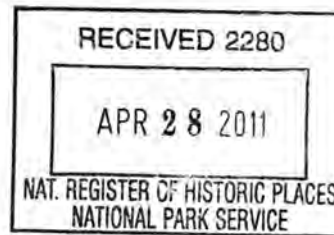


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Seaside Park

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Atlantic Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Marblehead N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Essex code 009 zip code 01945

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brona Simon
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 25, 2011
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the
National Register
☐ other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

6-8-11

Seaside Park
Name of Property

Essex County, Massachusetts
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	building
2	0	sites
4	9	structures
0	2	objects
7	11	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NONE

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence

Recreation & Culture: Sports Facility

Landscape: Park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture: Sports Facility

Landscape: Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (Roundy Grandstand)

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Wood

walls Wood with wood shingle siding

roof Wood shingle

other Concrete block interior rooms underneath
grandstand structure; brick chimney

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

(See attached continuation sheets)

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Of Marblehead's four public parks, Seaside Park is the largest, located on the easternmost side of the center of the town and overlooking Marblehead Harbor. It contains active recreation fields and facilities, as well as unmanicured woodland areas, and from its easternmost edge, provides outstanding views of the islands and waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Its central feature, the recently restored Elliott Roundy Grandstand, exemplifies the early 20th-century American open-air structures built for spectators of team sports. The grandstand and much of the parkland, carefully maintained by Marblehead's recreation and parks department, retain a high degree of integrity.

Location & Setting

The Town of Marblehead lies on a peninsula extending from adjacent Salem, northeastward into the Atlantic Ocean. A small spit of land, known as Marblehead Neck, stretches eastward from the peninsula, and the neck and peninsula are connected by a narrow causeway (Ocean Avenue). Marblehead Harbor is nestled between the neck and peninsula, and at the southwest corner of the harbor stands Seaside Park (Photo #1, DS 1).

The park's 14.33 acres¹ front the harbor and extend westward to Atlantic Avenue (MA Route 129) with the harbor and avenue forming the eastern and western edges, respectively. Abutting the park's edges on the north and south are the residential neighborhoods of Harbor View and Wyman Road, with moderate- and larger-sized single-family homes. Across Atlantic Avenue is a mix of land uses, including the Marblehead Police Department and former Star of the Sea Catholic Church rectory. The former Star of the Sea Catholic School, a large two-story building, stands adjacent to the park's northeast corner. The park's location at the edge of Marblehead Harbor provides spectacular views to the east of the harbor and its islands, Marblehead Neck, Nahant Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean beyond.

Site & Layout

Boundaries & Entrances

Seaside Park's boundaries correspond to its setting. Atlantic Avenue is a busy, two-lane main thoroughfare through Marblehead, running from north to south along the eastern side of the peninsula, and at the southern end connecting to the adjacent town of Swampscott. A regularly spaced row of maple trees and a public sidewalk line the park's edge at Atlantic Avenue, creating a clear separation between street and parkland. A four-foot-high, chain-link fence separates the Star of the Sea Community Center from the western end of the park's northern edge, and along a portion of this fence grows a line of
(continued)

¹ Seaside Park consists of three parcels, all owned by the Town of Marblehead, and appearing on four of the Town of Marblehead Assessor's Maps as follows: Map #96 as Parcel 1 (10.56 acres); Map #111 as Parcel 3 (1.30 acres) and Parcel 3A (2.47 acres); Map #95 (no parcel #) and Map #112 (also no parcel #). The parkland totals 14.33 acres.

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National Park Service

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Section Number 7 Page 2

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

weeping willow trees. Individual deciduous trees and hedgerows rim the remainder of this edge, separating the park from the adjacent residences along Harbor View. Deciduous hedgerows, mixed with stone walls, board fencing, and chain-link fencing extend along the entire southern edge, screening the Wyman Road residences. Fencing and walls along the park edges appear to be owned and maintained by abutters on Wyman Road and by the Star of the Sea Community Center. The eastern edge, washed by the ocean, consists of a series of rocky crags or "headlands" standing high above the water.

Vehicles may enter Seaside Park via an access road extending from Wyman Road (south of the park) northeastward. A pair of mature deciduous trees, located just inside the park, flanks this entry. The bituminous asphalt roadway continues into the center of the park and to its most prominent built feature, the Roundy Grandstand (Photo #s 4-8, DS 2). Here, a swath of bituminous paving allows space for vehicles to turn around and exit the park via the same entrance. Pedestrians may access the park via the same vehicular entrance, or from the Atlantic Avenue sidewalk. The park does not contain a set of walkways or clearly defined paths.

Topography & Vegetation

Seaside Park is roughly rectangular in shape, extending approximately 1,200 feet in length from east to west and between 200 and 540 feet in width from north to south. Its narrowest (200 feet) section lies near the eastern half, and it is widest (540 feet) in its middle. At the western end, its width measures 300 feet, providing ample for football and baseball fields.

Slopes across the park range from relatively flat to moderately steep, with nearly vertical cliffs located at the eastern edge. At the western end, gentle slopes lead downward from the north, south, and west edges to the nearly level playing fields area. As noted in Section 8 of this nomination, this amphitheatre-shaped area was created with grading. The flatness extends eastward to include the Roundy Grandstand, several tennis courts (DS 9-11), a basketball court (DS 8), children's play lot (DS 12), and other active recreation facilities. East of the grandstand, the slopes begin to rise, creating a ridge and the center of the park. Dominated by rock outcroppings, this ridge rolls gently down toward the park's eastern end, where it drops abruptly downward, into the sea.

Two types of plant communities dominate the park's acreage and divide the western and eastern park halves. On the west, mature deciduous trees, including maples and willows, and deciduous hedgerows stand along the park edges, and turf covers the park floor. Marblehead has been a pioneer in the implementation of sustainable turf management techniques, and Seaside Park's turf, tended without the use of pesticides, displays a green lushness resulting from the use of these techniques. On the eastern half, unmanaged woodlands have infiltrated the rock outcroppings, producing a dense deciduous forest that obstructs long views from the park's high points. Views of the harbor, Marblehead Neck, and islands are only possible from the far eastern edge of the park.

(continued)

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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

Newspaper Articles

"Marbleheaders argue historic value of beloved bleachers," by Matthew K. Roy. The Salem News, ca. 1990.

"Group seeks funds to restore grandstand," author and publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Dinner-dance will help grandstand restoration," author and publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Town meeting lobbied for grandstand donations." The Salem News, May 10, 1990.

"Residents resolve to save grandstand, launch drive for rotting structure," by Jack Butterworth. The Item, May 11, 1990.

"Seaside Park has a long history of providing recreational outlets," by Tom Roundy. Marblehead Reporter, August 23, 1990.

"Grandstand play," by Dave Rattigan. Publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Grandstand restoration work finally begins at Seaside Park," by Angela Zimm. Publication unknown, ca. 1990.

" 'Save The Grandstand' preserves Seaside charm." The Salem News, September 1990.

Miscellaneous

"Brief History of Marblehead," essay/fact sheet by Judy Anderson for the Marblehead Museum & Historical Society, ND.

"Marblehead." Article from Harper's Monthly Magazine, ND.

Schedule of 'Headers Baseball Club, August 1 to September 6, 1937.

Yuhas, William, "Seaside Park Grandstand: Architectural Report," ca. 1990.

www.baseballhalloffame.org/museum (official website of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum).

(end)

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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

length and 60 feet in width, with its long side facing west. Its height ranges from 16 feet in the front to 18 feet in the rear, with its roof sloping downward from back to front. It is framed with wood, and features painted wood-shingle siding and a sloped, wood-shingled roof above the seating section. Two sets of wooden steps (Photo #6), located on the north and south ends of the front of the grandstand, lead visitors up to the bleacher seating area. Each set of steps contains eight six-inch risers, setting the bottom-row bleacher seats approximately four feet above the finished grade around the grandstand structure. Three flights of steps provide access up the sides and center of the bleacher seats (Photo #7), dividing the seats into two sections. The seats are arranged on eight tiers. Wood railings, containing a top rail and three lower horizontal rails, line the north and south steps. The center steps do not have a railing. The grandstand roof is supported on the inside by five six-inch by six-inch vertical beams, spaced evenly across the 80-foot structure (20-foot on center) at the front, center, and rear of the structure. The center beams are set into the backs of the third tier of bleacher seats. Each of the beams contains diagonal trussing (both directions) for structural support of the roof. An eight-foot wooden backstop is appended to the front of the bleacher area, and a wire mesh net stretches from the top of the backstop to the grandstand roof, providing protection to spectators from stray foul balls.

