

Tisbury Visioning question: What place, structure, or characteristic of the town do you absolutely want to preserve for future generations?

Owen Park: A Tisbury Treasure!

Community comments:

“Owen Park is a place that brings community together, where generations mix.”

“This park is our town’s public connection to the water.”

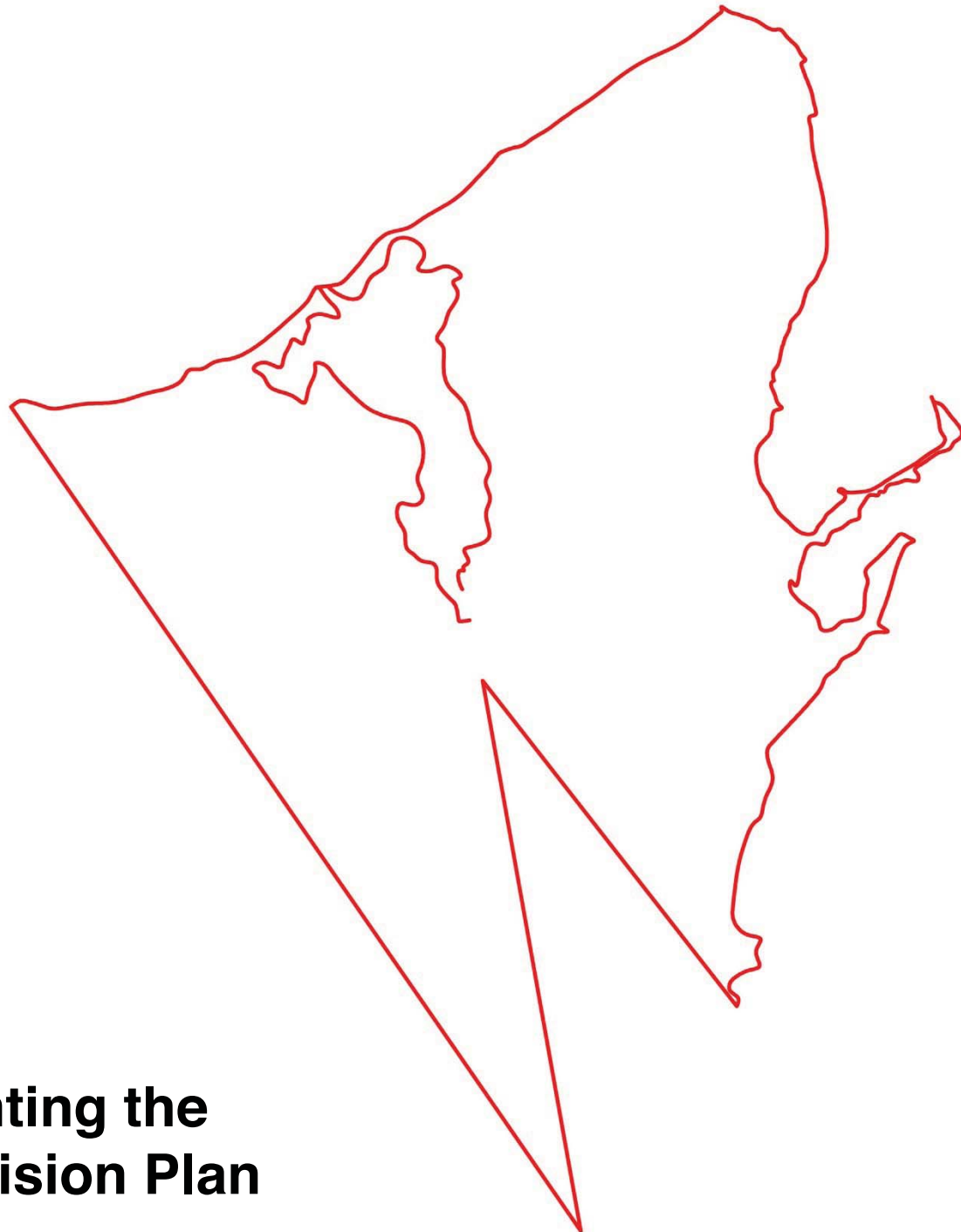
“Owen Park holds memories, it is part of our family history.”



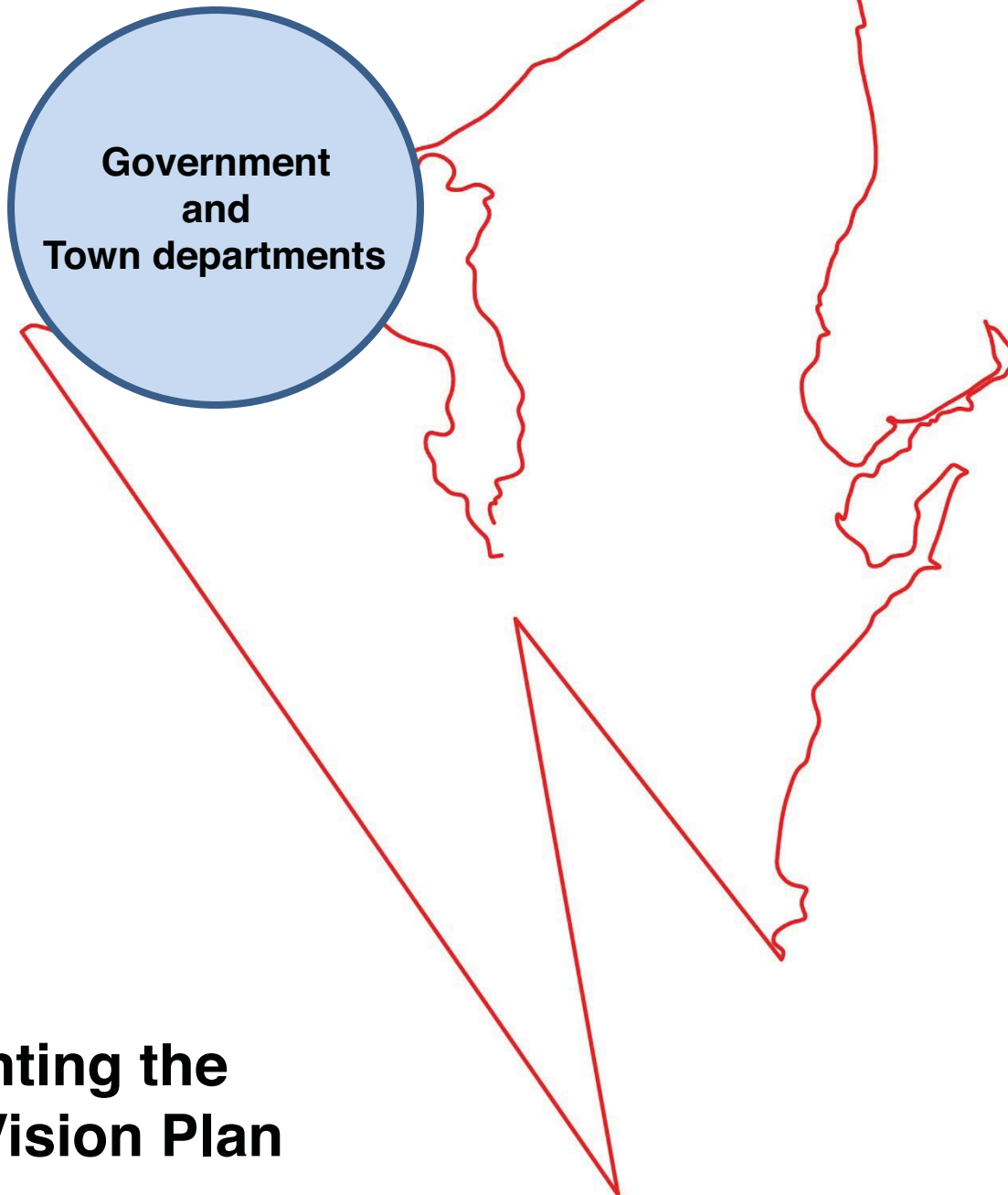
“The park is an activity center and gathering place.”

“Owen Park is a place where traditions are carried on.”

