

Postcards from Falmouth Zoom Program Transcript

Recorded: September 23, 2020

Presenter: Gus Widmayer

Host: Jill Erickson

Topic: *A Gentleman's Guide to the Belvidere Plain in Falmouth, Massachusetts & The Belvidere Plain Revisited*, by Gus Widmayer

- Available in the Falmouth Public Library Reference Department REF LocHist 974.492 WID
- Also mentioned: *How to Read a Book*, by Mortimer J. Adler, available from CLAMS under 801.9 ADL

Note: The right column references postcards by identifiers searchable in the Digital Commonwealth online collection.

00:30	[Music]	
00:45	good morning I think it's appropriate	
00:49	on the sesquicentennial 150th	
00:53	anniversary of the postcard	
00:55	that we also acknowledge that it's the	
00:59	sesquicentennial of Belvidere Plain	#belvidereplain Hunt_Village_Har_114
01:03	a real estate development from 1870	#1870
01:08	I believe it was completed around 1872.	#1872
01:12	so I want to draw your attention to uh	
01:15	where it is located	
01:17	on the shores of Vineyard Sound	#vineyardsound
01:20	nestled in between the beach	
01:24	and what's known as what was known then	
01:27	as Deacon's Pond	#deaconspond Gunning_Village_Har_0190

Falmouth Public Library – Postcards from Falmouth

01:28	we now know it today as Falmouth Harbor	#falmouthharbor Hunt_Village_Har_103 through 120 Gunning_Heights_Har_1320 through 1334
01:32	and you can see a lot of little postage	
01:35	stamp sized	
01:36	lots that were	
01:40	planned out and really most of them	
01:42	never	
01:43	um wound up that way because	
01:47	when people came in to buy properties	
01:49	they bought several	
01:51	at a clip so	
01:54	my focus today is on the postcards	
01:58	that depict uh various scenes from	
02:00	around Belvidere Plain	
02:03	and there are about 20 and	
02:06	I've added a few photographs and I'll	
02:10	even	
02:11	finish off with a plug for my book	
02:15	which hopefully	
02:18	Jill Erickson and Kim DeWall can make	
02:21	available	
02:22	to you from the Falmouth Public Library	
02:26	so let's go to the first slide	
02:31	most people recognize this house	

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02:35	it was owned by	
02:39	a family named Butler around the turn of	#butler
02:42	the century	
02:46	fairly prominent on the point it sits	
02:49	today just behind the Falmouth Yacht	#falmouthyachtclub Gunning_Village_Bldg_0385
02:51	Club	
02:53	uh had a beautiful expansive lawn	
02:56	right on the harbor overlooking the	
02:58	ocean	
02:59	a nice tennis court and I	
03:02	found this picture in an old antiques	
03:06	uh market in the Fenway section of	
03:08	Boston	
03:10	probably in the 1990s	
03:13	and it hit my eye I recognized it right	
03:15	away	
03:17	but most importantly for me uh right	
03:20	over here	
03:21	on the right hand side um was an early	
03:25	photograph	
03:26	of Belvidere Plain which is on the west	
03:30	side of the harbor	
03:32	so I grabbed the picture and I expanded	
03:35	this section	
03:39	to what you see here and for those of	

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03:42	you familiar with the harbor	
03:44	you'll recognize the home here that	
03:48	once belonged to Bill Wyman	#wyman
03:51	and his family for	
03:54	probably 75 years	
03:59	and you'll be able to see by the time	
04:02	we're done	
04:05	various homes that are no longer	
04:08	no longer there	
04:12	particularly these two what we call	
04:15	beetle houses	
04:17	which I'll point out a little later	
04:21	um this photograph	
04:24	is about circa 19	
04:29	20 I I would say	
04:36	this photograph uh which I acquired	
04:40	on eBay from an auction	
04:44	in my mind is the oldest	
04:48	known photograph of the Belvidere Plain	
04:52	I don't want to say absolutely	
04:55	positively	
04:56	because	
05:01	I don't have proof so I'll leave that to	
05:06	a younger generation to figure out for	
05:08	me but	
05:10	the back side of this stereo card does	