Concrete block walls are built into the structure on the underside of the bleachers, creating a series of rooms for storage, toilets, lockers, and an office. These rooms are accessed via doors on the north, south, and east sides of the underside (one on the north; one on the south; three on the east). The east side contains four square windows, allowing light into the concrete block rooms. A brick chimney, once used for ventilation for a heating system, is appended to the east side of the building.

Current Condition

The Town of Marblehead's Recreation and Parks Department maintains Seaside Park and has kept its baseball diamond and outfield in excellent condition, applying sustainable techniques. The Roundy Grandstand, threatened with demolition in 1987, was restored, and in 2007 received a new roof and fresh coat of paint. The other courts and equipment appear to be in good condition, with adequate surfaces, fencing, and stable backboards on the tennis practice and street hockey courts.

The eastern end of the park has suffered from a lack of management, and as a result is overgrown, with the long views over the Atlantic Ocean nearly gone except from the easternmost edge. Volunteer deciduous trees, combined with invasive species such as sumac, have infiltrated the area and masked the footpaths leading to the water. The steep slopes leading up to this area limit access to ambulatory individuals only, and unlike the cleared portions of the park, the eastern end is underutilized.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known in the park, sites may exist. Six ancient sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the park represent

(continued)

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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of Native sites. Seaside Park lies at the southeastern base of a peninsula that extends northeastward into the Atlantic Ocean. Land surfaces in the park range from level to excessively sloped locales. The southeastern corner of the Park borders Marblehead Harbor. The overall location of the park bordering a marine-related ecosystem would have made this area an attractive location for Native subsistence and settlement activities. In general, however, the potential for locating significant ancient Native American resources at the park is low. Construction of the town poor farm, the Cow Fort, and Seaside Park would have destroyed any Native American resources that might have existed in the area. Most of the park locale is classified as urban land and udorthents. Soils in these areas have been altered or obscured by urban works and structures. Buildings, industrial areas, paved areas, and railroad yards cover more than 75% of the surface. Areas classified as udorthents; the most common soil classification present, consist of areas where soil material has been excavated and areas where this material has been deposited. Extensive grading has been documented during park construction. In the eastern portion of the park bordering Marblehead Harbor, exposed bedrock, stones, boulders, and shallow soils are common.

A moderate to high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources at Seaside Park. While documentation of the precise location and extent of poor farm facilities has not been found, the proximity of the farm indicates the potential for 18th and 19th century archaeological resources associated with the town poor farm may survive in the park. Local tradition suggests that the poor farm may have extended to the western side of Seaside Park; however, the nucleus of the farm likely stood approximately 0.1 mile away at the location of the extant Marblehead Middle School (formerly the Marblehead High School). The high school was built in the 1930s, replacing the poor house. No evidence of a farm exists in the park today. Potential archaeological resources associated with the poor farm may include structural evidence of the poor farm residential building, barns, outbuildings, and evidence of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells). A cemetery may also exist.

Archaeological evidence may also exist for a Civil War-era fort rebuilt some 30 years later as the Cow Fort in the eastern portion of the park; however, these potential resources may also abut Seaside Park. Mid to late 19th-century cartographic resources indicate the fort stood on a high promontory, adjacent to the western side of Seaside Park. Today, private residences are located in the area and no traces of the fort remain. Structural evidence may exist from earthworks and stone fortifications, military buildings, and other structures associated with the operation of the fort.

Most of the contributing resources associated with Seaside Park are believed to survive. Given that statement, and the fact that extensive grading, sand excavation, and filling occurred during park construction, significant archaeological resources associated with the park are not believed to survive. Any potential historic resources that predate park construction beginning in ca. 1903 have likely been destroyed by construction of the park's landscape features, buildings, structures, and objects.

(end)

Seaside Park

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Essex County, Massachusetts

County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation

Landscape Architecture

Social History

Period of Significance

ca. 1895 - 1961

Significant Dates

ca. 1895 – land acquired by town

1916 – wooden grandstand built

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section Number 8 Page 1

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Seaside Park, Atlantic Avenue, Marblehead, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets National Register Criteria A and C at the local level. Under Criterion A, Seaside Park occupies an important place in the history of Marblehead as the town's largest and most active recreation site. Its baseball diamond and wooden grandstand structure have served as the home to local and semi-pro teams for nearly a century.

Under Criterion C, Seaside Park is a significant historic architectural and landscape architectural resource with its location and layout, and the design of the grandstand. Seaside's location on a rocky headland above Marblehead Harbor makes it a spectacular site for viewing the harbor, Nahant Bay, and the several islands in between. Laid out in 1905, the park landscape exemplifies early 20th-century American baseball parks, built in response to a growing national interest in recreation. Its 1916 grandstand, built of wood with a concrete block foundation was threatened with demolition in 1987, but was retained and restored. The Roundy Grandstand is one of only three extant open-air covered spectator facilities of its kind in Massachusetts, the others being the 1901 Weston Field Grandstand in Williamstown (MHC Inventory MHC#.603), and the 1918 Crocker Field Covered Stadium in Fitchburg (MHC #2072, NRHP 2001).

Seaside Park contains several recreational features, including basketball and tennis courts, and equipment that has been added by the town since 1959 and are therefore noncontributing to this nomination. However, the park's outstanding natural features, and more than 100-year history as a significant passive and active recreation attraction, make it a strong candidate for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Settlement Period (1629-1675)

Land that would become Marblehead was inhabited by the Native American Naumkeag tribe, led in the early 17th century by the widow of chief Nanepashemet. According to Samuel Roads in The History and Traditions of Marblehead, relics of native villages have been found throughout Marblehead, including in the fields on Atlantic Avenue.

The first Europeans to settle in the area were mostly mariners from the Guernsey and Jersey Islands in the west part of England. They came in 1629 to the northern part of the Marblehead peninsula, settled near a headland known today as Peach's Point, and established a commercial fishing operation. They noted the outcroppings of marble plunging into a deep harbor, and began calling the settlement "Marble-Harbor." A few years later, the name was changed to Marblehead. Originally part of Salem, Marblehead became a separate community in 1649 by order of the Massachusetts General Court.

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Section Number 8 Page 2

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

Marblehead quickly became a significant fishing center. In 1660, an official report to the English king reported that Marblehead was "the greatest Towne for fishing in New England." To support the fishing industry, many other enterprises formed, including ropemaking, sailmaking, the production of ship's block, carpentry, and more. Fish and timber were hauled from Marblehead to the West Indies, Europe, and other ports along America's coast, and revenues further bolstered the local and regional economy.

Land that would become Seaside Park more than 275 years after Europeans landed in Marblehead stood to the south of the original settlement. As with much of New England, the area likely held vast stands of timber, useful in the ship- and building-construction industries, both locally and afar.

Colonial and Federal Periods (1675-1830)

From the mid-17th through the mid-19th centuries, fishing, shipping, and related industries endured in Marblehead as the principal economic engine for the Town. By 1760, Marblehead was the second-largest town in Massachusetts, and among the largest in the colonies, and the wealth derived from shipping-related commerce spurred the construction of large homes with elaborate furnishings. Its population in 1790 was 5,661, making it the second-largest town in Essex County. However, the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 took a tremendous toll on the town and its prosperity, with losses of both men and ships. Rebuilding after the wars began slowly with the resuming of shipping and fishing industries, and by the 1830s, Marblehead had regained some of its wealth.

Beginning as early as the late 1700s, the town was making provisions for its poor. In 1776, the town records noted concern about the "miserable and starving situation of the poor at the workhouse." In 1811, the town records included a vote to purchase land at the entrance to the town from W. Aaron Waitt, and to erect in the best and cheapest manner "such buildings as necessary for the permanent and convenient accommodation of the poor." By the 1830s, the town had voted to take down the poorhouse and erect a new house on the Devereux Farm, a tract of land located to the west of what would become Seaside Park.¹

Early and Late Industrial Periods (1830-1900)

In 1846, a September gale off the Grand Banks destroyed half of the town's fishing fleet, and with it took the lives of 65 men and boys. Fishing could no longer support the local economy, and by the mid-1800s, industry began to replace maritime enterprises in Marblehead, and shoemaking became the town's principal industry. The population began to grow, and in 1850 reached 6,167. In comparison with other

(continued)

¹ Documentation of the precise location and extent of poor farm facilities has not been found. Local lore suggests that the land may have extended to the western side of Seaside Park, but the nucleus of the farm likely stood approximately 1/10th mile away, at the location of today's Marblehead Middle School (formerly the Marblehead High School, constructed in the late 1930s, which replaced the poorhouse). No evidence of a farm exists in the park today.

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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

industrial towns in Essex County, including Lawrence, Haverhill, and Danvers, Marblehead's population was small, but the shoe industry helped boost the town's economy.

