



THE CELLAR HOLES AT THE IPSWICH RIVER WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



The mystery of Averill island and Hassocky Meadow have origins within the settlement of this area in 1690 by the sons of William Averill. William Averill's aunt was hanged as a witch in 1691 because she did not submit to the religious fervor of the age. The Averills settled here and were a family of thoughtfulness and industry. For this reason this area is

called "The Colleges". They established a saw mill, were wheel-wrights, selectmen, constables, surveyors and cabinet-makers. The family moved to other corners of the country and the settlement that hired thirty craftsmen in its hay-day, disappeared by 1850. Relics of the clan remained until 1891 when the sawmill burned down.