

**Section VI:  
Chilmark Master Plan  
Supplement**

# 1990-92 Master Plan Supplement

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## Chilmark Master Plan Supplement

The Chilmark Master Plan was published in 1985 after six years of research by the Planning Board, other town boards, and with considerable help from the Martha's Vineyard Commission. It is basically a compendium of all aspects of Chilmark and its resources and includes 28 detailed maps. This supplement supplies statistical and other information on changes which have taken place since 1985 and includes Map 29, Chilmark 1991. All goals and objectives have been reviewed. Those that have been updated are included in this supplement. Others which are ongoing remain in the Master Plan. Page numbers referring to the applicable section of the Master Plan are included in each section which has been updated.

The Open Space Plan, mandated by the state, was produced by the Chilmark Conservation Commission as an integral part of the Master Plan. It has been updated by the Commission and is included with this supplement.

### Development History

The accompanying map shows the new houses built in Chilmark in the eleven years from January, 1980 through December, 1991. In the first half of this period, January 1980 through December 1984, 133 new houses were built, (as shown in the 1985 Master Plan). From January 1985 through December 1991, 160 new houses were built, 38 of which were guest houses, making a total of 1241 houses in Chilmark. Some of the most noticeable development in this period has been in the Eastern section of the town. The large size of some new homes has made them conspicuous from the shores or from distances when they are on high elevations. While much of the new development has not affected the main roadsides, the effect can be felt in the crowded parking lots of Lucy Vincent Beach and Menemsha. The major land conservation projects during this period (conservation restrictions on Keith Farm, Allen Farm, Squibnocket Ridge Subdivision, Quenames, and open space purchases such as Menemsha Hills expansion, Waskosim's Rock, and Fulling Mill Brook) relieve some of the impact of increased population.

|  | <u>1984</u>    | <u>1991</u>    |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Number of lots on tax roll                         | 2,326          | 2,348          |
| Number of year-round residents                     | 499            | 678            |
| Assessed value of real estate                      | \$180,826,130  | \$696,846,190  |
| Number of registered voters                        | 560            | 484            |
| Number of houses                                   | 948            | 1,241          |
| Number of police                                   | 6, 3 summer    | 8, 4 summer    |
| Number of Highway Department employees             | 1              | 1              |
| Number of Town Hall Staff                          | 1 full, 1 part | 3 full, 4 part |
| Number of Chilmark students in Vineyard Schools    | 84             | 88             |
| Number of beach stickers: Lucy Vincent             | 1,049          | 1,544 +        |
| Number of beach stickers: Squibnocket              | 689            | 792            |
| Beach stickers to inns and guest houses            | 750            | 1,400          |
| Information source, Town records and Town reports. |                |                |

**Chilmark, 1991**

# New Houses

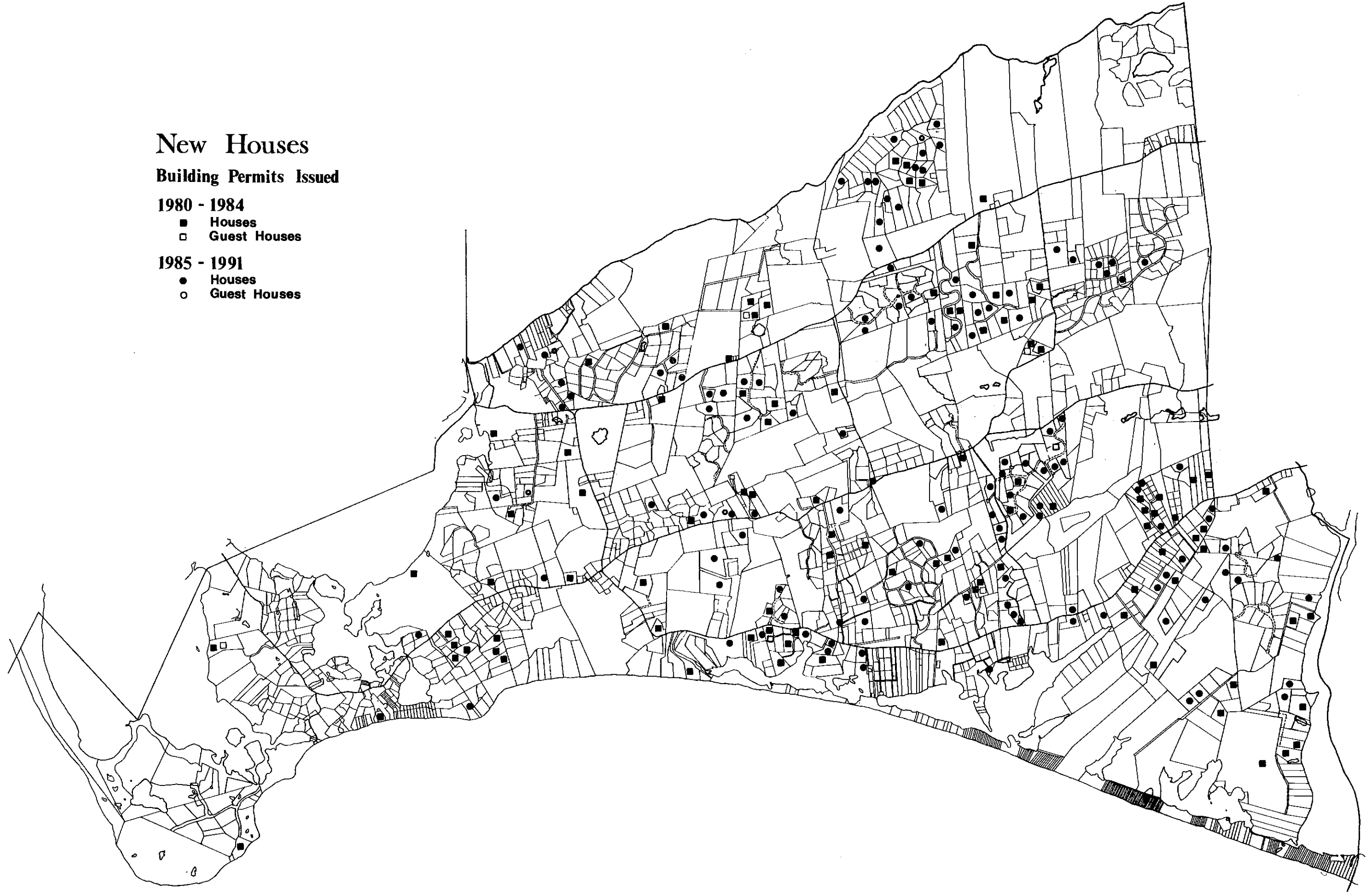
## Building Permits Issued

1980 - 1984

- Houses
- Guest Houses

1985 - 1991

- Houses
- Guest Houses



## Growth and Development

refer to page 6

### Land Use 1990

The entire town of Chilmark has been zoned for agricultural-residential use since 1973 including the two town centers, Menemsha and Chilmark Center where present commercial activities exist as non-conforming uses which pre-existed zoning. The home-occupation section of the Zoning Bylaws covers most other commercial uses in Chilmark.

| Minimum lot size | Developed acres | Undevelopable acres | Conservation land | Remaining | Total |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------|
| res. 1.5 ac      | 101             | 3                   |                   | 48        |       |
| res. 2.0 ac      | 1674            | 159                 |                   | 533       |       |
| res. 3.0 ac      | 4489            | 334                 |                   | 5078      |       |
| Total            | 6264            | 496                 | 800               | 5659      | 13219 |
| % of land        | 47%             | 4%                  | 6%                | 43%       | 100%  |

Data Source: Martha's Vineyard Commission Regional Island Plan, 1992

Land use maps included in the Master Plan:

page 22 - Urban lands: Menemsha (map #6)

page 25 - Chilmark Center (map #7)

page 61 - Surface Waters (map #13)

page 76 - Wetlands (map #16)

page 84 - Vegetative Cover: showing forest lands and open or cleared land (map #18)

page 94 - Farmlands Past and Present (map #20) updated to 1992 in this supplement

page 147 - Public and Conservation Lands updated to 1992 in Open Space Plan (map #27)

refer to page 7

### Housing Data 1990

#### Housing Growth 1950 - 1990

| <u>10-Year Period</u> | <u>Number of Houses</u> | <u>Growth Rates</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1950 to 1960          | from 396 to 502         | 27%                 |
| 1960 to 1970          | from 502 to 631         | 26%                 |
| 1970 to 1980          | from 631 to 871         | 38%                 |
| 1980 to 1990          | from 871 to 1241*       | 42%                 |

\*The 1990 census data indicate a figure of 1178 units. 1992 town records find the figure to be 1241.

### Housing Information from 1990 Census (winter)

Occupied houses 286  
Owner occupied 212, average number of occupants 2.36  
Renter occupied 74, average number of occupants 2.01  
Vacant houses 892

### Population Data 1990

#### Year-Round Population/Growth Rate 1950 - 1990

| <u>10-Year Period</u> | <u>Number of People</u> | <u>Growth Rates</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1950 to 1960          | 183 to 238              | 30.1%               |
| 1960 to 1970          | 238 to 340              | 42.9%               |
| 1970 to 1980          | 340 to 489              | 43.8%               |
| 1980 to 1990          | 489 to 650              | 32.9%               |

Data from the 1990 U.S. Federal Census.

The growth of the town consists of a combination of in-migration plus the differences between births and deaths. There were 93 births to Chilmark residents from 1980 to 1990 and 56 deaths in the same period. Total new residents were 161.

refer to page 8-9

### Potential Houses Under Existing Zoning

A new study was executed in June, 1992 to provide comparisons with the 1985 projections. Using the 1991 Assessors maps the following figures were determined regarding the possible number of houses that can be built in Chilmark under the current 1 1/2, 2 and 3 acre town zoning districts. Single lots, with and without houses and conforming lots in existing subdivisions were counted. Unbuilt oversized lots and house lots with adequate acreage for additional houses were figured to the maximum potential with the following exceptions: (1) public and conservation lands; (2) subdivision common lands; (3) roads, ponds, and areas of 100 % permanent wetlands; and (4) a subtraction of 50% less lots for large parcels containing about 50% wetlands.

The findings show that under the present zoning Chilmark's maximum development would be:  
1955 more primary houses (year round and seasonal)  
2626 more guest houses

Adding the above figures to the 1241 houses on the 1992 tax roll the town could have a total of 5822 houses under existing zoning, almost 5 times the number of houses existing in 1992.  
Study done by Leonard Jason, Jr., Chilmark Building Inspector.

### Potential Population Under Existing Zoning

In 1990 there were 1178 houses of which 286, approximately one quarter, were occupied by year round residents. The year round households averaged 2.27 persons per dwelling unit and the



year round population numbered 650.

The number of seasonal, recreational and occasional use units was 871, the balance of 21 being in other categories. Using 4 as an average number of occupants per summer dwelling unit, the 1990 Chilmark summer population would be 3568. By adding the 650 year-rounders, the total 1990 Chilmark population was 4218 not including guests of inns and room rentals.

| <u>Census 1990:</u> | <u>Number of Houses</u> | <u>Population</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Year round          | 286                     | 650               |
| Guest and seasonal  | <u>892</u>              | <u>3,568</u>      |
| Total               | 1,178                   | 4,218             |

Two estimates of potential population based on two different estimates of average occupancy are shown below:

A. Using the average number of occupants, which were estimated in 1985 to be 2.2 persons per year round dwelling and 3.5 persons per guest and seasonal dwelling, the potential population would be:

| <u>Potential:</u>  | <u>Number of Houses</u> | <u>Number of Occupants</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Year-round         | 2,262                   | 4,976                      |
| Guest and seasonal | <u>3,560</u>            | <u>12,460</u>              |
| Total              | 5,822                   | 17,436                     |

B. Using the average number as occupants of 2.27 persons per year round dwelling, from the 1990 Census Report, and 4.5 persons per guest and seasonal dwelling the results would be:

| <u>Potential:</u>  | <u>Number of Houses</u> | <u>Number of Occupants</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Year-round         | 2,262                   | 5,135                      |
| Guest and seasonal | <u>3,560</u>            | <u>16,020</u>              |
| Total              | 5,822                   | 21,155                     |

The total figure of 21,155 is the population Chilmark could expect if all parcels are developed to the maximum under present zoning provided the proportion of summer to winter residents continues, and if the average number of persons per household used in these estimates remains the same.

The growth rate and when the town will reach buildout is difficult to predict as there are too many factors that can change. It is interesting to note that the above estimate is not far off the previous estimate. Fortunately, the number of acres put into conservation and agricultural restrictions and common lands in developments has almost doubled since 1985, which has helped to slow growth.

These figures do not include guests of inns and room rentals.

Goals: Retain the major qualities expressed by respondents of the Master Plan Questionnaire: rural character, preservation of open space, peace and quiet, views, non-commercialism, small town way of life.

### Objectives and Actions to be Taken:

1. Compile and maintain a file of yearly records of numbers of houses, guest houses, year-round and summer populations, beach-users, room rentals, conservation easement or purchases, town employees.
2. Have a yearly meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Health, Conservation Commission and Board of Appeals to review development events and assess their current effect and accord with the goals of the Master Plan and purposes of the Zoning Bylaws.
3. Update goals and proposed actions of this plan every 5 years.
4. Reserve adequate land for future requirements for town facilities, housing needs, open space and recreation.
5. Establish a method of architectural review for critical areas.
6. Amend the "Flexible Siting" section of the Zoning Bylaws to make it more effective in preserving open space.

