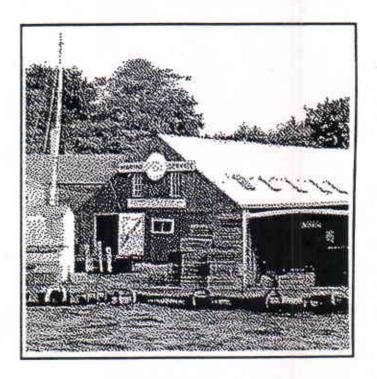# ANALYSIS

ANALYSIS

Findings

The object of the study was twofold:

- to identify those places on the major islands of Penobscot Bay - seen from public roads, byways, and places - which exhibit greater than normal visual quality and which may be eligible for inclusion in the Critical Areas Program of the Maine State Planning Office, and

- to identify those sections of the shoreline on these islands - seen from the waters of Penobscot Bay - which exhibit greater than normal visual quality and which may be eligible for inclusion in the Critical Areas Program of the Maine State Planning Office.

The islands of Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven received both an office and field evaluation. In addition, boat tours were taken around Islesboro and North Haven to initiate a scenic inventory of views seen from the water. Office evaluations were completed for the archipelago between North Haven, Islesboro, and Deer Isle, which include Great Spruce Head, Butter, Eagle, Bradbury, and Pickering Islands.

The methodology used to identify scenic areas on the islands is based upon earlier assessments performed by Holly Dominie and Mary Droege of the State Planning Office for the southern portion of the coast, and Terry DeWan and Don Naetzker for the mainland sites of Penobscot Bay. A complete discussion of the methods used is contained in the Methods: Scenic Areas section of this report. The methodology used to identify scenic areas as viewed from the water is derived from the work that has been performed for the National Park Service by Bruce Jacobson, Holly Dominie, and Annette Naegel. Further discussion of these methods is contained in the Methods: Water Views section of this report.

Both portions of the assessment has concentrated on identifying places, i.e. scenic areas with readily definable boundaries. The scenic areas seen from public viewpoints on land can be compared to large outdoor rooms, defined by a ground plane (e.g. coves, marshes, fields, beaches), walls (e.g. rocky headlands, offshore islands, tall evergreens along the shoreline, summer cottages and fishing shacks), and an overhead plane (usually the sky). Within this "room" might be points of unusual interest - a lighthouse, an historic

fort, a cemetery, a group of islands - that draw the eye and give the scene an added measure of visual interest.

The scenic areas as seen from the water concentrated on identifying places along the continuum of the shoreline which offered a much greater level of visual interest than typically encountered.

The maps of the scenic areas have attempted to define the limits of these places. Usually they are defined by the ridgeline of the surrounding hills or the crest of an island. View arrows indicate the direction of the major view from the primary viewpoint, and the obstructions to the view - usually in the form of islands or nearby hilltops. The viewpoints are the 'windows' into the landscape. Many of the areas are held largely by private interests, limiting public access to the road and the water.

The scale of these places vary considerably. Some of the scenic areas cover only a few acres, while others may encompass an entire waterfront village. In all cases there is at least least one point which allows a view into the scene.

The majority of the islands in Penobscot Bay are remarkably intact, given the development pressure that has taken its toll on so much of the southern Maine coastline. With only a handful of exceptions, the islands, as well as the Bay, are free from overly intrusive signs of civilization. For the most part the roads, villages, and homes on the islands have either been designed with a sensitivity to the natural beauty of the surroundings, or they have been built so long ago that the land has healed itself.

The three major islands, while similar in size, have very distinct personalities and visual characteristics. While Islesboro is the most accessible, it is also a place of great privacy, with relatively few views of the large summer cottages that dot its shoreline. Vinalhaven is primarily a working community, characterized by its protected harbor and many inlets and islands. North Haven is an island of many faces: Fox Island Thorofare, with its large flotilla of pleasure craft, Pulpit Harbor, deeply indented and rooted in the landscape, and Kent Cove, a pastoral landscape of rolling fields, farmsteads, and open views to the large wooded islands surrounding Goose Rocks Lighthouse.

All three of the islands have a major loop road (Islesboro has two) which generally afford the traveller a limited number of water views while passing through largely undeveloped countryside. In addition, each has long winding roads that dead-end at points, offering spectacular slices of Penobscot Bay: vistas rich in islands, passages, and bays.

The landscape of the islands, like that of the rest of Penobscot Bay, is anything but static. Many of the woodlots that confined the views along the ring roads were open sheep pastures a few generations ago. Many of the early panoramas are gone, except where efforts have been taken to mow the fields. As efforts are made to preserve components of the landscape, management decisions will have to address the often conflicting issues of visual access to the water and preservation of the habitats created by existing vegetation.