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05:13	say Falmouth Harbor and	
05:17	these this is a	
05:20	windmill that drew water from the ocean	
05:27	onto flats where it dried	
05:31	in the 19th century	
05:34	for salt and uh	
05:38	this hill here um	
05:42	I believe to be Falmouth Heights it	#falmouthheights
05:44	doesn't look that tall	
05:46	but you know perspective is very	
05:49	um a very tricky thing in the 1870s	
05:53	1880s um	
05:56	I believe we can also date it from this	
06:00	man's hat	
06:01	this man's hat so uh in time	
06:06	one of you might be able to	
06:10	research this to nail down	
06:14	a date and these	
06:18	two structures here might also	
06:22	help us but um	
06:25	I'm keeping my fingers crossed the	
06:28	oldest	
06:29	beach photo Belvidere Plain	
06:35	now I'd like to tell you about a book	
06:37	that I acquired from	
06:39	my father's second cousin Rita Keckeisen	

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06:44	she was a librarian	
06:47	in the Butler Library at Columbia	
06:50	College	
06:51	in New York City and when she passed	
06:54	away	
06:55	in 2003	
06:58	her family distributed her possessions	
07:01	and then asked me if I'd like to go in	
07:05	to see if there was anything that I	
07:07	wanted	
07:08	because Rita and I had been	
07:11	a 30-year correspondent uh	
07:16	had been correspondents for 30 years she	
07:18	more or less was my mentor	
07:20	she taught me everything uh I needed to	
07:23	know to be a good	
07:25	uh thorough genealogist my hobby has	
07:28	been	
07:29	uh family tree research uh practically	
07:32	all of my life	
07:34	and uh it really inspired my	
07:37	um interest in the history of Belvidere	
07:40	Plain	
07:42	so Mortimer J. Adler he	#mortimeradler
07:46	is um a well-known editor	
07:49	in New York circles back in the day	

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07:52	and it struck me as very odd that he	
07:56	wrote a book	
07:58	entitled How to Read a Book	
08:01	and uh I'd never seen anything like that	
08:04	before so I read it	
08:06	cover to cover and I'll give you the uh	
08:09	I'll give you the cliff notes he	
08:11	essentially	
08:13	is um asking	
08:16	us as as the readers to	
08:20	imbibe every aspect	
08:24	of every book that we read don't just	
08:26	open it and start reading page one	
08:29	start at the fly leaf on the cover	
08:32	start uh with the um	
08:36	publisher page publishing page	
08:39	read every line in the table of contents	
08:44	he really wants us to treat every book	
08:46	like a fine bottle of wine	
08:49	savor every sip and so	
08:54	I thought that was appropriate for this	
08:56	morning's talk because	
08:58	the same uh rules can apply to postcards	
09:03	we need to not just see them for	
09:06	a picture or a quick note but	
09:10	there's a lot more there's a lot more	

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09:12	behind it	
09:14	and we can start with	
09:18	postage stamps now	
09:21	if a postcard is 150 years	
09:25	old then	
09:28	the first stamp that was designed for a	
09:31	postcard	
09:32	the one penny stamp in 1926	#1926
09:37	means that an awful lot of postcards got	
09:40	shipped um before and after	
09:45	for a penny and in fact it wasn't until	
09:47	1952	#1952
09:49	that the rate went up so	
09:53	if you see a postcard with a one penny	
09:55	stamp on it	
09:57	it's not going to be too too helpful	
10:00	because	
10:00	there's um there's a 75	
10:05	year period there where where they	
10:09	posted for one cents you get	
10:12	luckier from 1952 on because	
10:16	postal rates seemed to outpace inflation	
10:21	and they kept going up and	
10:24	in fact if you see for example	
10:27	a postcard with seven	
10:30	cents on the stamp you can actually	

