

This Indenture witnesseth that James Crockett, David Wooster and Perer Babbidge Overseers of the Poor of the town of Vinalhaven in the County of Waldo by virtue of the Statute of this State in such cases made and provided have placed and by these presents do place and bind out at an apprentice a poor child named Leonard Norton who has become chargeable to said town unto Samuel Brown of Vinalhaven in said State, to be instructed and employed in the trade or mystery of Farming. The said Leonard Norton to live with and serve the said Samuel Brown as an apprentice from the day of the date hereof until the tenth day of November which will be in the year one thousand eight hundred and Sixty at which time the said apprentice if he shall be living will be twenty one years of age. During all which time he the said Leonard Norton his said master shall well and faithfully serve and be just and true to him and keep his secrets and every where willingly obey his lawful commands. And the said Samuel Brown on his part doth hereby covenant promise and agree to instruct and employ or otherwise cause him to be instructed and employed in the said art, trade or mystery of Farming after the best way and manner he can and also to teach and instruct the said apprentice or cause him to be taught and instructed to Read and Write and Cypher at far as the Rule of three and shall also find and allow and Cypher at far as the Rule of three and shall also find and allow unto his said apprentice meat, drink, washing, lodging, and apparel and other necessaries meet and convenient for such an apprentice during the term aforesaid and at the expiration of the said

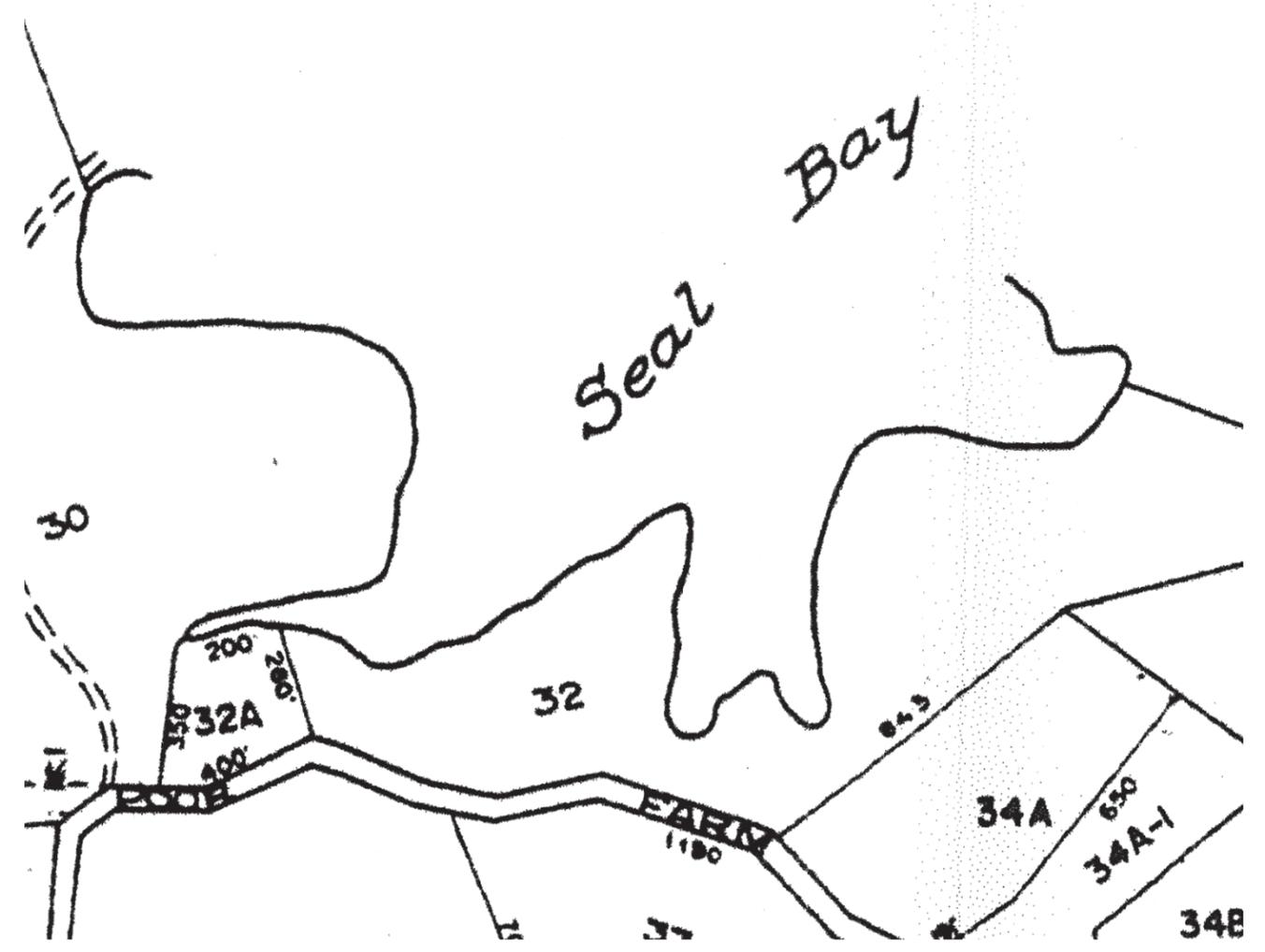
term shall give to his said apprentice three new suits of wearing apparel one suitable for the Lord's day and the other two suitable for working days