Ranking

The scenic areas have been numerically scored to assist the Critical Areas Program in evaluating sites which may be of State (or National) significance. In making a determination of significance, the user must keep in mind that the scores do not represent absolute values. Rather, the scores are meant to be used as one component to identify their relative importance, compared to other sites on the islands and the rest of Penobscot Bay.

The areas that scored in the 40's are generally of local (i.e. neighborhood or town-wide) significance, relative to the other areas within Penobscot Bay.

The areas with scores in the 50's and 60's are clearly of high scenic quality, but may not warrant the designation of Critical Area. Each site within this range, however, should be evaluated on an individual basis for a final determination.

The places that scored in the 70's and 80's are clearly of State-wide significance, and some may even be of national importance.

Once the assessment for the entire coastline has been completed the Critical Areas Program should evaluate all the sites which have been deemed to be of State-wide significance to determine which, if any, are of national importance. The final determinations of significance would benefit greatly from public input into the evaluation process.

Categories of Scenic Areas

The Scenic Areas included in the inventory have been sorted into several classifications according to landscape type or significant natural or cultural features. In many respects, the landscape of the islands is a microcosm of Penobscot Bay. The landscape that is visible to the general public ranges from sweeping panoramas to small coves and sheltered harbors.

At the same time, the landscape of the islands is much more intimate and somewhat more subdued than the whole bay. The hills are not as prominent, the fields are smaller and more focussed. A great sense of privacy pervades much of the countryside.

For each entry on the listing the following information is given:

CODE SC   PLACE   ISLAND

The CODE is the reference number for the individual Scenic Area, arranged according to the major island. IS refers to scenic areas on Islesboro, NH refers to North Haven, and VI refers to Vinalhaven.

SC refers to the total scenic evaluation SCore as derived from the data sheets for each site. The PLACE is the name used to describe each of the sites. ISLAND indicates the major island where the scenic area occurs.

The scenic areas are presented in the following categories::

- Table 1 SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY SCORE
- Table 2 SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY ISLAND
- Table 3 VIEWS THAT CONTAIN ISLANDS
- Table 4 VIEWS OF STREAMS OR REACHES
- Table 5 HILLTOP VIEWS FROM PUBLIC ROADS
- Table 6 PROMONTORIES
- Table 7 COASTAL VILLAGES
- Table 8 SETTLEMENTS
- Table 9 COTTAGES
- Table 10 OPEN WATER VIEWS
- Table 11 SEMI-ENCLOSED WATER VIEWS
- Table 12 HARBORS
- Table 13 ENCLOSED WATER VIEWS
- Table 14 POINTS
- Table 15 INTERMITTENT VIEWS
- Table 16 LIGHTHOUSES
- Table 17 BEACHES
- Table 18 MOORINGS

TABLE 1: SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY SCORE

The following is a list of all Scenic Areas arranged by score.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-02	42	Ferry Road	Islesboro
VI-12	45	Winter Harbor	Vinalhaven
IS-07	49	Turtle Head Cove	Islesboro
VI-06	49	Isle Au Haut Mt.	Vinalhaven
VI-11	50	Mill River	Vinalhaven
IS-17	51	Mill Creek	Islesboro
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
IS-03	56	Hinckley Beach	Islesboro
IS-05	55	Crow Cove	Islesboro
NH-14	59	Fresh Pond	North Haven
VI-14	56	Arey Cove	Vinalhaven
IS-10	57	Billy's Shore	Islesboro
NH-15	58	Mill Stream	North Haven
IS-18	58	Broad Cove	Islesboro
IS-12	60	Charlotte's Cove	Islesboro
NH-02	61	Brown's Cove	North Haven
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	Vinalhaven
VI-01B	61	Carver's Pond	Vinalhaven
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	Islesboro
VI-07	62	Vinal Cove	Vinalhaven
VI-04	63	Barton Island	Vinalhaven
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	North Haven
IS-09	63	Sabbathday Harbor	Islesboro
IS-06	63	Seal Harbor	Islesboro
NH-09	66	Banks Cove	North Haven
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	Islesboro
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	North Haven
NH-05	66	Wooster Cove	North Haven
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	North Haven
IS-08	67	Parker Cove	Islesboro
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	Vinalhaven
NH-11	69	Mullen Cove	North Haven
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	Vinalhaven
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	Vinalhaven
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	Islesboro
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	Islesboro
IS-04	71	West Side Road	Islesboro
VI-05	72	The Basin	Vinalhaven
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	Vinalhaven
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	North Haven

