

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

LIGHTHOUSE INFORMATION FORM

NUMBER 18

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPH KEY

Victoria DiStefano - Martha's Vineyard
Commission - 5/1980
1. Light facing north (8 x 10)

HISTORIC NAME: Gay Head Light

TOWN: Gay Head

LOCATION: West end of island on Lightho
Road

COUNTY: Dukes CODE: 007

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10th

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Dukes
County Courthouse Lighthouse Bk. of
Contracts No. A, folio 1967

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:
The nomination is confined to the 1856 tower
the remaining structures have been domolished

SKETCH MAP



LAT./LONG.: 41 20'9"/70 50'1"

UTM COORDINATE: 19/346/200/4579/100

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

SCALE: 1:250,000

ACREAGE: 2A

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

STATUS: Unmanned/Active

RECORDED BY: v. DiStefano
N. Salzman
ORGANIZATION: MHC/MVC
DATE: 1980, July 14, 1981

Gay Head Light, Gay Head

SITE DESCRIPTION: The Gay Head Light is located on the southwesternmost point of land on the island of Martha's Vineyard, which consists of spectacular cliffs of red colored clay, in themselves a landmark (NNHL). The light marks the Devil's Bridge rocks, the shoals of the south shore of the island and the entrance to Vineyard Sound from Buzzard's Bay on the route to Boston Harbor from the South. The land slopes downhill from the cliffs and is constantly eroding both from the action of the sea and from natural springs within the clay soil. The site contains the town's only commercial activities, which are local, family owned and operated souvenir shops and food service for tour buses and autos that park in the large asphalt lot below the lighthouse on Wampanoag Tribal common lands.

MAJOR ELEMENTS DESCRIPTION: The 1856 brick lighthouse is the only remaining structure at the site. The original brick Keeper's House was replaced by a wooden gambrel shingle house (1906) which was torn down in 1961. Other Coast Guard buildings were demolished in 1959. The brick tower 17'6" diameter, 45'8" in height, is girdled in the middle by four courses of brownstone blocks (13" X 25") which project, forming a lower band; by a flat band; two quarter round continuous cornice brackets and the final flat lower balcony. An iron segmental arched door gives access to the balcony. From the balcony, an outside iron ladder with rungs leads through a round opening onto the upper balcony around the lens room. Almost identical to Highland Light, Truro (#20), the lens room is glazed from floor to ceiling and is surmounted by a standard iron roof and ventilator with lightning rod.

Door - one door to the east has been blocked up. The main door is cast iron and has a standard cover to protect the lock from the weather. It is set in a brick arch (37" wide) which decreases to 33 1/2" on the inner side. The brick wall is 36" deep. A wedge of mortar at the center of the upper arch allows the bricks to be set in such a way as to meet the reduced inner circumference. A ground floor window is opposite this door.

INTERIOR:

Staircase - spiral, attached to a central core. The railing is wooden, painted grey. Steps are cast iron, prefabricated with baluster forming part of the attaching joint. There are 12 steps to the first landing and window, 14 to the second and window, and 14 to the third landing or lens room. At these landings a gradually turned curve in the railings as at Highland Light. At the level of the lamp room and lens room an unusual detail is found: a curving wood rail on the iron instead of the usual functional rail. An iron prefabricated ladder of 11 steps leads to the lens room.

Windows - the three windows at the landings are the same, 2/2 panes, 19" X 20", set into simple 2 1/2" frames with wooden lintel. The brick above forms a vertically laid lintel. The sills are 5 1/2" deep. At Level 2 the window is set in 19" and 20" deep. Curved sills project from these windows.

Lamp Room - the walls at this point are 25" thick. The ceiling consists of an iron band 23" high around the perimeter. This supports an iron disc 7'5" in diameter resting on a rim which sets 2 1/2" on the ring. There is a window 34" X 35" within a surround 40 1/2" wide again, a wooden board lintel with vertical bricks above. A cast iron door 27" wide from which springs a half round arch 15" high. It has the same lintel treatment.

First balcony- brownstone flooring. There is a continuous railing with equally spaced balusters. On the underside of the second balcony is an opening for a stovepipe. This opening has been blocked up; the pipe entered the lamp room over the opening from the staircase and probably ran along the ceiling to the other end of the room. There is also a ladder which is angled to give access to the upper balcony.

2nd Balcony- reached as just described. There is a single rail on 16 balusters with a comb-like curbing of iron along the bottom. There is also a handrail along the uppermost cast iron muntins of light.