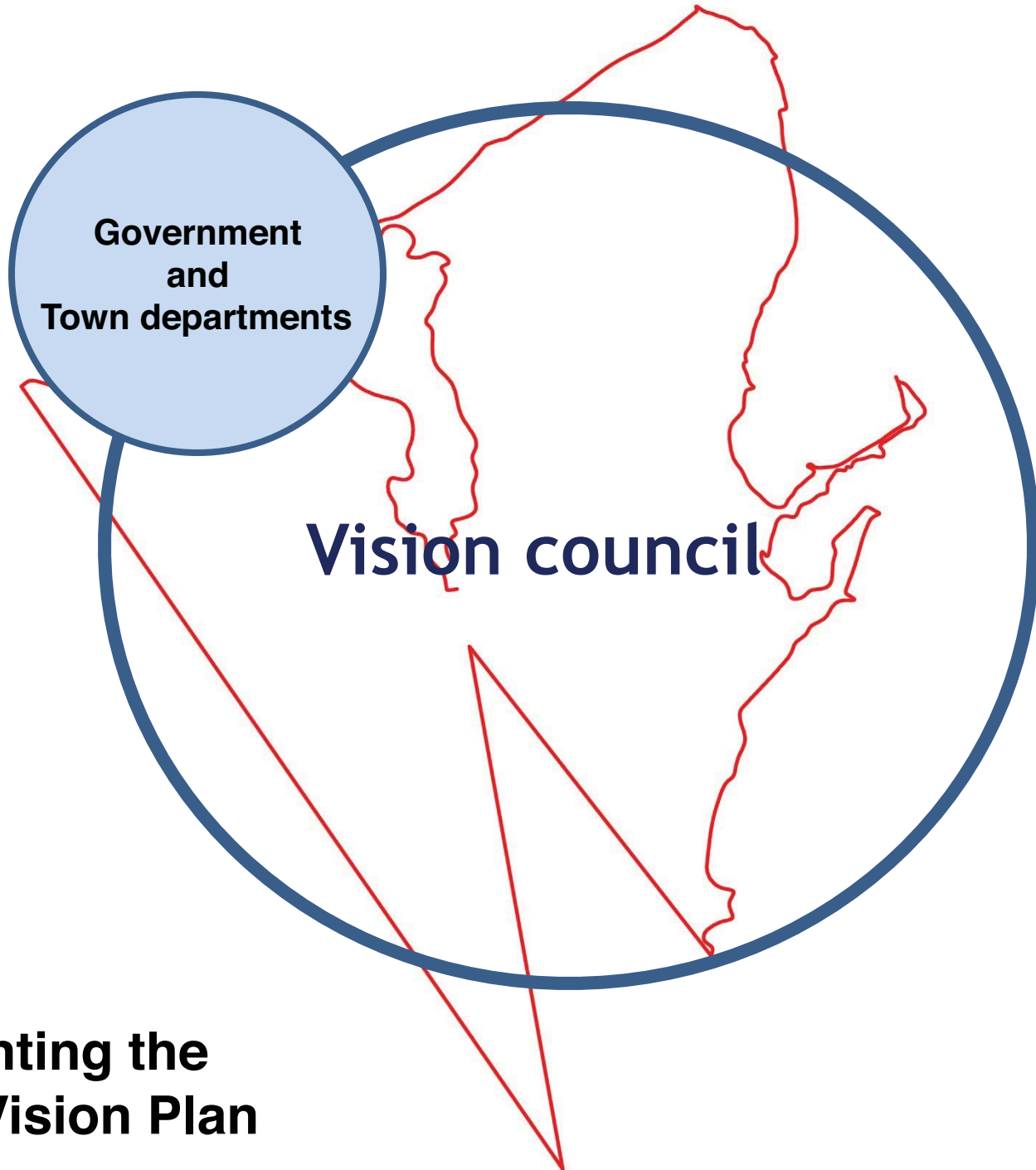
Implementing the Tisbury Vision Plan



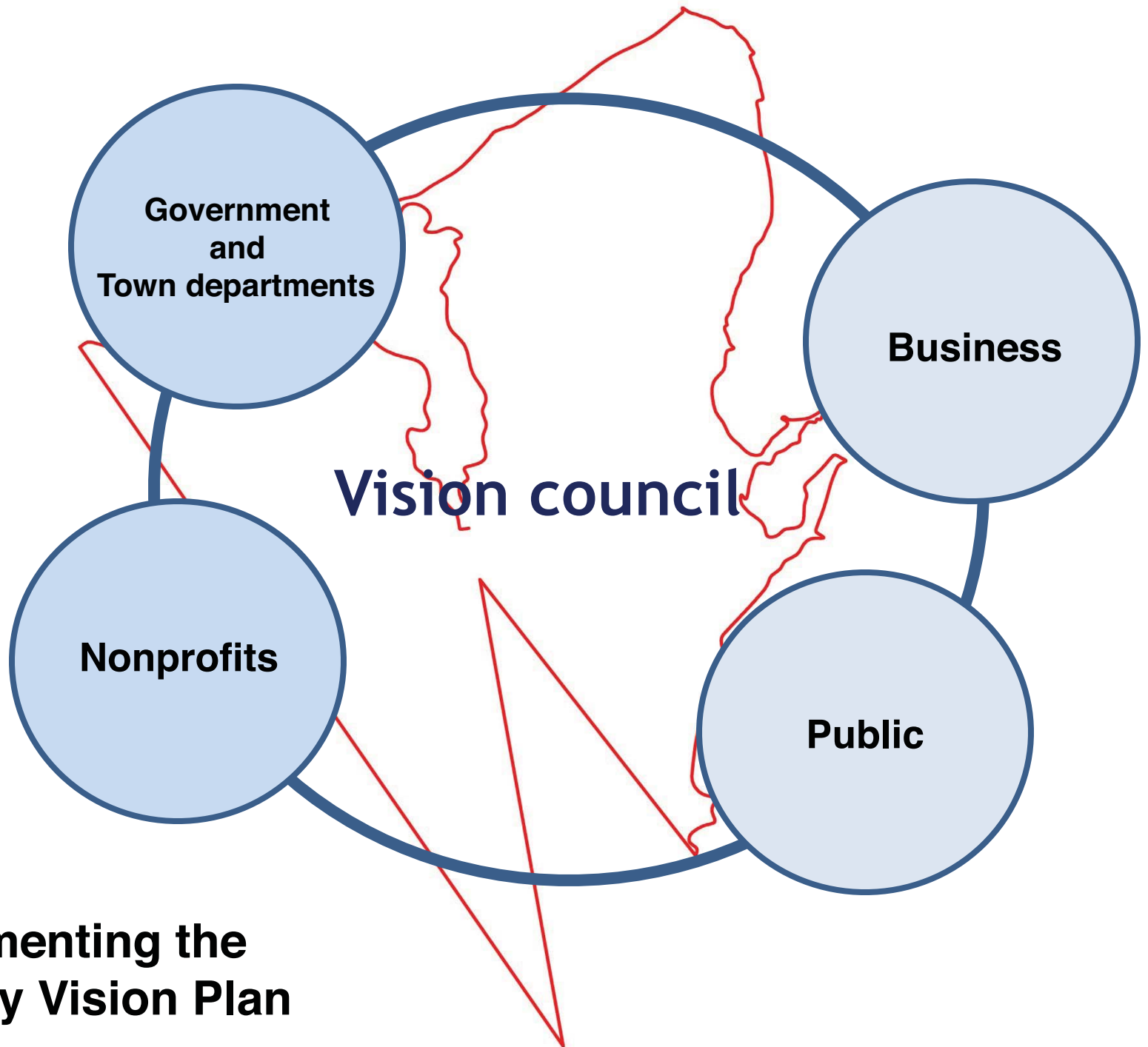
Implementing the Tisbury Vision Plan



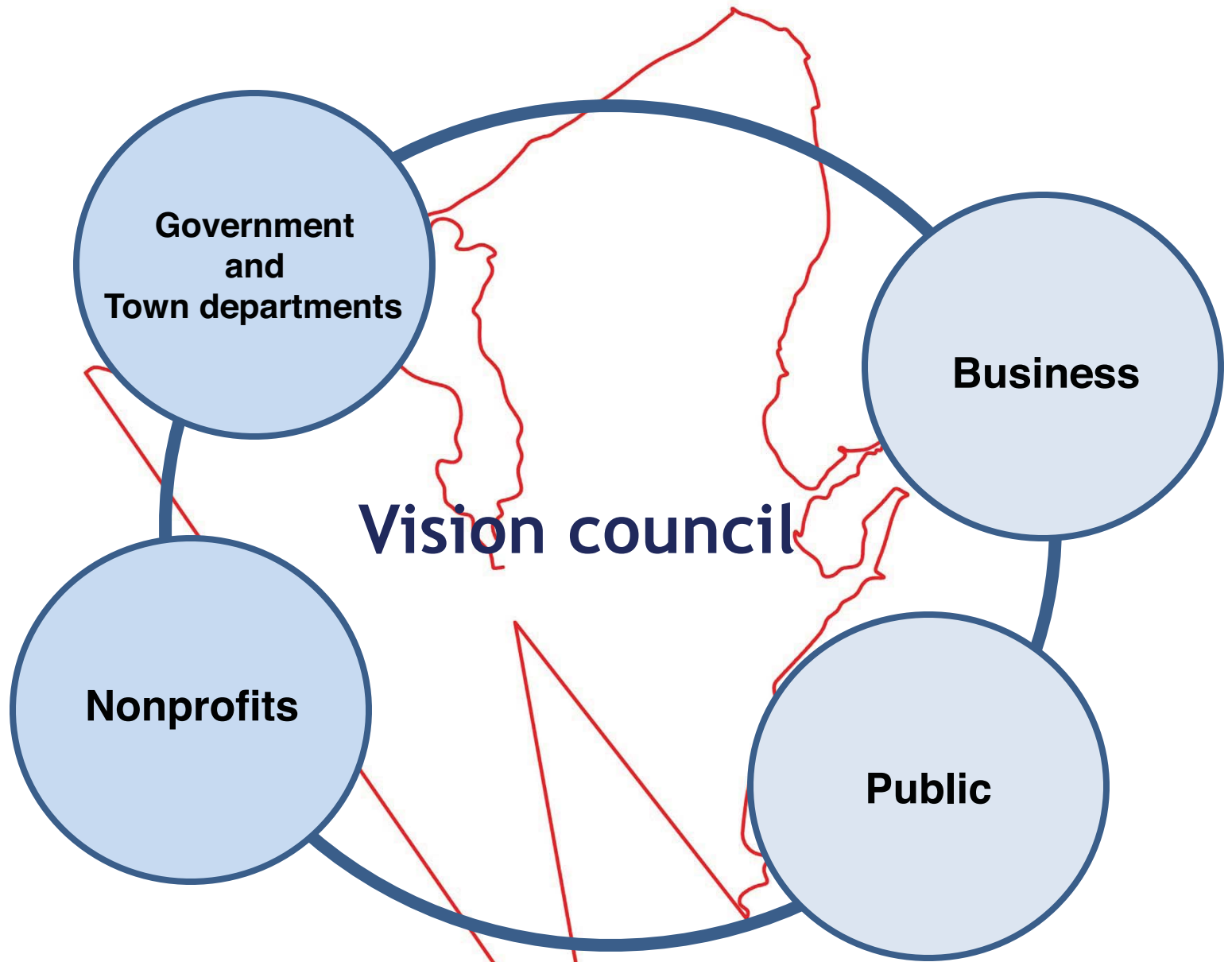
**Implementing the
Tisbury Vision Plan**



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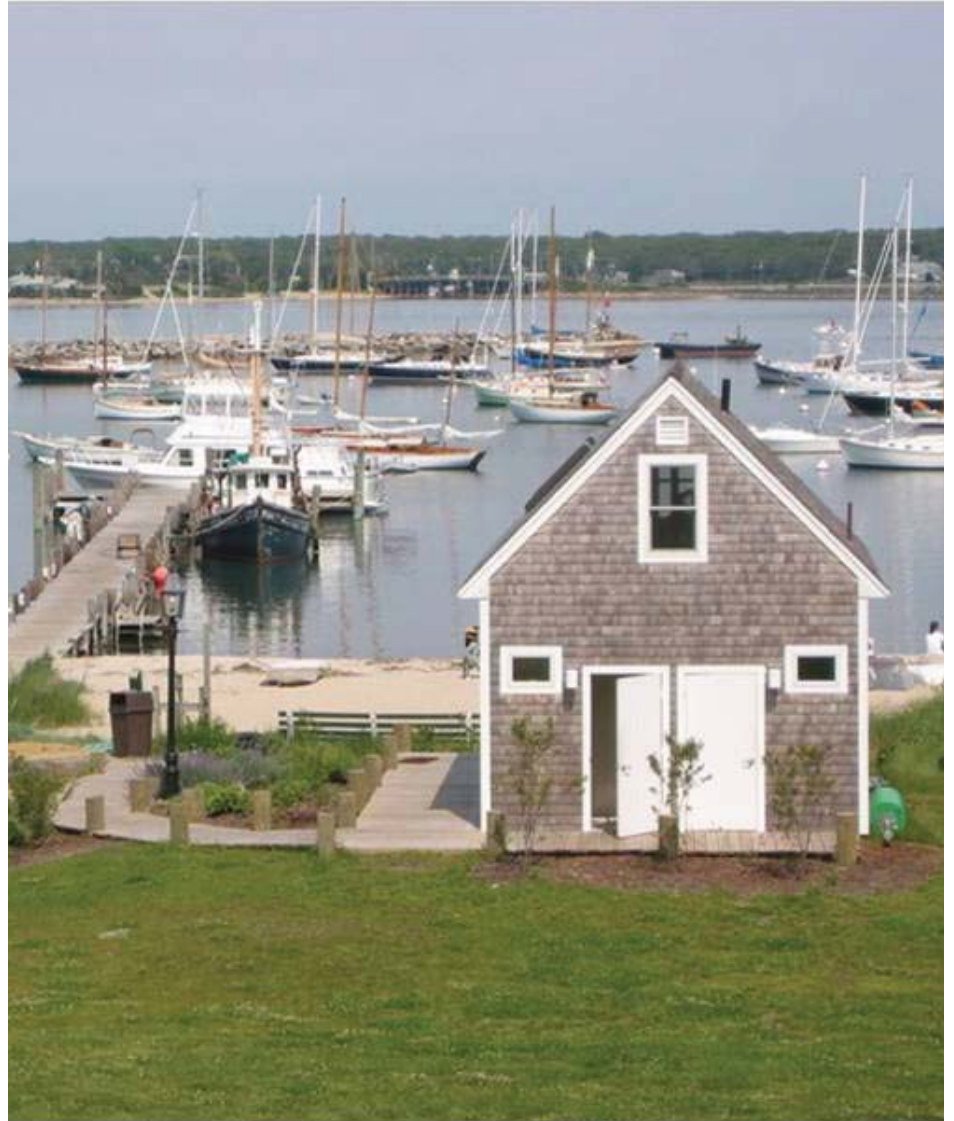
**Implementing the
Tisbury Vision Plan**

Meetings:
2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month
Vineyard Haven Library

Owen Park Committee

Paul Doherty
Wendy Andrews
John Bacheller
Andrew Berry
Dana Hodsdon
Hyung Lee
April Levandowski
Elaine Miller
Tony Nevin
Nora Nevin
Scott Tuttle

