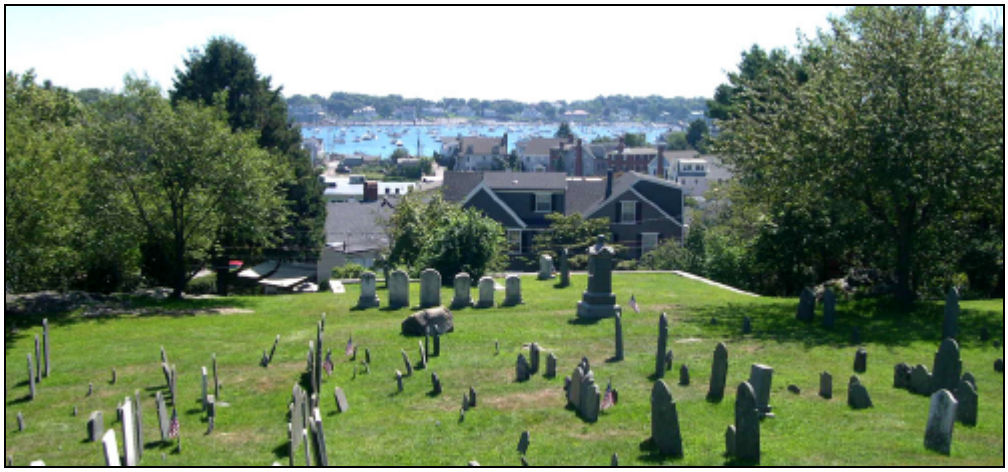
MARBLEHEAD RECONNAISSANCE REPORT

ESSEX COUNTY LANDSCAPE INVENTORY

MASSACHUSETTS HERITAGE LANDSCAPE INVENTORY PROGRAM



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INTRODUCTION

Essex County is known for its unusually rich and varied landscapes, which are represented in each of its 34 municipalities. Heritage landscapes are places that are created by human interaction with the natural environment. They are dynamic and evolving; they reflect the history of the community and provide a sense of place; they show the natural ecology that influenced land use patterns; and they often have scenic qualities. This wealth of landscapes is central to each community's character; yet heritage landscapes are vulnerable and ever changing. For this reason it is important to take the first steps towards their preservation by identifying those landscapes that are particularly valued by the community – a favorite local farm, a distinctive neighborhood or mill village, a unique natural feature, an inland river corridor or the rocky coast. To this end, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) have collaborated to bring the Heritage Landscape Inventory program (HLI) to communities in Essex County. The primary goal of the program is to help communities identify a wide range of landscape resources, particularly those that are significant and unprotected. The focus is on landscapes that have not been identified in previous survey efforts in a given community. Another important goal of the program is to provide communities with strategies for preserving heritage landscapes.

The methodology for the Heritage Landscape Inventory program was developed in a Pilot Project conducted in southeast Massachusetts. It is outlined in the DCR publication *Reading the Land* which has provided guidance for the program in Essex County. In short, each participating community appoints a Local Project Coordinator (LPC) to assist the DCR-ENHC consulting team. The LPC organizes a heritage landscape identification meeting at which interested residents and town officials offer community input by identifying potential heritage landscapes. This meeting is followed by a fieldwork session including the consulting team and the LPC, usually accompanied by other community members. This group visits the priority landscapes identified in the meeting and gathers information about the community. The final product is the Reconnaissance Report, prepared for each participating community. It outlines the history of the community; identifies the resources and documentation that provide background information; provides a short description of the priority heritage landscapes visited; discusses planning issues identified by the community; and concludes with a brief discussion of survey and planning recommendations. A list of all of the heritage landscapes identified by the community is included in the Appendix.

MARBLEHEAD HISTORY

Marblehead's distinctive coastal landscape features, particularly its harbors, islands and peninsulas, were instrumental in shaping the history of the community from the earliest Native American use of the land to the present day.

Evidence of Native American encampments and seasonal occupation over the last few thousand years has been found in Marblehead. Sites were overlooking Salem Harbor to the north and the Atlantic Ocean near the Swampscott line. An early Naumkeag settlement overlooked Salem Harbor at Bessom Pasture, now part of Marblehead. The first European settlement in "Marble Harbr" was in 1629 and the town was established twenty years later in 1649. Marblehead was distinguished as the town with the largest fishing industry in New England by the mid 1600s.

Fishing remained the base of the economy for two centuries from the mid 1600s to the mid 1800s. There were the expected interruptions during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, when many of the fishing seamen went to war. Fishing dropped off after 1846 in part due to a devastating storm that destroyed the core of the Marblehead fishing fleet. During the first half of the 19th century some Marblehead seamen left fishing for the China trade in the Pacific. Nearby Salem was the center of this lucrative trade.

Shoe manufacturing became a major local industry into the second half of the 19th century and competed with the maritime industries of rope walks, sand suppliers and shipbuilders. Two major fires in 1877 and 1888 destroyed most of the successful shoe shops and ended the shoe industry. By the late 19th century there was a rise in the summer resort industry with Marblehead becoming the second most important yachting and racing capital of the East Coast next to New York. Seasonal cottages, built to accommodate the resort industry, soon were followed by large summer homes, many of which survive as evidence of this time in Marblehead's history.

In its early days from the 17th century Marblehead was connected to Salem by a ferry that was rowed across Salem Harbor. The first road between Salem and Marblehead was laid out in 1660 and the road to Marblehead Neck – today's Causeway – was laid out in 1669. The advent of the railroad came in 1839 and service continued into the 20th century, first providing transportation for seasonal visitors.

With a successful maritime economic base, the population of Marblehead was unusually large in the 18th century with about 5,000 in 1765 making Marblehead among the largest towns in the colonies. Throughout the 19th century, fluctuations occurred as industries rose and fell. Population in the last quarter of the 20th century and into the 21st century is steady at nearly 20,000. Marblehead continues as a yachting center. Most of the summer cottages and estates have been converted to year-round residences and this accounts for a steady sizeable population with little seasonal population fluctuation. However, Marblehead has an active tourist industry in the summer.

