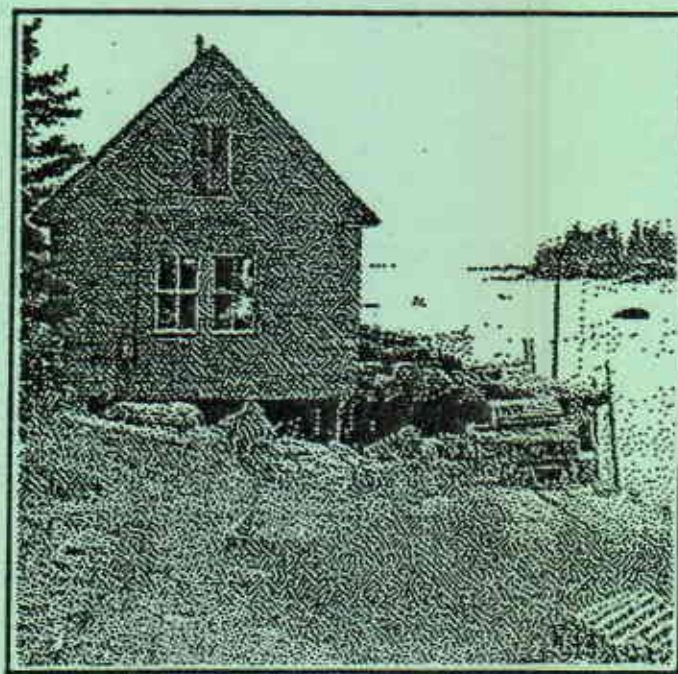
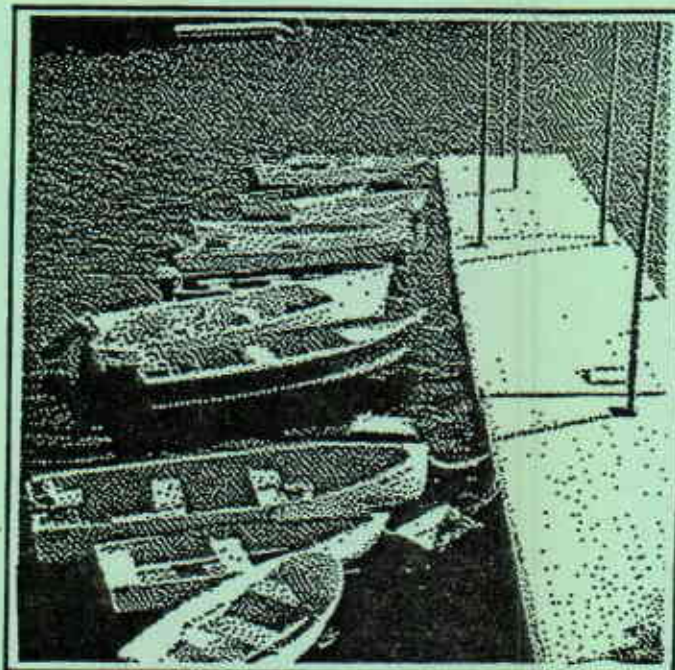


# SCENIC INVENTORY

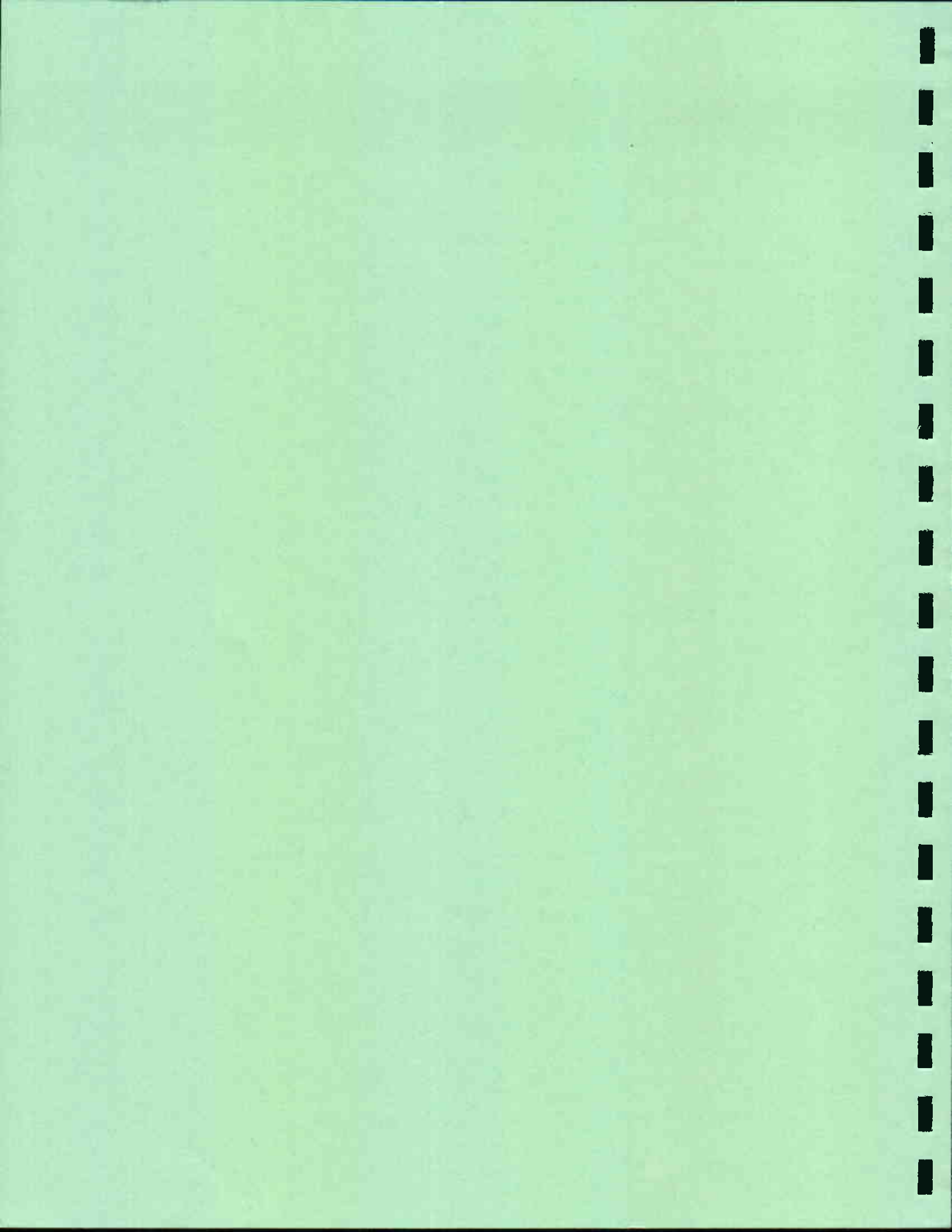
## Islesboro, Vinalhaven, North Haven, and Associated Offshore Islands

CRITICAL AREAS PROGRAM OF THE MAINE STATE PLANNING OFFICE



TERRENCE J. DEWAN & ASSOCIATES  
JUNE 1992

YARMOUTH, MAINE



**SCENIC INVENTORY**  
**ISLESBORO, VINALHAVEN,**  
**NORTH HAVEN, AND ASSOCIATED**  
**OFFSHORE ISLANDS**

**PENOBSCOT BAY, MAINE**

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**Yarmouth, Maine**

**A Report Prepared for the**  
**Maine Critical Areas Program**  
**State Planning Office**  
**184 State Street**  
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**June, 1992**







# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABSTRACT</b>	i
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	ii
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	1
<b>METHODS: SCENIC AREAS</b>	7
Physiographic Regions	9
Summary of Method	10
Rationale for Selecting Indicators	11
Scenic Indicator Ratings	14
Limitations of the Method	19
<b>METHODS: WATER VIEWS</b>	21
Islesboro	26
Vinalhaven	28
North Haven	30
Associated Islands	32
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	35
Findings	37
Ranking	39
Categories of Scenic Areas	39
Water Views	53
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	55
<b>ISLESBORO</b>	61
<b>VINALHAVEN</b>	107
<b>NORTH HAVEN</b>	153
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	193
<b>REFERENCES</b>	203

# LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

FIGURE 1	PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGIONS OF THE MAINE COAST	4
FIGURE 2	STUDY AREA	5
FIGURE 3	SCENIC WATER VIEWS: ISLESBORO	25
FIGURE 4	SCENIC WATER VIEWS: VINALHAVEN	27
FIGURE 5	SCENIC WATER VIEWS: NORTH HAVEN	29
FIGURE 6	SCENIC WATER VIEWS: OFFSHORE ISLANDS	31
FIGURE 7	KEY TO MAPS	65
TABLE 1	SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY SCORE	41
TABLE 2	SCENIC AREAS SORTED BY ISLAND	42
TABLE 3	VIEWS THAT CONTAIN ISLANDS	43
TABLE 4	VIEWS OF STREAMS OR REACHES	44
TABLE 5	HILLTOP VIEWS FROM PUBLIC ROADS	45
TABLE 6	PROMONTORIES	45
TABLE 7	COASTAL VILLAGES	46
TABLE 8	SETTLEMENTS	46
TABLE 9	COTTAGES	47
TABLE 10	OPEN WATER VIEWS	47
TABLE 11	SEMI-ENCLOSED WATER VIEWS	48
TABLE 12	HARBORS	49
TABLE 13	ENCLOSED WATER VIEWS	49
TABLE 14	POINTS	50
TABLE 15	INTERMITTENT VIEWS	50
TABLE 16	LIGHTHOUSES	51
TABLE 17	BEACHES	51
TABLE 18	MOORINGS	52

## ABSTRACT

Maine's islands have always had a mystical allure. Crossing open water takes the average person to another place, another era, bringing out the explorer in all of us. The islands of Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven are powerful places with strong identities. Each is unique, yet each is very much a part of Penobscot Bay. All three places still maintain active year-round populations that swell with the great influx of summer visitors.

The focus of this study is an inventory of the significant scenic areas on each of these islands, as seen from public access points and the major viewsheds. The methodology used to identify scenic areas on land is derived from A Proposed Method for Coastal Scenic Landscape Assessment, by Holly Dominie and Mary Droege, 1987, and refined in the Scenic Inventory, Mainland Sites of Penobscot Bay, by Terry DeWan and Don Naetzker, 1990. The method is a "professional" approach to scenic assessment, which uses trained observers to evaluate the landscape in terms of eight scenic indicators.

The methodology involves both an office phase and field investigation. During the desktop evaluation all the land masses on each of the islands were evaluated to identify potential scenic areas, based upon a review of landform, open land, shoreline configuration, special scenic features, and views to water. After the completion of the field visits, which looked at landscape character, vegetation, and landscape composition, a list of 51 scenic areas was developed which are described in the report. The areas of highest scenic character are clearly of state-wide significance.

Nineteen sites are recommended to be evaluated for inclusion on the Critical Areas Register. An additional 28 places, of moderate to high scenic quality, warrant further field investigation and verification before being considered for Critical Area status. Four additional sites of generally local significance are also described. The relatively small number of sites at the lower end is both a reflection of the initial filtering process and the uniformly high level of scenic quality throughout the islands.

In addition to the detailed evaluation of scenic areas seen from the land, the study assesses views of the land as seen from the water. The methodology, which is still being refined, is based upon Evaluation of Island Resources, Hancock County and Portion of Knox County, Maine by Bruce Jacobson and Holly Dominie, 1988, and The Second Report of The Evaluation of Island Resources, by Annette Naegel. Both of these documents were prepared for Acadia National Park as part of the management plan for the islands within the viewshed of the park. As a result of this portion of the evaluation, over 70 areas with significant scenic quality have been identified for further evaluation.

In addition to describing and mapping each site, the report includes management recommendations where appropriate to guide local and state officials with specific actions to preserve or improve the visual environment.



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**We are grateful to many people who have contributed their time and expertise on this project.**

**Hank Tyler, Dick Kelly, and Jim Bernard of the State Planning Office for their foresight in establishing this program and perseverance in its continuation.**

**Earle MacKenzie, Sherman Cooper, and Marge and Ambrose Peterson for providing logistic support and guided tours on and around the islands.**

**Holly Dominie and Mary Droege, for the groundbreaking work that they did for the State Planning Office in developing the methodology for scenic assessments in Maine.**

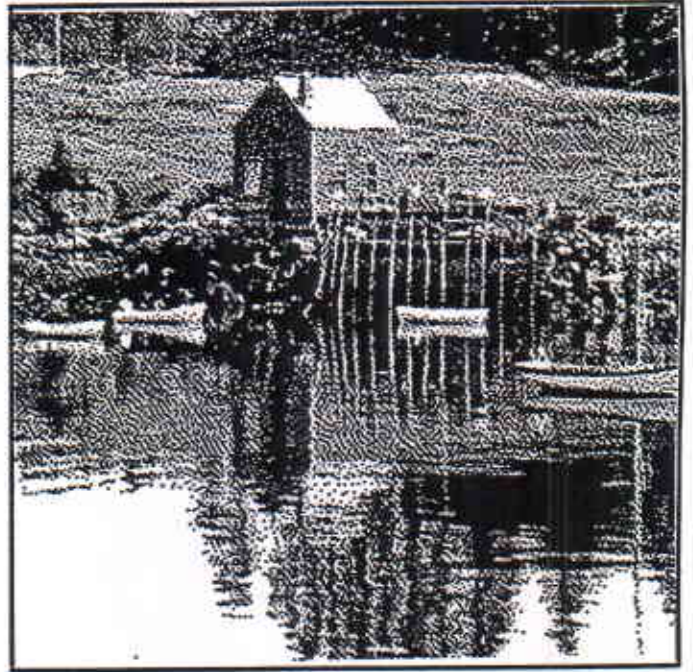
**Laura Baxley, TJD&A, for participation in the field work, mapping, and preparation of the final report.**

**We have appreciated the opportunity to work with Hank Tyler of the Critical Areas Program and to benefit from his expertise.**

**Terry DeWan**

**Yarmouth, Maine  
June 1992**

# INTRODUCTION







# INTRODUCTION

Maine, along with many other states and Federal Agencies, has become increasingly aware of the value and the fragility of its scenic resources. The Maine Legislature has directed the State Planning Office to conduct inventories identifying botanical, zoological, geological, and scenic areas in Maine of statewide significance as part of the process of compiling the Register of Critical Areas (Title 5 Sections 3310 - 3314). During the past few years the State Planning Office has conducted or administered scenic inventories of southern coastal Maine (Dominie and Droege, 1987), Penobscot Bay (DeWan and Naetzker, 1990), scenic lakes in the unorganized towns (Jones, 1986), and scenic lakes in the organized towns (Lortie, 1989).