Tomar Waldman-DPW
Ben Robinson - PB
Cheryl Doble - PB
Melinda Loberg - BOS



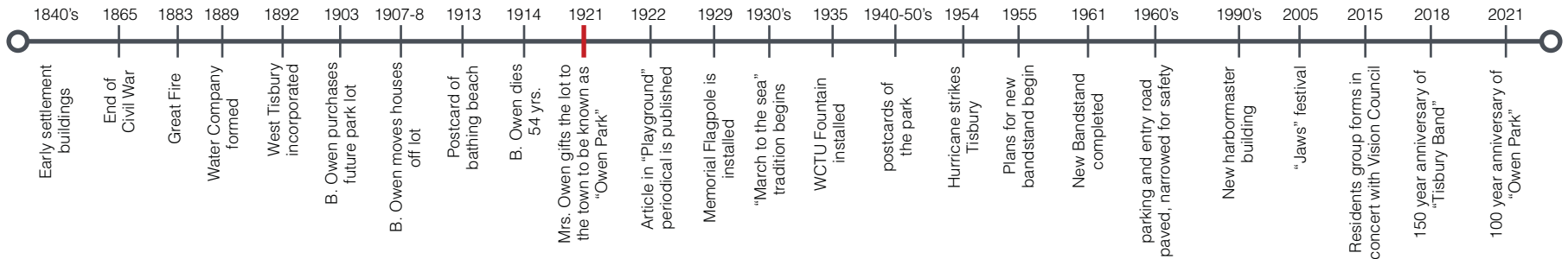
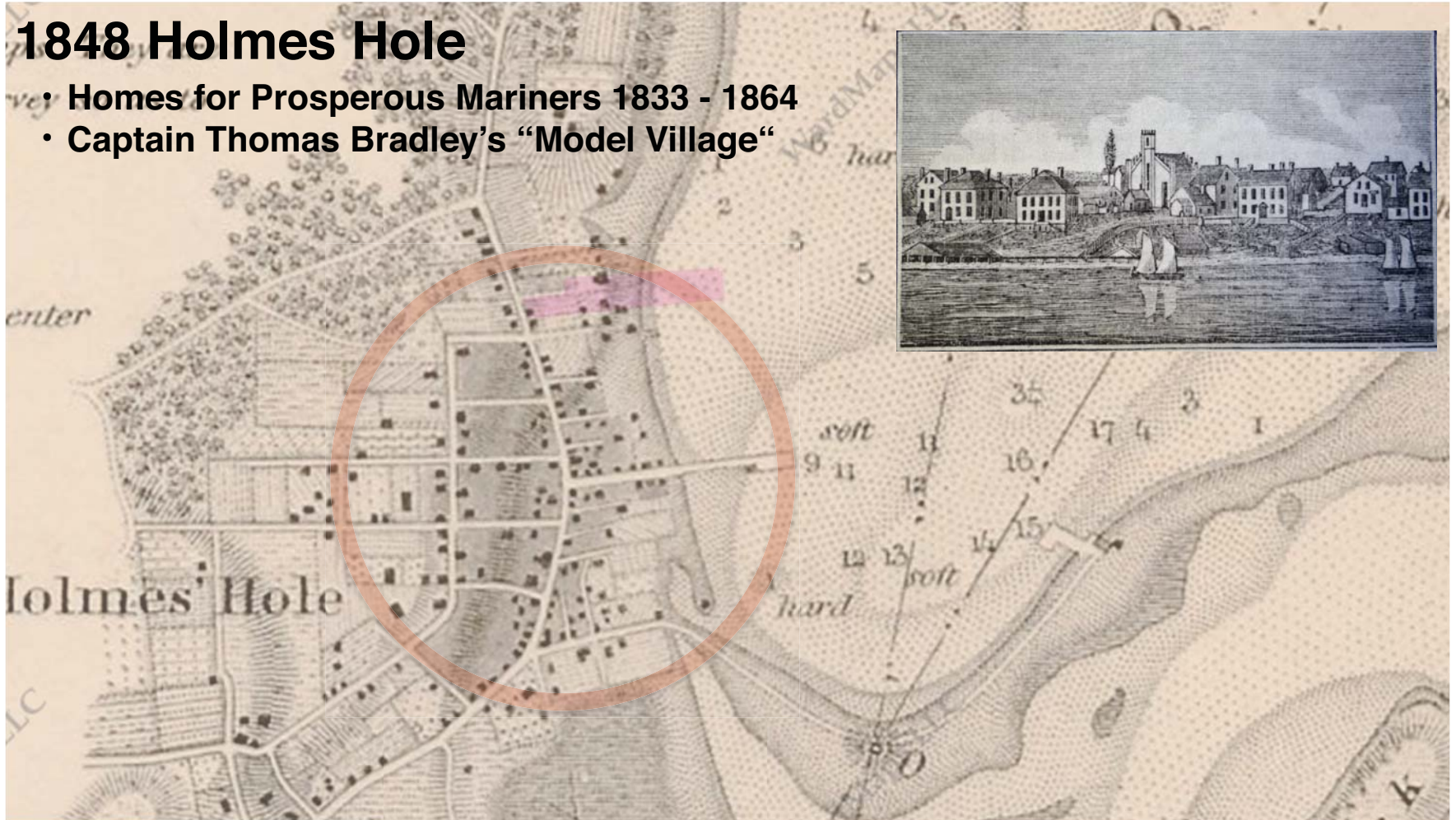
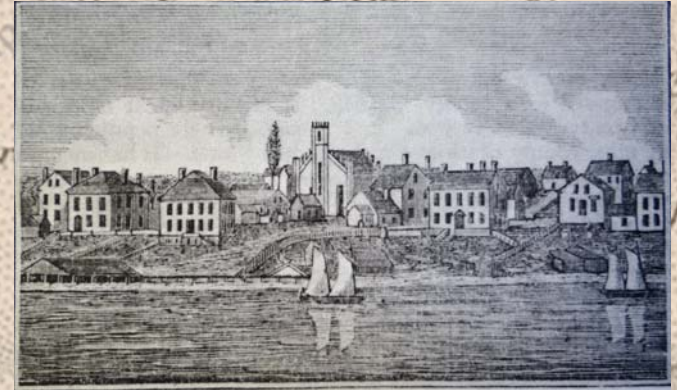
Presentation:

- History
- Community Uses
- Site considerations



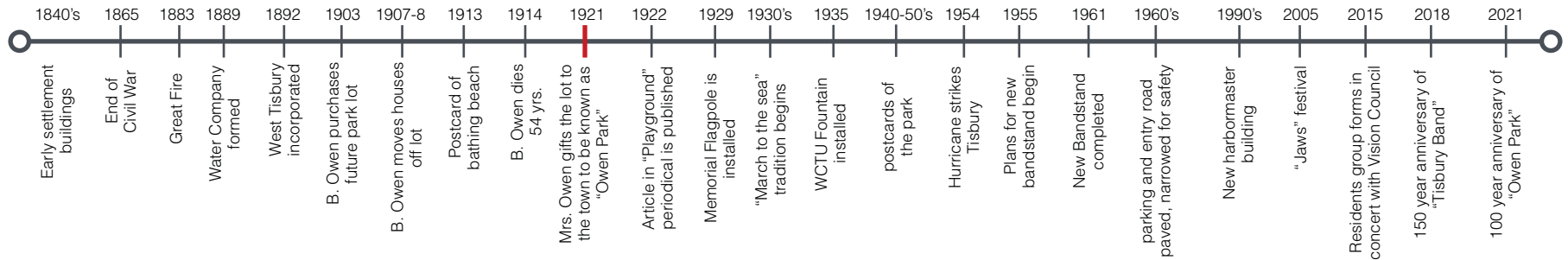
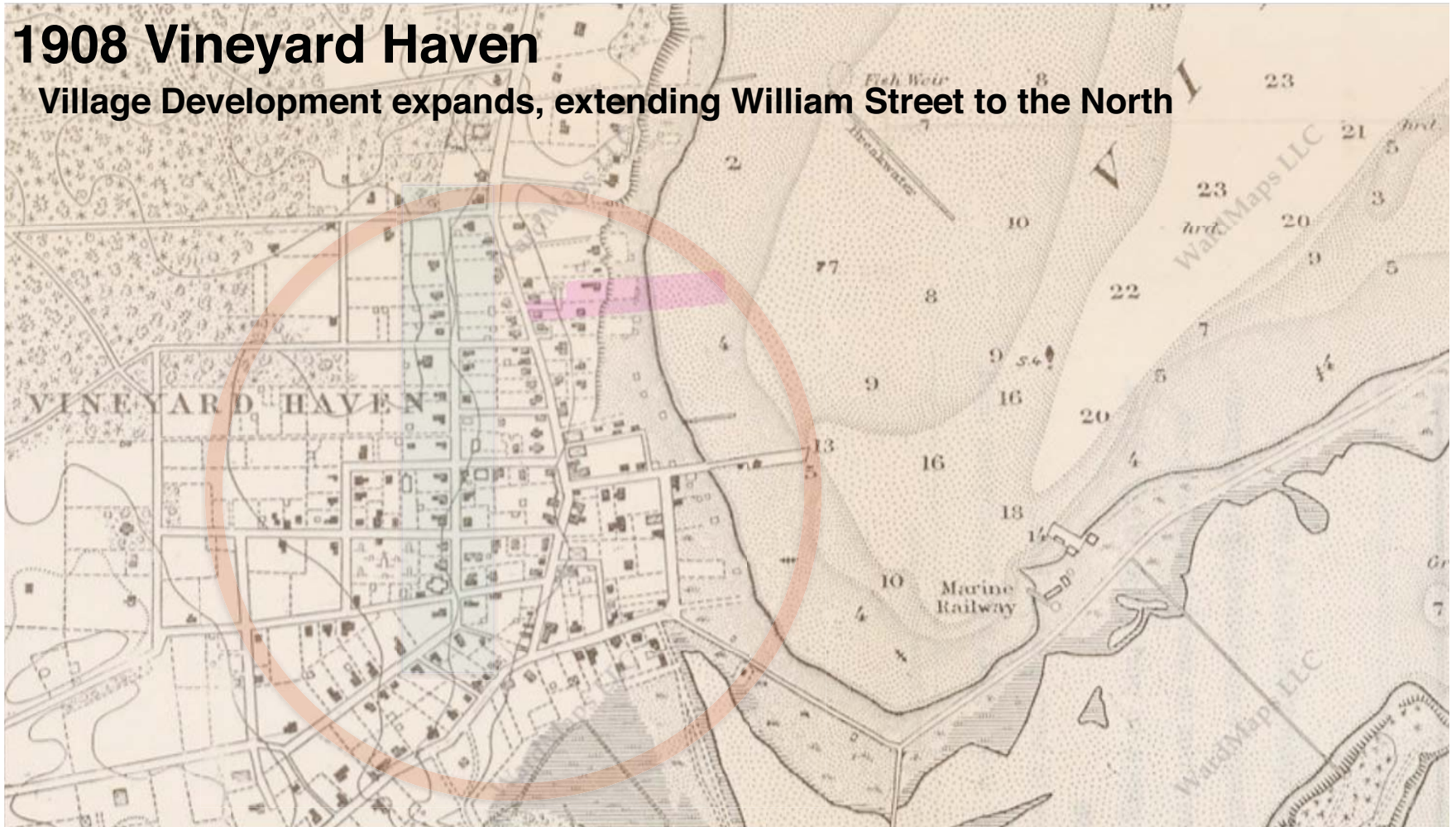
1848 Holmes Hole

- Homes for Prosperous Mariners 1833 - 1864
- Captain Thomas Bradley's "Model Village"



