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 4th, 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.