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10:36	tell yourself you can actually date that	
10:39	postcard to	
10:40	three months in 1975.	
10:44	so as you see the dating methodology	
10:48	becomes much clearer	
10:51	the later you get now at some point and	
10:54	I don't know when this was	
10:56	but probably in the 2000s	
11:00	um these became these stamps became	
11:04	forever stamps	
11:05	so I don't know if 2006	
11:09	is um applies but if you see a postcard	
11:13	with a forever stamp	
11:14	that's 24 cents it could have been	
11:17	posted last week	
11:19	I mean they last forever	
11:22	um here's an example of	
11:26	an early I think 1902	
11:30	one cent Franklin stamp so you'll see a	
11:33	lot of these	
11:34	on postcards I think Lady Liberty is on	
11:38	one	
11:40	in 1952 it went to two cents	
11:44	but uh this is an early two cent stamp	
11:47	from 1902	
11:49	which you would not have seen on a	

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11:51	postcard	
11:55	so going by Mortimer J. Adler's	
11:59	methodology what are all the ways that	
12:02	we can	
12:03	um partake of postcards	
12:07	we know there's a picture on the front	
12:09	side	
12:11	if we're lucky we see a really beautiful	
12:17	post mark on the back here's Falmouth	
12:20	Mass	
12:20	July 28th 1pm	
12:24	1943. uh	
12:27	you can't get any better than that um	
12:31	another thing you can determine from a	
12:33	postcard oh and by the way	
12:34	see the one Lady Liberty stamp here	
12:38	um obviously we've got until 1952 before	
12:42	that goes up	
12:43	to two cents published by E.D. West	
12:46	Company	
12:47	South Yarmouth Mass you can actually go	
12:51	on eBay or you know your favorite flea	
12:54	market	
12:55	and collect postcards	
12:58	that were published by E.D. West	
13:01	there are a number of different	

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13:03	companies you can collect all of them	
13:05	and they oftentimes will	
13:08	number them so you can	
13:11	collect them in sequence once in a while	
13:15	you can also	
13:16	identify the photographer	
13:19	that's a little bit tricky you sort of	
13:21	have to	
13:22	find his body of work first and then	
13:26	tie it in to a postcard	
13:30	the other things that postcards tell you	
13:33	are	
13:34	the sender and	
13:37	the recipient those are sometimes	
13:42	fascinating and this particular one	
13:46	tells you that is that the vacationer	
13:50	stayed at the Catalpa Cottage on Shore	#shorestreet Gunning_Village_Sts_0080 through 0084 Hunt_Village_Sts_171 & 172
13:52	Street	
13:53	in Falmouth um in July of 1943	
13:59	so uh if you happen to	
14:02	live at that address you might	
14:05	know Cokie and	
14:08	Mrs. Carl Gulchmark	

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14:12	Riverside Drive New York City	
14:16	so as you can	
14:20	see there are many many interesting	
14:22	aspects	
14:23	to a postcard	
14:28	this is the earliest postcard	Variant from the Hunt collection: Hunt_Village_Har_113
14:31	in my collection um	
14:36	I date it to 1905.	
14:39	it shows Belvidere Plain in the	
14:41	foreground	
14:42	these um these	
14:46	beetle shaped roof lines	
14:50	they were probably practical to	
14:54	have wind off the beach go right over	
14:57	the house	
15:00	though not very successful because	
15:03	in 1938 these two	#1938
15:06	were knocked off their foundation by the	
15:10	hurricane	#hurricane
15:10	this one still stands at the tail end of	
15:13	Spinnaker Lane	#spinnakerlane
15:16	one thing you'll notice about early	
15:17	postcards 1900 maybe to 1910	
15:22	is that the um the pictures	
15:26	do not extend to the boundary of the	

