

## 17 East Main Street - Puffins Site

Today this building on 2-4 Holmes Street is known as Puffins; however, it is on the site of Jeremiah Holmes house, formerly known as 17 East Main Street.

Jeremiah Holmes was a ship captain in the 1800s. He and his wife built their house in 1813 to rear their nine children.

Jeremiah was a genuine hero at the Battle of Stonington in 1814. He was even asked to raise the flag at a ceremony celebrating the end of the Civil War on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1865. The Jeremiah Holmes' house was torn down in the 1920s to make way for one of Mystic's early gas stations.

Across the street, where the restaurant S&P Oyster House is now, there used to be a pharmacy that burned down in the fire of 1960. They relocated the pharmacy to 2-4 Holmes Street, where Puffins is now. After Mystic Pharmacy closed, Puritan and Genesta took its place.

Puritan and Genesta was a health store that sold organic food and other healthful necessities. Puritan and Genesta closed in 2011 and Puffins opened its business shortly afterwards.