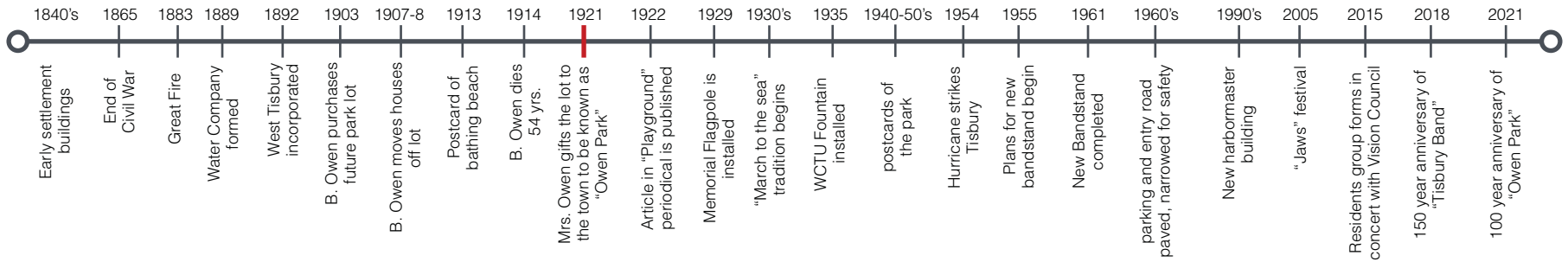
1908 Vineyard Haven

Village Development expands, extending William Street to the North

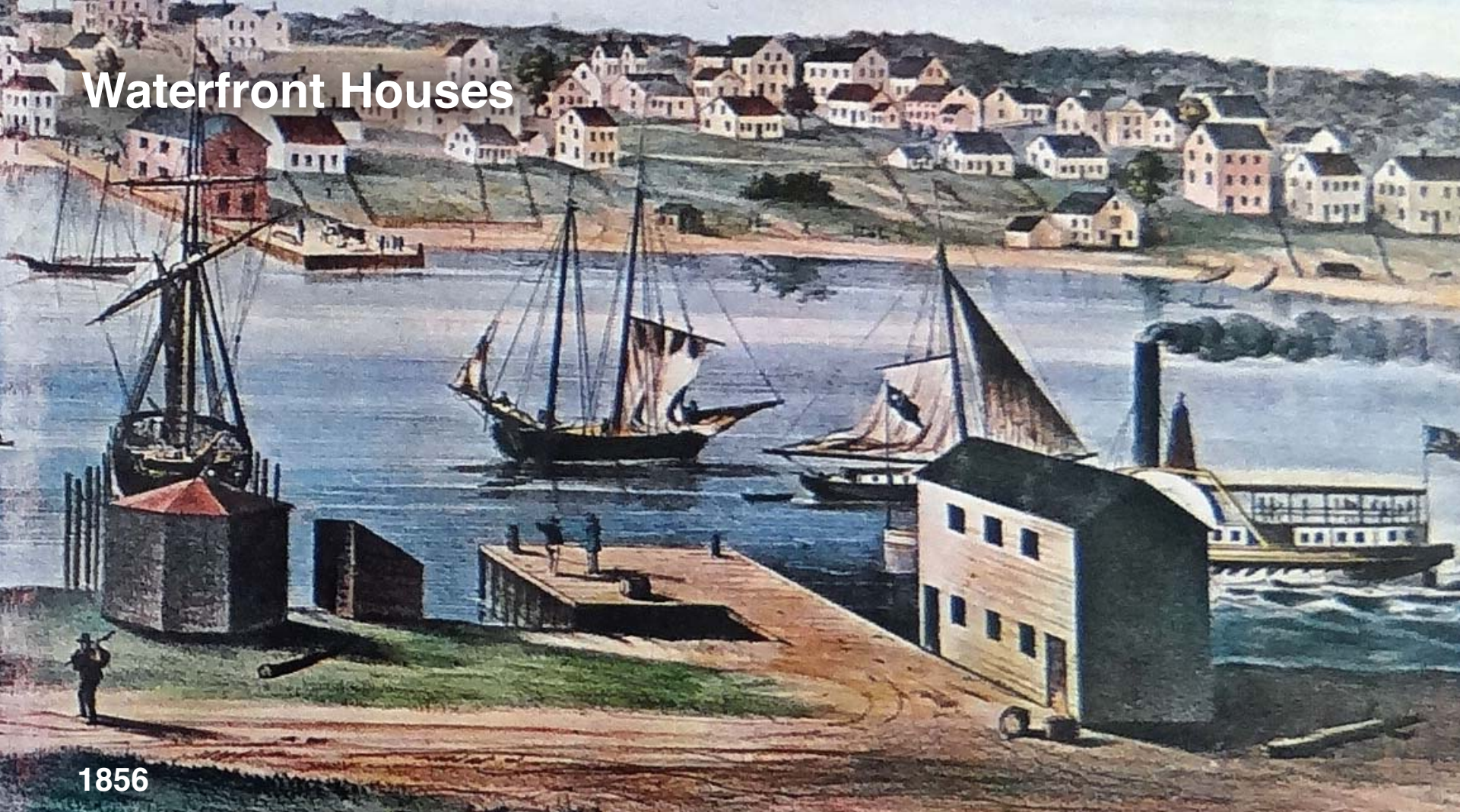


Present

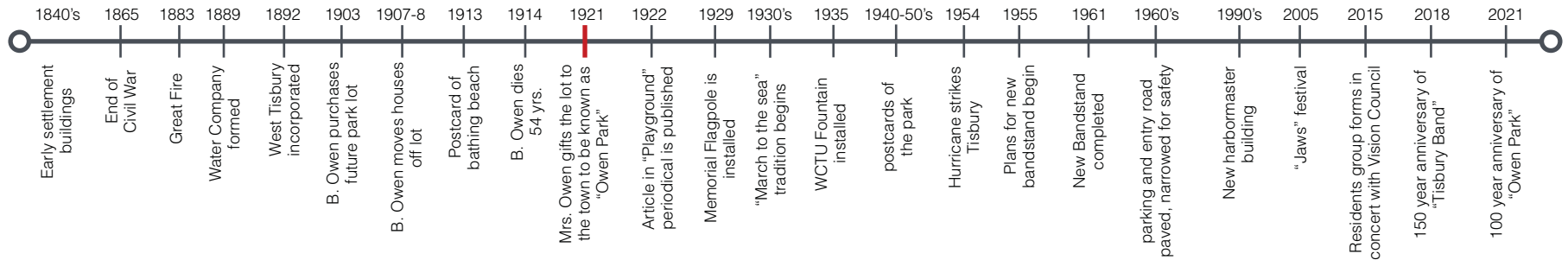
on 1908 map



Waterfront Houses



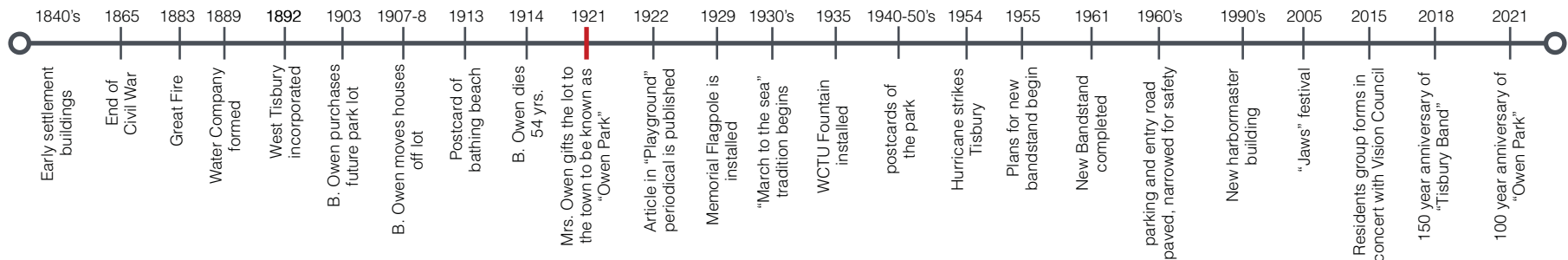
1856



W.B. Owen purchases 3 waterfront houses for the open view for his planned new house on William Street (1903~1904)

W. B. Owen relocated all 3 houses in town

- John Merry 1851**
- Tristram Luce, Rudder Grange Inn 1811 - 1908**
- Benjamin Allen 1802 - 190**



W. B. Owen's Visionary Developments in and around Vineyard Haven



THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

\$10,000 Value in 30 Fowls.

Why Am I Breeding Pure Blooded Poultry?

THE OWEN FARMS. Breeds on Martha's Vineyard, and has a large flock of pure blooded poultry. The Owen Farms have a large flock of pure blooded poultry, and have a large flock of pure blooded poultry. The Owen Farms have a large flock of pure blooded poultry, and have a large flock of pure blooded poultry.

