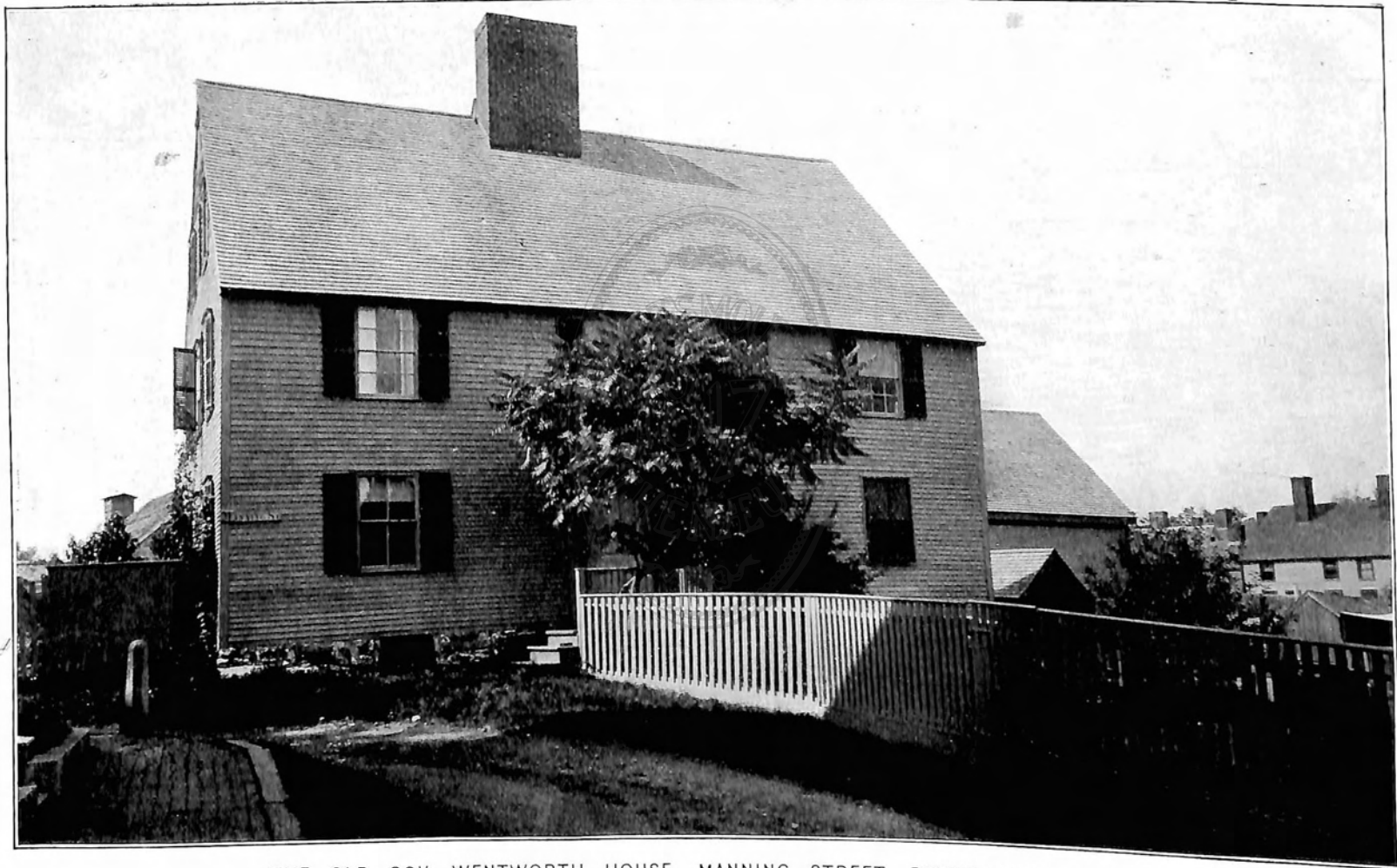
THE OLD JACKSON HOUSE, ON CHRISTIAN SHORE — PORTSMOUTH, 1664.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



THE DANIEL WEBSTER HOUSE — VAUGHAN STREET, PORTSMOUTH, 1760.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



THE OLD GOV. WENTWORTH HOUSE, MANNING STREET—PORTSMOUTH, 1670.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



GOV. JOHN WENTWORTH HOUSE, PORTSMOUTH — 1769.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



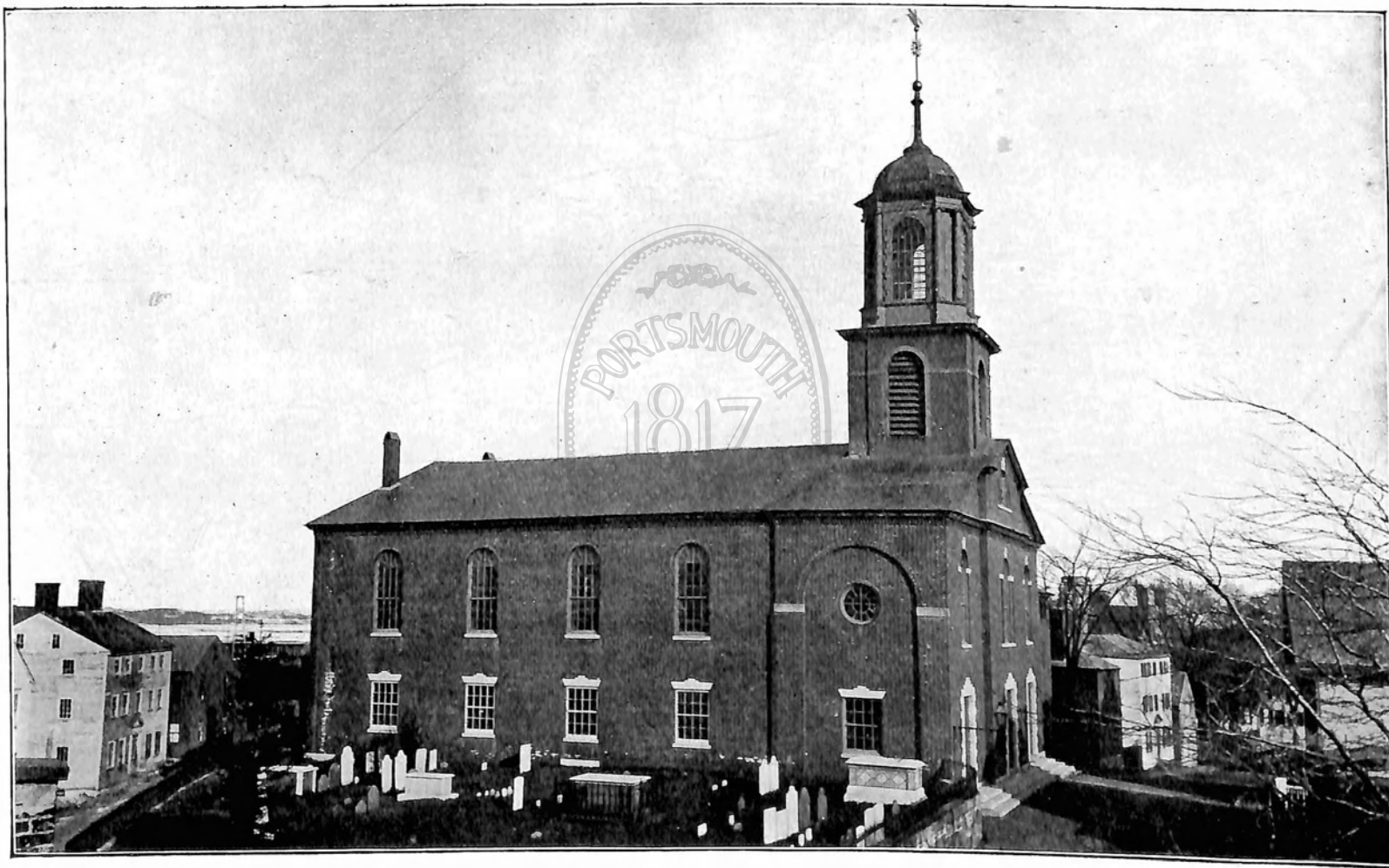
GOV. LANGDON HOUSE — PORTSMOUTH, 1784.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



PIERCE HOUSE — GATES STREET, PORTSMOUTH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



INTERIOR OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



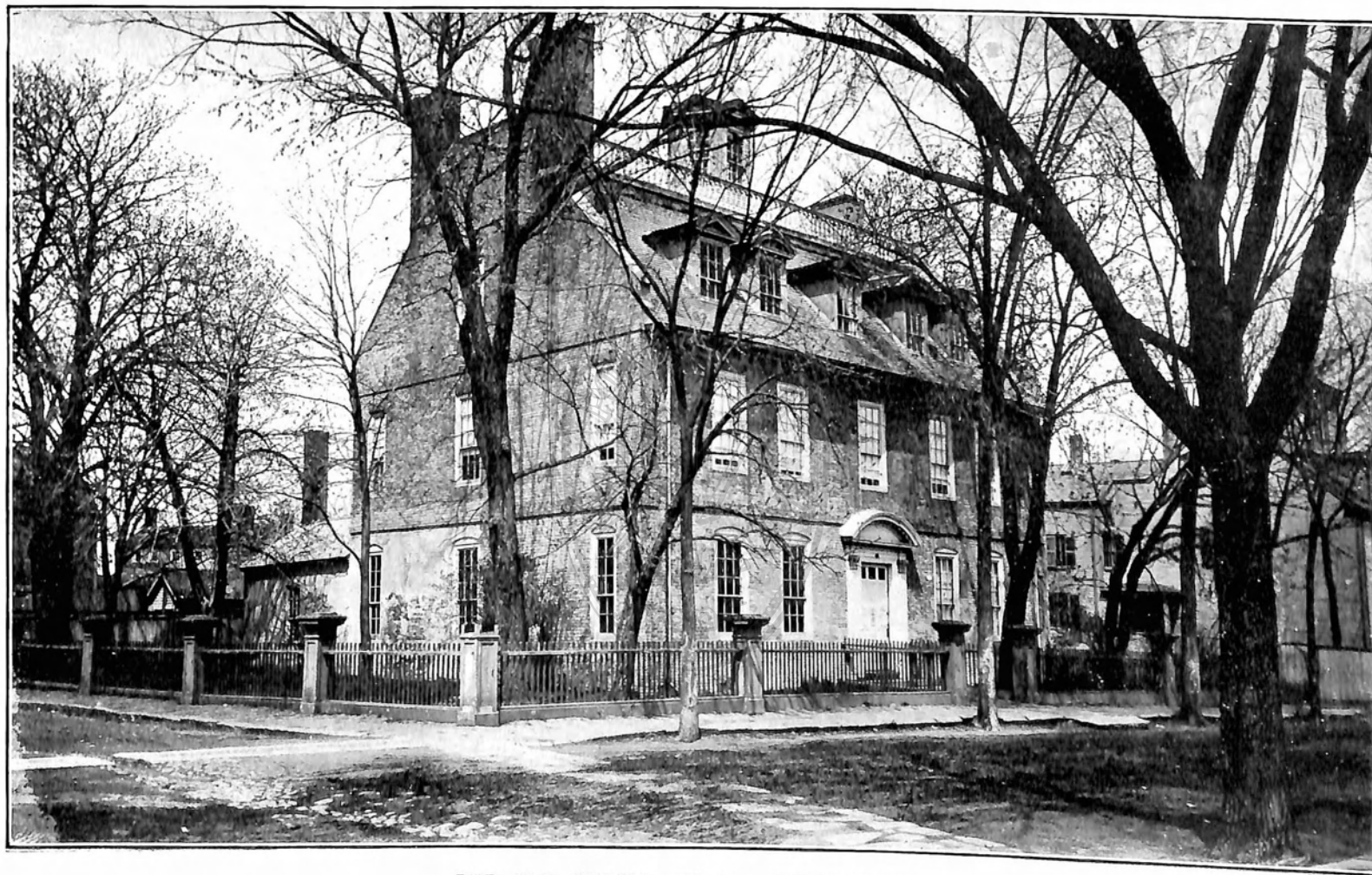
HISTORICAL BAPTISMAL FONT IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



HISTORICAL COMMUNION SET—Presented by Queen Caroline in 1747—St. John's Church.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



