



**George Willis Shiverick  
(1870 – 1943)**

Shiverick, born in 1870, grew up in East Dennis and was the grandson of the renowned Shiverick clipper-ship builder. George Shiverick apprenticed under the Hanley boat builders of Monument Beach, though he eventually struck out on his own crafting a reputation building and racing catboats.

In response to Town racing enthusiasts, Shiverick in 1895 came to and settled in Kingston, leasing land on the Jones River from the Holmes family. It was at this location that Shiverick designed and built some of the finest sailboats and power launches of all time.

Shiverick soon became well known for his fast boats and for building the legendary *Fanny D* for actor Melbourne McDowell, as well as a 25-foot sloop owned and sailed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Shiverick was also known for designing and building the entire racing fleet of the Duxbury Yacht Club. Retiring in 1940, Shiverick is remembered for designing and building over 350 boats.

Unfortunately Shiverick destroyed most of his papers shortly after his retirement, however a few photographs, designs and sail plans have emerged (some where given by Shiverick to the Old Mystic Seaport in Connecticut.) Shiverick, who passed away in 1943, is remembered not only for the contributions he made in boating circles, but is also remembered as an honest and true craftsman, and a fine gentleman.

Today, Kingston is still honoring Shiverick's memory. In 2003, the Jones River Marine Ecology Center opened, with on of their primary focuses on researching, restoring, and teaching the public about small boats, such as those built and designed by Shiverick. The Jones River Village Historical Society is also assisting in preserving Shiverick's memory by sponsoring the restoration of the Shiverick catboat the *Baclaju*, donated to them by the International Yacht Restoration School, Rhode Island.