RESOURCES AND DOCUMENTATION

Inventory of Historic Assets

The Massachusetts Historical Commission's (MHC) Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets is a statewide list that identifies significant historic resources throughout the Commonwealth. In order to be included in the inventory, a property must be documented on an MHC inventory form, which is then entered into the MHC database. This searchable database, known as MACRIS, is now available online at http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc.

According to the MHC, Marblehead's inventory documents 1,074 resources dating from 1636 to 1981. Most of the documentation was completed in the late 1970s; however the forms have historical and architectural descriptions that are more comprehensive than most written at that time.

State and National Registers of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that have been determined significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. All National Register properties are automatically listed in the State Register of Historic Places. Marblehead's National Register (NR) program began in 1966 when the Jeremiah Lee Mansion was listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL). Soon thereafter, the General John Glover House was also listed as a National Historic Landmark. By virtue of their NHL status, both of these properties are also individually listed on the National Register. Subsequent National Register listings included nine more individual properties, one of which was included in the 1990 First Period Thematic Nomination, and two districts: the Marblehead Historic District and Marblehead Light, the latter of which has two resources. The Marblehead Light and related oil house are part of the Lighthouses of Massachusetts Thematic Nomination. Also listed in the State Register are those properties protected by a preservation restriction, drawn up in accordance with MGL Chapter 183, Sections 31-33. A preservation restriction (PR) runs with the deed and is one of the strongest preservation strategies available. All properties that have preservation restrictions filed under the state statute are automatically listed in the State Register. Only one Marblehead property falls into this category, the Old Town House, which already was listed in the National Register when the PR was applied in 1999. This restriction recently has expired.

Local Historic District

Local historic districts, which are administered at the municipal level, are special areas within a community where the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places are preserved and protected by a local historic district commission. To date there are two local historic districts in Marblehead accounting for the protection of nearly 800 properties. They are the Gingerbread Hill Historic

District and the Old Town Historic District, each adopted in 1968. All local historic district properties are automatically listed in the State Register of Historic Places.

Planning Documents

The 1999 *Marblehead Open Space and Recreation Plan* (OSRP) lists ten goals; many are consistent with the preservation of heritage landscapes, especially those that are related to open space and parks preservation and to waterfront preservation. Of particular concern to heritage landscape advocates is the protection of coastal and inland water resources, public open spaces, and the access to and use of waterfront, open space and parks in Marblehead. Some of the objectives, such as the identification of public access to the waterfront, have been partially implemented and include a plan for informing Marblehead residents of these points. The waterfront is one of the most striking and critical features of the town's character and recognition of this character is critical to its preservation and the enhancement of access.

PRIORITY HERITAGE LANDSCAPES

The Marblehead Heritage Landscape Identification meeting, attended by about nine residents, some representing town boards and local non-profit organizations, was held on June 24, 2004. During the meeting residents identified a lengthy list of Marblehead's heritage landscapes, which is included in the Appendix. Once the comprehensive list was created, attendees were asked to articulate the value of and the issues relating to the preservation of each heritage landscape on the list. Based on the information gathered, community members identified a group of high priority heritage landscapes to be visited by the consulting team during the fieldwork. Each of the priority landscapes is highly valued, contributes to community character, and is not permanently protected or preserved.

The following text describes the priority heritage landscapes that are the focus of the reconnaissance work in Marblehead. In most instances intensive survey work will be needed to fully document the physical characteristics and the historical development of the landscape. These heritage landscapes, which are listed in alphabetical order, represent a range of scale from a single cemetery to harbors and the public ways to the waterfront.

The Causeway

The Causeway is a road constructed over a sandbar that connects Marblehead proper to Marblehead Neck. The first road over the sandbar was laid out in 1669. The Causeway, which is part of Ocean Avenue, is the only land access to the Neck and separates the Atlantic Ocean on the south side from Marblehead Harbor on the north side. On the harbor side is the extension of Riverhead Beach, a sandy beach between the water and the concrete wall supporting the road bed of the narrow two-lane causeway. On the ocean side is Devereux Beach for which there is parking just before one enters the Causeway leading to the

Neck. The dramatic regional southerly view from the Causeway to Boston contrasts with the more intimate view to the north of the boat-filled Marblehead Harbor. The concrete sides of the Causeway are just low enough to afford these vistas. However, fencing on private property at the end of the Causeway, although open creates a barrier at a location that has engaged passers-by for three centuries.

Little Harbor

Little Harbor, a shallow harbor used for small boats, some fishing and bathing on a sheltered beach, is north of Marblehead Harbor. It is framed by Fort Sewall on the south and Peach's Point on the north and is sheltered from the ocean by Gerry Island and Crowninshield Island, also known as Brown's Island. Both islands are connected to the mainland by sandbars at low tide. Each is rocky with thickets and forested areas. Gerry Island is the site of the former home of the Rev. Samuel Cheever of the 17th century. Crowninshield Island was donated to The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR) in 1955 by Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield who in the early 20th c. had planted trees to improve her view from Peaches Point. The island has a hill with a vista of Marblehead Harbor to the south, beaches with beach rose and grasses, and Austrian pines among the Crowninshield plantings. The beach abutting Little Harbor is called Gashouse Beach, named for the power plant that was the source for Marblehead's gas lamps in the late 19th century. Fort Sewall, the southern edge of Little Harbor, marks the entrance to Marblehead Harbor and has been the site of a fort since the founding of the town in the mid 17th century. The fort was named after Samuel Sewall, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court in the late 1600s. Peaches Point on the other end of Little Harbor has many large 19th and 20th century summer estates such as that built for the Crowninshields who also owned Brown's Island as noted above. The prospect of Little Harbor from Old Burial Hill and from Fountain Park is a feature worth climbing up to see. However, the view from Prospect Park is partially restricted by trees that have not been trimmed. Not only is Little Harbor well sheltered from the weather, unlike Marblehead Harbor, it also is much shallower, limiting the size boats that can enter this harbor.

