Port Jefferson

Photographs by Michael Domino

Artist Statement

Port Jefferson is a village shaped by the sea, but its history extends well beyond the harbor. Shipbuilding, commerce, transportation, architecture, civic life, and generations of people have all left their marks on this small community on Long Island's North Shore.

In PORT JEFFERSON, I photograph the structures, vessels, monuments, machinery, and familiar landmarks that carry that history. Thomas Jefferson stands alongside the village clock; nineteenth-century houses and commercial buildings share the landscape with anchors, shipbuilding forms, old marine engines, a railroad car, fishing boats, and the ferry that continues to define the working harbor.

The photographs remove these subjects from their ordinary surroundings and place them within a common, spare landscape. Streets, traffic, parking lots, trees, crowds, and other distractions disappear. What remains is the object itself. A house can be considered as carefully as a ship. An anchor becomes a monument. An old outboard motor can command the same attention as an important building.

This altered landscape is not intended to recreate Port Jefferson literally. It is a way of looking at the village through the things it has preserved, built, used, and remembered. Objects separated by decades—and sometimes centuries—are allowed to occupy the same visual world.

Together, these twenty-six photographs form a portrait of Port Jefferson through its surviving evidence: a village built on land, defined by water, and continually carrying its past into the present.

— Michael Domino

Biography

Michael Domino is a New York photographer whose work explores memory, history, and the passage of time through carefully constructed photographic exhibitions.

His recent projects include DOMINO: A Meditation on Time, Camp Hero, and HERITAGE, each transforming familiar subjects into contemplative visual narratives that exist somewhere between documentary photography and fine art.

Michael's work is inspired by the belief that ordinary places and objects often possess extraordinary stories waiting to be rediscovered.

Contact

Michael Domino

Email: michaeldomino8@gmail.com
MichaelDominoPhotos.com



Thomas Jefferson



Port Jefferson — Main Street



Village Clock



Theatre Three



Billie's 1890



House Built for P. T. Barnum, 1887



Historic Victorian Bank Building



Masonic Temple



1917 Shipyard Building



The Shipyard Anchor



1918 US Navy Anchor



Ship's Wheel



Vintage Outboard Motors



The Ship Builder's Monument



Boat Under Construction



Clipper Ship



Osprey V



Grand Republic



Port Jefferson Station Railcar



Old Pilings and Barge



Harbor Ruins - Sand Mining



Rip Van Winkle Bell



Port Jefferson Fire Department Memorial



The Philip Roe House circa 1755



Belle Terre Gatehouse circa 1900



The Vast and Endless Sea Sculpture