Lens Room - As at Highland Light, there is floor-to-ceiling glazing. The original three rows of muntins are in place. The floor is 10'6" in diameter, with one quarter devoted to the opening from the ladder, and is surrounded by a graceful bannister. A unique ventilator system is intact at the base of each of the sixteen vertical sections; all but one have been sealed. The flat ventilator cover is 4" X 16 1/2" with a small handle in the center and three openings of 1" X 3" on either side.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- 1759 - five concentric wicks using whale oil.
- 1856 - First order Fresnel lens, 1008 prisms, revolving incandescent oil vapor mantle. A 19th century account states that the light consisted of: "4 concentric wicks of which a continual and superabundant supply of oil is forced by a species of clockwork, causing a flame of dazzling brilliance; is surrounded by a revolving cover, about 8' high X 4'5" (Dukes County Intelligencer, 8/1881 from "A Visit to Gay Head Lighthouse").
- 1856 - present brick, brownstone and steel tower built for \$15,000 (17'6" diam., 53' circumference, 45'8" height).
Double dwelling: wood frame dwelling B (see below) quoted in Coast Guard records. However, photos show a double building of an earlier style at the new tower, described as follows: A) Rectangular double brick 1 1/2 story dwelling with short attached walkway to light at center of long side. Each side is 5 bays, 3 windows flanked by doors, 2 windows in the gable, a single dormer facing the light, 2 chimneys. No picture of opposite facade. Wooden covered entrance porch to dwellings. \$20,000. B) Third dwelling, 2 1/2 story wooden frame, gambrel roof, \$15,000 (32' X 76") or 28" X 55". ("32 X 76" must refer to earlier building "A", unknown to compiler of property list). Three rooms on each floor, shingle exterior, three chimneys, gambrel roof; 2 dwelling units.
Oil house - brick with wooden roof. 11" X 15", \$500. At edge of cliff.
Garage - wood frame, 1 1/2 story, 20" X 25", \$600.
Barn - wood frame, 16' X 31", wood shingle exterior, \$1000.
(Again lists are incompatible. Photos show smaller "garage" next to dwelling A. Photo B shows this gone and a larger barn next to road.)
- 1906 - brick Keeper's House replaced by gambrel roof shingle house. (correcting Coast Guard records above)
- 194? - Coast Guard buildings constructed, 6 bays X 3 bays, 2 1/2 story frame with 1 story additions on ends. Across road from barn.
- 1950 - brick lookout tower, 12' X 12" X 30' high, \$16,000.
- 1956 - changed to untended operation.
- 1959 - Coast Guard building (on edge of cliff toward east) demolished.
- 1961 - Keeper's House razed; stable razed. Fresnel lens replaced with 2 bullseye lenses.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gay Head Light possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as significant associations with the development of aids to navigation in Massachusetts. Dating from 1856, the brick and sandstone tower is the most conspicuous historic structure in the town of Gay Head. At the time of construction, it was considered one of the ten most important lights on the Atlantic Coast and was originally equipped with one of the first Fresnel lenses in the country. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the state level as well as survey criteria 1a, 2b, 3b, 4c.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

MAY 4 1987

Section number 8 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 signature] 6/15/87

< 50 1. Cleveland LEDGE Light Station
Substantive Review

Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

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

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

3. Gay Head Light
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

4. Edgartown Harbor Light
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

5. Derby Wharf Light Station
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

6. East Chop Light
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

7. Eastern Point Light Station
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 9/28/87

Attest

8. Long Island Head Light
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest

9. Long Point Light Station
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 9/28/87

Attest

10. Marblehead Light
Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

[Handwritten signature] 6/15/87

Attest



Handwritten signature or initials

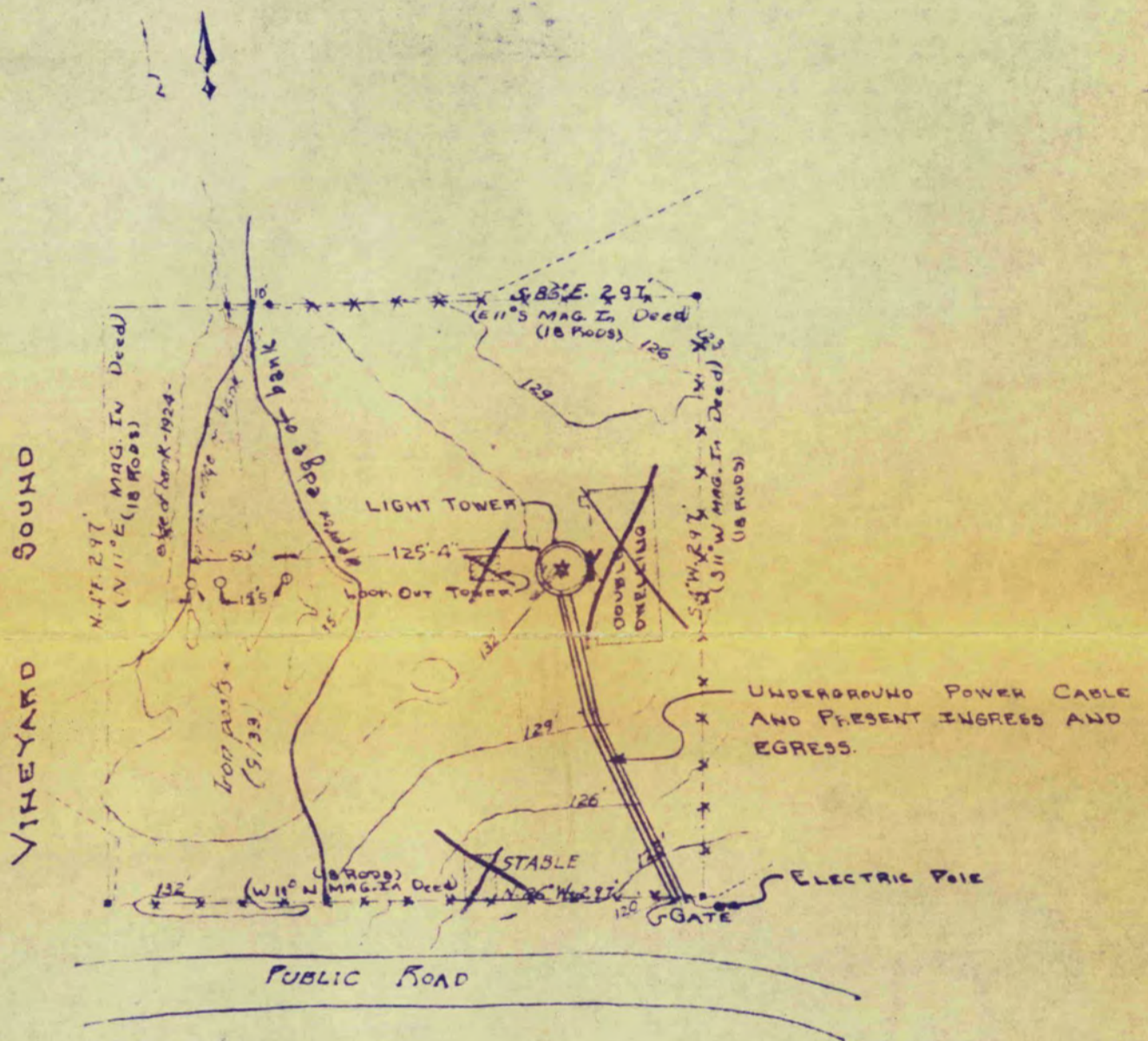
#18

Gay Head Lighthouse
Gay Head Cliffs
Gay Head, Massachusetts

May 1, 1980

Photographer: V.L. DiStefano
negative filed at M.V. Commission
Organization: Martha's Vineyard
Commission

LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION



LIGHTHOUSES OF MASSACHUSETTS
THEMATIC GROUP NOMINATION

Lighthouse
#18

REVISED FEB 23 1960

- OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE SUPERINTENDENT -
- SECOND DISTRICT - BOSTON MASS. -

- GAY HEAD LIGHT STATION - MASS. -
LAT. 41° 20' 55" N LONG 20° 50' 06" W GAYHEAD, MASS.