In witness whereof the parties aforesaid have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the fifteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty four
 Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of us
 Benjamin Runt
 Benj C Beverage
 James Beverage
 David Wooster
 James Crockett
 Perer Babbidge
 Samuel Brown

Part of the American Poor Farm System—a social welfare institution for the care and management of the impoverished and destitute—Vinalhaven's Poor Farm is part of a diffuse geography of social reform and agricultural rehabilitation. Now home to Design Inquiry for one week of the year, Poor Farm served as the spatial platform for investigations into the textual and topographic geographies of the island.

Left: Poor Farm Indenture: November 15, 1844. Leonard Norton [aged 5] to be "instructed and employed in the trade or mystery of Farming" by Samuel Brown until November 10, 1860, "at which time the said apprentice if he shall be living will be twenty one years of age." In addition to training in farming, Mr. Brown is accountable "also to teach and instruct the Said apprentice or cause him to be taught and instructed to Read and Write...as far as the Rule of three and Shall also find and allow unto his said apprentice meat, drink, washing, lodging, and apparel and other necessaries meet and convenient for such an apprentice during the term aforesaid and at the expiration of the said term shall give to his said apprentice three new suits of wearing apparel one suitable for the Lord's day and the other two suitable for working days."

Below: Poor Farm Plat

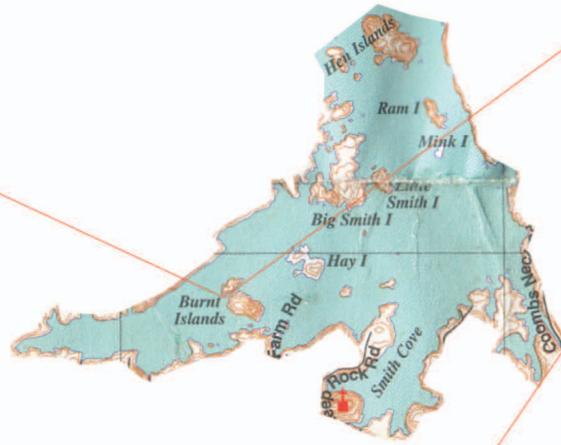


DesignInquiry is a non-profit educational organization devoted to researching design issues in intensive team-based gatherings. An alternative to the design conference, it brings together practitioners from disparate fields to generate new work and ideas around a single topic. www.designinquiry.net
 DesignInquiry 2009: DesignLess released July 31 2009