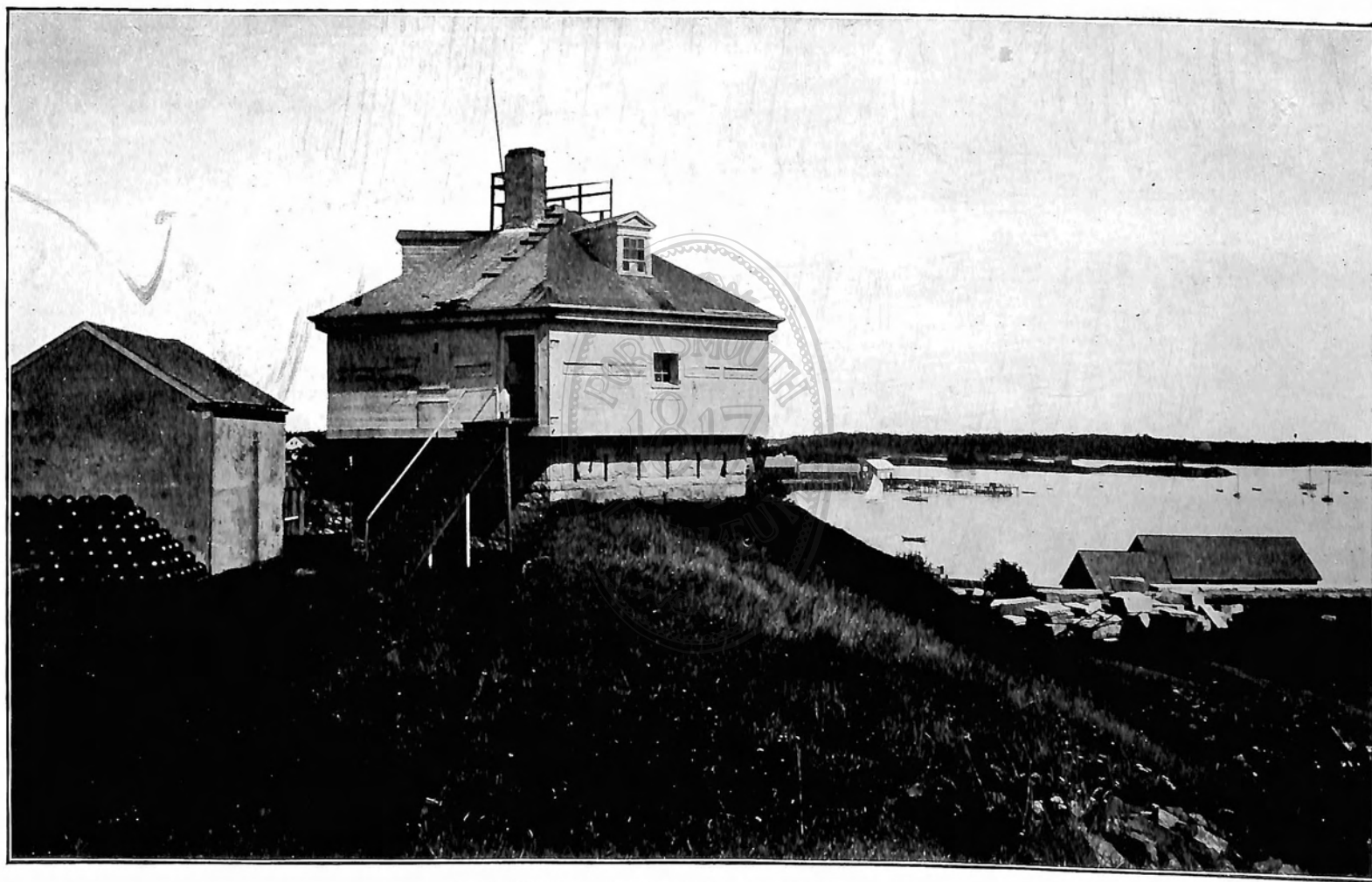
THE OLD WARNER HOUSE — PORTSMOUTH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



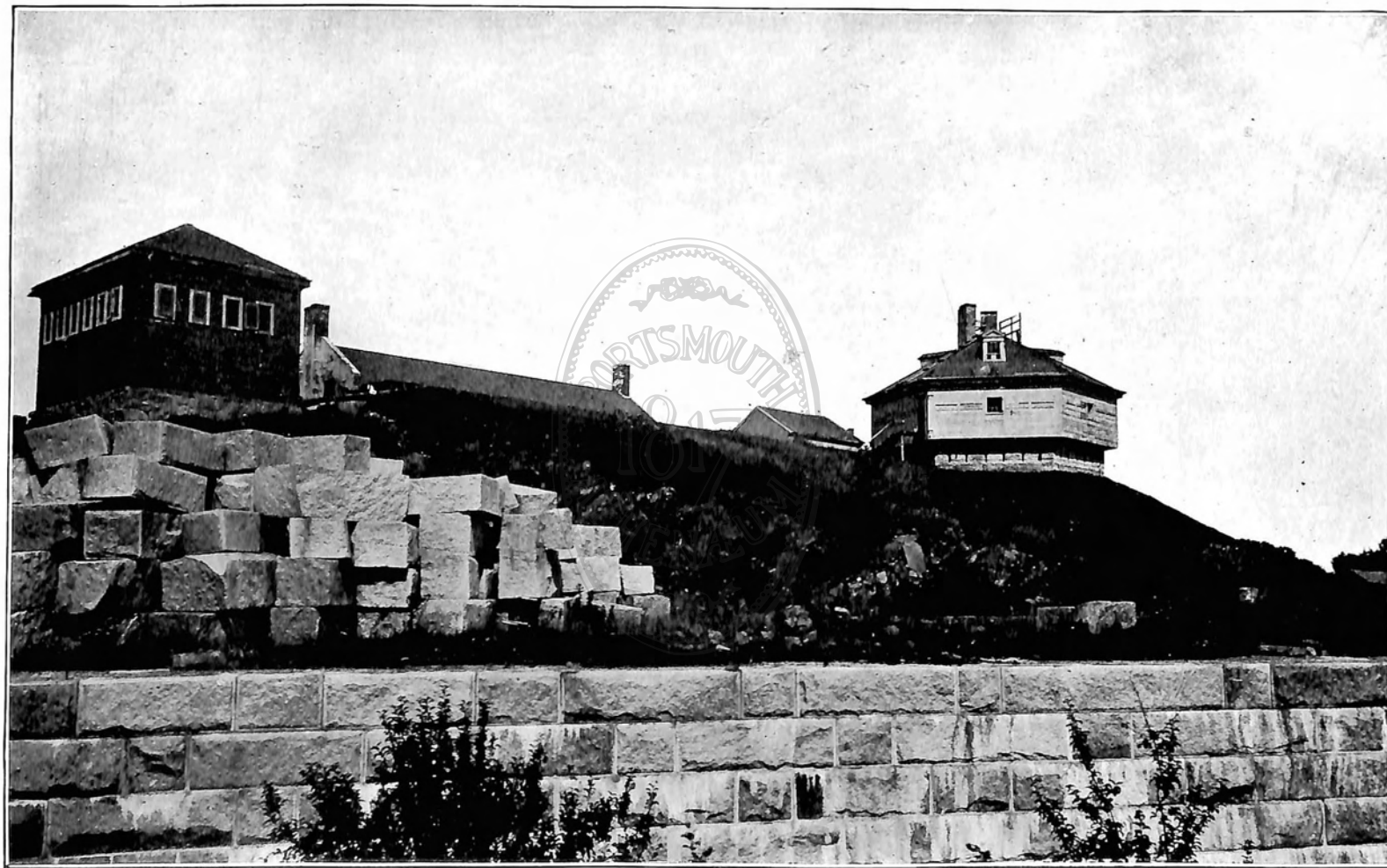
INTERIOR OF THE HISTORICAL WARNER HOUSE — PORTSMOUTH.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



BLOCKHOUSE, FORT McCLARY— KITTERY, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



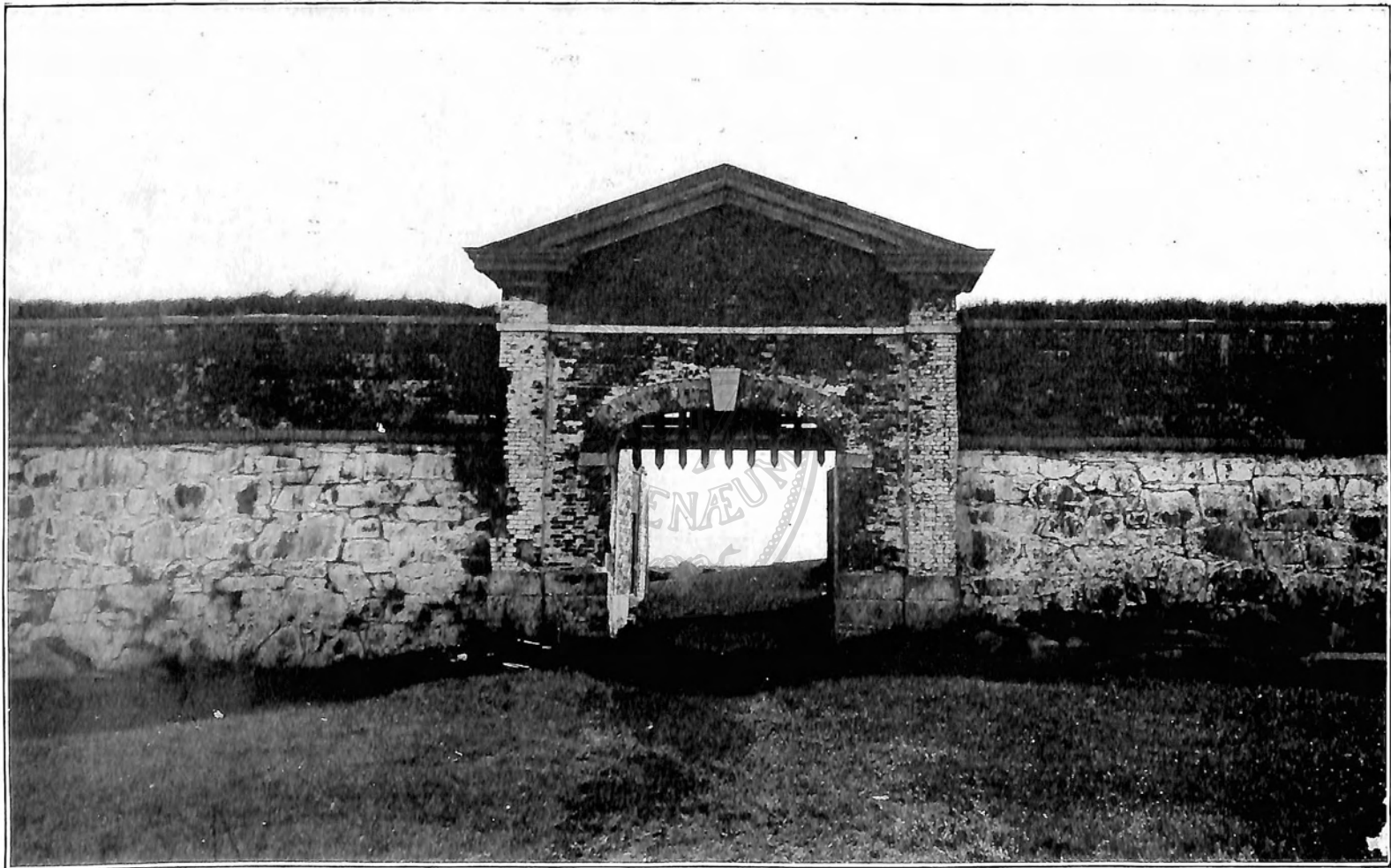
SCENE IN FORT McCLARY—KITTERY, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