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15:29	paper	
15:30	that's a function of the technology they	
15:33	once they got very popular they quickly	
15:36	learned how to print these	
15:40	by bleeding the photograph off the edge	
15:43	of the of the	
15:44	card	
15:48	and this is another trick that you can	
15:51	try	
15:52	with I use a photo editing software	
15:56	called Adobe	
15:57	Photoshop and I can take that same	
16:00	postcard	
16:02	get rid of the arrow where the sender	
16:05	was staying	
16:06	get rid of an ink mark	
16:10	clean it up brighten it up and	
16:15	make it presentable for and in my case	
16:18	for the book that I was	
16:20	publishing	
16:23	you need a good scanner and you need a	
16:24	good software program	
16:26	I highly recommend Adobe products	
16:31	here is a postcard taken from the Old	#oldstonedock Variant from the Gunning collection: Gunning_Village_Har_0180

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		Other postcards of this site: Gunning_Village_Har_0173 through 0188 Hunt_Village_Bch_0089 through 0095
16:34	Stone Dock	
16:35	in Falmouth which used to be Falmouth's	
16:37	harbor	
16:38	at the end of Shore Street and you see	
16:41	the same view	
16:42	the um the	
16:47	houses here along the beach in Belvidere	
16:49	Plain you can see	
16:50	Falmouth Heights in the distance	
16:54	a couple of young boys running down the	
16:57	jetty	
16:58	and some sailboats again this would need	
17:01	to be heavily cleaned up	
17:03	I don't think I used this one in the	
17:05	book I used another	
17:06	copy that I found that was much cleaner	
17:11	oh this must be it	
17:14	and what I would do is just brighten it	
17:16	up so that when it's printed in the book	
17:18	it's um it's uh	
17:22	it becomes clearer and	

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17:26	black and white versus this is scanned	
17:29	in color	
17:37	this is a picture of the old harbor	
17:41	from the other side and oops and	
17:46	there's a nice little um	
17:50	note here please send as usual to last	
17:53	address	
17:53	by Tuesday if possible E.B.	
17:58	Salandin he was probably looking for a	
18:01	rent	
18:02	of his on his summer cottage	
18:08	I include this photograph of the	
18:11	Heights from around the same time period	
18:14	19	
18:15	1905 because uh you can see	
18:19	from uh perspective from a different	
18:23	perspective	
18:24	at the end of this long wooden wharf	
18:27	the Butler house that was in the first	
18:30	photograph that I shared with you	
18:33	this is the Tower House Hotel	#towerhousehotel Gunning_Heights_Bldg_1207 through 1210, 1217 through 1223 Hunt_Heights_Bldg_244 through 251
18:37	which I think came down in about 19	
18:41	50 Jill Jill'll know better	

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18:44	on that excuse me	
18:49	excuse me for a minute I had to get a	
18:52	drink of water	
18:53	so in this photograph you can see	
18:56	the windmill	
19:00	that was on the old Waterside estate	#waterside
19:04	and you can also see	
19:07	the Weinberg house here so	#weinberg
19:10	that was built in I think 1914	
19:14	and it looks pretty new the wood looks	
19:16	clean	
19:17	so I would date this postcard to	
19:22	1914.	
19:26	let's take a look at the next one	
19:29	it is the mouth of the harbor being	Variants from the Hunt & Gunning collections: Hunt_Village_Bch_084, Gunning_Village_Har_0190 & 191 Similar cards: Gunning_Heights_Pnd_1311 & 1312
19:33	dredged by the	
19:35	barge Wollaston and	
19:38	it was colorized obviously and	
19:41	we can also see that by 1910	#1910
19:45	the pictures are bleeding	
19:48	off the edge of the postcard there's	

