

LIGHTHOUSE INFORMATION FORM

NUMBER 10

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPH KEY

Victoria L. DiStefano - Martha's  
Vineyard Commission - 5/1980

1. Cape Poge Light

HISTORIC NAME: Cape Poge (Pogue) Light

TOWN: Edgartown

LOCATION: On Northeast Point of Chappaquid-  
dick Island at East end

COUNTY: Dukes CODE: 007

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10th

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Dukes County Courthouse

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination is confined to the light and  
~~the surrounding 4 acres in Coast Guard~~  
ownership.

LAT./LONG.: LAT 41° 25' 11" N LONG 70° 27' 5" W

UTM COORDINATE: 19/378/600/4586/200

USGS QUADRANGLE: Prov., RI., Mass., Conn.

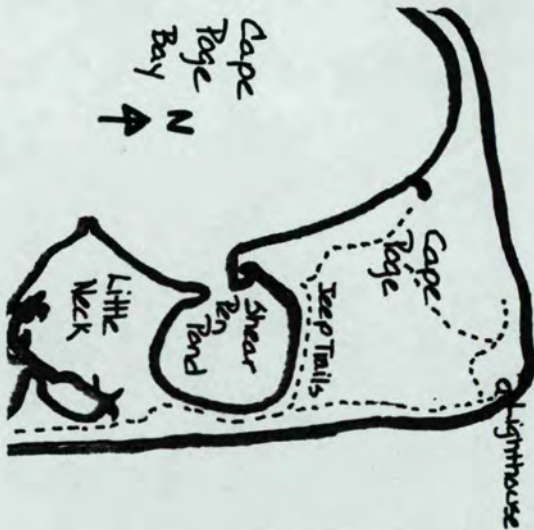
SCALE: 1:250,000

ACREAGE: 4 Acres

OWNER(S): First Coast Guard District  
408 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02110

STATUS: Unmanned/Active

SKETCH MAP



RECORDED BY: V. DiStefano  
N. Salzman  
ORGANIZATION: Martha's Vineyard Comm.  
MHC

DATE: 4/20/80 -- August 1981

SITE DESCRIPTION

Cape Poge Light is located on the Northeast point of Chappaquiddick Island which is off the tip of eastern Martha's Vineyard. It is one of the easternmost landfalls in New England and on the route to Edgartown Harbor. It is the flat, sandy spit of land, with dunes and low scrub.

LIGHTHOUSE OF THE SEVENTEENTH  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

MAJOR ELEMENTS DESCRIPTION

The only element is a conical, wood-framed tower (1893) rising 55' above water level. It is the third on this site. A deteriorated, altered and abandoned 1851 keeper's dwelling is not included in this nomination. Coast Guard records and published accounts indicate that Cape Poge Light has been moved or reconstructed at least six times as a result of coastal erosion. An 1889 plan shows an octagonal tower whereas 1907 and 1922 plans show a round tower structure at two separate locations. The existing tower conforms to 1893 plans for a "Temporary" Light. This suggests that the light was moved rather than reconstructed in 1922. The Coast Guard plans to relocate the light 500' southwest of the existing location using a skycrane helicopter during the fall of 1986. The proposed relocation to land owned by the Trustees of Reservations is necessitated by continuing erosion of the sand cliff.

TOWER: Conical tower on wooden piers; shingled in wood; small entry porch with low pitched, gabled, shingle roof with vertical wooden siding; cove built out to support balcony.

Exterior:  
Windows: at level 1,2 and 4. The top window butts against the cove of the balcony; others have pediment heads; all are boarded up at present.

Balcony: consists of simple posts with knob top/upper rail and lower rail near floor.

Lantern: standard ten sided form, surmounted by intact ball vent and lightning rod; glass in all sections. Lower half cast iron, paneled with elaborate U-shaped vent covers (cf., Brant Point, # 7)

Light Characteristics: flasher CG181, 12VDC, 300 mm plaster lens  
16 second flasher, CG6P, 120-3.05 A lamp. Daylight Control S1065

Interior:  
no access

slu/07

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

18th century --beacon on site

1801 - four acres purchased from Marshall Jenkins, Martin Pease, and Joseph Huxford for \$30.00.