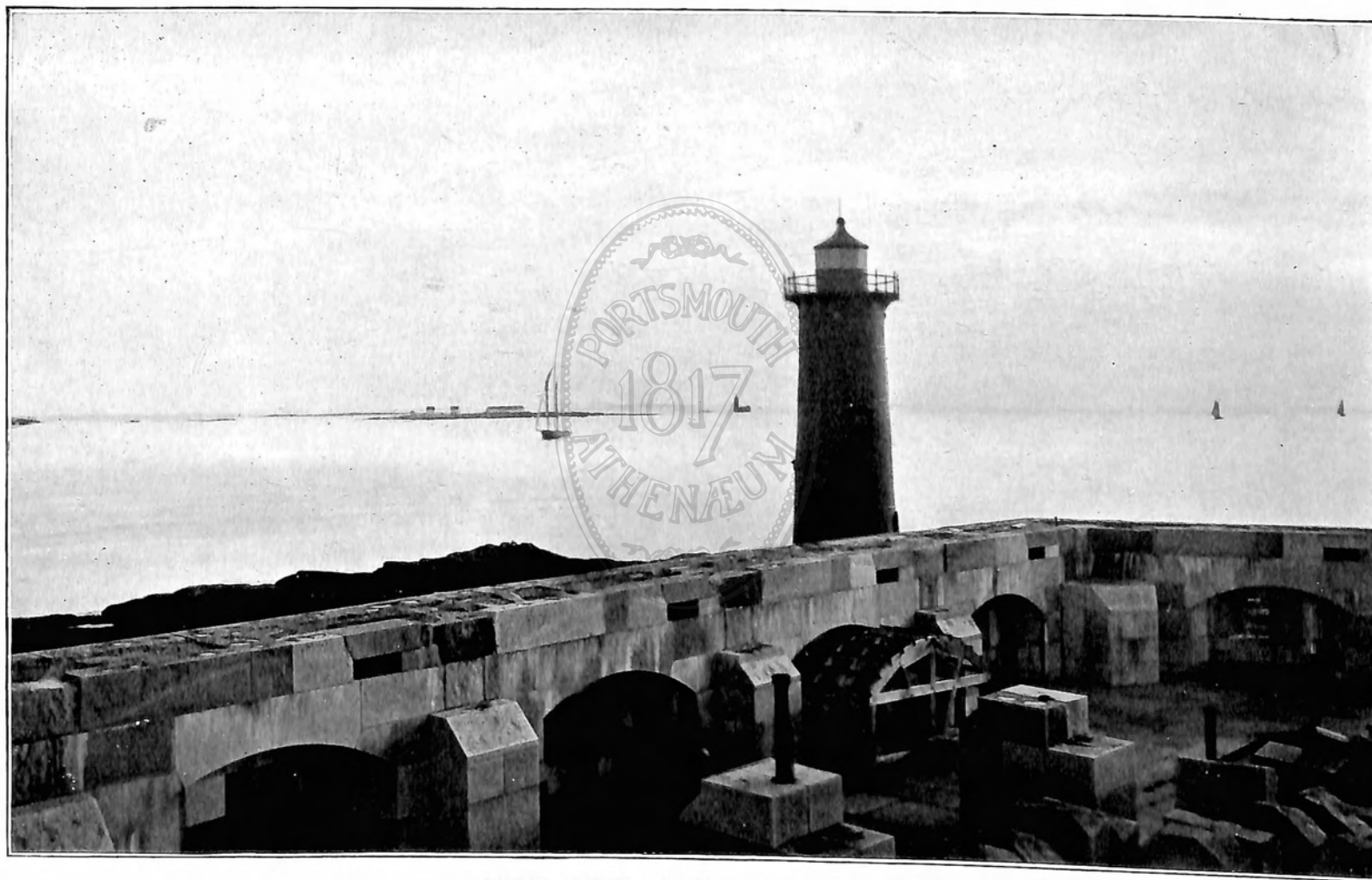
WALBACH TOWER—NEW CASTLE, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



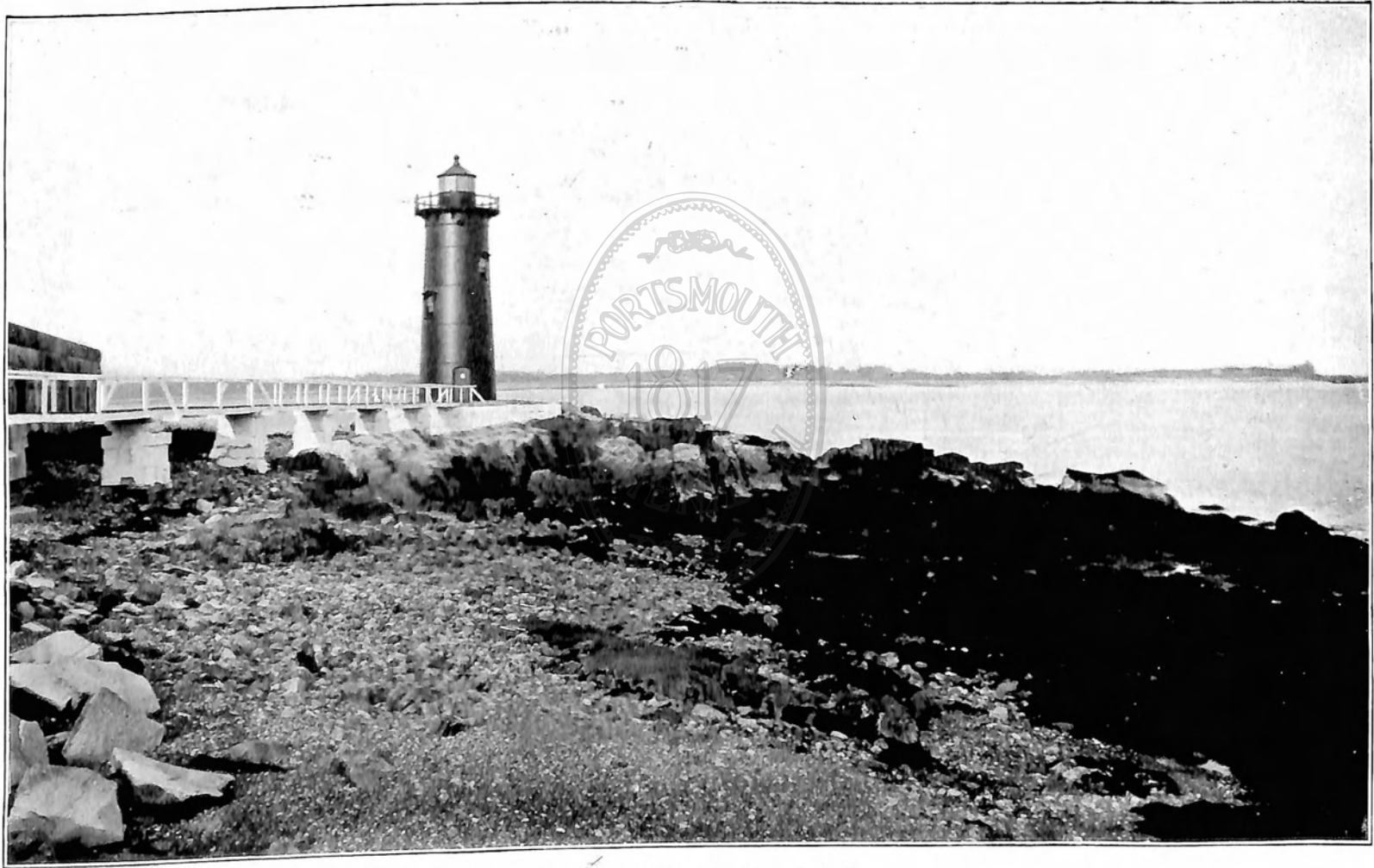
ENTRANCE TO OLD FORT CONSTITUTION.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



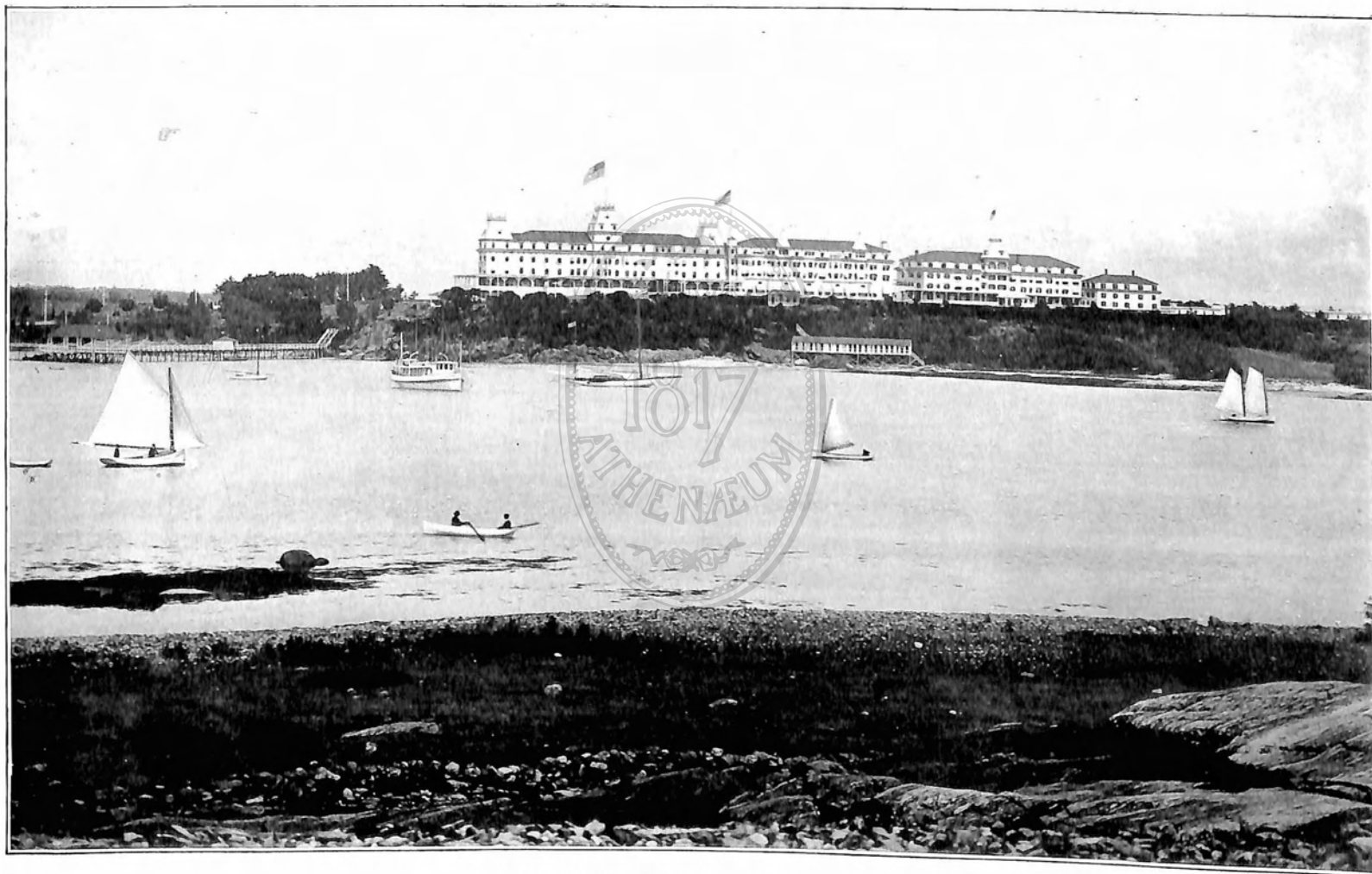
LIGHT HOUSE — FORT CONSTITUTION.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



