

SSION  
02116



HISTORIC NAME: Long Point Light Station

TOWN: Provincetown

LOCATION: Southerly coast of Herring  
Cove Beach

COUNTY: Barnstable CODE: 001

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10<sup>th</sup>

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Barnstable County Courthouse (Book 88,

p. 306 Issac Smith, Elisha Young and  
Asa S. Broody to U.S. - 1826)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination is confined to the four  
Coast Guard owned acres around the light.

LAT./LONG.: 42°02'45"/70°07'45"

UTM COORDINATE: 19/403/400/4653/700

USGS QUADRANGLE: BOSTON, MA;NH;CT;RI;ME

SCALE: 1:250,000

ACREAGE: Four acres

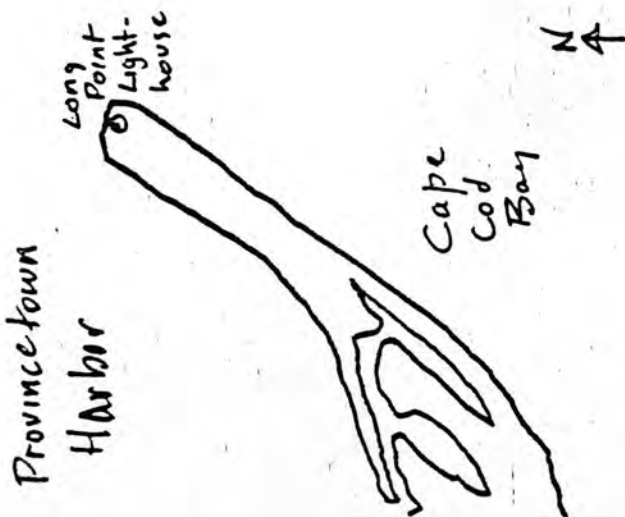
OWNER(S): First Coast Guard District

408 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, MA 02210

STATUS: Unmanned/Active Aid

SKETCH MAP



RECORDED BY: L. Fox/J. Clarke

ORGANIZATION: MHC/Cape Cod Planning

DATE: August 1981

Long Point Light Station, Provincetown

SITE DESCRIPTION: Long Point Light Station, Provincetown, sits at the very tip of the "arm" of Cape Cod, on the spit of sand known as Long Point, at the mouth of Provincetown Harbor. It is approximately one mile to the east of Wood End Light (#43), and has long been considered a vital aid to navigators approaching Provincetown. Long Point itself is the end of several miles of beaches and sand dunes popularized by tourists and Provincetown residents, and is completely exposed to the elements.

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC CENTER NOMINATION

**MAJOR ELEMENTS:** The present extant elements are the tower (1875), and the oil house (1875?). The original site contained a dwelling that was physically connected to the tower, a fuel house, the oil house, the tower, a hen house, a barn and a pier. It was one of the largest complexes in Massachusetts during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

- Exterior - The square brick whitewashed tower stands 38' high.
- Foundation - Its cement foundation is sunk into the sand, but it extends outward 8'.
- Door - The 32" wide door is higher above ground than the one at Wood End, but otherwise all details are identical. The iron sill slants inward 3 1/4" to the solid steel door, which has a double-thick steel frame running around it. A rectangular stone lintel surmounts the door, which is located on the south side.
- Windows - The windows are identical to those at Wood End and are located in the same positions, on the east and west sides. The north side of the tower is blank, facing toward Provincetown. (The blank wall at Wood End faces south, out to sea.)
- Interior - Directly inside the tower is a large recessed space/room which fits just under the stairs. It is closed on three sides, but open to the side facing the front door. This is unique in Massachusetts lighthouses, and is found only in Wood End Light as well. The room has brick and wood whitewashed walls, and was probably used for storage.
- Stairs - The iron staircase has steps 12 3/4" deep X 30" wide. Each rise is 7 3/4" high. Every fourth step leads to a small landing, which then turns and leads up to the next landing. There are five landings in all.
- Windows - The first 6/6 window measures 39" wide. Its interior measurements are 29 1/2" X 51 1/2" with a 4 1/2" sill. The second full 6/6 window is 60" high.
- Lamp Room - At the top, or fifth landing, is the lamp room. One enters through a 2/2 paneled wooden door. The room has brick walls, whitewashed, and a wide-planked wooden floor. A vertical tongue and groove cupboard (40" X 70") stands in one corner, and is probably original to this tower. Its crown moulding is 3" wide and projects out 4". The cupboard rests on a 3 3/4" base with a 1 1/2" cymarecta moulding.
- Lens Room - An eight step ladder, with 7 1/4" X 16 1/2" rungs, leads up to the lens room through a wooden trap door. The floor of the lens room is metal. The ten-sided room has vertical wood walls and a wooden half door which leads out to the balcony. The typical smoke-shield above the lens is missing, as is the ventilator ball atop the roof. Instead there is an open smoke hole. The lens room is glazed all around, as at Wood End, with windows located 44" above the floor. Numbering ten in all, they measure 27" X 36". Five vents, of standard design, are found at midpoints in the walls. The housing to each vent is 7 1/4" X 10 1/2" on the exterior (the balcony).

