



Orleans, Mass - July 1934
 Martha, Grace, Bill, Ed, Gertrude, Rene, and...

The Fiskes Picnicking on Town Cove

Dear Friend of Sea Call Farm,

We have completed the second year of providing housing for Parks and Beaches employees. This summer, two lifeguards and a piping plover monitor stayed at the farm for the summer and beyond. They have been wonderful tenants.

Perhaps the most long-awaited news of the past year is that the farm is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This five-year process puts us in the company of the CG36500 and the Historical Society Meetinghouse, the only other places in Orleans so honored. A brass plaque has been ordered and will be put in place when it arrives.

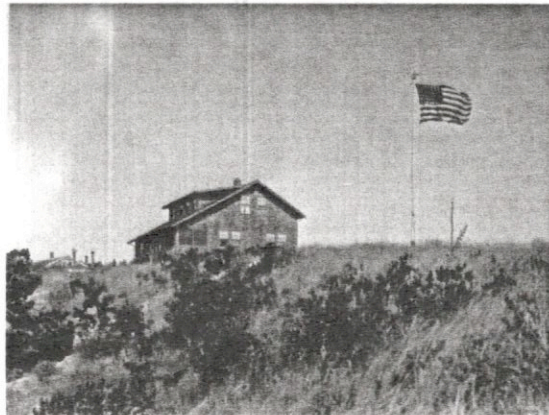
Once again we are the grateful recipients of a Community Preservation Committee grant. These funds are being applied to restoring the greenhouse (or, more accurately, the cold frame) that is part of the National Register listing.

Paul Fulcher and his crew have been helping out with clearing of invasive species and planting native trees and shrubs. Jenny Wood has coordinated this effort.

Thanks to Dan Connolly and Americorps for working with us on clearing locust trees from the bank.



Mary Nastase, our summer intern, has created a photographic time line of important events in the history of the farm and the Fiske family. Those of you who respond to this drive will be mailed a copy of this capsule history from the 1920s to the present, with our thanks.



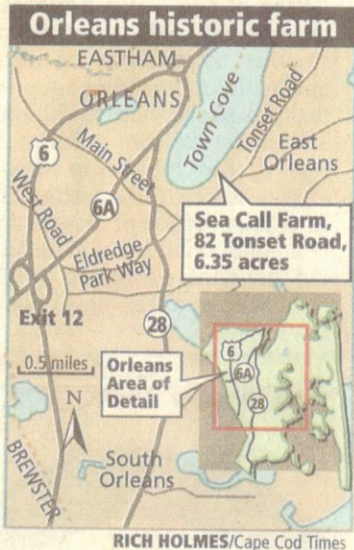
Below is a partial list of work completed this year by the Sea Call Supporters in addition to coordinating the greenhouse restoration.

- Restoration of the herb garden
- Removal of invasive species (ongoing)
- Repair of furniture indigenous to the house and acquisition of additional furnishings
- Spatter painting of the porch floor to match historic sample (Joanna Keeley, below)
- Re-seeding of the grass parking area (by John Faulkner)
- Replanting the orchard
- Restoring the grape arbor
- Scanning of all historic photographs (from the turn of the century)
- Organization of every piece of paper in the archives since 1920 (thank you Barbara Natale) into notebooks



Our cold frame and greenhouse restoration require additional funds, and upcoming improvements include a new roof and doors for the garage. Please use the enclosed form to join or donate what you can. We thank you.

2008
 Sea Call Supporters, Inc.
 P. O. Box 2312
 Orleans MA 02653

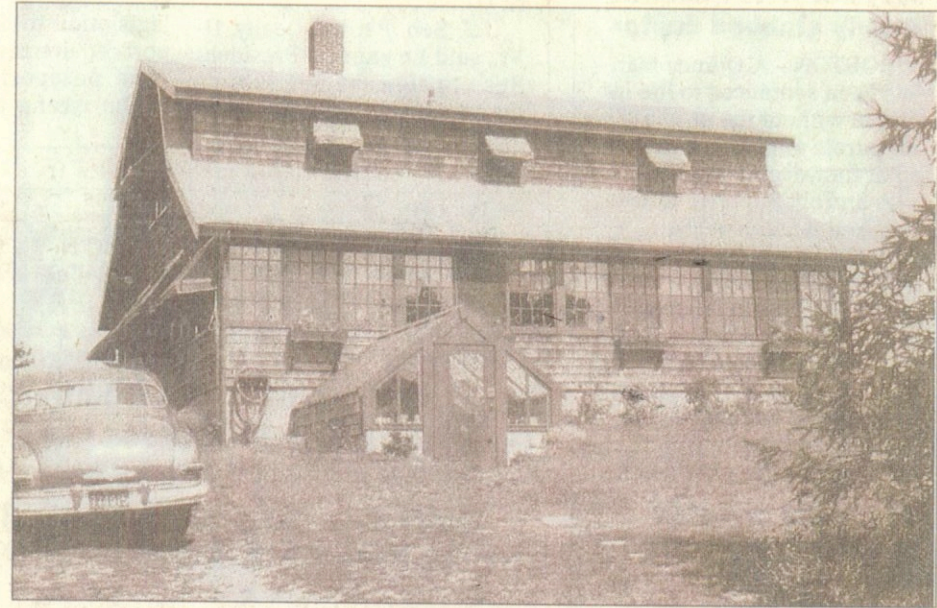


The farm and its 1922 farmhouse on Tonset Road, overlooking Town Cove, is one of just four listed historic properties in town, according to the National Park Service Web site. The others are the French Cable Station Museum, the 36,500 Coast Guard rescue boat and the former Unitarian meetinghouse.