PORTSMOUTH HARBOR LIGHT.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



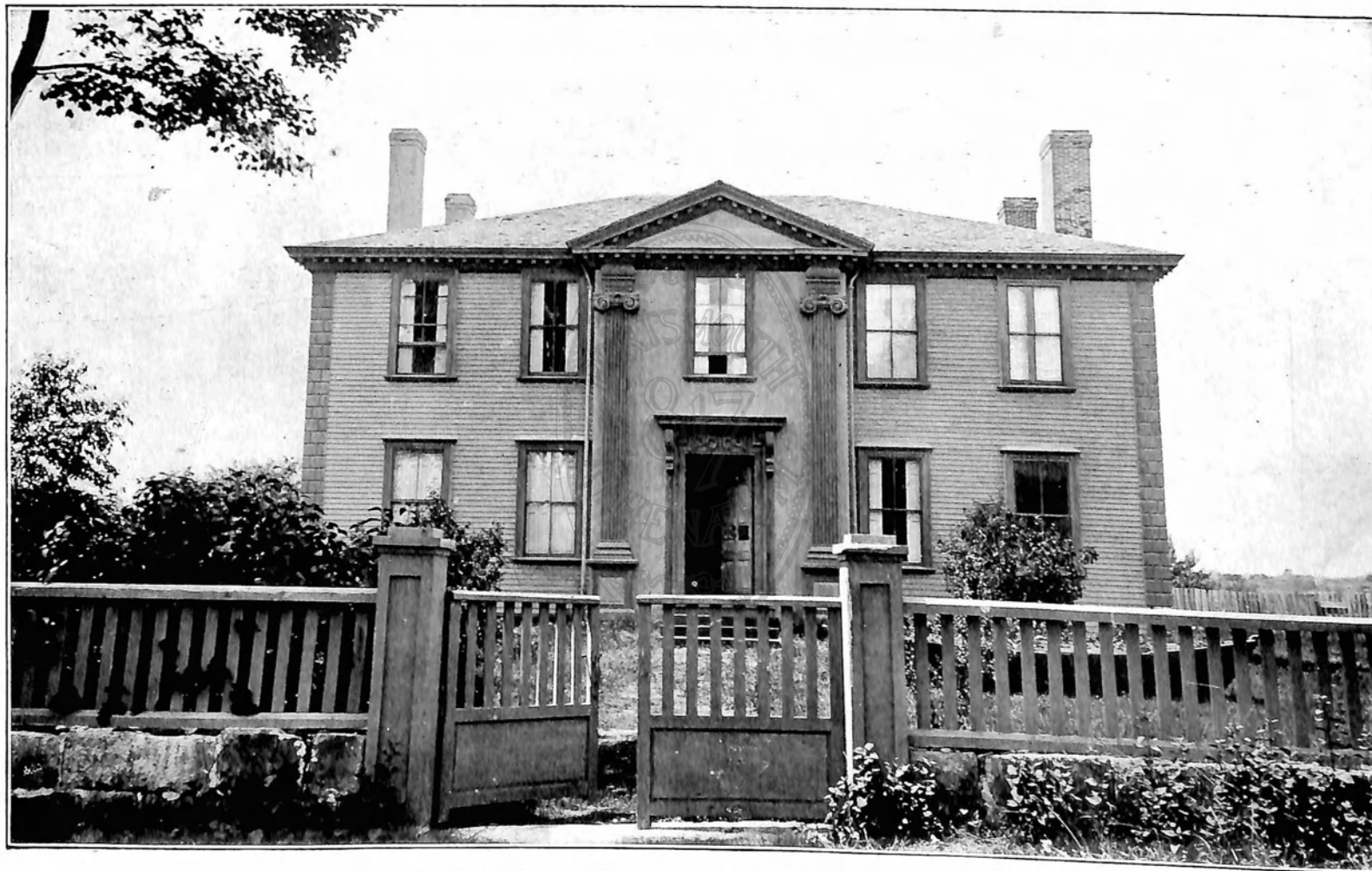
THE WENTWORTH — NEW CASTLE.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



WOODLAND SCENE—NEW CASTLE.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



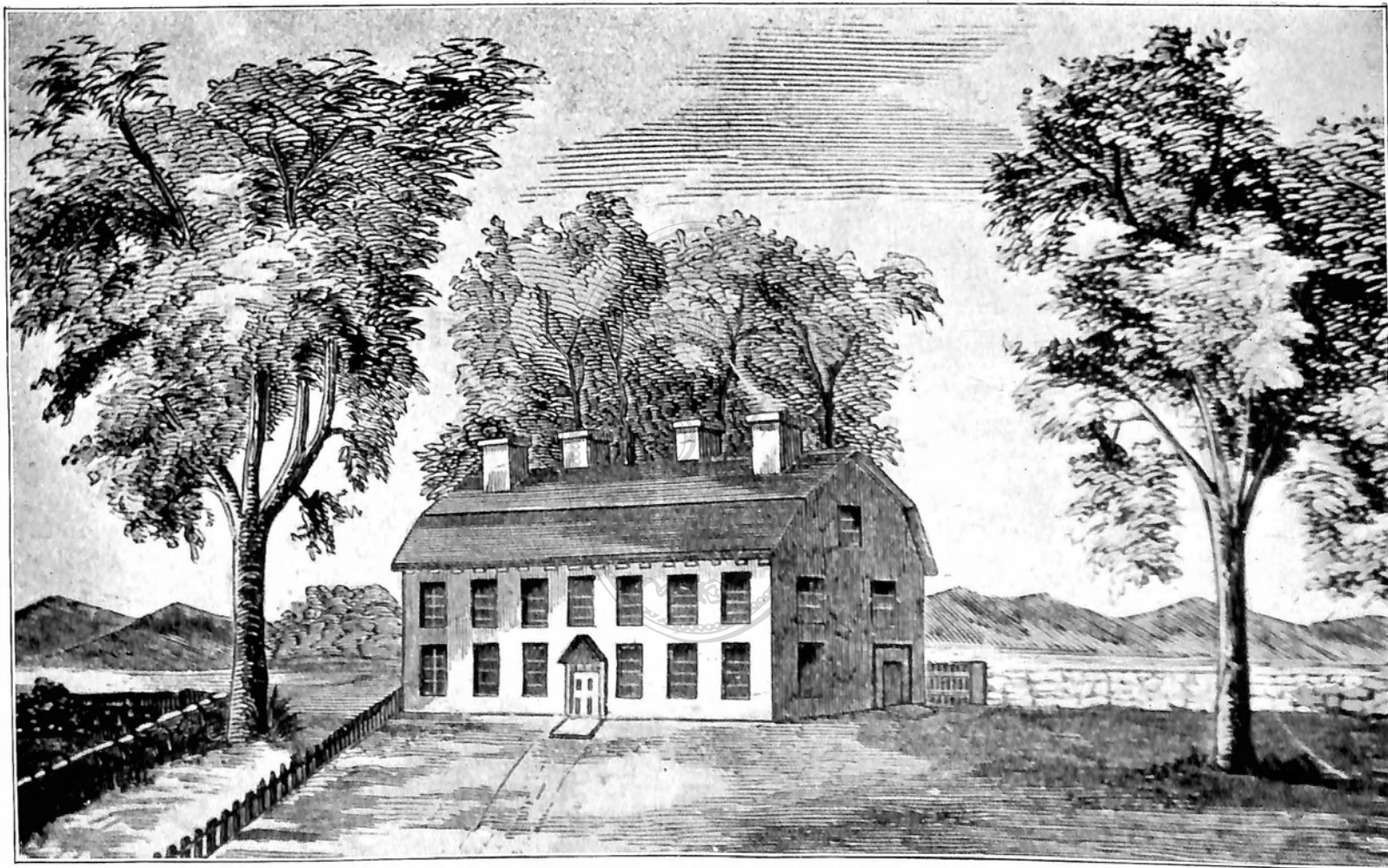
THE LADY PEPPERRELL HOUSE — KITTERY POINT.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



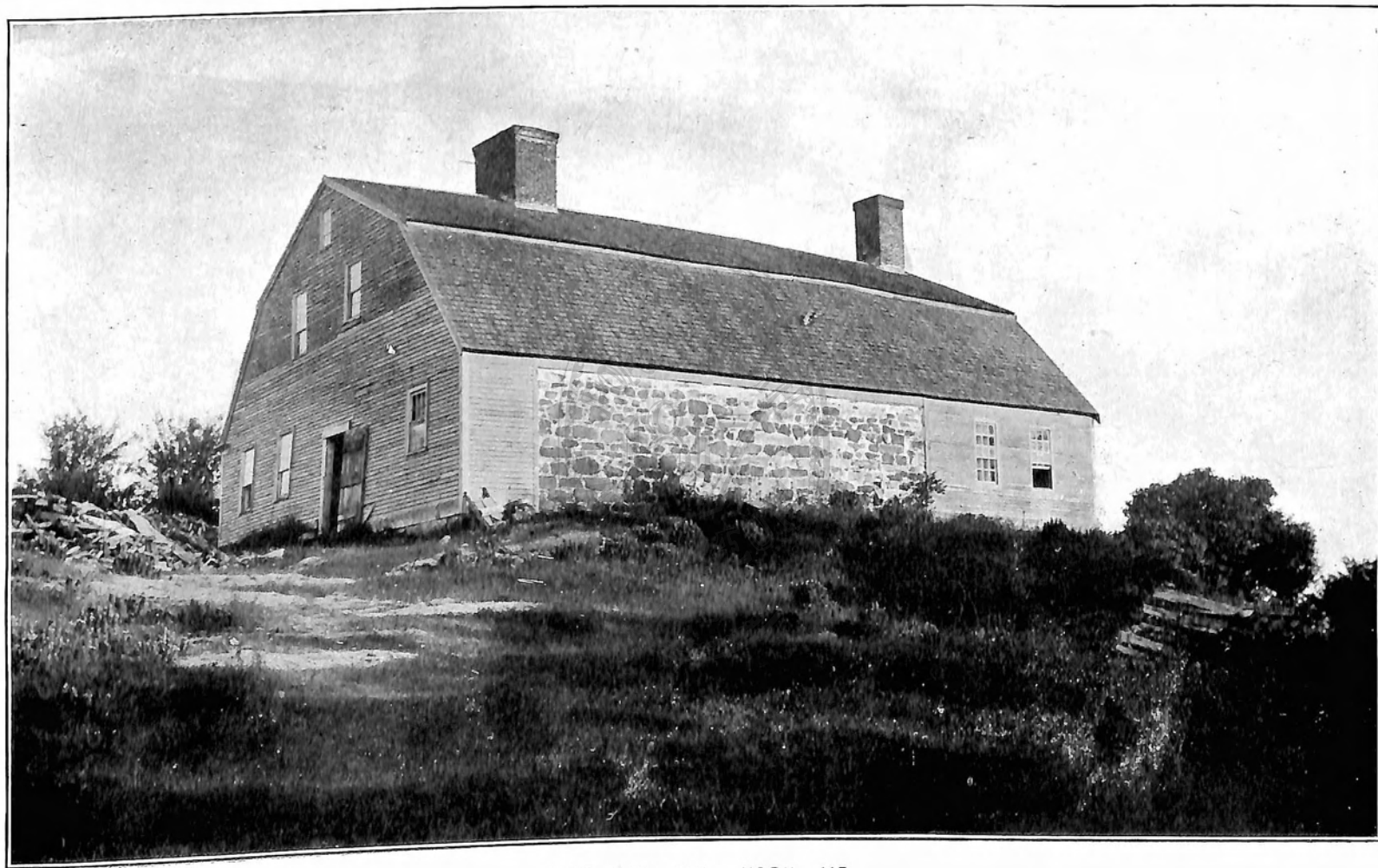
SIR WILLIAM PEPPERRELL HOUSE.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