Marblehead Harbor

Marblehead Harbor is unique in that it is the only deep water harbor in the area that does not have a breakwater wall. The mouth of the harbor is framed on the south by Marblehead Light on the end of the Neck and on the north by Fort Sewall. The harbor is narrow, running between the two land masses and ending at the Causeway on the southwest which connects Marblehead and the Neck. Between 1,200 and 1,400 boats are moored in Marblehead Harbor. The depth is between 15' and 30' of water. The harbor has a rocky coast line, with some small beaches, and four yacht clubs including the second oldest on the east coast – the Boston Yacht Club founded in 1877. Many narrow public ways terminate at Marblehead Harbor, affording fine vistas. Views of the harbor from the land and views from the water of the town, landings, islands, wharfs and large estates from the water are central to Marblehead's character.

Marblehead Light

Located in Chandler Hovey Park out on Marblehead Neck is Marblehead Light. It is prominently situated to guide seamen to the harbor keeping them off the rocky coastline below. Located on the end of Marblehead Neck facing Marblehead Harbor, the park includes several large rock outcroppings, some grassy areas, a parking lot, a shelter, a remnant of the earlier lighthouse in the form of a brick oil house and the cast iron light. Marblehead Light has eight iron pilings with a framework of supports that tapers to the top where there is a lantern room. It is the only one of its kind on the eastern seaboard. It has been automated since 1960 and continues to function as an important aid to navigation which is licensed and maintained by the Coast Guard. The first lighthouse in this location was established in 1835; a brick tower with a wood frame keeper's cottage attached. The present cast iron tower replaced the lighthouse in 1896. In 1948, Chandler Hovey, a Neck resident and avid sailor purchased the land around the light from the federal government. He then donated it to the town. A lighthouse keeper continued to live in the keeper's cottage until it was demolished in 1959.

Old Burial Hill

Established in 1638, Old Burial Hill was the site of the settlement's first meeting house and overlooks the Harbor. About 600 Revolutionary War soldiers are buried here, most in unmarked graves. The main entrance is at the intersection of Pond and Orne Street and is marked by a low stone wall with square piers leading to a path and steps that rise to the top of the hill, passing several large rock outcroppings and culminating in one of the most stunning views of Little Harbor. The names of many prominent Marblehead families are found on stones such as Peach, Doliber and Glover, including General Glover's plot in which a large tree is growing. Most stones are loosely arranged in rows while some are in small family plots with granite posts that once were connected with iron railings. Most stones are of slate or marble and many are tilting, cracked or sinking. Soil erosion is occurring around many of the tombs. Some slate stones have been encased in granite or in concrete to preserve crumbling stone; however this

procedure has been detrimental to the stones. A late 20th century octagonal gazebo, with a stone base, wood railing and asphalt roof, sits atop the hill. A bench has been placed on the plateau facing the view of Little Harbor. Two tall obelisks crown the hill. One is a monument to those who died in the 1846 storm which nearly ended the fishing industry in Marblehead. A significant number of boats and fishing men were lost in this storm, leaving many widows and children. The other is called the Captain Mugford Monument in honor of James Mugford who captured a British ship in the Revolution and was killed soon thereafter. The monument was placed elsewhere in the town during the Centennial Celebration of 1876 and moved to Old Burial Hill in 1913. The burial ground spills over the hill with many of the oldest graves down near Redd's Pond, which is contiguous to and just west northwest of Old Burial Hill.

Public Ways

Access to the water has been critical since the founding of Marblehead. Many narrow alleys, paths and roads leading to the water were laid out for practical use by fishermen and seamen and are now enjoyed for recreational use in leisure time by vacationers and residents alike. These public ways lead from main roads to the water in the center of Marblehead and out on the Neck. Many of these ways are little known and often appear to be incorporated into abutting property. On Marblehead Neck eleven paths lead to fine vistas of Marblehead Harbor or of the ocean along the east and north side of the Neck. Some lead to rock outcroppings where one can enjoy the harbor sights. Others lead down to the high water mark on small protected beaches. Eight public ways lead to Marblehead or Little Harbor from the village center area. Several of the village paths or alleys are steps such as Prospect Alley, the Alley Steps, and an alley from Elm Street to High Street, all traversing over rocky outcroppings and leading from a higher or lower street to the one above or below. Each of these public ways is narrow and for foot traffic only. Some once were wide enough for a wagon to pass along but today they are unable to accommodate vehicular traffic.

Redd's Pond

Located on Pond Street is the 1.81-acre Redd's Pond, named for Wilmot Redd, a fishwife, known as Mammy who was tried and hung in the 1692 witch trials. A stone in memory of Mammy Redd, was installed at the edge of the burial ground, set back somewhat from the pond in the late 20th century. Access to the pond is from Pond Street or from Old Burial Hill. A low stone wall marks the boundaries of the pond lot and a four-foot stone and mortar wall along Pond Street forms an entrance. The rounded top of the wall along Pond Street is made of stuccoed hardware cloth, and two square piers form an entrance to the walkway around the pond. The pond is bordered on the Old Burial Hill side by rock outcroppings that slope right to the pond edge. A walkway, which is in poor condition, lines the north and west sides of the pond leading from the burial ground around to Pond Street. The wall and the walkway were built in 1934 as part of WPA projects. Mature trees, including some willows, hang over the pond and dot the hill sloping down to the pond. Originally this natural pond was used for drinking water and later as a water supply for the fire department. In the late

1880s and 1890s, model boat racing began and continues today on Sunday mornings. Small buoys in the pond are used for these events. Other recreational uses include fishing and ice skating. A small marshy pond on the west side of the stone wall forms the boundary with the adjacent property, owned for many decades by a longtime Marblehead family, the Goodwins. Redd's Pond Boat Works, located on Pond Street, is a gable front shed or barn on the west side of the pond that was floated across for Linc Hawkes in 1965.

PLANNING

Preservation Strategies

Marblehead's coastal land, harbors and islands played a critical role in the settlement and historical development of the community. The protected harbors were prime locations for early settlements and supported maritime industry from Marblehead's early days of development. The town has taken one of the most important steps to preserve its most significant buildings and neighborhood character by designating two local historic districts decades ago. However, like most Essex County communities, Marblehead is under intense pressure for development that may adversely affect its fragile waterfront.

