





## About the *Rose Dorothea*

One of the famed "Indian Head" schooners, the original *Rose Dorothea* was designed by Thomas McManus and built at the Tarr & James Shipyard in Essex, MA in 1905. She was 108.7 feet long, weighed 108 tons and had a crew of 26 men. Her rounded bow enabled her to sail closer into the wind, which made her faster than other schooners of the era.

During Boston's Old Home Week Celebration in August 1907, a cup was offered by Sir Thomas Lipton for a Fishermen's Race in Massachusetts Bay. Two of the competing schooners were from Provincetown: the *Rose Dorothea* and the *Jessie Costa*. The race was a 42-mile course, laid from Thieves Ledge off Boston Light, to Davis Ledge off Minot's Light, to Eastern Point, Gloucester and back to Boston.

Despite losing her fore-topmast in the final leg of the race, the *Rose Dorothea*, captained by Marion Perry and skippered for the race by John Watson, won the Lipton Cup and a \$650 cash prize.

The *Rose Dorothea* brought the Lipton Cup back to Provincetown on August 1, 1907 to great fanfare; a broom symbolically tied to her mast indicated a "clean sweep." No other race was ever sailed to place the Lipton Cup in contention.

The men known to be crew members at the time of the race were: Antone Amaral, Isadore Jesse Fratus, Joseph R. Holmes, Willie Jason, Joseph Leal, Manuel Marshall, Thomas O'Donnell, Manuel Perry, Antone Prada, Eduardo Salvador, John Pavon Santos, William Silva, Manuel Souza, Joseph "Iron Horse" Viera, and John Wilson. The other crew members are not known.

In 1977, as a tribute to the great fishing schooner, construction began in the Heritage Museum, now the Provincetown Public Library. A half-scale replica of the *Rose Dorothea* was dedicated on June 25, 1988. The completed model spans a 66'6" length and a 12'6" beam.

*Provincetown gratefully acknowledges Francis A. "Flyer" Santos and the team of volunteers who created this grand tribute to the fishermen of Provincetown and to New England's shipbuilding tradition.*



Open for  
a map  
of the full  
walking tour.



## FIRST FLOOR



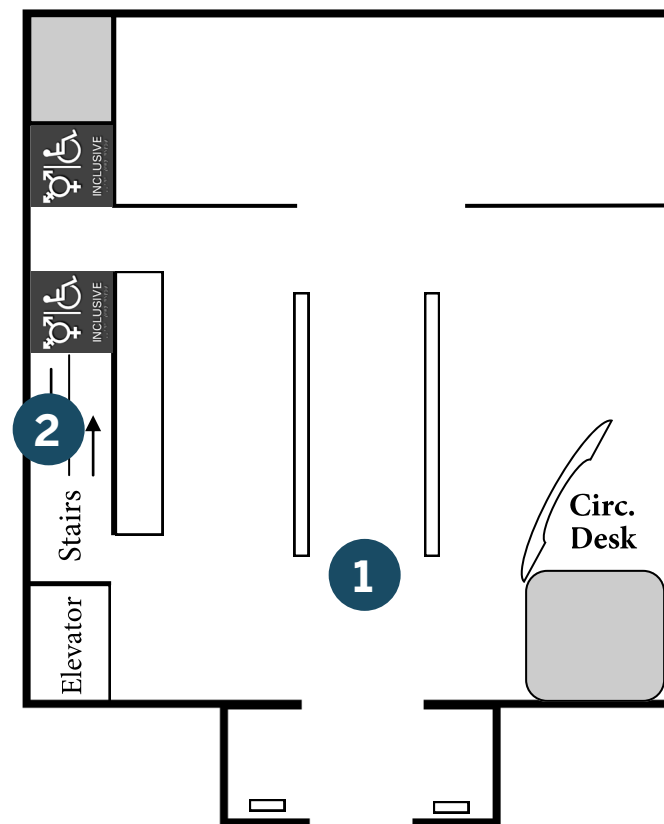
### 1 Lipton Cup

After entering the library from the Commercial Street entrance, walk straight ahead to see the Lipton Cup. Won by the *Rose Dorothea* in August 1907, this special prize was offered by Sir Thomas Lipton, inventor of the individual tea bag and a millionaire by the age of 30. At the time, the silver gilt and enamel Lipton Cup was the largest trophy minted in England and was reputed to be worth \$5,000.