Scale: 1/1000

Approved: Nov. 1-1924

J. J. Morse

Geo. E. Cator

First Asst. Supt-

Superintendent

Drawn by - F. J. M.

Sheet 1 of 1

Check'd by - "

Tr'd by - "

No. 118-

SITE CEDED BY MASS. FEB 22, 1799

ACT OF PRESIDENT RECORDED IN DUKES CO BK. 14 P. 38
AREA 2.025 ACRES (2 ACRES AND 4 RODS BY DEED)

■ STONE BOUND 6x6x3ft long MARKED U.S. L.P.S.
CG. REQUIREMENTS CONSIST OF 25' DIA. PLOT
ON WHICH 17.5' DIA. LIGHT TOWER STANDS
WITH RIGHT OF INGRESS + EGRESS,
UNDERGROUND CABLE INSTALLATIONS AND
PROHIBITION OF STRUCTURES THAT WOULD
INTERFERE WITH LIGHT.

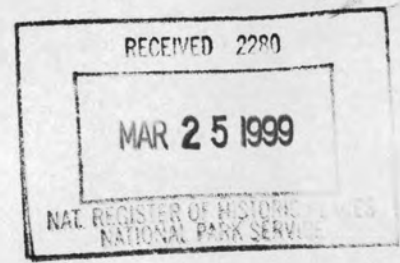
Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000282

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 1999



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Massachusetts Historical Commission

March 16, 1999

87-1464

Ms. Carol Shull
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Town Name Change

Dear Ms. Shull:

Please be advised that the Massachusetts state legislature in 1998 approved the town of Gay Head (Dukes County), Massachusetts to change its name to Aquinnah.

Presently, only one National Register property is listed in that community, the Gay Head Lighthouse, placed on the NR June 15, 1987 as part of the Lighthouses of Massachusetts Thematic Nomination. A district nomination for the Gay Head / Aquinnah Municipal Historic District was sent to the National Register office within the past several weeks and we are awaiting word on its disposition. This nomination was sent using the town name of Aquinnah, and reference was made to the name change in the cover letter.

Please change your records to reflect this change, which recognizes the community's Native American roots.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure – Massachusetts State Register of Historic Places

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 · (617) 727-8470

Fax: (617) 727-5128 · TDD: 1-800-392-6090

www.state.ma.us/sec/mbc

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gay Head--Aquinnah Light

MULTIPLE NAME: Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Dukes

DATE RECEIVED: 3/25/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/09/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 87001464

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 4.12.99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM. / CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 4.12.99

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

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2016

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gay Head--Aquinnah Light

MULTIPLE NAME: Lighthouses of Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Dukes

DATE RECEIVED: 7/15/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/30/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 87001464

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

On May 12, 2015, we approved the proposed move of this lighthouse (see our letter to SHPD). The light has been moved and SHPD has provided photos, maps, acreage figure and a verbal boundary description of the light at its new site. The lighthouse

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Additional Documentation remains listed at
REVIEWER Patrick Andrew DISCIPLINE Historian its new site
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 8/4/2016 see NR
letter

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.

dated 8/4/16

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Gay Head Lighthouse
Name of Property
Dukes County, MA
County and State
Lighthouses of Massachusetts
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Technical Amendment Page 1

Technical Amendment 2015: Gay Head Lighthouse

SECTION 7: DESCRIPTION

The Gay Head Light is a 51-foot tower completed in 1856; it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. It is constructed of clay bricks manufactured at the Chilmark brickyard, girdled by four courses of brownstone blocks and an iron balcony, and topped by a cast-iron and glazed lightroom and a metal roof. The lighthouse is located off Aquinnah Circle in the town of Aquinnah, less than fifty feet from the eroding Gay Head Cliffs, and consequently is in danger of falling into the Atlantic Ocean or otherwise being destroyed. The present lighthouse was constructed to replace the previous wooden structure lost to cliff erosion.

The Town of Aquinnah, present owner of the Gay Head Light, proposes to relocate the lighthouse from its current site to a new location 150 feet to the east/southeast, onto land owned in fee simple by the Town of Aquinnah (Lot 23), for the purpose of protecting and preserving it. The proposed relocation coordinates are 41 degrees, 20 minutes, 53.9141 seconds North by 70 degrees, 50 minutes, 04.159 seconds West. The existing surface ground elevation will be retained at the new location.

SECTION 8: SIGNIFICANCE

The Gay Head Light was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1987 as part of the Lighthouses of Massachusetts Thematic Resources Area. The Lighthouse is proposed for removal to a new location 150 feet to the east/southeast of its present site, including placement on a new granite masonry sub-foundation.

Pursuant to the terms of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act (NHLPA), which makes historic lighthouse properties that are no longer needed by the United State Coast Guard (USCG) available at no cost to other federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit corporations, educational agencies, or community development organizations for education, park and recreation, cultural or historic preservation purposes, the Town of Aquinnah filed an application for ownership of the Gay Head Light. On September 12, 2014, the Secretary of the Interior recommended to the Administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA), the federal agency responsible for federal property allocation, that the Town be awarded title to the Property. In response to the recommendation by the Secretary of the Interior and in accordance with the terms of the NHLPA, GSA will convey the property to the Town in the first quarter of 2015. The deed will include historic preservation covenants to ensure that the Gay Head Light is maintained in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties" and an easement for the benefit of the United States to allow the USCG to access, operate, service, maintain, replace, repair and remove the federal Aids to Navigation at the Lighthouse, in keeping with the original mission of Gay Head Light as an aid to navigation.