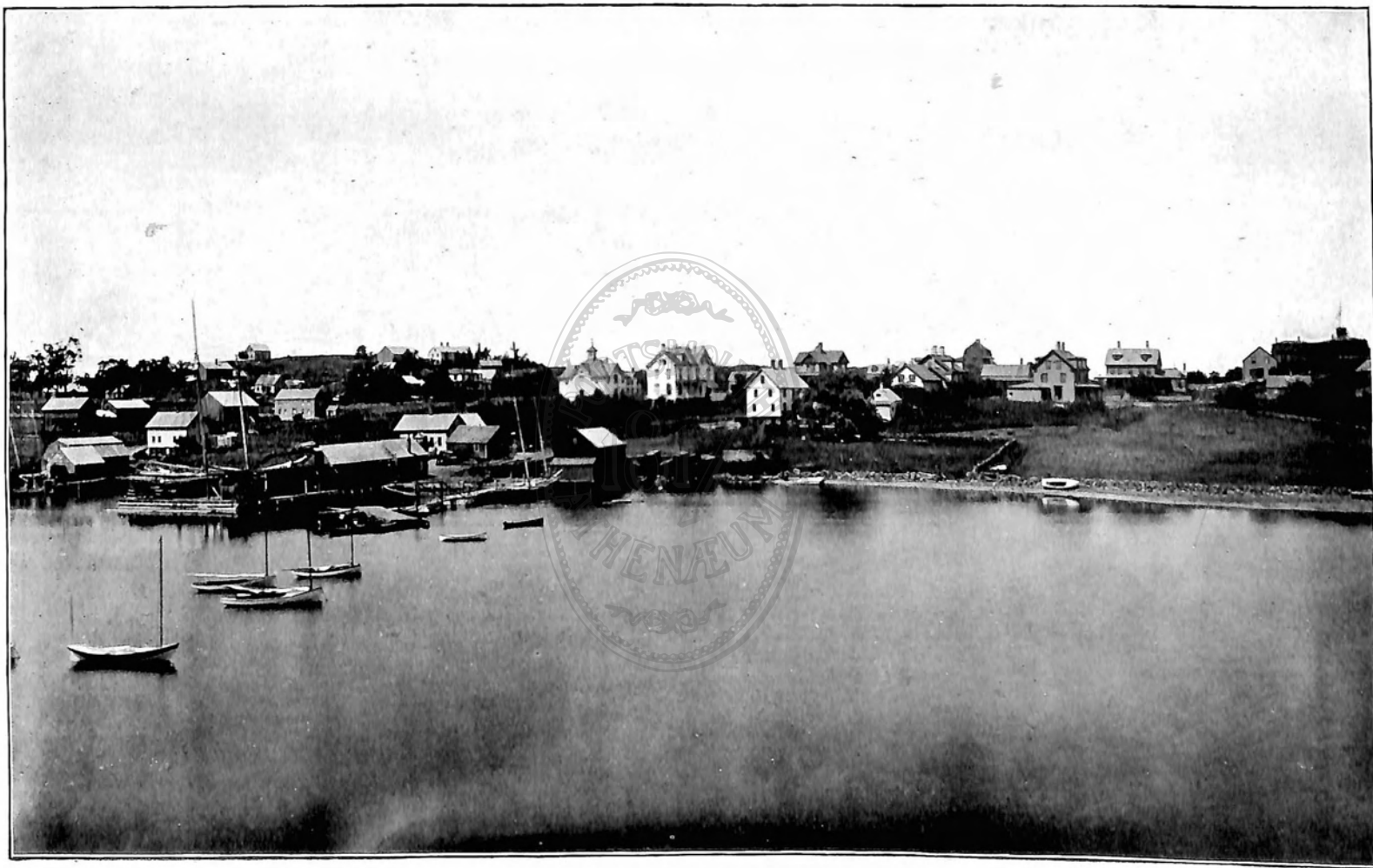
COL. WILLIAM PEPPERRELL HOUSE—FROM AN OLD PAINTING.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



THE OLD JAIL—YORK, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



YORK HARBOR — From the Marshall House.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

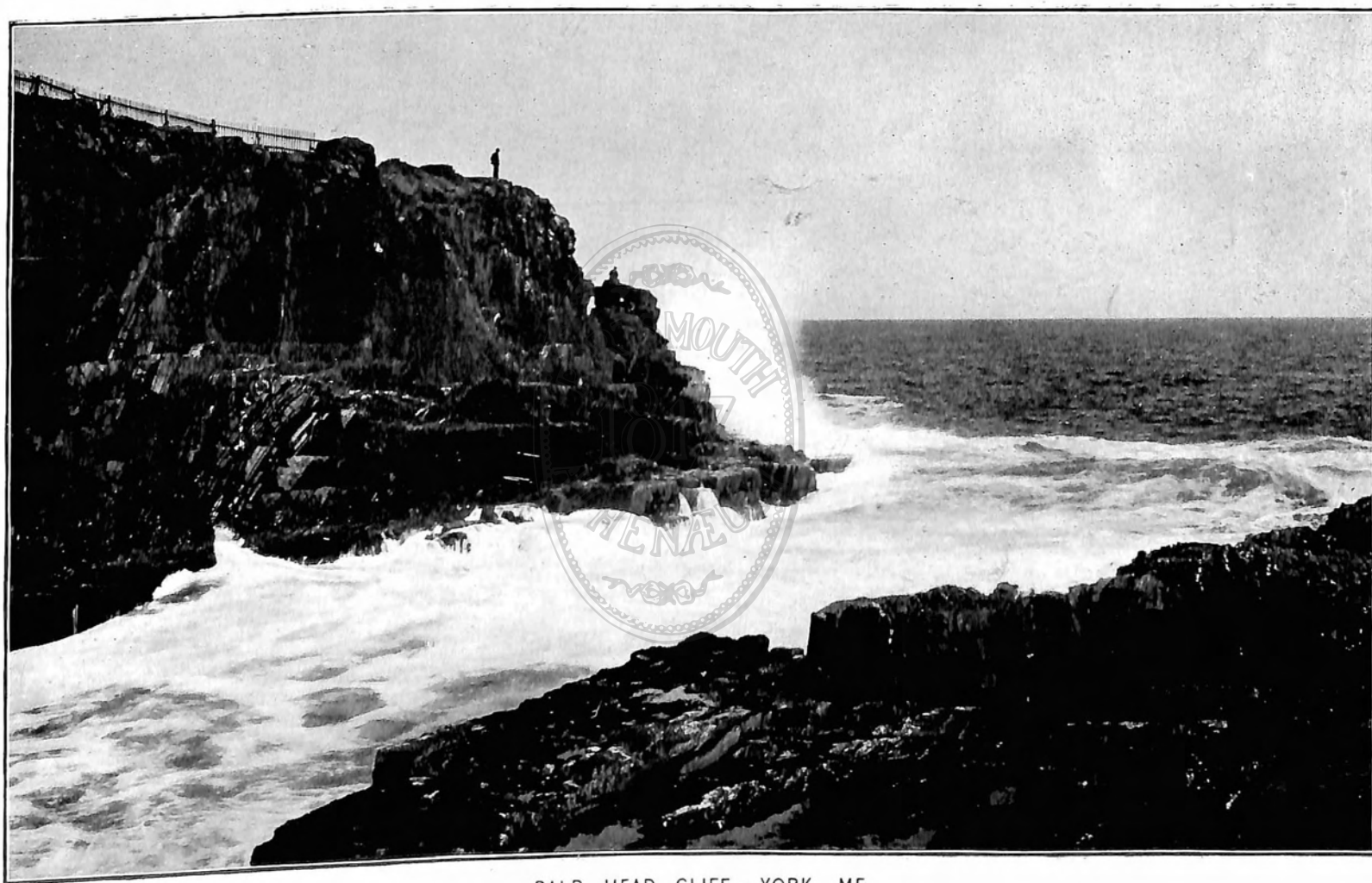


SOUTH SIDE OF NUBBLE—YORK, ME.



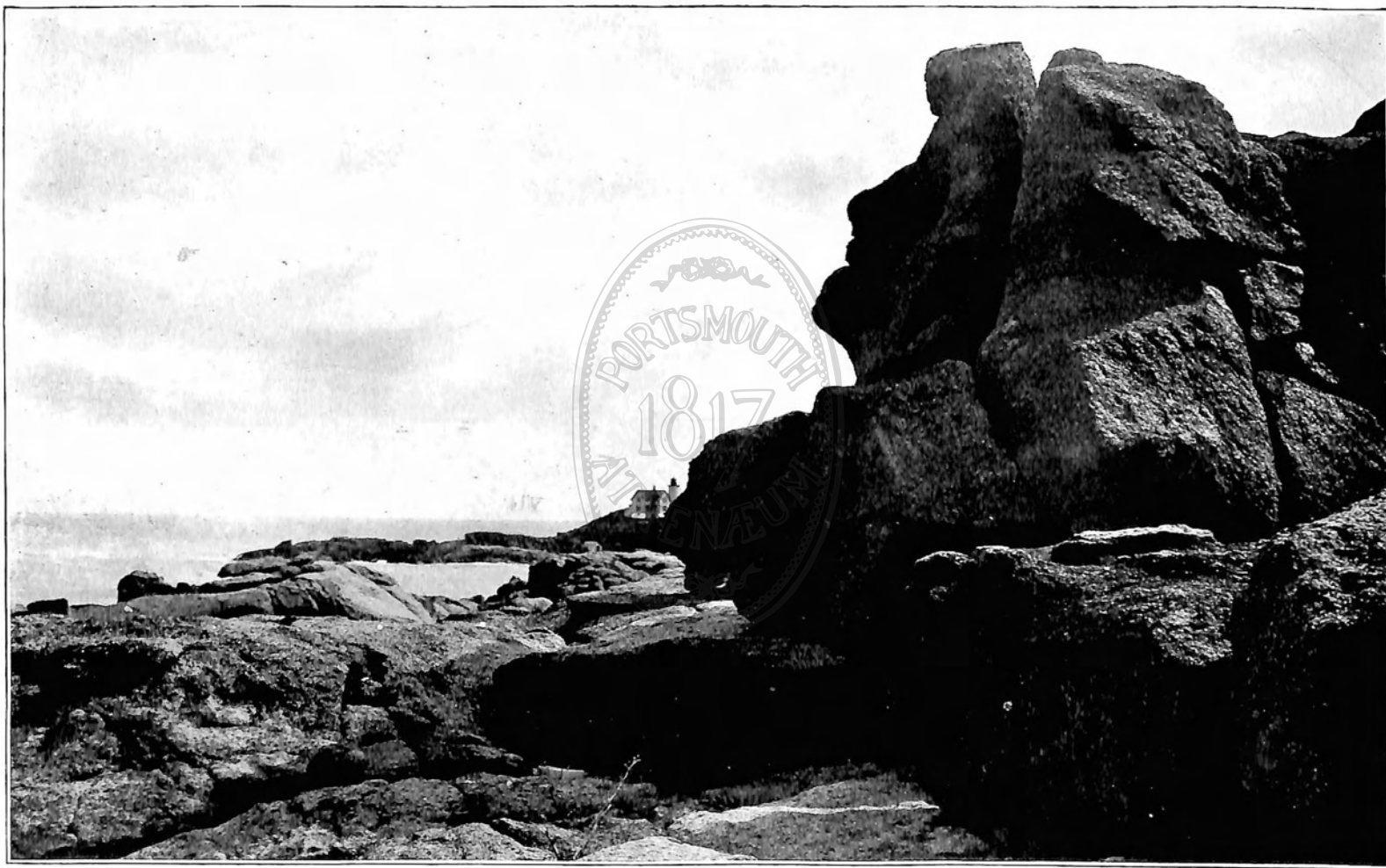
DEVIL'S PULPIT, BALD HEAD CLIFF — YORK, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



BALD HEAD CLIFF — YORK, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



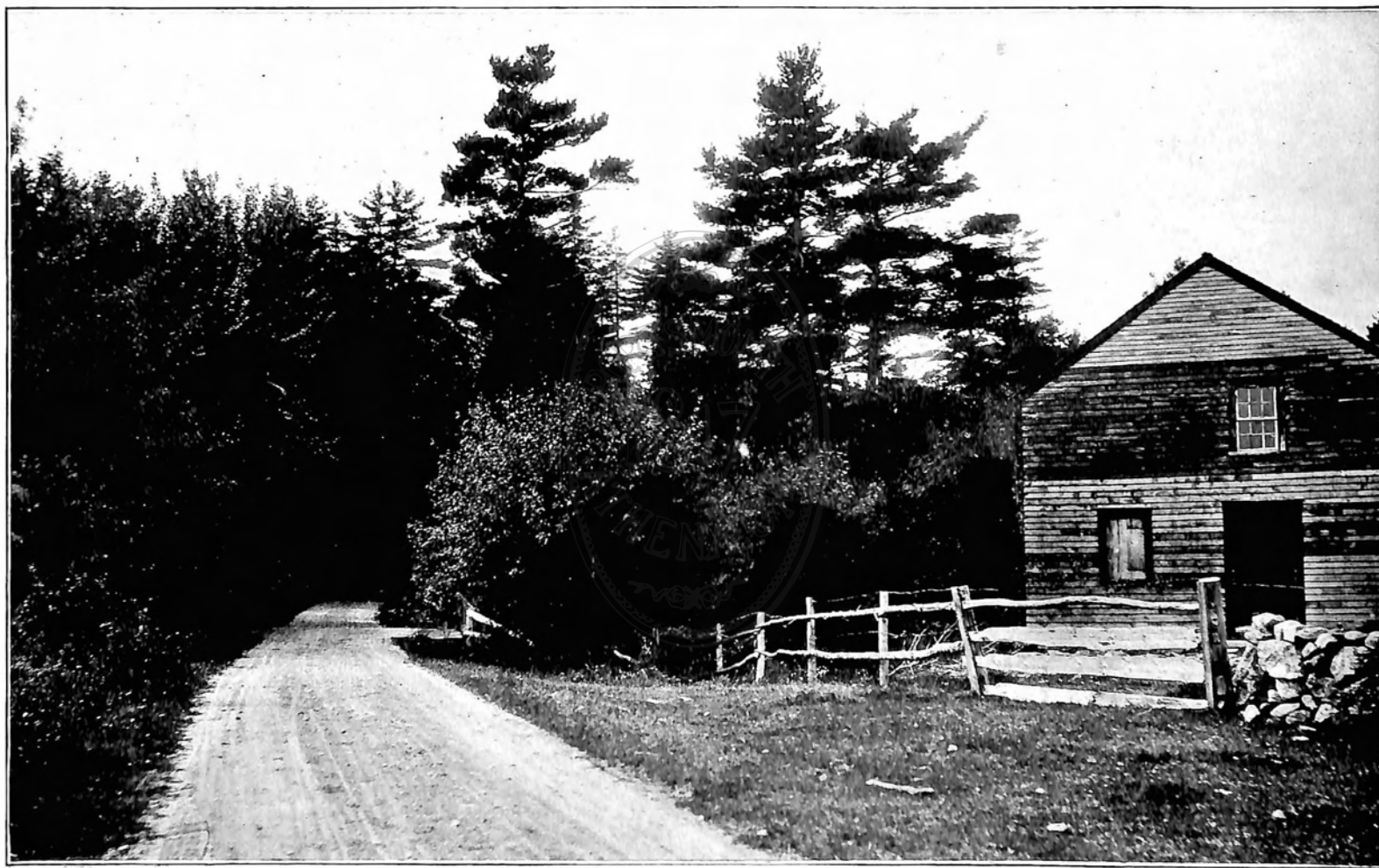
PROFILE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON — YORK BEACH, ME.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



