POOLE'S 1895 HISTORY OF POLAND: EXCERPTS

(Two years ago, I contributed nuggets of information from this publication, lent to me by Ellie Kelley. A fascinating book, we shall continue to include more stories about Poland's history from time to time—Babs Shapiro)

Black Cat Hill. This is probably the highest elevation in town and took its name, according to tradition, from a fierce contest with a monstrous black wildcat when first visited by hunters.

The first settler was Luke Staples, he being followed by Jacob Barton, Benjamin Bailey, William Knight and a man named Cox, who engaged in the manufacture of hair combs which were said to have been of great height and highly ornamented by hand. The hill was covered by a heavy growth of hard wood and pine timber. The soil is rocky, and hard to cultivate. The neighborhood has in the past been prolific of remarkable events but no records have been kept and but a meager account of the past history can be of access. The population is fast diminishing and many farms are now deserted.

(Black Cat Hill is seen from the lake and is accessible from the North Raymond Road.)



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