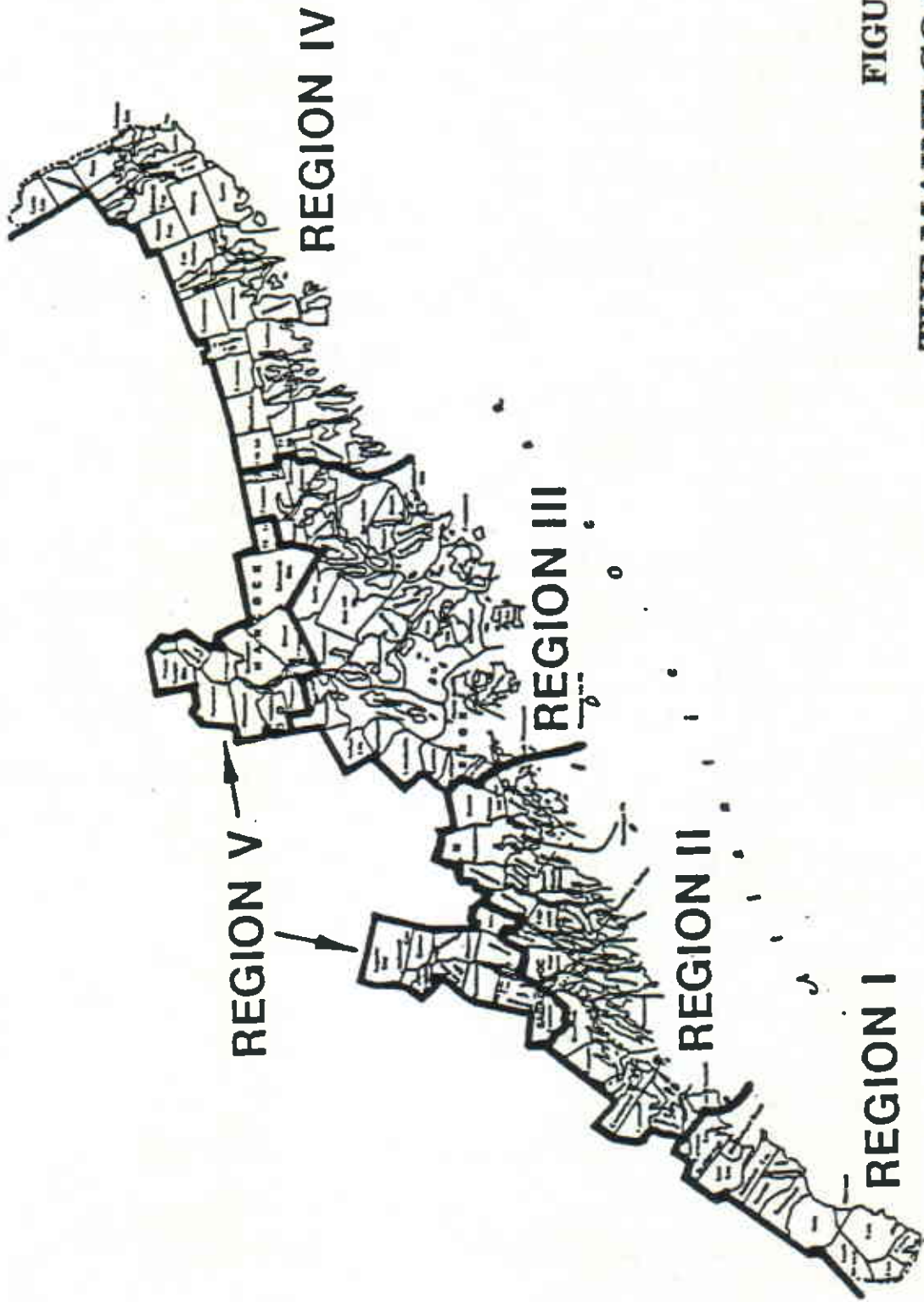
In 1978 Paul Adamus, writing in The Natural Regions of Maine, described the Coast of Maine as being comprised of five physiographic, relatively homogeneous natural regions. Region III, The Greater Penobscot Bay, is one of those areas, delineated by the bounds of Penobscot Bay, and extending from Muscongus Bay to Frenchmans Bay (Adamus, 1978). Figure 1 illustrates the Coast, showing the five physiographic regions.

In 1990 the State Planning Office contracted with Terrence J. DeWan & Associates, Yarmouth, Maine to prepare a Scenic Inventory of Islesboro, North Haven, and Vinalhave and Associated Offshore Islands. The purpose of this study was to document significant scenic areas as viewed from public roads and other public access points, views from the islands, and offshore islands. Figure 2 illustrates the limits of the study area.

The information gathered as part of this inventory will be available for a number of agencies and interest groups, among which are:

- The Critical Areas Program of the State Planning Office
- The Geographic Information Office
- The Department of Environment Protection
- The Land for Maine's Future Board
- The Maine Department of Transportation
- The Maine Tourism Council
- The Maine Film Commission
- Local town officials
- Local Planning Boards
- Local Comprehensive Planning Committees
- The Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Nature Conservancy
- Local land trusts

Further discussion regarding the use of this information is found in the Recommendations section.



**FIGURE 1**  
**THE MAINE COAST**  
**PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGIONS**  
 Source: The Natural Regions of Maine, by Paul Adamus, 1978



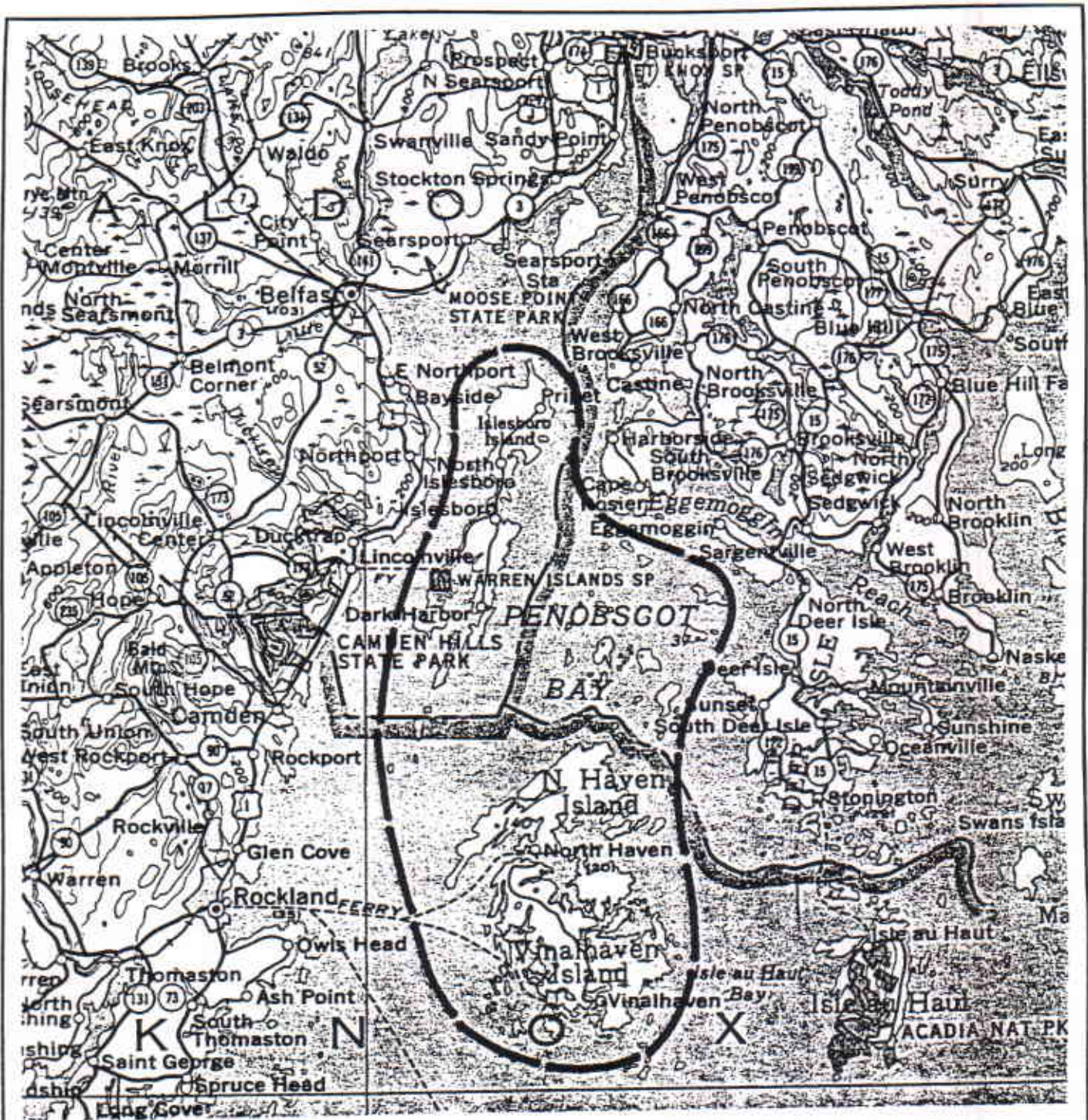


FIGURE 2

# STUDY AREA

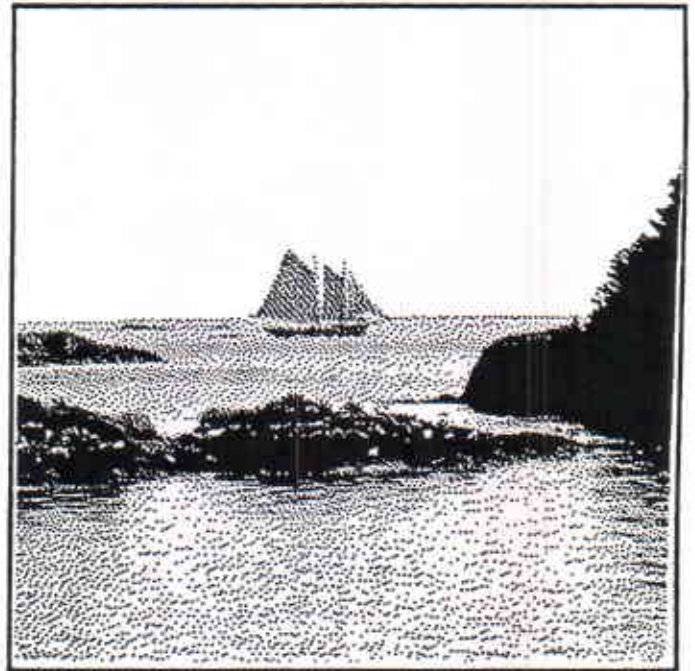
## SCENIC INVENTORY

Islesboro, Vinalhaven, North Haven, and  
Associated Offshore Islands





# METHODS: SCENIC AREAS





## METHODS: SCENIC AREAS

The methodology used to identify scenic areas on the islands of Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven was derived from A Proposed Method for Coastal Scenic Landscape Assessment, by Holly Dominie and Mary Droege, 1987, and the Scenic Inventory, Mainland Sites of Penobscot Bay, by Terry DeWan and Don Naetzker, 1990. These studies were sponsored by the Critical Areas Program as part of an ongoing effort to conduct scenic inventories throughout the coastal region. The assumptions that were made for these earlier works were evaluated and changes made where necessary to suit the specific conditions of the Penobscot Bay islands. The majority of the text in this section is adopted from these earlier sources.

### Physiographic Regions

The approach used in this study recognizes that visual character varies by physiography (USDA Forest Service, 1974). The State Planning Office has identified five physiographic regions in coastal Maine, based upon The Natural Regions of Maine, Adamus, 1978:

- Region I: Southern beaches and estuaries
- Region II: Mid-Coast Maine, with its linear peninsulas and bays
- Region III: Penobscot Bay, characterized by numerous granitic islands
- Region IV: Downeast Maine, with its rocky headlands and bluffs
- Region V: Rolling headlands and forested regions along the great tidal rivers and adjacent to the coast.

These Regions are shown on Figure 1.

Adamus describes Penobscot Bay, including the major islands, as part of the Greater Penobscot Bay Subregion of the Coastal Region of Maine. It is primarily bounded by Penobscot Bay, but actually extends from Muscongus Bay to Frenchmans Bay. The rocky islands are more numerous here than elsewhere on the coast. The majority of the islands are rather rounded and dome-like. The Camden Hills, the mountains of Mount Desert Island, and the Blue Hill region, which form the background for many of the views from the islands, are actually part of the Uplands Region. The shoreline of the islands, typical of the whole of Penobscot Bay, are moderately indented, except in the western portion of the bay, between Rockland and Belfast, where the coast is relatively straight.

Sand beaches are scarce throughout the region. More ponds and freshwater wetlands are present in this region of the coast than the areas to the southwest. All three islands have extensive areas of freshwater wetlands. Spruce-fir forests occur over much of the islands and immediate coastal areas.

Land use in Penobscot Bay as a whole tends to be more rural than in the southern coastal areas. Many overgrown agricultural fields extend to the water, affording

periodic views from the public roads. Seasonal homes are common throughout the Bay, taking advantage of the highly diverse landscape and views of the water. A strong fishing industry still exists in the larger towns, villages, and seaports. Tourism, centered around the Camden/Rockport area, is a mainstay of the local economy. Granite cutting, taking advantage of one of the Bay's most abundant natural resources, had been a major source of employment up until fifty years ago.

## Summary of Method

The method developed by Dominie and modified for this report is a "professional approach" rather than a "public approach". This means that it relies upon the judgement of trained observers in the evaluation of factors chosen to indicate scenic quality. Public methods rely upon public involvement in making judgements about scenic quality. The rating criteria for this approach have been selected because they have been demonstrated, through research into public perception, to be important indicators of what constitutes a scenic landscape.

Eight indicators of scenic quality form the basis of the rating scheme. Where these indicators occur in close proximity with one another, the area is considered to be of high scenic quality. The indicators evaluated include:

- landform
- open land
- shoreline configuration
- special scenic features
- views of water
- land use
- vegetation
- overall landscape composition and effect.

The first five indicators were evaluated by examining data from existing USGS maps and other sources of mapped information; the remaining three were assessed in the field.