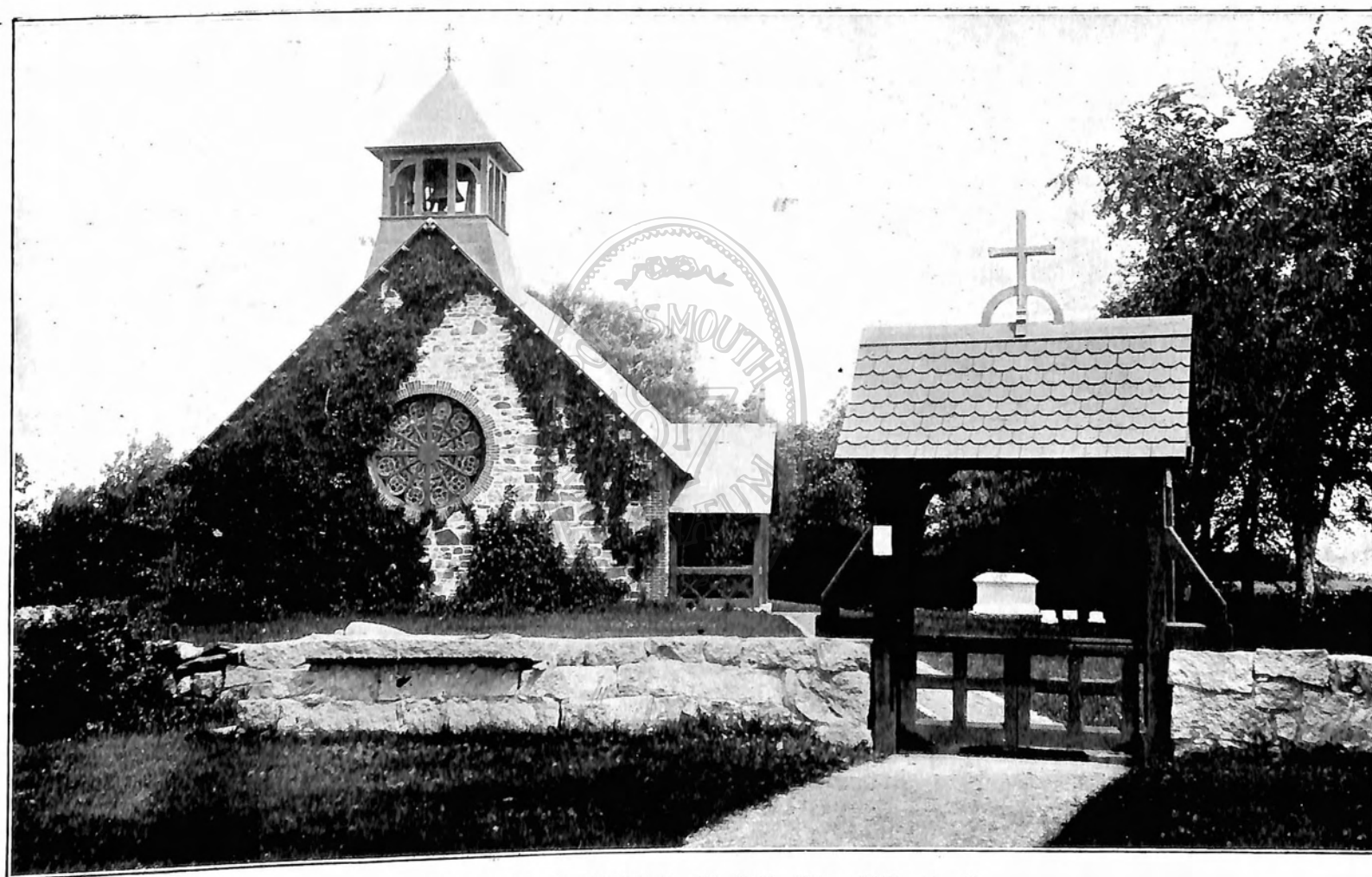
SURF SCENE — RYE BEACH, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



LOVERS' LANE — RYE, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



ST. ANDREWS CHURCH BY THE SEA — RYE, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



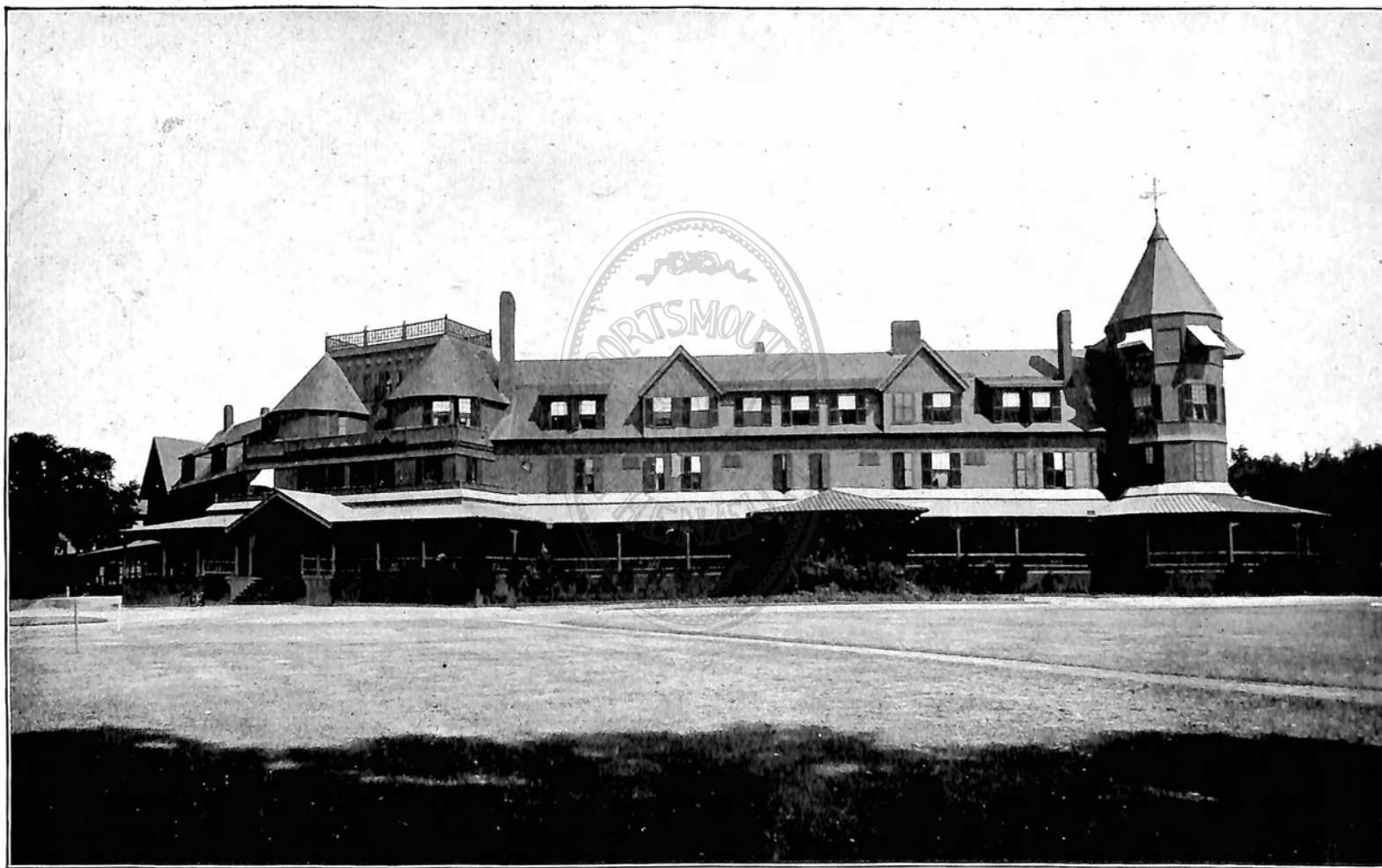
SEA VIEW HOUSE—RYE BEACH, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



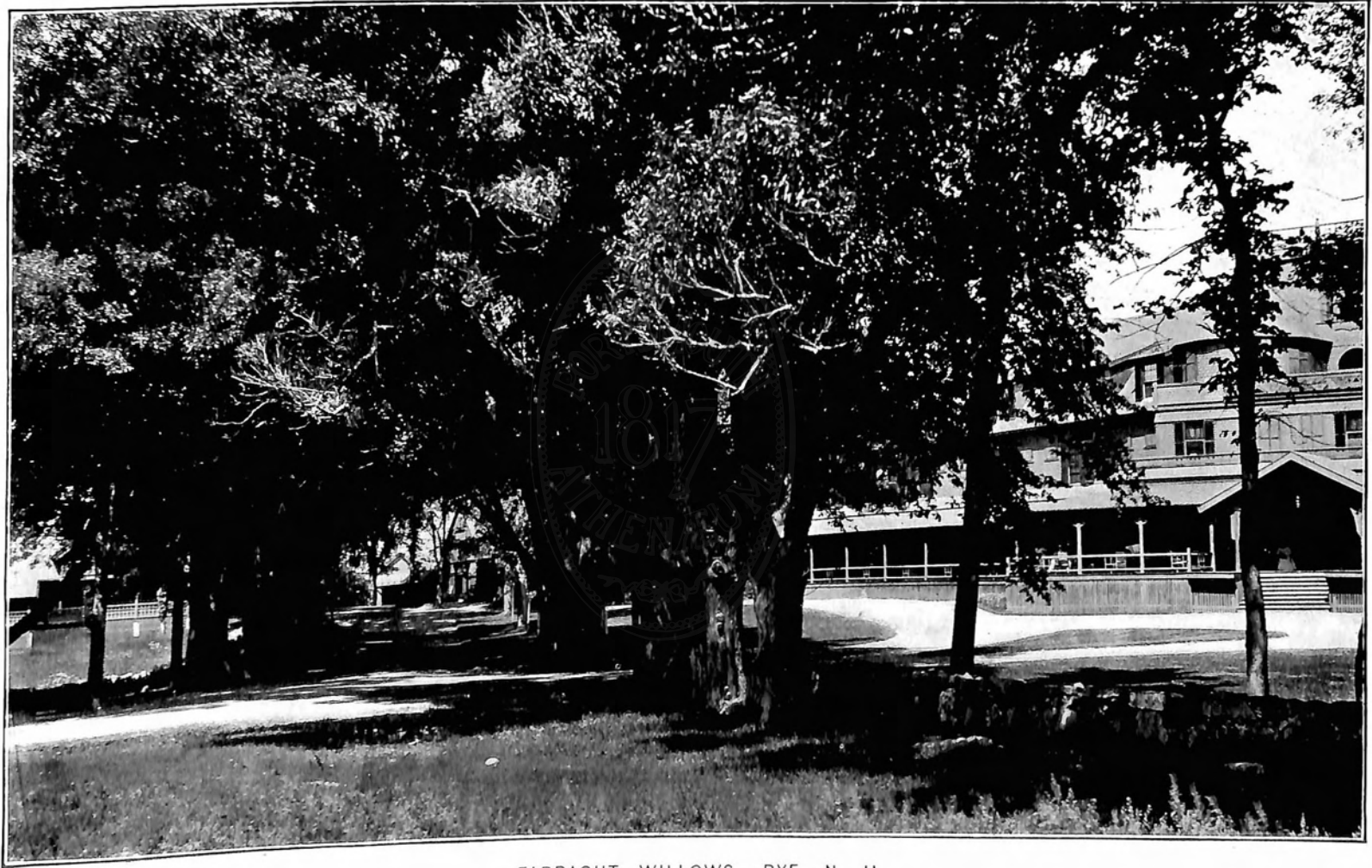
RYE BEACH, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