DESCRIPTION

- Balcony - The metal two-section balcony is angled slightly downward and is square in shape, like the tower. The wooden half door in the lens room opens onto a iron half door. The balcony's measurements are 18'1" on all four sides and 55" on the diagonal from the lens room to each corner. The iron railing, simple in design, has partially collapsed. (It is probably not original.) Of the remaining balusters, there are four hexagonal 6" pedestals, each 5" wide. The finial's base is also 5".
- Lens - In 1981 the lens was recorded as a 12 volt plastic lens, with 120 volts, CG-181 flasher, a 300 mm lens, and a 3.05 amp.
- Roof - The standard iron roof has ten segments.
- Oil House - The oil house is brick, painted white, and was probably built the same year as the tower, although it could be earlier. It is situated on the west side of the tower on a sand dune which overlooks the harbor. The remains of the old pier are seen just below the oil house, on the beach. The oil house now houses the generator for the lighthouse, and has had some alterations. Its original slate roof has been replaced by asphalt shingles. Its door is modern, and made of steel. To the immediate east of the tower are the remains of the bell tower. They consist of a cement raised platform and iron posts that once supported the bell.

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY:

- 1826 - 4 acres were purchased by the Lighthouse Board.
- 1827 - The end of the spit of sand was illuminated for the first time. The tower was built at a cost of \$15,000. Other buildings were the oil house and a 100 sq. foot storage shed, built for \$1000.
- 1845 - 200 people lived at Long Point, which then included a fishery, salt works, and windmills. These buildings, having been there for many years, were moved by barge to Provincetown just before the Civil War. During the Civil War, two forts were built, adjacent to the lighthouse station. They were known as Fort Useless and Fort Harmless. Blockade runners were active during this period. (Evidence of the two forts remain today in the shape of small hills.
- 1875 - The present tower was constructed and the former keeper's dwelling retained (other buildings demolished).
- 1926 - A Fourth Order Fresnel lens with a visibility of 10 miles was noted.
- 1927 - The lens was reduced to 29,000 candlepower.
- 1952 - The light was automated and the station unmanned.
- 1979 - The light was modernized and suggested for conversion to solar power by the Coast Guard.
- 1980 - Demolition order by the Coast Guard was filed - possibly for the oil house.
- 1982 - Solar arrays permanently installed on lantern deck of tower.
- 1986 - Coast Guard reconsiders plans for demolition of the oil house based on historical significance and operations considerations. Formal action to cancel demolition plans pending.

THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE BOARD OF NOMINATIONS

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Long Point Light Station, Provincetown, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as important associations with the development of aids to navigation in Massachusetts. Dating from 1875, this tower marks the tip of Cape Cod, a site which has had a warning light since 1827, and works in tandem with Wood End Light. The Station meets criteria A and C of the NRHP on the state level as well as survey criteria 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 1a, 5b.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Long Point Light Station (Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR)  
Barnstable County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. H2892  
Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Due: 6/18/87  
Action:  ACCEPT  
 RETURN 6-15-87  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- 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)

- 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**

Acreege of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

X Verbal boundary description and justification *Please provide scale for sketch map on the boundaries of the "four C.H. owned acres around the sign!"*

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

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

LIGHTHOUSE INFORMATION FORM

NUMBER 23

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPH KEY

Leslie Fox - MHC - 7/1981

1) Tower from south side

2) Oil House

3) Balcony railing

Jack Clark - CCPEDC - 1980

4) Tower & oil house

HISTORIC NAME: Long Point Light Station

TOWN: Provincetown

LOCATION: Southerly coast of Herring  
Cove Beach

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10th

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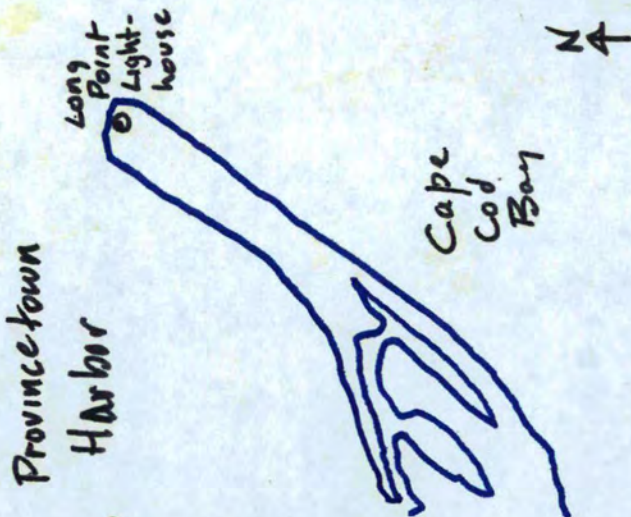
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DATE: August 1981

