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NAME: Buttonwoods Beach Historic District
 LOCATION: Bounded roughly by Brush Neck Cove, Cooper Avenue, ^{and Promenade Av.}
 Promenade Avenue, and Greenwich Bay
 OWNERS: Multiple; list on file at Rhode Island Historical
 Preservation Commission
 CONDITION: Good; Altered; Original Site

DESCRIPTION:

The Buttonwoods Beach Historic District, a late nineteenth-century bayside resort containing Victorian-style cottages and public buildings, is located in a suburban residential neighborhood, separated from other development in the area by open fields and wooded land. It occupies the eastern end of Buttonwoods Point, a triangular peninsula flanked by Greenwich Bay on the south and Brush Neck Cove on the northeast. The spine of the district is Buttonwoods Avenue, a road running out to the tip of the point in a gentle curve, about two hundred feet from the shore of Brush Neck Cove. Promenade Avenue skirts the shore of Greenwich Bay in like fashion; its western section a paved two-lane street, its eastern portion a concrete walkway overlooking the water. The "V" between Buttonwoods and Promenade Avenues is filled with a rectangular grid of streets arranged at an angle to Buttonwoods Avenue. Several of the triangular and trapezoidal lots occurring where the grid intersects the Avenue have been set aside and maintained as small parks planted with grass and trees. Trees are also planted along the streets and the overall character of the area is park-like.

Before its development as a resort, this area was a farm for nearly two hundred years, and the early Colonial dwelling that was the center of the farm is an important component of the district. This structure, known as the Thomas Greene House, is a one-and-one-half-story, gambrel-roof building probably built about 1715 or 1720. The built environment of the district consists primarily of one-and-one-half-story, gable- and cross-gable-roofed cottages set close together on small lots. Most were built during the last quarter of the nineteenth century in Victorian styles. Many have been altered to some extent but their original character is generally evident. There are some early twentieth-century bungalows, and the lots on the northeastern side of Buttonwoods Avenue at the western end were not built on until the 1950s and 1960s and contain modern ranch-type tract houses. These are, however, a minor intrusion, for they are rather compact and the landscaping of their yards ties in with that of the streets, parks, and other house lots. The district contains two public structures set within the street grid but visually prominent due to their differing architectural character: a relatively large, one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad casino or social hall with a high hip roof and a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed chapel with a cylindrical side tower and a front porch that extends into a porte-cochere.

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INVENTORY

Contributing structures are defined as those which reflect the area's development as a farm and resort from the early eighteenth century through the early twentieth century, including early twentieth-century bungalows and "Colonial" dwellings whose scale, materials, and architectural character and quality are compatible with the area's Victorian building fabric. Victorian structures which have been unsympathetically altered by infilling porches or verandas or changing wall cover material have been listed as contributing since they generally could be restored to their original condition. Post-World War II structures are generally very different in form and character from the district's earlier fabric and have been listed as non-contributing structures.

BEACH PARK AVENUE

- 5 Daniel S. Hazard House (ca 1872): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a front veranda with a latticework fascia. Hazard was a carpenter from Providence and may have built this house for himself.
- 14 Jeremiah S. Adams House (1873): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed cottage with clapboard and patterned shingle wall cover, a cornice decorated with applied jigsaw-cut plaques, a central arched door in the front gable flanked by arched windows, and a U-shaped veranda with turned posts and Chinese Chippendale balustrade. Adams was a Providence jewelry manufacturer.
- 15 L. Comstock House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad dwelling with a gable roof, projecting gable-roofed end pavilions on the facade windows with incised Eastlake detailing in the lintels, a turned-post front veranda now partly screened in, and a garage addition to the north.
- 20 Minerva Kinsley Low House (1886-87): A two-and-one-half-story, hip-roofed Queen Anne dwelling with patterned shingle wall cover; an angled, rectangular corner bay topped by an irregular, peaked octagonal roof; an L-shaped turned-post veranda; and a central, recessed second-story loggia with a segmental-arch top surmounted by a pediment-like gable.
- 23 House (late 19th century): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with aluminum-sided walls and a screened-in front veranda.

