



WIND POWER: A HISTORICAL SOURCE OF POWER

ON NANTUCKET

Windmills on Nantucket: A long & rich history

Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) share a link with traditional windmills. Consequently there exists an historical precedent for their use on Nantucket.

- **Sustainable Preservation:** An Addendum to Building with Nantucket in Mind

Windmills on Nantucket: A long & rich history

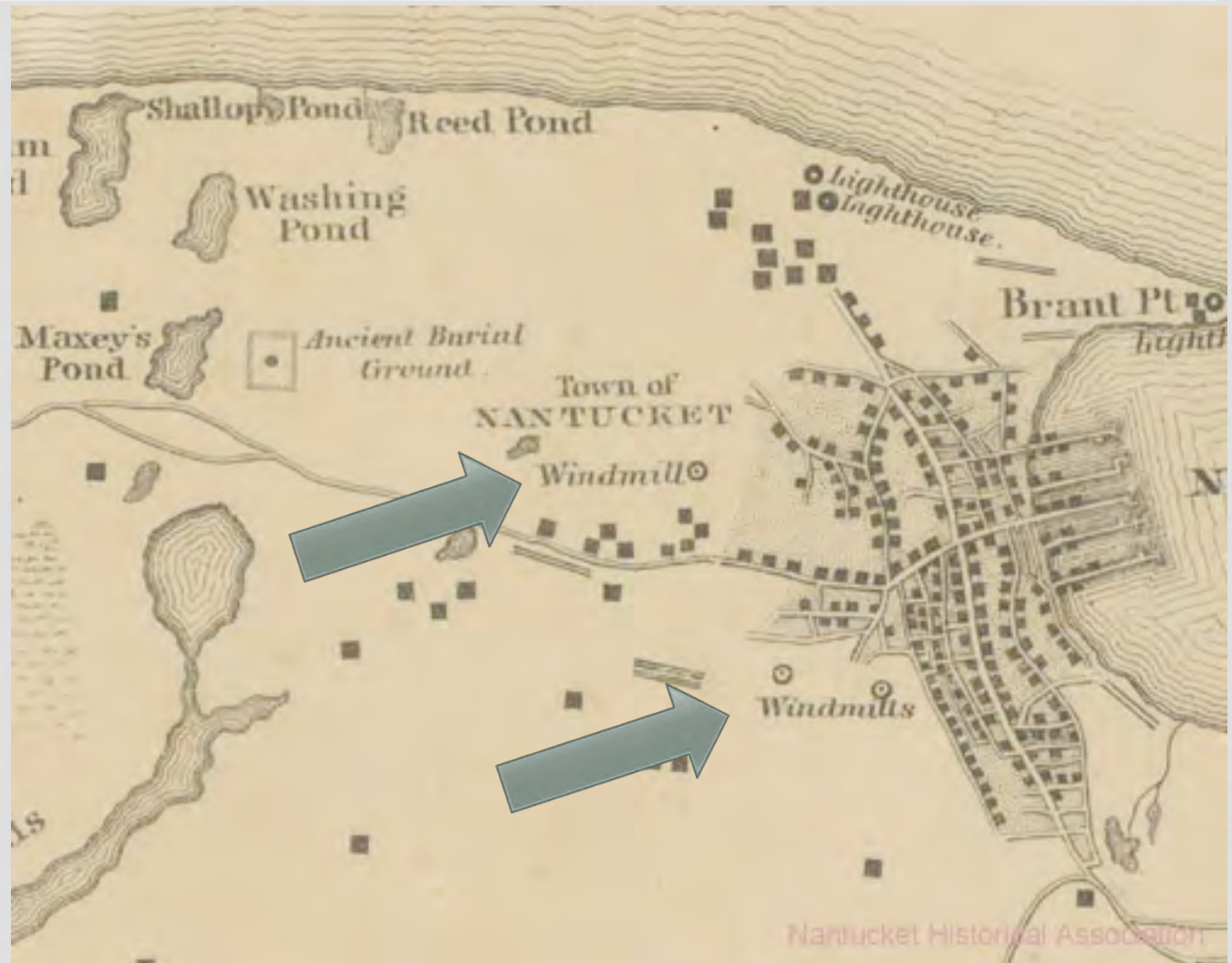


Hundreds of images of wind structures are preserved in the archives and databases of the Nantucket Historical Association Research Library. Here, there are clear records of windmills located, among other areas: the Historic Downtown District, Quidnet, Milestone Road, Wauwinet, Cisco, Surfside Beach & 'Sconset. Not to mention rich depictions of windmills in historical Nantucket art, poetry, and verse.