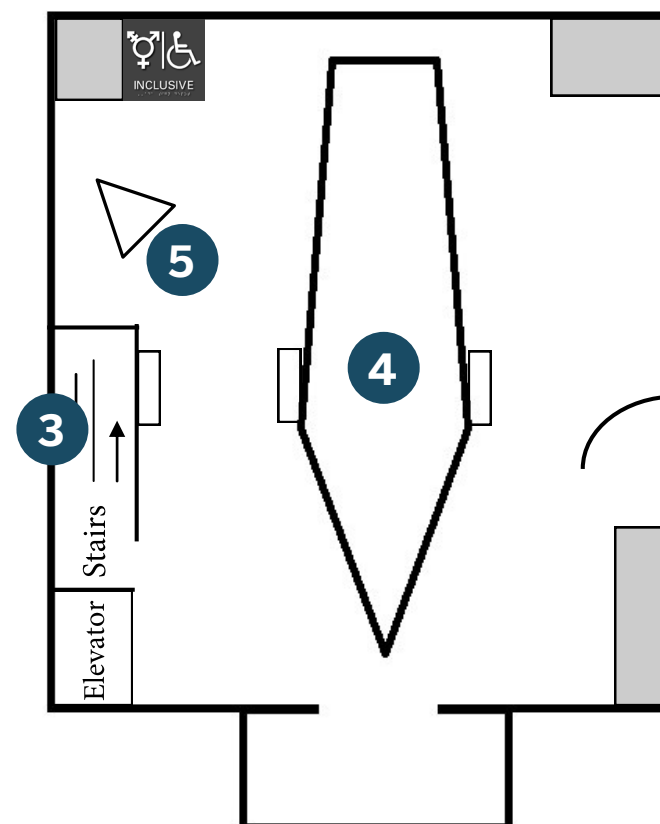
### 2 Photographs: *Rose Dorothea* (original)

As you climb the western stairwell to the second floor, look for 3 black-and-white photographs of the original *Rose Dorothea* in full sail, taken during her famous race with the *Jessie Costa*.

Captain Marion Perry named the schooner after his wife.

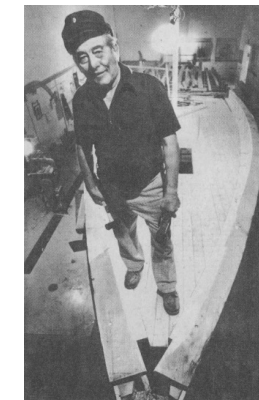


## SECOND FLOOR



### 3 Photographs: *Rose Dorothea* (replica)

As you climb the western stairwell to the third floor, note the 9 photographs of the replica's construction, which took place 1977–1988. Featured is master shipbuilder Captain "Flyer" Santos, who oversaw construction of the half-scale replica within the then-Museum. Santos' grandfather was one of the crew members of the original schooner.



### 4 The *Rose Dorothea* (side views)

After you enter the 2nd floor, you'll have your first look at the *Rose's* majesty; walk around her and look up. See how the ceiling has been modified to fit the tall masts? The way the bowsprit protrudes directly into the adjoining reading room? The original's fore-topmast broke during the 1907 race; some conjecture it's what caused the *Rose Dorothea* to win!

### 5 Video: "Abraça o Barco: The *Rose Dorothea* Story"

Look for the video kiosk on the 2nd floor, on the western side of the schooner's replica. This 12-minute video recounts the famous 42-mile race in Massachusetts Bay, explains why the fishing industry is so crucial to Provincetown's history, and shows some of the design challenges faced by the replica's builders.

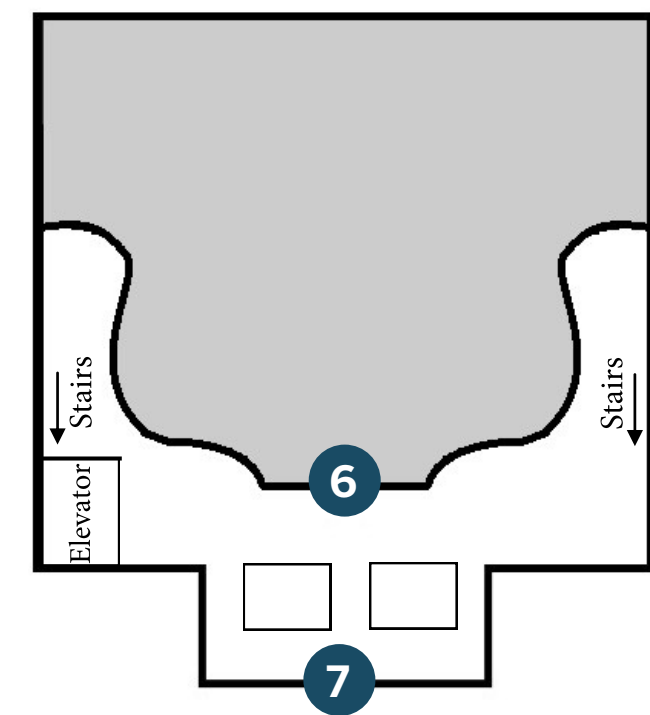
## THIRD FLOOR



### 6 The *Rose Dorothea* (top view)

You can best appreciate the details and scope of this remarkable replica by standing on the third-floor mezzanine and looking down at its deck. If you stroll from one end of the mezzanine to the other, you'll be able to view the *Rose Dorothea* in her full glory.

This half-scale replica spans a 66'6" length and has a 12'6" beam. Her mainmast is 48' in height. The original weighed 108 tons, was 108.7' long (bow to stern post), and held a crew of 26.



### 7 Views of Provincetown Harbor

Our third floor windows provide perfect views of the harbor and bay. On a clear day, you can see more than 15 miles.