THE BIRD. The bird is the most important part of a poultry farm, and it is the most important part of a poultry farm. The bird is the most important part of a poultry farm, and it is the most important part of a poultry farm.

\$10,000 Value in 30 Fowls.

I Will Sell From Any and All of My Matings.

OWEN FARMS, Box 725, Vineyard Haven, Mass.

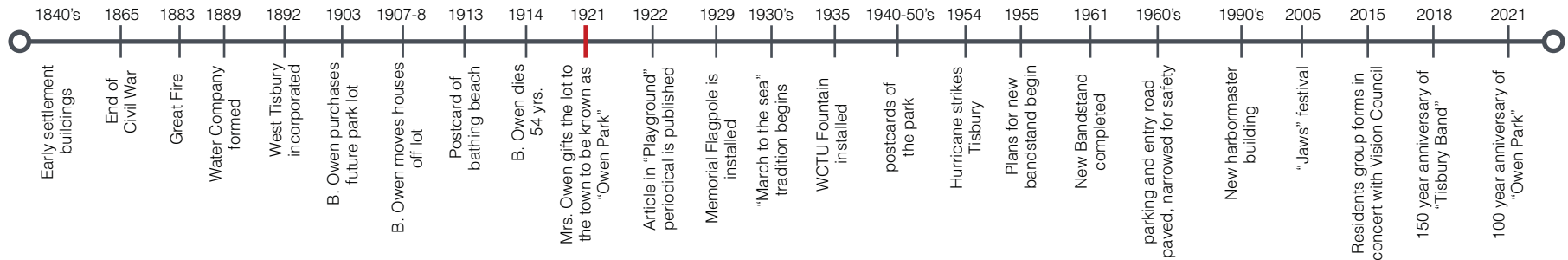
COTTAGE LOTS are now offered **WEST CHOP.**

They vary in size from 5,000 to 20,000 feet, and prices range from \$500 to \$2,000 per lot. These prices may be advanced in the future. For plans and sketches, address

FRANCIS PEABODY, JR., or WILLIAM B. OWEN,
54 DEVENISH ST., 23 COURT ST.,
BOSTON, MASS.

Old Colony R. R. Time Table, Season 1889.

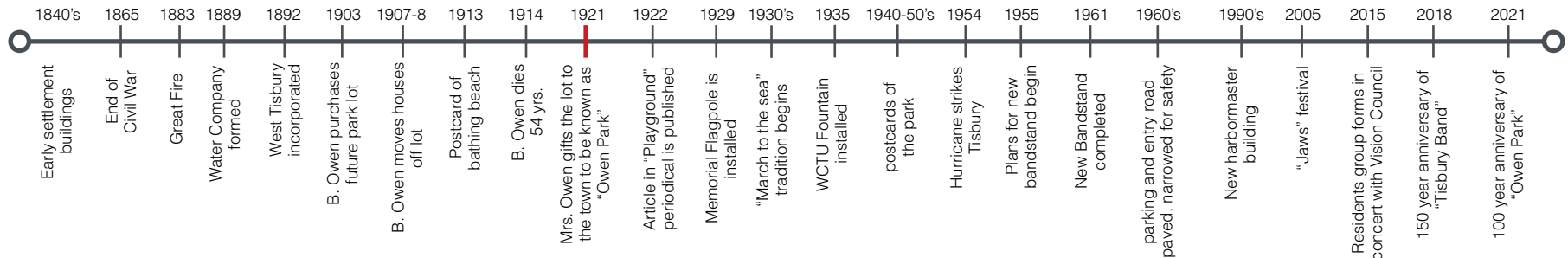
FROM BOSTON, PROVIDENCE, TAUNTON, FALL RIVER, TO MARtha's VINEYARD AND RETURN.



1914 W.B. Owen's Passing

1921 Donation of "William Barry Owen Park"

deeded in 1919 by Mrs. Mae Montgomery Owen to the village of Vineyard Haven as a public playground & recreation center



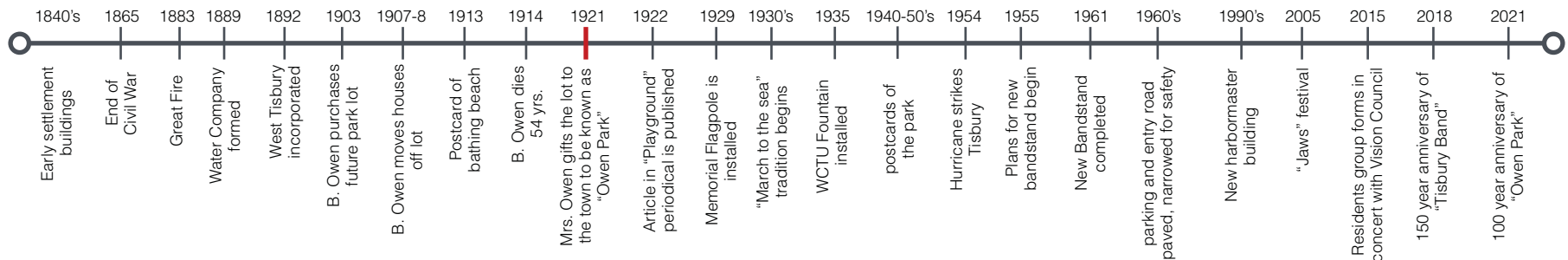
1922, “The Playground” depicts 1st Band Stand in Owen Park



“the **bandstand** and the **seats** around were built by **volunteers** in the late afternoons and early evenings, the women of the town each night serving a free supper to the workers.

Through the same spirit of **generosity** the **entertainment** on the playground has also been provided, for the many people of note who visit the Vineyard are promptly pressed into service to give of their talent. **Band concerts** and **fireworks** vary the programs.

For the children there are **play swings** and **sand gardens** and a **baby group** in charge of a Red Cross Nurse holds say in the park each morning.”



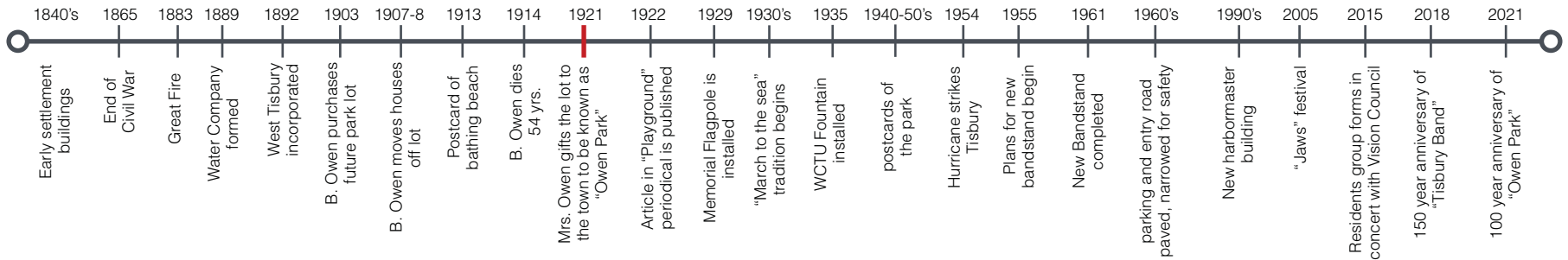
Martha's Vineyard Island

1st Bandstand in Owen Park

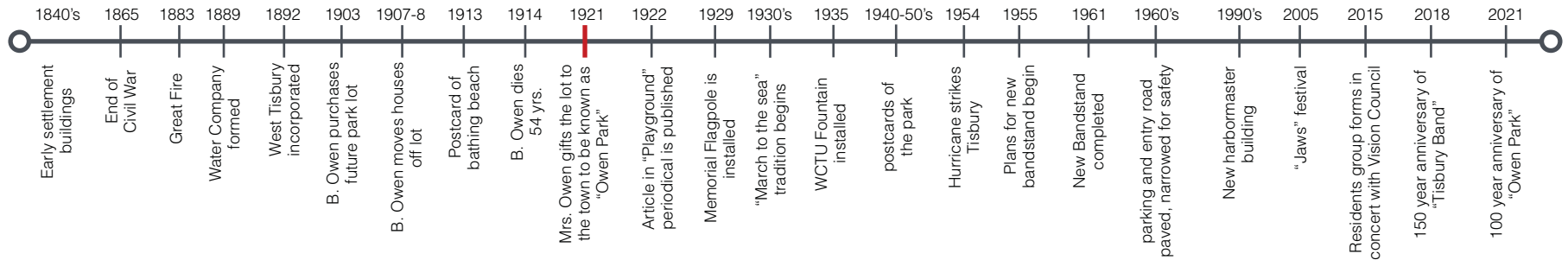


Band Stand and Harbor Showing Jetties, Vineyard Haven, Mass.