1802 - tower 35' high, 19" diameter at base, 7' top; surmounted by iron lantern 4 1/2' diameter, 7'10" high. Wooden shingled; top covered with copper, then lantern. Stone foundation, 5 flights of stairs. Keeper's House: frame 1 1/2 story with basement; double chimney, 15' x 32'; 2 rooms/floor.

1838 - lighthouse lost with eroding shoreline. New one set back.

1851 - keeper's dwelling (2 story, 31' x 58' x 30'), erected for \$12,000. Oil house also built.

1853-59 - reflectors replaced with revolving red and white prisms.

1892 - conical wooden lighthouse set back 35' from the shore.

1922 - tower moved to present location.

1925 - garage, 15' x 23' x 10', constructed for \$500 (not included in nomination).

1942 - lookout tower, 8' x 8' x 15', one story, one room, \$250. 4' above grade, windows, 4 sides, shingle roof, "novelty siding" (not included in nomination).

5/4/27

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cape Poge Light possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as associations with the development of aids to navigation in Massachusetts. Constructed in 1893, it is the third tower on the site (first erected 1802) and one of only seven wood frame lighthouses in the state. It meets criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places as well as survey criteria 2a, 3a.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Cape Poge (Pogue) Light (Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR)  
Dukes County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 4/28/82  
Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Due: 6/18/87  
Action:  ACCEPT  
 RETURN 6-15-87  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: USCG

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

*(Faint, illegible text)*

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**X 10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

**X Verbal boundary description and justification**

*Please specify the boundaries of the of access in Coast Guard ownership.*

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed *A. Byers* Date *6/15/87* Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPH KEY

Victoria L. DiStefano - Martha's  
Vineyard Commission - 5/1980

- 1. Cape Poge Light

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dick Island at East end

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10th

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Dukes County Courthouse

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

~~The nomination is confined to the light and  
the surrounding 4 acres in Coast Guard  
ownership.~~ SEE ATTACHED USCG PLAN FOR  
BOUNDARIES

LAT./LONG.: LAT 41° 25' 11" N LONG 70° 27' 5" W

UTM COORDINATE: 19/378/600/4586/200

USGS QUADRANGLE: Prov., RI., Mass., Conn.

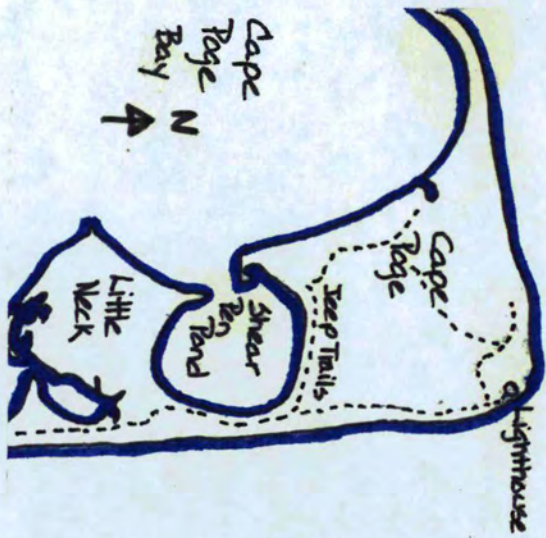
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ACREAGE: 4 Acres LESS THAN 1 ACRE

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408 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02110

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SKETCH MAP



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N. Salzman

ORGANIZATION: Martha's Vineyard Comm.  
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DATE: 4/20/80 -- August 1981

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5/14/2

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The only element is a conical, wood-framed tower (1893) rising 55' above water level. It is the third on this site. A deteriorated, altered and abandoned 1851 keeper's dwelling is not included in this nomination. Coast Guard records and published accounts indicate that Cape Poge Light has been moved or reconstructed at least six times as a result of coastal erosion. An 1889 plan shows an octagonal tower whereas 1907 and 1922 plans show a round tower structure at two separate locations. The existing tower conforms to 1893 plans for a "Temporary" Light. This suggests that the light was moved rather than reconstructed in 1922. The Coast Guard plans to relocate the light 500' southwest of the existing location using a skycrane helicopter during the fall of 1986. The proposed relocation to land owned by the Trustees of Reservations is necessitated by continuing erosion of the sand cliff.