An Historical Precedence: On Nantucket

Notes

Detail of Map of the Island of Nantucket, Including Tuckernuck / William Mitchell, surveyer. Depicts: Capaum Pond, Shallop Pond, Ancient Burial Ground, Washing Pond, North Pond, Maxeys Pond, Bug Lighthouse Brant Point, Brant Point Lighthouse, **windmills**.



An Historical Precedence: Viewed from the Harbor

There were four windmills on Nantucket in the mid-19th cent.--all clearly visible and much commented on by visitors approaching via Nantucket Harbor. They were as prominent as the meeting house steeples. **A visitor described the town as " pleasantly situated upon a gentle slope...surmounted by a row of windmills"***



*Philbrick, Nathaniel. Away Off Shore. 1994, 2011. Penguin Press:

An Historical Precedence: In Town

Date

1870s (circa)

Notes

View of town
with **windmill**
in distance.



An Historical Precedence In Town

Notes

Field's Mill, also known as Field's Folly, a house on the west corner of Lily Street and North Liberty.

Historical note:

The owner attempted to install a horizontal **windmill** on the roof with experimental vanes that are said to “have worked nicely in certain winds”



An Historical Precedence: In Town

Notes

The round top mill, located just north of the millpond on New Lane, at Grove Lane. A man and small boy are standing in front of the mill.

Historical note

Also known as Joseph Chase's mill, it was the last mill built in 1802, and the last to be taken down in 1873. It's millstone was used as the foundation for civil war monument erected in 1874 at Main and Milk Streets.



An Historical Precedence: In Town

Notes

View from the formal garden of Moors End, 19 Pleasant Street, looking toward the house and stable. Note the **windmill** atop the stable.



An Historical Precedence: On Milestone Road

Notes: A **windmill** and water tank at the side of the Milestone Road, in 1896, the year this road was built.



An Historical Precedence: In Surfside

Notes: Postcard: Point O' Breakers Tea Room at Surfside.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Cisco

Notes

Aerial view of Bartlett's Farm, showing farm house, barn, **windmill**, and well house.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Wauwinet

Notes

The Wauwinet House, surrounding buildings, and houses, as seen from the beach.



An Historical Precedence: Island Fairs

Notes

Festival or fair, with small **windmills**, balloons, banners, and nurses.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes

South elevation of the house known as The Braes (Baxter Rd), on the north bluff in Siasconset. An unidentified woman and small dog are visible, as well as a **windmill** and water tank. The photo is labeled Streeter Cottage View "C".



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset



Notes 1900s (circa)
Photo of a dog taken
at Rudder Grange
with windmill in the
background

An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes

Road into Siasconset, showing house and **windmills**.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes Siasconset Beach, showing one cottage, a large bath house, and a ship offshore. The advertisement on the side of the building reads: Bath Houses, Swimming Pool, Hot Salt Baths. Note the **windmill** in the right center of the image. View from Front Street toward Brock and Hussey bath houses.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes

Bunker Hill farm on Main Street, in Siasconset



An Historical Precedence: In Quidnet



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes Photo of horses and carriages waiting to go to golf course. The Siasconset Casino is in the background as well as a **windmill**.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes Burrage Cottage - Houghton House. This house, as seen from the Sconset rotary, is at 1 Ocean Avenue.



An Historical Precedence: In 'Sconset

Notes

The Buoy, owned by the Williams family, most likely Codfish Park in Siasconset. Note the **windmill**.



An Historical Precedence: In Art & Poetry

***“In Squam lived Sachem Nickanoose,
And on Popsquatchet Hills
The famous Warrior Autopscot
Where stand our peaceful mills.” –Anonymous Poet***



Mill Hill, formerly known as
“Popsquatchet Hills.”

An Historical Precedence: In Art



Nantucket Historical Association

An Historical Precedence: In Art