VI-15	73	Ambrust Hill	Vinalhaven
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	Vinalhaven
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	Islesboro
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	Islesboro
NH-08	77	North Shore Road	North Haven
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	North Haven
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	Vinalhaven
NH-04	83	Ames Knob	North Haven
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	North Haven
VI-02	86	Lane Island	Vinalhaven

TABLE 2: SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY ISLAND

The following is a list of the Scenic Areas identified within the Islands study area, arranged by island in order of increasing score.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-02	42	Ferry Road	Islesboro
IS-07	49	Turtle Head Cove	
IS-17	51	Mill Creek	
IS-05	55	Crow Cove	
IS-03	56	Hinckley Beach	
IS-10	57	Billy's Shore	
IS-18	58	Broad Cove	
IS-12	60	Charlotte's Cove	
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	
IS-06	63	Seal Harbor	
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	
IS-08	67	Parker Cove	
IS-09	67	Sabbathday Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
IS-04	71	West Side Road	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
NH-15	58	Mill Stream	
NH-14	59	Fresh Pond	
NH-02	61	Brown's Cove	
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-09	66	Banks Cove	
NH-05	66	Wooster Cove	
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	

NH-11	69	Mullen Cove	
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	
NH-08	77	North Shore Road	
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	
NH-04	83	Ames Knob	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-12	45	Winter Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-06	49	Isle Au Haut Mt.	
VI-11	50	Mill River	
VI-14	56	Arey Cove	
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	
VI-01B	61	Carver's Pond	
VI-07	62	Vinal Cove	
VI-04	63	Barton Island	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-05	72	The Basin	
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	
VI-15	73	Ambrust Hill	
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 3: VIEWS OF ISLANDS

The following is a list of places where smaller offshore islands are significant elements in the view. Due to the configuration of the shoreline and the proximity of the large islands to each other, most of the views on Islesboro, North Haven, and Vinalhaven include a portion of one of the other islands. There are very few locations where the view includes a substantial number of islands.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-18	58	Broad Cove	Islesboro
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	
IS-08	67	Parker Cove	
IS-04	71	West Side Road	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	North Haven
NH-09	66	Banks Cove	
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	
NH-11	69	Mullen Cove	

NH-08	77	North Shore Road	
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	
VI-14	56	Arey Cove	Vinalhaven
VI-04	61	Barton Island	
VI-09	63	Brown's Head	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	
VI-15	73	Ambrust Hill	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 4: STREAMS AND REACHES

The following are places on the Islands where the primary water view is to a tidal stream or a V-shaped reach of Penobscot Bay. Most of these locations have relatively close opposite shorelines parallel to the viewing area. There are no rivers of any significance on any of the islands.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-17	51	Mill Creek	Islesboro
IS-05	55	Crow Cove	
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	
NH-15	58	Mill Stream	North Haven
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-12	45	Winter Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-11	50	Mill River	
VI-07	62	Vinal Cove	
VI-04	63	Barton Island	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	

TABLE 5: HILLTOP VIEWS FROM PUBLIC ROADS

The following scenic areas have hilltop viewpoints, offering panoramic views of the Penobscot Bay region and the landscape surrounding it, which are accessible from public roadways. The major focus of these viewpoints is the water view.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	Islesboro
IS-08	67	Parker Cove	
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-08	77	North Shore Road	
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	Vinalhaven
VI-01C	62	Sand Cove	

TABLE 6: PROMONTORIES

Promontories require some additional effort, i.e., hiking off the public road, to reach a significant, elevated viewpoint. In all cases the locations are either on public property, on land that has been eased for public access, or has been traditionally used by the public. Several additional promontories not included on this list are known locally and offer equally spectacular views, but did not qualify under the public access criteria. The major focus of most of these viewpoints is the view to the water.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
NH-04	83	Ames Knob	North Haven
VI-06	49	Isle Au Haut Mt.	Vinalhaven
VI-15	73	Ambrust Hill	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	

TABLE 7: COASTAL VILLAGES

Villages tend to have well defined waterfronts, a cohesive residential and commercial center, and a physical orientation to a protected harbor. The village of Vinalhaven is described under four different locations.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	North Haven
VI-01B	61	Carver's Pond	Vinalhaven
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	

TABLE 8: SETTLEMENTS

Settlements are smaller residential or mixed use areas, ranging in size from a handful of homes to well known summer communities. They are generally smaller than villages and lack the number and variety of commercial establishments.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	Islesboro
IS-09	67	Sabbathday Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
NH-02	61	Brown's Cove	
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-14	56	Arey Cove	Vinalhaven
VI-01B	61	Carver's Pond	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	