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National Park Service**

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The relocation will consist of three stages: the excavation of the existing foundation and lifting of the lighthouse with hydraulic jacks, placement upon a moving rail and roller system, movement from its existing site on Lot 22 to Lot 23, and the reattachment of the light to a new granite-block sub-foundation on Lot 23. Lot 23, plans and schematic drawings of which are shown below, was selected because it meets navigational purposes in both elevation and position and maintains the "day mark" (i.e., provides visibility from the water from all vantage points), because it has acceptable load-bearing subsoil characteristics, and because it has a stable geographic formation that should remain resistant to future erosion for a minimum of 140 years.

The proposed new location is consistent with the existing viewshed of the Gay Head Light. The Gay Head Light should continue to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places during and after its relocation, as it will maintain its associations, setting, feeling and relationship to the Gay Head cliffs and the ocean as an aid to navigation. The Gay Head Light will be relocated and maintained, consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and will continue to retain integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. The Gay Head Light fulfills Criteria A and C and is significant at the local and state levels.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:

While no ancient Native American sites are known on the existing and proposed Gay Head Light properties, it is possible that sites are present. Fourteen ancient sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of ancient sites. Both the existing and proposed Lighthouse properties, as well as the proposed movement path between current and proposed foundation locations, include well-drained, level to moderately sloping uplands in close proximity to the eroding Gay Head Cliffs. Soils in the area are sandy and clay soils formed in glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine deposits found primarily on glacial outwash plains, mixed with urban land deposits (from the former Coast Guard facilities) and Aeolian-type deposits. Unnamed freshwater wetlands and a seasonal stream are also present in the vicinity in addition to the tidal saltwater marine environment of Vineyard Sound, including the Devil's Bridge tidal rip fishing grounds.

Given the above information, levels of historic land use, and available ancient Native American settlement information for Martha's Vineyard in general, a high potential exists for the recovery of ancient and historical period Native American resources on the current and proposed Gay Head Light properties. A high potential also exists for locating historic archaeological resources on both the properties, including resources associated with the former Gay Head Light Keeper's House discussed below.

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National Park Service**

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Gay Head Lighthouse
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Gay Head Cliffs are a National Natural Landmark owned by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in trust for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Archaeological surveys have been conducted in the vicinity of Aquinnah Circle, including the town-wide archaeological reconnaissance survey conducted for Aquinnah in 2002, and ancient Native American archaeological sites have been recorded in the vicinity of Aquinnah Circle. Intensive (locational) archaeological survey has been conducted in 2014 for the Gay Head Light movement project impact area, including portions of both the existing and proposed (Lots 22 and 23) properties, and a site examination, program of archaeological data recovery, and systematic soil stripping is proposed to be conducted for the complete movement project impact area in Spring 2015.

The 51-foot-tall brick lighthouse, built in 1854 to replace the original 1799 wooden lighthouse, is the only standing structure on the existing Gay Head Light property. At various points throughout the nineteenth and early to mid twentieth centuries, the lighthouse complex included a lookout tower, oil house, barn, carriage house, several wooden storage buildings, and two different keeper's dwelling houses. All but the lighthouse were removed or demolished prior to the mid-1960s. The approximate locations of these former structures are known mainly from photographs and from government property plans (Herbster and Horn 2015).

The 1854 brick Gay Head Light Keeper's House was replaced with a wooden structure in 1902. Several deaths were attributed to mold and toxic spores found within the damp brick building, and the wooden structure was designed to promote better air circulation (keeper Richard Skidmore, personal communication 2014). The wooden structure was built on the site of the original brick house, and was attached to the northeastern side of the lighthouse (Herbster and Horn 2015).

Remnants of the Keeper's House foundation are visible at the ground surface and include sections of the brick and cement connection ell to the lighthouse, as well as several exposed sections of the mortared cement and brick foundation upon which the wooden building sat. The intensive survey testing conducted for the movement project impact area in 2014, including shovel test pits excavated within the footprint of the keeper's house, documented fill deposits dominated by brick, mortar, structural debris, and coal/ash/slag, suggesting that demolition debris from the original structure was re-deposited at the site prior to the construction of the new house. A possible cement floor slab was identified in one test pit placed within the keeper's house footprint at a depth of 44 centimeters below surface, possibly indicative of a building slab floor.

The limited archaeological testing to date at the intensive level within the existing location, proposed location and movement pathway, indicates that intact structural remains of the circa 1902 (wooden) keeper's house are present within portions of the movement path project area. The degree of demolition fill and debris within the building footprint suggests that the foundation may be the only intact archaeological feature associated with the Keeper's House. Other archaeological deposits and/or

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structural remains (such as footings) may be present in the areas where other buildings were known to have stood; however, the current movement path project area does not include these other locations (Herbster and Horn 2015). A site examination, program of archaeological data recovery, and systematic soil stripping are proposed to be conducted in the Spring of 2015 for the Keeper's House foundation, and to identify and evaluate any other archaeological resources within the movement project impact area, that includes the existing Lighthouse property (Lot 22), proposed move path and new Lighthouse foundation property (Lot 23).

The potential exists for ancient Native American deposits to be present in isolated undisturbed areas surrounding the Light. However, landscape modifications and building construction, use, and demolition indicate that intact Native American deposits are unlikely to be present within the locations of former Coast Guard lighthouse facilities (Herbster and Horn 2015). Since patterns of ancient settlement and subsistence in Gay Head are poorly understood, any surviving sites within the present and proposed Light property could be significant.