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Beach Park Avenue

- 24 Mrs. R. Wilmarsh House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed cottage with clapboard wall cover, gabled dormers, and an L-shaped veranda with plain posts, now partly filled in.
- 33 House (1870s): A two-story, hip-roofed, clapboard-sheathed dwelling with a side gable and a two-story central porch with a gable roof and ground-story side extensions, one terminating in a gazebo-like pavilion with a conical roof. It appears to date from the 1870s and may be the cottage built in 1872-73 for Nicholas A. Fenner on the site of 43 Beach Park, later moved here. Fenner was a partner and one-time president of the New England Butt Company of Providence, manufacturers of hinges.
- 48 Lodowick Brayton House (1872-73): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed dwelling facing the Promenade, with a fully enclosed U-shaped veranda. Brayton was a partner in Brayton & Angell, Providence realtors, and later was treasurer of New England Butt Company, operated by his father-in-law Nicholas A. Fenner. Brayton was one of the prime movers in the early development of Buttonwoods Beach.

BUTTONWOODS AVENUE

- 976 Thomas Greene House (ca 1715): A one-and-one-half-story, gambrel-roofed dwelling set at an angle to the street, with a central entrance in the south facade. Built on a portion of the Fones Greene farm (which centered on the nearby Greene-Bowen House, see National Register nomination), little is known of its early history. It was later occupied by Fones's son, Thomas Greene and by Thomas' descendant Fones Greene Hill, who sold the surrounding farmland to the Buttonwoods Beach Association in 1871.
- 1003 Union Chapel (ca 1885): A very handsome, rectangular, one-story Queen Anne/Colonial Revival structure with a tall end-gable roof; matchboard and shingle wall cover; a recessed front porch screened by an overscaled Palladian window and extending into a flank-gabled side porte-cochere; and a cylindrical side tower partly integrated into the building mass and topped by a garland-and-swag decorative band, a louvered belfry, and a conical roof. Designed by Howard Hoppin of Providence, it is one of the finest small late Victorian churches extant in Rhode Island. It was used for nondenominational Protestant religious services for the families summering at Buttonwoods.

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Buttonwoods Avenue (cont.)

- 1072 House (ca 1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a screened-in front porch and a one-story modern side ell.
- 1078 Smith S. Sweet House (1872-73): A handsome one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with an L-shaped veranda, some gothic-arched door and window openings with drip molds, and gables trimmed with pendant posts and curved, intersecting braces forming a Tudor arch motif. This is probably one of five houses built on speculation by the Beach Association in 1872-73, later sold to Sweet.
- 1090 House (late 1890s): A relatively large, two-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, aluminum-sided dwelling with a turned-post front veranda.
- 1096 William A. Thatcher House (1916): A handsome one-story, hip-roofed bungalow with Queen Anne windows and an unusual "Japanese" entrance porch with stuccoed piers terminating in curling tops, straight and curved braces, and an ogee-curve roof.
- 1102 House (ca 1922): A one-story, hip-roofed, shingle-clad bungalow with a recessed, partly glassed front porch with a shingled parapet wall and tapering square piers.
- 1108 House (1870s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with an L-shaped veranda, triangle-top door and window openings, jigsaw-cut gable screens, and elaborate cut eaves trim on the veranda and house with small trefoil pendants.
- 1118 House (late 19th century, altered ca 1950): A fine one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad "Cape Cod" style cottage with gabled dormers and a central projecting, gabled vestibule, altered from a 19th century structure which was probably originally an outbuilding of the Fones Greene Hill Farm.
- 1126 House (1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with asbestos shingle wall cover and a turned-post front veranda topped by a small balcony with a Chinese Chippendale balustrade.
- 1153 William J. and Eliza J. Pratt House (1870s): A small, one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, vinyl-sided cottage with a one-story side addition, a front porch with plain posts, and scalloped bargeboards. The Pratts also built the adjoining cottage at 10 Fourteenth Avenue.