The basic steps of the procedure are outlined below:

**Step I - Determine Scenic Indicators:** A sample analysis of topographic information, slopes, open spaces, shoreline configuration, scenic features, and water view indicators was performed for a sample evaluation of the Rockland-Camden area in 1989 during the initial phase of the Penobscot Bay Scenic Inventory. Results of these test sites were evaluated with the Critical Areas Program staff and used to set minimum standards for the mainland sites of Penobscot Bay. All the criteria used in the mainland study were re-evaluated and some adjustments made to account for the more subtle topographic changes, the smaller scale of development, and the more limited amount and size of open spaces on the islands.



**Step II - Office Rating of Scenic Indicators:** Landform, open land, shoreline configuration, special scenic features, and views of water were rated in the office and the data transferred to acetate overlays. The likely candidate areas became apparent once the overlays and topographic maps were evaluated. Results were recorded on Preliminary Scenic Area Evaluation Forms and became the basis for the field work.

**Step III - Field Evaluation of Preliminary Sites:** Each Preliminary Scenic Area was field evaluated during the summer of 1990 to rate land use, vegetation, and overall composition and effect. Viewshed management recommendations and additional comments were recorded for inclusion on the Scenic Area Evaluation Form. Photographic documentation in 35 mm slide form was made using a 50 mm lens. The slides are on file at the office of the Critical Areas Program. A color photograph of each site was also taken and used in the master copy of the final report. Boundaries of each scenic area were later drafted on USGS maps of the area. The graphic analysis of each area also show the extent of the views, the number of public viewpoints, and the approximate viewing angle.

**Step IV - Classification:** The office and field ratings were combined and the scenic areas classified into groupings that could be considered of local, statewide, and national significance.

## **Rationale for Selecting Indicators**

The field of visual assessment has matured considerably over the past two decades. There is now substantial information about what people perceive to be scenic in the American landscape. Since only one perception study has been conducted in Maine (by Steinitz, for Acadia National Park, 1990) we must infer from studies of other landscapes what is considered to be scenic along the Maine coast. The eight indicators were selected for this study for the following reasons:

- 1. Landform.** Some aspect of landform is nearly always a major factor in expert-based scenic assessments. Past measures have included landform variety (USDA Forest Service, 1974), landform type (Linton, 1968), steep topography (Lewis, 1963), and others. These studies have assumed that as relief or slope increases, the scenic value of a place will also increase. This assumption has generally been validated in public preference tests. Zube et. al. (1974) found that along with land-use diversity and naturalism, relative relief was an important predictor of scenic preference. This finding has also been supported in research by Miller (1984), Pitt (1976), Pearce & Walters (1983), and others.
- 2. Open Land.** Open land is defined here as maintained or abandoned agricultural land or wetland. Open land was inventoried for the scenic assessment for a number of reasons. Land use diversity, especially agricultural and natural land uses, has been shown to be an important predictor of scenic preference (Zube, 1973). Open space in a landscape

which is mostly forested, as is Maine, adds visual variety, complexity, and interest. In general, variety, complexity, or diversity are all accepted and frequently use indicators in scenic assessments (Litton, 1982; US Forest Service, 1974; Barringer, 1982), and have withstood the scrutiny of empirical testing (e.g. Kaplan, Kaplan & Wendt, 1972; Miller, 1984; McCarthy, 1979). Open areas in the Maine coastal landscape also take on special significance in that they frequently provide visual access to the water and are often seen in the context of old farmsteads, stone walls, specimen trees, and other memorable features.

- 3. Shoreline Configuration.** Configuration refers to the amount of irregularity in the shoreline. Shorelines with coves, points, islands, promontories, bays, peninsulas, and other features are considered more configured than those with straight, uncomplicated shorelines. Shoreline landscape assessments nearly always include some measure of shoreline configuration as an indicator of scenic value (Harper et. al. 1978; Mann, 1975). There is little direct support for this measure in the research, but there is considerable evidence of a broader nature. As mentioned previously, complexity is a widely accepted determinant of preference; configuration increases complexity. Another aspect underlying shoreline configuration is that of enclosure. Those areas showing high configuration tend to give the perceiver a stronger feeling of being enclosed by the landscape. This landscape characteristic has been shown to be related to scenic preference (Ward, 1977; Pearce & Waters, 1983; Gobster, 1986).
- 4. Special Scenic Features.** Special scenic features are natural or cultural features which, by their mere presence, have a positive influence on people's perception of scenic quality. Examples include beaches, lighthouses, harbors, and historic sites (Pemaquid, 1986; Sterling, 1935), historic forts (Maine Atlas, 1985), working harbors (Acheson, 1978; DOT 1978 & 1986, Merrill, 1986 pers. comm.), historic wrecked schooners (Maine Atlas, 1985), and beaches (Duffy, pers. comm. 1986; Maine Geological Survey, 1986). Expert-based scenic shoreland assessment often include cultural and natural features of this type in their checklists criteria (Harper et. al. 1978; Lewis, 1963). There is evidence that cultural features hold symbolic meaning for society and influence public perceptions of the visual quality of an area (Anderson, 1981). There is also considerable evidence that shows beaches are a highly preferred type of shoreland scenery. In Zube & McLaughlin's Virgin Island Study (1978) sand beaches ranked highest over 15 coastal types. Studies by Palmer (1978) in Massachusetts and Banerjee and Bollub (1976) in California agree.
- 5. Views of Water from Major Roads.** It is generally accepted that the presence of water can be a powerful predictor of scenic preference (Kaplan, 1977; Litton et. al. 1971). Some researchers have shown that view quality can depend on specific characteristics of the view in relation to the observer. Litton (1972) suggest that two of these characteristics include

the position of the observer in relation to the focus of a view, and the distance one can see in a view. "Superior" views, views in which the observer is looking down upon the landscape, and views that one can see for a long distance, often have higher scenic value than those that are blocked or partially enclosed. Federal land management agencies have developed methods for visual resource evaluation rating to determine how long a view lasts and the size of the resource seen. They contend that lands which more people see for long periods of time and during periods of recreational activity are more aesthetically important than those which few people see or are seen for only short periods of time. Lands with the highest sensitivity include areas seen from major roads for long duration. By this same rationale, large water bodies have higher value than smaller ones because more people see them (USDA Forest Service, 1974).

6. **Land Use.** Land uses encompass the changes people make to the landscape. Perception studies conducted under the auspices of the USDA Soil Conservation Service for towns in Massachusetts (Dominie, 1976; Palmer, 1978; and USDA SCS, 1978) identify many cultural modifications of the environment that either detract or contribute to scenic quality. Pastoral, symbolic features, and traditional uses, are positive components while landscape scars and obtrusive structures are detractors, for instance. Land use compatibility, the degree to which development is visually unified with its setting, also has a positive influence on perceptions (Nassauer, 1978). Overall condition is a measure of how well the landscape is cared for.
7. **Vegetation.** Visually interesting or functional vegetation is frequently included in visual assessments. The presence of vegetation used for screening and softening the built environment has been documented as a positive influence on perceptions (Palmer, 1978). Other research has shown that forest and field edges, agricultural patterns, and manicured landscapes are also positive predictors of scenic quality (Zube, Pitt, and Anderson, 1974).
8. **Landscape Composition and Effect.** The overall effect of the landscape is important as well. The better the coherence and ease with which a landscape and its parts are understood (Kaplan R., 1975), the higher the mystery (Kaplan, R., 1975) and land use diversity (Zube, 1973), and the greater the degree of naturalism (Zube, 1973; Kaplan et. al. 1972), the more scenic an area is likely to be perceived. Roads that change elevation are also considered more scenic (Palmer, 1978).



## Scenic Indicator Ratings

The eight Scenic Indicators were assigned a value corresponding to its relative importance in the scenic rating. A total of 100 points was allocated to rate each Scenic Area, apportioned among the following indicators.

1. Landform		9 Points
Elevation	6 Pts.	
Slope	3 Pts.	
2. Open Land		6 Points
3. Shoreline Configuration		6 Points
4. Scenic Features		9 Points
5. Scenic Quality of Water		30 Points
Duration	9 Pts.	
Type of Water	12 Pts.	
Qual. of Horizon	9 Pts.	
6. Landscape Character		22 Points
Land Use	7 Pts.	
Road Design	6 Pts.	
Settlement	9 Pts.	
7. Vegetation		9 Points
8. Landscape Composition		9 Points
<b>Total</b>		<b>100 Points</b>

## Scenic Indicators

The following section describes the indicators that were used, their relative values, and provisions for determining scores for each indicator.

**1. Landform:** The islands of Penobscot Bay are not known for their great change in elevation or significant landforms. A review of the ridgetops, heights of land, and hilltops within the study area yielded an average height of 110'. The heights sampled ranged in elevation between 10' and 210'. The hills and mountains of special interest include Ames Knob on North Haven (140'), and Isle Au Haut Mountaint (el. 180'), Ambrust Hill (el. 110'), and Tiptoe Mountain (el. 136') on Vinalhaven. A number of other rounded hills add variety to the silhouette of the islands, especially when viewed from the mainland or from the waters of Penobscot Bay.

**Elevation.** When compared to the mainland, even relatively slight changes in elevation were found to be significant. Points were awarded to landforms having the following elevations:

50' - 75'	1 Point
75'-100'	3 Points
Over 100'	6 Points

**Slope.** A sampling of slopes along the coastal region of Penobscot Bay demonstrated a range of between 4% and 55% with a significant average of 19%. Points were awarded to scenic areas having the following sustained gradients within the viewshed of the public viewpoint:

25%-40%	2 Point
Over 40%	3 Points

2. **Open Spaces:** A sampling of open spaces was taken based on USGS quad sheet information in order to qualify sizes of significant parcels. Open areas ranged in size from 2-3 acres to 25 acres. Several types of open space are found on the islands: agricultural fields (both active and abandoned), freshwater and saltwater wetlands, and village/developed land. The most significant open space were fields that afforded views to the water while providing a welcome contrast to the woodlands along the road. Most of the larger open spaces on the islands seem to be maintained by people who have a keen interest in preserving view corridors. There are many opportunities on all the islands to open up additional views for the benefit of the general population.

Points were awarded for open space according to the following:

1-5 acres	3 Points
6-10 acres	4 Points
Single fields >10 acres	5 Points
Multiple fields >10 acres	6 Points

3. **Shoreline Configuration:** Configuration refers to the amount of irregularity that exists within the shoreline. The measurement of configuration considers the distance to the nearest shoreline. Areas with deep coves, peninsulas, and near-shore islands are usually more complex and highly configured, and consequently of greater scenic character. Related to configuration is the perception of enclosure. Most of the highly configured landscapes gave a feeling of at least partial enclosure, which is often related to scenic preference (Dominie, et al).

Points for Shoreline Configuration were awarded according to the following measurements:

Configured w/in 1/2 mile	3 Points
Configured w/in 1/4 mile	6 Points

4. **Scenic Features:** Scenic features (e.g., sand beaches, islands, bridges, lighthouses, harbors, moorings, cottages) were evaluated on the type and number of features, as well as their location within the view. Foreground and midground locations score higher than those in the background. Points for Scenic Features were awarded according to the following schedule:

Significant Feature in Background (> 3 miles)	1 Point
Significant Feature in Midground (1/4 -3 miles)	3 Points
More than one feature with at least one in Midground	6 Points
Multiple Features in Foreground (within 1/4 mile)	9 Points

5. **Views to Water:** Public views of water, primarily toward Penobscot Bay, were rated according to the duration of view, the type of water, and the viewer to water relationship. The measurement of duration was derived from USGS 7.5 topographic maps, measured along the public road. The duration is also be influenced by the travel speed, condition of road, the intent of the viewer, and opportunities to pull off the road.

Points were awarded in each area according to the following schedule:

**A. Duration of View**

Less than 2/10 mile	3 Points
2/10 to 1/2 mile or numerous short views	6 Points
Greater than 1/2 mile	9 Points

**B. Type of Water (Assumed High Water)**

Small fresh or saltwater (< 1/4 mile closure)	6 Points
Large body of fresh or saltwater	9 Points
Large saltwater body with associated saltmarsh, pond, bay, or cove	12 Points

**C. Quality of Horizon**

Completely open or completely closed horizon with little vertical interest	3 Points
Combination of open and closed horizons with little vertical	



- interest or completely closed horizon with vertical interest 6 Points
- Combination of open and closed horizons with vertical interest 9 Points

**6. Landscape Character:** An inventory of the following positive and negative landscape characteristics was compiled during the field investigation. This information was used to evaluate the effect that land use, roadside characteristics, and settlement characteristics has on scenic quality.

**A. Land Use (Positive)**

1. Agricultural
2. Vernacular Architecture
3. Old Cemetery
4. Distant Village Skyline or Edge
5. Mooring/Harbor Area
6. Mature Forest
7. Other

**Land Use (Negative)**

1. Lumbering/Clearcut/Extensive Slash
2. Exposed Mining Operations
3. Utility Corridor
4. Incompatible Commercial or Industrial
5. Other

Points were awarded based upon effect on Scenic Quality:

Minimally Positive	3 Points
Positive	5 Points
Strongly Positive	7 Points

**B. Roadside Characteristics (Positive)**

1. Tree Canopy
2. Lined with Sugar Maples or other mature trees
3. Conforming to Contours
4. Gentle Curves and Rolls
5. Street Scale
6. Urban Plantings
7. Other

**Roadside Characteristics (Negative)**

1. Angular Road Cut or Fill
2. Long, Straight, Flat Stretch
3. Other

**Points awarded based upon effect on Scenic Quality:**

Minimally Positive	1 Point
Positive	3 Points
Strongly Positive	6 Points

**C. Settlement Characteristics (Positive)**

1. Distinct Village Gateways
2. Prominent Community Buildings and Parks
3. Harmonious Building Masses and Heights
4. Vernacular or Harmonious Architecture
5. Historic District
6. Statue, Fountain, Bandstand
7. Tree Lined Street
8. Stone Walls
9. Other

**Settlement Characteristics (Negative)**

1. Strip Development
2. Dilapidated Structure
3. Incompatible Architecture
4. Obtrusive Signage
5. Pollution
6. Structures Blocking Views
7. Automobile Intrusions (Traffic, Sales, Junkyards)
8. Other

**Points awarded based upon effect on Scenic Quality**

Minimally Positive	3 Points
Positive	6 Points
Strongly Positive	9 Points

7. **Vegetation:** The quality of the vegetation and its contribution to the visual environment were assessed using the following criteria to evaluate the effect on scenic character: no effect, minimal positive effect, positive effect, or strong positive effect.