Planning Issues

In addition to the priority landscapes listed in the previous section, residents identified general issues related to heritage landscapes and community character. Each of the critical planning issues affects at least one of the priority landscapes. These issues are listed in alphabetical order. Community members also expressed interest in learning about preservation tools and strategies that have been effective in other Massachusetts communities and in identifying sources for preservation funding.

Coastal Waterfront

Access to the water is multi-faceted and involves the use of public ways, alleys, narrow paths, public landings for canoe, kayak and boat launching, and public beaches for swimming, sunbathing and walking. Many of the public ways are thought to be inaccessible to the public because they have become blocked by encroachment of abutters. Parking near the public ways is practically non-existent. Public landings also become crowded or are not known to the general public. Beaches are not readily accessible, often due to misperception. Visual access also is greatly impaired in many areas and is diminishing as private property owners erect barriers – fences and trees obstructing views. For instance, the views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Boston skyline beyond are obstructed by fencing erected on private property on the Neck close to the Causeway, and the spectacular natural view of the outer harbor islands from Fountain Park is blocked by trees.

Marblehead Light

Marblehead Light, now automated, has a green light which can be seen from 20 miles away. Some believe that demolition of the light is only a matter of time. Upkeep is tedious; however, the cast iron structure has been painted within the last decade.

Neighborhood Character – Affordable Housing

The conflict between preserving historic neighborhoods while providing affordable housing is the experience of many communities in Essex County. This is particularly true in Marblehead where the scale and density of the community does not offer opportunities to add new housing without demolishing important historic buildings or encroaching on natural resources.

Ponds

The few ponds in Marblehead are close to the sea and are part of critical watersheds with wetlands and wildlife. Environmental changes in water quality caused by run off and acid rain are rapidly changing the nature of ponds – particularly fresh water ponds in which invasive species have taken hold. The large number of ducks living on the ponds for a long period also causes pollution of the water and the surrounding land or walkways. Funding for improvement of water quality affecting the watershed and wildlife habitats is limited. Development near ponds also threatens the stability of the ponds due to nitrogen loading from septic systems and lawn chemicals.

PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS

Preservation planning is a three step process involving identification, evaluation and protection. Four useful documents to consult before beginning to implement preservation strategies are the Massachusetts Historical Commission's *Survey Manual* and *Preservation through Bylaws and Ordinances;* the Department of Conservation and Recreation's *Reading the Land;* and the Essex National

Heritage Commission's *Essex National Heritage Area Plan*. Each publication provides necessary information for the identification, evaluation and preservation of the rich cultural heritage of a community. General recommendations are listed first, followed by more specific recommendations.

Each community will have to determine the best way to implement the recommendations discussed below. One approach that might help Marblehead begin the process is to form a Heritage Landscape Committee, as described in *Reading the Land*.

General Recommendations

Recommendations that apply to a broad range of resources are discussed below. These general recommendations are listed in an order in which they are most logically addressed when applying the three step preservation planning process as described above. Thus the goal will be to (1) identify, (2) evaluate and (3) protect.

Inventory of Heritage Landscapes and Other Historic Assets

The vital first step in developing preservation strategies for heritage landscapes is to record information about the resources. One cannot advocate for something unless one knows precisely what it is – the physical characteristics and the historical development. Although Marblehead has an extensive survey, it was completed 30 years ago and focuses on buildings. Survey work today is an opportunity to focus on less traditional resources such as landscapes. Thus, using the Massachusetts Historical Commission survey methodology, record Marblehead's heritage landscapes, beginning with the priority landscapes listed in this report:

- Compile a list of resources that are under-represented or not sufficiently documented, beginning with heritage landscapes, particularly individual properties on the Neck and residential neighborhoods where there is interest in protective districts.

- Document unprotected resources first, beginning with threatened areas.

- Make sure to document secondary features on residential properties, such as outbuildings, garages, stone walls.

- Record histories for the First Period dwellings – the 1985 documentation focuses on structural analysis only.

National Register Program

New survey work will require National Register evaluation. This will provide new information about the eligibility of properties. Thus to augment Marblehead's existing National Register program:

- Develop a National Register listing plan, taking into consideration a property's integrity and vulnerability. Properties that are in need of recognition in order to advance preservation strategies should be given priority.

- Complete a National Register nomination for Marblehead Neck if determined eligible for listing.

Burial Grounds and Cemeteries

Marblehead has several burial grounds of which one is best known: Old Burial Hill on Orne Street at Pond Street. This burial ground is well documented with much information on a website and is relatively well maintained; however the site suffers from long term stone maintenance issues. The DCR publication *Preservation Guidelines for Municipally Owned Historic Burial Grounds and Cemeteries* provides guidance on developing preservation plans for burial grounds including identification and evaluation of the resources as well as preservation strategies. Using this guide Marblehead should:

- Update existing or prepare new survey forms for all burial grounds and cemeteries that have been in use for more than 50 years.

- Develop a preservation and management plan for Old Burial Hill taking into consideration repair of stone markers, stone walls and stone fencing related to cemeteries, repair of iron work, removal of invasive growth and on-going maintenance of plant material.

- In particular investigate the past use of granite encasing to stabilize stones to determine whether there are new and better ways to preserve stones.

- Develop a preservation and management plan for each of the other burial grounds taking into consideration repair of stone markers, stone walls and stone fencing related to cemeteries, repair of iron work, removal of invasive growth, and on-going maintenance of plant material. Advise owners of those not under town jurisdiction.

Coastal Waterfront and Public Ways

The issues are access and maintenance. The 2001 publication *Discovering Marblehead* describes the beaches, parks and access points clearly. Walking tours also have been developed. Continue to work towards solutions in the following ways:

- Define ownership of each segment of the waterfront – beaches, rocky shores.

- Define public ways and parking areas for beaches and rocky shoreline.

- Develop a brochure on use of beaches including the location of paths by which to access the public beaches using information already established in *Discovering Marblehead*.

- Form public-private partnerships with Harbor and Water Board, neighborhood groups and Boy Scouts (or similar community groups) to develop stewardship programs for access points.

- Continue public ways walking tour each spring to remind abutters and town residents of the public access to these lanes and alleys.

