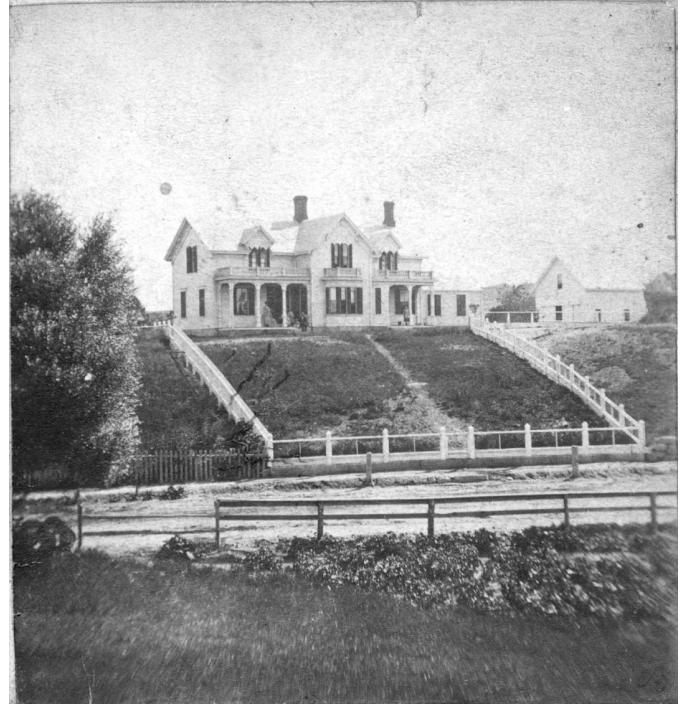


From the Archives: Fences of Woods Hole by Susan Fletcher Witzell

There has been a great deal of discussion in Woods Hole recently as to what is the proper historical style of fences for the village. Below and on the following page are examples from the 1870, 1880s and 1890s. Many of these existed for a long time after the photos. In the 1950s it was considered “historical” to have split-rail fencing but there is no precedent for this style in Woods Hole. Picket fences were the most common type but well-off families such as the Crowells and the Shivericks could afford more elaborate wooden fences. *All photos from the WHHM Archives.*



Above: Captain Thomas G. Davis house, c. 1870-1880, when the Howes family owned it. It is currently the WCAI studios and offices. Three types of fencing appear in this photo. Howes Family Collection.



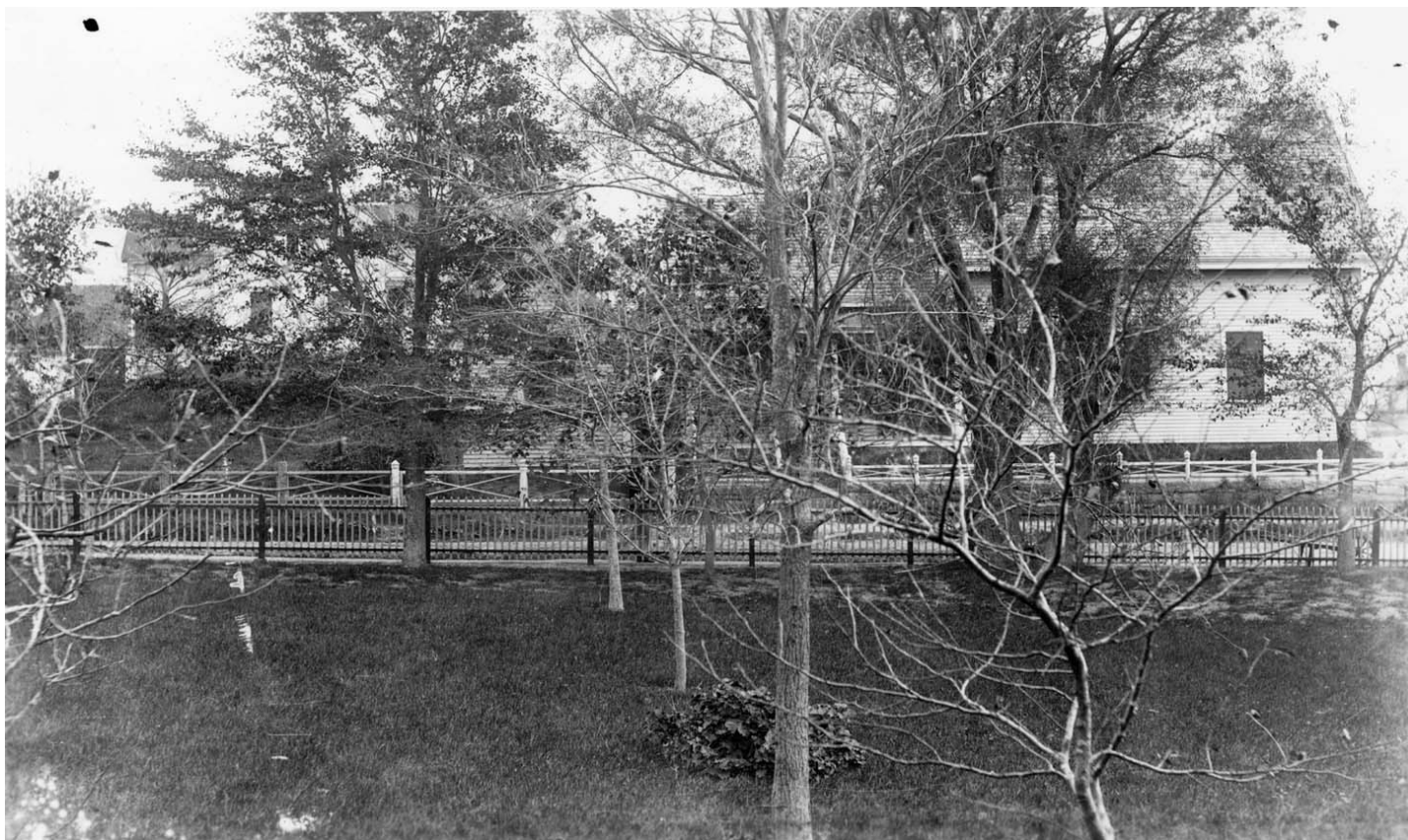
Above: Crowell house in an early photo, 1870s.



Another view of the Thomas G. Davis house, c. 1890, owned at the time of the photo by the Howes family. The stone wall is still there, used daily by coffee drinkers and workers on break, but the fence is long gone. Gulesian-Fish Collection.



Right: a view up Woods Hole Road with almost every yard enclosed by a picket fence. The first house, owned by Jabez Davis, father of Thomas G. Davis, was replaced by the Woods Hole Library. Photo c. 1870.



On School Street: Foreground fence surrounded the Shiverick house in its original location (site of Redfield) and beyond is the Crowell house fence, whose design shows clearly in the photo on the previous page. Photo probably c. 1890. Gulesian-Fish Collection.



Above: picket fences along School Street in front of the Edwards-Stuart family homes, now Numbers 49, 53 and 55 School Street. Photo c. 1870.



Above: Davis-Fish house and fences, currently 565 Woods Hole Road. Photo c. 1870.