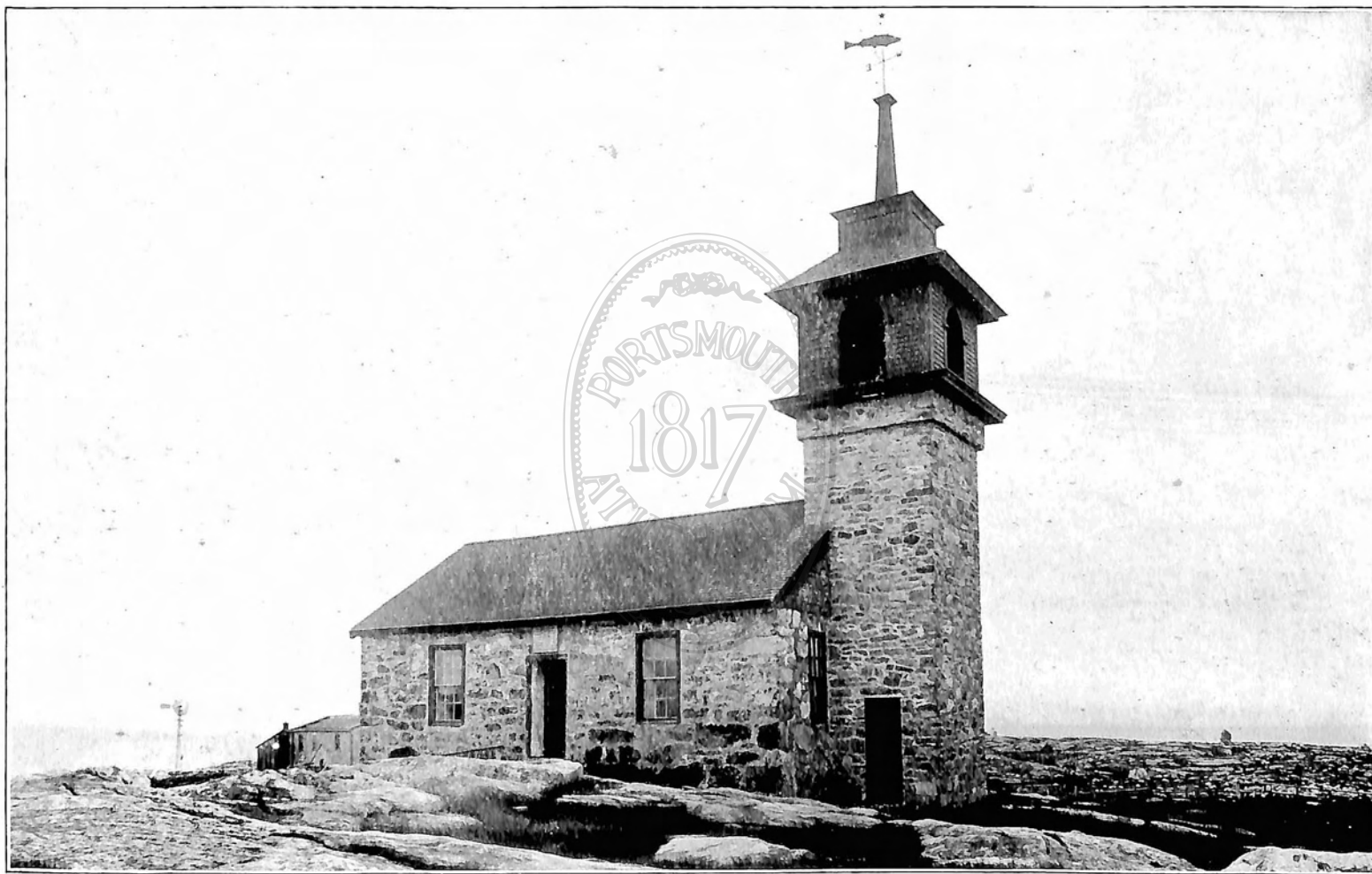
FARRAGUT HOUSE — RYE BEACH, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



FARRAGUT WILLOWS — RYE, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



OLD GOSPORT CHURCH ON STAR ISLAND — ISLES OF SHOALS.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



EXTERIOR OF LATE MRS. CELIA THAXTER'S COTTAGE — APPLLEDORE ISLAND.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



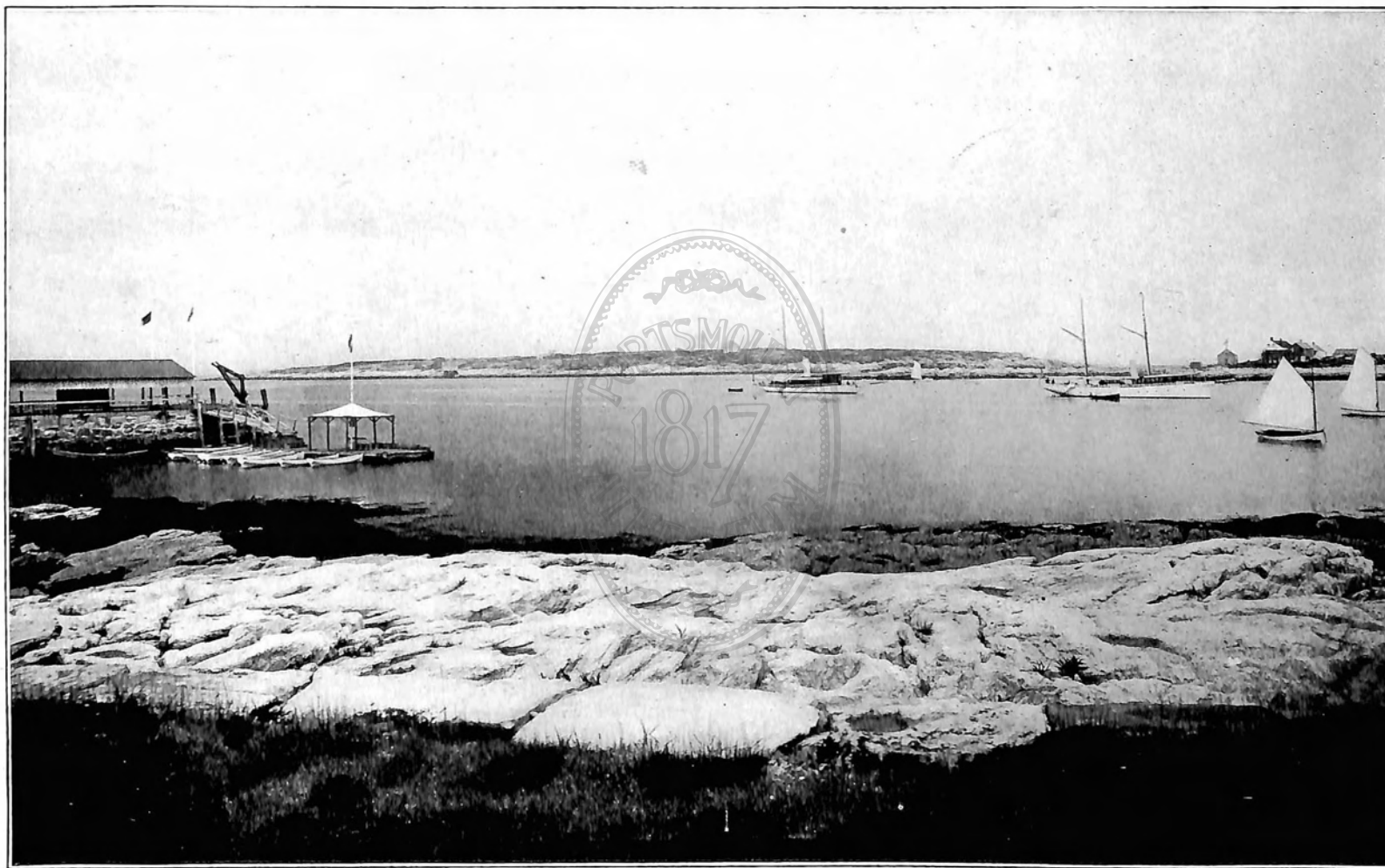
ART ROOM OF MRS. CELIA THAXTER.—APPLEDORE ISLAND.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



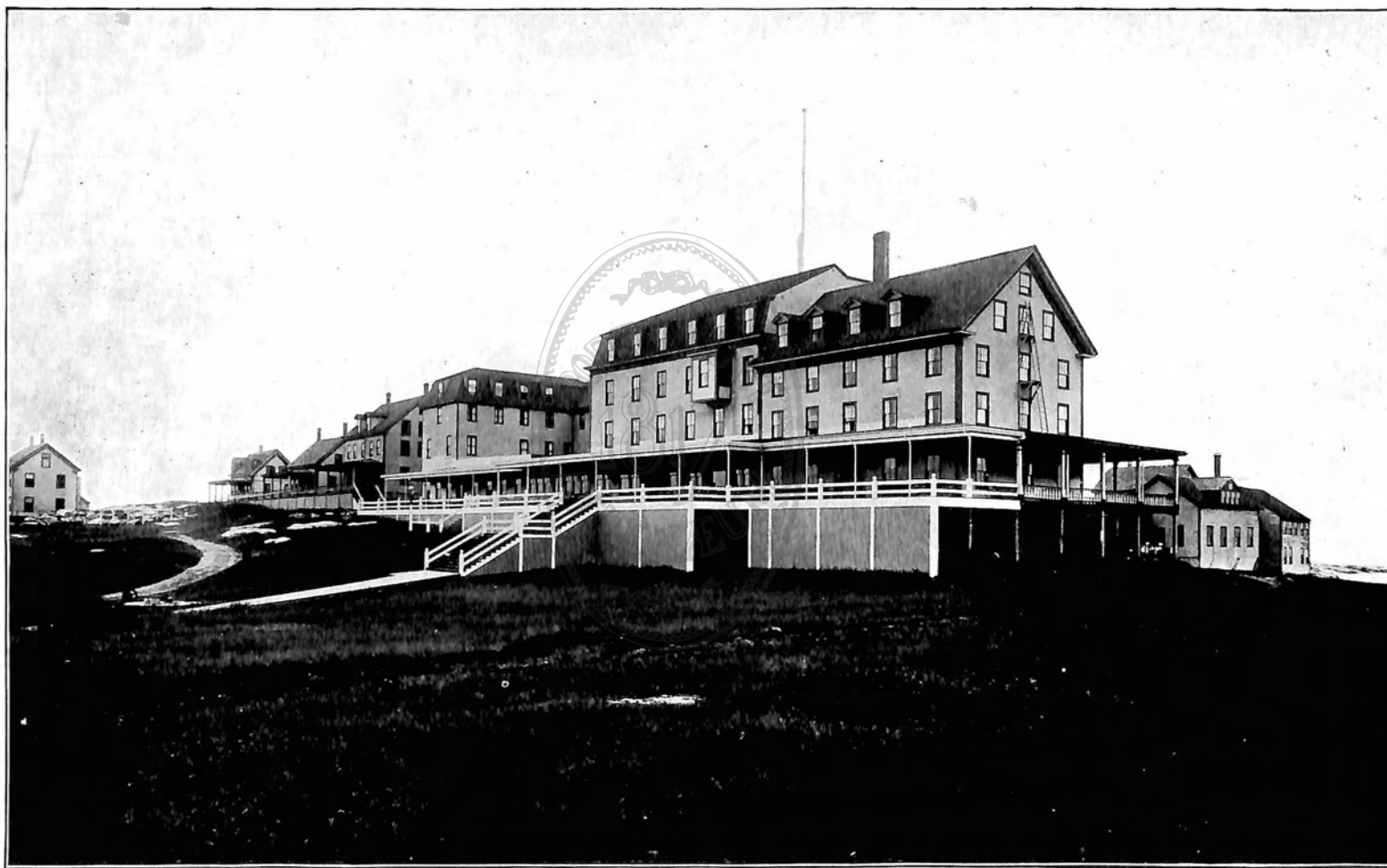
LIVING ROOM OF MRS. CELIA THAXTER (Poetess).—APPLEDORE ISLAND.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