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19:52	our focal point that always tells us	
19:55	where we are	
19:56	the Butler house on the uh	
20:00	on the end of Falmouth Heights	
20:03	this by the way was Clinton Road	
20:07	Clinton Avenue used to uh run right	#clintonavenue
20:10	across	
20:11	here and that's essentially what they're	
20:13	digging away	
20:14	is the spit of land	
20:18	across which was Clinton	
20:23	this is a really great photograph that	
20:26	shows	
20:27	in perfect detail	
20:30	that activity in 1919 you can see the	#1919
20:34	name on the	
20:35	barge here the Wollaston and these two	
20:39	were dredging the harbor there are a	
20:42	number of	
20:44	aspects to this photograph that	
20:47	helped to date it this is the William	
20:50	Wyman	
20:51	house on the edge of the harbor	
20:54	this is the tower on	
20:58	11 Wheeling Avenue which	#wheelingavenue
21:01	came down in	

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21:09	I believe around 1913	
21:12	so we know that	
21:15	this was taller this used to be taller	
21:20	in its day um this house number four	
21:24	Wheeling Avenue	
21:25	burned to the ground I'd have to look up	
21:28	the actual	
21:29	year that that happened number one	
21:31	Wheeling Avenue	
21:34	this is 20 Tim Nye's Cartway	#timnyecartway
21:38	16 Tim Nye's Cartway those	
21:41	are the houses in which I grew up as a	
21:43	boy	
21:46	and this is the	
21:50	back end of 151 Clinton Avenue which	
21:54	sits on the	
21:54	edge of Tim Nye's Cartway and this	
21:58	is the house on the at the foot of	
22:00	Sheridan Avenue	#sheridanavenue
22:01	on Clinton Avenue on the corner of	
22:04	Clinton	
22:05	and Sheridan and you can see how all of	
22:08	this	
22:08	land was vacant at that	
22:12	time so when the family who lived	
22:15	in our family homes	

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22:18	was here in 19	
22:22	up until 1925 they had	
22:26	a beautiful uninterrupted view of the	
22:29	harbor this	
22:32	house here	
22:39	is	
22:45	um I can't think of the family's name	
22:48	but this is also gone	
22:50	and has been replaced by	
22:53	a new house if I think of it I'll	
22:56	mention it	
22:57	later postcards were	
23:00	also made from	
23:03	pictures from photographs that you could	
23:06	mail into a company and they'll return	
23:10	back to you	
23:11	a set of 10 or 20.	
23:15	this happens to have been a photograph	
23:19	taken by a member of the Lowry family	#lowry
23:22	Mrs. Lowry was Bill Wyman's mother	
23:25	and this house front and center is	
23:29	43 Harrisburg it's now been moved right	#harrisburgavenue
23:32	up to the water	
23:34	this is the Tim Nye Cartway house that	
23:38	my family moved to in 1967.	
23:46	this is number one Wheeling Avenue on	

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23:50	the corner of Girard	#girardavenue
23:52	this is the old Lowry house with the	
23:55	tower	
23:56	this uh house is number four Wheeling	
23:59	Avenue that burned	
24:00	to the ground and it's gone you can	
24:03	still see some	
24:05	you can still see some concrete	
24:07	foundation	
24:08	markers there unless they've been	
24:11	removed recently	
24:13	and this is one of the	
24:17	uh beetle shaped homes that	
24:20	was knocked off its foundation by the	
24:24	hurricane in 1938 so that	
24:27	is now gone and it's a private private	
24:29	community beach	
24:32	here are the two homes that were knocked	
24:34	off their foundation	
24:36	they're both uh they're both gone they	
24:39	must have been beautiful	
24:41	beautiful homes right on the beach again	
24:46	this is a photograph that was turned	
24:47	into a postcard	
24:49	there are notes and stamps on the back	
24:56	this is a similar view probably	