TABLE 9: COTTAGES

The development of the large summer cottage communities has
played an important role in the cultural history of the islands. While
North Haven, Vinalhaven, and especially Islesboro have hundreds of
these monuments to an earlier era, most remain hidden from view
along the public roadways.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	Islesboro
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	
IS-04	71	West Side Road	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
NH-05	66	Wooster Cove	North Haven
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	Vinalhaven

TABLE 10: OPEN WATER VIEWS

The following are the places on the Islands where the view is to open
ocean, or to islands or other land masses that are within the
background viewing range (greater than three miles). The majority
of the views are somewhat constrained by nearby islands.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-07	49	Turtle Head Cove	Islesboro
IS-12	60	Charlotte's Cove	
IS-14	62	Main Road Overlook	
IS-08	67	Parker Cove	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	
HN-10	63	Mullen Head	North Haven
NH-05	66	Wooster Cove	
NH-08	77	North Shore Road	
NH-04	83	Ames Knob	
VI-06	49	Isle Au Haut Mt.	Vinalhaven
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	
VI-15	73	Ambrust Hill	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 11: SEMI-ENCLOSED VIEWS

When seen from the primary public viewpoint, these scenic areas - primarily harbors and coves - are partially enclosed by islands or other land masses. The areas with the higher scores are usually an indication of greater shoreline configuration.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-02	42	Ferry Road	Islesboro
IS-17	51	Mill Creek	
IS-05	55	Crow Cove	
IS-03	56	Hinckley Beach	
IS-10	57	Billy's Shore	
IS-18	58	Broad Cove	
IS-12	60	Charlotte's Cove	
IS-06	63	Seal Harbor	
IS-09	67	Sabbathday Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-09	66	Banks Cove	
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	
NH-04	83	Ames Knob	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-14	56	Arey Cove	Vinalhaven
VI-04	63	Barton Island	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 12: HARBORS

Harbors are noted for their sense of protection, enclosure, and variety of vessels. The harbors are among the most richly historic and scenic areas on the islands. The character the harbors varies considerably from island to island, from bustling fishing villages to quiet coves.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-06	63	Seal Harbor	Islesboro
IS-09	67	Sabbathday Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Point Road	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	North Haven
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	

TABLE 13: ENCLOSED WATER VIEWS

In many places the landforms appear to enclose the body of water, creating highly focussed views in the foreground and midground. Many of the most interesting water views are found within these places, since they tend to have highly configured shorelines, many islands, and prominent architectural features.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-13	65	Dark Harbor	Islesboro
NH-15	58	Mill Stream	North Haven
NH-14	59	Fresh Pond	
NH-02	61	Brown's Cove	
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	
NH-11	69	Mullen Cove	
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-12	45	Winter Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-11	50	Mill River	
VI-01B	61	Carver's Pond	

VI-07	62	Vinal Cove
VI-03	68	Old Harbor
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek
VI-05	72	The Basin

TABLE 14: POINTS

The following are places where the landform terminates in a point, usually jutting out into Penobscot Bay or a harbor. These points are visually significant because they often allow the observer to have a panoramic view of the water greater than 180 degrees.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	Islesboro
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	North Haven
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	Vinalhaven
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor (Smith Point)	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 15: INTERMITTENT VIEWS

The following are the places where several views to the water occur within a defined along a highway or in a village. Where the views are broken by trees or buildings, the observer may not get the sense of the panoramic setting.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-04	71	West Side Road	Islesboro
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	North Haven
NH-08	77	North Shore Road	

TABLE 16: LIGHTHOUSES

The following are the locations where lighthouses can be seen on the Islands. This listing only includes those lights on Islesboro, North Haven, and Vinalhaven, since a number of other lighthouses are visible in the more distant background in a few locations.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	Islesboro
NH-13	78	Kent Cove	North Haven
VI-09	61	Brown's Head	Vinalhaven

TABLE 17: BEACHES

The following beaches are found on the Islands. While many of the beaches are suitable for swimming, several are very coarse textured and offer limited swimming opportunities. This listing does not differentiate between public beaches, private beaches that the public has rights to, and private beaches.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-07	49	Turtle Head Cove	Islesboro
IS-03	56	Hinckley Beach	
IS-12	60	Charlotte's Cove	
IS-15	74	Pendleton Point	
NH-10	63	Mullen Head	North Haven
NH-09	66	Banks Cove	
NH-05	66	Wooster Cove	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	Vinalhaven
VI-13	72	Geary's Beach	
VI-02	86	Lane Island	

TABLE 18: MOORINGS

The following are the places on the Islands where both pleasure boats and working boats are moored, at least throughout the summer.