## **Population Analysis**

refer to page 11

### Age Groups of Year Round Residents

| Age Group | Year round Resident<br>1983 | Year round Resident<br>1992 |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 18  | 97                          | 136                         |
| 18 - 35   | 150                         | 123                         |
| 35 - 59   | 133                         | 227                         |
| Over 60   | <u>119</u>                  | <u>167</u>                  |
| Total     | 499                         | 653                         |

(median age 37.74)

refer to page 12

### The Elderly

A 1992 study of Chilmark town records shows 167 residents over 60, 165 of whom own their own homes. The two who do not own their own homes have what seems to be permanent accommodations with relatives or friends.

refer to page 13 - 14

### Income Sources of Year Round Residents

The following lists were compiled by surveys of town residents by the Chilmark Planning Board in 1983 and 1992:

| <u>Occupation</u>  | <u>1983</u> | <u>1992</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Architect, drafting *  | -           | 3           |
| Arts, crafts, musicians etc.                                   | 7           | 35          |
| Attorneys *  | -           | 2           |
| Boats: building , repairs, engines, etc.                       | 6           | 12          |
| Business: office, retail, banding, etc.                        | 41          | 42          |
| Construction: contractor, carpenter, mason, plumber, etc.      | 29          | 32          |
| Farming  | 8           | 8           |
| Federal, State, County (not including residential Coast Guard) | 6           | 2           |
| Fishing and fish business                                      | 29          | 18          |
| Health services  | 8           | 7           |
| Innkeeper, Bed & Breakfast keeper                              | 5           | 5           |
| Journalists, writers   | 4           | 10          |
| Landscape, caretaker, handyman, housekeeper                    | 23          | 15          |
| Teacher  | 17          | 25          |
| Town employees   | 18          | 24          |
| Real estate  | 9           | 15          |
| Restaurant work, catering, baking                              | 12          | 13          |
| Self-employed *  | -           | 20          |
| Total Employed   | 232         | 277         |
| <u>Other</u>   |             |             |
| Retired  | 127         | 103         |
| At home  | 46          | 51          |
| Students   | 10          | 89          |

\* not listed in 1983

The seasonal fluctuation of the town's economy is shown by statistics of the State Department of Employment & Training as shown:

| 1976     | 1978      | 1980      | 1982      | 1984     | 1986      | 1988      | 1990      | 1992      |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Feb July | Feb July  | Feb July  | Feb July  | Feb July | Feb July  | Feb July  | Feb July  | Feb July  |
| 0% 0%    | 7.6% 1.7% | 4.5% 2.6% | 5.5% 1.8% | 5.3% 1%  | 3.2% 0.9% | 2.2% 0.8% | 6.4% 1.9% | 7.2% 0.2% |

Data Source: Martha's Vineyard Commission Regional Plan, 1992

**OPINIONS OF CHILMARK RESIDENTS ON THE TOWN ECONOMY**  
of those who answered the following statement:  
"The economy of the Town should be based on the following activities:"

| ACTIVITY                        | More Than Now | As Now     | Less Than Now | No Opinion | TAXPAYER STATUS     |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|
| Agriculture                     | 66%<br>35%    | 27%<br>46% | 0%<br>2%      | 7%<br>7%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Aquaculture                     | 60%<br>34%    | 33%<br>47% | 1%<br>4%      | 6%<br>15%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Building & Construction Trade   | 4%<br>4%      | 71%<br>67% | 16%<br>18%    | 9%<br>11%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Entertainment Facilities        | 10%<br>7%     | 46%<br>42% | 37%<br>47%    | 7%<br>4%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Fishing & Shellfishing          | 34%<br>20%    | 56%<br>69% | 3%<br>3%      | 7%<br>8%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Gas Station/Car Repair Services | 9%<br>9%      | 60%<br>41% | 19%<br>21%    | 12%<br>29% | voter<br>non-voting |
| Grocery Stores                  | 12%<br>10%    | 69%<br>50% | 11%<br>13%    | 8%<br>27%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Home Occupation                 | 35%<br>20%    | 55%<br>61% | 2%<br>11%     | 8%<br>8%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Inns                            | 14%<br>12%    | 73%<br>69% | 10%<br>12%    | 3%<br>7%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Light Industry                  | 13%<br>7%     | 43%<br>31% | 40%<br>57%    | 4%<br>11%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Office/Research Businesses      | 20%<br>10%    | 52%<br>44% | 24%<br>37%    | 4%<br>9%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Restaurant/Take Out Food        | 8%<br>10%     | 66%<br>65% | 22%<br>16%    | 4%<br>9%   | voter<br>non-voting |
| Retail Gift/Clothing Shops      | 3%<br>6%      | 56%<br>39% | 33%<br>32%    | 8%<br>23%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Room Rentals in Private Homes   | 20%<br>11%    | 68%<br>68% | 6%<br>10%     | 6%<br>11%  | voter<br>non-voting |
| Vacation Residence              | 8%<br>11%     | 83%<br>78% | 4%<br>6%      | 5%<br>5%   | voter<br>non-voting |

From Chilmark Planning Board Survey, 1990.

Goal: Maintain a viable economy while preserving the scenic rural character of the town.

Objectives and Actions to be Taken:

1. Work to create more sustainable agriculture in town.
2. Regulate and cultivate the ponds to maximize shellfishing.
3. Maintain the port and docks at Menemsha for commercial fishermen.

4. Study ways of further prioritizing harbor use to favor commercial fishermen.
5. Maintain and upgrade recreational facilities required by summer residents.
6. Maintain a gradual growth rate to sustain employment opportunities, over a long period, for resident builders.
7. Study possibilities of other areas of economic development.

## **Town Centers and Facilities**

refer to page 20

### Menemsha

#### Objectives and Actions to be Taken: (continued)

7. Move the oil redemption center to the landfill site.
8. Improve environmental impact of public bathrooms.
9. Maintain and enforce the use of the boat pump out facility.

refer to page 23

### Chilmark Center

The Town buildings, church, the farm houses and barns belong to the families of Larsen, Packer, Kurth and Fischer, the store and old "tavern", and their essentially agricultural setting, combine to make Chilmark center a unique blend of agricultural, civic, commercial, and residential elements.

The newer buildings in Chilmark Center - the bank, post office, and community center - were designed to blend with existing architecture. To keep up with the population growth, the community center has already expanded in keeping with the scale and flavor of the existing center. Of the older buildings, the town hall has had an addition constructed and a renovation of the older part of the building, and the library will soon be having an addition and a renovation - both in keeping with the existing center.

Goal: Maintain the quality of Chilmark Center as it now exists: as the center for governmental and other town activities and as an example of a simple rural town where the roads meet.

### Objectives and Actions to be Taken:

1. Design a comprehensive plan of Chilmark Center with attention to:
  - scale and rural character
  - open space
  - off-street, screened parking
  - pedestrian path system connecting the Community Center, Library, Post Office, Town Forest and Menemsha School
  - expansion needs of school and police station.
2. Implement the plan as land and funds become available.

refer to page 26

### Town Hall

In late 1986, until June of 1987, the over-crowded town hall building was expanded and renovated. In five years, the staff in the town hall has increased from one full-time and four part-time persons to three full-time and five part-time persons. With the increased personnel and their office equipment, additional files to store permanent data and the equipment necessary to computerize town office operations, we are now fast approaching another over-crowded situation in the town hall building.

A possible solution to this inescapable problem would be to move some operations to the second story of the building and to relocate the police station elsewhere. With the inevitable computerization of the remainder of the town offices and the attendant problem of placing the equipment, a preliminary study of expansion needs should begin now.

Objectives and Actions to be Taken: A committee should be appointed in the near future to study current and future needs for town office space.

refer to page 27

### Library

In 1964 an addition was added to the 1790 house, which still accommodates a portion of the library. Twenty years later, the need for more space was highlighted in 1985 in a study by A. Whit Murphy, a retired architect. A new architect was selected, and plans for a modest but adequate addition were presented and approved. Fund-raising by the trustees and staff was enhanced by the formation of the Friends of the Library group in 1990. With support from the town, and many generous gifts, funding was completed. The library community eagerly awaits the ground-breaking.

The library of 1992 is crowded, but pleasantly busy. There is a collection of 25,161 books for adults and 7,841 books for children. The collection of videocassettes and recorded books keeps growing. Circulation continues to increase. In 1991, circulation was up to 26,453, as compared to 10,366 in 1971.

The library is governed by three trustees, elected for terms of three years, who establish

library policy. There is a library director, an assistant librarian and a summer helper. The trustees and staff work to serve the community and meet its needs by providing the best library services possible. The new addition should provide a more gracious facility, in which it will be easier to get and use materials.

refer to page 29

#### Menemsha School

The third room of the school, which was added to the former two-room schoolhouse in 1978, has been a K-1 classroom since 1990 when kindergarten children started attending the school. A temporary portable classroom was added in 1989 to accommodate numbers and programs.

The number of students has fluctuated. In the last decade the enrollment fluctuated from 21-42 students. In 1992 there were 48 students including 12 new kindergarten children. Numbers of staff have also fluctuated from 2 full-time teachers with part-time assistants in 1984 to 3 full-time teachers and several part-time specialists or assistants in 1992.

The Menemsha School currently teaches students in grades K-5 and grade 6-8 students attend the West Tisbury School. A regional school district planning board with representatives from all Island towns began in 1991 to look at possible configurations for our K-8 students.

Goal: Continue to provide quality education for the children of Chilmark; explore possible regional configurations, and develop plans to meet future educational needs.

refer to page 30

#### Chilmark Cemetery

A map made by Hollis Smith shows the "new" part of the cemetery, the area from the so-called swale, up the hill to the State Road. The fence that formerly ran through the middle of the field was moved in 1990 to the boundary of the highway, thus opening up approximately 200 new lots. Lots are already being sold in the first strip at the lower edge of the field.

Goal: Retain the historic and informal rural quality of the Chilmark Cemetery.

Objectives and Actions to be Taken: New acreage should be acquired as soon as possible. Land adjacent to the cemetery is privately owned. Study this and other suitable sites.

refer to page 32 - 34

#### Roads and Roadsides

Objectives and Actions to be Taken: (continued)

7. Provide authority for the Site Review Committee to require adjustments to proposed siting of

structures which would adversely affect roadside views.

8. Study historic structures within view of major roads with recommendations for a review system.
9. Work regionally on methods to ban moped rentals.
10. Planning Board to identify critical corridors and ensure that development does not exceed capacity.
11. Private dirt roads: continue Planning Board policies, adopt methods of limiting speed, plan methods for required maintenance in subdivisions.

refer to page 38

### Recreation

In the past few years, public trail systems have been greatly extended through Land Bank and other Conservation purchases. An approximately 200 foot wide section of Menemsha Beach was given to the Town by the Cape Cod Limited Partnership in 1992.

#### Beach Management

In 1992, 1670 stickers were sold for Lucy Vincent Beach, 726 inn stickers and 770 stickers for Squibnocket. The number of users of all three beaches is limited by the number of parking spaces. An average of 850 people per day for Lucy Vincent Beach, maximum daily usage was 1300 people. Average for Squibnocket was 40 people.

The Park and Recreation Commission is responsible for the administration of the beaches. The docks at Menemsha and the landing at Nashaquitsa are the responsibility of the Harbormaster.

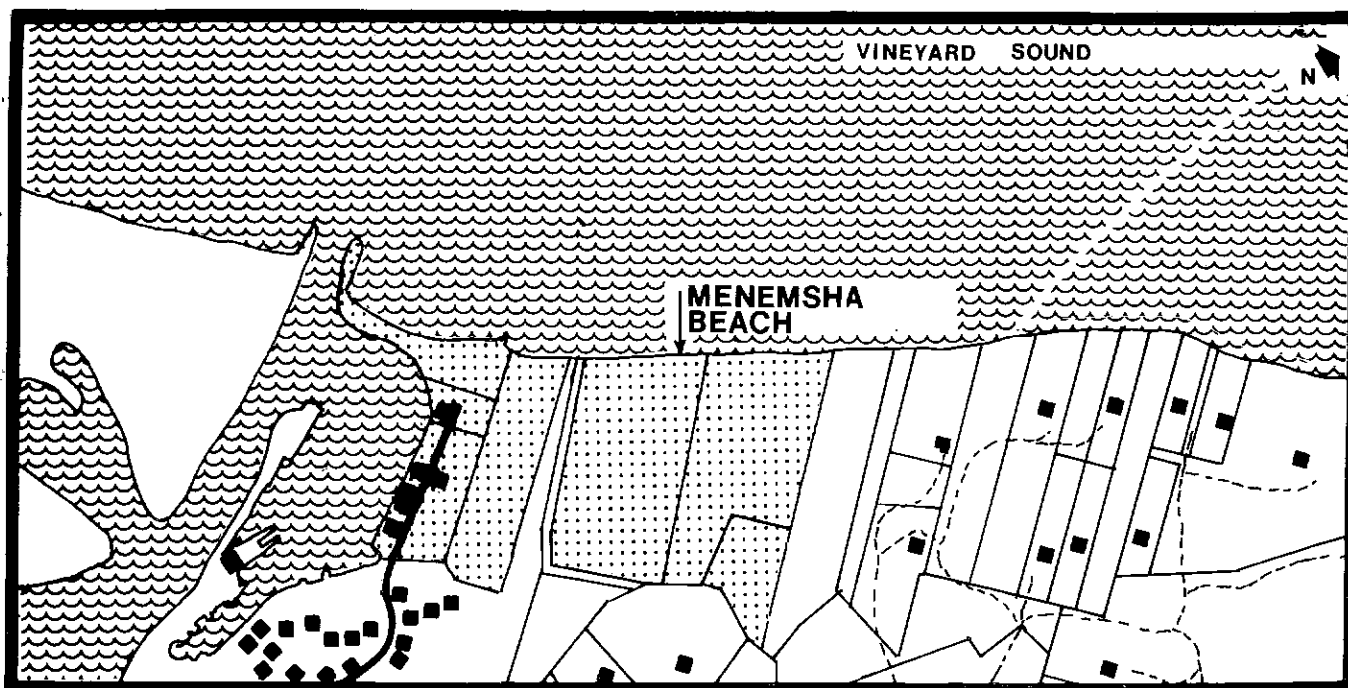
#### Town Needs

Beaches: There is ample evidence from observations during the summer season that the existing facilities are being used to capacity. On favorable beach days one often has to wait hours for a parking space at Lucy Vincent; at Squibnocket the leased portion of the beach becomes crowded; at Menemsha the parking area is full. At the present time the conditions are not adequate. As the town grows and the attendance at beaches increases the town will have to secure additional space if it desires to maintain the quality of beach areas for town residents.

### Objectives and Actions to be Taken:

1. Consider extending beaches or acquiring new beaches to maintain quality and for growth of town.  
Acquire additional beach front wherever feasible.
2. Plan a recreation component in the 1992 Peaked Hill land acquisition.





Menemsha Beach. 17 acres including dunes and salt marsh.  
Town-owned, 990' frontage on Vineyard Sound.

refer to page 39-40

#### Chilmark Landfill and Local Drop Off

Because of the large amount of material removed from the present Chilmark landfill to make the Lucy Vincent Beach roadway and parking area, the site has not yet been filled to final grade. The increase in year round residents, and the heavy influx of seasonal visitors have forced the community first to acquire larger landfill space, then to engage in recycling, and finally to join the other Island towns in forming the Martha's Vineyard Refuse Disposal and Resource Recovery District.

The MVRDRRD operates the Local Drop Off in each town and hauls the trash and recycling material to a central transfer station. From there the trash is hauled to SEMASS and the recycling material is hauled to processors.

Present State regulations call for the landfill to be closed by January 1994 and to be capped by January 1995.

#### Goals:

1. Recycling of paper, cardboard, glass, selected plastics, and aluminum at local drop-off station.
2. Diversion of household hazardous materials from local drop-off station to central household hazardous waste collection center.

3. Recycling of waste oil at appropriate location.

Objectives and Actions to be Taken: Reduction in use of packaging, chemical pesticides and herbicides, and promotion of non-toxic alternative products.

## **Public Safety**

refer to page 41

### Chilmark Fire Department

Chilmark continues to enjoy a low incidence of destructive fires. There were 2 1/2 years between the last two serious fires and, at this writing, it has been a year since the last one. The potential for house fires increases with more new homes and outbuildings, including guest houses.