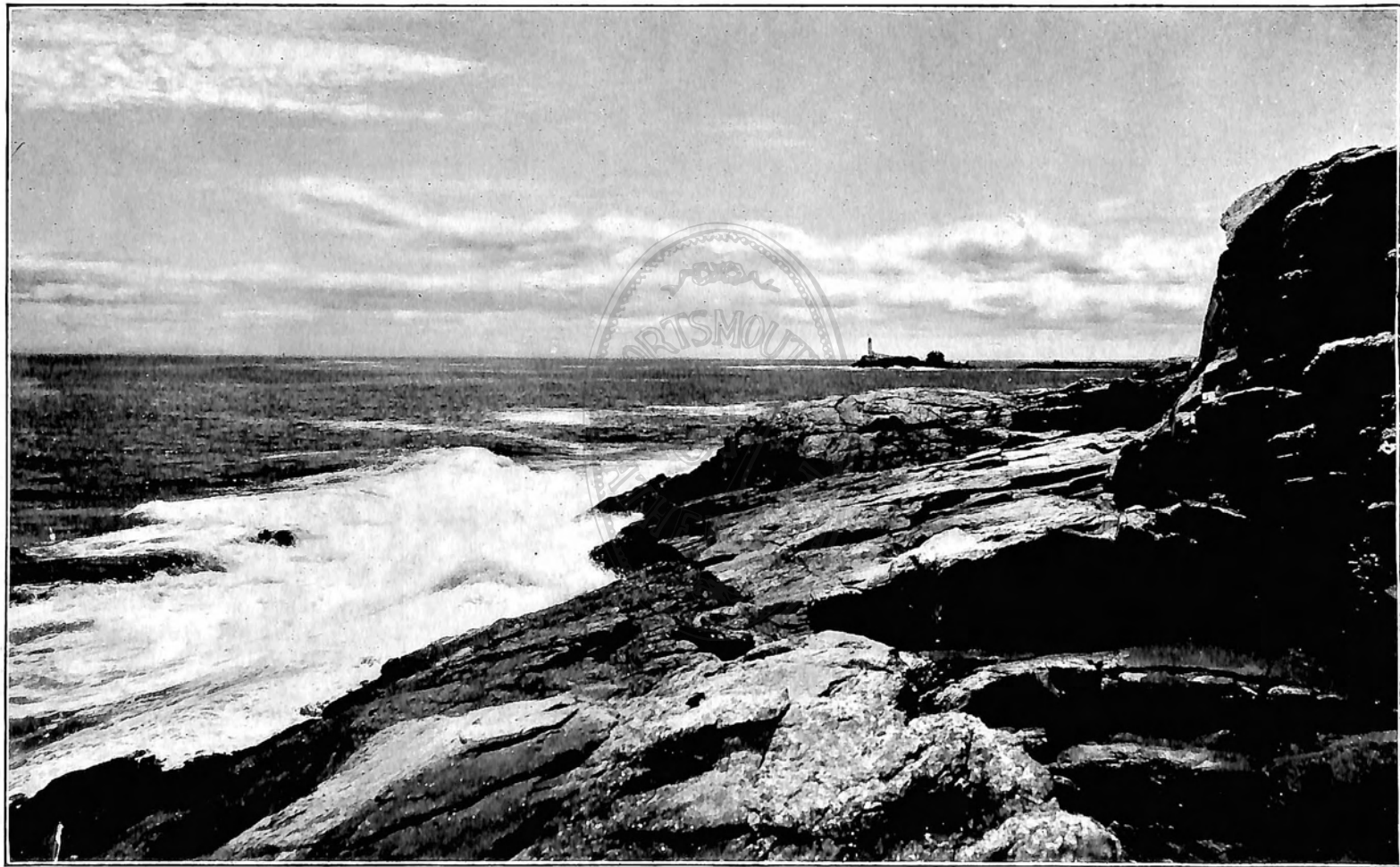
HARBOR OF ISLE OF SHOALS, N. H.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



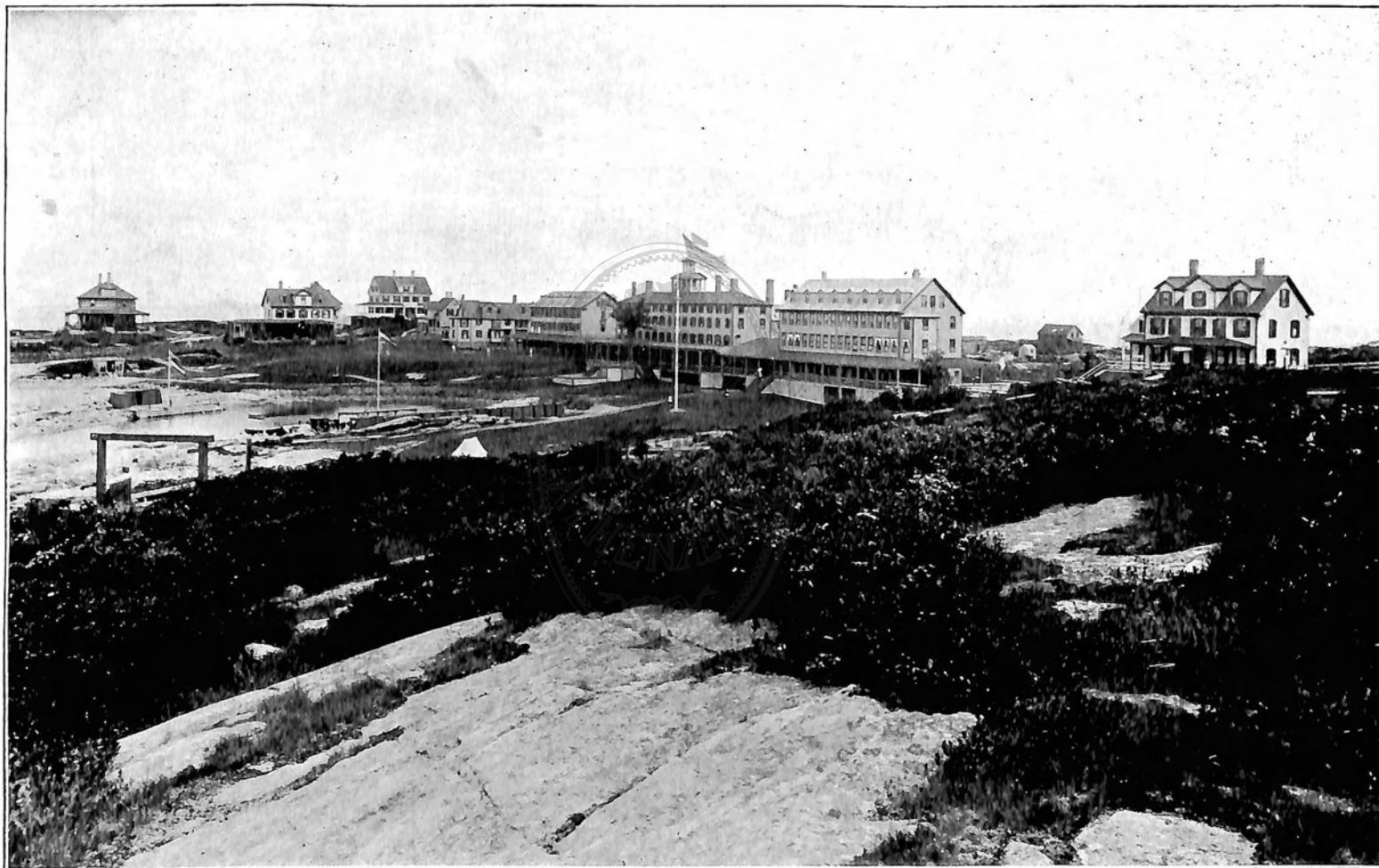
HOTEL OCEANIC, STAR ISLAND — ISLE OF SHOALS.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.

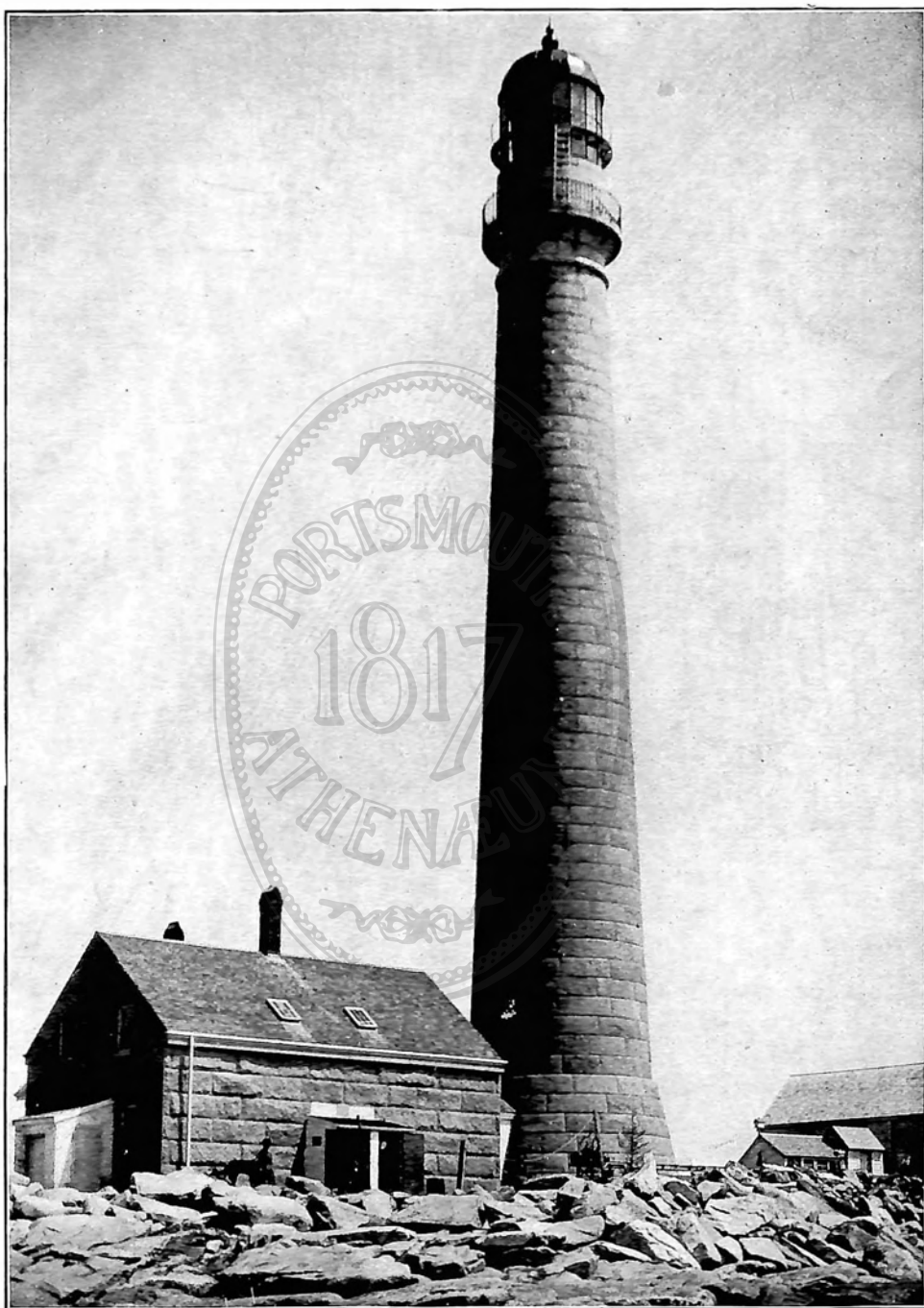


ISLE OF SHOALS — WHITE ISLAND IN THE DISTANCE.

Courtesy of the Portsmouth Athenaeum, Portsmouth, N.H.



APPLEDORE HOUSE, APPLEDORE ISLAND—ISLE OF SHOALS.



BOON ISLAND LIGHT.