Harbors

The harbors are one of Marblehead's most unique and critical characteristics. They are central to the town's historical development and character.

- Form partnerships among Historical and Historic District Commissions and Harbor and Water Board to identify key heritage landscape features of harbor.

- Identify issues – working vs. recreational harbor, environmental issues and access issues.

- Develop plan to manage growth of recreational use of harbors, balancing the public access with the environmental impacts.

Neighborhood Character

Nearly all preservation strategies address village or neighborhood character in some manner. As described above, thorough documentation on MHC inventory forms is an important first step in the preservation planning process, followed by National Register listing where appropriate. There are some strategies that may be particularly helpful in preserving the character of Marblehead's residential and commercial neighborhoods. There are three traditional preservation tools: demolition delay, local historic district designation (MGL Chapter 40C) and neighborhood conservation district designation. A demolition delay bylaw provides a time period in which the town can consider alternatives to demolition. Both types of districts recognize special areas within a community where the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places are preserved and protected. Each type of district is a local initiative, adopted by a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting and administered by a district commission, appointed by the Selectmen. As Marblehead knows from its experience with two local historic districts, it is the strongest form of protection for the preservation of historic resources, while neighborhood conservation districts are less restrictive but still embrace neighborhood character.

- Adopt a demolition delay bylaw to include apply to all properties that are 50 years old and that gives the Historical Commission authority to invoke a delay of demolition of up to one year. Publication of demolition requests reminds residents of historic resources and reinforces their value; therefore include an abutter notification requirement in the bylaw.

- Review other areas for local historic district designation. Adopt design review guidelines for the local historic districts.

- Alternatively adopt a neighborhood conservation bylaw through Home Rule. Such districts may be the most appropriate way to preserve the land use pattern of some 20th century neighborhoods where the overall size, scale and orientation of structures of the heritage landscape are important characteristics.

Parks

Parks are important assets to the town and to each neighborhood in which they provide public open space. Management plans are critical to ensure their continued relevance and benefit to the community.

- Complete an MHC inventory with descriptions and photo documentation of each of the parks in Marblehead.

- List eligible parks in the National Register.

- Prepare park maintenance plans.

- Apply for MHC and DCR grants when available.

- Clear view of Little and Marblehead Harbors from Fountain Park by cutting back growth on water edges of park.

Funding of Preservation Projects

Funding for preservation projects is an important aspect of implementing preservation strategies. In recent years, the ENHC has maintained a small grants program for Essex County communities. In addition, both the MHC and the DCR have had funding programs to assist communities in preservation related issues including:

- Survey and Planning Grants administered by the MHC support survey, National Register and preservation planning work.

- The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) administered by the MHC funds restoration and rehabilitation projects.

- The Historic Landscape Preservation Grant Program (HLPGP) administered by DCR funds planning, rehabilitation, education and stewardship projects focused on historic landscapes, including cemeteries.

Funding for these programs varies from year to year. When planning Marblehead's heritage landscape inventory program, contact relevant agencies to determine whether funding currently is available.

Towns that have adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) find it to be an excellent funding source for many heritage landscape projects. The number and types of projects that are benefiting across the Commonwealth is worthy of consideration. The CPA establishes a mechanism by which towns can develop a fund dedicated to historic preservation, open space and affordable housing. Funds are collected through a .5% to 3% surcharge on each annual real estate tax bill. The Commonwealth has established a dedicated fund which is used to match the municipality's collections under the CPA.

Adoption of the Community Preservation Act, by a majority vote on a ballot question, fosters partnerships among historic preservationists, conservationists and affordable housing advocates. At least 10% of the funds must be used to preserve historic resources; at least 10% must be used to protect open space; and at least 10% must be used to advance affordable housing. The remaining 70% must be used for one of these three uses as well as recreational needs and can be distributed in varying proportions depending upon the projects that the town believes are appropriate and beneficial to the municipality.

Towns like Marblehead, which have a local historic district bylaw, may apply for Certified Local Government (CLG) status which is granted by the National Park Service through the MHC. After the town completes an application and is accepted as a CLG, it files a report yearly on the status of applications, meetings and decisions. In return the town is eligible for federal funding that is distributed by the MHC. The matching funds are competitive; however a proportion of the federal allocation must be distributed to CLGs for Survey and Planning projects. CPA funds can be used for matching funds.

Specific Recommendations

The following recommendations are offered for specific resources or areas that were either priority heritage landscapes or discussed as critical issues.

The Causeway

- Identify key features of the Causeway including views of harbor and Atlantic Ocean.

- Seek funding programs to assist in preservation of views, through purchase of land or restrictions on use of adjacent land.

- Investigate a fence bylaw that requires a special permit for solid fencing that exceeds a certain height.

- Investigate other bylaws that may help to preserve views.

Marblehead Light

- Investigate terms of lease between Coast Guard and town.

- Use thematic nomination for Lighthouses of Massachusetts to describe unique characteristics of this light.

- Develop friends group to support retention of light – considering membership from yachting and residential constituents.

Redd's Pond

An educational sign board at the entrance to Redd's Pond asking visitors not to feed the wildlife is an important first step in deterring people from contributing to the pollution of the small natural pond surrounded by man-made features.

- Document this heritage landscape taking into account all the adjoining features that contribute to the context of the pond.

- Develop a maintenance plan for the pond and its immediate surrounds.

- Develop a friends group of the neighborhood residents and those who use it recreationally for model boat racing, fishing and ice skating.

CONCLUSION

The Marblehead Reconnaissance Report is a critical tool in starting to identify the rich and diverse heritage landscapes in Marblehead and in beginning to think about preservation strategies. However, it is only the first step in the planning process. Landscapes identified in this report, especially the priority landscapes, will typically need further documentation on MHC inventory forms. The documentation in turn can be used in efforts to build consensus and gather public support for their preservation. Implementation of recommendations will require a concerted effort of and partnerships with municipal boards and agencies, local non-profits, and state agencies and commissions.