Many houses are hidden away on long and very narrow dirt lanes well off the main town roads. Most off-road houses are poorly identified as to location. All of these factors make for longer response times and more developed fires before the arrival of apparatus and adequate fire fighters to perform necessary rescue and fire attack.

The problem of inadequate roads and lanes is one the department is very concerned with. We hope there is not some serious traumatic incident that points out the shortsightedness of our officials to life, safety and property conservation.

The problem of poor identification is being addressed in preparation for the Enhanced 911 System. This will be a most welcome improvement as it is very discouraging having trouble finding a home identified in our alarm alert as "Fire at the old Fletcher house, turn off South road on the dirt road after the dirt road that says "Florich" on a mail box, follow that road to a three pronged fork, take the middle fork and turn left in 200 yards."

The department has the best manning it has had in 15 or more years. The fire fighters are better trained and drilled as a direct result of courses put on locally by the Massachusetts Fire Academy and by the outstanding efforts of an island-wide cadre of "trained trainers". We always welcome willing recruits.

Our apparatus now includes a:

- 1986 pumper/tanker
- 1976 brush breaker
- 1954 brush breaker - refurbished in 1987
- 1970 pumper (government excess property)
- 1986 tanker (bought by the Fire Fighters Association, Spring Point Association and the Town of Chilmark)
- 1962 utility truck (lighting, power, ventilation and associated equipment)

For a variety of reasons the 1954 brush unit should be replaced within the next two years. A committee will start working on this in the near future.

There are two fire stations in town: the original at Beetlebung Corner and the "new" one on North Road. The fire fighters are especially proud of the North Road station as it was built with our own hands, with material provided by the town and some important work and materials donated by generous contractors and a few other notable donations.

Goal: To provide the fire protection that the community deserves and expects.

Objectives and Actions to be Taken:

1. To recruit more volunteers/on call fire fighters willing to give a few hours monthly for drills and equipment checks and to respond anytime to the dirtiest job in town - dirty but very gratifying to be on the team that beats the "Red Demon".
2. Continue to improve access to every home by convincing and cooperating with planners and the populace in general.
3. Improve the ability to locate each property through a joint effort of the Planning Board, Police and Fire Departments and the EMT Association.

refer to page 42

Police Department

The Chilmark Police Department currently has four full-time employees, a chief, a sergeant, a corporal and a patrolman. Since the 1985 master plan report, we have added one full time officer and created the rank of corporal to help with the supervision and training of the four part-time officers who work full time during the summer and as needed the rest of the year.

The Chilmark Police still operate two cruisers, a sedan and a four wheel drive Blazer, for back roads and beach emergencies.

Since the 1985 Master Plan report, the Tri-Town Ambulance Service has replaced our 1977 Dodge class one ambulance with a 1988 Ford class one, which is housed in Chilmark. We have also added to the system a second ambulance, a 1991 Ford class one, which is housed in West Tisbury. The ambulance service currently has over forty volunteer emergency medical technicians, this along with the two new ambulances, will enable us to continue to provide the best emergency service possible to the Up-Island area.

Considerations for the future include: Implementation of Enhanced 9-1-1 phone service, which instantly shows the name and street address of the person dialing 9-1-1 on a computer screen at the 9-1-1 emergency center. So if some one does not know where they are (summer rental house, baby sitter, etc.) or cannot talk (medical problem) the 9-1-1 dispatcher will be able to send help immediately. Participation in this program requires the Town to name all the roads and to number all the homes. The Planning Board is currently working on this aspect of the program.

## Natural Resources

refer to page 47

### Groundwater Availability

#### The Unconfined Aquifer of the Central Outwash Plain and the Eastern Moraine

The principal groundwater resource of Martha's Vineyard is the large unconfined aquifer of the Central Outwash Plain and the Eastern Moraine, underlying Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, a major portion of West Tisbury, and a relatively small area in the southeast section of Chilmark. Because of the geological uniformity of these areas and the porous composition of the soils and subsurface formations, the aquifer stores and transmits a large amount of water. There is little surface runoff. The groundwater is recharged over the entire aquifer and also from the watershed of the Western Moraine which drains down into it. Available water greatly exceeds consumption. Excess water flows to the shoreline and discharges through coastal ponds into the ocean.

The steady flow of fresh groundwater towards the sea plays a significant role in preventing the landward encroachment of seawater. This saltwater/freshwater interface is in a state of dynamic equilibrium all along and near the coastline. The freshwater maintains a hydraulic head pressure on the seawater, which prevents it from contaminating well-water sources. In coastal situations, where the groundwater level is near sea level, over pumping of wells may result in seawater intrusion. Releasing of head pressure, through breaching of large freshwater bodies such as Squibnocket, Chilmark and Tisbury Great Ponds, can drain underground aquifers. Lowered fresh groundwater table levels lead to a rise in the fresh-salt groundwater interface. Deep wells (over 40 feet into the water table) near Pond shores could begin to pull in saline water.

#### The Confined Aquifers of the Western Moraine

All of Chilmark, except for the southeast section which is part of the Outwash Plain, lies in the Western Moraine. Because the geology of the Western Moraine is so complex and variable, development of water supplies can be difficult. While the volume of rainfall seeping into the ground exceeds consumption, finding a water source can be difficult.

#### Zone B Variable Groundwater Availability

The groundwater supply in this zone is generally poor and varies from place to place, even within distances of 5 feet. Sediments within these plates are made up of sands, sandy to silty clays, muck and peat, greensands, gravels, and cobbles. Groundwater may be found at or near the surface to over 400 feet deep in some areas.

#### Zone C Generally Poor Groundwater Availability

Groundwater recharge is from aquifer outcrop areas and by runoff from Zone B.

### Zone D Poor Groundwater Availability

Recent exploration documented the occurrence of a compact clay till containing cobbles. In 4 out of 14 wells, a sand and gravel layer was found capable of yielding 5 to 8 GPM (gallons per minute). Grey clay can be found under large portions of the site starting at depths ranging from 25 to 55 feet. In 10 out of the exploratory wells, no water was found or yields were less than 1 GPM.

#### Objectives and Actions To Be Taken: (continued)

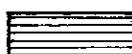



3. Encourage recycling of household hazardous wastes including paint, oil, pesticides and cleaning products.
  8. Encourage regular maintenance pumping of septic tanks to reduce spillover into and clogging of the leaching area.
  9. Eliminate direct road runoff discharges into streams and ponds by diverting flow through vegetated areas to remove suspended sediment, bacteria, oil and metals.
  10. Maintain steady progress toward capping and closing the landfill.
  11. Investigate advanced treatment techniques for nitrogen removal from sewage effluent of single family homes.
  12. Continue efforts to secure a regional septage treatment facility.
- Information supplied by Thomas Gervais.

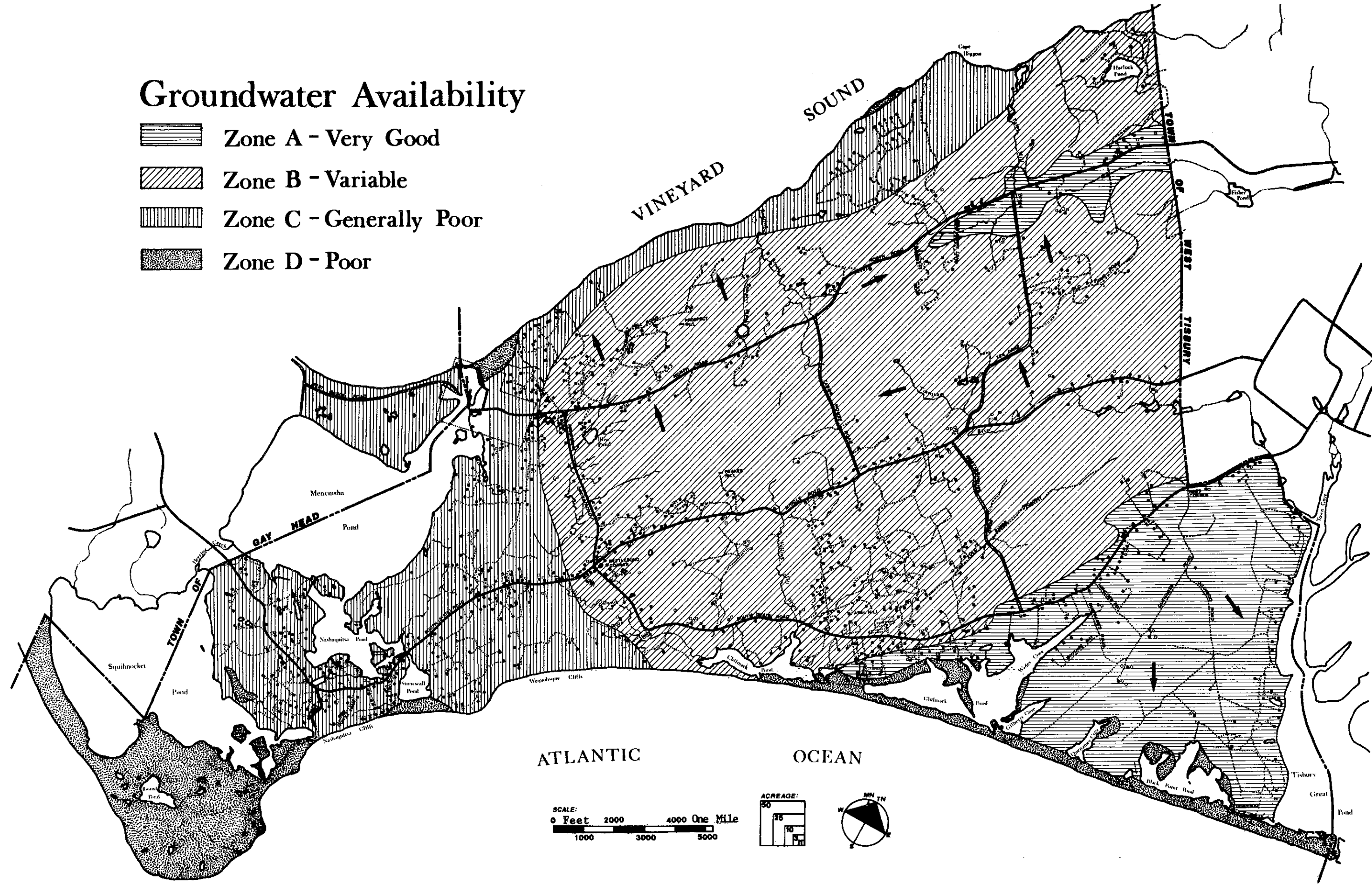
refer to page 51

**Map 9**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Groundwater Availability**

# Groundwater Availability

-  Zone A - Very Good
-  Zone B - Variable
-  Zone C - Generally Poor
-  Zone D - Poor



refer to page 62 - 67

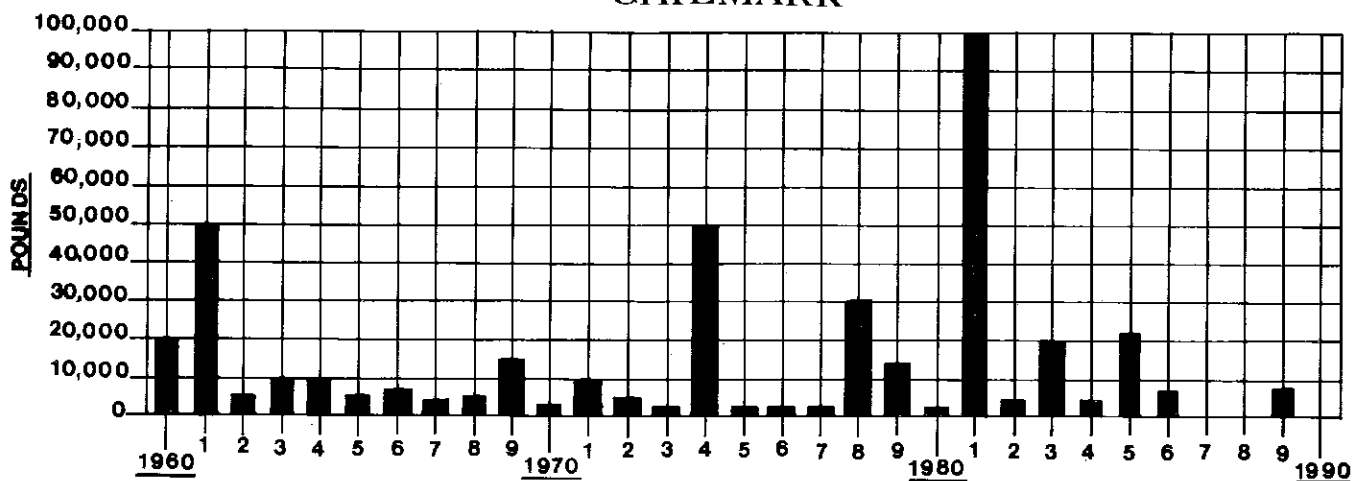
### Fish and Shellfish Resources

## Chilmark and Gay Head Scallop Landings, 1960-1990

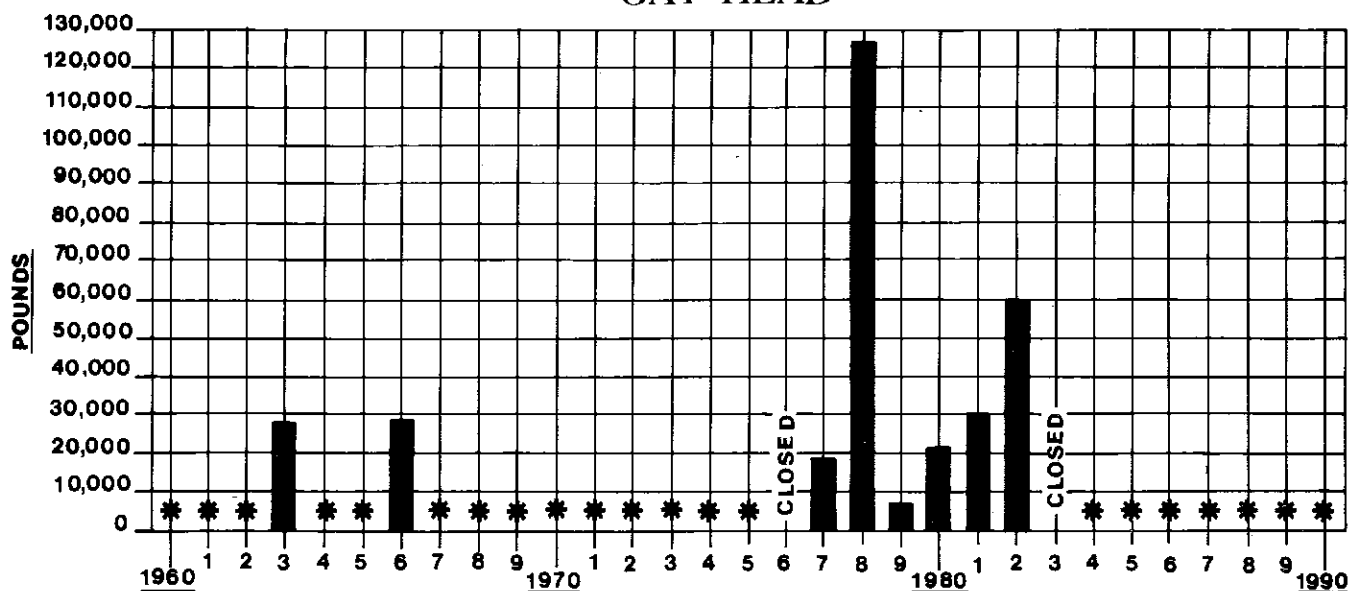
The inclusion of the Gay Head figures, along with the Chilmark figures, shows the total scallop production of Menemsha Pond. Pounds of scallops have been averaged to the nearest 1,000 pounds on the graphs below and it was assumed that each bushel of scallops netted 8 pounds of scallop meats.