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Buttonwoods Avenue (cont.)

- 1175 House (ca 1890): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling set back from Buttonwoods Avenue, oriented south overlooking the Promenade. It has plain bargeboards, corner brackets, and a U-shaped veranda with a gazebo-like corner pavilion capped with a conical roof. The veranda is a mirror image of the one on the house next door at 14 Fifteenth Avenue (entry below).
- 1183 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a shed dormer and an L-shaped veranda with shingled parapet walls and plain posts.

CLAFLIN ROAD

- 96 House (ca 1910): A one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a three-bay facade and a front entrance sheltered by a simple gabled portico with square posts.

COOPER AVENUE

- 67 House (ca 1880s): A simple one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with gabled dormers breaking through the eaves and a veranda with plain posts and X-pattern balustrade. It is now aluminum sided.
- 77 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with an L-shaped veranda with plain posts, a one-story, hip-roofed modern ell to the north, and aluminum siding.
- 78 House (ca 1880s): A small, one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with a one-story side addition and a screened-in U-shaped veranda.

EIGHTH AVENUE

- 23 The Casino (ca 1896): A one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad structure with a tall hip-roof with gabled dormers and a recessed veranda on the south side. It was built, and is still used, for neighborhood social events.
- 41 House (ca 1895): A tall one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with an L-shaped turned-post veranda, pseudo-structural braces in the front gable, and a garret window above the second floor in the front gable.
- 46 Mary H. Monroe House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a screened-in front veranda.

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Eighth Avenue (cont.)

- 56 Hugh and Margaret McKinley House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with decorative bargeboards and gable screens and a U-shaped veranda with plain posts.
- 68 House (1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad cottage with a tall cross-gable roof and a U-shaped veranda with turned posts flanked by lateral brackets and a patterned balustrade. The gable ends contain pendant posts at the peak and gracefully curved stick work along the raking edges intersecting to form Gothic arches.
- 71 House (ca 1915): A small, one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage overlooking the Promenade with gabled dormers, projecting purlins ornamenting the gable eaves, a one-story side addition, and a front porch with stickwork bracing, now partly filled in.

ELEVENTH AVENUE

- 7 William B. Greene House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with a simple front portico and vinyl siding.
- 11 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a U-shaped veranda, now enclosed.
- 21 House (ca 1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a screened-in, U-shaped veranda topped by a small second-story balcony. Now plain, it probably originally had decorative bargeboards.
- 22 House (ca 1880s): A two-story, rectangular, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with one-story rear and side additions and an infilled recessed front porch.
- 27 George Tew House (1872-73): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with a shed dormer and an infilled L-shaped veranda. Tew figured prominently in the establishment and early development of Buttonwoods Beach.
- 36 House (ca 1920): A large one-and-one-half-story bungalow style dwelling facing the Promenade, with a massive jerkin-head roof, eaves brackets in the gable ends, a gabled front dormer, a recessed front veranda with paired square piers and cross-braces in the Arts and Crafts manner, and aluminum siding.

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FIFTEENTH AVENUE

- 4 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with gabled dormers breaking up through the eaves and an L-shaped veranda now partly enclosed.
- 7 House (ca 1880s): A small one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, vinyl-sided cottage with gabled dormers breaking through the eaves, a gable-roofed side ell, an L-shaped veranda with plain posts, and bargeboards with fleur-de-lys pendants.
- 14 House (ca 1890): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling facing the Promenade, with a rectangular oriel in the west gable supported by massive brackets and a partly enclosed U-shaped veranda with turned posts and a gazebo-like corner pavilion with a conical roof. The veranda is a mirror image of the one on the house next door (address 1175 Buttonwoods Avenue; see entry).
- 15 Arnold Hood House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed cottage facing the Promenade, with a hip-roofed side addition, a gable-roofed rear addition, an L-shaped veranda, and aluminum siding.

