

Willow Brook
55 West Main Road
Connors Funeral Home today

- 1850 - built for David Anthony.
- Asa Anthony owned it when he served as Portsmouth Coroner in the 1880's. Sometimes bodies were brought to Asa's home before burial.
- In 1898 after Asa's death, the home and farm were sold at auction for artist Sarah Eddy who used it as guest house.
- In 1900 the Rev. Dennis and his sister seemed to run the guest house.
- The house became a "tourist lodge and trailer park" in the 1930's
- By 1958 it was "Willow Brook Manor Nursing Home"
- Memorial Funeral Home bought it in 1983 and has run it since then as a funeral home. It seems to be appropriate as the home of a former town coroner.

George Manchester House
102 Glen Road

- circa 1855. George was a carpenter who helped construct many homes in Newport County.
- He was a devoted member of the Union Church at the location of today's Portsmouth Historical Society.
- He represented Portsmouth in the RI General Assembly for several terms, George held the offices of Superintendent of Public Schools in Portsmouth, State Railroad Commissioner, State Auditor, Customs Officer, Justice of the Peace, and High Sheriff of Newport County.
- George died in 1879 and is buried in St. Mary's Church cemetery.

Mrs. Taylor's Manor House
Frank Coelho Drive

- Construction 1920-23
- Famed architect John Russell Pope designed the Chateau styled house
- Olmsted Brothers Firm designed the landscaping.
- Moses Taylor and his wife Edith moved into the house in 1923.
- Taylor died in 1928 but his wife continued to come to what we know as the Glen Manor House until her death in 1959.
- Edith Bishop Taylor was one of the great benefactors to charities in Portsmouth and on the island.
- In 1960 the Manor House and 43 acres around it were sold to the Elmhurst Academy of the Sacred Heart. The house served as a dormitory for boarding students.
- Town of Portsmouth bought the house 1973.

Leonard Brown House
Linden Lane

- Circa 1851
- Leonard Brown was one of the best farmers in Portsmouth. He raised poultry and pigs and brought them to market in New Bedford.
- Along with farming, Brown served as a wheelwright and a blacksmith. He represented Portsmouth in state government.
- When Leonard Brown died in 1896, the Brown farm was sold to H.A.C. Taylor and became part of the Glen Farm.
- The house served as a home for many Glen Farm families over the years including the Manuel Camara family.
- When the Town of Portsmouth bought the land in 1989, the Brown House was in disrepair, but efforts are being made to restore and the use the house once more.

Mrs. Durfee's Tea House
82 Glen Road

- Circa 1836
- There are two Mrs. (or Miss) Durfees. Samuel Clark who took over the Cundall Mills property sold the original lot without a house to Mrs. Mary G. Durfee in 1836.
- Mary Durfee must have originated the tea house because when the property was sold to Ruth Durfee in 1857 it was already known as "Mrs. Durfee's Tea House."
- Durfee Tea House was a cultural center for Portsmouth.
- A 1893 Harper's Monthly Magazine called Mrs. Durfee the "Goddess of the Glen." No trip out to the romantic Glen was complete without stopping at the Durfee house refreshments.
- In 1909 the house was moved to the current Glen Road location because H.A.C. Taylor purchased the lot and wanted the house moved off of his farm.
- Manton Chase bought the house at auction and moved it.

Greenvale – Barstow House
Off Wapping Road

- In 1863 J.S. Barstow, a China trade merchant, purchased land in Portsmouth to establish a "gentleman's farm."
- Barstow followed a formula for the how much of the land would be in gardens, orchards, livestock, etc.
- Barstow's "Stick Style" home was designed by Boston architect Sturgess who also designed a stable and barn.
- At Barstow's death the house and land passed to Charlotte Parker and her husband Major General James Parker. When the Parkers retired in 1918, they came back to a property that had been neglected and revived the farm.
- The property is owned by members of the Parker family today and has been re-purposed as a Greenvale Vineyard. This home is on the Nation Register of Historic Places

Nichols – Overing House – Prescott Farm
West Main Road at Middletown border

- It was probably built by Jonathan Nichols, a Deputy Governor of Rhode Island, before 1750.
- The Nichols family owned it until 1765 when John Nichol's widow sold to Peleg Thurston, a merchant who might have been involved in privateering, bought the house.
- In 1770, Henry John Overing, a "sugar baker" who refined raw sugar into loaves bought house.
- Overing was loyal to England and farm was a headquarters for General Richard Prescott. In July of 1777,
- American Col. Barton and his men silently rowed across to Portsmouth from Warwick. They overcame the sentry without a shot and captured General Prescott.
- Bradford Norman picked up the property in 1927 and his daughter, Barbara Norman Cook (aka Kitty Mouse) owned the house until she sold it to the Doris Duke's Newport Restoration Foundation in 1970.

Green Animals: Brayton House c. 1859 Cory's Lane

- Circa 1877 Thomas Brayton treasurer of the Union Cotton Manufacturing Company bought property in Portsmouth to be a summer home for his family.
- Brayton hired a Portuguese mill worker, Jose Carriero, to develop and manage the grounds of his Portsmouth estate in 1905.
- Carriero and son-in-law, George Mendonca, were responsible for creating the topiaries.
- When Thomas Brayton died in 1939 the estate passed to daughter Alice Brayton.
- She moved to the estate in the spring of 1939 naming it Green Animals for the topiary animals in the garden. Miss Brayton left Green Animals to The Preservation Society of Newport County at her death in 1972.