An asterisk (\*) indicates that there was no report for that year.

### CHILMARK



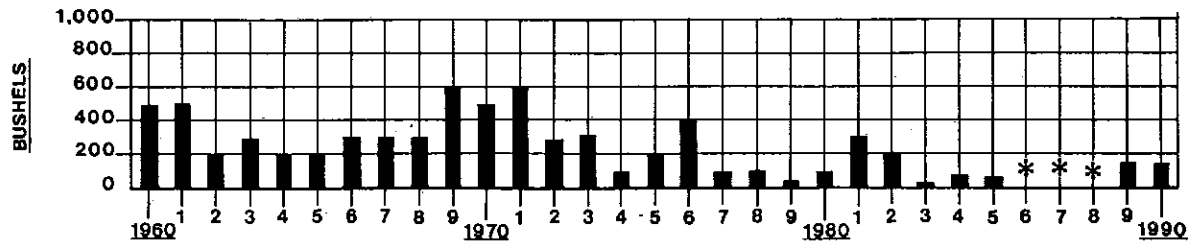
### GAY HEAD



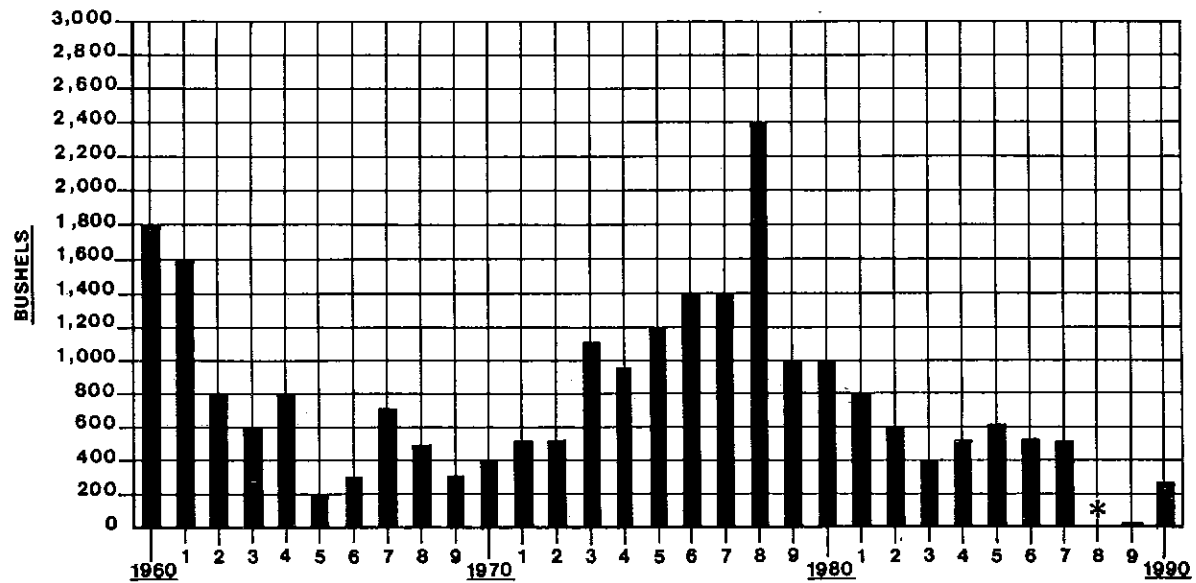
Data Source: Town Reports.



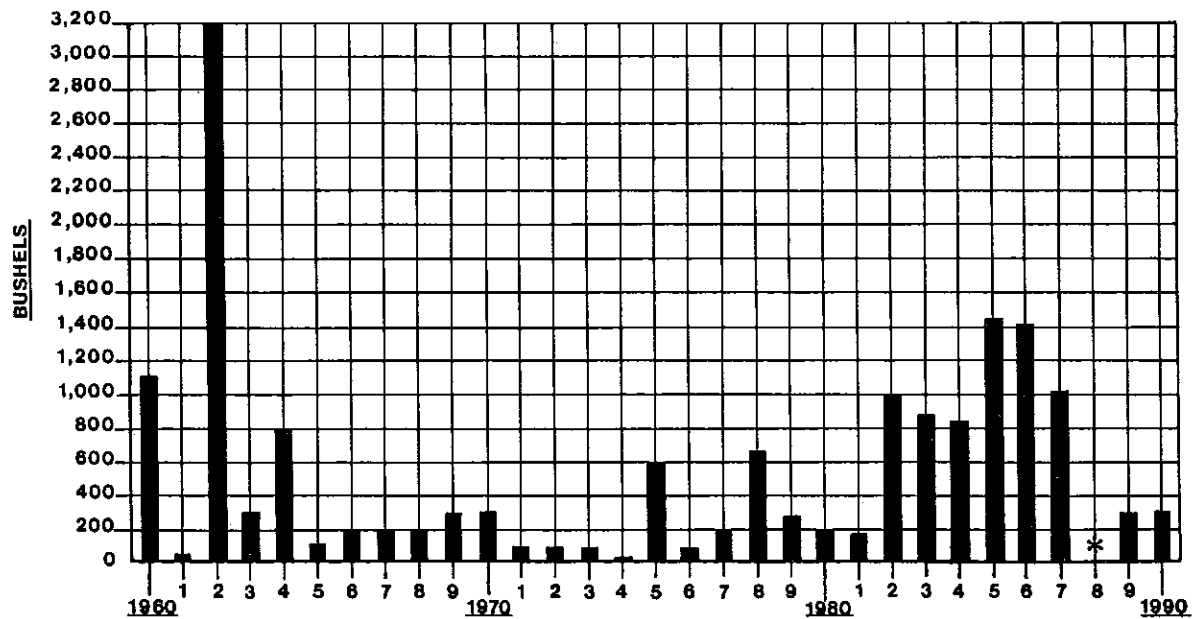
# Chilmark Steamer, Oyster and Quahaug Landings



## OYSTER



## QUAHAUG



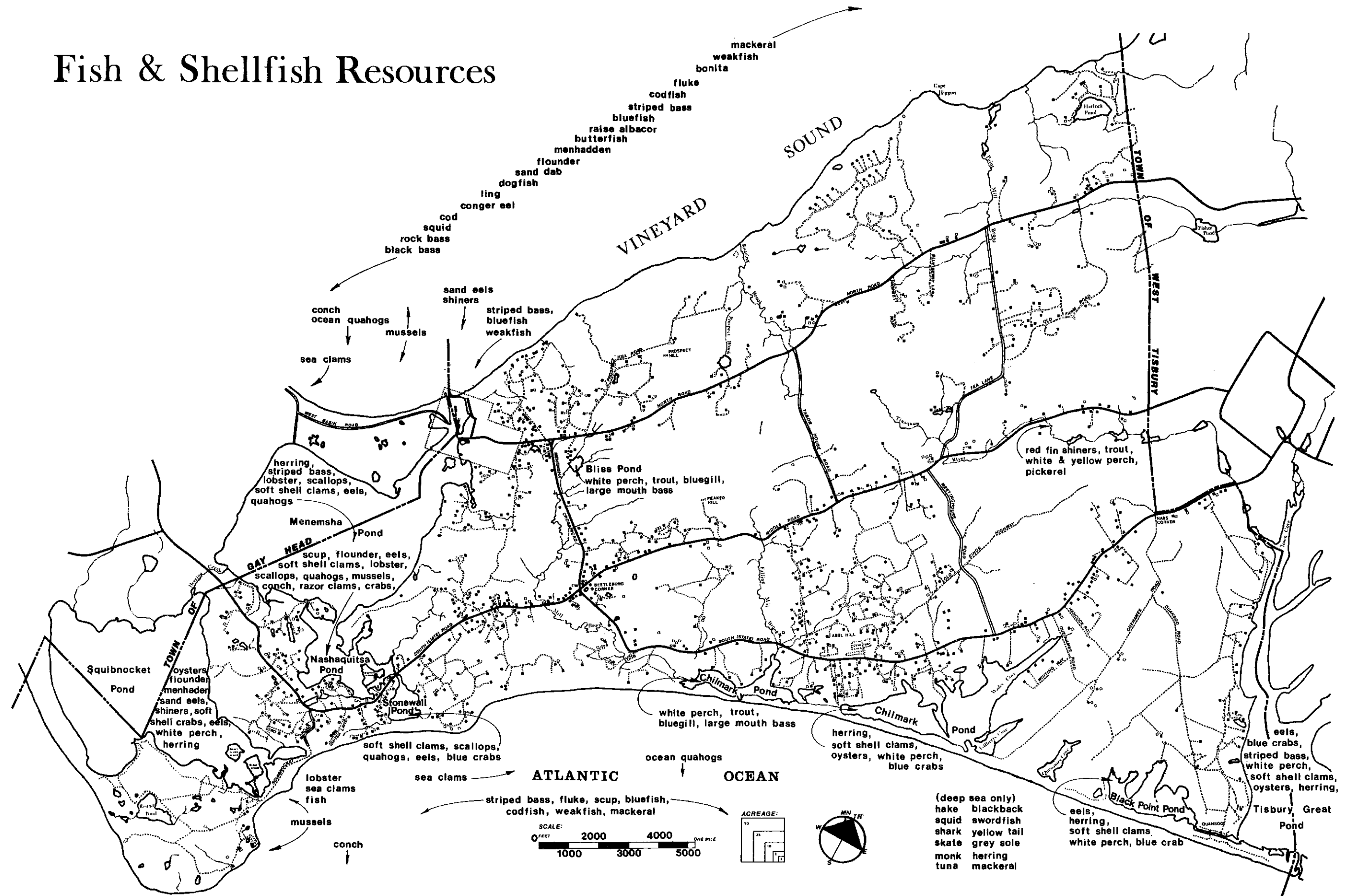
Landings have been averaged to the nearest 100 bushels. Data Source: Town Reports.

refer to page 62

**Map 14**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Fish and Shellfish Resources**

# Fish & Shellfish Resources









refer to page 71

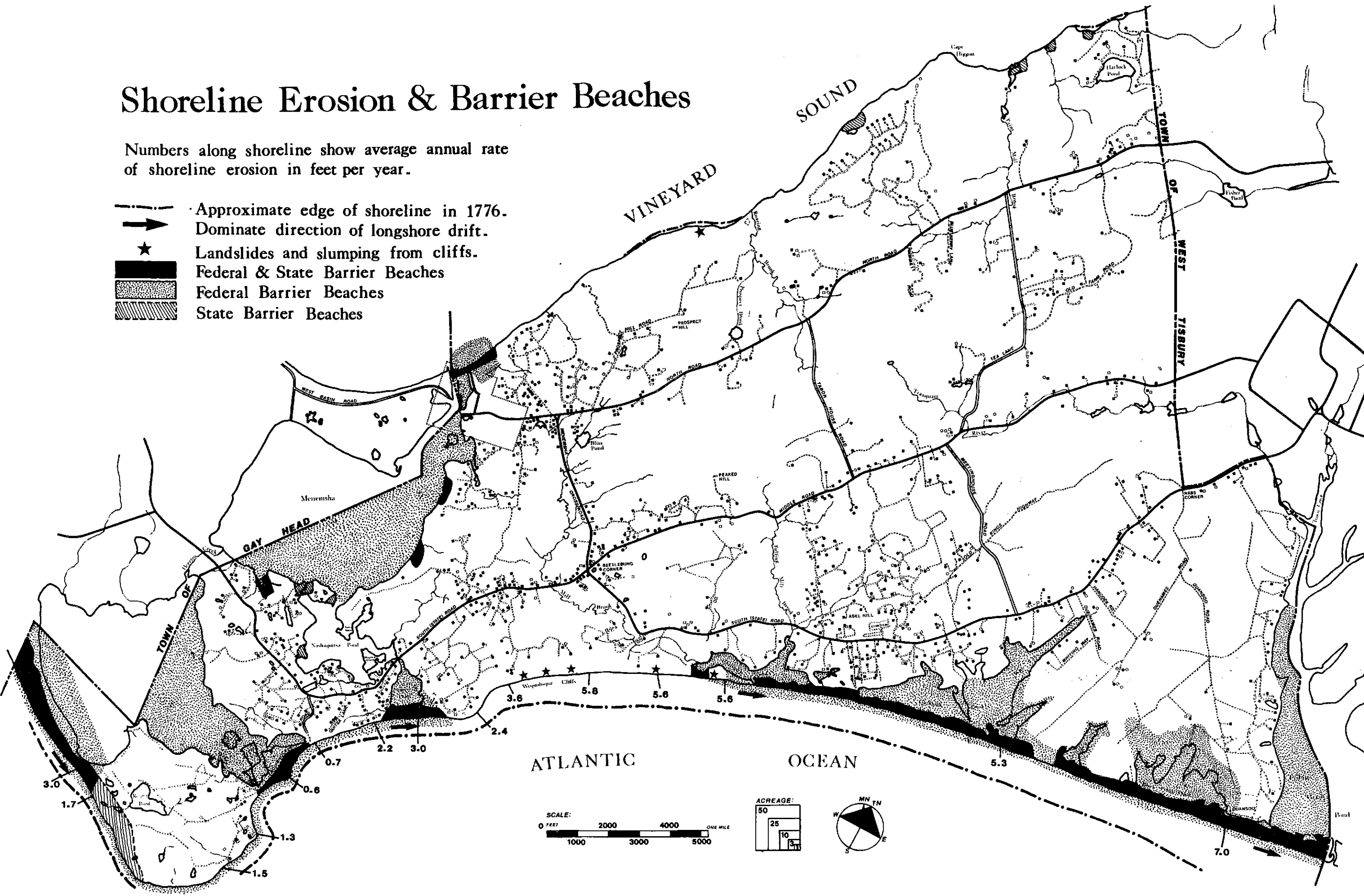
**Map 15**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Shoreline Erosion and Barrier Beaches**

# Shoreline Erosion & Barrier Beaches

Numbers along shoreline show average annual rate of shoreline erosion in feet per year.