**Vegetation (Positive)**

1. Park Like
2. Agricultural Patterns
3. Field and Forest Edge
4. Woodland Maturity
5. Framing Qualities

6. Vegetation Mix, Contrast, and Type
7. Other

**Vegetation (Negative)**

1. Clearcut/Slash
2. Screening View
3. Overgrown Field
4. Other

Points were awarded according to the following effects on scenic quality:

Minimally Positive	3 Points
Positive	6 Points
Strongly Positive	9 Points

8. **Composition and Effect:** The overall integrity of an area was evaluated to determine its effect on visual quality. The following components of the landscape were included in this evaluation.

**Landscape Composition Components**

1. High Diversity
2. Mystery/Surprise
3. Degree of Naturalness
4. Distinct Separation of Land Uses
5. Spectacular Imagery
6. Historic Integrity
7. Pastoral Qualities
8. Cohesiveness
9. Permanence
10. Other

Points were awarded based upon the positive effect of landscape composition according to the following schedule:

Minimally Positive	3 Points
Positive	6 Points
Strongly Positive	9 Points

**Limitations of the Method**

A few limitations to the method should be noted. As mentioned earlier, the method is based upon scenic indicators selected by resource professionals. There is evidence in the literature that such "expert" approaches are not always as reliable as those studies where public perceptions about the landscape in question are examined. Given additional resources it would be advisable to confirm the results from this study with a public perception study.

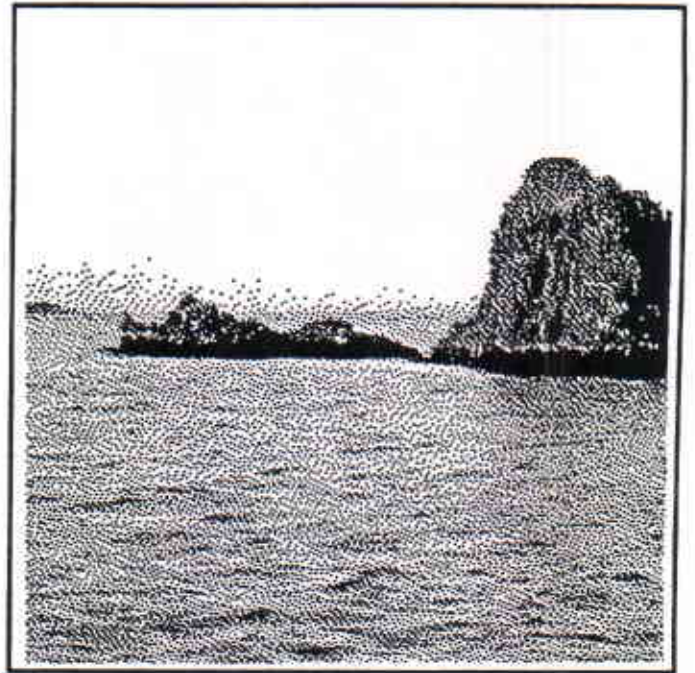
Dominie noted a potential bias in favor of the natural over the built landscape. Only those areas that rise to the top during the office analysis are field checked. They are considered to have "potential" for scenic distinction based upon indicators which, with the exception of special features and open land, relate to the natural characteristics of the landscape. Consequently, she felt that there may be areas, particularly villages, that are scenic by virtue of their architectural characteristics and development patterns, but go unidentified by this assessment method. A review of the results of the Penobscot Bay study, however, seems to disprove any bias toward settled areas. The villages and settlements in the bay are disproportionately represented among the highest rated landscapes. This is the result of the character of the underlying land (primarily deep, well configured harbors, often sheltered by islands) as well as the orderly pattern of development that characterize these places.

Dominie also notes a limitation in the earlier work which examined views from major public roads, often omitting spectacular views from little travelled, but still public byways. In general, Penobscot Bay does not have the major roadway infrastructure that is common in Regions I and II. Many of the evaluations were performed on secondary roads, which require more attention to the road than to the scenery.

The field reconnaissance is also biased in favor of views from the land, rather than what can be seen from the water. In theory all the views from Penobscot Bay are "public" and should be included in the assessment as funding becomes available.



# METHODS: WATER VIEWS





## **METHODS: WATER VIEWS**

In Maine, the first known scenic evaluation of land masses - as viewed from the water - was performed in 1988 for the National Park Service by Bruce Jacobson and Holly Dominie (Pilot Study Report. Evaluation of Island Resources. Hancock County and portion of Knox County, Maine). Their methodology was refined in The Second Report of The Evaluation of Island Resources, by Annette Naegel for Acadia National Park Service in November 1990. The purpose of this work was to define and map those areas of outstanding visual significance within the viewshed of Acadia National Park, in response to Public Law 99-420.

The methodology for identifying scenic views from the water is similar to the evaluation of land-based views described earlier. The National Park Service work relied upon the presence of indicators - characteristics of the landscape that the public perceives as scenic. The method involved a five step process:

1. Criteria were developed for identifying scenic features
2. Candidate areas were mapped on USGS quad sheets and their scenic qualities rated according to the criteria
3. The higher scoring areas (Classes A and B) were field evaluated
4. The areas were divided into quality groups, based upon their evaluations.
5. The Class A and B areas were finally mapped on acetate overlays, identifying the most important scenic resources for Acadia National Park.

Certain biases were found within the methodology developed for the National Parks Service.

- There was no practical way to evaluate the developed landscape, given the scope of the project, so the work tends to be biased toward natural landscapes.
- The methodology seems to be most applicable to entire islands or distinct portions of an island. When viewed from the water at distances less than 1/2 mile (foreground views) the large islands in Penobscot Bay (e.g., Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven) are not discernable as distinct land masses. The large islands, instead, resemble much of the mainland.
- The methods employed seem overly complex for a process that is designed to differential scenic areas into broad classes (A, B, & C).

The NPS criteria was used as a point of departure in developing criteria for identifying scenic views from the waters surrounding the major islands of Penobscot Bay. The methods and rationale described in *Methods: Scenic Areas* are generally applicable to those developed for the water views. As in the land-based component of this study, scenic indicators were selected and used to make an initial determination of scenic areas viewed from the water.

A two step process will be necessary to make a final determination for the Critical Areas Program. The office component of the process is complete and the results are shown on matrices for each of the major islands. The field work for this study was limited to one trip around Islesboro and North Haven. While this amount of field work was valuable in refining the criteria, additional work in a variety of craft will be necessary to complete the inventory. Accordingly, the findings and recommendations for water-based scenic areas are preliminary at this point.

Unlike the land-based scenic areas, the views from the water did not lend themselves to an easily defined numeric evaluation system. While the NPS methods did develop such a rating system, it was found to be inappropriate for use on the large land masses, the many islands of assorted sizes, and the spaces created between them.

The method used for this inventory relies upon a more qualitative evaluation. The waters within 1/4 mile of all land masses were evaluated for each of the indicators noted below. Several of the indicators (e.g., steep slope, elevation, cultural features) had been previously mapped as part of the land-based inventory. The results were mapped on acetate overlays of the USGS maps. The evaluation noted whether the indicator was:

- Absent, or below a pre-determined threshold
- Present, as defined below, or
- Outstanding.

Areas noted as both Class A and Class B areas should be evaluated by the the CAP Advisory Board and staff. Final determination of the scenic significance of these areas will have to wait until all or most of the coastline is completed to have a better frame of reference within which to judge visual significance.

The following scenic indicators were used in the office evaluation of each of the major islands and island groupings:

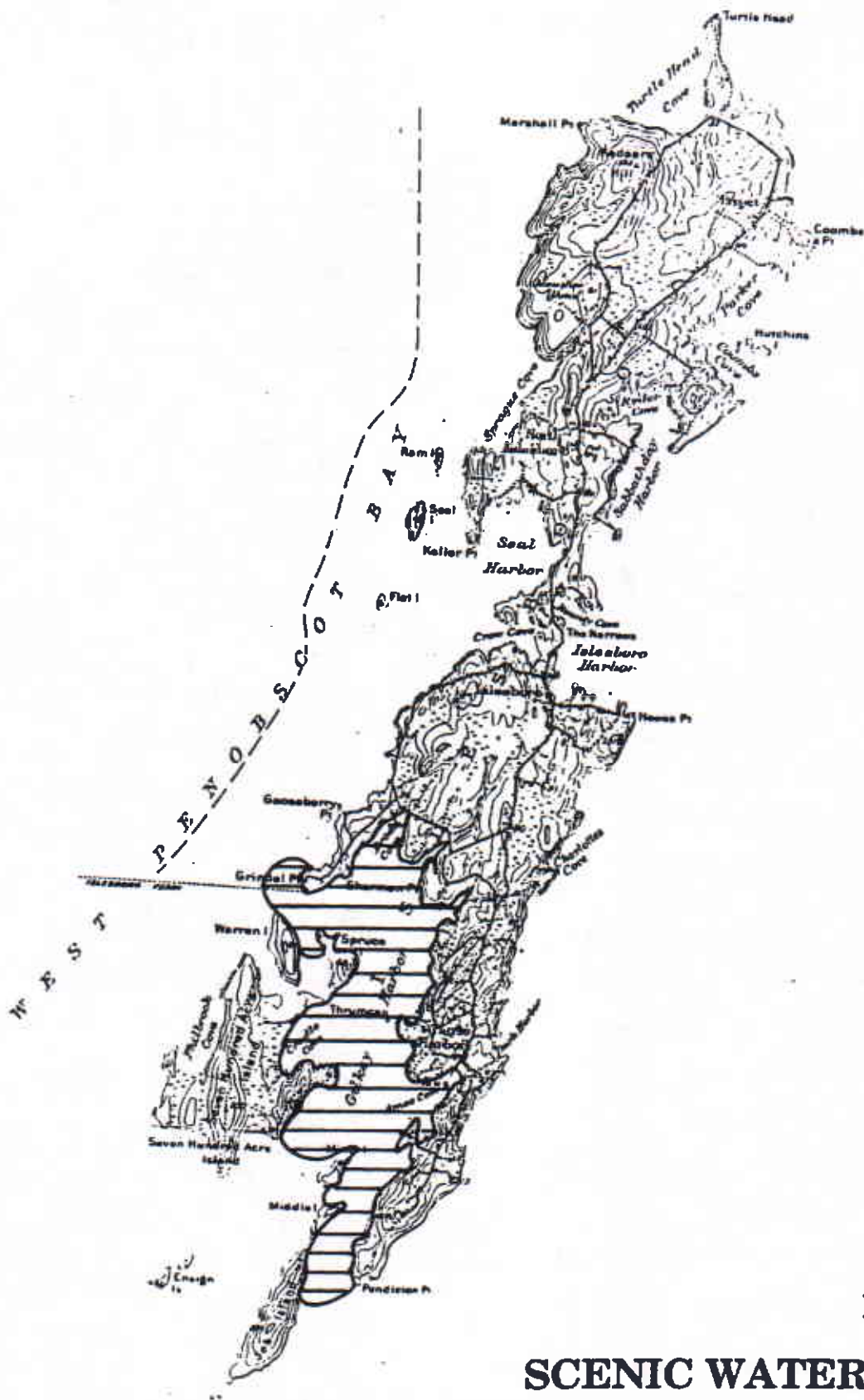
1. Elevation: Hilltops over 100 feet elevation within 1/4 mile of the shoreline. Outstanding: Hilltops over 150 feet within 1/4 mile.
2. Steep Slopes: at least 25% for at least 1/2 mile in length. Outstanding: slopes in excess of 40%.



3. **Sense of Enclosure:** an arrangement of land masses or islands within 1/2 mile of each other that defines a space that is 25-50% enclosed. Within this area, the boater will always be less than 1/4 mile of the nearest land mass. **Outstanding:** the space is between 50 and 100% enclosed by land masses within 1/2 mile.
4. **Configuration:** shoreline irregularity. **Outstanding:** highly configured shoreline, as seen from the water; many indentations within 1/4 mile of each other.
5. **Cultural Features:** Visually harmonious development that either blends in with or enhances the character of the landscape: bridges, lighthouses, harbors, moorings, large summer cottages, villages. **Outstanding:** concentrations of features of unusually high scenic value (usually more than three within 1/4 mile of each other).
6. **Physical Features** sand beaches, islands, exposed granite shoreline. **Outstanding:** concentrations of features of unusually high scenic value (usually more than three within 1/4 mile of each other)
7. **Wildlife Features:** wildlife areas defined by US Fish and Wildlife Service. **Outstanding:** Areas of High Value.
8. **Vegetation Diversity:** more than a single cover type. **Outstanding:** four or more cover types.

The matrices on the following pages summarize the results of the office evaluation for the water views of the islands. Colored acetate overlays for the USGS maps of the islands are available at the Critical Areas Program. An area received an initial rating of A if it had at least one scenic indicator that was rated as Outstanding. In a few instances an A/B or B/A rating was given to rather extensive enclosed areas with a variety of visual characteristics.