9B613-N



1939 Owen Park seen from Main street



Added in Owen Park 20~30s

1929 **Flag Pole** erected

1935 WCTU **Fountain**



May 25, 1935

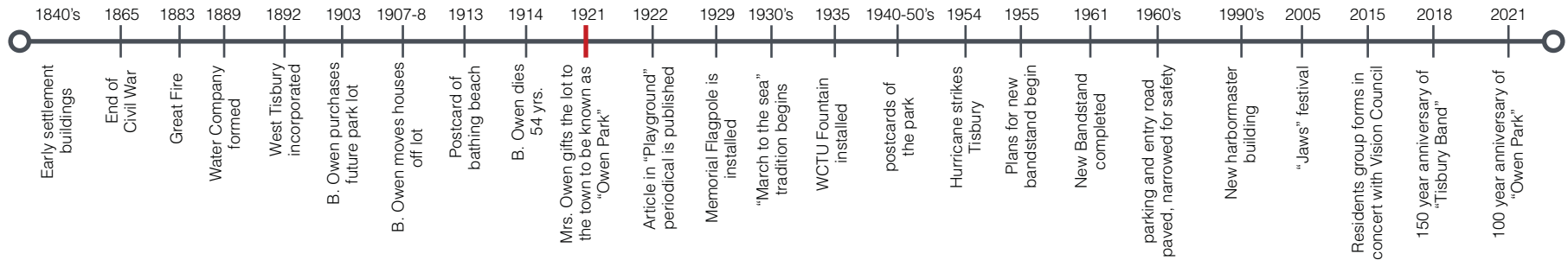


It was on a sunny afternoon, with the green sloping grounds of beautiful Owen Park on the Island of Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts, contrasting with the white sands of the beach and the blue waters of the harbor, when the lovely green bronze drinking fountain was presented by the local Women's Christian Temperance Union to the town of Vineyard Haven.

After a program of songs and recitations by the school children under the direction of their teachers, the formal presentation was made by Mrs. Sydna Eldridge, as three little tots carefully drew aside the veil concealing the simple and graceful lines of the fountain. Mrs. Eldridge was a Crusader, the first president of the local union, and for many years county W.C.T.U. president.

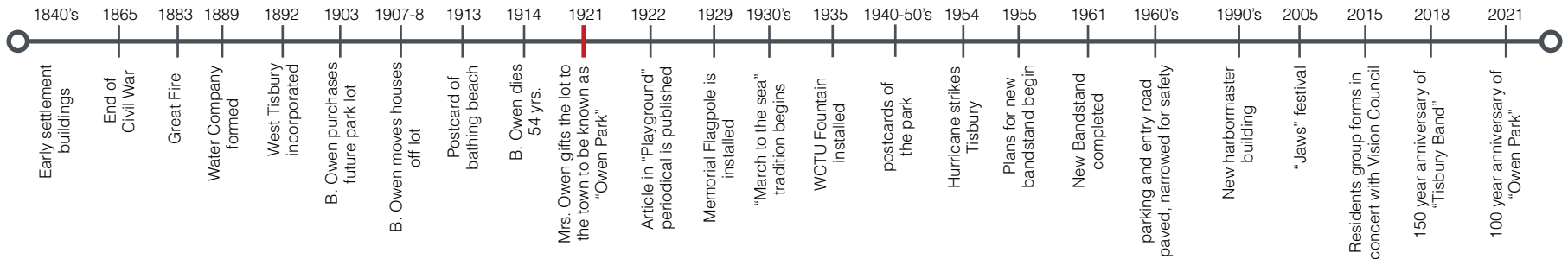
Her picture, shown here at the fountain, will give pleasure to many friends outside the state as well as in all sections of Massachusetts, since this active worker has been prominent in most of the state conventions and was also house mother at the W.C.T.U. Home for Soldiers at Ayer, Massachusetts, throughout the World War. The latter position brought her in close and sympathetic relations with many women, mothers, wives and sweethearts of the soldiers, as well as with the men themselves.

Honor guest at the fountain presentation ceremony was Mrs. Alice G. Ropes, state W.C.T.U. president, who made a delightful talk to the children. Mrs. Ropes also was a guest of honor at the dinner and informal reception during the evening.



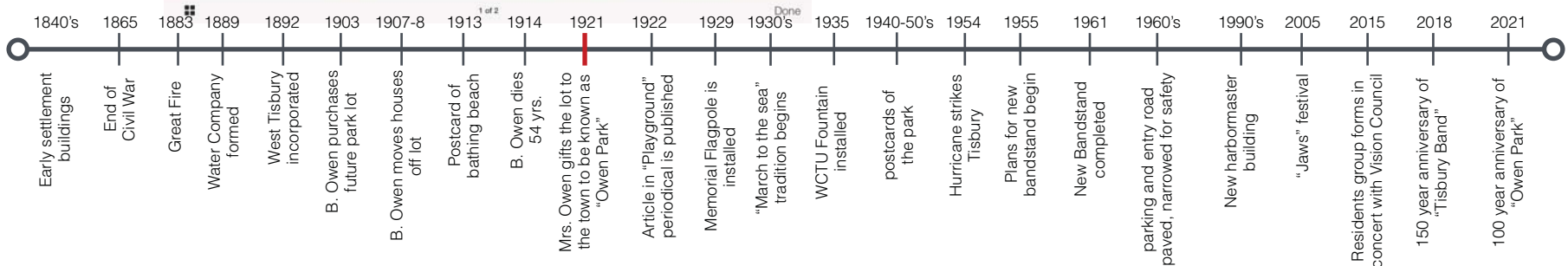
Owen Park Postcards, before 1954

dirt road, swing chairs, shorter pier



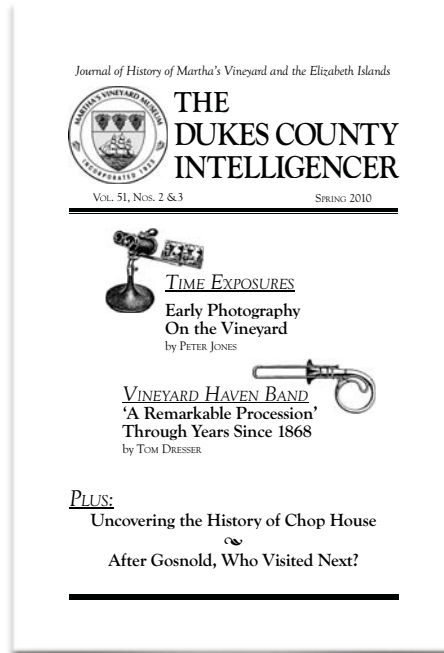
Owen Park Alterations 50~60's

- **1954** Hurricanes Carol & Edna, **fixed Pier**
- **North Side Grading, Paving** for **added Parking Spaces**
- **A request for a new bandstand** by Playground & Recreation Committee
- **1961, a curb** is installed to **designate parking area**