-  Approximate edge of shoreline in 1776.
-  Dominate direction of longshore drift.
-  Landslides and slumping from cliffs.
-  Federal & State Barrier Beaches
-  Federal Barrier Beaches
-  State Barrier Beaches



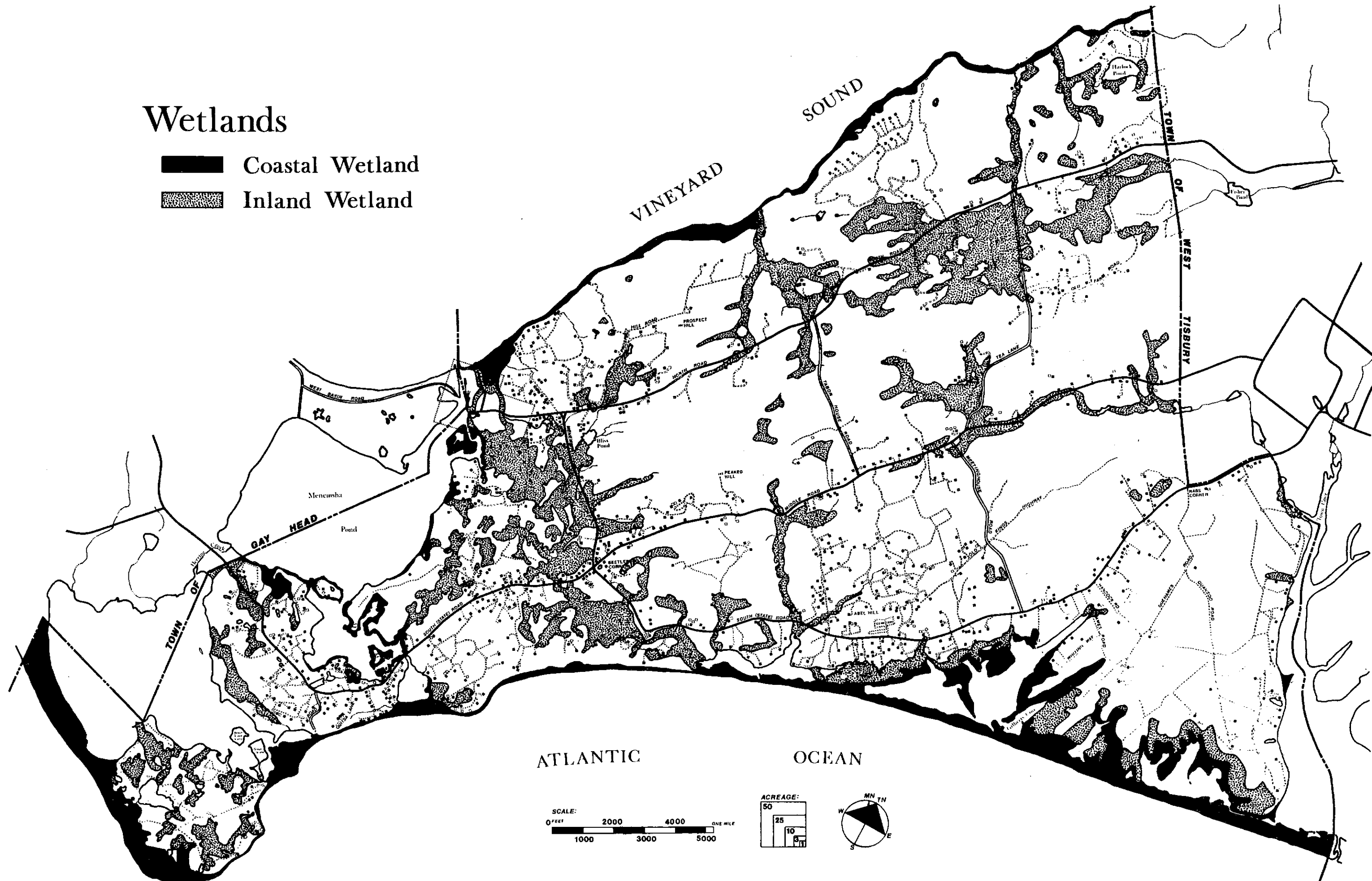
refer to page 76

**Map 16**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Wetlands**

# Wetlands

- Coastal Wetland
- Inland Wetland



refer to page 77


**Map 17**  
1990 - 1992 Update


## **Watersheds**

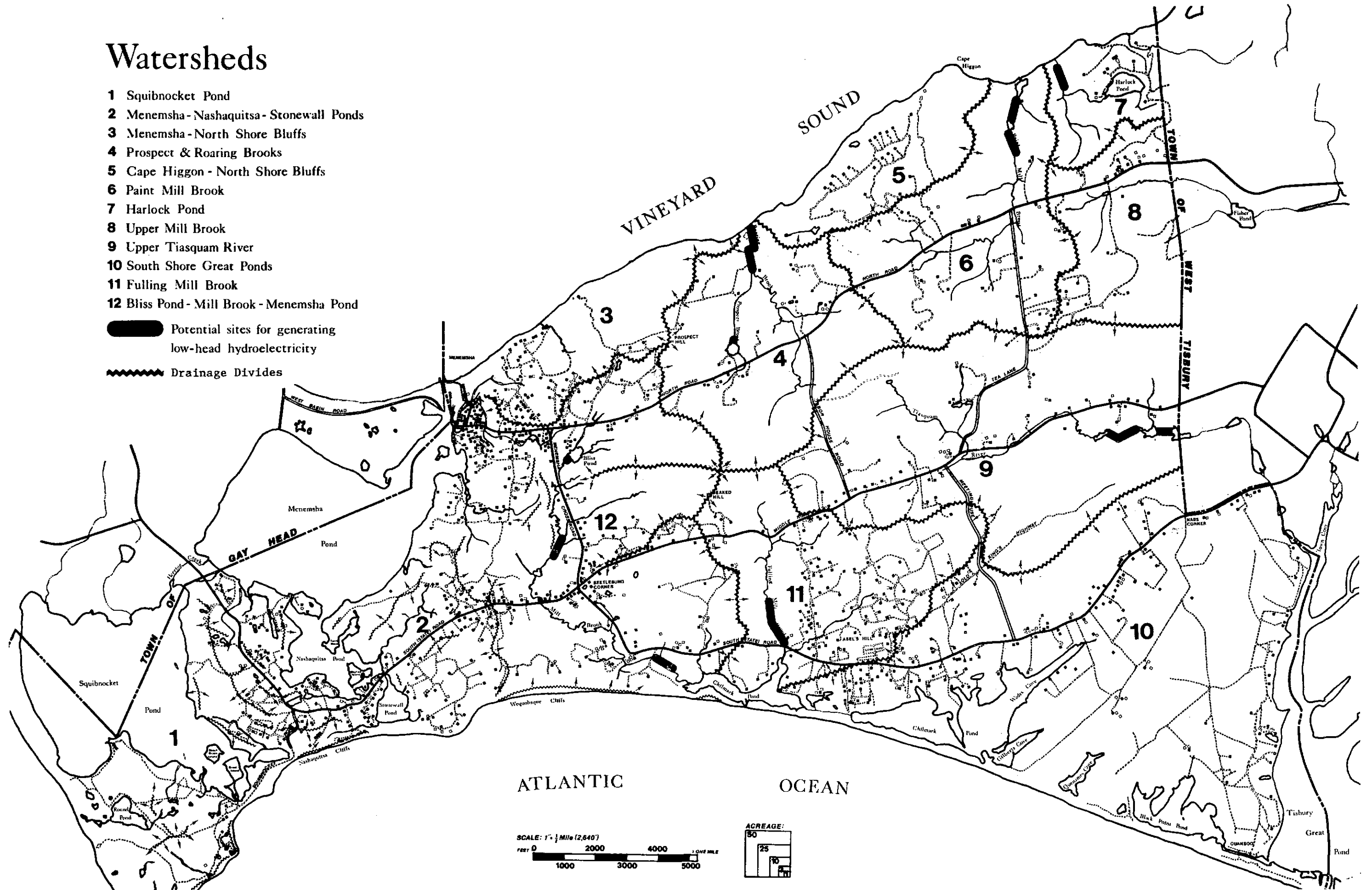


# Watersheds

- 1 Squibnocket Pond
- 2 Menemsha - Nashaquitsa - Stonewall Ponds
- 3 Menemsha - North Shore Bluffs
- 4 Prospect & Roaring Brooks
- 5 Cape Higgon - North Shore Bluffs
- 6 Paint Mill Brook
- 7 Harlock Pond
- 8 Upper Mill Brook
- 9 Upper Tiasquam River
- 10 South Shore Great Ponds
- 11 Fulling Mill Brook
- 12 Bliss Pond - Mill Brook - Menemsha Pond

 Potential sites for generating low-head hydroelectricity

 Drainage Divides






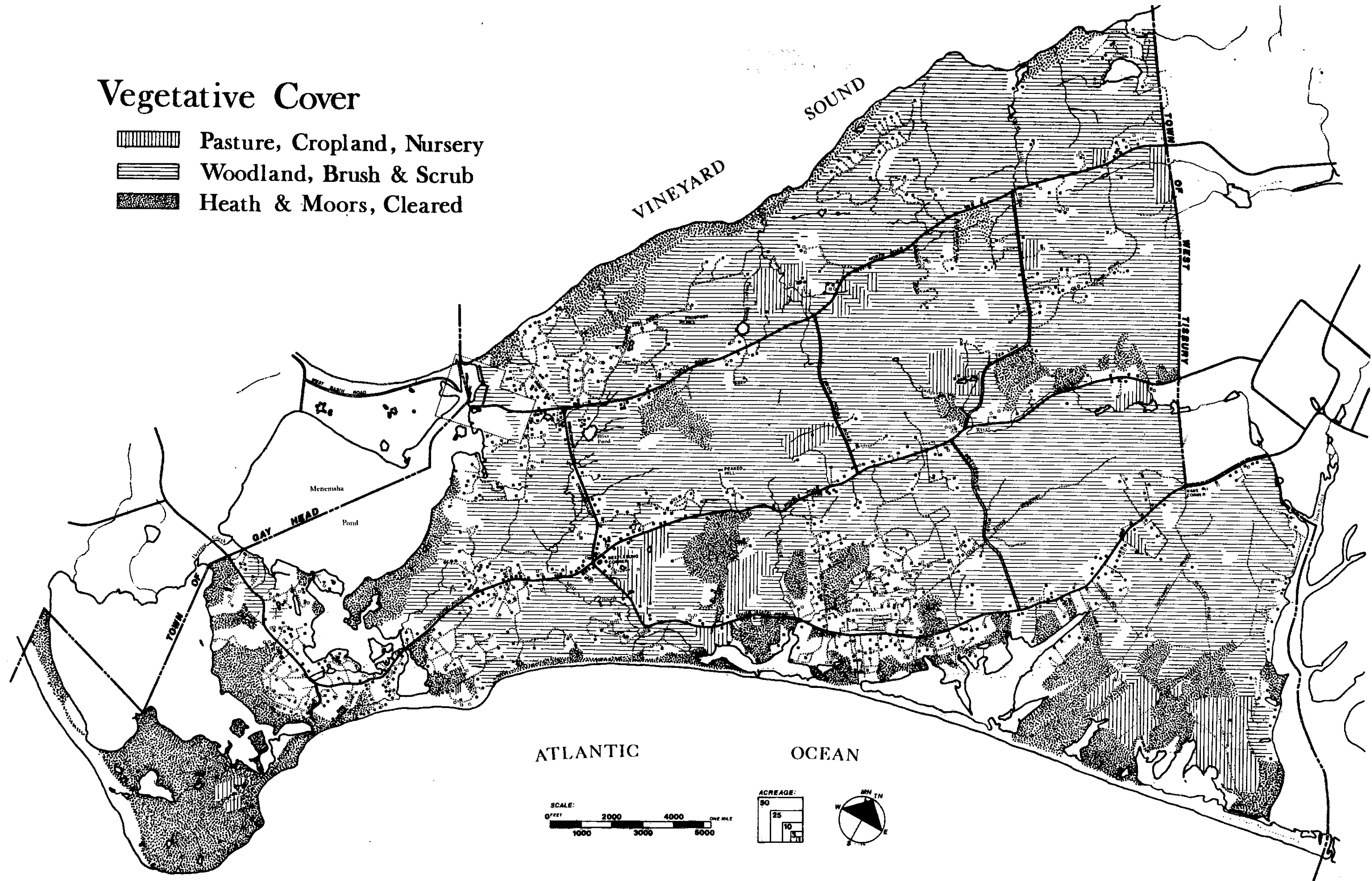
refer to page 84

**Map 18**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Vegetative Cover**

# Vegetative Cover

-  Pasture, Cropland, Nursery
-  Woodland, Brush & Scrub
-  Heath & Moors, Cleared



refer to page 92

### Agriculture

Goal: Preserve farms and farmland through active programs by the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board through flexible zoning to protect farm fields and soils, and the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank.

#### Objectives and Actions to be Taken: (continued)

3. Support measures to enhance farm enterprises through improved Steamship Authority freight rates; through provision of buffers between abutting homes and farm fields; and preservation of large parcels with suitable soils.
4. Encourage Land Bank preservation of farms and prime farm soils and active use for agriculture of such parcels.
5. Encourage landowners to actively manage woodlands suited to harvest and to take advantage of Chapter 61 of the Massachusetts Laws to reduce real estate taxes.
6. Encourage small-scale, part-time farming activities including the preparation of value-added products through a reasonable inspection program for farm/commercial kitchens and provisions to allow roadside farm stands.
7. Enhance cooperation between farm operators and the Conservation Commission to provide reasonable buffers between farm fields and wetland areas to maximize the use of productive lands.
8. Support the retention of a local office of the Cooperative Extension System to provide farm support.
9. Actively support the continuation of Right to Farm laws to avoid unreasonable local restrictions of agricultural enterprises.