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25:00	around 1914 you can see	
25:04	some familiar structures these are the	
25:06	two	
25:08	Wheeling Avenue homes that were	
25:11	destroyed	
25:12	and this is the Weinberg	
25:16	house on Girard Avenue	
25:19	um brand spanking new I would say	
25:23	the uh the wood looks still looks bright	
25:25	and clean	
25:27	it hasn't aged so this postcard is very	
25:31	likely	
25:32	1915 1914	
25:36	and uh there's a nice wooden pier here	
25:39	that	
25:41	that is no longer there	
25:45	same view um showing a better	
25:49	perspective	
25:50	on the houses on the at the end of	
25:54	Harrisburg um this is the Drummond house	#drummond
25:58	now	
26:01	this is the Burns house again the homes	#burns
26:05	on Wheeling Avenue the two	
26:07	I don't know why I want to call them	
26:08	eyebrow houses but the two	
26:11	beetle beetle houses on Wheeling Avenue	

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26:15	and the Weinberg home	
26:20	it's a beautiful beach my father loved	
26:22	this beach	
26:24	he used to this is the uh now	
26:27	this is now the the neighborhood	
26:32	beach where this house used to be and my	
26:34	father would sit there and	
26:36	say to me where he said to me one day	
26:40	how could you believe that God doesn't	
26:42	exist when	
26:43	he created such beauty as this beach	
26:48	he was he was enraptured	
26:53	this is a fascinating shot it took me a	Variant from the Hunt collection: Hunt_Heights_Har_314
26:56	while	
26:57	to stare at this photograph	
27:00	to understand what exactly I was looking	
27:03	at	
27:05	but it clearly says Deacon's Pond Harbor	
27:08	the fleet at anchor Falmouth Heights	
27:11	Mass so here's the harbor um	
27:14	it has access to the ocean but	
27:17	it doesn't really look like this is	
27:20	where	
27:20	Falmouth Heights should be and it took	
27:24	me	

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27:25	a little while to determine that the	
27:27	publisher had reversed the shot	
27:30	so when we turn this around	
27:34	you will see this makes sense	
27:37	here are the two beetle houses on the	
27:41	end of Wheeling Avenue	
27:42	here is the Wyman house the jetty at the	
27:46	end of the harbor	
27:47	here's the where the Clam Shack is	
27:51	at the tail end of Clinton Avenue	
27:55	and um this is the	
27:58	house that I'm trying to remember the	
28:00	name of	
28:02	and it will come to me	
28:06	this house I don't recognize but	
28:09	uh one of you may or Jill might be able	
28:12	to help us out	
28:13	a house with two little outbuildings	
28:17	a little further down on Scranton	#scrantonavenue
28:21	so I wouldn't be as familiar with it but	
28:24	I'm sure	
28:26	I'm sure we'll get it identified and in	
28:29	in the uh	
28:31	in this shot you can see the same house	
28:34	with the two out buildings	
28:36	somewhere down along Scranton Avenue	

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28:40	um if you find out	
28:44	let me know I'd like to know who that is	
28:47	I skipped past this one but I do want to	
28:51	point out that this is Waterside	
28:54	at the end of Shore Street at the beach	
28:58	where you turn that 90 degree turn	
29:03	along the public beach there I don't	
29:06	quite	
29:07	recognize these homes but	
29:10	with a little further analysis I'm sure	
29:12	we could figure them out	
29:15	and this home here is across	Hunt_Village_Bldg_068 & 69 Gunning_Village_Bldg_0417
29:19	Shore Street on the other side and it	
29:21	belonged at the time	
29:23	to an old Navy man named Richard Olney	#richardolney
29:27	there's probably quite a bit written	
29:29	about him	
29:31	that you can look up at the library	
29:35	it's a nice shot colorized obviously	
29:43	I love this shot it must have been taken	
29:46	right after the harbor was dredged	
29:47	because these two jetties look brand new	
29:50	they still look like piles of rock	
29:52	and uh the beach is still kind of taking	