INITIAL RATING	ISLESBORO							
	<u>Scenic Indicators</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> Present <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding							
	Hilltops w/in 1/4 mile	Steep Slopes	Enclosure	Configuration	Cultural Features	Physical Features	Wildlife Features	Vegetative Diversity
A	Grindel Point			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Ferry Rd / Hinckley Beach				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B	Crow Cove				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Seal Harbor				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Seal Is. to Turtle Harbor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>		
B	Turtle Head				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
B	Parker Cove	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Sabbathday Harbor		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Islesboro Harbor				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
A	Dark Harbor			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B	Dark Harbor to Gulf Point		<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Pendleton Point			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
A	Bracketts Channel	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A	Gilkey Harbor	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B	Warren Island			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Philbrook Cove: 700 Ac Is.				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>



**FIGURE 3**

**SCENIC WATER VIEWS  
PRELIMINARY CLASS A RATING  
ISLESBORO**

INITIAL RATING	VINALHAVEN	Hilltops within 1/4 mile	Steep Slopes	Enclosure	Configuration	Cultural Features	Physical Features	Wildlife Features	Vegetative Diversity
	Scenic Indicators								
	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> Present <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding								
A/B	Carvers Harbor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
A	The Reach (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Green Island: S/W side		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
A	Hurricane Island	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			
A/B	White / Garden Islands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
A/B	Crane/Crotch/Lairey's Isl.		<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
B	Leadbetter Is.: W side	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
B	Hurricane Sound (2)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
A	Long Cove	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
A	The Basin	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
A	Crocket Cove	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>
B/A	Brown's Head	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			
A	Fox Island Thorofare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
A	Perry Creek	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
B	Seal Cove	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>				
A	Mill River			<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
B	Shipwreck Cove	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
B	Carver Cove	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>
A	Winter Harbor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
A	Seal Bay: E of Penobscot Isl.	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Deep Cove		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>				
B	Brown's Is./Gunning Rock	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Gunning Rock/Arey Cove			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
B	Roberts Harbor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
A	Indian Creek	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>

(1) Norton Point to Dog Point (2) Dog Pt to Leadbetter Narrows





INITIAL RATING	NORTH HAVEN								
	<u>Scenic Indicators</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> Present <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding								
		Hilltops w/in 1/4 mi	Steep Slopes	Enclosure	Configuration	Cultural Features	Physical Features	Wildlife Features	Vegetative Diversity
A	Fox Island Thorofare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Southern Harbor		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
B	Northwest Point	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>			
B	Bartlet Harbor		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
B	Deacon Brown Point				<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
A	Pulpit Harbor		<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
B	Webster Head	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
B	Burnt Island	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>
A	Marsh Cove	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Mullen Head/Cove		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
A	Little Thorofare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Calderwood Island: E side			<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>		
B	Kent Cove			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>
B	Goose Rocks Light		<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
B	Waterman Cove	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>



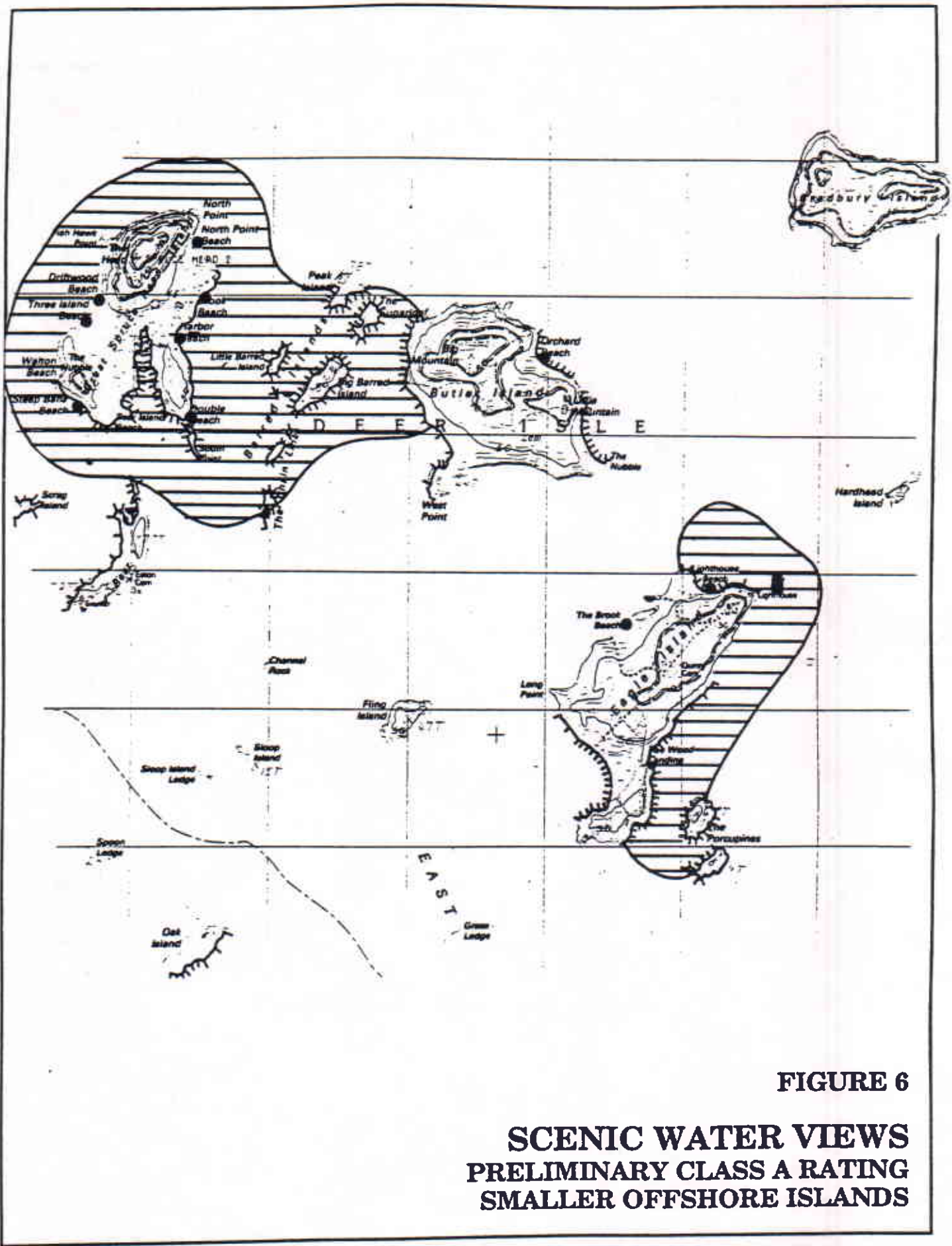


FIGURE 5

**SCENIC WATER VIEWS  
PRELIMINARY CLASS A RATING  
NORTH HAVEN**

INITIAL RATING	SMALLER ISLANDS	Hilltops w/in 1/4 mile	Steep Slopes	Enclosure	Configuration	Cultural Features	Physical Features	Wildlife Features	Vegetative Diversity
	<u>Scenic Indicators</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> Present <input checked="" type="radio"/> Outstanding								
B	Western Island				<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Pond Island						<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Hog Island				<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Pickering Island		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>				
B	Barred Island			<input type="radio"/>					
B	Beach Island			<input type="radio"/>					
B	Colt Head Island			<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>		
B	Resolution Island		<input type="radio"/>				<input type="radio"/>		
C	Horsehead Island								
B	Little Spruce Island	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						
A	Great Spruce Head Island	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Bear Island			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
A	Barred Island			<input checked="" type="radio"/>			<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
A	Butler Island	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
A	Eagle Island	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
B	Bradbury Island	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>						



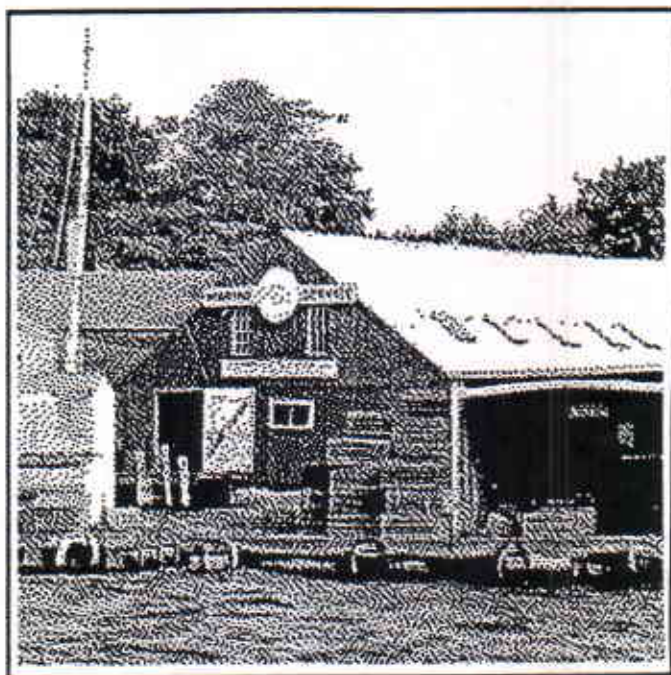


**FIGURE 6**

**SCENIC WATER VIEWS  
PRELIMINARY CLASS A RATING  
SMALLER OFFSHORE ISLANDS**



# 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 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

*local*

*Regional*

*State syi*

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,

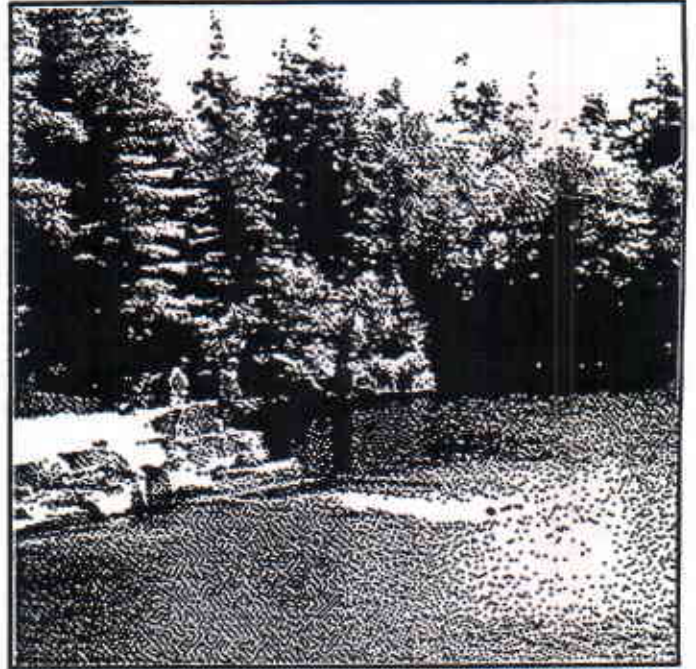
viewers usually have little ability to adjust their position to get a better view.

- 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.

# RECOMMENDATIONS





# RECOMMENDATIONS

**1. A list of scenic areas has been developed, based upon a land-based evaluation of Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven Islands.**

The object of the study was to identify those places on the major islands of Penobscot Bay which exhibit greater than normal visual quality. During the course of the evaluation over one hundred potential scenic areas were identified, based upon a review of existing map data, using the criteria of landform, open land, shoreline configuration, special scenic features, and views to water. Following a series of field visits, which looked at landscape character, vegetation, and landscape composition, the list was narrowed to the 51 sites which are described in the report. Using the predetermined scoring system that was developed for the Scenic Inventory Mainland Sites of Penobscot Bay, each of the sites was assigned a score, based upon a hypothetical maximum of 100 points. The scores are considered a starting point in making a determination of relative importance for the Critical Areas Program.

**2. Approximately 19 of the site that were evaluated should be considered for inclusion in the Critical Areas Program, based upon their scenic quality.**

Sites that scored in excess of 70 points are of statewide significance and should be considered for inclusion on the roster of Critical Areas. The scores should only be considered a starting point in making a determination of relative importance for the Critical Areas Program. The areas that scored the highest (4 received a score greater than 80) are clearly of state-wide or greater significance. While many of these places are not as well know as those that received comparable scores on the mainland, they do represent some of the best of Maine's landscape.

**3. Additional field investigation is recommended for the second grouping of sites to determine if they warrant inclusion in the Critical Areas Program.**

The second grouping of places are of high scenic quality, but may not warrant the designation of a Critical Area. Each of the sites (28 received a score between 50 and 60) should be evaluated on an individual basis for a final determination.

**4. Additional field investigation is recommended to identify all sites of local significance.**

The areas that scored in the lowest range (4 received a score below 50) are generally of local significance, relative to other areas within the islands of Penobscot Bay. The rather small number of sites is more a function of the initial filtering process rather than the aesthetic characteristics of the site itself. Islesboro has already completed a rather extensive inventory of its scenic areas, which was of great value in the preparation of this report. In



the long term it would be short-sighted on the part of local communities and the state to take steps to protect only those sites which rose to the top of the list, while allowing adjacent areas to become degraded. The islands are recognized as places of great fragility. The places between the points of interest and scenic areas must be considered as no less important to the overall scenic beauty of the islands.

**5. Management strategies for preservation of scenic character are recommended for all scenic areas identified.**

In addition to describing and mapping each site, the report includes broad management recommendations to guide local and state officials with specific actions to preserve or improve the visual environment. A number of site-specific recommendations are offered that relate to additional parking, vegetation management to preserve open views, and provisions for public access. Several recommendations also address policy issues that can have a long-term influence on the preservation of scenic quality: incorporation of visual standards into the review process for subdivisions and other development projects; recommendations for conservation easements for particularly vulnerable parts of a viewshed; greater sensitivity on the part of DOT and others responsible for repair and replacement of the public infrastructure.

**6. The smaller islands of the Great Spruce Head Island archipelago need further assessment to characterize their visual qualities.**

This study concentrated on the major islands of Penobscot Bay: Islesboro, Vinalhaven, and North Haven. Great Spruce Head, Little Spruce Head, Butter, and Eagle Islands, as well as several smaller islands, form a distinctive land mass on the north side of North Haven Island. Additional data needs to be gathered on this islands as part of the Critical Areas Program's scenic inventory program.

**7. Additional field investigation will be needed to complete the inventory of scenic areas viewed from the water.**

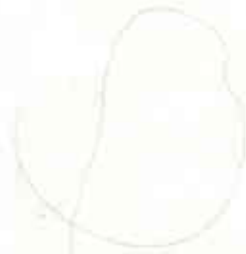
A preliminary list of scenic areas seen from the water has been developed for the study area. A rating system was developed to make a preliminary determination of visual quality, based upon eight scenic indicators.

**8. The information contained in this report should be widely disseminated and used in both local, state-wide, and federal planning, design, and decision making.**

The information gathered as part of this inventory, as well as subsequent visual assessments in Maine, should be available for all public agencies and interest groups that deal with land use in Maine. These include:

- The Critical Areas Program of the State Planning Office.