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Interior: no access

slu/br

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5/1/12

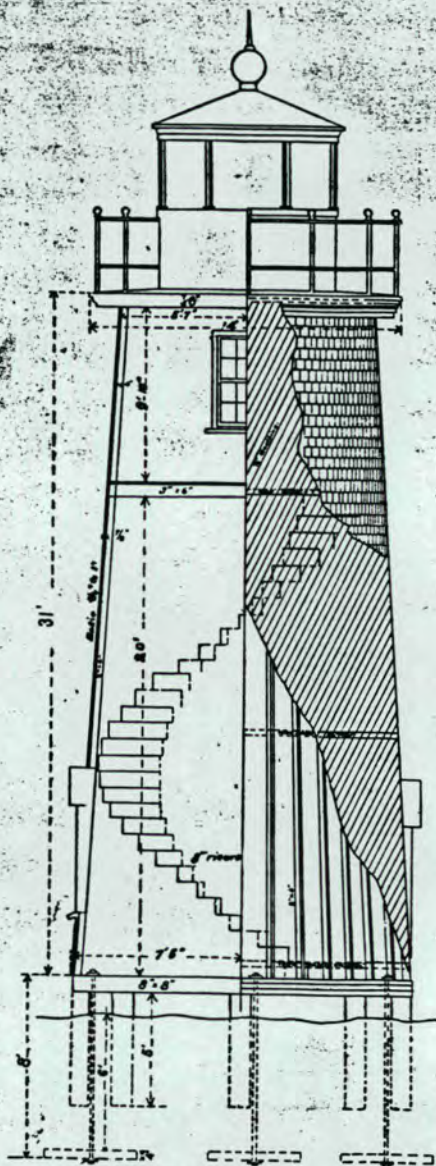
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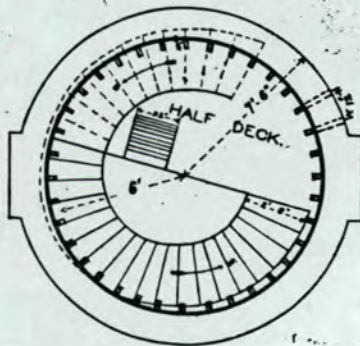
TEMPORARY TOWER FOR CAPE POGE  
LIGHT STATION MASS.

1895.

N<sup>o</sup> 1142



PART SECTION AND ELEVATION.



PLAN.

SCALE 1/2" = 1'

OFFICE OF LIGHT-HOUSE ENGINEER, 1ST. & 2ND DIST.

JAN 10 1895

610211

14/87

# CAPE POGE

## LIGHT STATION,

MASS.