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29:56	the contour	
29:57	of where the old spit of land used to be	
30:02	this is all fill very clearly all	
30:05	fill um	
30:08	this house someone	
30:12	can identify for us on Falmouth Heights	
30:16	I don't recognize it but I'm sure it's	
30:18	been gone for a very long time	
30:20	and just out of frame here would be the	
30:25	Butler house our our point of reference	
30:29	on on Falmouth Heights	
30:32	oh and it even says new harbor so that's	
30:35	a brand spanking new	
30:37	photograph 1919 in 1919	
30:44	um this	
30:47	is a photograph not a postcard but a	
30:51	photograph	
30:52	that a neighbor sent to me taken from an	
30:56	airplane	
30:57	you can see Falmouth Harbor	
31:02	Clinton Ave Clinton Avenue has been cut	
31:05	so this is uh post 19	
31:09	19 1920 maybe and you can see Clinton	
31:13	Avenue here	
31:15	uh this house on what is now Settlers	#settlerspath
31:18	Path	

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31:20	is brand new so I'm guessing 1920s for	
31:25	sure	
31:27	and this is the little inlet	
31:30	at the mouth of Falmouth Harbor I	
31:35	blew it up a little to get a better view	
31:38	but obviously the plane was shaking so	
31:41	whoever took the photograph	
31:42	had to contend with a little vibration	
31:48	you can see the columnated building here	
31:52	which I forget what that	
31:55	was but we'll be able to identify that	
32:06	this is Harrisburg this	
32:09	is Timothy Nye's Cartway	
32:12	Clinton Avenue this house	
32:16	um uh Vivian Center lived in for years	#viviancenter
32:20	and years and years and I interviewed	
32:22	her	
32:22	for my book as I did	
32:26	um many of these residents	
32:30	and you can see the Butler house right	
32:33	here	
32:35	and the Tower Hotel	
32:39	it's too bad it's really too bad that	
32:41	this wasn't clear	
32:42	because it's just an amazing old shot	
32:44	that you just wouldn't see	

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32:46	otherwise	
32:51	this photograph um was taken about 1920	
32:55	by Theodore	#gerloff
32:57	Gerloff the father of Miss Anna Gerloff	
32:59	who was quite	
33:00	elderly when I uh knew her	
33:04	in the late 1900s	
33:09	but it was probably taken um right after	
33:12	this house was built	
33:14	on Harrisburg Lane	
33:17	you can see the roof line of the	
33:21	two beetle-shaped houses that were blown	
33:24	down in 1938	
33:27	you can see the tower here on the Lowry	
33:30	house has been	
33:31	brought down in height	
33:38	this is one of my favorites again um	Variant from the Hunt collection: Hunt_Village_Har_111
33:42	1920 these two big sloops here you can	
33:45	see a couple of old	
33:48	Model T's that were still hanging around	
33:51	and this house which is the big	
33:55	yellow mansion that belonged to	
33:58	to [Dr. K Leland] for many years	Sp. unknown. May be "Kay" for Dr. Katherine Leland.
34:03	I believe that went up in 1920	
34:09	so	

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34:12	let's see I've got my I believe that one	
34:16	up in 1920 so we can date	
34:20	we can date the postcard	
34:23	if it didn't have a postmark on the back	
34:26	to about that period	
34:36	and this is a similar shot this was one	
34:38	where	
34:39	um you know I mentioned that all aspects	
34:43	of the postcard are	
34:44	are fascinating and this one was	
34:48	kind of fun because it was from	
34:51	one young sailor to a friend back home	
34:56	and uh he's he	
34:59	says he wrote dear Newbold	
35:02	we're having a fine time up here and	
35:05	wish you were near us	
35:07	will you come to lunch when we get home	
35:10	Bayard Kane Fox posted 1935	
35:16	and addressed to Master	
35:20	Newbold Black	
35:23	two school school chums keeping in touch	
35:26	with one another	
35:32	and um I wanted to show this	
35:36	circa 1952 aerial shot	
35:39	of Falmouth Harbor	
35:43	this is the Butler house this is the	