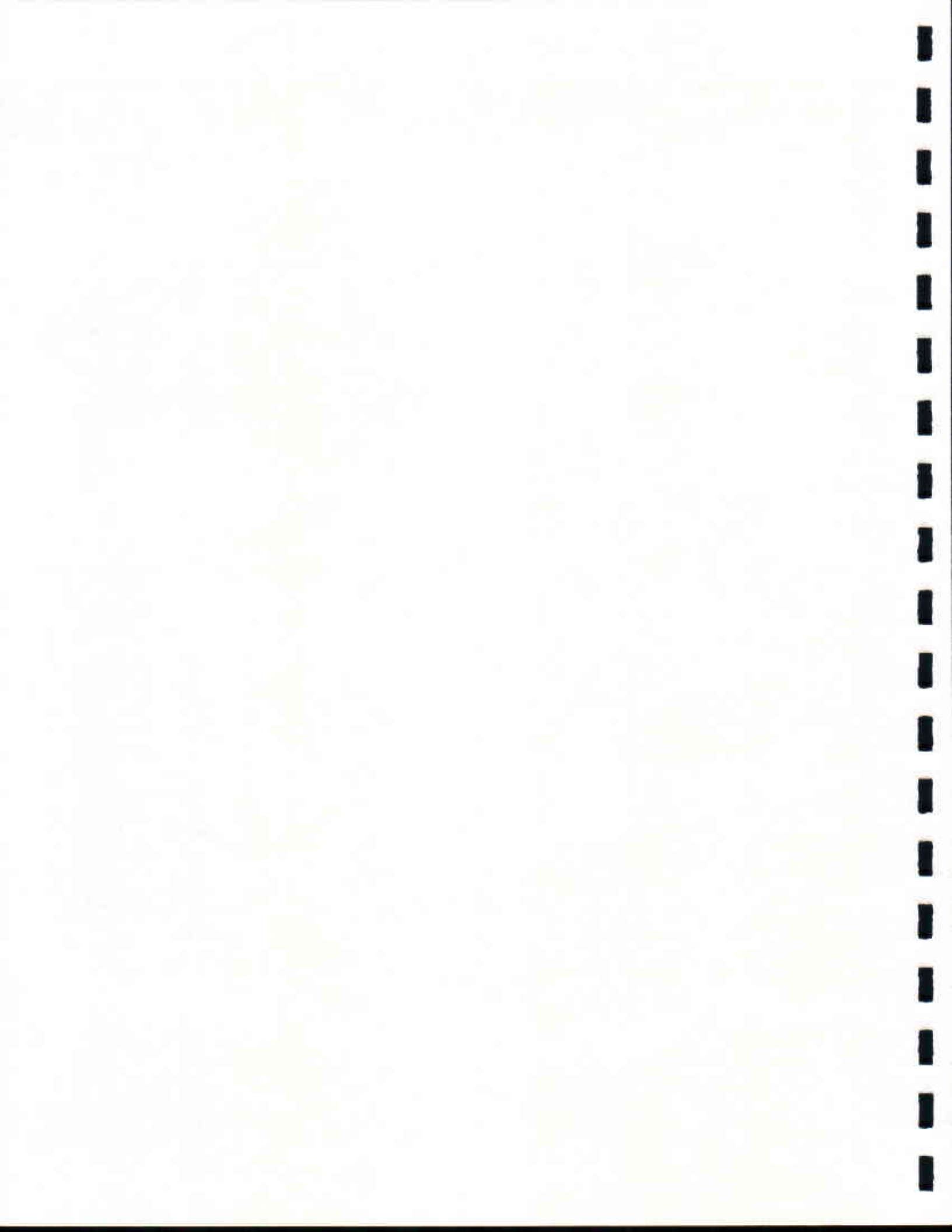
- The National Park Service, which has already initiated scenic inventories of the lands visible from Acadia National Park.
- The State's Geographic Information System office, which is collecting, digitizing, and making available a wide array of natural resource data.
- The Maine Department of Environmental Protection, in evaluating the need for a Visual Impact Analysis for applications for Site Location of Development Permits. See Site Location of Development Law (38 MRSA Sec. 481 et. seq.) Chapter 375.14 No Unreasonable Effect on Scenic Character.
- The Land for Maine's Future Board, in evaluating parcels of land that may be nominated in the future for purchase and setting priorities for acquisition.
- The Maine Department of Transportation, in designating Scenic Highways, rest areas, and scenic turnouts, and making improvements to MeDOT infrastructure (e.g., ferry terminals and wharfs).
- Maine Tourism Council, in promoting the entire State of Maine
- The Maine Film Commission, in assisting movie producers in finding locations for feature films
- Local town officials, in evaluating the Viewshed Management Recommendations for specific actions to increase public access, both physical and visual.
- Local Planning Boards, in evaluating subdivisions and other development proposals that may have an impact on identified scenic areas.
- Local Comprehensive Planning Committees, in developing resource maps of their communities to show areas of visual sensitivity and ultimately coming up with long term plans for growth and rural areas.
- The Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Nature Conservancy, in formulating plans for acquisition and evaluating parcels of land.
- Local land trusts, in setting conservation priorities on the islands.
- The Maine Island Trails Association, in establishing a database of information on Maine's island resources for the use and enjoyment of all.



# ISLESBORO



- Grindle Point
- Ferry Road
- Hinckley Beach
- West Side Road
- Crow Cove
- Seal Harbor
- Turtle Head Cove
- Parker Cove
- Sabbathday Harbor
- Billy's Shore
- Islesboro Harbor
- Charlotte's Cove
- Dark Harbor
- Main Road Overlook
- Pendleton Point
- Kissel Point Road
- Mill Creek
- Broad Cove





# ISLESBORO

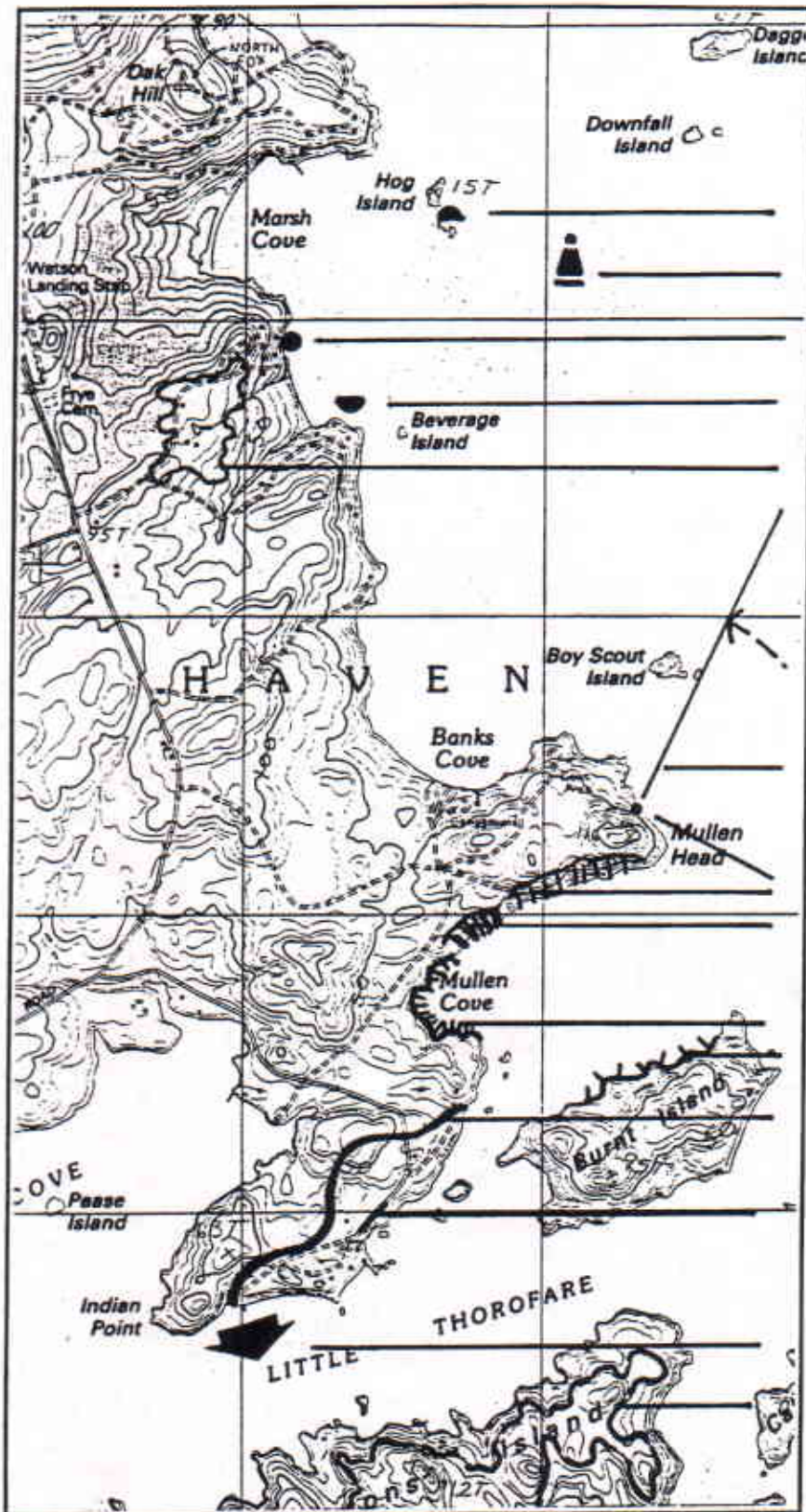
Islesboro is a place of remarkable charm and great mystery. Its proximity to the mainland via the State Ferry Service out of Lincolnville gives it easy access for tourists, summer visitors, and year-round residents alike. In recent years Islesboro has drawn a considerable number of weekend bicyclists, attracted by its meandering, well kept roads, invigorating climate, and slow pace. Its land area is just over 14 square miles.

The island's scenic attributes are a function of many factors:

- Islesboro's rural residential character is unique to the three major islands examined in this study. Most of the roads are lined with well sited and generously spaced homes and cottages, although the majority of the larger, more historic homes are well hidden down private drives.
- The land use patterns on the island can be categorized into several distinct settings:
  - Old farm rural residential areas (e.g., West Side Road)
  - Medium density residential areas (e.g., Islesboro Harbor)
  - Enclosed woodlands
  - Old Summer Colony (e.g., Dark Harbor).
- The physical geography of the island contributes to its special visual quality. The island is divided by The Narrows - as the name implies, a thin spit of sand and rock - into northern and southern halves, each with its own unique landscape character. North of the Narrows one finds low rolling hills, scattered fields, and modest farmhouses set along a loop road. While the land achieves a high point near the northern tip, the landscape is quite closed and affords minimal contact with Penobscot Bay. The shoreline exhibits a strong pattern of open coves providing protective moorings and highly diverse views when seen from elevated positions.
- The southerly half of Islesboro is highly configured on the western side, with large, sparsely settled islands set in the foreground. The eastern shoreline, facing Penobscot Bay, is relatively straight, broken only by occasional indentations and smaller coves. A pronounced ridge runs along much of the southern half of the island, affording periodic views to the east. The Dark Harbor area contains the majority of the large older homes, set on the shoreline in buttressed groupings. With a few exceptions, most of the landscape is relatively closed, characterized by overgrown fields, woodlands abutting the roadways, and private property.

- The most memorable views of the island from the water are of its well known cultural features: the rambling old cottages, especially in Dark Harbor facing Gilkey Harbor, the Lighthouse, and the Ferry Landing. The islands immediately offshore add a sense of protection and mystery, allowing the landscape to unfold in layers. The small coves that contribute to the high level of scenic quality from the land-based views are seen as minor variations in the coastline when seen from the water.
- The major physical landmarks on the island include the Ferry Landing, the village of Dark Harbor, Pendleton Point, Turtle Cove, Broad Cove, and the Narrows.
- Islesboro is noted for its collection of summer cottages that have been well documented in Earle Shettleworth's The Summer Cottages of Islesboro, 1890-1920.
- Several established fields punctuate the landscape, providing directed and relatively narrow vistas to the water. While the scale of these pastures is relatively small when compared to the open land found on the mainland, their relative scarcity and the contrast they offer makes them an important component of the landscape.
- The visual interest of the island is not confined to its shoreline. From all major public vantage points the views extend out to include a rich cross section of Penobscot Bay: the mainland to the east, west and north, the larger islands immediately offshore (Warren, Spruce, Job, 200 Acre), and Deer Isle on the far eastern horizon. Sailboats and other marine traffic add a constant visual accent to its waters.

# FIGURE 7 KEY TO MAPS



## Scenic Features

Island

Lighthouse

Beach

Mooring

Open Space > 10 Acres

One Mile Radius

Angle of View

Slopes

> 25%

> 40%

Shoreline Configuration

1/4 Mile

1/2 Mile

Scenic Area Boundary

View from Public Road

Intermittent View

Elevation > 100'



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Grindel Point**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-01**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
X	9	XX
	9	
	12	
X	9	X
		5
48		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	2
	5
	6
X	7
26	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

74

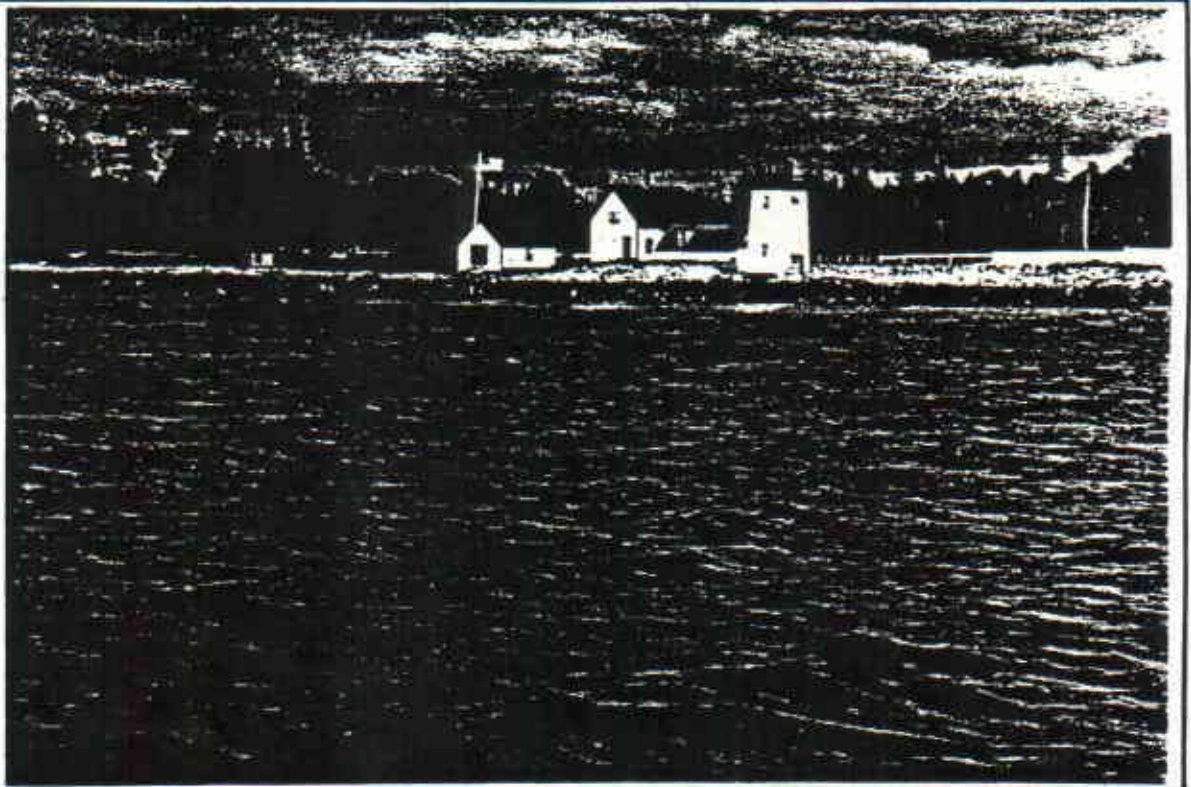
**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The public gateway into Islesboro. The scenic area includes the public landing with lighthouse and museum (listed on the National Register of Historic Places), an active harbor with moorings for various types and sizes of boats, and views to Spruce Island, Warren Island, and 700 Acre Island. A large open green affords dramatic, panoramic views of the lighthouse and the harbor, extending across Penobscot Bay to Lincolnville and the Camden Hills. The town pier offers unobstructed views to the south toward the islands and to the east across Gilkey Harbor to several historic "cottages". One of the most public and easily accessed water access points on the island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Separate parking from the historic buildings and adjacent green. Remove or relocate overhead utility lines to make them less obvious. Incorporate interpretive signage in limited areas. Remove the brick ticket booth if it no longer serves a public function. Clean stone beach of litter and debris. Replace the fencing along Ferry Road with a design of compatible type and color. Select color of slip and ramp mechanism to complement lighthouse.