During the Civil War, the town sent several militia companies to serve. Shortly after the war broke out, Confederate gunboats were sent to cruise the Massachusetts coast, and Marblehead's harbor stood exposed. To secure the area, the federal government rebuilt an existing Revolutionary War fort, and erected two new fortifications. According to D. Hamilton Hurd in his History of Essex County, Massachusetts, one of these new fortifications, Fort Glover, stood at the head of Marblehead Harbor overlooking Marblehead Neck and Riverhead Beach on land that was known in 1850 as "Hewitt's Head."² An 1883 map of Marblehead Neck, created by Charles Putnam, labeled the area as "Ruins of Fort." The fort stood on a high promontory, adjacent to the western edge of Seaside Park (approximately 1,000 feet to the west of Chestnut Street, and 300 feet to the east of Ocean Avenue). The map suggests that the fort did not extend to the area that would become Seaside Park, but that the parkland, standing at an elevation below the fort, was an abutter. Marblehead Town Reports referred to Fort Glover as the Cow Fort.³

In 1871, the Eastern Railroad Company laid out a line connecting Swampscott to Marblehead, which allowed the town access to larger commercial centers, including Lynn and Boston. Shoemaking continued as the town's principal industry until the late 1880s, when two fires (1877 and 1888) burned the business district, destroying the shoemaking industry. However, the coming of the railroad opened up a new economic opportunity for the town—summer tourism. Marblehead's location along the Atlantic coast and proximity to Boston made it an ideal location for summer homes for city-dwellers. Wealthy families built large mansions on the outskirts of town in the areas of Peach's Point (north) and Marblehead Neck (east), and entrepreneurs built several resort hotels along the harbor. Several prestigious yacht clubs were established and Marblehead became one of the country's leading sailing centers.

(continued)

² Several guide books, created for tourists to the North Shore area at the end of the 1800s, made reference to Fort Glover and/or the Cow Fort, but none provided credible documentation of the site's existence. Furthermore, they did not concur about the date of the fort's establishment. John F. Murphy's Illustrated Guide to Boston and the Country Around (1907) (p. 133) stated that the Cow Fort was one of the "Revolutionary defenses." Samuel Roads, Jr.'s A Guide to Marblehead (1887) stated that Fort Glover, formerly called the "Cow Fort," was built upon the highest point of land at the head of the harbor, and claimed that it was "now in ruins" (p. 54). Robert H. Derrah's Street Railway Guide for Eastern Massachusetts (1898) stated that "near the road to Marblehead Neck is Cow Fort, erected on an eminence in Revolutionary days..." (p. 104).

³ By the early 1900s, the fort area had been sold to private individuals. A 1904 map created by the Marblehead Park Commission showed the land between Seaside Park and Beach Street divided into two parcels, and owned by Moses Gilbert and Isaac C. Wyman. By 1926, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map showed the area being further subdivided into smaller lots, accessed by a cul-de-sac, Bubier Road. The former fort area (labeled on the map as "Fort Glover") was owned by J. P. Parker, and Seaside Park stood along its east side. Today the area contains private residences and no traces of the fort remain.

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Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 4

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

Marblehead's population grew to 8,202 by 1890. Nationally, the Playground Movement was underway, an effort on the part of civic leaders to offer active recreation to urban dwellers, and the development of public parks and park systems was on the rise. To encourage residents' participation in active and passive recreation, the town began to acquire land for public parks. In 1886, the town took land by eminent domain near the center of Marblehead. A wealthy native named Uriel Crocker increased the size of the taking by giving the town some of his land, known as Bartoll's Head. Both the taking and the gift were combined to create Crocker Park, Marblehead's first public park. Two years later, a successful seed distributor named James John Howard Gregory gave his land, known as Bailey's Headland, for a park. This steep precipice, located in the northern part of Marblehead near the original 1629 settlement, became known as Fountain Park. In 1890, the town was granted custody of Fort Sewall, a federal military reservation located on Gale's Head. The town became the owner of Fort Sewall in 1922 when Congress officially ceded it to the town for use as a public park.

Efforts to create what would become a fourth public park in Marblehead began as early as 1887. That year, the Town Meeting warrant included an article that was "to see if Town will vote to accept and allow the way from Pleasant Street to 'Cow Fort,' as laid out by the selectmen, and make an appropriation to build the same." While an appropriation was made in the same year for "public park," the annual Town Report did not document the purchase of this land. But in 1895, another article was placed on the Town Meeting warrant "to see if the Town will accept and allow the taking and laying out by the Park Commissioners of land on Atlantic Avenue for a public park..." This location, also on the ocean, was south of the center of town, near the access road to Marblehead Neck. It would be the largest of the four parks—14 to 15 acres—and would provide space for organized team sports. Baseball became a popular recreation in the mid 19th century, and football had begun in 1879 when Walter Camp wrote the first modern rules for a new game that had developed from rugby. With this 1895 acquisition of land, Marblehead was on its way to having its first team sports arena.

Early Modern Period (1900-1930)

In 1902, the first annual report of the Parks Commissioners was submitted to the citizens of Marblehead, describing the new, commodious Seaside Park,

As to Seaside Park we found it to be a very valuable piece of land, about 14 or 15 acres in all, running from Atlantic Avenue to the harbor, with a beach for bathing, and commanding a fine view of the harbor and bay. We found the part towards the avenue in bad condition where it had been dug out for sand, but we have had a plan drawn and have made a start to lay it out, have planted some trees and shrubs, laid out a ball ground, built seats, three bath houses, started paths and a road, and put in the water, and we think that by doing a little each year, it can be made as fine a park as we have. The baseball diamond would become Marblehead's first.

(continued)

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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

A photograph of the park, taken between 1905 and 1906, showed a wooden backboard surrounded by men and boys. The land was completely nude of trees, and a two-story house (no longer extant) stood adjacent to the park's high point. Although men were anxious to begin playing baseball immediately, development and improvement of the park took several years. In 1903, the commissioners filled, graded, and rolled the grounds and worked on a backboard so that the field was in passable condition for playing. At the time, 265 feet of sewer ran through the center of the park, and in 1904, 122 citizens signed a legal petition to amend the utility. The commissioners paid for a survey and plan and with the help of the town's Committee on Drains, financed and installed a large concrete subsurface drain. The following year the commissioners improved 27,000 square feet (approximately ½ acre) of additional parkland by filling and grading.

In 1905, the town acquired by eminent domain additional acreage owned by Hannah Graves along the west side of the park, making the area wide enough to lay out a baseball field of proper dimensions. Four years later, Ms. Graves petitioned the Massachusetts Legislature to take some of this land back. On January 29, 1909, the House of Representatives enacted a bill that authorized the town to make the conveyance to Ms. Graves:

The Town of Marblehead is hereby authorized to grant, sell and convey to Hannah Graves, by deed duly executed in its name and behalf by its board of Park Commissioners, all the lands, rights in land and all property of every name, nature and description, which said board of Marblehead Park Commissioners took from said Hannah Graves, situated and lying below the high-water line of her premises in said Marblehead which adjoin Seaside Park in said town, by taking thereof and of the lands and property of others, as land for a public park, in the year nineteen hundred and five, in consideration of the final settlement and disposition of the petition of said Hannah Graves for damages to be assessed against said town by reason of said taking, now pending in the Superior Court within and for Essex County.

The town made numerous improvements to Seaside Park during its first ten years. In 1912, a drinking fountain and several benches were installed, and willow trees (DS 19) planted. By 1915, a stretch of bleacher seats extended along the third-base line of the baseball diamond. The 1913 annual Town Report noted that Seaside was now a "modern and up-to-date" athletic field and playground, and from the park "one of the most extensive views in Massachusetts could be attained..." The 1915 annual Town Report noted that Seaside was an "ideal playground." In 1913, the first football game, played between Marblehead and neighboring Swampscott, was held on Thanksgiving Day at the Seaside Park field with thousands in attendance. This annual contest continued at the park until 1929.

In 1916, Seaside received a major upgrade with the addition of a covered wooden grandstand (Photo #s 4-8, DS 2). It was the result of a petition from the Marblehead Athletic Association (MAA) that asked the

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 6

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

parks commissioners for such a facility to house spectators at their games. The annual Town Report from that year described it as a "commodious structure." In 1917, the structure was painted and the underneath side boarded in to create a tool room and men's and women's toilets. By 1917, the MAA, who paid its players up to \$100.00 per game, made Seaside Park and the grandstand its home. The MAA attracted many barnstorming professional baseball teams to the park, where they played with thousands of spectators in attendance.⁴ By 1918, the annual Town Report was noting that "Seaside Park has proven to be the one best attractions in this vicinity."

During the years between 1920 and 1930, the town continued to carefully maintain Seaside Park and its new grandstand and to attract ballplayers, spectators, and at least one national figure, President Calvin Coolidge. In 1925, benches were placed on the hill facing "the bay [Nahant Bay] and harbor [Marblehead Harbor]." In 1926, the town made repairs to the bleachers, and in 1927, the flagpole (erected at an earlier date) received two new coats of paint, new halyards, and a newly gilded ball finial. In 1925, President Coolidge spent his summer vacation in Marblehead, and his presence brought large numbers of visitors to the park.