FOURTEENTH AVENUE

- 3 House (ca 1890): A relatively large, two-story, hip-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with semi-hexagonal bay windows at first- and second-floor levels and an L-shaped veranda.
- 10 William J. and Eliza J. Pratt House (1870s): A small one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with aluminum siding, a shed dormer, triangle-top door openings, an L-shaped veranda with plain posts, and scalloped eaves and bargeboard trim. The Pratts also built the adjoining cottage at 1153 Buttonwoods Avenue.
- 14 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed dwelling facing the Promenade, with clapboard and patterned-shingle wall cover, corner brackets, and a U-shaped veranda now glazed in. A second-story balcony over the veranda and its hooded doorway have been removed and a modern bow window installed since 1975.
- 19 House (ca 1890): A very handsome two-and-one-half-story Queen Ann dwelling facing the Promenade, with patterned-shingle

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Fourteenth Avenue (cont.)

wall cover, a gable roof sweeping down to cover a recessed turned-post veranda with shed-roofed side extensions, overhanging gable ends supported by brackets and semi-hexagonal bays, and a recessed front loggia with a pediment-like gable resting on curved brackets and a ramped Colonial balustrade. The veranda is now partly glassed in.

JANICE ROAD

- 83 Edward B. Hough House (ca 1910): A fine two-story, stucco-covered, cubical dwelling with a tile-covered hip roof, overhanging eaves with rafter-like bracketing, a five-bay facade, an unusual triple window with segmental-arched transom at the center of the second story, and a deep central entrance portico with square piers, and one-story side ells. It is a typical eclectic early twentieth-century dwelling combining elements of the Colonial Revival, Prairie School, Bungalow, and Mission styles.

NINTH AVENUE

- 5 Henry F. Richards House (1870s et seq.): A complex, rambling one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with gabled dormers breaking up through the eaves, some scalloped bargeboard trim, some triangle-top door and window openings, a two-story square tower with a pyramidal roof and a semi-hexagonal full-height front bay, and a veranda. Richards was a partner in the Providence firm Hartwell, Richards & Co., wholesale dry-goods dealers.
- 25 Doctor F.W. Eddy House (1880s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed dwelling with clapboard and patterned-shingle wall cover, gabled dormers breaking up through the eaves, elaborate bargeboard trim and gable screens, and a partly glazed U-shaped veranda with a basketweave-pattern balustrade.
- 45 House (ca 1880s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with gable-roofed side wings, clapboard and plain- and patterned-shingle wall cover, decorated bargeboards with straight and curved bracework in the gable peaks, a U-shaped turned-post veranda with segmental-arched fascia boards spanning the openings, and Queen Anne windows.

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Ninth Avenue (cont.)

- 51 House (ca 1880s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed cottage with clapboard and patterned-shingle wall cover, decorative bargeboards with grid-pattern lattice-work in the gable peaks, a U-shaped turned-post veranda with eaves brackets, and a second-story balcony.
- 52 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, aluminum-sided, gable-roofed cottage with a U-shaped veranda and an unsympathetic two-story, gable-roofed modern addition on the north side.
- 70 House (early 1890s): A fine two-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad Shingle Style/Colonial Revival dwelling facing the Promenade, with a flaring hip roof, gabled dormers, overhanging eaves, an entablature-like cornice fascia, semi-hexagonal bays, a veranda with shingled parapet wall and piers, and 8-over-2 windows.

ODE COURT

- 10 House (early 20th century): A small, one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with gable-roofed side wing and projecting purlins trimming the eaves overhangs.

