



JOURNEY INTO KEY PENINSULA HISTORY AT HOME



Drive into history! Pick up a tour packet at the Key Peninsula Historical Museum, 17010 S. Vaugh Rd NW, or get your guide from our website, then follow the maps to historic sites.

After visiting each site use the last page to answer questions and draw pictures about each one. The museum is open from February through November, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Visit the museum to show the docent your work and receive a prize. While there, take time to look at the displays and learn more about local history.

www.keypeninsulamuseum.org

kphsmuseum@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/KPHistoricSociety



WELCOME to our Journey to Home!

Originally founded as a Utopian colony, Home is located in Van Geldern Cove, better known as Joe's Bay, after Joe Faulkner who built a cabin here in 1870.

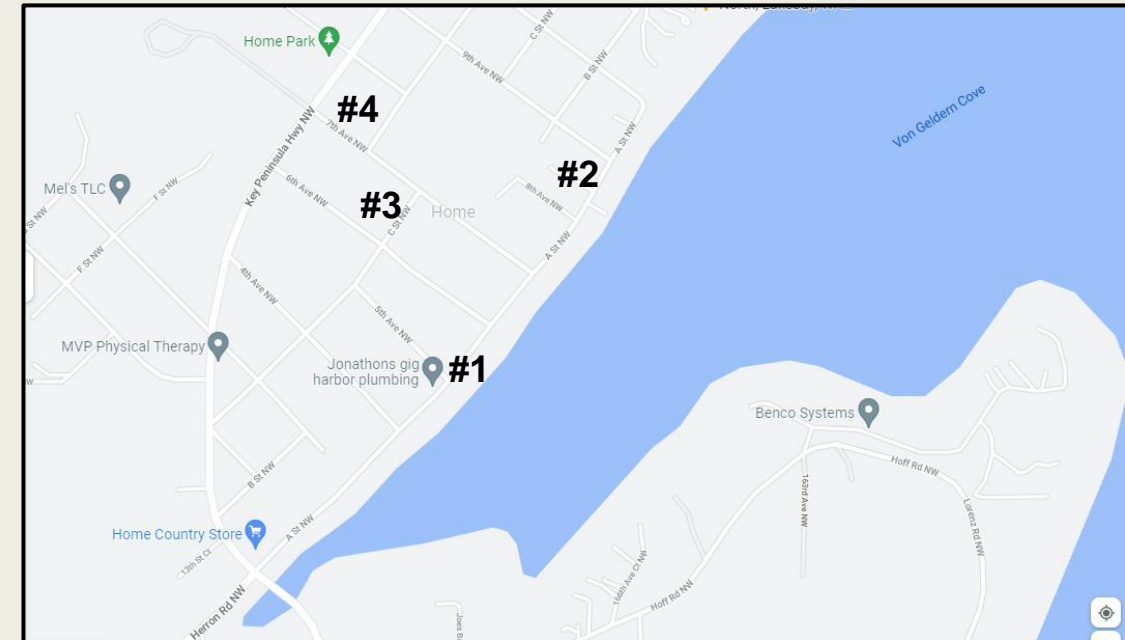
The colony was active starting in 1896. The residents were “free thinkers” and known for their hard work, courage and tolerance for all. Here they envisioned a community emphasizing a friendship toward all and a tolerance for all ideas and ideals. In giving a name to their community, they captured their ideals in the name of “Home.” They were admired for their determination to educate their children and expose them to different cultural experiences, making exceptional efforts to cultivate the arts of music, dancing and literature.

The Mutual Home Association was dissolved in 1919, but Home continued to be a host to many community events for the Peninsula. They had a baseball team, which was a serious competitor against other Peninsula teams. Their field had a grandstand. They built schools, a community center and had a dock from which local produce, eggs and other materials were shipped out and in by the Mosquito Fleet.

Home was the first place on the Key Peninsula to have street lights, which were electrified in the 1930s.

Photos and text courtesy of Key Peninsula Historical Society Archives;
Key Peninsula History by Simon Priest & KP Trails Assoc.;
Early Days of the Key Peninsula by R.T. Arledge

HOME (Joe's Bay)



- #1 The Home (Peninsula) Social Hall — Old pilings visible during low tide
- #2 Dadisman house and warehouse
- #3 Home school
- #4 Baseball Diamond and Grandstand

Answer the following questions:

What kind of colony was Home?

Why was the colony called Home?

#1. Home (Peninsula) Social Hall

Located on A Street between 5th and 6th Streets.

Prior to this hall being built, there were two other halls in Home. The first one was a community hall that burned. It was replaced in 1903 with a 2-story building on the hill above 6th Ave. This new hall was named Liberty Hall. It was condemned in 1916.

A new hall was built in 1916 on pilings and became known as the Home (or Peninsula) Social Hall. It had a pecan wood dancing floor. It was a community center for many Peninsula events including parties, dances, musicals and the showing of silent films.

When the tide is out you can see the remains of the pilings

Remaining pilings of the Home (Peninsula) Social Hall, 2021



Answer the questions:

When was the Peninsula Social Hall built?

How many social halls were built in Home?

#2. Dadisman House and Warehouse

Located on A Street between 7th and 8th Street.

Martin Van Buren Dadisman was one of Home's early settlers. Unlike all other structures in Home, his house was made of specially colored bricks from the Tacoma brick yards. Check out the historical marker at the edge of the property on A Street. Across from it is the where the Home Dock was located, which is now the boat ramp. You can still see some of the pilings. They supported the Home Warehouse which was operated by Dave Dadisman. This dock was used for shipping and receiving goods that came in on the Mosquito Fleet.



Home Store, 1905



Home Store, 1928



Answer the questions:

Out of what materials was Mr Dadisman's house built?
Where was the Home dock located?

#3. Home School

Located on C Street behind a picket fence, between 6th and 7th Streets, this school was built in 1905. It was the 3rd school built in Home.

The school had a pair of large classrooms arranged in an L-shape and books were stored in the attic.

It was no longer used as a school after 1927, when the school districts were consolidated, It became a library for a few years.

It is now a private residence.



Home School, 1905

Answer the following questions:

When was this school built?

Why did it become a library?

Private residence
today



#4. Baseball Diamond and Grandstand

Baseball game, July 4, 1922

Located on 7th and D Street.

In the 1920s, baseball was the focus for all-day social events and Home had a well-known team. This grandstand was built on the hilltop by volunteers in 1920. It was torn down in the early 1930s.

Visiting teams from Burley, Vaughn, Longbranch or McNeil and Anderson Islands arrived by boat or horse and buggy. Cross-sound teams from Tacoma, Steilacoom and Puyallup arrived by steamer. Families brought their picnic lunches and ate on the school grounds behind the grandstand.

If you look from 7th Street back towards the school, you would be in left field. Children who retrieved foul balls were rewarded with an ice cream cone.

In 1927, this community of tolerance and diversity hosted Jack Tanner's Little Giants of Tacoma, an African-American baseball team, in the first of several interracial games, dinners and dances.

Answer the questions:

How did the fans get to the baseball games in Home?

What was the reward for retrieving foul balls?



Home baseball team



Answer Sheet

What kind of colony was Home?

Why was the colony called Home?

#1. Home (Peninsula) Social Hall

#2. Dadisman House and Warehouse

#3. Home School

#4. Baseball Diamond and Grandstand