Jesse Vogler and Szu-Han Ho

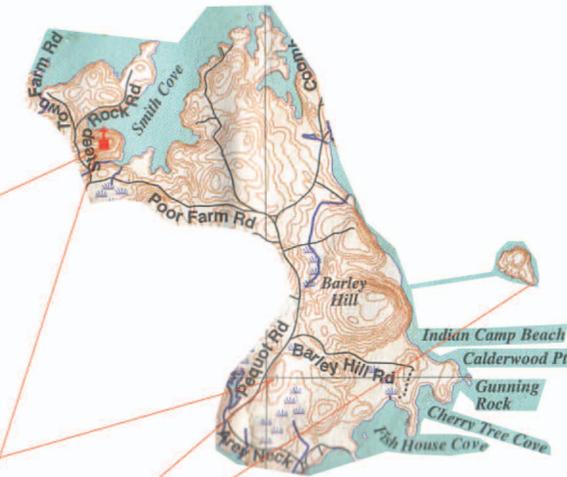
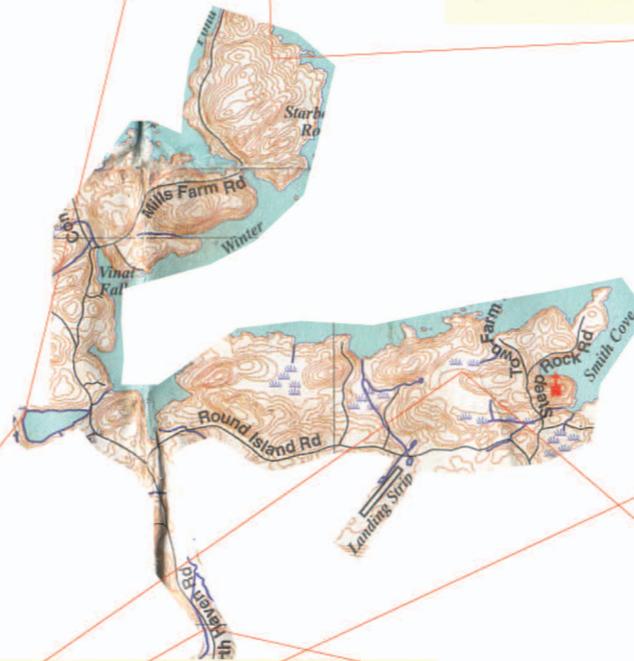
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I took a "field trip" with David & the boys on the last Friday; we found a beautiful little beach called Polly's Cove, (albeit mosquito infested), the ferry point at the top of the island and some useful info on water taxis to North Haven. We were actually on a fruitless search for Starboard Rock, which is supposed to offer spectacular clifftop views; a passing motorist told us a story of a Yale graduate in 1956 who absailed down the cliff and carved "Y56" into the lichen ...supposedly it's still faintly visible, and the "hooligan" in his 70s, still lives on the island. Sadly, we never found it; just a lot of private roads.



Turns out, in fact, it wasn't the nude quarry. Turns out it wasn't even a quarry that people regularly swim in. The nude quarry is two-tenths of a mile further up the North Haven Road, accessible by a small footpath that starts at the road and heads a tenth a mile back into the woods. You find the footpath by locating a yellow X painted on the asphalt indicating "no parking."

Maybe Ben mentioned this one to you-- I had only heard it from him, but I thought you would like it. From the little graveyard on the hill, there is a direct line of sight to the window of the haunted bedroom that Sean slept in.



Late at night we tried to find our way to our house for the first time- and since there was no fixed point in our minds our efforts centered on looking for patterns and sequences from anecdotes. There was no forward route, but a back and forth search on the road looking for the appropriate pattern of "third house on the left, stone building." This was repeated throughout the week: as we entered these houses for the first time and if our orienteering was faulty we were not in the right house, and by the way how did the owners feel about this especially if they were libertarian/NRA members? But it could have been Idaho. What I mean is that the stakes could have been higher doing these faux house occupations. I knew it wasn't Idaho because I had gotten there on a boat.