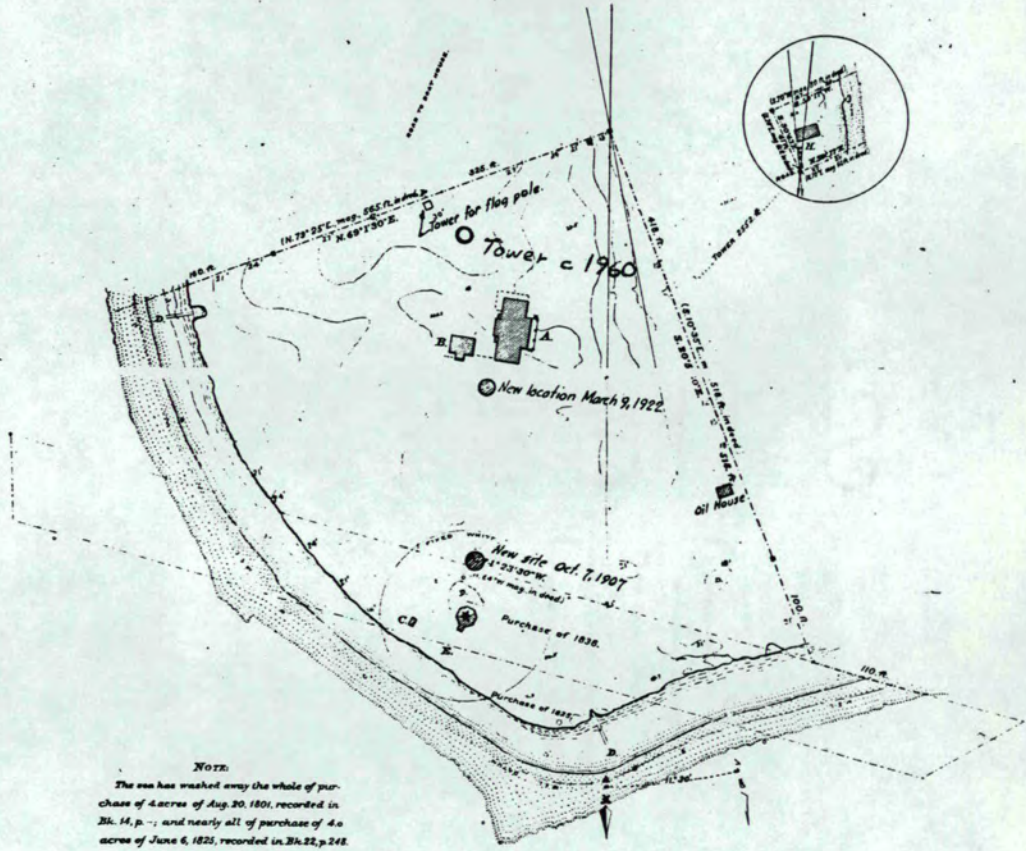
Lat. 41° 25' 16" N.  
Long. 70° 27' 06" W.

End of Light..... Sound.  
Order of Light..... 4th.  
Characteristic of Light..... Fixed White.  
Base of Tower above water level..... 20 1/2 ft.  
Focal Plane..... 54 1/2 ft.

Site Purchased..... Sept. 6, 1836 & June 30, 1871.  
Deed Recorded in Dukes Co Reg. B. 26, p. 82, B. 45, p. 159.  
First Buildings, when built..... 1801.  
When rebuilt or renovated..... Rebuilt 1857.  
Area of Reservation to M.H.W. line..... 1 1/2 Acres.  
Area enclosed to edge of bank..... 4.20

Reservation Surveyed June 18 to June 26, 1869, by E. P. ADAMS, C. E., L. H. Surveyor.

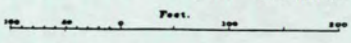
Scale, 1" = 100'



**NOTE**  
The sea has washed away the whole of purchase of 4 acres of Aug. 20, 1801, recorded in Bk. 14, p. 1, and nearly all of purchase of 4.0 acres of June 6, 1825, recorded in Bk. 22, p. 248.

### EXPLANATIONS.

The Magnetic Declination in 1871 was estimated in 1889, by comparison of authorities, to have been 10° 24' the declination at time of survey was determined, by observation of Polaris to be 11° 30' W. Courses given on plan are True bearings. Contours 3 ft. apart.  
\* Light Tower. A. Double Dwelling. B. Fuel House. C. Old Well House. D. Landing.  
--- Boundary of Reservation. --- Fence. F. Site of old Dwelling. F. Signal N.  
--- M.H.W. Line. --- M.L.W. Line. \* Stone Bound. 3 ft. long, 6" x 6" top cut thus ---  
G. Gate. H. Boat House.



E. P. Adams  
L. H. Surveyor 1 & 2' Dists.

W. R. Linnaman  
Maj of Engrs  
Engr 1 & 2' L. H. Dists.



OFFICE OF L. H. ENGRS., P. O. BLDG., BOSTON, MASS., JANUARY 12, 1889.