1930 to the Present

While Marblehead's population remained nearly level between 1890 (8,020) and 1930 (8,008), it soared after World War II with the construction of the interstate highway system and the onset of the Baby Boom Era (1945-1960). By 1950, 13,765 people lived in the town and by 1980 the population reached 20,126. A major reason for this increase was the construction of Route 128 in the 1950s, which allowed for easier access to Massachusetts's North Shore by car, helping to promote tourism in Marblehead and to provide residents with work opportunities outside of the town. Marblehead continued as a destination for summer visitors, but also became a bedroom community for the metropolitan Boston area. It also grew as a major yachting and sailing center.

Heavy use of Seaside Park continued from the 1930s through the 1970s, and during this period, several additions of courts and equipment were made. In 1934, 100 permits were issued for games, and the number increased substantially in 1935 and 1936. In 1936, the Works Progress Administration built two tennis courts (DS 9) and between July 4th and October 12th of that year, 4,000 people had played on them. Also in 1936, the town created an area for ice skating (located at the site of today's tennis court #s 3, 4, 5, and 6). Other additions of courts and equipment included playground equipment (1948), a batting cage (1949), a basketball/ badminton/volleyball court (1952) (DS 8), a street hockey rink (1957) (DS 15), and two more tennis courts (DS 10) in the 1950s. Each of the courts was lit for nighttime use. In 1953, the town installed its first playground at the park, and by 1955, plans were in the works to make a "skiing and coasting area" from the eastern end of the park down to the play area, a site that is used for sledding to this day. The town added two more tennis courts in 1969 (DS 11), and in 1977 removed the original 1914

(continued)

⁴"Barnstorming" in athletics refers to teams (or individuals) that travel to small towns to stage exhibition games, attracting large audiences.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 7

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

wooden bleachers replacing them with new aluminum versions (DS 7). In 1982, the town built the .9-mile Marblehead Fitness Trail (DS 18), one of the first of its kind in Massachusetts.

The grandstand and playing field continued as a popular sports arena through much of the 20th century. The town renovated the grandstand between 1933 and 1935, enclosing the structure on either end to create two fully functional locker rooms with showers, provide storage behind the backstop, and supply an office for the park's caretaker, who oversaw daily maintenance and monitored the tennis facilities. In 1946, the grandstand was painted and an electric scoreboard was erected. The annual Town Report from that year noted that the scoreboard provided "a big league addition of one of the finest ball parks on the North Shore." By 1949, the baseball diamond and playing field were being used for up to 100 games, and the town set up portable lights adjacent to the grandstand to allow for night games. In 1953, the town re-roofed and painted the grandstand. By 1977, the Marblehead Yachtsmen were making the field and grandstand their home.

In 1960, another national figure came to Seaside Park. Lucille Ball had agreed to perform at a local hotel, and in the summer of that year, arrived by helicopter in the Seaside Park outfield. A photograph taken at the event shows the performer being escorted across the field, with the baseball diamond in the background.

The town appears to have diminished its upkeep of the grandstand in the 1980s. By 1987, the structure had deteriorated to a point where it posed safety risks, and the recreation and parks department began dismantling portions of it. In the same year, the department drafted a warrant article for the annual Town Meeting, asking permission to demolish the structure. In response, a small group of concerned citizens stepped forward to save it, launching a campaign titled "Save the Seaside Grandstand." The group held a dinner dance to raise money and conducted can and bottle drives. An architect (William A. Yuhas) and structural engineer (Daniel Lynch) donated their time in assessing the structure, and provided a report. The estimated cost of repair was \$28,000 to \$30,000, an amount that could be reduced by using volunteer labor. The campaign raised roughly \$12,000. In September of 1990, a crew from the North Shore Regional Vocational School ended up providing the labor, and they built new stairs, installed new windows, added a new roof, furnished new doors, applied new siding, and replaced the railings.

Upon completion of the 1990 restoration, the structure was re-dedicated as the Elliott Roundy Grandstand. Chester Elliott Roundy (1917-1997) was descended from the Roundy family who settled in Marblehead before the Revolutionary War, who were on the land to the west of the park known as "Roundy's Hill" by 1850. Elliott grew up in Marblehead and became a power hitting first baseman for the Marblehead Headers in the 1930s and 1940s. He graduated from Colgate University, served in the Navy during World War II, and became a baseball, football, and basketball coach at Ipswich High School, where the gymnasium also bears his name. He was responsible for the rejuvenation of semi-pro baseball in Marblehead, and from 1977 to 1994 led the Marblehead Yachtsmen to four regular season titles and one playoff championship.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

Recent additions to the park and grandstand have included the construction of new children's playground (DS 12), and the application of a new roof and coat of paint on the grandstand. Today, Seaside continues to provide facilities for Marblehead High School baseball teams and Youth Baseball teams, and to host programs and community events, including the Marblehead Playground Program (established in 1953), the annual Easter egg hunt (begun in the 1960s), and programs of the Marblehead Festival of the Arts. In September of 2002, the town held services at Seaside Park to commemorate the first anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Restoration Plans

The Town of Marblehead, represented by its recreation and parks department board, is concerned about the long-term health of Seaside Park and the Roundy Grandstand. While department crews continue to maintain the western portion of the landscape, the eastern section has become increasingly overgrown and inaccessible. The grandstand was successfully restored 20 years ago, and while maintenance has continued, there is concern about its long-term protection. By nominating Seaside Park to the National Register of Historic Places, the town aims to bring greater public awareness about Seaside Park's importance as a historic resource, and secure ongoing public funding for preservation and management.

Archaeological Significance

Additional historical research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may contribute important information related to the buildings, structures, and archaeological features associated with the town poor farm and Cow Fort. These resources may contribute information on the 18th and 19th-century history of the town and significance of the nomination under criterion A. Archaeological resources associated with the town poor farm may also contribute information on how the town supported the inhabitants of the poor farm. Archaeological resources associated with the Cow Fort may contribute information related to seacoast fortifications in northeastern Massachusetts during the mid to late 19th century.

While the nucleus of the town poor farm and Cow Fort may lie outside the boundaries of Seaside Park, structures, objects, and landscape features associated with both resources may extend into the park. Given that information and the potential proximity of the nuclei to the park, agricultural related structures and activities, occupational related features and a cemetery associated with the poor farm could easily exist in the park. Similarly, while the nucleus of the Cow Fort may lie outside the boundaries of the park, related fortifications and support structures and objects may exist within the park. Archaeological resources may contribute important information related to 19th century seacoast fortifications, their construction and strategic military importance. Archaeological testing would be required to determine whether or not archaeological resources associated with the town poor farm and Cow Fort survive after grading, sand excavation and construction of the Seaside Park facilities. While most potential resources associated with these resources may have been destroyed, truncated features and resources with deep stratigraphic provenience such as graves could survive.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
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Section Number 9 Page 1

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

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- Gamage, Virginia C., Marblehead, the Spirit of 76 Lives Here. Marblehead: Marblehead Historical Society, 2006.
- Gray, Thomas E., The Founding of Marblehead. Baltimore: Gateway Press, Inc., 1984.
- Hurd, D. Hamilton, History of Essex County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men, Vol. II. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1888.
- Murphy, John F., Illustrated Guide to Boston and the Country Around. Boston: John F. Murphy, 1907.
- Roads, Samuel Jr., The History and Traditions of Marblehead. Boston: Houghton, Osgood and Company, 1880.
- Roads, Samuel Jr., The History and Traditions of Marblehead. Marblehead: N. Allen Lindsey & Co., 1897.

Maps & Plans

1850. "Plan of Marblehead, Mass." Prepared by H. McIntire.
1882. "Marblehead, Mass." Bird's eye drawing published by MH Graves.
1883. "Map of Marblehead Neck." Prepared by Charles Putnam, Salem.
1904. "Marblehead Park Commission Land taken at the 'Causeway.'" Prepared by Guy W. Ricker, C. E., May 6, 1904.
1909. Bird's Eye Lithograph of Marblehead. Prepared by A. E. Downs, Merrill & Graves, publishers, Boston.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number 9 Page 2

**Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA**

-
1931. "Harborview – Marblehead." Prepared by Thomas Appleton, C. E. (included in October 23, 1947 deed to inhabitants of the Town of Marblehead by Ruth W. Pendergrast.
1926. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Marblehead.
1949. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Marblehead, June 1949.
1967. Assessors Maps, Marblehead, Mass. Prepared by John E. O'Donnell and Associates, Auburn, Maine. Map #s 95, 96, 111, 112.