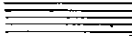



Comments by William Wilcox, Cooperative Extension/Martha's Vineyard Commission

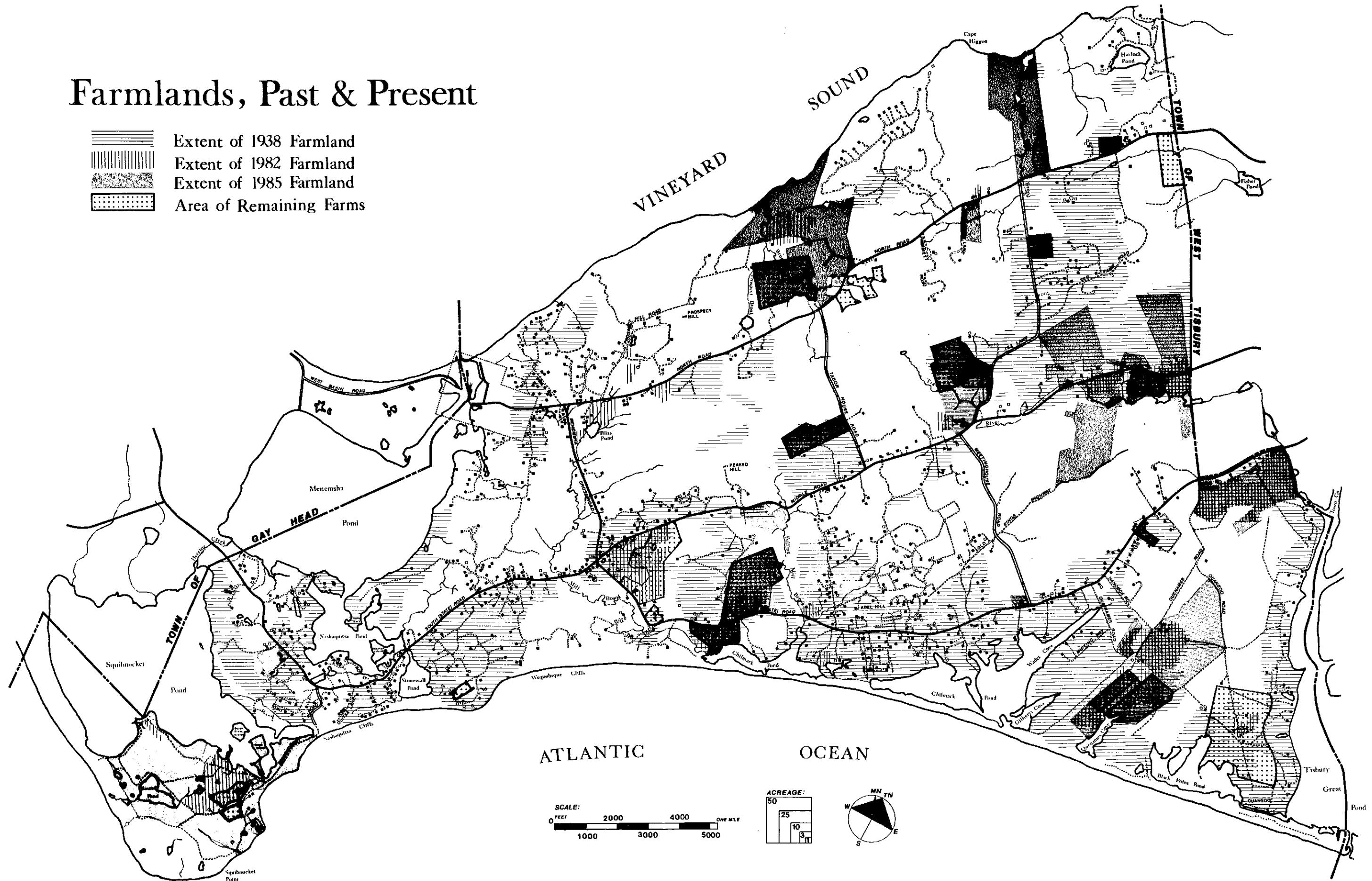
refer to page 94

**Map 20**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Farmlands, Past and Present**

# Farmlands, Past & Present

-  Extent of 1938 Farmland
-  Extent of 1982 Farmland
-  Extent of 1985 Farmland
-  Area of Remaining Farms



refer to page 101 - 111

## Wildlife

The wildlife information in this section and the inventory which follows were provided by Susan B. Whiting, a naturalist and resident of Chilmark and Robert Culbert, a biologist and a naturalist for The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank unless otherwise noted.

### Chilmark Wildlife Inventory

#### 1. Amphibians and Reptiles of the Town of Chilmark

Delete from the list on page 104 of the Master Plan: Bullfrog and Red-bellied turtle.

#### 2. Mammal Species Found in the Town of Chilmark

Add to the list on page 104 of the Master Plan:

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Chipmunk                | Feral cat (introduced) |
| Black rat (introduced)  | Feral dog (introduced) |
| Norway rat (introduced) |                        |

#### 3. Bird Species Found in the Town of Chilmark

##### Updated Bird List for the 1990 - 92 Chilmark Master Plan

The species are marked in the following way:

underlined = accidental species (very rare)

bold = unusual species (rare)

\* = breeding species

As you can see we have lost several breeding species since the last Master Plan List. I am concerned about this and I think the Conservation Commission and the Town in general should be. The nesting colony of tern at Edy's Island no longer exists and the few nesting terns we have now are in local very small populations at Squibnocket, Stonewall and Quansoo. If it were not for the efforts of local conservation organizations the piping plover would not make it. These birds are so endangered by skunks and raccoons that they only survive the nesting season if fenced.

Delete from the list in the Master Plan starting on page 105 Wild turkey, Iceland gull and Skua. This list is comprised of corrections in spelling, taxonomic order and status.

Pied-billed Grebe \* (no recent reports)  
Red-Billed Tropic Bird  
Louisiana (Tricolored) Heron  
Greater White-fronted Goose  
Black Vulture (one record)  
Black-shouldered Kite

Mississippi Kite  
**Red-shouldered Hawk**  
**Broad-winged Hawk**  
**Golden Eagle**  
Gyr Falcon  
**Clapper Rail**

Virginia Rail  
Sandhill Crane  
**Wilson's Plover**  
 American Oystercatcher (possible on  
 Squibnocket) \*  
 Spotted Sandpiper (no recent records) \*  
Long-billed Curlew  
**Marbled Godwit**  
**Baird's Sandpiper**  
 Pectoral Sandpiper  
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper  
Long-billed Dowitcher  
**Red-necked Phalarope**  
**Red Phalarope**  
**Pomarine Jaeger**  
South Polar Skua  
**Little Gull**  
**Common Black-headed Gull**  
**Lesser Black-backed Gull**  
**Glaucous Gull**  
Sabine's Gull  
Gull-billed Tern  
**Sandwich Tern**  
 Roseate Tern \*  
**Arctic Tern**  
Sooty Tern  
**Brown Noddy** (one record)  
 Black Skimmer  
**Dovekie**  
 Common Murre  
**Thick-billed Murre**  
**Razorbill**  
Common (Atlantic) Puffin  
Great Horned Owl (one record)  
 Long-eared Owl \*  
 Northern Saw-whet Owl  
**Chuck-will's-widow**  
 Red-headed Woodpecker \*  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker \*  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**  
**Acadian Flycatcher**  
**Willow (Traill's) Flycatcher**  
Ash-throated Flycatcher  
**Western Kingbird**  
Gray Kingbird  
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
 Horned Lark  
 Purple Martin \*  
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Bank Swallow \*  
 White-breasted Nuthatch \*  
 Brown Creeper  
 Northern House Wren \*  
Sedge Wren  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (one record, nothing  
 recent) \*  
 Veery \*  
 Wood Thrush \*  
Varied Thrush  
 Gray (Northern) Catbird \*  
 American (Water) Pipit  
**Loggerhead Shrike**  
 White-eyed Vireo (old breeder, now no longer)  
**Golden-winged Warbler**  
 Yellow Warbler \*  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler (former breeder, not  
 now)  
 Black-throated Green Warbler \*  
**Yellow-throated Warbler**  
 American Redstart (former breeder, now  
 questionable)  
**Prothonotary Warbler**  
**Louisiana Waterthrush**  
**Kentucky Warbler**  
**Connecticut Warbler**  
**Mourning Warbler**  
**Hooded Warbler**  
**Western Tanager**  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak \*  
 Rufous-sided Towhee \*  
Lark Sparrow  
Lark Bunting  
Henslow's Sparrow  
Seaside Sparrow  
 Swamp Sparrow  
Western Meadowlark  
**Yellow-headed Blackbird**  
**Brewer's Blackbird**  
 Brown-headed Cowbird \*  
**Pine Grosbeak**  
**White-winged Crossbill**  
Hoary (Arctic) Redpoll  
 American Goldfinch \*



The vast increase in skunks, raccoons and feral cats have caused damage to several nesting species, especially the terns and plovers. Edy's Island should be fenced during nesting season so that the terns will return!

#### 4. Rare Species Found in Chilmark

A complete list of the endangered species found in Massachusetts is included at the end of this report so that if we do discover an endangered species in the future we can plan for its protection.

Quercus stellata (Post Oak) which is considered rare in the State of Massachusetts is very common on the Vineyard and in Chilmark as well. We should be careful of this oak tree in the long run.

Plants as with any other natural phenomena are subject to drastic changes in the environment. Care should be taken to ensure that some of each type of habitat is saved in the Town of Chilmark so that we have representatives of all the plants of those habitats.

The following is a list that was compiled with the help of information from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Natural Heritage Program, as of May 20, 1992. The List includes plants, birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles and insects.

##### Endangered:

Tipularia discolor

Crane-fly orchid

##### Threatened:

Arethusa bulbosa

Dragon-mouth

##### Special Concern:

Amelanchier nantucketeusis

Nantucket Shad

Corema conradii

Broom crowberry

Helianthemum dumosum

Bushy Rockrose

Hydrocotyle

Water (salt-pond) pennywort

Linum intercursum

Sandplain flax

Sisyrinchium arenicola

Sandplain blue-eyed grass (not positively identified in Chilmark)

Information from Edmund Knapp - May 1992

#### Noman's Land Status

The Island is monitored twice a year by the Massachusetts Audubon Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary. The wild life population continues to thrive. The occasional burns are beneficial. The goals remain the same. Note: a new Navy Commander has just taken command of the area who is not familiar with any change in Navy status for Noman's Land.

Information from Gus Ben David - May 1992.

## Historic Resources

refer to page 118

Additions and corrections to original information.

### Landmarks, Indian Sites, Archaeological Sites

(B) First Town Pound Site. South Road east of former site #3<sup>I</sup>, opposite E. D. Salmon house. Partially demolished by John Bassett in 1920's (11, 18).

(C) Second Town Pound. North Road, opposite Von Mehren House (#22) 1852.

(F) Nathan Mayhew Tombstone. 1736, Quitsa. Grave of smallpox victim denied burial in Town cemetery, nephew of farm owner. Died on a whale ship off Squibnocket (13, 19, 28, 34).

refer to page 122

### Federal and Greek Revival Eras to Civil War 1865

49. Capt. Richard Flanders - E. J. Bliss house, "Bliss Pond Farm", 1838. North Road at Menemsha Crossroad. Windmill and bow-roof house are both modern dwellings. A/K/A Dunroving Ranch (9, 11, 17).

53. Capt. Ephraim Poole Jr. - James Packer house, c. 1842, Menemsha Crossroad near Beetlebung Corner. Built by this whaling captain, the cut-stone house was four years a-building and took the profits from a three-year voyage. Cut stone pasture walls (20). Acquired 1940 by Diana James, it was badly damaged by fire (1978) but has been beautifully restored (1, 9, 15, 21, 27, 28).

refer to page 123

55. Methodist Parsonage, Menemsha Crossroad near Beetlebung Corner, 1863. Moved from Middle Road location (#56<sup>III</sup>) in 1908. Previously one story, it was "raised at the post". Land given by Baze N. Tilton (11, 17).

56. United Methodist Church 1843 (9, 11). Moved 1910 from Middle Road location (#58<sup>III</sup>) opposite Meeting House Road. When built, it replaced a church moved from Edgartown in 1829 (11). Steeple designed by Electus Litchfield, Architect (5); built 1931 by Roger Allen. Bell from Odd Fellows in Oak Bluffs. Round window added in front gable. Original architect was either Frederick Baylies, Jr., or George Fifield (1, 11, 15, 17, 28). The one acre site belonged to E. E. Mayhew.

refer to page 124

67. Kephigan Schoolhouse - Coleman-Fox house, before 1852, North Road. Converted to summer home (17, 21).

70. Menemsha Schoolhouse, c. 1850, State Road, Town Center. Originally one room, it has expanded to three in recent years.

refer to page 126

#### Civil War to World War I Period Houses, 1865 - 1915

97. Sophronia Look-Toomey Wakeman house, 19th century, State Road. Much altered.

refer to page 127

#### Post-World War I Period Houses and Structures

111. Chester Poole house, 1924, State Road, Quitsa. Built of hatch-covers, driftwood, by Poole. Burned 1983. Rebuilt using original shell.

refer to page 134

#### 17th, 18th, 19th Century

53. Original Chilmark Town Center (in rectangle). In this vicinity were: the Town Hall, a blacksmith shop (Hillman), a post office 1865 - 83, the third and fourth Congregational meeting houses and parsonages (1787, 1842), two consecutive general stores, and a town "workhouse" (poorhouse) (11). Lacking a deep harbor, orientation was toward agriculture and sheep more than fishing or marine interests. Meeting houses were centrally located.

56. Methodist Parsonage sites. First parsonage late 18th - early 19th century, moved to #37<sup>n</sup> in 1862, second parsonage built 1863, moved to #55<sup>n</sup> in 1908. Middle Road in original Town Center. Methodist Parsonage house site was a "gift" (loan) from Capt. Daniel Flanders of the "Homestead" in Menemsha. The first parsonage was concurrently Capt. William Flanders General Store (11). Present site given by Baze N. Tilton and wife.

