



**Inventory of the Bass Rock Hotel Collection
(Collection #22)**

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by
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Physical Description:

This is a collection of three registers of the Bass Rock Hotel, or as it was more accurately known, the New Bass Rock Hotel for the years: 1907-22, 1924-45, and 1946-50.

The ledgers are in fair condition, with some pages loose, cut or torn, and the spine on the earliest book breaking.

BASS ROCK HOUSE, Kennebunk Beach

1883-1906

The Bass Rock burned down on Labor Day, 1906. It was immediately rebuilt.

1907 – ca. 1962

“True to our prediction the worthy Bass Rock is already overflowing with pleasant guests. Added to the natural advantages of the house, viz: fine location, pine grove, etc., are the kind attentions of our accommodating proprietor and the winning and hospitable ways of his cheery little wife.”

THE WAVE, 8-6-1887

“The storm of Thursday could not for an instant check the stream of gait for which the Bass Rock House is noted. The older and more sedate guests whiled away the morning in rubbers of whist, but nothing less than a torrent of uproarious song would content the younger element. The younger again found vent in a candy-pull in the afternoon. A donkey party was held in the evening. A song with enchoe and a trip to the rocks where the surf was at its grandest and all said good-night.”

THE WAVE, 8-24-1887

“The Bass Rock is still full. Mr. Wells the proprietor is a young man, but he knows how to run a hotel, as the table at the Bass Rock shows.

THE WAVE, 8-27-1887

“The Bass Rock has just acquired one of the best cooks to be found in Boston. Mr. Wells intends to keep up with the times.”

THE WAVE, 7-18-1888

“The Bass Rock House is finely situated on Kennebunk Beach. The view from the piazza is delightful. Within sixty yards of ocean and sandy beach.”

Advertisement in THE WAVE, 8-8-1888

“Reverend Dr. Douglass of Montreal, one of the most celebrated divines of Canada, is a guest at the Bass Rock. This popular house contains quite a large number of Canadian people.”

THE WAVE, 8-2-1893

“The Bass Rock House is filled to overflowing and the guests express themselves as highly pleased with the excellent management of the house. An especial feature of the place is the excellent well of spring water which is so pure and well liked that the cottagers all come for it.”

THE WAVE, 7-24-1895

“This house burned down last fall, but a new one is in its place.”

Inscription on a post card dated May 2, 1907

“A. Roy Wells, who started a most unpretentious little store some years ago, has grown with the beach and now has an odd shaped octagon establishment well stocked and has become one of the fixtures at this popular resort.”

THE SEA SIDE ECHO, 7-18-1914

“John Walsh says he is thinking of taking down his Bass Rock Hotel. If done, it would be the second old Beach hotel within months to be razed. (The Sea View House is now being taken down.)”

KENNEBUNK STAR, 10-18-1962

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