Photographs

1898. Panorama of Marblehead by N. L. Stebbins. Collection of the Library of Congress.
- ca. 1905. The Seaside Park backstop with men and boys. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.
- ca. 1905. Seaside Park under construction. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.
- ca. 1913. Baseball game at Seaside Park. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.
- ca. 1913. Football game at Seaside Park. Collection of the Marblehead Historical Society and Museum.
1918. Marblehead High School Baseball Team, won 11 and lost 2. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.
- ca. 1930. Marblehead Athletic Association Baseball Team with grandstand. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.
1960. Lucille Ball being escorted through Seaside Park. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.

Public Documents

- Town of Marblehead Records, 1720-1887.
- Town of Marblehead Annual Town Reports, 1887-2007.
- Census of the United States of America, 1790, 1820, 1850, 1890, 1900, 1930, 1950, 1980, 2000.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 3

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

Newspaper Articles

"Marbleheaders argue historic value of beloved bleachers," by Matthew K. Roy. The Salem News, ca. 1990.

"Group seeks funds to restore grandstand," author and publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Dinner-dance will help grandstand restoration," author and publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Town meeting lobbied for grandstand donations." The Salem News, May 10, 1990.

"Residents resolve to save grandstand, launch drive for rotting structure," by Jack Butterworth. The Item, May 11, 1990.

"Seaside Park has a long history of providing recreational outlets," by Tom Roundy. Marblehead Reporter, August 23, 1990.

"Grandstand play," by Dave Rattigan. Publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"Grandstand restoration work finally begins at Seaside Park," by Angela Zimm. Publication unknown, ca. 1990.

"'Save The Grandstand' preserves Seaside charm." The Salem News, September 1990.

Miscellaneous

"Brief History of Marblehead," essay/fact sheet by Judy Anderson for the Marblehead Museum & Historical Society, ND.

"Marblehead." Article from Harper's Monthly Magazine, ND.

Schedule of 'Headers Baseball Club, August 1 to September 6, 1937.

Yuhas, William, "Seaside Park Grandstand: Architectural Report," ca. 1990.

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(end)

Seaside Park
Name of Property

Essex County, Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 14.33 Acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

☒ See continuation sheet

1. Zone 19 Easting 347160 Northing 4706320

3. Zone 19 Easting 3417320 Northing 4706260

2. Zone 19 Easting 347240 Northing 4706360

4. Zone 19 Easting 347400 Northing 4706320

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha H. Lyon with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2011

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Marblehead (Recreation, Parks & Forestry Department)

street & number 18 Wyman Road telephone 781-639-0806

city or town Marblehead state MA zip code 01945

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 1

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

UTM References (continued)

5	19	347460	4706280
6	19	347380	4706160
7	19	347500	4706060
8	19	347480	4705960

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes three parcels of land known as and comprising Seaside Park, all owned by the Town of Marblehead. It is shown on the attached "Location Map," and is included on Town of Marblehead Assessor's Map #96 (Parcel #1), Map #111 (Parcel #s 3 and 3A), Map #95 (no Parcel #) and Map #112 (also no Parcel #). The boundary is continuous and is delineated on the west by Atlantic Avenue, the north by a chain link fence, the south by a hedgerow of deciduous trees, and the east by the Atlantic Ocean and the mean high tide mark.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes 14.33 acres historically associated with Seaside Park, acquired by the Town of Marblehead ca. 1895 and laid out as a park beginning in 1902. Those resources associated with Seaside Park include a baseball diamond (1902) and the Elliott Roundy Grandstand (1916).

(end)

SEASIDE PARK
Marblehead
Essex County, Massachusetts

DATA SHEET

NUMBER	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE	STATUS
1	Seaside Park	ca. 1895	N/A	Public Park	SI	C
2	Elliott Roundy Grandstand	1916	Wood, Concrete, Brick, Steel	Grandstand	B	C
3	Baseball Diamond	1902	Turf, Dirt	Playing Field	SI	C
4	Atlantic Avenue Benches	ca. 1970	Wood, Steel	No Style	O	NC
5	Joseph T. Barry Memorial	1971	Granite, Concrete, Bronze	No Style	ST	NC
6	Flagpole	ca. 1970	Painted Steel	80' Flagpole	ST	NC
7	Bleachers	1977	Wood, Aluminum	No Style 2 Wood, 2 Aluminum	ST	NC
8	Basketball Court	1952	Bituminous Asphalt	No Style	ST	C
9	Tennis Courts 1 & 2	1936	Bituminous Asphalt/ Chain Link Fencing	No Style	ST	C
10	Tennis Courts 3 & 4	1950	Bituminous Asphalt/ Chain Link Fencing	No Style	ST	C
11	Tennis Courts 5 & 6	1969	Bituminous Asphalt/ Chain Link Fencing	No Style	ST	NC
12	Child's Play Lot	ca. 2000	Plastic Wood Chip Surface	No Style	ST	NC
13	Swing Frames	ca. 1948	Steel	No Style Two Frames	ST	C
14	Tennis Backboard	Unknown	Bituminous Asphalt/Wood	No Style	ST	NC
15	Street Hockey Court	1957	Bituminous Asphalt/Wood	No Style	ST	NC
16	Seaside Park Signage	ca. 1970	Wood	No Style	O	NC
17	Picnic Tables	ca. 1970	Wood	No Style	ST	NC
18	Fitness Trail	1982	Wood Chips	No Style	ST	NC
19	Willow Trees	1912	Living Feature (Tree)	NA	NA	NA
SUMMARY			CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	TOTAL	
	Buildings		1	0	1	
	Sites		2	0	2	
	Structures		4	9	13	
	Objects		0	2	2	
TOTAL RESOURCE COUNT			7	11	18	

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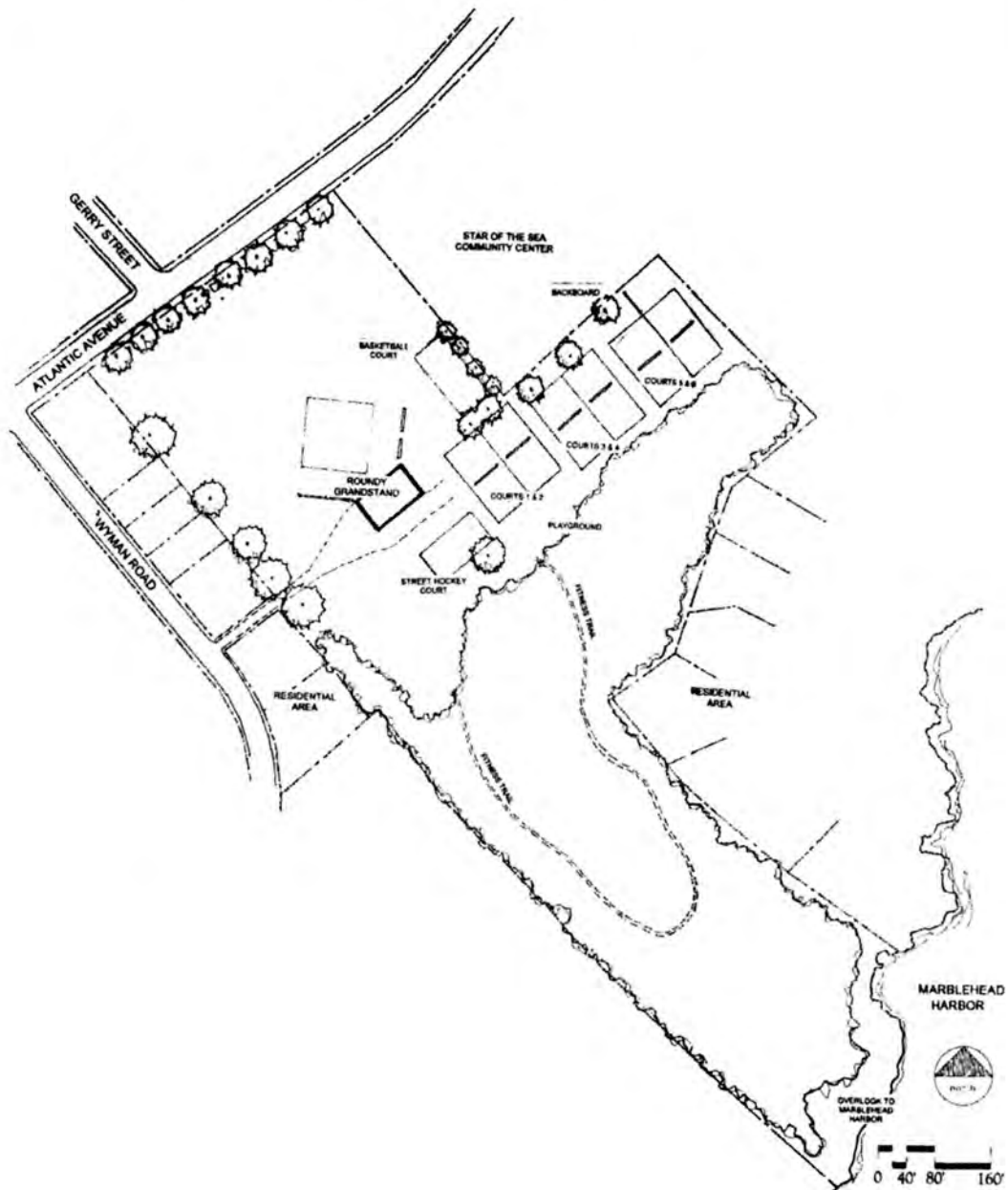
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps & Photographs Page 1

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

LOCATION MAP

Sources: Town of Marblehead Assessor's Map #s 95, 96, 111, 112



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Maps & Photographs Page 2

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Seaside Park under construction c. 1905. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.