Distribution of this Reconnaissance Report to town land use boards and commissions will assist in making this one of the planning documents that guides Marblehead in preserving important features of the community's character. The tasks that are recommended will require cooperation and coordination among boards and commissions, particularly Marblehead's Historical and Historic Districts Commissions, the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission and the Harbor and Waters Board. It also is advisable to present this information to the Board of Selectmen, the applicant to the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program on behalf of the town. Finally, distribution of the report to the Historical Society, neighborhood associations, and any other preservation minded organizations will broaden the audience and assist in gathering interest and support for Marblehead's heritage landscapes.

APPENDIX: HERITAGE LANDSCAPES IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY

This list is a summary of all landscapes discussed at the Heritage Landscape Identification Meeting held in Marblehead on June 24 and the follow-up fieldwork on August 25, 2004. This is a working list and can be updated by the community. **There may be other heritage landscapes that were not identified at the HLI meeting noted above.** Landscapes are grouped by type. The chart has two columns – the name of the resource and the location are in the first and notes about the resource are in the second. Abbreviations used are listed below.

APR = Agricultural Preservation Restriction
LHD = Local Historic District
OSRP = Open Space & Recreation Plan
TTOR = The Trustees of Reservations
CR = Conservation Restriction
NR = National Register
PR = Preservation Restriction
* = Priority Landscape

Agriculture	
General Glover Farm Glover Square	House and memorial, mostly in Swampscott. Land was given to Glover for his work in Revolutionary War.
Robinson Farm Abbott St.	House only, some land but not farmed – remaining acreage is contiguous with school land.
Sorosis Farm Humphrey & Pleasant Sts.	Owned by School Department, the farmhouse is used for Administration offices. 33+ acres with foundations of outbuildings behind the Community Center and in front of the High School. Partially undeveloped with varied terrain. Near Railroad r-o-w. A group of farms owned by Sorosis Shoe Co. President, Alexander E. Little. Poultry products from farms given to factory workers.
Burial Grounds - Cemeteries	
Cressey Cemetery Cressey St.	Between Elm and Green Streets, abuts Green Street Cemetery.
Green Street Cemetery Green St.	Between Elm and Green Streets, abuts Cressey Cemetery.
Hooper Family Burial Site Harris St.	Small Hooper family plot off Harris St. two tombs directly across the street from the Martin Grave Site. Burial site of Captain John Glover Hooper.
Martin Grave Site Harris St.	Rear of 28 Harris Street behind the Unitarian church, town maintains intermittently – walls needing maintenance, maple trees taking over. In 1970 the town cut down many of the maple trees.
Native American Grave Site	Potential sites on the corner of Highland Terrace and Village St.

Old Burial Hill Cemetery * Pond & Orne Sts.	NR. Next to Redd's Pond. High on hill with stunning views of Marblehead waterfront, the Fort, Crocker Park and Chandler Hovey Park. Well documented but no funds to care for trees and grave marker deterioration. General Glover buried here, plot has huge tree in middle.
St. Michael's Cemetery Pleasant St.	Associated with St. Michael's Church, 26 Pleasant St., is listed in the NR and is in LHD.
Star of the Sea Cemetery Lafayette St.	Roman Catholic. Well maintained and still active.
Waterside Cemetery West Shore Drive	Municipally owned and well maintained. Views, slopes to Salem Harbor. Harborside Cemetery is the older section of Waterside and is full with no remaining lots for burials.
Civic	
Civic Downtown Area	Abbot Hall – Training Field (NR, LHD), Franklin St. Firehouse, Gerry School, Powder House (Elm St.), Gun House (Green St.), St. Michael's Church and Cemetery, Town House.
Oko's Fireman's Hall Washington St.	Hand Tub, VFW.
Schools	Particularly the grounds: Eveleth (3.5 acres), Gerry (1.5 acres), Glover (4.3 acres, ca. 1906, nice setting).
Industrial	
Toy Factory 5 Stacey Court	Daddy Scott.
Maritime	
Boatyards	• Cliff Street Boatyard (formerly Cloutman's), Old coal and lumber wharf for Martins, publicly owned and leased as is Parkers Boatyard. • Grave's Yacht Yards at Front and Beach streets, was Sterling Burgess Boatyard before Grave's. Burgess built Brutal Beast at Union and Water streets boatyard. • Herreshoff boatyard – where Nathaniel G. Herreshoff got his start. Built half models of his boat designs as well. Later the boatyard moved to Bristol, CT. His son, L. Francis Herreshoff continued in father's shoes in CT but retired to Marblehead and lived near Crocker Park. • Parker's Boatyard – off Redstone Lane.
Doyle's Sailmaker Front Street	One of many important maritime activities associated with the life of the harbors.

Landings	• Barnegat Landing (Little Harbor) and Grave's Beach – end of Orne Street with view of Gerry Island and ocean. • Clark Landing (State Street Landing). Front St. at foot of State St. Named for Phillip T. Clark, harbormaster (1945-1968). Public landing since 1662 with views and activity of fishermen. A recreational and working dock. • Commercial Street Landing and Park – fishing use and public short-term mooring, birthplace of marine aviation where first solo flight of Burgess/Curtis hydroplane (1912) took place. • Doliber Landing – off Beacon St. facing Crowninshield Island. • Ferry Landing is at the end of Green Street. Old ferry to Salem. • Grace Oliver Landing – private. • Tucker's Wharf is a public wharf adjacent to Clark Landing, at end of Ferry Lane off Front Street. A wharf for small boats.
Lobster Shanties Front St.	End of Front Street. On Fort Beach.
Marblehead Light	Original lighthouse and keeper's house built in 1832 and manned by Ezekiel Darling, a gunner on the USS Constitution during the War of 1812. Tower replaced with the iron structure in 1896.
Yacht Clubs	• Eastern Yacht Club. 1882. Located on Marblehead Neck. Shingle Style. • Boston Yacht Club. 1877. Located on town side of Marblehead Harbor. Building was moved to present location in 1953. Second oldest yacht club on east coast. (New York Yacht Club was first.) • Corinthian Yacht Club. 1898. Corinthian Lane on Marblehead Neck. Yacht club was established in 1885. The 1898 building was designed by Arthur H. Bowditch in Shingle Style. • Marblehead Yacht Club. Located on lower end of Marblehead Harbor.
Military	
Forts	• Sewall. Located on the end of Front St. Fort here as early as 1644 then named Gale's Head. Renamed Fort Sewall after Samuel Sewall, Chief Justice of MA Supreme Court (presided over witch trials). Fort protected USS Constitution in 1814. 1922 deeded to town for park. Lovis Cove has small pebble beach. Fort Beach is location of lobster shanties. Recent grant to do signage and some erosion control. • Darby was called Fort Miller during the French and Indian War and the Civil War.
Gun Artillery House 45 Elm St.	NR, LHD. Ca. 1809 Federal style warehouse.
Powder House Green St.	Built in 1755.