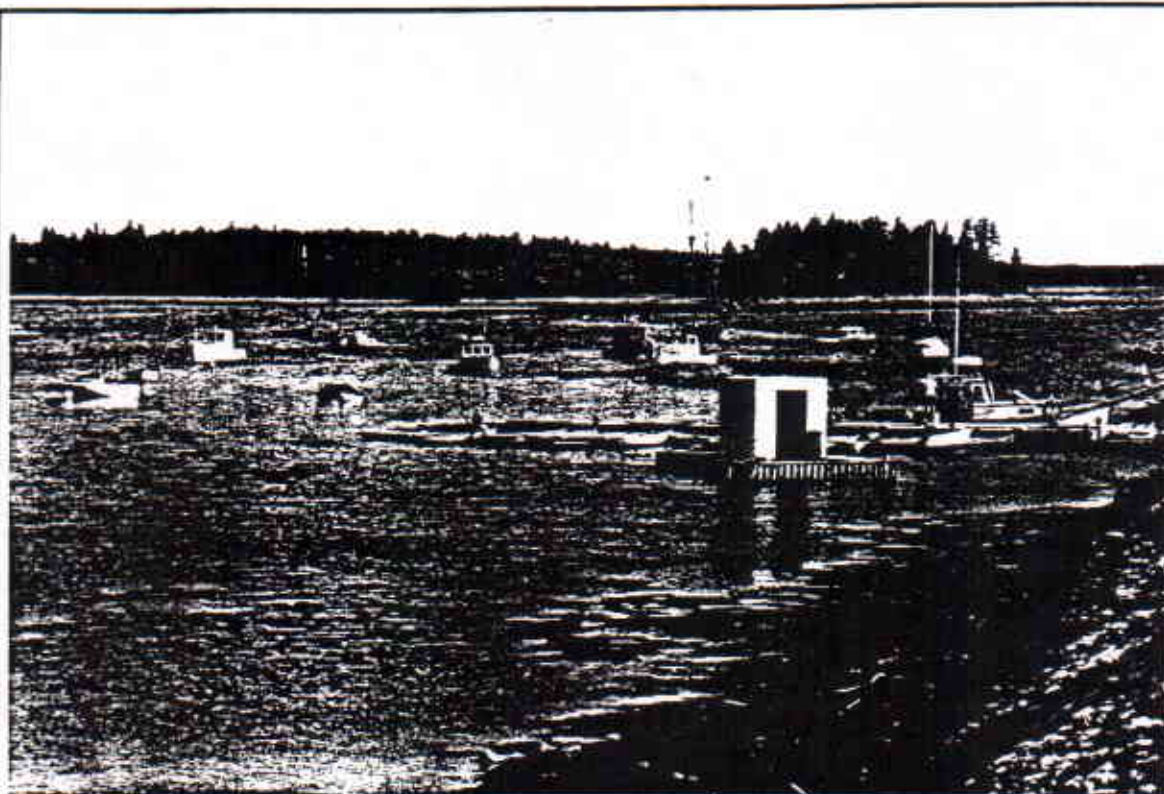
Grindel Point  
Lighthouse as seen  
from from the Isles-  
boro Ferry

**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Grindel Point**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code IS-01**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town Islesboro**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*Looking south from  
the public landing  
toward Spruce Is-  
land*



*Looking west/  
southwest to the  
Camden Hills and  
Warren Island*

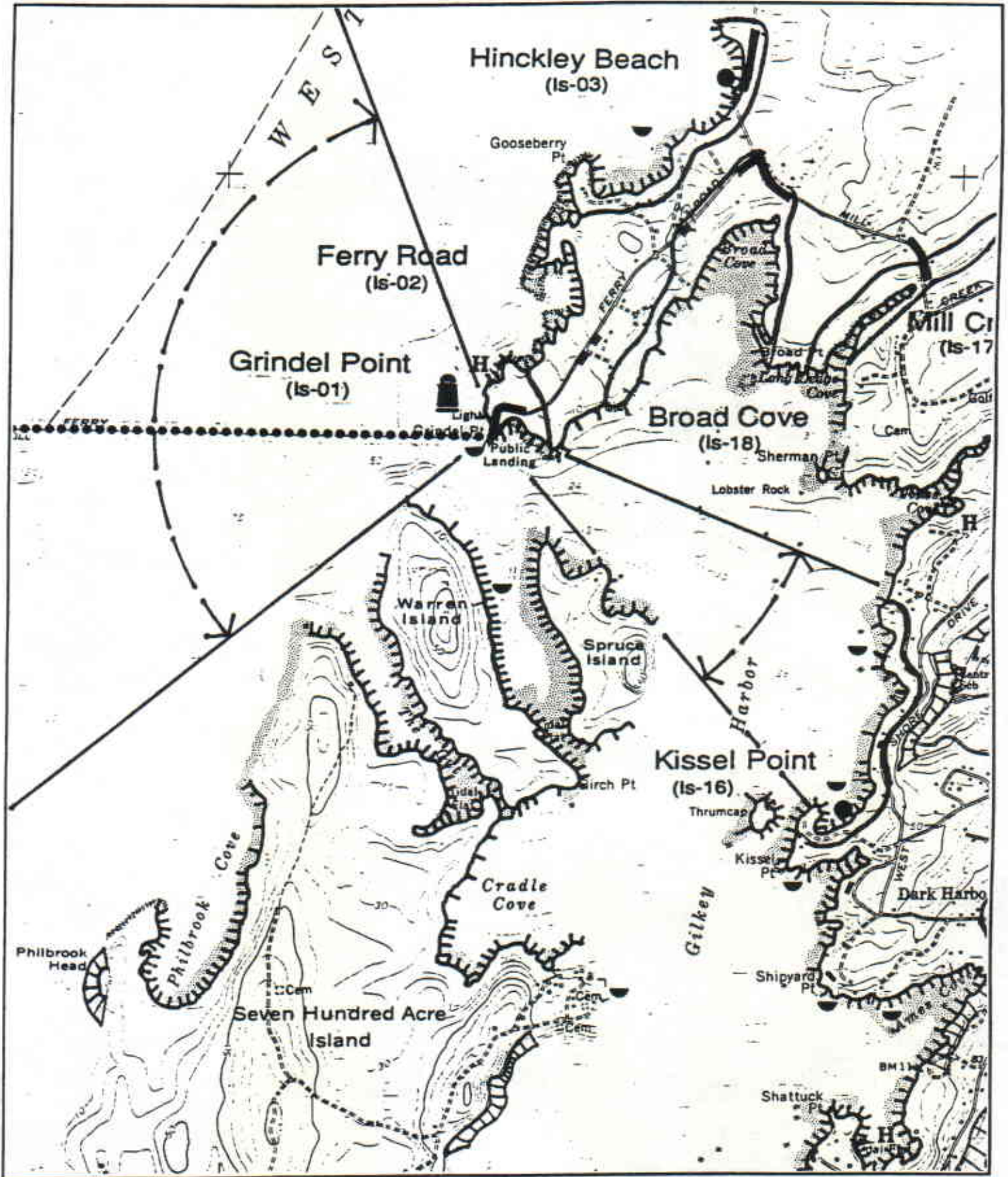


Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Grindel Point  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Code IS-01

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Ferry Road**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-02**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	3	X
	3	
	9	X
	6	X
		5
30		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	3
	2
	1
	3
	3
12	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

42	
----	--

**TOTAL SCORE**

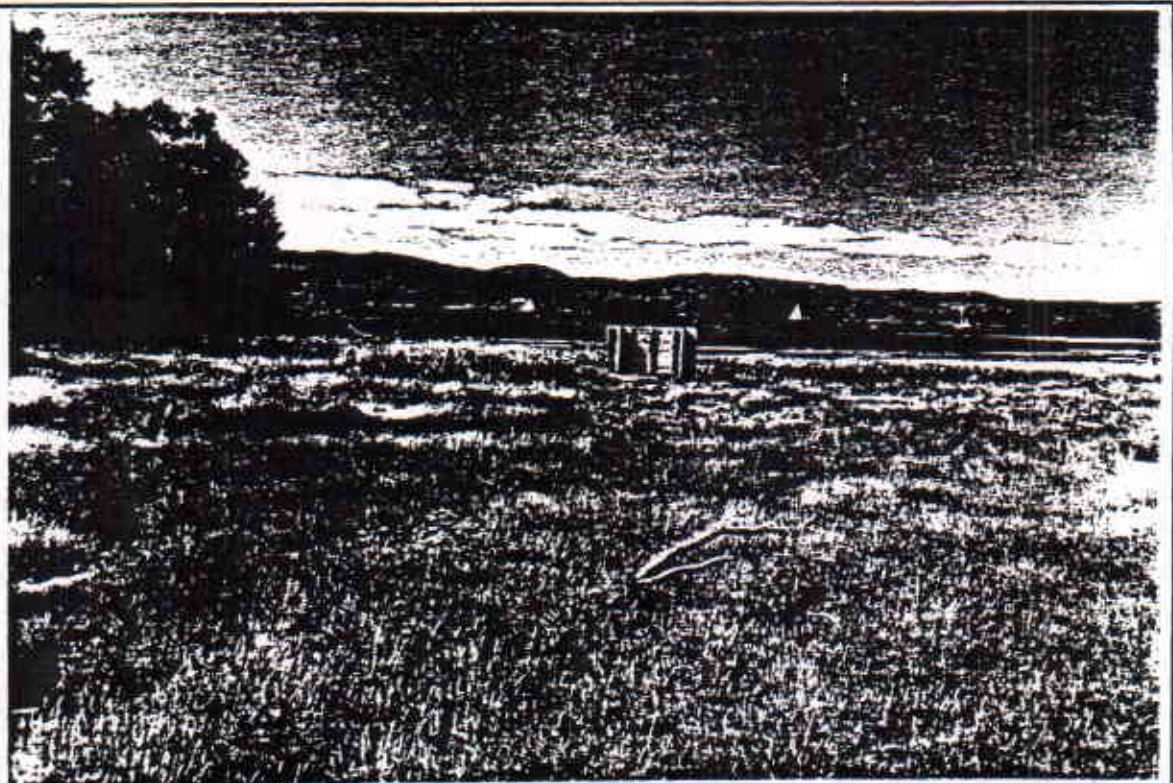
## Viewshed Description

A series of limited views across salt marshes at the edge of Ferry Road, extending to the Camden Hills. Viewer position is near water level. The main view corridor is through one of the utility right of ways developed to supply power to the island. Sailboats are often seen cruising the waters between the mainland and Islesboro. A place of local importance, due to the limited duration of view.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Install low vegetative screening on the east side of the warning sign used to notify navigators of the presence of the cable crossing.

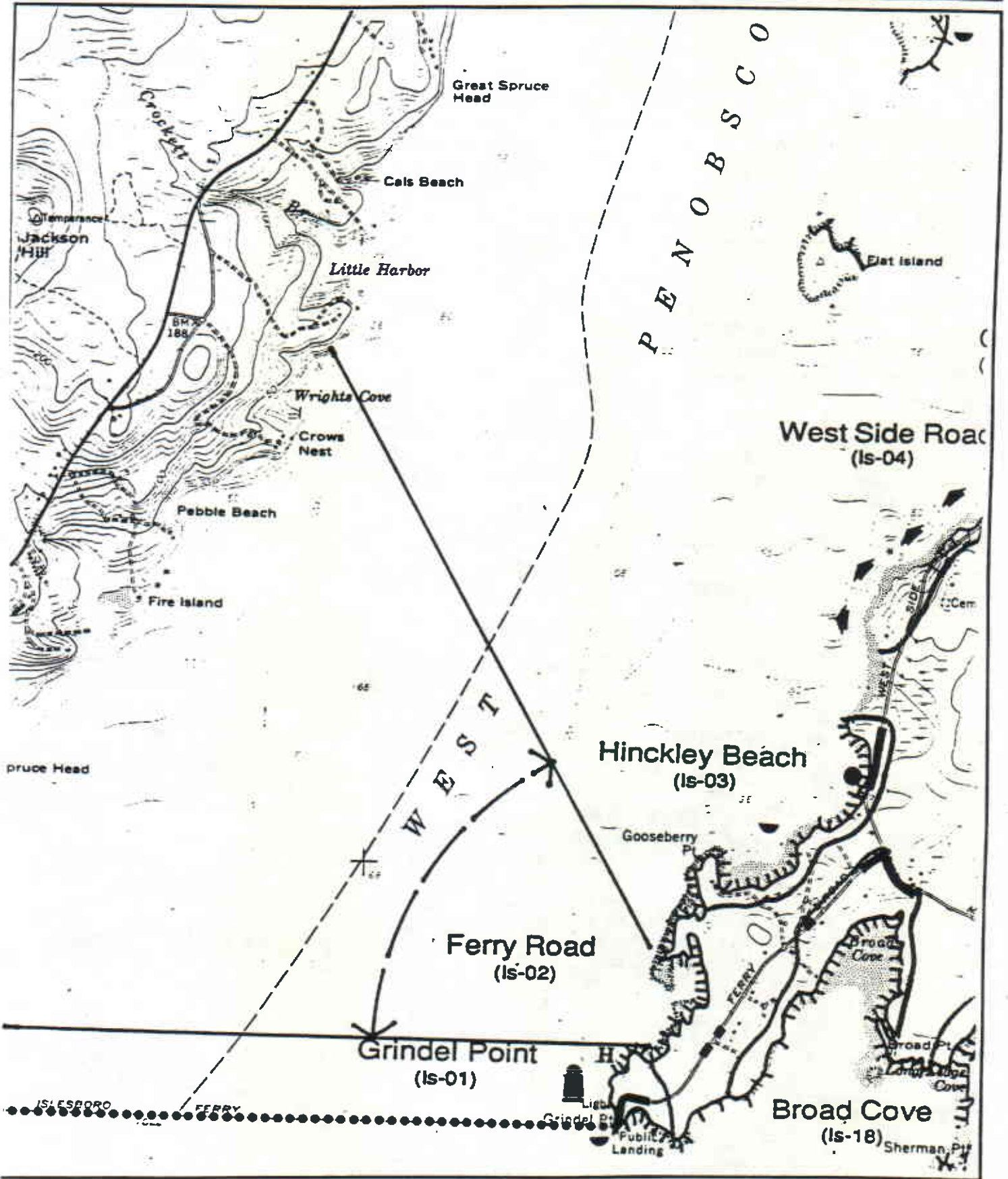
*View to Lincolnville and the Camden Hills from the cable clearing on the west side of the Ferry Road*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Ferry Road Code IS-02  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Hinckley Beach**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-03**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
X	9	XX
	6	X
	9	X
X	9	X
		6
		39