Take a moment and imagine what you might have seen when the original *Rose Dorothea* won the race that August day in Boston, during the heyday of the Cape's fishing industry.

Provincetown was primarily a fishing village then, with a number of cold storage facilities and fishing vessels in its magnificent harbor, and could accommodate as many as 1,000 sailing vessels of all sizes at one time.



## MORE FUN FACTS

- The original *Rose Dorothea* was an Indian Head schooner, designed by Tom McManus, built at Tarr & James Yard in Essex, MA, and launched September 27, 1905 at a cost of \$15,000.
- Because no other Fisherman's Cup Race was held after 1907, Provincetown remains the proud owner of the Lipton Cup.
- In 1917, the original schooner was sunk by a German U-boat while traveling from Portugal to St John's with a cargo of salt. Her crew escaped into dories and made it safely to Lisbon.
- The *Rose Dorothea* replica was built as a tribute to Provincetown fishermen and New England shipbuilding.

### Want to know more?

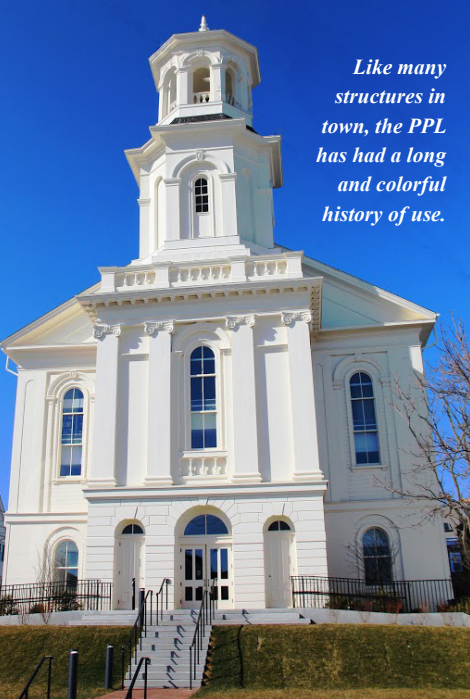
#### BOOKS

- > *Time and the Town*, Mary Heaton Vorse
- > *Provincetown: A History of Artists and Renegades in a Fishing Village*, Debra Lawless
- > *Fast and Able: Life Stories of Great Gloucester Fishing Vessels*, Gordon W. Thomas

#### ONLINE

- > [www.provincetownhistoryproject.com](http://www.provincetownhistoryproject.com). A rich trove of historical material about the town.
- > [www.buildingprovincetown.wordpress.com](http://www.buildingprovincetown.wordpress.com). David W. Dunlap's ongoing online project, with links to places and people associated with the *Rose Dorothea* and the Library.





*Like many structures in town, the PPL has had a long and colorful history of use.*

## About the Library

The Provincetown Public Library was originally the Center Methodist Episcopal Church. Built in 1860, it was reputed to be the largest church of Methodist denomination anywhere in the US: it could seat 900 people in its 128 pews.

In 1958 the congregation sold the building to Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., for conversion to the Chrysler Art Museum. It had limited success and stood abandoned until 1974 when two local men, Jules Brenner and Frederic Jungmann, bought it with the idea of starting a "Center for the Arts"—a cultural success but unfortunately a financial failure.

Through the efforts of the Provincetown Historical Association and the Historic District Study Committee, the building was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, receiving certification in October 1975. In 1976, a group of citizens voted to acquire and convert it to a local historical museum.

A half-scale model of the schooner *Rose Dorothea* was built and installed in the building, and the Provincetown Heritage Museum officially opened to the public on July 4, 1976.

Special thanks to Susan Avellar, Stephen Borkowski, Nan Cinnater, Matt Clark, the late Josephine Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Provincetown History Project, Joan Prugh, Amy Raff, Laura Shabott, Brittany Taylor, the staff and volunteers at the Provincetown Public Library, and the Board of Library Trustees (past and present). Design: Grant King.

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Use of Provincetown's public library, then in a small building at Freeman and Commercial Streets, was steadily growing. In 2001, the Provincetown Heritage Museum property was conveyed to the Board of Library Trustees for rehabilitation of the property as the new Provincetown Public Library.

The firm of Perry Dean Rogers designed the new library, and in 2002, renovations began. In April 2005, it opened, bringing new life to the magnificent 1860 wooden structure.

As a gift to the Town, master carpenter Bill Ingraham constructed custom-built bookcases that reused the mahogany armrests from the original church pews.

The library incorporates much of the former museum's collection as well. A small, climate-controlled room housing the Josephine C. Del Deo Heritage Archives is located in the lower level.

When looking from the end of MacMillan Wharf toward town, the Library remains one of the most prominent buildings on the skyline—a beacon of learning, community spirit, and Provincetown's signature perseverance.

Illustration from the *Rose Dorothea* Dedication Program, June 25, 1988, designed by Salvatore Del Deo.



Thank you for sharing our admiration for the *Rose Dorothea*. Please consider supporting it by donating to the Provincetown Public Library.



**Provincetown Public Library**

356 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657  
508-487-7094 | [www.provincetownlibrary.org](http://www.provincetownlibrary.org)