Natural	
Beaches	• Danger Beach – a pebble beach at end of Green St. on Salem Harbor. • Devereux Beach. Ocean Avenue – adjacent to Tucker's Beach and Goldthwaite Beach and part of the barrier beach behind Goldthwait Reservation which is salt marsh, crescent shaped along Causeway. Opposite side of Ocean Avenue from Riverhead Beach. Named after John Devereux (1615-1695). • Fort Beach – off Front St. between Fort Sewall and Lovis Cove. Fish shanties are rented out to fishermen. • Goldthwait Beach – a barrier beach that is disappearing as water encroaches from one side and people from the other. Named after donor, Dr. Joel Goldthwait. • Gashouse Beach. Gashouse Lane. Overlooking Little Harbor. Named for coal burning gas plant of the late 19th c. At low tide can cross a tombolo (sandbar) to Gerry Island. • Grace Oliver Beach – at the end of Beacon St. overlooking Doliber Cove, opposite Browns Island. • Greystone Beach. • Ocean Avenue Beach – private. • Preston Beach - near Blodgett Park (run by Clifton Improvement Society), over the border in Swampscott it is known as Phillips Beach. • Riverhead Beach – Ocean Avenue vista – overlooking harbor from Causeway area, also known as Back Beach. Opposite Devereux Beach.
Black Joe's Pond Norman St.	LHD. 2 acres. On Gingerbread Hill off Norman Street. Black Joe (Joseph Brown) had a tavern next to pond in the late 1700s. The tavern now is a residence. Ice skating in winter on this pond.
Flag Pond	In Steer Swamp. A mill pond formed in the 1600s by the damming of Babbling Brook. Mostly filled in now so that it is a shallow marsh with cattails, phragmites and purple loosestrife taking over.
Half Way Rock	This rock formation is halfway between Gloucester and Boston in the Atlantic Ocean.
Hawthorn Pond West Shore Drive	9.8 acre pond conservation area given by Russell Knight in 1955. Trails, wildlife. Conflicting interests in dealing with invasive species. Removal for trees to grow back not in interest of birders who don't want trees.

Islands Little Harbor, Marblehead Harbor, Salem Harbor	• Baker's Island with a lighthouse built in 1821 (first light from 1700s). Lighthouse keepers house (1878), fog signal structure (1907). Privately owned. Active Coast Guard light. • Children's Island (formerly Cat Island), 29 acres. Used by Marblehead-Swampscott YMCA and owned by city of Salem. Three buildings, two saltwater pools, pier, moorings, small grove of pines otherwise open. Attached to Gull Island on southern tip, which is a breeding area for gulls and cormorants. • Crowninshield Island. Little Harbor. Also called Browns, donated to TTOR in 1955 by Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield who in early 20th c. had planted trees to improve her view from Peaches Point. Austrian pines, hill with vista of Marblehead Harbor to south, beach with beach rose and grasses. Sand bar connecting at low tide. • Gerry Island. Private in Little Harbor off Gas House Beach and connected to it during low tide. Home of the Rev. Samuel Cheever from 1668. • Ram Island (5.5 acres) in limits of Salem, rocky coast with grassy plateau. Privately owned, 10-year renewable conservation restriction. • Tinker Island (private in Salem limits), off the end of Marblehead Neck. The land is leased to owners of the houses.
Little Harbor *	Barnegat. Site of original Marblehead settlement.
Lovis Cove Front Street	A rocky cove next to Fort Sewall with small pebble beach.
Marblehead Harbor*	First known as Great Harbor or Great Bay. Traditions of fishing and yachting. 18th century international shipping seaport with traditions of fishing. Late 19th and 20th century yachting and 20th and 21st century sailing.
Oliver's Pond	Fresh water pond that feeds into Ware Pond. No public access
Redd's Pond *	Former ice pond with ice barn on opposite side of road. Natural pond. Model boat races here since ca. 1880s. Named for Wilmot Redd who was hanged as witch but had no marker until recently. An active boatyard adjacent to pond. Skating in winter. Adjacent to Old Burial Hill. Residential encroachment.
Salem Harbor	North side of Marblehead.
Ware Pond Marion Rd. or Warren Rd.	Near Rockaway Ave. 3.8-acre pond in Ware Pond Conservation Area (8.5 acres). Largest pond in Marblehead, popular location for bird watching. Trails. Connected to Oliver's Pond by a small stream.
Open Space – Parks	
Audubon Sanctuary Risley Rd.	15.5 acres of woodland on the Neck. Idea and work of Mrs. David Searle and Walter M. McKim to acquire land for Mass Audubon. Completed in 1953.