Ancient Native American sites in this area may contain information that helps us understand how environmental changes influenced population change and the nature of settlement through time, especially traditional uses of the Gay Head Cliffs. Information may be present at sites that indicate the effects of cliff erosion and sea-level rise on patterns of settlement and subsistence, especially at sites from earlier periods. Ancient sites in the area may also contain information to better understand patterns of lithic procurement and production, possibly indicating the importance of local raw materials and trade in the manufacture of specific tool types and changes in technology over time, including maritime transportation practices within Vineyard Sound and Buzzards Bay.

Native American sites in the Gay Head locale, especially sites from later periods, may also contain information that helps us to understand how the four historic sachemships that were recognized during the historic period on Martha's Vineyard evolved. This information might demonstrate unique characteristics associated with the sachemship and socio/political group located at Gay Head. These characteristics could be represented in ceramic types, lithics, or site types and distributions.

Historic archaeological resources other than those associated with changes to the use and occupation of the Gay Head Light described above have the potential to help us better understand how Gay Head Native Americans were able to maintain aspects of their traditional culture during a period of change in the 19th and 20th centuries, especially in the Tribal approach to tourism expressed by the nearby concentration of Aquinnah Shops at the Cliff overlook and the Wampanoag Cultural Center at the nearby Edwin Vanderhoop House. Further documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, including the programs referenced above proposed to be conducted in Spring of 2015, may produce information that helps us understand the effects of incorporation on traditional forms of land-holding and other aspects of Native culture, including balancing traditional uses and relationships to the Gay Head Cliffs with tourism and recreation in the 19th and 20th centuries. The identification of outbuildings and detailed analysis of the contents of occupational-related features may

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contain information that helps us better understand the growth of tourism at the Cliffs. The same analysis may also indicate the effects on family structure and changes in town government, land ownership, and the evolving uses and meanings of the Cliffs to the Tribe and visitors to the Aquinnah Circle shops and Cliff overlook area.

Additional information is likely to be developed during the excavations associated with the relocation project in Spring of 2015 referenced above that may contribute important information to the research questions presented above.

Acreage of Property Approximately 1.35 acres

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are the boundaries of Lots 22 and 23, as shown on the attached Site Plan.

References:

Herbster, Holly and Jess Horn

In preparation. Intensive (Locational) Archaeological Survey, Gay Head Light, Aquinnah, Massachusetts. PAL Inc. Report no. 2894.02. Submitted to Town of Aquinnah and U.S. Coast Guard. 2015

Figures

Relocation Plot Plan

Aerial Photograph of Relocation Site

Sketch of Proposed Relocation

Sketch of Proposed Elevation

Sketch of Elevation Site Plan

Existing Conditions Site Plan (February 10, 2016)

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National Park Service**

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Photographs

Moving Process – Series I 28 May 2015 (Photographer: Quinn R. Stuart)

1. General view of the Gay Head Lighthouse, excavation trench, and jacks, looking southeast toward new location from vicinity of historical location.
2. General view of lighthouse and relocation tracks during relocation, looking northwest.
3. View of lighthouse during relocation, looking north from new location.
4. Detail of lighthouse and cribbing during relocation, looking east.
5. Detail of lighthouse foundation, looking west.
6. Detail of interior of lighthouse foundation, looking west.

Moving Process – Series II 11 June 2015 (Photographer: John J. Daly)

7. Context view of Gay Head Lighthouse at new location during construction of new concrete block foundation, looking southeast from historical location.
8. View of new lighthouse foundation and new concrete retaining wall, looking south.
9. View of lighthouse on new foundation, looking northeast.
10. Detail of historical and new lighthouse foundation, looking southeast.
11. Interior detail view of historical and new lighthouse foundations, showing new support for center column, looking down from first floor level.

Final Location – New Existing Conditions 10 September(#12-17), 22 December 2015 (#18-20)

12. Context view of the Gay Head Lighthouse looking northeast from the Gay Head Cliffs overlook.
13. View of lighthouse and new retaining wall, looking northwest.
14. General view of lighthouse looking northeast from lighthouse access path.
15. General view of lighthouse and historical lighthouse location, looking southeast.
16. General view of lighthouse, looking south.
17. Detail of lighthouse foundation and entry, looking northwest toward historical lighthouse location and Gay Head Cliffs.
18. General view of first level showing new concrete floor, looking northwest.
19. Detail of stair construction on first level concrete floor, looking southwest.
20. Interior detail view showing new concrete floor, looking down from first level stairs