SIZE OF FINISHED SHEET

N<sup>o</sup> 1613

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received MAY 4 1987  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 374

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR  
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 110 21. Hospital Point Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 9/28/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. Graves Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 9/28/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. Annisquam Harbor Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 6/15/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 24. The Beacon *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 6/15/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 7/15/87 25. Bird Island Light *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 9/28/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. Borden Flats Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 6/15/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 27. Boston Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 6/15/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 4/27/87 28. Brant Point Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 9/28/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. Butler Flats Light Station *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 6/15/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 4/27/87 30. Cape Poge (Pogue) Light *Entered in the National Register* for Keeper Delores Byers 9/28/87  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Cape Poge (Pogue) Light  
(Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR)  
Dukes County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 4/29/87  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88  
Date Due: 10/30/87  
Action:  ACCEPT 9-28-87  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: USCG

Entered in the  
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

---

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

---

Verbal boundary description and justification

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

---

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*



*Handwritten scribble or signature*

#10

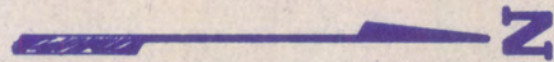
Cape Poge Lighthouse  
Cape Poge, on the island of Chappaquiddick  
Edgartown, Massachusetts

May 1, 1980

Photographer: V.L. DiStefano  
negative filed at M.V. Commission

Organization: Martha's Vineyard  
Commission

1893. Wooden frame



RICHARD & ISABELLA B. PARMENTER  
602 PARKWAY  
ITHACA, N.Y.

EDWARD B. & BEATRICE B. SELF  
DOBBS FERRY, N.Y.

GERTRUDE T. ROSS  
281 CORRIE RD, BARTON HILLS  
ANN ARBOR, MICH.

GERTRUDE T. ROSS  
281 CORRIE RD, BARTON HILLS  
ANN ARBOR, MICH.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

UNITED STATES  
COAST GUARD

FORMER LOCATION  
OF LIGHTHOUSE

LIGHTHOUSE RELOCATION  
SEE ENLARGEMENT AT RIGHT

LIGHTHOUSE  
RELOCATION

N. 78° 27' 52" W.  
919.71'

235.00'

30' RIGHT OF WAY

455.00' N. 44° 45' 00" E.

80.13'

N. 44° 45' 00" E. 510.00'

STK. SET

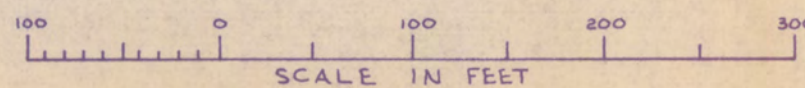
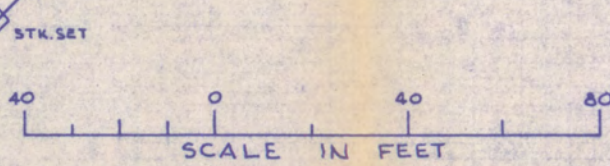
S. 45° 15' 00" E. 100.00'