PROMENADE AVENUE

- 203 House (ca 1890): A handsome two-and-one-half-story, flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad Queen Anne dwelling with a partly enclosed L-shaped veranda, semi-hexagonal bay windows, gable overhangs, trimmed with brackets, a second-story balcony on the veranda roof, and an off-center front gable.
- 215-217 House (ca 1890): A large, handsome, one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad double house with a very tall cross-gable roof containing the second floor and an attic, gabled dormers breaking through the eaves, and a rambling veranda with turned posts.
- 233 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed dwelling with projecting purlins, corner braces, a U-shaped veranda now filled in, and some modern Chicago windows.
- 243 House (ca 1890): A large two-and-one-half-story, aluminum-sided Colonial Revival dwelling with a tall gable roof, a polygonal dormer bay topped by a massive overhanging gable,

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Promenade Avenue

a polygonal corner bay, and a glazed-in U-shaped veranda.

- 257 House (ca 1890): A tall aluminum-sided Colonial Revival dwelling with a high gambrel roof containing the second floor and an attic, polygonal attic dormer with hip roof, gabled second-floor dormers, and a U-shaped veranda now partly infilled, leaving a recessed central entry porch.
- 271 House (ca 1896): A very handsome, well proportioned and detailed, shingle-clad Colonial Revival dwelling with a gambrel roof and gabled dormers. The gambrel sweeps down in front to cover a recessed veranda with shed-roofed side extensions wrapping around the sides of the house. The veranda has plain posts and is trimmed with panels of X-pattern trelliswork.
- 309 House (ca 1910): A very handsome, large, one-and-one-half-story dwelling with a massive, high gable roof extending over a recessed, U-shaped veranda that is partly glazed in. There is a front dormer covered with a pair of end gables linked by a shed roof. The house's design reflects the influence of the Late Shingle Style and early twentieth-century domestic architecture modeled after English vernacular cottages.
- 329 House (ca 1820): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, vinyl-sided dwelling with an L-shaped veranda now partly infilled and an unsympathetic modern bank of awning windows in the front gable.
- 339 House (ca 1900): A handsome shingle-clad dwelling with a tall, flaring gable roof containing the second floor and an attic and sweeping down in front to cover a recessed veranda, now partly glassed in, with shed-roofed side extensions wrapping around the sides. There are lozenge-shaped attic windows in the gable ends and a center front dormer, partly recessed into the roof slope, topped by a triangular gable and fronted by a small balcony.
- 349 House (ca 1900): A small one-and-one-half-story, T-plan, cross-gambrel-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a U-shaped veranda surrounding the frontal wing.
- 361 House (late 19th century): A two-story, shingle-clad dwelling with cubical massing, a bracketed cornice, and a hip roof

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Promenade Avenue

terminating in a flat deck surrounded by wrought-iron cresting. Though it appears to date from the 1860s or 1870s, it does not appear on maps drawn prior to 1895. The front veranda has been enclosed, with picture windows overlooking Greenwich Bay, and a garage wing has been added on one side.

TENTH AVENUE

- 9 Schubarth-Brown House (1870s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a U-shaped veranda, triangle-top windows, decorative barge boards with a single cusp, and latticework gable screens with pendant posts and an unusual upside-down heart-shaped motif overlaid in thin stickwork. Niles B. Schubarth, landscape architect for Buttonwoods Beach, owned this land and probably commissioned the construction of this house. He sold the property in 1882 to D. Russell Brown, a Providence dealer in manufacturer's supplies who served as governor of Rhode Island from 1892 to 1895.
- 15 J.C. Hartshorn House (ca 1872-73): A two-story, cross-gable-roofed dwelling, now aluminum sided, with a fine recessed, two-story central porch with shed-roofed ground-story side extensions. The porch is articulated with Stick Style chamfered timbers and cross-braces and chalet-like bargeboard trim that continues around the eaves of the house. There are also shed-roofed hoods with similar trim over some windows.
- 25 C.R. Sprague House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a partly glazed U-shaped veranda topped with a small balcony, some arched door and window openings with drip molds, and jigsaw-cut gable screens.
- 31 House (ca 1900): A plain, two-story, hip-roofed, vinyl-sided dwelling with a glazed front veranda.
- 35 House (ca 1880s): A fine one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed Queen Anne cottage with clapboard and plain- and patterned-shingle wall cover; decorative bargeboards terminating at the gable peak in pendant posts, curved braces, and grid-pattern latticework; corner brackets; first-floor shed window hoods; and a U-shaped veranda with square posts, exposed rafters at the eaves, and a bilevel fascia with segmental arches topped by boards pierced with circles.

