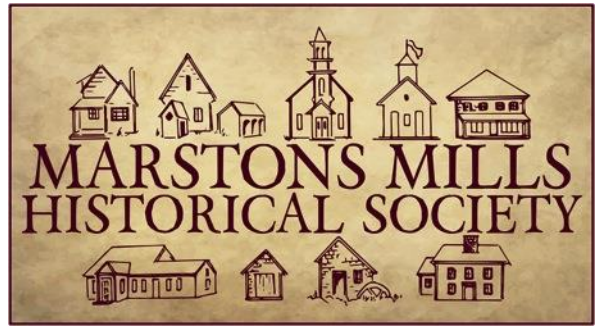


Marstons Mills Historical Society  
Interview with Edward Thew  
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Ed Thew was born in 1936 at Cape Cod Hospital and lived with his family for two years on what was called Hog Hill at the time and is now called Lovell's Lane. Then the family moved to Route 149 where he has lived ever since then. He went to school at Marstons Mills School, located on Route 28 in front of what was then the new school, which was then moved to be what is now the Chapman Funeral Home; he graduated in 1955 from Barnstable High School with training in carpentry; the high school originally was located on South Street.

He first worked as a carpenter for Howard Pulsifer, building high-end homes in communities such as Osterville and Hyannisport. He then built "spec" houses in Dennis, working for Merchant and Cassidy and built the first house that was on Station Avenue there. He also was involved in the building of Lakewood Hills in Sandwich, and later in the development of houses on Roseland Terrace in Marstons Mills. In addition, he was involved in building homes on Mystic Lake and Hollidge Hill, among other places.

His father bought the Roseland Dance Hall after it had gone bankrupt and closed; the agreement with the bank was that for the \$500 purchase price, his father also was required to acquire the full 45-acre property that went from Route 149 to Shubael's Pond. His father raised chickens on the site of the old Dance Hall, starting in 1943.

Many of the patrons of Roseland had been African-American and came there from many places, including off-Cape such as Onset. Ed recalls that his uncle, Mo Hinckley, a policeman, once had to break up a riot that took place at the Roseland Dance Hall. During World War Two, soldiers bivouacked near Shubael's Pond, and would give candy bars to visiting boys such as Ed.

His boyhood memories of living on Route 149 include sitting with his brother George waiting for a car to come by! Ali Coleman used to mow the lawn with his old broken-down horse. Ben Pond delivered the mail, and after delivery, he always honked his car horn twice and was known as "Beep-Beep". Mr. Fisk owned a junkyard in Sandwich and lived with his family on Route 149; at one point, his sons apparently threw him out of the house, to live in a shack on their property in the woods; Ed's mother Gertrude made pies and Ed and his brother would take those to him. Mr. Sears sold fruit from a wagon and would come by once a week from West Barnstable to sell to people who lived in the area.

The Thew family first got their milk from Alfred Fuller, who had a farm across Route 149; then when pasteurization was required, they got their milk from Mystic Dairy run by Hilding Hord. Ed worked for Hord in cleaning the milk bottles for a time.

During the time when there was racing on Race Lane, his mother would walk up there to watch. His mother at one time lived in the Burgess House, and later on Mill Pond where she saw the old Grist Mill; she was one of 12 children, and so Ed has many cousins. Ed has four children, all living in New England.



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