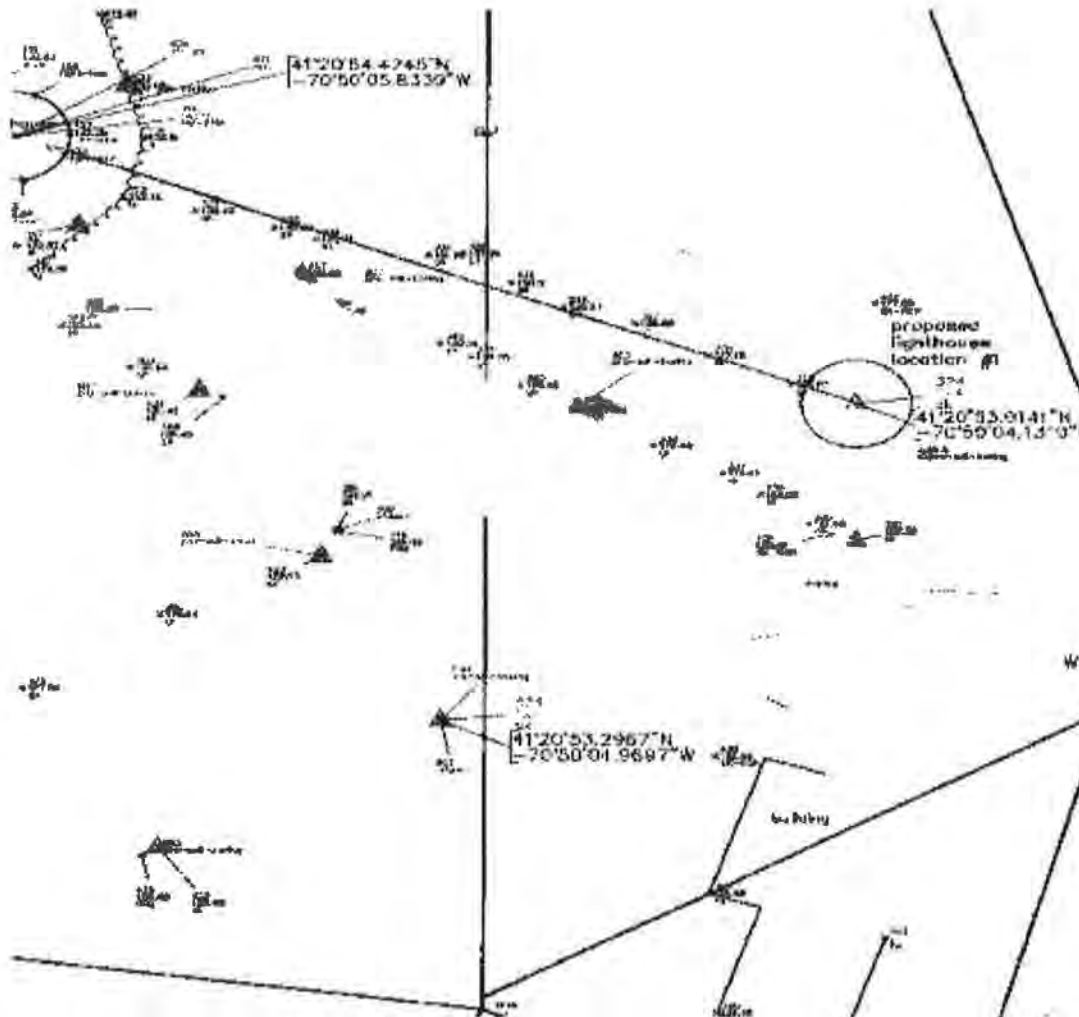
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Gay Head Lighthouse
Name of Property
Dukes County, MA
County and State
Lighthouses of Massachusetts
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Technical Amendment Page 7