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Tenth Avenue (cont.)

- 42 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with shed-roofed dormers (one recently enlarged for a balcony door), pierced scalloped bargeboards, jigsaw-cut gable screens, and an L-shaped veranda (probably originally U-shaped but partly filled in) with turned posts and a gazebo-like octagonal end pavilion with a conical roof and bilevel fascia of segmental arched boards topped by boards with circular holes. Some unsympathetic modern windows have been added.
- 43 Edwin Johnson House (1872-73): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with a gabled side wing to the north, a turned-post veranda, and shed window hoods with straight braces.
- 49 Jonathan Brayton House (1872-73): A one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed cottage with scalloped, pierced bargeboard trim; a two-story shed-roofed extension on the south side; a one-story shed-roofed addition on the north side; and a front veranda with plain posts.
- 53 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with an extensive veranda now mostly filled in and enlarged with an unsympathetic extension with a modern bow window. A portion of the veranda, flanked by a gable, remains open as a small entry porch.
- 60 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling overlooking the Promenade, with a U-shaped veranda now largely filled in, leaving a recessed entry porch.

THIRTEENTH AVENUE

- 5 House (1870s): A small, one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a shed-roofed dormer and a veranda with tapered, square posts and projecting rafters trimming the eaves.
- 12 Rev. Moses H. Bixby House (1872): A small, one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, shingle-clad cottage with a front porch screened by grid-patterned trellises. This plain, much altered dwelling was erected for the founder of Buttonwoods Beach, Rev. Moses H. Bixby.

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Thirteenth Avenue (cont.)

- 13 House (ca 1880s): A tall one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, vernacular Queen Anne dwelling with clapboard and patterned shingle wall cover and an L-shaped veranda with a conical-roofed, octagonal, gazebo-like corner pavilion.
- 23 E. Carpenter House (1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling facing the Promenade, with a closed-in U-shaped veranda and new window sash.
- 24 House (ca 1872? 1880s?): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling facing the Promenade, with an L-shaped turned-post veranda which was originally U-shaped but has been partly enclosed and enlarged to form a one-story side addition. According to tax records, a house was built on this property about 1872 for Experience S. Barrows and his wife Maria, but an 1882 map shows the house in a different location from that of the present house, and an 1892 map shows this as an empty lot. Mr. Barrows was a partner in the Providence firm Barrows, Brown & Co., grocers.

TWELFTH AVENUE

- 1 House (ca 1880s): A small, one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed dwelling with a pyramidal-roofed side addition, a glazed front porch, and clapboard-sheathed walls.
- 9 House (ca 1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed cottage with a U-shaped veranda, now covered with aluminum siding.
- 12 House (1870s): A small, one-and-one-half-story, end-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with a screened-in, L-shaped veranda.
- 20 House (ca 1870s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed cottage with corner brackets and a U-shaped veranda with clapboard parapet wall surmounted by turned posts.
- 28 House (ca 1880s): A one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable-roofed, shingle-clad dwelling with gabled dormers breaking up through the eaves and a glazed, L-shaped veranda with a shingled parapet wall.

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NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

BEACH PARK AVENUE

- 43 House (ca 1950): A one-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed, clapboard-sheathed "Colonial" dwelling facing the Promenade, with a shed-roofed dormer, a gabled side ell, and a partly filled-in porch.