58. Methodist Church site. Two consecutive Methodist churches built on same site, 1829 and 1843. First was demolished, second was moved in 1910 (see #56<sup>n</sup>). Half-acre site sold to parish for \$25 cash by Mary and John Hancock, Esq. (Justice of the Peace) in 1829 (11).

refer to page 136

#### Footnotes and Credits

recently deceased sources of information:




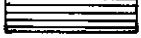
Mrs. Mildred (Hammett) Eisold  
Henry E. Scott, Jr.  
Hollis A. Smith  
Mrs. Doris Stoddard  
H. Stanton Lair  
Mrs. Katherine Norton  
Mrs. Gladys (Mayhew) Flanders

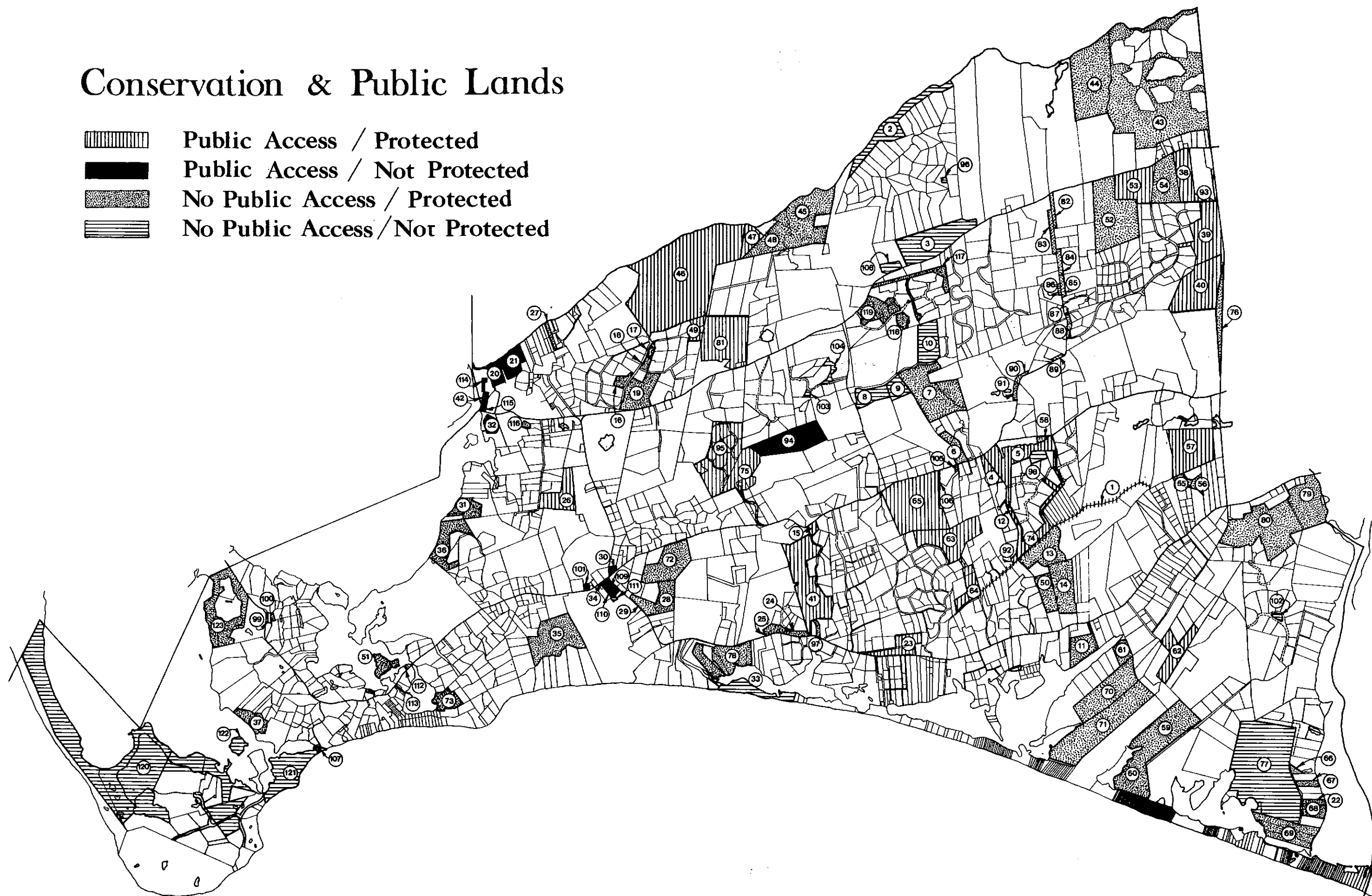
refer to page 147

**Map 27**  
1990 - 1992 Update

## **Public and Conservation Lands**

# Conservation & Public Lands

-  Public Access / Protected
-  Public Access / Not Protected
-  No Public Access / Protected
-  No Public Access / Not Protected



## PUBLIC &amp; CONSERVATION LANDS IDENTIFICATION CHART

| #  | Name                              | Map   | Parcel | Manager      | Acres | Public Access | Use               |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1  | King's Highway                    | 12,18 |        | TOC          |       | Yes           | hiking            |
| 2  | Spring Point Homeowners           | 5     | 1      | SCL          | 27.30 | No            |                   |
| 3  | Spring Point Homeowners           | 8     | 56     | SCL          | 40.1  | No            |                   |
| 4  | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 12    | 35     | VOLF         | 5.7   | Yes           | hiking<br>birding |
| 5  | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 12    | 36     | VOLF         | 29.7  | Yes           | hiking<br>birding |
| 6  | Araldo A. Cossuta                 | 13    | 17     | TOC          | 7.9   | No            |                   |
| 7  | Araldo A. Cossuta                 | 13    | 24     | TOC          | 48.4  | No            |                   |
| 8  | Town Landfill                     | 13    | 28     | TOC          | 11.3  | No            |                   |
| 9  | Town Landfill                     | 13    | 35     | TOC          | 8     | No            |                   |
| 10 | Addition to Town Landfill         | 13    | 43     | TOC          | 20    | No            |                   |
| 11 | Hill & Morgan Wades Cove          | 17    | 1      | TOC          | 14.3  | No            |                   |
| 12 | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 18    | 33     | VOLF         | 2.5   | Yes           | hiking<br>birding |
| 13 | Hill & Morgan                     | 18    | 104    | TOC          | 22.8  | No            |                   |
| 14 | Hill & Morgan                     | 18    | 106    | TOC          | 24.6  | No            |                   |
| 15 | Fulling Mill Brook                | 19    | 47     | TOC/<br>MVLB | 3     | Yes           | hiking            |
| 16 | Prospect Hill                     | 20    | 68     | TOC          | 3.5   | No            |                   |
| 17 | Prospect Hill                     | 20    | 77     | TOC          | 1.8   | No            |                   |
| 18 | Prospect Hill                     | 20    | 83     | TOC          | 2.2   | No            |                   |
| 19 | Prospect Hill                     | 20    | 87     | TOC          | 20.5  | No            |                   |
| 20 | Town of Chilmark                  | 21    | 1      | TOC          | 2     | Yes           | limited           |
|    | Town of Chilmark                  | 21    | 2      | TOC          | .52   | Yes           | limited           |
| 21 | Menemsha Beach                    | 21    | 3      | TOC          | 1.5   | Yes           | public<br>beach   |
|    | Menemsha Beach                    | 21    | 4      | TOC          | 3.3   | Yes           | same              |
|    | Menemsha Beach                    | 21    | 6      | TOC          | 6.5   | Yes           | same              |
|    | Menemsha Beach                    | 21    | 8      | TOC          | 5.4   | Yes           | same              |
| 22 | Harris                            | 22    | 12     | TOC          | 3.3   | No            |                   |
| 23 | Chilmark Cemetary                 | 24    | 138    | TOC          | 11.5  | Yes           | birding           |

| #  | Name  | Map  | Parcel | Manager      | Acres | Public Access | Use               |
|----|---|------|--------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|
| 24 | Allen Farm                                  | 25   | 20.12  | TOC          | 3     | No            |                   |
| 25 | Allen Farm                                  | 25   | 20.13  | TOC          | 2.4   | No            |                   |
| 26 | Englander                                   | 26   | 26     | TOC          | 18.9  | Yes           |                   |
| 27 | Langmuir                                    | 21   | 23     | TOC          | 2     | No            |                   |
| 28 | Keith Farm                                  | 26   | 87.2   | TOC          | 10.6  | No            |                   |
| 29 | Keith Farm                                  | 26   | 87.3   | TOC          | 6.11  | No            |                   |
| 30 | Town Hall, Fire Department & Ambulance Barn | 29   | 99     | TOC          | 1.1   | Yes           | Town offices      |
| 31 | Nell Howell                                 | 27   | 1      | TOC          | 8.6   | No            |                   |
| 32 | Coast Guard Station                         | 27.1 | 78     | USCG         | 3.1   | Yes           | limited           |
| 33 | Lucy Vincent Beach                          | 29   | 1      | TOC          | 14.1  | No            | limited           |
| 34 | Post Office                                 | 30   | 91     | TOC          | .70   | Yes           |                   |
| 35 | Town Forest                                 | 30   | 107    | TOC          | 36.4  | No            |                   |
| 36 | Weisner                                     | 31   | 11     | TOC          | 19    | No            |                   |
| 37 | K. I. Morgan                                | 35   | 39     | TOC          | 10.3  | No            |                   |
| 38 | Mill Brook Woods                            | 3    | 15     | MVLB         | 18.4  | Yes           | hiking<br>birding |
| 39 | Waskosim's Rock #1                          | 3    | 17     | MVLB         | 32.8  | Yes           | hiking            |
| 40 | Waskosim's Rock #2                          | 3    | 17     | MVLB         | 39.8  | Yes           | same              |
| 41 | Fulling Mill Brook                          | 25   | 21     | TOC/<br>MVLB | 46.6  | Yes           | same              |
| 42 | Coast Guard Boathouse                       | 27.1 | 91     | USCG         | 2.5   | No            |                   |
|    | USA   | 27.1 | 229    | USCG         | .29   | No            |                   |
| 43 | Seven Gates Farm Corp.                      | 1    | 8      | TTOR         | 149.5 | No            |                   |
| 44 | Ganz  | 4    | 26     | TTOR         | 75    | No            |                   |
| 45 | Flora Epstein                               | 9    | 15     | TTOR         | 37.7  | No            |                   |
| 46 | Menemsha Hills #1 Harris                    | 14   | 2      | TTOR         | 149.2 | Yes           | hiking            |
| 47 | Menemsha Hills #2 Epstein                   | 14   | 3      | TTOR         | 8.6   | Yes           | same              |
| 48 | Epstein, Harris #2 Brickyard                | 14   | 4      | TTOR         | 20.7  | No            |                   |
| 49 | Prospect Hill                               | 14   | 23     | TTOR         | 3.3   | Yes           | hiking            |
|    | Prospect Hill                               | 14   | 24     | TTOR         | 1.2   | Yes           | hiking            |

| #  | Name                             | Map | Parcel | Manager | Acres | Public Access | Use     |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|--------|---------|-------|---------------|---------|
| 49 | Prospect Hill                    | 14  | 25     | TTOR    | 3     | Yes           | same    |
| 50 | Hill & Morgan                    | 18  | 109    | TTOR    | 10.8  | No            |         |
| 51 | Edward's Island                  | 33  | 58     | TTOR    | 6.9   | No            |         |
| 52 | King                             | 3   | 2      | SMF     | 56.2  | No            |         |
| 53 | Roth Woodlands                   | 3   | 4      | SMF     | 26.4  | Yes           | birding |
| 54 | Dunkl, Daub                      | 3   | 14     | SMF     | 23.7  | No            |         |
| 55 | Panitz #2                        | 11  | 16.2   | SMF     | 3.5   | No            |         |
| 56 | Panitz #1                        | 11  | 16.3   | SMF     | 3.1   | No            |         |
| 57 | Gimbel-Liebhafsky                | 11  | 17     | SMF     | 32.01 | Yes           | hiking  |
| 58 | Walker Lewis                     | 12  | 63     | SMF     | 1.2   | No            |         |
| 59 | J. & B. Whiting                  | 17  | 22.2   | SMF     | 41.5  | No            |         |
| 60 | J. & B. Whiting                  | 17  | 22.3   | SMF     | 23.7  | No            |         |
| 61 | Tipson Pond/Wade's Cove          | 17  | 35     | SMF     | 6.7   | No            |         |
| 62 | Quenames Road (Hancock Woodlot)  | 17  | 52     | SMF     | 6     | Yes           | birding |
|    | Quename's Road (Hancock Woodlot) | 17  | 65     | SMF     | 10    | Yes           | birding |
| 63 | Middle Road Sanctuary            | 18  | 12     | SMF     | 33.6  | Yes           | hiking  |
| 64 | Hart (Meetinghouse Road)         | 18  | 75     | SMF     | 11.46 | Yes           | same    |
| 65 | Middle Road Sanctuary            | 19  | 25     | SMF     | 64.7  | Yes           | same    |
| 66 | Black Point #4                   | 22  | 6      | SMF     | 1.3   | No            |         |
| 67 | Harris #1                        | 22  | 9      | SMF     | 3.2   | No            |         |
| 68 | Harris #2                        | 22  | 13     | SMF     | 5.7   | No            |         |
| 69 | Black Point #1 Florence Harris   | 22  | 15     | SMF     | 9.7   | No            |         |
|    | Black Point #2 Florence Harris   | 22  | 16     | SMF     | 9.7   | No            |         |
|    | Black Point #3 Florence Harris   | 22  | 17     | SMF     | 5.7   | No            |         |
| 70 | Wades Field                      | 23  | 5      | SMF     | 35.6  | No            |         |
| 71 | Hancock Meadow                   | 23  | 6      | SMF     | 61    | No            |         |
| 72 | Keith Farm                       | 26  | 86.1   | SMF     | 31.7  | No            |         |
| 73 | Parker Stonewall                 | 32  | 38.1   | SMF     | 9.1   | No            |         |



| #  | Name                              | Map | Parcel | Manager      | Acres | Public Access | Use               |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----|--------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|
| 74 | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 12  | 73     | VOLF         | 17.8  | Yes           | hiking            |
| 75 | Peaked Hill Road                  | 19  | 76     | VOLF/<br>TOC | .39   | Yes           | same              |
|    | Peaked Hill Point                 | 19  | 77     | VOLF/<br>TOC | .42   | Yes           | same              |
| 76 | Edwin & Jeanne P. Woods           | 7   | 23     | TNC          | 12.7  | No            |                   |
| 77 | Harris                            | 22  | 5      | Owner        | 119.4 | No            |                   |
| 78 | Allen Farm                        | 29  | 16.3   | APR          | 2.9   | No            |                   |
|    | Allen Farm                        | 29  | 16.4   | APR          | 19.10 | No            |                   |
|    | Allen Farm                        | 29  | 16.5   | APR          | 7.3   | No            |                   |
| 79 | Rainbow Farm #1                   | 11  | 21     | MFCLT        | 31.3  | No            |                   |
| 80 | Rainbow Farm #2                   | 11  | 51     | MFCLT        | 63.3  | No            |                   |
|    | Douglas Farm                      | 11  | 72     | MFCLT        | .17   | No            |                   |
| 81 | Menemsha Hills (Sigourney)        | 14  | 22.4   | TTOR         | 45    | Yes           | hiking            |
| 82 | R. & E. Gilbert                   | 4   | 27     | TOC          | 1068' | No            |                   |
| 83 | W. & N. Sherwood                  | 4   | 28     | TOC          | 1000' | No            |                   |
| 84 | Matthew & Bridget Tobin           | 7   | 10     | TOC          | 778'  | No            |                   |
| 85 | Chiu-An & Alice Sze Wang          | 7   | 40     | TOC          | 717'  | No            |                   |
| 86 | S. & Sandra McDowell              | 7   | 3.2    | TOC          | 249'  | No            |                   |
| 87 | P. & S. Kaplan                    | 7   | 65     | TOC          | 359'  | No            |                   |
| 88 | B. & C. Giles                     | 7   | 88     | TOC          | 175'  | No            |                   |
| 89 | S. & E. Levine                    | 7   | 31.3   | TOC          | 633'  | No            |                   |
| 90 | R. W. Smith                       | 12  | 5.1    | TOC          | 443'  | No            |                   |
| 91 | C. & P. Goff                      | 13  | 16     | TOC          | 650'  | No            |                   |
| 92 | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 18  | 103    | VOLF         | .72   | Yes           | hiking<br>birding |
| 93 | Seven Gates                       | 3   | 16     | MVLB         |       | Yes           |                   |
| 94 | Peaked Hill Pastures              | 20  | 47     | TOC          | 25.5  | Yes           | open              |
| 95 | Peaked Hill Pastures              | 20  | 47     | MVLB         | 64.3  | No            | open              |
| 96 | Cemetary, Spring Point            | 8   | 17     | SCL          | .69   | No            |                   |