Figures



Relocation Plot Plan

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Gay Head Lighthouse

Name of Property

Dukes County, MA

County and State

Lighthouses of Massachusetts

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Technical Amendment Page 8



Aerial Photograph of Relocation Site

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Gay Head Lighthouse

Name of Property

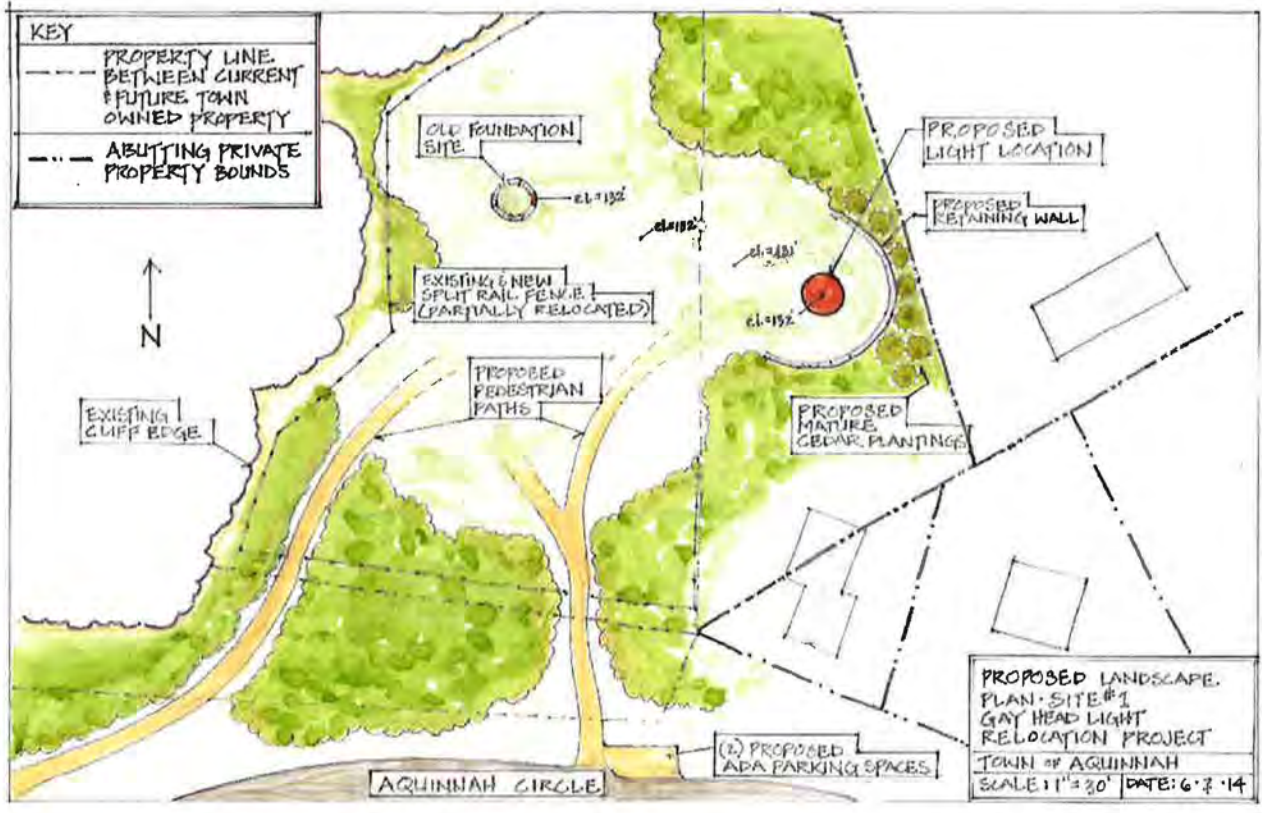
Dukes County, MA

County and State

Lighthouses of Massachusetts

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Technical Amendment Page 9



Sketch of Proposed Relocation

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

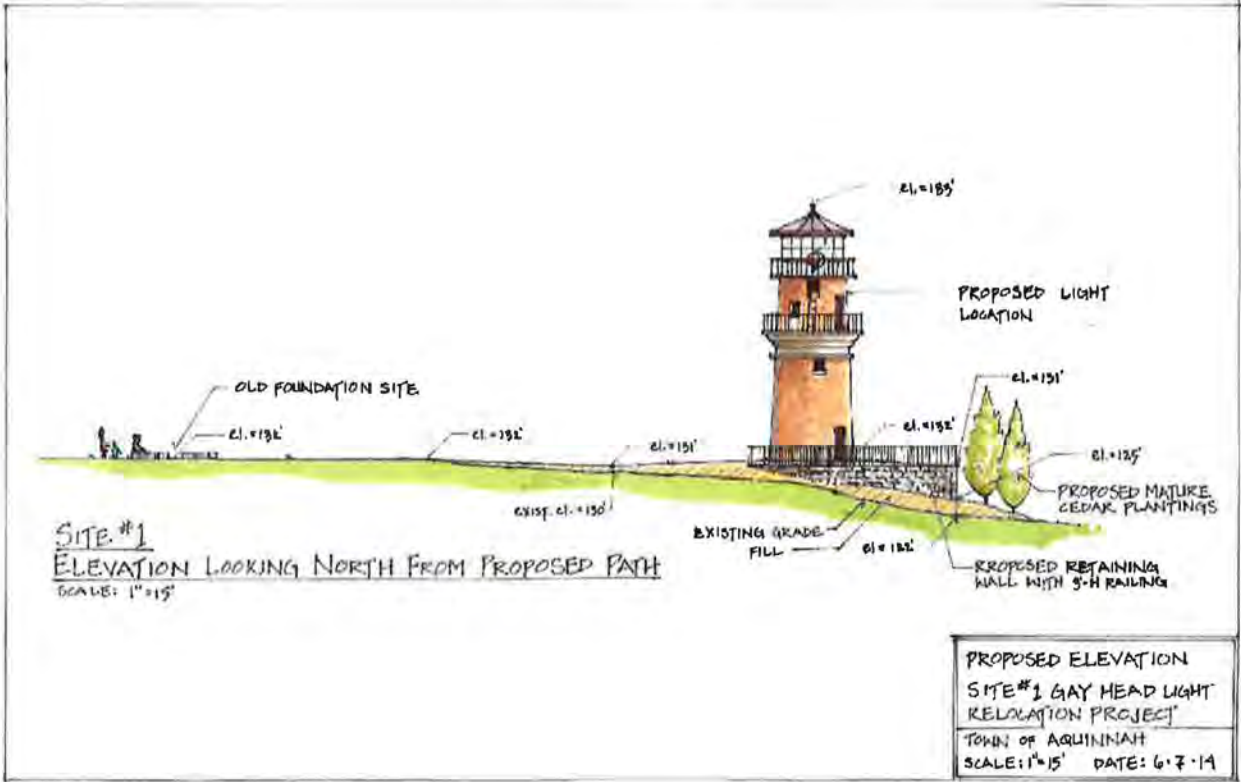
Gay Head Lighthouse

Name of Property
Dukes County, MA

County and State
Lighthouses of Massachusetts

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Technical Amendment Page 10



Sketch of Proposed Elevation

2015 re-location
of Gay Head Lighthouse



Technical Amendment 2015
Gay Head Lighthouse, Dukes Co, MA







EXPERT HOUSE MOVERS

HEFFERNAN BROS.











PORTLAND CEMENT MOVERS LOCAL CHIMNEY



















ADMISSION
\$5 ADULTS
CHILDREN UNDER 12
AND MV MUSEUM
MEMBERS FREE.
Use caution on stairs and
balcony
Please no food,
beverages or pets

BALCONY
LIMITED
TO **8 PEOPLE**
AT A TIME
Thank you for your cooperation

PLEASE- *QUIET*
CONVERSATION
IS APPRECIATED BY
OUR NEIGHBORS

15





National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2017

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/20/2017 Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: 3/7/2017 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 3/6/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Edson Beall  Discipline Historian

Telephone _____ Date 3-6-17

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



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

January 9, 2017

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

RE: Gay Head Lighthouse, Aquinnah (Dukes County), Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Loether:

It has come to my attention that the Gay Head Lighthouse now has a different street address in its new location. Previously at Lighthouse Road, the address for the lighthouse is now 15 Aquinnah Circle. Please add the new address to the technical documentation previously submitted to you on July 12, 2016.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures

Cc: Bettina Washington, THPO, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Town of Aquinnah
Leonard Butler, Chair, Lighthouse Relocation Committee
Chairperson, Aquinnah Historical Commission

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Gay Head Light (Light Houses of Massachusetts TR)
Dukes County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 14/28/82
Fed. Reg. Date: 9/2/88
Date Due: 6/18/87
Action: ACCEPT 6-15-87
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: USCG

~~Administrative Review~~

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 _____ 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 unaltered altered 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