BUTTONWOODS AVENUE

- 990 House (1950): A one-story, shed-roofed, modernistic ranch house with vertical-board and shingle wall cover, exposed rafter ends, corner braces supporting the overhang, and a carport.
- 1000 House (1950s): A one-story, flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad ranch house with a garage wing.
- 1010 House (1960s): A one-and-one-half-story, flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad Cape Cod style dwelling with gabled dormers and a garage wing.
- 1020 House (1950s): A one-story, hip-roofed, shingle-clad ranch house with an attached garage.
- 1030 House (1950s): A one-story, flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad ranch house with a garage wing.
- 1040 House (1960s): A one-story, flank-gable-roofed, aluminum-sided ranch house with a shallow columned "portico" and a garage wing.
- 1052 House (1960s): A one-story, flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad ranch house with a bow window and a projecting, end-gabled attached garage.

CLAFLIN ROAD

- 71 House (ca 1970): A flank-gable-roofed, shingle-clad "raised ranch" with split-foyer entry and a garage wing.

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Claflin Road (cont.)

- 88 House (ca 1965): A two-story, hip-roofed, clapboard- and shingle-clad dwelling with quoined corners, a central entrance portico, and a garage wing.

COOPER AVENUE

- 66 House (ca 1965): A two-story split-level dwelling with end and flank gable roofs and shingle and brick-veneer wall cover.

EIGHTH AVENUE

- 51 House (ca 1975): A one-and-one-half-story, stucco- and shingle-clad dwelling with an unusual gable roof with slopes of different length and pitch. It resembles a sort of modernistic, updated version of a Cape Cod Colonial cottage.

JANICE ROAD

- 77 House (ca 1960): A sprawling, one-story, L-shaped, hip-roofed ranch house.

PROMENADE AVENUE

- 293 House (1950s): A two-story, clapboard-sheathed "Colonial" style dwelling facing Lorna Avenue, with a salt-box roof, gabled front dormers breaking up through the eaves, a shed-roofed front entrance portico, a side bay window overlooking the water, and a breezeway and garage wing.

PERIODS: 1800-1899, 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Community Planning, Religion,
Social/Humanitarian

SPECIFIC DATES: 1871 et seq.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: various unknown; Howard Hoppin, architect of chapel.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Buttonwoods Beach Historic District is the best preserved Victorian residential neighborhood in Warwick and illustrates an interesting approach to community planning and social life peculiar to the Victorian era. The beach at Buttonwoods had been a popular destination for day excursions by church and social groups as early as the 1830s, but the impetus for the establishment of the community here came

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forty years later. The Reverend Moses Bixby of Providence's Cranston Street Baptist Church, impressed by the popularity and success of the Methodist campground at Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard, suggested that his congregation start a similar resort where they could combine recreation, worship, and religious contemplation in a wholesome country environment by the sea. In 1871, several members of Bixby's congregation formed the Buttonwoods Beach Association, which purchased ninety acres of land from Fones Greene Hill, owner of a ninety-six acre farmstead at Buttonwoods Point centered on a colonial farmhouse (still standing at 976 Buttonwoods Avenue). The Association hired Niles B. Schubarth, a Providence engineer and architect, to lay out streets and house lots. Schubarth was an experienced and skillful landscape architect who designed Swan Point Cemetery and a section of the North Burial Ground in Providence (both National Register properties) as well as other projects. At Buttonwoods, Schubarth platted streets in a skew grid pattern between a linear access road (Buttonwoods Avenue) and a shoreline parkway (Promenade Avenue), with triangular and trapezoidal lots along Buttonwoods Avenue reserved for small parks. An important cross axis was created at Beach Park Avenue, which ran back from the Greenwich Bay shore and the Promenade to Buttonwoods Avenue, where it focused on a hotel, erected in 1872 and demolished in 1909-10. House lots were sold by the Association with restrictive deed clauses forbidding commercial development and regulating setbacks and use. The restrictions also included a clause giving the Association right of first refusal on subsequent sales of properties; this gave residents of the community an opportunity to prevent any of their neighbors from selling to someone they considered undesirable. The colony numbered about thirty-five houses in 1873. It first had to be reached by steamboat or overland by carriage, but in 1881 the terminus of the Warwick Railroad was extended to Buttonwoods, improving access and stimulating development. A small interdenominational church - Union Chapel - was built about 1885 and a Casino to house social events was erected about 1896. Development has continued through the twentieth century but has been rather carefully managed by the still-extant Beach Association, which retains ownership of the unbuilt land within the original extent of the grounds. The Association has permitted the construction of some modern dwellings on the perimeter of the community over the past thirty years. With only one or two exceptions, however, the core of the district is solidly built up with Victorian houses and a few early twentieth-century bungalows. As a fine example of one type of late nineteenth-century community planning with well preserved structures in a variety of architectural styles and an interesting social history, Buttonwoods Beach merits listing in the National Register.

