

**7 Lafayette Street**

In about 1895, he added the large tower to the waterfront side of his Fairhaven home and officially opened it as his painting studio in 1897. Of the Poverty Point area, Gifford once wrote, "There is no other place on the New England coast that would give me the material for study such as sunsets, moonlights, storms. . ."

**2 Oxford St.**

From 1983 until 2006 this was Edgewater Bed and Breakfast. It is now a private home.

**10 Oxford Street**

In 1843, Manjiro Nakahama was tutored here by Miss Jane Allen after his rescue by Capt. William Whitfield.

14 Oxford St.

Young Manjiro Nakahama boarded for a brief time with the Akins while attending the Oxford Village School on North Street in 1843.

**11 Cherry Street**

A black and white portrait of John Brown, showing him from the chest up. He has a serious expression, a full beard, and is wearing a dark coat over a high-collared shirt.

**Capt. Whitfield**



**Manjiro**

A black and white photograph of a two-story wooden house with a gambrel roof. The house features a large front porch with decorative brackets and a white railing. The porch is elevated on a foundation. The house has several windows, including a large circular window on the left side of the first floor. The roof is covered in shingles. The house is surrounded by trees and a street.

**Whitfield-Manjiro  
Friendship House  
11 Cherry Street**

A black and white photograph of a small, single-story building with a gabled roof and a small cupola. The building has a rough, stone-like exterior and several windows with dark shutters. Two people are standing near the entrance on the right side of the building.

40 North Street, corner of Castle Avenue

The building is still owned by the town. It is open Saturday afternoons in June, July and August. Goup visits may be arranged through the Fairhaven Office of Tourism.

**199 Main Street**

At one time, this property was owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, but its upkeep was higher than the group's budget allowed, so it was sold to a real estate holding company. It now houses several apartments.

**193 Main Street**

This Federal style home was built about 1815 for Franklin Bates, brother of Joseph Bates. It was later the home of retired sea captain Ebenezer Pierce, who gave his old sloop *Spray* to Captain Joshua Slocum. Neighbor Alice Charry once wrote that Slocum roomed upstairs over the kitchen in this house during some of his stay in Fairhaven.



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# Exploring the historical “Poverty Point” area



In the 1820s to 1840s Poverty Point became a more residential neighborhood. It was the home of sea captains, such as William H. Whitfield, who rescued Manjiro Nakahama in 1841, and Eben Pierce, who gave his friend Joshua Slocum the *Spray* in 1891. Artists such as Lemuel D. Eldred and Charles H. Gifford lived and worked here and in a home hidden just off Main Street, Seventh Day Adventist founder Joseph Bates, Jr., grew up.

With more than a dozen houses dating to the 1700s, and most of the rest built in the early 1800s, Poverty Point is an interesting neighborhood to explore on foot or by bicycle.

Following are descriptions of some of the things you’ll see as you stroll the area. *Most are private homes and are generally not open to the public. Separate brochures available for subjects marked with an asterisk (\*)*.

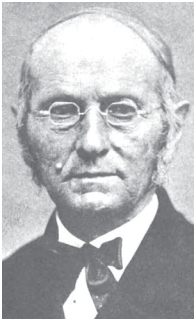
## 1. Joseph Bates\* Boyhood Home (c. 1742) & Thomas Taber Ruins (c. 1680) 191 Main Street

The front part of this house was built about 1742 by William Wood, who had purchased the entire Oxford area from Philip Taber a year or two earlier. The house was purchased in 1793 by Joseph Bates, Sr. a prominent businessman who helped found the New Bedford (later Fairhaven) Academy in 1798.

Bates’ son, Joseph Jr., grew up here before going to sea at the age of fifteen. After retiring as a sea captain, Bates began the local temperance movement and was one of the builders of the Washington Street Meeting house. He became a follower of William Miller who was predicting the Second Advent of Christ. Following the “Great Disappointment” when the predicted event did not occur, Bates wrote a treatise proposing that in order for the Biblical prophecies to come to pass, the Sabbath should be celebrated on Saturdays, the seventh day of the week. Thus Bates founded of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, which was established in 1863.

The house, visited by thousands of Seventh Day Adventists over the years, was purchased in 2006 by the Adventist Heritage Ministry, which is undertaking a resotation. It is open to the public during the spring, summer and early fall.

Next to the Bates house stand the remains of the Tho-



Joseph Bates Jr.

mas Taber house, c. 1680, built after the King Philip War by the former son-in-law of pilgrim John Cooke. The stone wall was part of a huge fireplace and chimney that made up the entire south wall of the house.



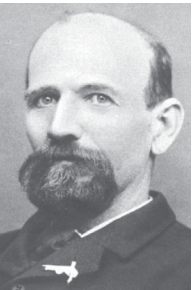
Thomas Taber chimney in the late 1800s.

## 2. Capt. Joshua Slocum\* Memorial Cooke Memorial Park, Pilgrim Avenue

This boulder marks the place near which Captain Joshua Slocum painstakingly rebuilt an antiquated oyster boat, *Spray*. The small vessel (36 feet, 9 inches) had been given to Slocum by Poverty Point resident Capt. Eben Pierce. Slocum began his rebuilding of the *Spray* in 1891 and launched his vessel on June 21, 1892.

In April of 1895, with his *Spray* completely overhauled, Slocum set sail from Boston on a three year voyage around the globe. When he landed at Newport, RI in June of 1898, Slocum became the first man to have sailed around the world alone. On July 3 of that year, he sailed the *Spray* back to her birthplace in Fairhaven.

Slocum’s book *Sailing Alone Around the World*, first published in 1900, is still in print and has been translated into many languages.



Joshua Slocum

## 3. John Cooke Memorial Cooke Memorial Park, Pilgrim Avenue

John Cooke arrived in America at the age of 14 in the year 1620 with his father Francis aboard the *Mayflower*. In 1652



Cooke was among the 36 Plymouth colonists who purchased Dartmouth Township from Wampanoag leader Massasoit and his son Wamsutta. Cooke was the only one of the origi-

nal Pilgrims to actually move to the town, building a home and a garrison near Howland Road.

A Baptist preacher, Cooke represented the area at Plymouth Court for six years and performed a number of legal duties, making him an important figure of his day. He was one of the town’s Selectmen in 1675 when Massasoit’s son King Philip attacked and burned much of old Dartmouth.

Cooke had five daughters whose families – Hathaway, Taber, West and Wilcox – were among the most prominent in the region. At the time of Cooke’s death in 1695, he was the last surviving male passenger of the *Mayflower*.

Taber family tradition once said Cooke was buried here. While this park was referred to as a burial ground in the 1760s, more evidence suggests Cooke may have been buried on Hathaway property in what is now Acushnet.

## 4. Coggeshall Memorial House (1908) 6 Cherry Street

The large Colonial Revival house was built in 1908 by John and Martha (Jenney) Coggeshall on land originally owned by Benjamin Jenney, Martha’s uncle. Upon Martha’s death in 1916, the home was willed to the Fairhaven Colonial Club for use as a meeting place and to house the club’s collection of antiques and paintings by local artists.

The Colonial Club holds occasional open houses , including an annual tea party on the town’s anniversary, February 22.