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35:47	Yacht Club the Tides Motel	#tidesmotel
35:50	Belvidere Plain pretty much encompasses	
35:54	this entire	
35:55	flat land uh	
35:58	and you can see even even by 1952	
36:02	standards	
36:03	quite a lot was not yet developed	
36:05	there's a lot	
36:06	of open land and in	
36:10	in the early days in the 1800s	
36:14	people would buy lots along	
36:17	Clinton Avenue that stretched in long	
36:20	rectangles	
36:21	all the way back to Main Street so a lot	
36:24	of these lots if you follow their	
36:26	history they go back	
36:29	from Clinton Avenue to	
36:33	Main Street and the Belvidere Plain	
36:38	as we saw from the early development map	
36:41	probably stopped at King at	#kingstreet
36:45	Queen Street and everything	#queenstreet
36:48	beyond would fall under the	
36:52	classification of Falmouth Center	
36:58	this is a closer view you can start to	
37:00	see some of the houses	
37:02	that are familiar in	

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37:06	on Belvidere Plain this is the Robertson	#robertson
37:08	house	
37:11	this is the um	
37:14	Regatta the Regatta	
37:17	Hotel this is the Regatta restaurant	#regatta
37:24	it's a nice clear shot I'm not sure	
37:26	where I got it I probably bought it on	
37:27	eBay	
37:30	and then that this is a close-up Clinton	
37:33	Avenue	
37:34	this is Sheridan Avenue	
37:38	this is the Wyman house	
37:49	and then I wanted to uh just add in this	
37:52	um	
37:53	later view probably 1950ish 1945	
37:57	maybe shows the Butler house um	
38:01	the the uh	
38:05	oh the old sailor what is this name	
38:07	begins with the letter g	
38:10	Gallagher Gallagher used to live in this	#gallagher
38:12	house next to the Yacht Club	
38:14	and the um	
38:18	Tower House Hotel	
38:24	so in 2003	
38:28	I believe I published	
38:32	the stories of the various families	

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38:35	who lived on Belvidere Plain	
38:38	and I included photographs and chapters	
38:41	on each of their houses	
38:43	and I did research on a lot of the	
38:48	titles land titles the deeds that passed	
38:53	and put it all together into uh	
38:56	into book form published it	
39:02	I was very uh very happy to get it	
39:05	in print because I had talked to a good	
39:09	many neighbors and had scraps of paper	
39:13	you know from my various interviews	
39:17	with them it really was a fascinating	
39:19	hobby I started when I was	
39:22	probably 13 or 14	
39:26	and I loved just loved hearing	
39:29	stories of the history of the	
39:32	neighborhood	
39:36	oh and I want to show you this postcard	
39:38	because the cover of my book	
39:40	see these green shutters and red roof	
39:43	uh comes from this postcard	Variants from the Hunt & Gunning collections: Gunning_Village_Har_0172 Hunt_Village_Bch_079
39:47	so obviously I oh and you know I think	
39:51	the back cover	
39:52	this extends to the back cover this	

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39:54	would be the spine	
39:56	and this is the front cover of the book	
39:59	this is a	
39:59	this is another one of my favorite	
40:02	postcards	
40:05	um this book is	
40:08	out of print there are no there are no	
40:11	more copies although you can	
40:16	read it at the Falmouth Public Library	
40:18	they have they have a copy	
40:21	but I I expanded it	
40:25	and re-published it	
40:29	in 2018	
40:33	with this cover	
40:36	um no slip cover	
40:39	just a hard cover book and called it The	#thebelvidereplainrevisited
40:43	Belvidere Plain	
40:44	Revisited it's approximately	
40:48	twice the number of pages	
40:51	quite a few more photographs and a	
40:53	number of new stories	
40:55	from people who um	
40:58	who let me know that I forgot about them	
41:02	in the first	
41:04	in the first printing so we got him in	
41:08	to this one and I think that's	

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41:11	it ah here's the	
41:14	author as a young man 1967.	#1967
41:20	um when we first when my family first	
41:24	arrived	
41:26	in Falmouth	
41:35	[Music]	