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Maps & Photographs Page 3

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS, continued



The Seaside Park backstop with men and boys, c. 1905. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps & Photographs Page 4

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS, continued



Baseball game at Seaside Park, c. 1913. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.

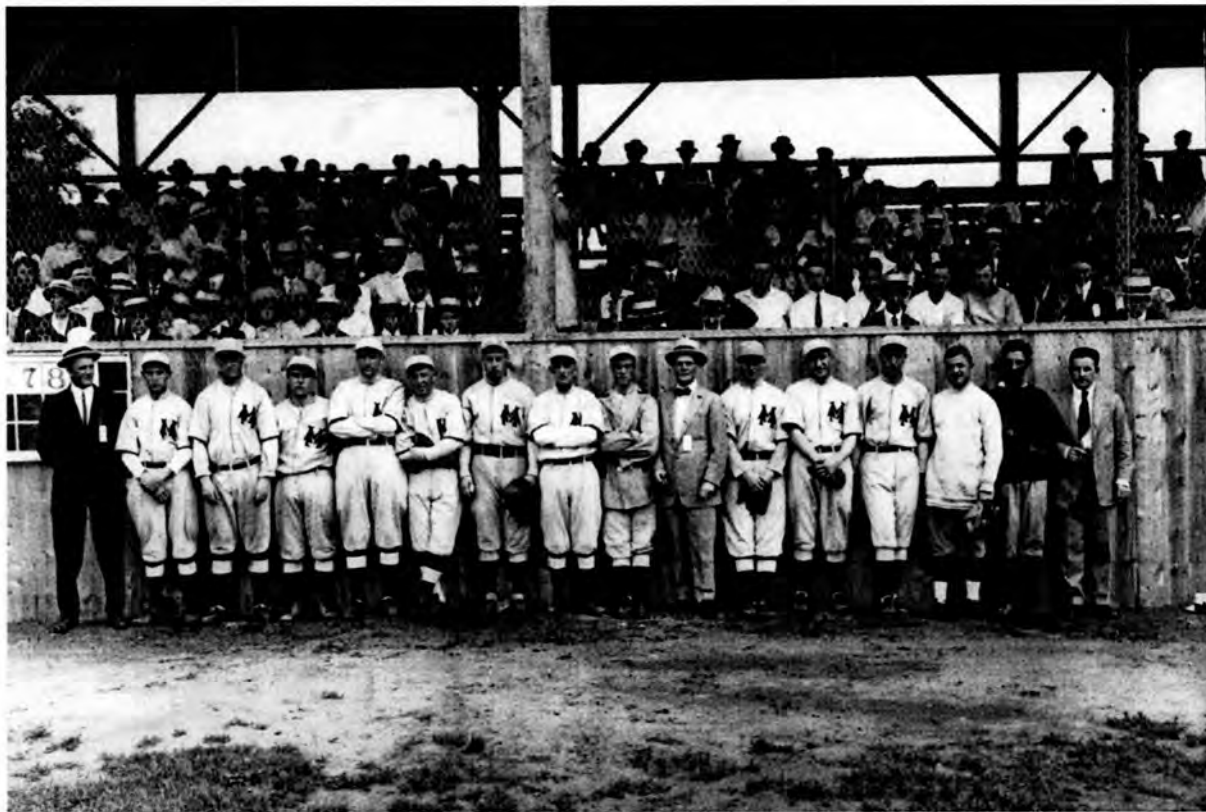
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps & Photographs Page 5

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS, continued



Marblehead Athletic Association Baseball Team with grandstand, c. 1930. Collection of the Marblehead Department of Recreation and Parks.

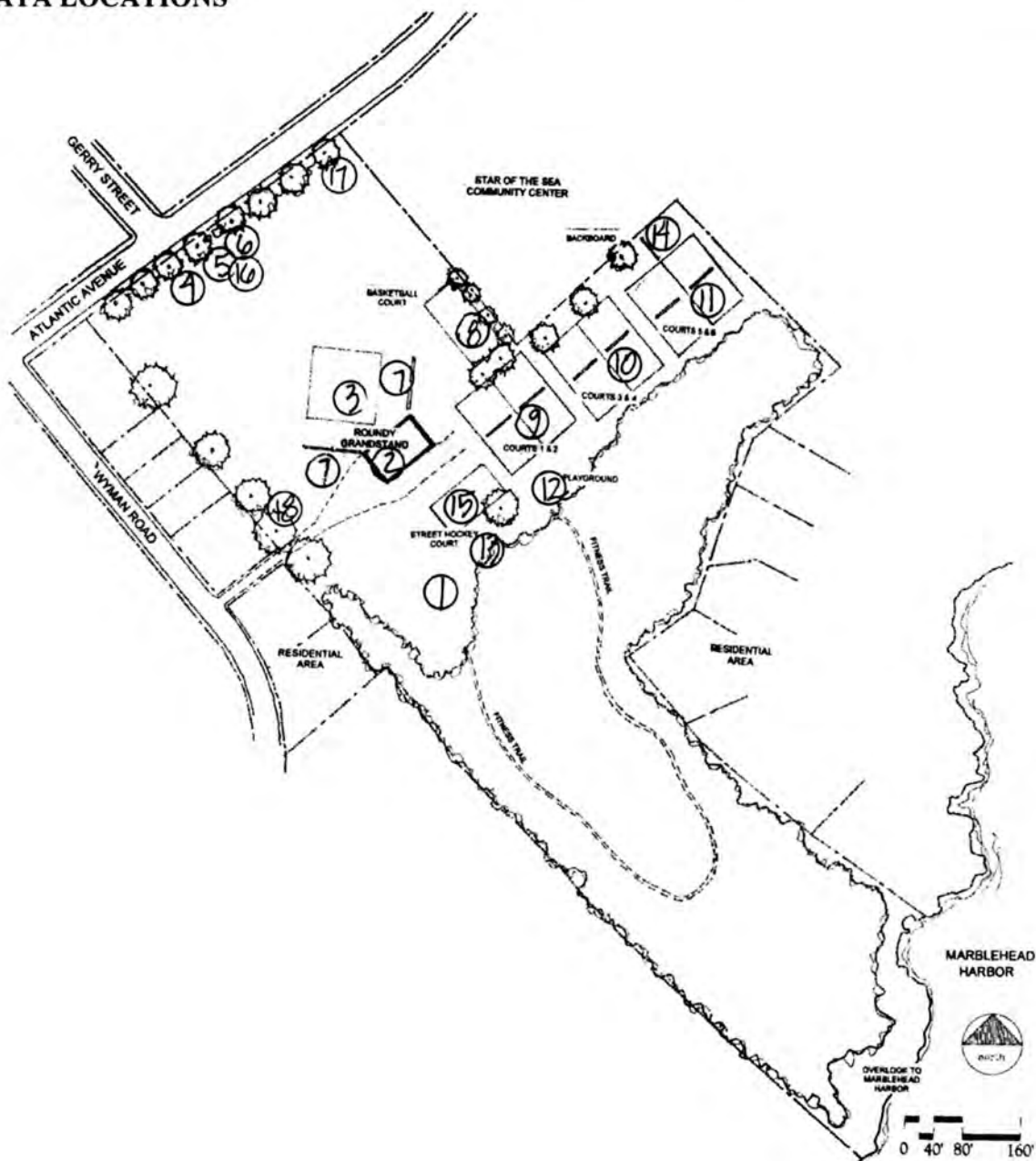
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Maps & Photographs Page 6

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

DATA LOCATIONS



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Maps & Photographs Page 7

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Martha H. Lyon
Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC
(September 2008)

Location of Digital Files: Town of Marblehead Historical Commission
Selectmen's Office
Abbott Hall
188 Washington Street
Marblehead, MA 01945