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: _____

ANV

Andover

Town/Name/Address	Designation	Date	# Props
Andover (cont.)			
Russell, Dea. Joseph House 28 Rocky Hill Rd	NRIND	06/10/1982	1
	NRMRA	06/10/1982	1
Shattuck Farm Locus B, C and D (19-ES-196)	PR	08/30/1994	3
	Exp:		
Shawsheen Village Historic District Centered on Haverhill and York Sts	NRDIS	02/09/1979	294
Third Railroad Station 100 School St	NRIND	06/10/1982	1
	NRMRA	06/10/1982	1
Tyre Rubber Company 10-30 Railroad Ave	NRDOE	09/26/1979	1
	NRMRA	10/07/1982	1
	NRDIS	10/07/1982	1
U. S. Post Office - Andover Main Branch, Old 71 Main St	PR	12/14/1992	1
	Exp:		
Upper Shawsheen Railroad Bridge Off Lupine St, near Central St	NRIND	06/10/1982	1
	NRMRA	06/10/1982	1
Ward, Richard A. House 71 Lowell St	NRIND	06/10/1982	2
	NRMRA	06/10/1982	2
West Parish Center Historic District Lowell St and Reservation Rd	NRDIS	10/07/1982	28
	NRMRA	10/07/1982	28
West Parish Garden Cemetery Archway 129 Reservation Rd	NRDIS	10/07/1982	1
	NRMRA	10/07/1982	1
	PR	06/07/1996	1
	Exp:		
Woodbridge, George B. House 293 Salem St	NRIND	06/10/1982	2
	NRMRA	06/10/1982	2
Aquinnah			
Gay Head Lighthouse Lighthouses of Mass., Lighthouse Rd	NRTRA	06/15/1987	1
	NRIND	06/15/1987	1
Lighthouses of Massachusetts Thematic Group Nomination, 42 properties in 23 towns	NRTRA	06/15/1987	1

AGU
PF



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

H32(2280)

AUG - 4 2016

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Dear Ms. Simon:

Thank you for your letter of July 12, 2016, regarding the move of the Gay Head Light, located in Aquinnah, Dukes County, Massachusetts. The Gay Head Light was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 15, 1987.

On May 12, 2015, we responded to your request and approved the proposed move of the Gay Head Light. The move was necessary to save the lighthouse from the danger of falling into the Atlantic Ocean. You have now informed us that the Gay Head Light was moved as proposed to its new location between May 30 and June 1, 2015, and you have provided us photographs of the light on its new site, revised maps, acreage, and a new verbal boundary description.

The Gay Head Light remains listed in the National Register of Historic Places at its new site. This completes our review of the move of the light.

Please let us know if we can provide further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Patrick Andrus, Historian
National Register of Historic Places

P. Andrus

H32(2280)

AUG - 4 2016

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Dear Ms. Simon:

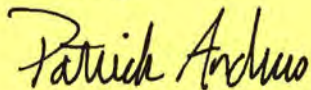
Thank you for your letter of July 12, 2016, regarding the move of the Gay Head Light, located in Aquinnah, Dukes County, Massachusetts. The Gay Head Light was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 15, 1987.

On May 12, 2015, we responded to your request and approved the proposed move of the Gay Head Light. The move was necessary to save the lighthouse from the danger of falling into the Atlantic Ocean. You have now informed us that the Gay Head Light was moved as proposed to its new location between May 30 and June 1, 2015, and you have provided us photographs of the light on its new site, revised maps, acreage, and a new verbal boundary description.

The Gay Head Light remains listed in the National Register of Historic Places at its new site. This completes our review of the move of the light.

Please let us know if we can provide further information or assistance.

Sincerely,



Patrick Andrus, Historian
National Register of Historic Places

bcc: 2280 Loether

Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:PAndrus:OP:08/3/2016:s:\NR:\nr_correspondence\GayHeadLightMove.1

H32(2280)

MAY 12 2015

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Dear Ms. Simon:

Thank you for your letter of April 8, 2015, regarding the Gay Head Light, located in Aquinnah, Dukes County, Massachusetts. You have requested, under National Register of Historic Places regulations 36 CFR 60.14(b), that we review and approve the proposed move of the Gay Head Light and that the lighthouse remain listed in the National Register during and after the move. The Gay Head Light was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 15, 1987.

Your letter and accompanying documentation establish that the proposed move was the subject of a Memorandum of Agreement (36 CFR 800.6b)(2)c), executed February 18, 2015, executed among the General Services Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the Town of Aquinnah and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). You have established that the move is necessary to save the lighthouse from danger of falling into the Atlantic Ocean, the plans for the move will preserve the historic integrity of the Gay Head Light, it will be moved to an appropriate new location which closely approximates its original setting, and that archeological investigations have been made or are underway to ensure that no important historic or archeological properties will be destroyed on the new site. Based upon this information, the Gay Head Light will remain listed in the National Register during its move. Once the lighthouse is moved please provide us with the following: a letter notifying us when the Gay Head Light was moved, photographs of the light on its new site, revised maps, including a USGS map, acreage, and a new verbal boundary description. Upon our review of this material we will provide a final decision on whether the Gay Head Light will remain listed in the National Register.

We look forward to hearing from you after the Gay Head Light has been relocated. Please let us know if we can provide further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

(Sgd) Patrick Andrus

Patrick Andrus, Historian
National Register of Historic Places

bcc: 2280

Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:PAndrus:OP:05/06/2015:s:\NR:\nr_correspondence\GayHeadLightMove



RECEIVED 2280

JUL 15 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

July 12, 2016 William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

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

RE: Gay Head Lighthouse, Aquinnah (Dukes County), Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Loether:

The Gay Head Lighthouse, Aquinnah, Massachusetts, was moved to its new location between May 30 and June 1, 2015, to aid in its preservation. Under National Register of Historic Places regulations 36 CFR 60.14 (b), the Massachusetts Historical Commission requested, and you approved, that the lighthouse remain listed in the National Register during the move.

In accordance with the guidance provided in your letter of May 11, 2015, I am writing to request that the Gay Head Light remain listed in the National Register. As requested, we are providing you with the following: photographs of the light on its new site, revised maps, including a USGS map, acreage, and a new verbal boundary description.

Please let me know if there is any more information that you require to continue the listing of the Gay Head Lighthouse in the National Register.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brona Simon".

Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures

Cc: Bettina Washington, THPO, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Town of Aquinnah
Leonard Butler, Chair, Lighthouse Relocation Committee
Chairperson, Aquinnah Historical Commission



RECEIVED 2280

JUL 15 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

July 12, 2016

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

RE: Gay Head Lighthouse, Aquinnah (Dukes County), Massachusetts

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Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures

Cc: Bettina Washington, THPO, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Town of Aquinnah
Leonard Butler, Chair, Lighthouse Relocation Committee
Chairperson, Aquinnah Historical Commission