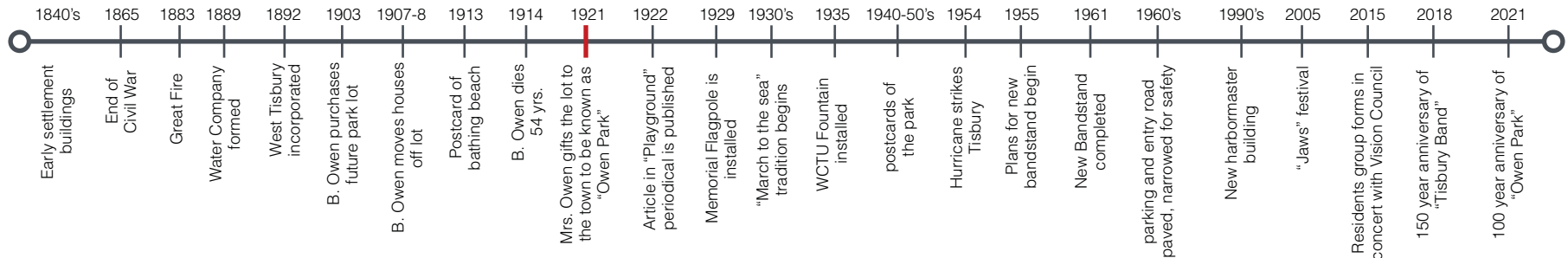


2nd Bandstand, 1961~1962

Funding & Execution Issues

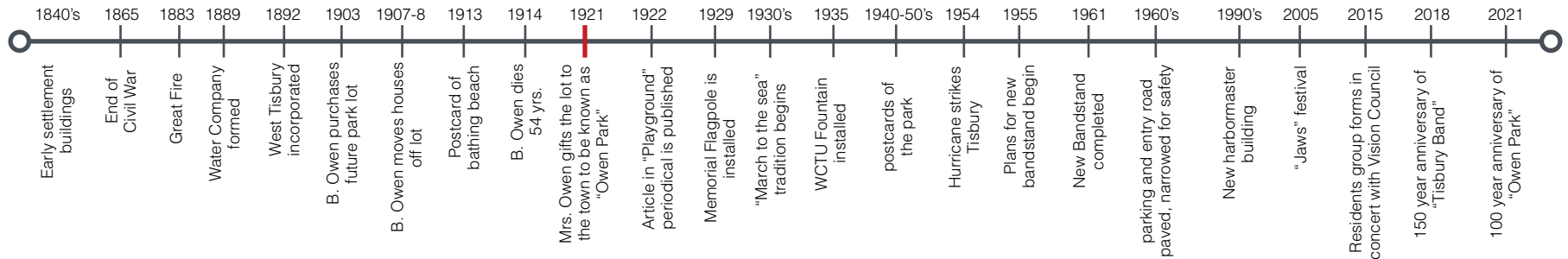


recorded in The Dukes County Intelligencer, Spring 2010

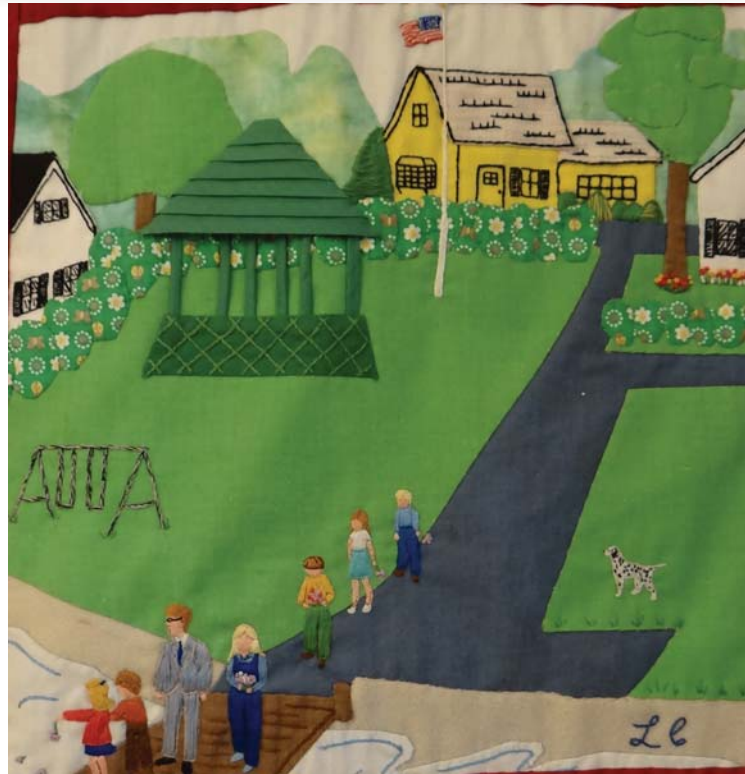


Harbormaster's Building(s)

1991 Record enters, 8x12 Shed (1994), Bathrooms (2005), Showers (2011), Dormers (2014)



Activities in and around Owen Park



1908 VH Public Bathing Beach



VH Public Bathing Beach



accessible
beach front



Current beach and swimming needs:

Clean beach space

Safe water space

Life guard

Water

Trash

Showers

Unloading

parking



Community events

Performance space

Seating

Unloading

Electricity

Storage



Concerts

Movies

Performances

Traditions

The VH Band tradition begins, 1868~



Summer Band Concert “in Owen Park”

Another summer of favorites with the Vineyard Haven Band

A & E Music On-Island by Tony Omer - Jul 9, 2013



The Vineyard Haven Band performs at Owen Park in Vineyard Haven every other Sunday. — Photo by David Welch



2005 JAWSFEST & MVFF outdoor film screenings

30th Anniversary ushers in new tradition of watching movies on the harbor



Harbormaster activities:

Office with harbor view

Communication

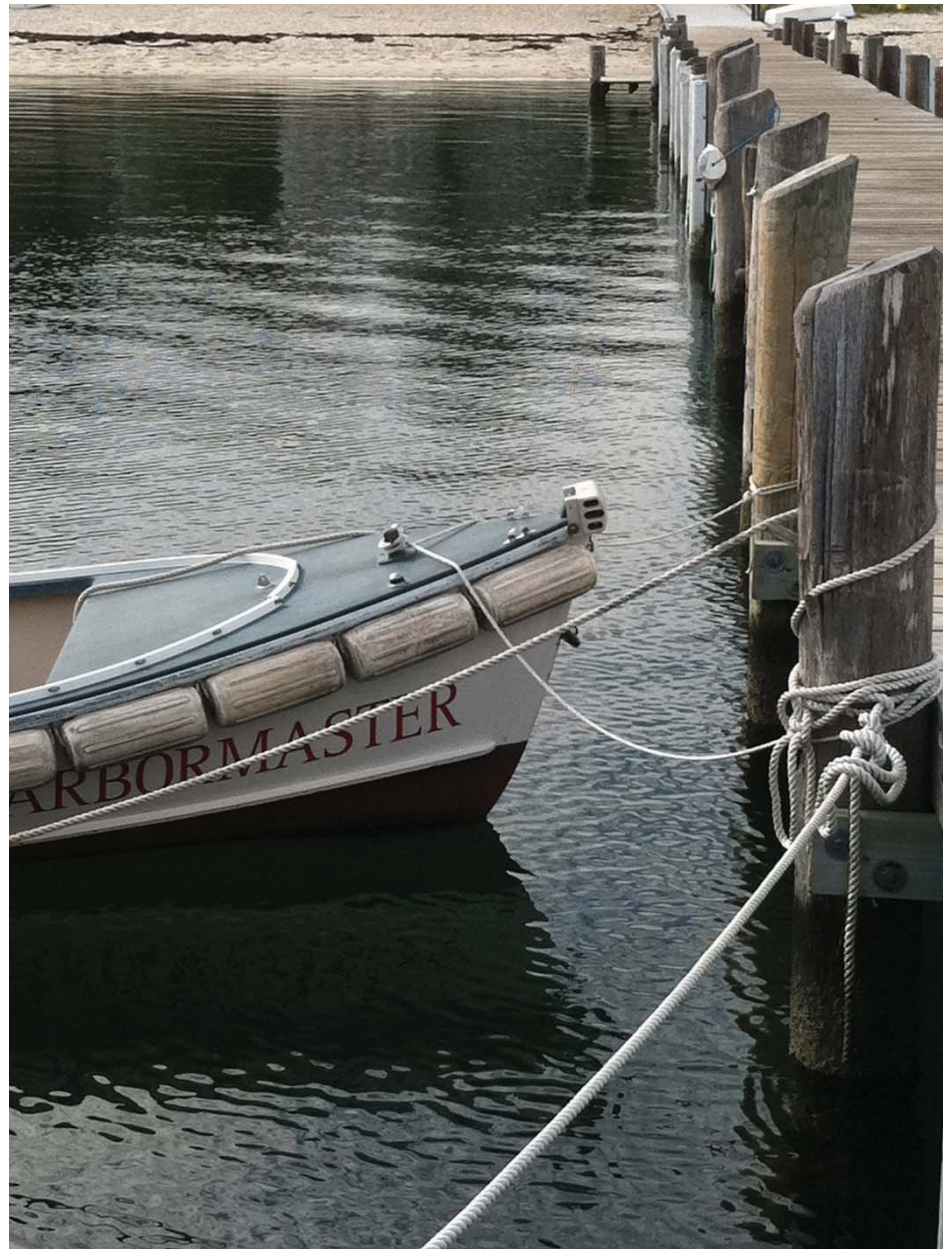
Manage Town Pier

Oversight of dinghy dock

Safety on the water

Direct visiting boats

Boat pump out



Boating activities:

Dinghy docking

Dinghy storage

Unloading equipment

Parking

Water

Bathrooms & Showers

Electricity

Trash

Boat pump out



informal gathering,
picnicking, & play

Benches & seating areas

Shade

Picnic tables & benches

Play equipment

Trash receptacles



Challenges



Beach Conflicts

Parking Maintenance
Programming **Limited space**
Safety Accessibility
Drop off play
Storage Trash collection



Site context



... Circulation ... Abutting properties ... Historic lot patterns ...
Narrow site ... View channels ... Slope ... Main St. ...

Site Conditions



Physical conditions

Shape
Slope
Vegetation
Views

Circulation

Pedestrians
Bikes
Cars

Structures

Bandstand
Flag pole
Harbormaster's office
Bathroom & showers
Dock

Amenities

Benches
Swing set
Lighting
trash receptacles
Dinghy racks
Swim rafts

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Physical conditions

Shape
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2018, 150 year Anniversary for “The VH band”

2021, 100 year Anniversary for “Owen Park”

*Through the Provision of this community play place,
the Summer life of the whole Vineyard has profited.*

(The Playground, Nov 1922)