- #1 A view of Seaside Park and the Roundy Grandstand, taken from Atlantic Avenue, looking southeast
- #2 A view of Seaside Park taken from the northwest corner, looking southeast
- #3 The Seaside Park sledding hill, taken from the center of the park, looking southeast
- #4 The Roundy Grandstand, taken from the northwest side, looking southeast
- #5 A close-up view of the Roundy Grandstand, taken from the southwest side, looking northeast
- #6 Steps leading to the Grandstand's bleacher seats, taken from the southwest side, looking northeast
- #7 The bleacher seats of the Grandstand, taken from the west corner, looking east
- #8 The Roundy Grandstand's southwest and southeast elevations, taken from the south corner, looking north

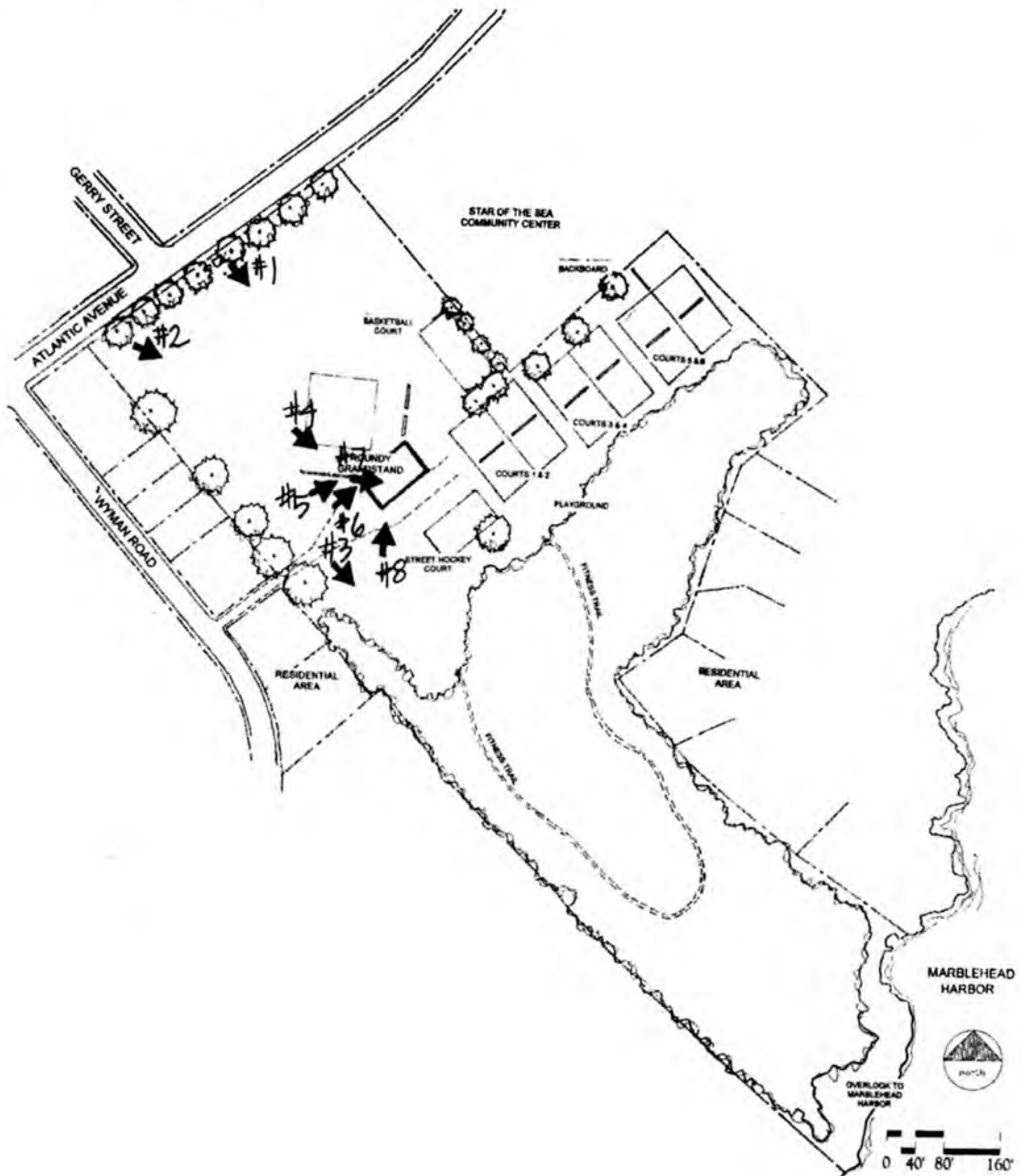
United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps & Photographs Page 8

Seaside Park
Marblehead (Essex), MA

PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Seaside Park
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 4/28/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/18/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/13/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000333

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 6.8.11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



#1

SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARTIN H. LYON, 9.2008

A VIEW OF SEASIDE PARK AND THE POUNDY GRANDSTAND,
TAKEN FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST



#2

SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. LYON - 9.2003

A VIEW OF SEASIDE PARK TAKEN FROM THE
NORTHWEST CORNER, LOOKING SOUTHEAST



#3

SEASIDE PARK

MIDDLEBURY, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

AMRITA H. WOOD - 9.2018

THE SEASIDE PARK WEDDING HILL, TAKEN FROM
THE CENTER OF THE PARK, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

MIDDLEBURY, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

AMRITA H. WOOD - 9.2018

THE POND AT SEASIDE PARK, TAKEN FROM THE SOUTHWEST

SIDE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST



#4

SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARCH 4, MON. 9. 2003

THE ROUNDY GRANUSTAND, TAKEN FROM THE NORTHWEST
SIDE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST



#15

SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. WOOD 9.2003

A CLOSE-UP VIEW OF THE POUNDY GRANDSTAND, TAKEN
FROM THE SOUTHWEST SIDE, LOOKING NORTHEAST



#6

SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARITA H. WOOD - 9-2008

STEPS LEADING TO THE GRANDSTAND'S BLEACHER SEAT,
TAKEN FROM THE SOUTHWEST SIDE, LOOKING NORTHEAST



#7

SEASIDE PARK

WARREN, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MARITA H. LYON. 9.2008

THE BLEACHER SEATS OF THE GRANDSTAND, TAKEN FROM
THE WEST CORNER, LOOKING EAST



#8

SEASIDE PARK

MIDDLEBURY, ESSEX COUNTY, MA

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE · 9 · 2008

THE POND AND GRANDSANDS · SOUTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST ELEVATIONS,

TAKEN FROM THE SOUTH CORNER, LOOKING NORTH



Lynn
MASSACHUSETTS
RECEIVED
1:25 000-scale metric 2 4 2009
topographic map
MASS. HIST. COMM.

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
1997

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Derived from imagery taken 1978 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery taken 1997; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1979.
Boundaries revised 1998

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 1000-meter grid. Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19
10 000-foot ticks. Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts, 13270, 13271 (1960), 13275, and 13276 (1981). This information is not intended for navigational purposes

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
DATUM IS MEAN LOWER LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.7 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet			1	2	3
1	3.2808			4	5	
2	6.5617			6	7	8
3	9.8425					
4	13.1234					
5	16.4042					
6	19.6850					
7	22.9658					
8	26.2467					
9	29.5275					
10	32.8084					

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (km) and 1981 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

ISBN 0-407-85588-8
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Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface	
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	.....
Unimproved road, trail	.....
Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	.....
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage	.....
Bridge: drawbridge	.....
Footbridge: swagway; underpass	.....
Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	.....
House; barn; church; school; large structure	.....
Boundary:	.....
National, with monument	.....
State	.....
County, parish	.....
Civil township, precinct, district	.....
Incorporated city, village, town	.....
National or State reservation; small park	.....
Land grant with monument; found section corner	.....
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	.....
Range, township; section line: location approximate	.....
Fence or field line	.....
Power transmission line, located tower	.....
Dam; dam with lock	.....
Cemetery: grave	.....
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	.....
Windmill; water well; spring	.....
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or ore	.....
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	.....
Barometric contours: index; intermediate	.....
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	.....
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	.....
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	.....
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	.....
Scrub; mangrove	.....
Orchard; vineyard	.....