ACREAGE: c. 53 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME: East Greenwich, R.I.

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UTM: A: 19 299980 4617440	C: 19 298540 4617300
B: 19 299880 4617380	D: 19 298760 4617760

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the northwestern lot line of lot 255, Assessor's Plat 373; and the shore of Brush Neck Cove; thence southeasterly along the shore of Brush Neck Cove to Buttonwoods Point; thence around the point and westerly along the shore of Greenwich Bay to the point of intersection of the shoreline and the westerly line of lot 266; thence northerly along the westerly line of lot 266, continuing across Promenade Avenue and along the westerly line of lot 94; thence easterly along the northerly line of lots 94, 95, and 119 to the north-easterly corner of lot 119; thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 119 to its intersection with the northerly line of lot 121; thence easterly along the northerly line of lot 121, continuing across Ardmore Avenue and along the northerly line of lot 143 to the northeasterly corner of lot 143; thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 143 to its intersection with the northerly line of lot 145; thence easterly along the northerly line of lot 145 to the northeasterly corner of the lot; thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 145 to a point opposite the northerly line of lot 164; thence easterly across Lorna Avenue, continuing along the northerly line of lot 164 to the northeasterly corner of said lot; thence northerly along the westerly line of lot 165 to the northwesterly corner of said lot; thence easterly along the northerly line of lot 165 to the northeasterly corner of said lot; thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 165 to a point opposite the northerly line of lot 182; thence easterly across Claflin Road, continuing along the northerly line of lot 182 to the northeasterly corner of said lot; thence northerly along the westerly lines of lots 184, 181, 179, and 177, continuing across Janice Road to the northerly curb of Janice Road; thence westerly along the northerly curb of Janice Road, crossing the right-of-way of Claflin Road, a paper street, to its intersection with the westerly line of lot 156; thence northerly along the westerly line of lot 156 to the northwesterly corner of said lot; thence easterly along the northerly line of lot 156 to the northeasterly corner of said lot; thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 156 to a point opposite the northerly line of lot 174; thence easterly, crossing the right-of-way of Claflin Road, a paper street, to continue along the northerly line of lot 174 and across Cooper Avenue to a point on the easterly curb of Cooper Avenue, thence northerly along the easterly curb of Cooper Avenue to its intersection with the southwesterly curb of Buttonwoods Avenue; thence southeasterly along the southwesterly curb of Buttonwoods Avenue to its intersection with the westerly curb of Eighth Avenue; thence across Buttonwoods Avenue and continuing northeasterly along the northwesterly line of lot 255 to the point of beginning.

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The boundary is drawn to encompass all properties that contribute to the visual character of Buttonwoods Beach and reflect the district's historical development as a resort, excluding as much as possible non-contributing modern buildings and undeveloped land that is still owned by the Beach Association. The Greenwich Bay shoreline and empty, landscaped lots at the intersections of Buttonwoods Avenue and Cooper, Eighth, Tenth, and Beach Park Avenues are included because they are public green-spaces that conform with the historical landscape-design plan for the district.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: STATE

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