| #   | Name                              | Map  | Parcel         | Manager | Acres | Public Access | Use        |
|-----|-----------------------------------|------|----------------|---------|-------|---------------|------------|
| 97  | Beldon                            | 25   | 54             | TOC     |       | No            |            |
| 98  | Clemens (One Skippack Pike Corp.) | 12   | 56             | SCL     | 4     | No            |            |
| 99  | Morganthau Overlook               | 33   | 152            | TOC     | .8    | Yes           | views      |
| 100 | Town of Chilmark                  | 33   | 174            | TOC     | .7    | No            | open       |
| 101 | Menemsha School                   | 30   | 82             | TOC     | 1     | Yes           |            |
| 102 | Chilmark Pines                    | 11   | 28.16          | SCL     | 1.8   | No            |            |
| 103 | Tiercel Realty Trust              | 13   | 1.7            | SCL     | 1.2   | No            |            |
| 104 | Tiercel Realty Trust              | 13   | 1.1            | SCL     | 4.6   | No            |            |
| 105 | Joseph                            | 18   | 14.3<br>(part) | SCL     | .75   | No            |            |
| 106 | Joseph                            | 18   | 14.5<br>(part) | SCL     | 1.2   | No            |            |
| 107 | Squibnocket Beach                 | 35   | 20             | TOC     | .17   | No            | limited    |
|     | Squibnocket Beach                 | 35   | 21             | TOC     | .62   | No            | limited    |
|     | Squibnocket Beach                 | 35   | 23             | TOC     | .28   | No            | limited    |
|     | Town of Chilmark                  | 35   | 22             | TOC     |       | Yes           | landing    |
| 108 | Bramhall Fire Station             | 8    | 49             | TOC     | 3.26  | No            | open       |
| 109 | Public Library                    | 30   | 92             | TOC     | 1.5   | Yes           |            |
| 110 | Community Center                  | 30   | 93             | TOC     | 2.2   | Yes           | recreation |
| 111 | Tennis Court                      | 30   | 94             | TOC     | .53   | No            | limited    |
| 112 | Hariph's Creek Landing            | 33   | 59             | TOC     | .23   | Yes           | landing    |
| 113 | Animal Pound                      | 33   | 126            | TOC     | .20   | Yes           | history    |
| 114 | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 92             | TOC     | .08   | Yes           | fishing    |
|     | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 93             | TOC     | .02   | Yes           | boating    |
|     | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 228            | TOC     | 2.3   | Yes           | same       |
|     | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 230            | TOC     | .16   | Yes           | same       |
| 115 | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 87             | TOC     | .08   | Yes           | landing    |
|     | Town of Chilmark                  | 27.1 | 90             | TOC     | .30   | Yes           | boat house |
| 116 | Menemsha Water Co.                | 27.1 | 208            | TOC     | .98   | No            | well       |

| #   | Name                           | Map     | Parcel      | Manager  | Acres    | Public Access | Use     |
|-----|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------------|---------|
| 117 | North Tabor Farm/ Holman Rd    | 13      | 9.28        | SCL      | 1.8      | No            | limited |
|     | North Tabor Farm/ Animal Pound | 13      | 9.23        | SCL      | .13      |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 8,13    | 9.19        | SCL      | 8.9      |               |         |
| 118 | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.25        | SCL      | 3.8      |               |         |
| 119 | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.20 (part) | SCL      | 4        |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.21        | SCL      | 6.7      |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.22        | SCL      | 6.3      |               |         |
| 120 | Cape Cod Company               | 35,36   | 1           | CCC/ CPB | 32. 32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 43          | CCC/ CPB | .8       |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 36      | 1           | CCC/ CPB | 67.6     |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 37      | 3 (part)    | CCC/ CPB | 32. 32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 38 (36) | 1 (part)    | CCC/ CPB | 32. 32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 38 (35) | 1 (part)    | CCC/ CPB | 32. 32 ± |               |         |
| 121 | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 40          | CCC/ CPB | 28.6     | No            |         |
| 122 | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 42          | CCC/ CPB | 4.7      | No            |         |
| 123 | Howland                        | 33      | 2.2         | TTOR     | 5        | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 33      | 3           | TTOR     | 13.6     | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 34      | 2 (part)    | TTOR     | 13.3±    | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 34      | 1           | TTOR     | 13.3±    | No            |         |

TOC - Town of Chilmark  
 SCL - subdivision conservation or common land  
 VOLF - Vineyard Open Land Foundation  
 MVLB - Martha's Vineyard Land Bank  
 USCG - United States Coast Guard  
 TTOR - The Trustees of Reservations

SMF - Sheriff's Meadow Foundation  
 TNC - The Nature Conservancy  
 APR - Agricultural Preservation Restriction  
 MFCLT - Massachusetts Farm & Conservation Land Trust  
 CCC - Cape Cod Company  
 CPB - Chilmark Planning Board

| #   | Name                           | Map     | Parcel      | Manager | Acres   | Public Access | Use     |
|-----|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 117 | North Tabor Farm/ Holman Rd    | 13      | 9.28        | SCL     | 1.8     | No            | limited |
|     | North Tabor Farm/ Animal Pound | 13      | 9.23        | SCL     | .13     |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 8,13    | 9.19        | SCL     | 8.9     |               |         |
| 118 | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.25        | SCL     | 3.8     |               |         |
| 119 | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.20 (part) | SCL     | 4       |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.21        | SCL     | 6.7     |               |         |
|     | North Tabor Farm               | 13      | 9.22        | SCL     | 6.3     |               |         |
| 120 | Cape Cod Company               | 35,36   | 1           | CCC/CPB | 32.32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 43          | CCC/CPB | .8      |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 36      | 1           | CCC/CPB | 67.6    |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 37      | 3 (part)    | CCC/CPB | 32.32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 38 (36) | 1 (part)    | CCC/CPB | 32.32 ± |               |         |
|     | Cape Cod Company               | 38 (35) | 1 (part)    | CCC/CPB | 32.32 ± |               |         |
| 121 | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 40          | CCC/CPB | 28.6    | No            |         |
| 122 | Cape Cod Company               | 35      | 42          | CCC/CPB | 4.7     | No            |         |
| 123 | Howland                        | 33      | 2.2         | TTOR    | 5       | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 33      | 3           | TTOR    | 13.6    | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 34      | 2 (part)    | TTOR    | 13.3±   | No            |         |
|     | Howland                        | 34      | 1           | TTOR    | 13.3±   | No            |         |

TOC - Town of Chilmark

SCL - subdivision conservation or common land

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TNC - The Nature Conservancy

APR - Agricultural Preservation Restriction

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\* New

124. Chilmark Pond Preserve 24 205 MVLB 8.4 Yes Wildlife Pond+Beach  
 125. Middle Rd Preserve 25 125 8.1 MVLB 7.3 Yes Trail/View  
 126. Graves → SMF 12 8.1 SMF 4.3 ? Trail  
 127. Kloss C.R. 4 23 TTOR 53.1 NO Habitat

## **Natural Resource Protection and Open Space Plan**

refer to page 148

### **Plan Summary**

The Chilmark Open Space Plan is specifically designed with the theme that providing open space and recreation opportunities together with establishing land conservation programs is an essential ingredient in the lives of town residents and thus, must have a high priority in the planning for services and facilities. Further, the plan has been designed to detail:

- ▶ An analysis of the Town's natural and cultural resources including archeological, sensitive ecological habitat and historical and cultural inventory;
- ▶ Open space, conservation and recreation goals and objectives for the Town;
- ▶ Determination of open space, conservation and recreation needs based upon national standards and upon Committee recommendations;
- ▶ Recommendations for linking Chilmark's open space areas to a regional system of trails and conservation and recreation lands;
- ▶ A five-year action plan with site specific acquisition preservation recommendations.

### **Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of this plan is to provide an organizational model and rational framework within which residents of Chilmark may determine the future of the natural resources by balancing pressures of commercial and residential development with the demands for open space preservation.

In the 8 years since Chilmark's first Open Space Plan was developed in 1984, many of the recommendations made in that report have been implemented. While the list of accomplishments is impressive, it is important to note that we have lost ground in some areas. In the last several years, rapid development has resulted in the loss of several parcels we wish could have been preserved for conservation and recreation.

This report is an attempt to prepare for the future by noting items from previous Open Space Plans that have not yet been implemented and new items resulting from our Master Plan questionnaire.

### **Planning Process and Public Participation**

From the beginning, the Planning Board wanted the Master Plan to be simple, direct, and understandable, and to represent the character of Chilmark. The Board believed that this could best be accomplished by maximizing local input. Work on the Plan began in 1979 with the mailing of a comprehensive survey to all taxpayers of the Town, and has continued more or less to the present date.

In Summer 1990, the Planning Board and Conservation Commission developed a questionnaire and mailed it to all taxpayers and voters in Chilmark. 1104 households received questionnaires and 451 responses were returned. Of these 358 were from non-voting taxpayers and 96 were from voters, those that did not designate voter status were included as non-voters. In order to find the difference

of opinion between voter households and non-voter households, the two groups were tabulated separately.

### Statement of Need

#### Regional Importance

The visual character of each of the six Towns of Martha's Vineyard is distinct. On a small scale, the down-Island Towns are the "cities and their suburbs", while the less populous, less commercial up-Island Towns are the "countryside". The Island's geography and history created the contrasts between its more settled seaport Towns and its farming communities. While open space is necessary for all six Towns, it is essential up-Island in order to maintain the visual diversity of Martha's Vineyard.

Most of Chilmark's sheep pastures are long since overgrown, but the Town, through its relatively sparse development, its varied topography, and its remaining farms, fields, and woodlands, continues to be a country area of Martha's Vineyard.

#### Groundwater Protection

The geology of Chilmark makes the protection of its aquifers particularly complicated. The clay layers can cause difficulties in finding water supplies and can carry water-borne pollutants for considerable distances. In other areas, sandy soil allows pollutants to leach too rapidly into the water table. Most Chilmarkers are aware of the limitations of their fresh water supply. Salt water could intrude on three borders of the Town. The rapid increase of homes and their attendant septic systems requires that care be exercised to keep the groundwater pure. The vicinity of the landfill should continue to be monitored for groundwater quality.

#### Shoreline, Dunes, and Barrier Beaches

Coastal beaches, dunes and bluffs are subject to erosion. Some of it is inevitable, but in other cases management practices and control of human traffic on dunes and cliffs are necessary.

#### Ponds and Streams

A number of year round residents make all or a portion of their living shellfishing, and others shellfish and fish for recreation and food. Still others swim and sail. Our ponds need to be protected from pollution caused by over-development on their shores and on the banks of the brooks that feed them.

#### Farmlands

Large farms contribute greatly to the physical attractiveness of the Town by opening up vistas to the sea and ponds, and by parading the seasons for community appreciation. They also provide economic and job opportunity advantages. Local food increases the self-sufficiency of Islanders and visitors. There is increasing pressure to subdivide the remaining tracts of undeveloped land. The

Town needs to be a leader in finding ways to preserve the existing farms and encourage new ones.

### Food and Energy

Transportation of food and fuel to the Island is understandably costly. We need to decrease dependence on off-Island resources, yet farms and woodlands are being used up for homesites. Alternative energy sources, such as solar and wind, and better management of existing woodlands and farmland should be encouraged and developed.

### Trails

The rapid subdivision of land is cutting off previous traditional but informal access to trails, ponds, and beaches, while increasing the number of potential users. The freedom to move through the landscape without obstruction is a thing of the past. Trails can allow public enjoyment of open space without public ownership of land and are an economical solution to some conservation needs. We need to provide trails and fisherman's access to ponds for the growing citizenry. This issue has been central to many meetings of the Town Boards and regional groups.

### Wildlife

Wildlife, some of it shy, has to compete with hammers, dogs, and outboards for its share of the woods, ponds, and shore. The deer herd grows, but with new houses in the woods, there are not many areas for hunting safely. We need to expand existing conservation areas to ensure future habitats for all species and for human enjoyment of wildlife without the encumbrance of close human neighbors. A varied habitat is necessary to encourage a variety of species. Threatened species need to be protected and the multiplication of abundant species needs to be controlled.

### Plants

There are numerous species of trees, shrubs and flowering plants, several of which are rare, endangered or of special concern. These should be protected through education, identification and, if threatened by construction, relocation.

### Historic Sites

Historic resources are not merely objects of interest to the historian or attractive to passing tourists; they are testimonies of a cultural heritage providing continuity from the past to the present. They often represent successful adaptations by past generations, which can act as beacons to present and future generations in their attempts to adapt to the environment. They are unique and irreplaceable. Demands for new construction can threaten significant historic and archeological resources.

Historic sites need to be identified and made more attractive, visible, and accessible to the public. Education of the values of historic resources should be emphasized. Several are on private property and are not likely to be open to the public. The Brickyard area will be open eventually only to supervised educational or archeological groups.

## Financial Incentive

Recent studies of the financial aspect of Open Space versus Development have shown that preservation can be profitable. In at least three towns on Cape Cod, all mixed rural and resort, calculations of town expenses for services showed that development cost the town more than \$2 for every tax dollar raised from that land. Conversely, Open Space areas cost less than the tax raised.

## Existing Resource Protection

### Zoning

#### Maximum Height Limitations

|   |                   |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| All Districts                           | Flat or Shed Roof | 13 feet  |
| Districts of Critical Planning          | Gable or Hip Roof | 18 feet in open land<br>24 feet in woodlands               |
| Other Districts                         | Gable or Hip Roof | 24 feet  |
| Reproduction of Historic Chilmark House | Gable or Hip Roof | 28 feet by special permit                                  |
| Additions to Historic Chilmark Houses   | Gable or Hip Roof | To the height of the existing ridge pole by special permit |

#### Uses permitted in all Districts: (continued)

5. renting rooms or furnishing board to not more than 3 people by family resident in dwelling

#### Accessory uses permitted by special permit by the Board of Appeals: (continued)

7. bed and breakfast

#### Non-accessory uses permitted by special permit by the Board of Appeals: (continued)

13. inn

### Districts of Critical Planning Concern

The Squibnocket Pond District and the Waskosim's Rock Special Places District were later initiatives of the Town.

3. The Special Places District includes areas around Harlock's Pond, Devil's Bed, Peaked Hill, Prospect Hill, and Waskosim's Rock.

5. The Squibnocket Pond District includes an area surrounding Squibnocket Pond bounded by the Gay Head Town line, Squibnocket Road, and State Road.