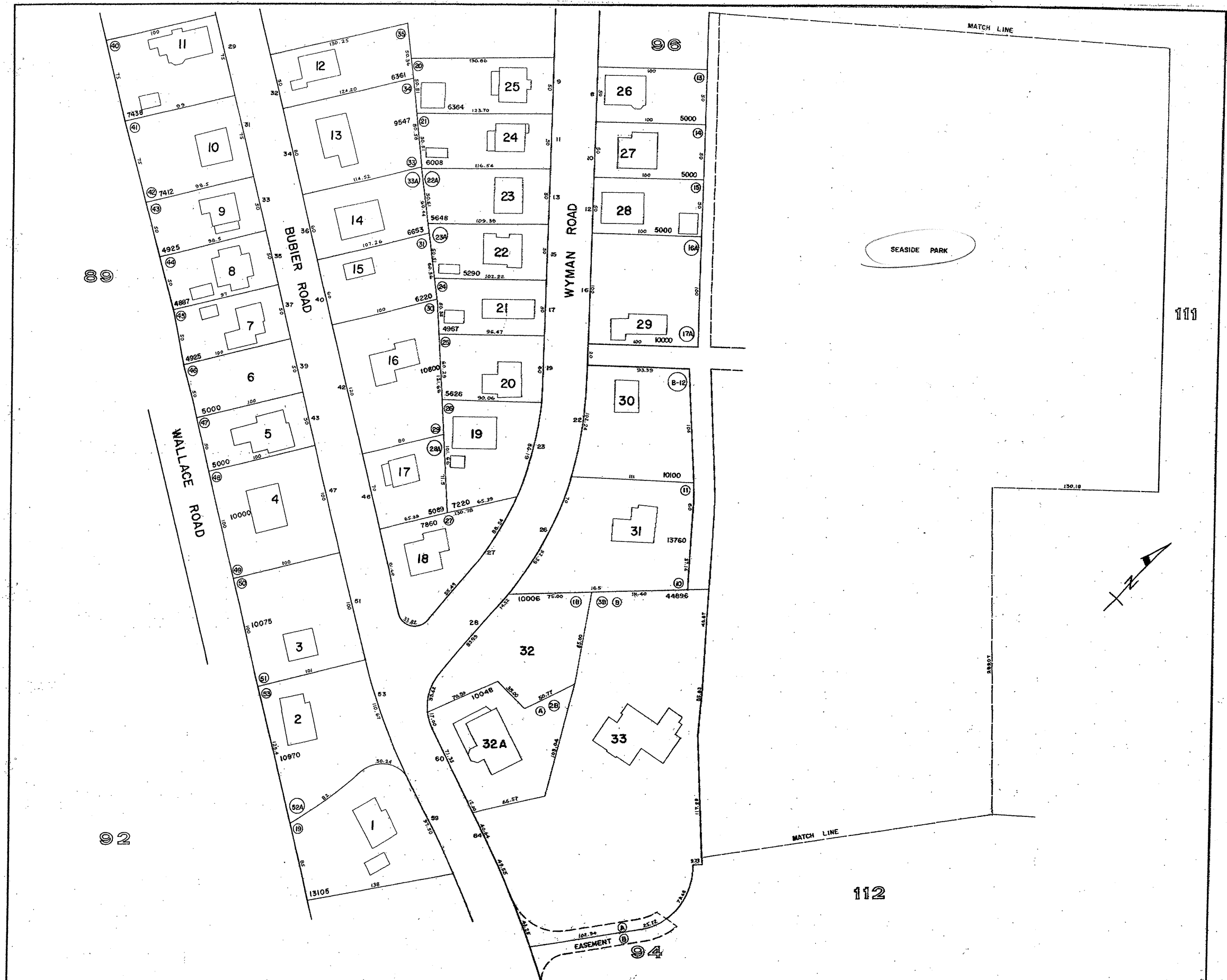
A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225



SEASIDE PARK

MARBLEHEAD (ESSEX) MA

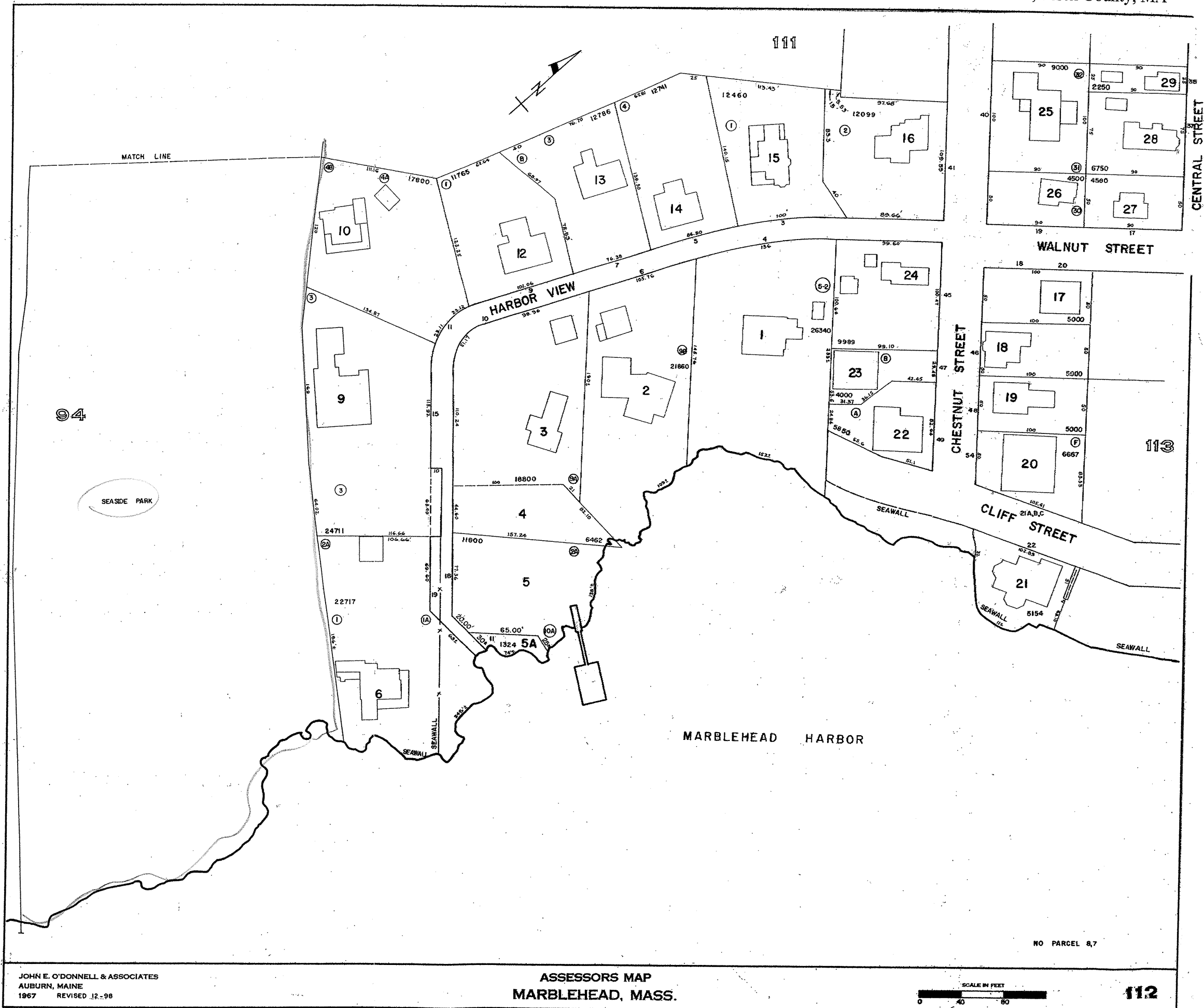
MAP 1 3 4



SEASIDE PARK
MARBLEHEAD (ESSEX) MA

(MAP 2 of 4)

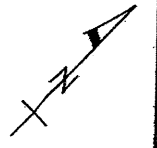




SEASIDE PARK
MARBLEHEAD (ESSEX) MA

MAP 3 of 4

1/20/04



110



SEASIDE PARK
MARBLEHEAD (ESSEX) MA

| MAP 4 of 4 |



Office of the
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ABBOT HALL
188 Washington Street
MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS 01945

Harry C. Christensen, Jr., Chairman
Jackie Belf-Becker
Judith R. Jacobi
James E. Nye
William L. Woodfin, II

Anthony M. Sasso
Town Administrator

October 24, 2007

Michael Steinitz
Director, Preservation Planning Division
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Michael,

The Marblehead Board of Selectmen unanimously endorses the Recreation, Parks and Forestry Department's submission of an inventory form for Seaside Park, in consideration of potential listing of the Park on the National Register of Historic Places.

We believe that a National Register nomination for Seaside Park and the Elliot Roundy Grandstand would be of tremendous historical significance for the Town of Marblehead and we pledge our full support for the Recreation, Parks & Forestry Commission to move forward with the application process.

Sincerely,

Harry C. Christensen, Jr.
Chairman, Board of Selectmen



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission



April 25, 2011

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Seaside Park, Atlantic Avenue, Marblehead (Essex), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

One letter of support has been received.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Martha Lyon, consultant
Chris Johnston, Marblehead Historical Commission
James Nye, Marblehead Board of Selectmen
Chair, Marblehead Planning Board
Thomas Roundy
Derek Norcross, Marblehead Parks & Recreation Dept.