New honor for old house

■ Sea Call Farm in Orleans is accepted for listing by National Register of Historic Places.

By **SUSAN MILTON**
STAFF WRITER



MERRILY LUNSFORD/Cape Cod Times

open space, under the control of the conservation commission. The property soon became home to the town's community gardens and a popular walking and picnicking place.

The future of the deteriorating buildings was debated for years. Farm supporters started restoring the house, re-roofing and reshingling the house. Voters twice beat back proposals to demolish the house, seen as a financial drain by some town officials. But in 2000, voters declined to spend the extra money needed to remove lead paint and restore

The 1922 farmhouse in Orleans, shown in the 1930s and today, has undergone several renovations over the years.

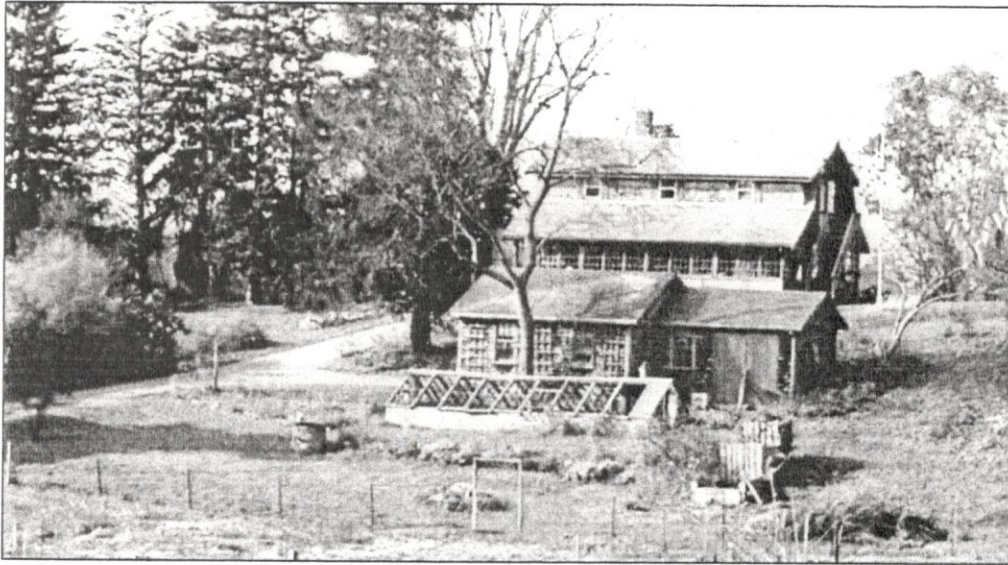
buildings for public use and access.

In 2005, the town meeting voted money for lead removal, a major undertaking this last summer that enabled its use for housing. Two Orleans lifeguards stayed in the house last summer, Crow said. Two Community Preservation Act grants financed other repairs in the past two years. Crow praised James Snow, president of the Supporters group, for his perseverance and the inspiration that has enabled the property's survival.

Now the farm and its 1922 farmhouse on Tonset Road, overlooking Town Cove, is one of just four listed historic properties in town, according to the National Park Service Web site. The others are the French Cable Station Museum, the 36,500 Coast Guard rescue boat and the former Unitarian meetinghouse, now home to the Orleans Historical Society.

Susan Milton can be reached at smilton@capecodonline.com.

Help Save Sea Call Farm: \$50K Goal Closer In Sight



The Town of Orleans has set a March deadline for Sea Call Supporters to raise the funds needed to finish restoring this town-owned property on Tonset Road in Orleans. If the volunteer effort fails, the historic farmhouse could be demolished.

In 1920 the Fiske family acquired Sea Call Farm and ran what would become the last working farm in Orleans. When the last member of the Fiske family died in 1986, the Town Of Orleans acquired the property as open space.

The property overlooks Town Cove and has a variety of habitats, including meadow, marsh, mixed woodlands & working community gardens.

Since 1987, a volunteer group called Sea Call Sup-

porters has used privately raised funds to return the property to its earlier appearance. They also hope the renovated farmhouse will provide affordable housing for two town employees.

Last year, the discovery of lead paint on the first floor stalled renovation progress. Although residents at an Orleans Town Meeting voted unanimously to allocate \$29,000 to de-lead the farmhouse, current estimates for professional lead abate-

ment are more than double the amount.

To date, Sea Call Supporters have raised \$23,500 and are working tirelessly to secure the remaining funds through community support by the Town's March deadline.

Please help preserve this historic treasure, a reminder of a time when Orleans was once nearly all farmland, and a beautiful refuge for all who need a quiet place in a fast and noisy world.

Yes, I Want To Support Sea Call Farm!

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$50 \$35 Other _____

Name _____

SEND YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE
DONATION TO:

Mailing Address _____

SEA CALL SUPPORTERS, INC.

City, State, Zip _____

P.O. BOX 2312

Telephone _____ Email _____

ORLEANS, MA 02653

THIS AD WAS FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CAPE COD.