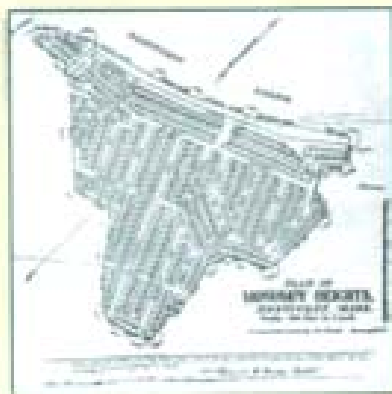


A NANTUCKET ENCLAVE:
Monomoy Heights, 1852—2005



From Sheep Commons
to Cottage Colony
to Gold Coast



C. S. Lovelace

60 MONOMOY ROAD

Current owner: Ballinger

DATES	OWNER(S)	HOME TOWN	LOT/PROPERTY	ROD BK.-Pg.
1873-1889	George W. Macy	Nantucket	17 Acres	62-570
1889-1903	DeWolf Syndicate	Providence	45 Acres	73-10
1903-1904	James H. Gibbs	Nantucket	37 Acres	85-41
1904-1928	Anne R. Congdon	Nashua, NH	34-43, 49-61	86-131
1928-1958	Morris L. Ernst	New York City	do.	104-235
1958-1968	Simon M. Bessie	New York City	34-35, 60-61	118-21
1968-1988	Constance Ernst Bessie	New York City	do.	33-25
1988-1990	Kevin Dale, Trustee	New York City	do.	D 44930
1990-1998	Paul & Trudy Dujardin	Westport, CT	do.	356-220
1998-2002	Trudy Dujardin	Greenwich, CT	do.	599-64
2002-	Mary R. D. Ballinger	St. Louis	do.	



Bessie house being moved to Our Island Home, donated by Dujardin in 1991.



Dujardin house built in 1991, as seen in 2002 under Ballinger ownership.

ANNE R. CONGDON, AN accomplished artist, was an early customer of Squire James H. Gibbs. She had come to the island from Nashua with husband Charles and son Robert (see previous section). She bought no fewer than six-hundred feet of waterfront property (about three acres) and

owned it for twenty-four years—but never built a dwelling on it. This westernmost piece, now 60 Monomoy Road, stood fallow for thirty years until Squire Morris L. Ernst bought the whole six hundred feet and built, among other things, a cottage on this western edge for his daughter Connie.



Anne R. Congdon
1904–1928



Constance Ernst Bessie
1958–1988



Trudy Dujardin
1990–2002

Beautiful women owned this house for a span of a hundred years.



Jack Weirbold

As we shall see, Ernst built his own manor house farther east down the six-hundred-foot stretch (at 64 Monomoy Road). Ernst's habit was to write a book every other year at his house on Nantucket, and he needed peace and quiet. So he built three simple one-story cottages, one for each of his three

children, as their families grew too large for his comfort at the main house. This western one was for his elder daughter, Connie, who married a notable book publisher, Simon Michael Bessie, president of Atheneum Publishers.²⁵

Ten years after they moved in, Simon Bessie deeded his share over to Connie, and when she died twenty years later, the little cottage passed into a trust for her two children. Paul and Trudy Dujardin of Westport, Connecticut, bought it in 1990. When Trudy became the sole owner in 1998, she was the third beautiful woman to own 60 Monomoy Road, and a noteworthy successor to Monomoy's illustrious interior designers such as Edgar Jenney, Kitty Burt, and John Kolle.

Trudy heads her own design firm. She is an accomplished interior designer with strong environmental and ecological passions. She became an expert on nontoxic building materials and sustainable design. Her holistic approach includes interior architecture, space planning, decoration, and furnishings.

She donated Connie Ernst's little prefab house to Our Island Home. Then, working with architect

Lyman Perry on her new house close to sensitive Harbor wetlands, she created a Nantucket showcase devoid of any materials that would have a detrimental effect on the environment, including extensive landscape development. Such an approach is called "green"—environmentally friendly because it all but eliminates materials that pollute land, air, and water. This includes natural, nontoxic furnishings, furniture without formaldehyde, hypoallergenic paints, water-based floor finishes, and advanced-design heat-air exchange systems.²⁶

Now a national expert on nontoxic building materials and sustainable design, and with her business growing nationally, Dujardin sold her Nantucket showcase home to Mary Randolph Ballinger of St. Louis, who has applied for permits to construct two additions and reconfigure the driveway.