CODE	SC	PLACE	ISLAND
IS-05	55	Crow Cove	Islesboro
IS-03	56	Hinckley Beach	
IS-06	63	Seal Harbor	
IS-09	67	Sabbathday Harbor	
IS-16	70	Kissel Road Point	
IS-11	71	Islesboro Harbor	
IS-01	74	Grindle Point	
NH-06	52	Bartlett Harbor	North Haven
NH-02	61	Brown's Cove	
NH-03	65	Southern Harbor	
NH-12	67	Little Thorofare	
NH-01	72	North Haven Village	
NH-07	84	Pulpit Harbor	
VI-03	68	Old Harbor	Vinalhaven
VI-10	70	Fox Island Thorofare	
VI-01D	70	Indian Creek	
VI-01C	73	Sand Cove	
VI-01A	79	Carvers Harbor	
VI-08	80	Crockett Cove	

Water Views

There are many fundamental differences between viewing land from the water and viewing water from land. Many are a function of the experience of being in a boat, with all its unique characteristics:

- The amount and aspect of the view can easily be changed by altering the position of the viewer. Moving parallel to the shoreline has a scrolling effect, altering the content of the view. Moving perpendicular to the shoreline alters the perspective of the scene and the viewer's relationship with the landscape.

- The viewer in a small boat has virtually unlimited control over where to travel; there are no 'Keep Out' or 'Private Property' signs posted on the water. In effect, all views from the water are public views, and scenic inventories should consider them as such.

- The relatively slow speed of a boat (compared to a moving vehicle) allows greater time for reflection and appreciation of the scenery. Boaters are usually able to see farther ahead and become aware of transitions in land use and scenic character. The landscape 'unfolds' at a much slower, but more deliberate, pace.

- Larger boats, especially the public ferries, are usually not able to maneuver close enough to the shoreline to appreciate the finer details in the landscape. At distances up to 1/4 to 1/2 mile the gross patterns of landform, vegetation, and changes in land use are the most important components of visual quality.

- While a boat is confined to movements within a two dimensional plane, the degree and direction of movement is infinite, and visual compositions can easily be changed.

- The views of the water (foreground) are affected by tides, wind, rain, and temperature. This is especially noticeable in the shallower coves, where the amount of water that is visible may vary widely during the course of the day.

- The sense of enclosure that the boater feels is a function of the proximity of nearby land masses, the height of the land mass within 1/4 mile of the water, and the type and height of vegetative cover.

Views of water from land have their own set of characteristics that set them apart from water-based views.

- The majority of public views from land are from fixed points (overlooks, clearings) or lines (roadways, paths). With so much of the land in Penobscot Bay and on the major islands held privately,

viewers usually have little ability to adjust their position to get a better view.

- Travelling along a winding road is a three-dimensional experience, placing the viewer in a variety of settings relative to the landscape being observed. With careful planning, the experience can be greatly enriched through a number of techniques: e.g., selective openings, directed views, framing, roadside pullouts, hiking trails, and interpretive exhibits.

- Since so much of Penobscot Bay is heavily wooded and privately held, gross landform patterns are generally not perceived by the motoring public. Landscape is experienced as a sequence of visual vignettes, or snapshots, often without a good sense of the connections between them.

- Viewing locations have often been established by traditional economic uses of the land (farming, blueberry harvesting, clearing for residential or recreational use), foresight (conservation easements, state or local parks), or the fortuitous location of roads or utility rights of way. Vegetation management practices (e.g., roadside thinning or opening of view corridors) can be used to reestablish overgrown views or open new viewing opportunities.

- Scenic areas can be appreciated at a variety of levels: the detail level (yellow moss on weathered rocks, tidal pools, ornate carvings on a sea captain's house); the pattern level (fields of wildflowers at the edge of a poplar forest, rhythmic patterns of white houses ascending a hillside); the composition level (scenic areas, as described in the report). A distinct sense of place is created by the unique relationship between all aspects of the landscape.

Similarities exist between the two viewing opportunities:

- The quality of the view is highly dependent upon natural processes: weather conditions, season of the year, and lighting. This variability and sense of mystery and surprise acts as a magnet, drawing people into the landscape.

- At longer distances (midground and background viewing range) the effect of atmospheric perspective can soften the contrast caused by new development and inharmonious lands use activities.

- The characteristics of landforms, waterform, vegetative patterns, and cultural modifications are important determinants of visual character.