S. 44° 45' 00" W. 100.00'

STK. SET

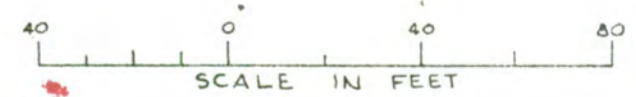
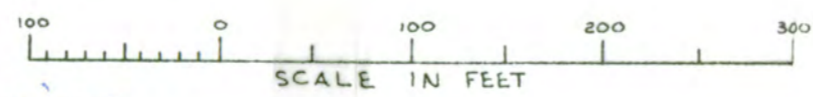
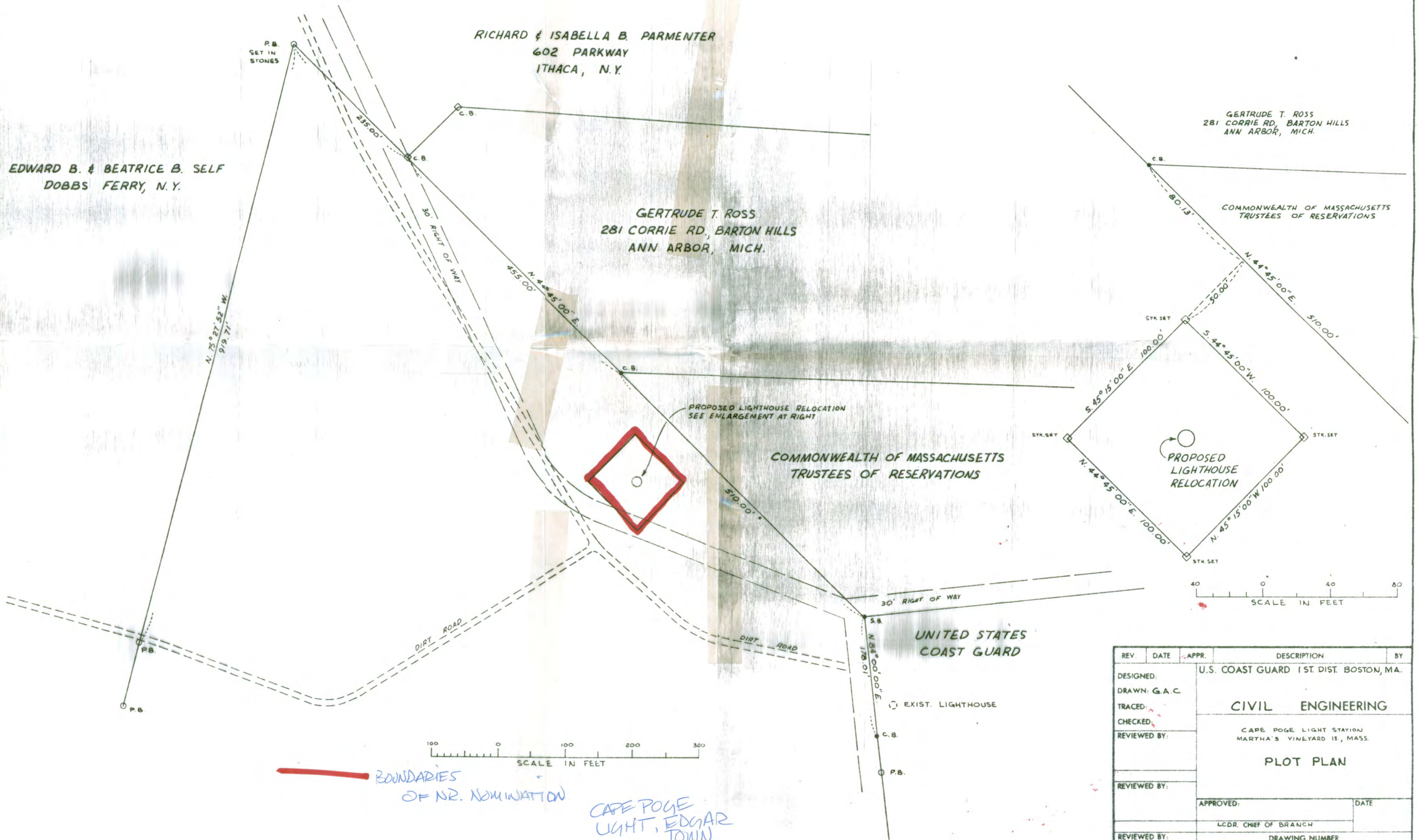
N. 44° 45' 00" E. 100.00'

N. 45° 15' 00" W. 100.00'



REV.	DATE	APPR.	DESCRIPTION	BY
DESIGNED:			U.S. COAST GUARD 1 ST. DIST. BOSTON, MA.	
DRAWN:	G.A.C.		CIVIL ENGINEERING	
TRACED:			CAPE POGE LIGHT STATION MARTHA'S VINEYARD IS., MASS.	
CHECKED:			PLOT PLAN	
REVIEWED BY:				
REVIEWED BY:				
APPROVED:				DATE
				9 MAR 87
REVIEWED BY:			DRAWING NUMBER	
			7214	
			SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET 1 OF 1





BOUNDARIES OF NR. NOMINATION

CAPE POGE LIGHT, EDGAR TOWN #10

CAPE POGE LIGHT STATION

REV.	DATE	APPR.	DESCRIPTION	BY
DESIGNED:			U.S. COAST GUARD 1 ST. DIST. BOSTON, MA.	
DRAWN:	G.A.C.		CIVIL ENGINEERING	
TRACED:			CAPE POGE LIGHT STATION MARTHA'S VINEYARD IS., MASS.	
CHECKED:			PLOT PLAN	
REVIEWED BY:			APPROVED:	DATE
REVIEWED BY:			LCDR. CHIEF OF BRANCH	
REVIEWED BY:			DRAWING NUMBER	
			7214	
			SCALE: AS SHOWN	SHEET 1 OF 1

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000282