Electric Light Plant Memorial Park Paradise Road	Marine and Aviation.
Forest River Conservation Area Lafayette St. or Salem Rd.	Mostly in Salem. Marblehead part extends from Lafayette to Legg's Hill Road. Protects estuaries. Includes the Forest River in Salem and the estuary. Trails, meadows, marshland.
Lincoln Avenue Woods Lincoln Ave.	6.5 acres. Town-owned (School Department). Wooded site.
Middle School Open Space Village St.	Former Jermyn Farm, a 16-acre dairy farm which was converted to vegetable farm in 1953. Half taken in 1950s for construction of middle school and other half remained open and now used as lab for school programs to study wetlands. Trails. Access from school or Byors Ln.
Playgrounds	• Evans/Seaside Park and Playground– related to work house. • Gaucho. • Reynolds.
Seaside Parks	• Castle Rock Park, Ocean Avenue, Marblehead Neck. A lookout point. The Churn is a big spray of water due to volcanic rock formation. The Castle behind the park is privately owned. Had been built for Lydia Pinkham Gove, granddaughter of Lydia Pinkham. See Carcassonne entry below. • Chandler Hovey Park. NR. Follett Street, Marblehead Neck. Marblehead Light. Also known as Lighthouse Point. Original light from 1832. Replaced by iron structure in 1896. First owned by US, purchased by Chandler Hovey in 1948 and given to the town. Park is named after Hovey. Grassy park area with rock outcroppings, benches, a shelter, and a flagpole. • Cow Fort – Glover Fort. • Crocker Park, Crocker Park Street off Front St. Downtown seaside park with fine view of Marblehead Harbor and Children's (Cat) Island. Originally called Bartoll's Head. Uriel Crocker gave land in 1885 and park laid out in 1886. Sliding rock. • Fountain Park. Orne and Pond Sts. Also known as Corkscrew Hill. Overlooks Little Harbor. Known as Bailey's Head. Revolutionary War and War of 1812 fort here called Fort Washington. Given to town in 1888 by James J. H. Gregory. Steep steps climb to top of grassy hill with rock outcroppings and overgrown trees around edge that block view of Harbor. • Goldthwait Reservation. Goldthwait Rd. and Phillips St. Comprises salt marsh, cobblestone barrier, and Goldthwait Beach which is part of crescent shaped beach including Tucker's and Devereux beaches. • Seaman's Off Harbor View. 1997 CR of public view of Harbor. • Seaside Park and Grandstand.
Tedesco Country Club	Incorporated in 1903. Had 36 holes for golf, nine of which went to Sunbeam Farm in 1920s, nine more given away. Clubhouse burned in 1932. Partially in Swampscott. Public can use for cross -country skiing.

Thompson's Meadow Swampscott Rd (Salem)	66-acre parcel in Salem, owned by Marblehead, purchased from Orin Thompson and R. D. Potter in 1912 to protect water supply. On Swampscott Rd, Loring Avenue and separated from Forest River Conservation Area by railroad.
Wyman's Woods and Cove	Camp Shore Lea of 1920s. Girl scout camp.
Residential	
Barnagat	Also known as Lower Yard. In area of Gashouse Beach, Fountain Park and Old Burial Ground.
Bessom Associates Off Village St.	On Salem Harbor. One parcel of land that was developed with 31 houses.
Carcassonne Ocean Avenue.	Private residence, also known as the Castle. Built in 1930s for Lydia Pinkham Gove, granddaughter of Lydia Pinkham, famous for her vegetable compound which was a solvent and preservative. Named after medieval chateau in France which is also in shape of a butterfly as is the Castle.
Edgemere Front St..	Summer cottages, Goodwin's Landing, possible Native American sites. Off Cloutman's Lane.
Gingerbread Hill	Black Joe's Pond, Black Joe's Tavern of 1691.
Greystone	Clifton Area. Near Greystone Beach. 1940s subdivision.
Hooper Mansion 8 Hooper St.	NR, LHD. 1727 Georgian. King Hooper Mansion.
Jeremiah Lee Mansion 161 Washington St	NR, NHL, LHD, PR. 1767 Georgian house. Served as house (1768-91), bank (1804-1904) and since 1904 owned by Marblehead Historical Society. Marblehead Museum and Historical Society since 2003.
Naugus Point	On Salem Harbor side of town. In Green Street area.
The Neck	Originally mostly summer residences only – now most converted to year-round houses with many tear downs for larger new construction.
Peach's Point	Summer houses at end of Little Harbor.
The Shipyard	Ropewalks. Perpendicular to present-day Atlantic Ave. Central, Walnut Sts. The area runs from Hawkes to Chestnut Sts.
Town Center	NR, LHD. Many civic and mansion resources, stone walls.
Tucker House Prospect St.	Endangered apartment house. Has Daughter of the American Revolution marker.

Transportation	
Beacon Street	Undeveloped land (School Department) at Green Street, Southern Avenue, "old country lane" meandering and narrow, tree canopy.
Bike Paths	Abandoned railroad bed.
Brookhouse Drive	Between Humphrey and Tedesco Sts. Clifton Area. Grassed median strips.
The Causeway	Access to Marblehead Neck via a natural sandbar (tombolo).
The Driftway	Harris Street.
Gallison Avenue	Off Atlantic Avenue, runs to beach near Goldthwait Reservation.
Lanes and Ways – Downtown *	NR, LHD as part of Old Town Historic District. • Alley. Elm St. to High St. 9 stone steps and 1 landing. View of Old North Church. • Alley. Washington St. to Mechanic St. Paved path to stone steps with a railing. • Alley Steps. Steep granite steps between 11 & 15 Washington St. • Commercial Street. Harbor side of Marblehead Power & Light. • Gingerbread Lane. Between Orne and Norman Sts. Narrow dirt country lane. • Hollyhock Lane. Short flagstone path from Front to Merritt St. • Knight's Hill Road. Between Elm and Pond. Narrow hilly gravel road. • Lookout Court. Tucker and Prospect St. Narrows to Prospect Alley. • Prospect Alley. Steps at end of Lookout Court to Lee St.
Lanes and Ways – Marblehead Neck * Most off Ocean Ave.	• Castle Rock Lane. Partially paved way to Castle Rock, vista, bench. • Cove Lane. Off Kimball St with views of Fort Sewall and wooden steps to beach. • Des Moulin Lane. Panoramic views. • Fishing Point Lane. View of ocean, brick and grassed lane, stairs to beach. • Fuller Lane. View of ocean, fence at end. • Harvard St. Off Harbor Avenue with view of harbor and Fort Sewall. Stone steps. • Lighthouse Lane. From Follett St to Chandler Hovey Park. • Nahant St. Adjacent to Corinthian Yacht Club. Fine views. Paved to grass strip. • Parker Lane. Off Foster St. with view of inner harbor and downtown. • Peabody Avenue. Off Harbor Ave. across a lawn to steps to rocky beach. • Point O'Rocks Lane. Off Follett St. View of Salem Sound and islands.