MAY 24 1987

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LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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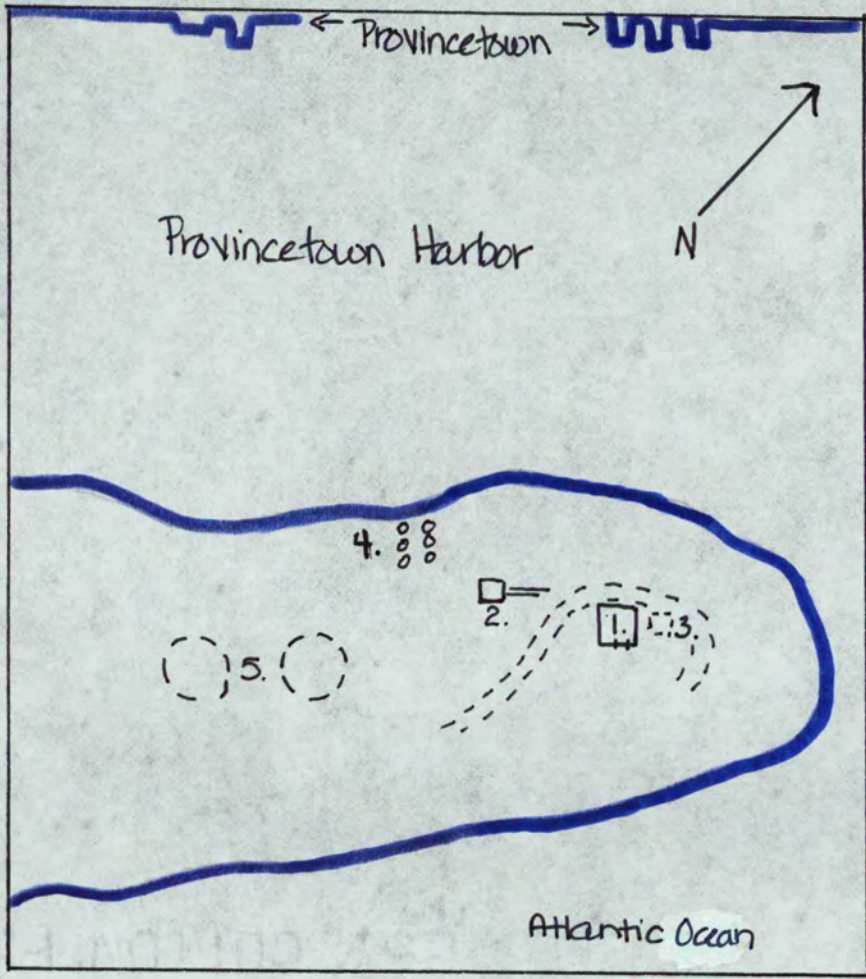
LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

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37-1-A 5987

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION



Long Point Light

- 1. Tower
- 2. oil house
- 3. remains of bell tower
- 4. remains of pier
- 5. Civil War forts

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

MAY 4 1987

Section number      Page 174

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR  
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover Substantive Review

Keeper

*[Handwritten signatures and dates]*  
6/15/87  
4/15/87

< 50 1. Cleveland LEDGE Light Station  
Substantive Review

Keeper

2. Highland Light Station (Cape Cod Light)  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

3. Gay Head Light  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

4. Edgartown Harbor Light  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

5. Derby Wharf Light Station  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

6. East Chop Light  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

7. Eastern Point Light Station  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 9/28/87

8. Long Island Head Light  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

9. Long Point Light Station  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 9/28/87

10. Marblehead Light  
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

*[Handwritten signature]* 6/15/87

Attest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Long Point Light Station  
(Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR)  
Barnstable County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 428/82  
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"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

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**

---

**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: \_\_\_\_\_



#1

lighthouse  
# 23

Long Point Light

Long Point

Province Town, MA

10/80

Jack Clarke

Lighthouses of May TR

Long Point Light

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

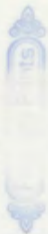
CAPE COD PLANNING  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
1st DISTRICT COURT HOUSE  
BARNSTABLE, MASS. 02630



Long Point light Station  
Provincetown #23  
Photo # 2 of 3

Long Pt  
~~Wood End Lt. looking~~  
~~no.~~ to Long Pt: Wood End  
west

JULY 1981





Provincetown #23  
Long Point Light Station  
Photo #3 of 3

railing  
Long Pt. Lt.

LONG POINT LIGHT STATION - PRINCETOWN # 23



Scale of Feet  
0  
100  
200

USE  
DIVIDED  
PROPERTY  
BOUNDS

OFFICE OF THE LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR  
SECOND DISTRICT, BOSTON, MASS.

SURVEY OF LONG POINT  
LT. STATION, MASS.

APPROVED MAY 12, 1913

*Godard*

INSPECTOR

*Morse*  
ASST. SUPERINTENDENT

DRAWN BY F.J.M.

TRACED BY F.J.M.

CHECKED BY F.J.M.

SHEET No. 1

No. 754

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000282