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal**

	3
	2
	3
	4
	5
17	
<b>56</b>	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Hinckley Beach is one of the most open shorefront vistas found along West Side Road, giving the passer-by a panoramic view of Penobscot Bay and the Camden Hills over a narrow cobble beach. Views to the southeast are layered by the shoreline configuration of Gooseberry Point. The point is sparsely vegetated with weathered spruce and fir. Limited area to pull off the road restricts the degree of accessibility. A utility corridor parallels the beach on water side of the roadway. A few cottages at the south end are virtually undetectable among the dense stand of evergreens.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Provide parking facilities as demand warrants.

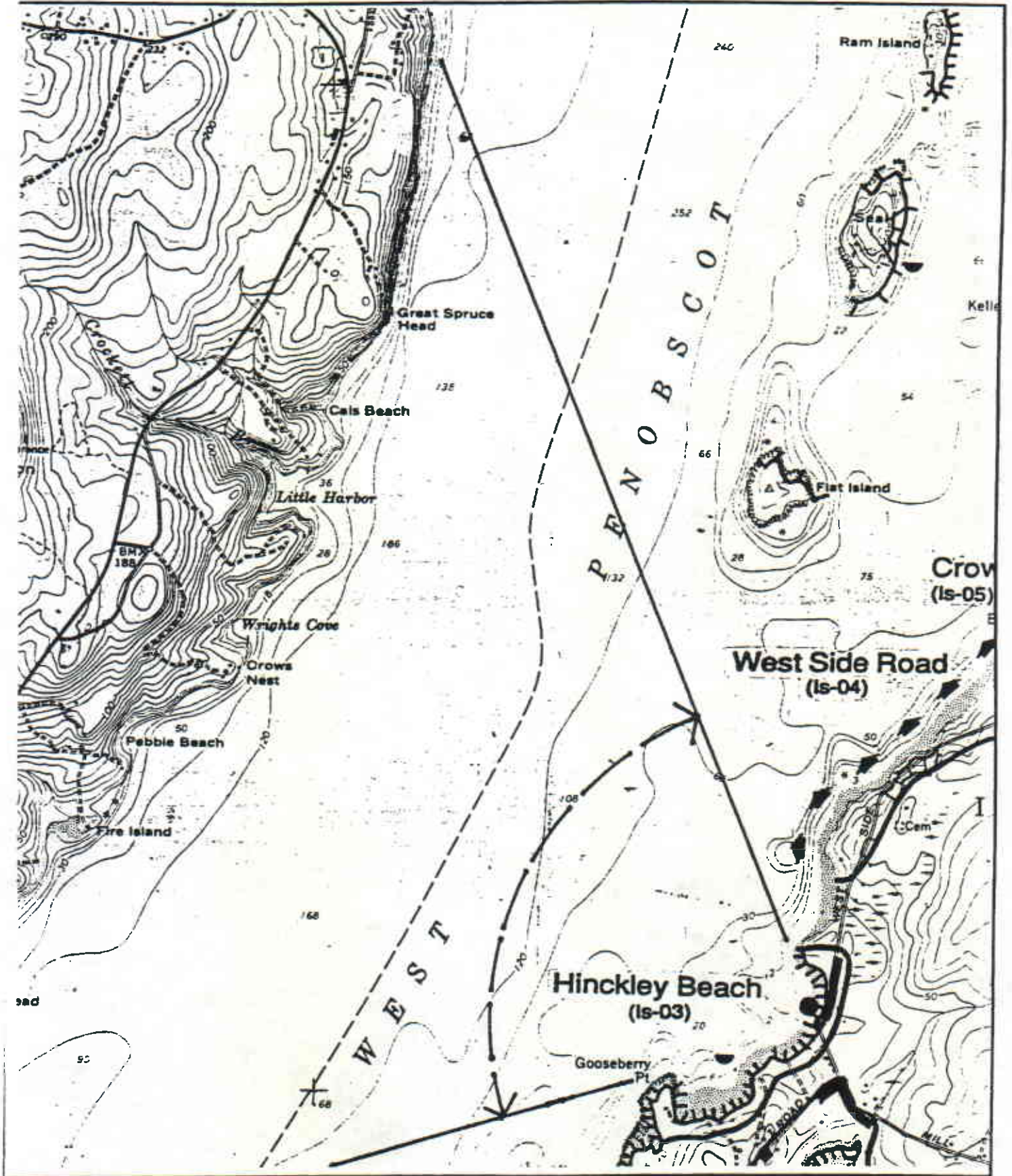
*Low-tide view of Hinckley Beach, looking toward Gooseberry Point, with the Camden hills in the background*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Hinckley Beach** Code **IS-03**  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town **Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **West Side Road**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-04**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	2	X
	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
		6
38		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

X	7
	6
	6
	6
X	8
33	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

71

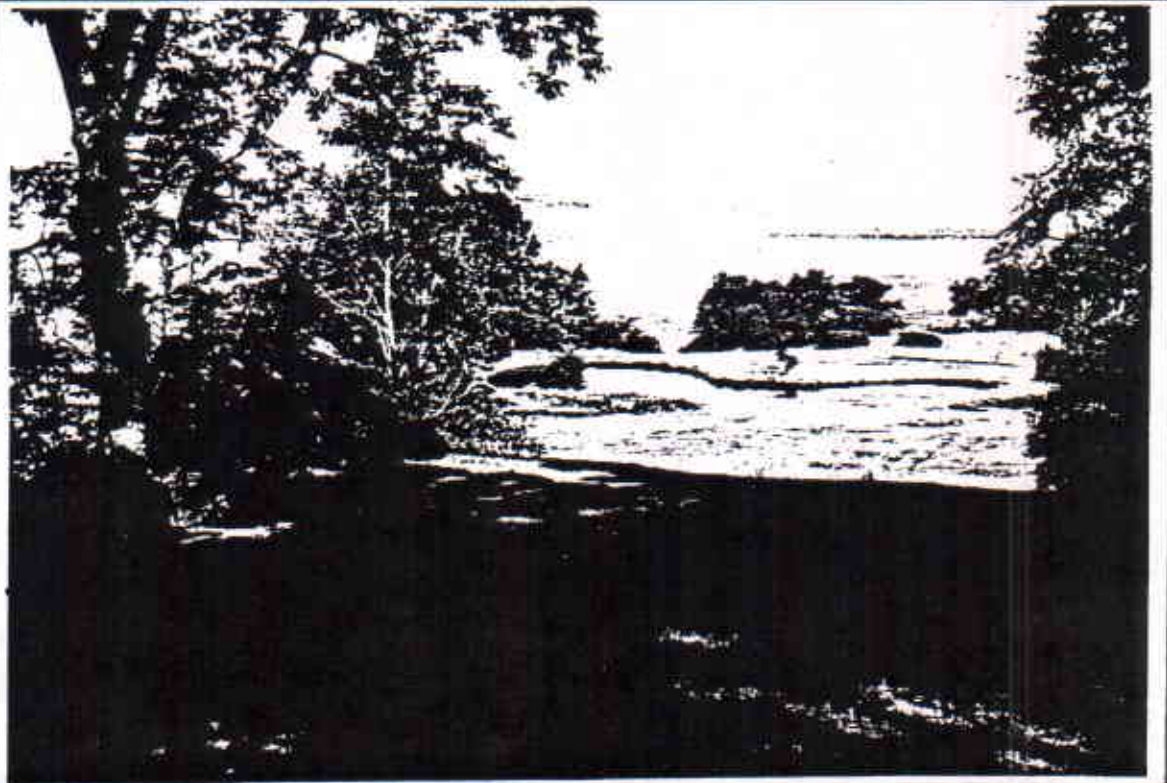
**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

A highly unified rural landscape, characterized by well preserved vernacular architecture, mature roadside vegetation, and filtered views to West Penobscot Bay and Flat Island, Seal Island, and Ram Island. West Side Road follows the contours of the land, affording views 20 to 40 feet above sea level. Significant stands of ash, black locust, red oak, and birch frame views to the water. Many of the homes are set back several hundred yards from the road and are visible across rolling fields punctuated by farm ponds and white birch trees.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Screen power cable crossing where it is visible next to the West Side Road. Use careful vegetation management to open views from the road to the Bay. Use design guidelines and site plan review to maintain the architectural and landscape integrity found within the scenic area.

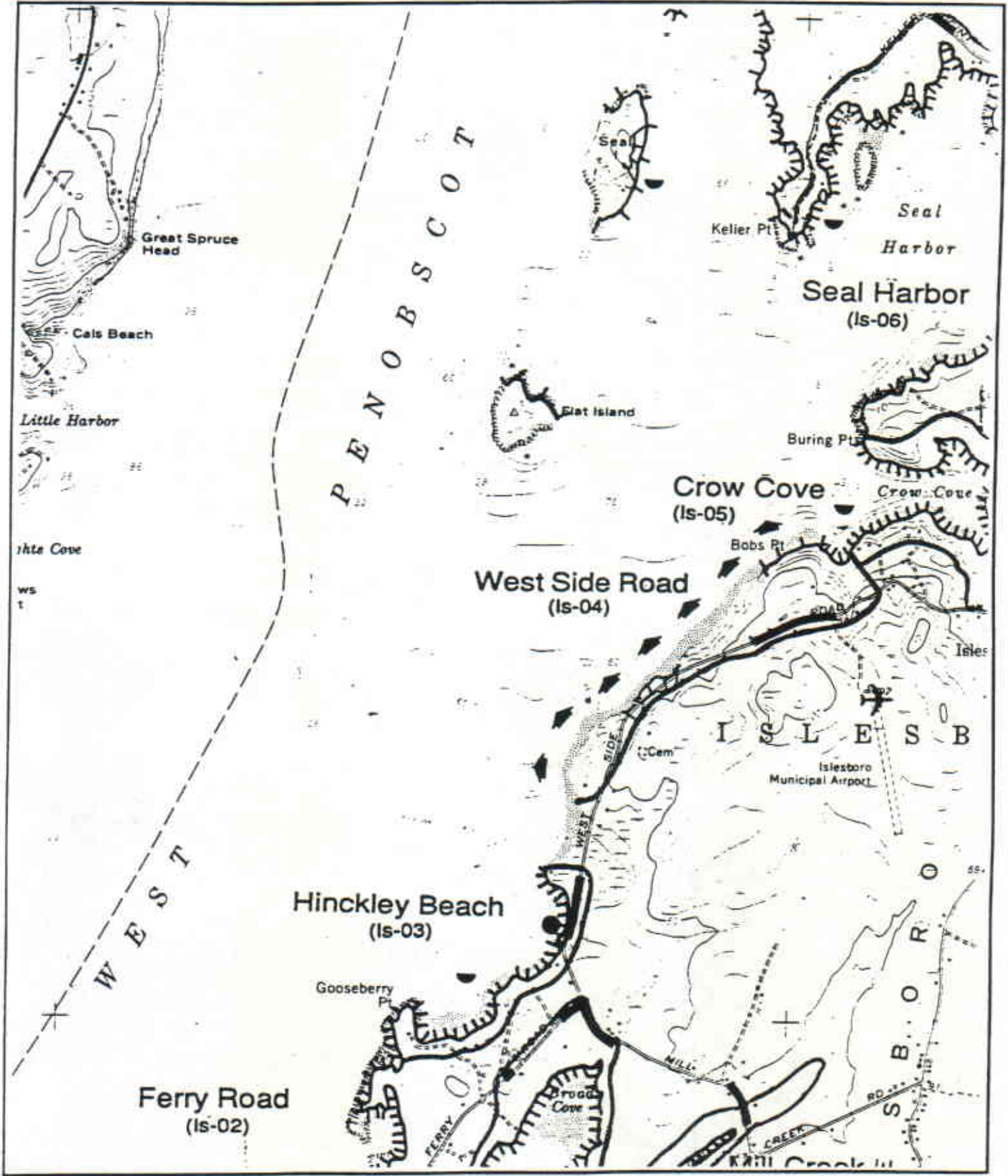


*Northerly view from fields along West Side Road across West Penobscot Bay toward Northport.*

**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area West Side Road**      **Code IS-04**  
**Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**

**Town Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Crow Cove  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-05  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	6	X
	3	
	6	X
	6	X
		5
30		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

5
3
7
7
22

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

55

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

A relatively long, narrow cove that touches the Main Road at two locations. From the road the water appears almost totally enclosed. The undulating shoreline is seen above mud flats and salt marsh. Several varieties of marsh grasses offer a subtle change in color and texture at the edge of the road. A minor amount of residential development - primarily moorings, piers, and pleasure boats, are visible from the road. Parking along the narrow, curving road is not advised. A high degree of diversity, mystery, and naturalness contribute to the scenic quality. A view of local significance due to its limited length.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued enforcement of shoreland zoning regulations to prevent further development along the waterfront.

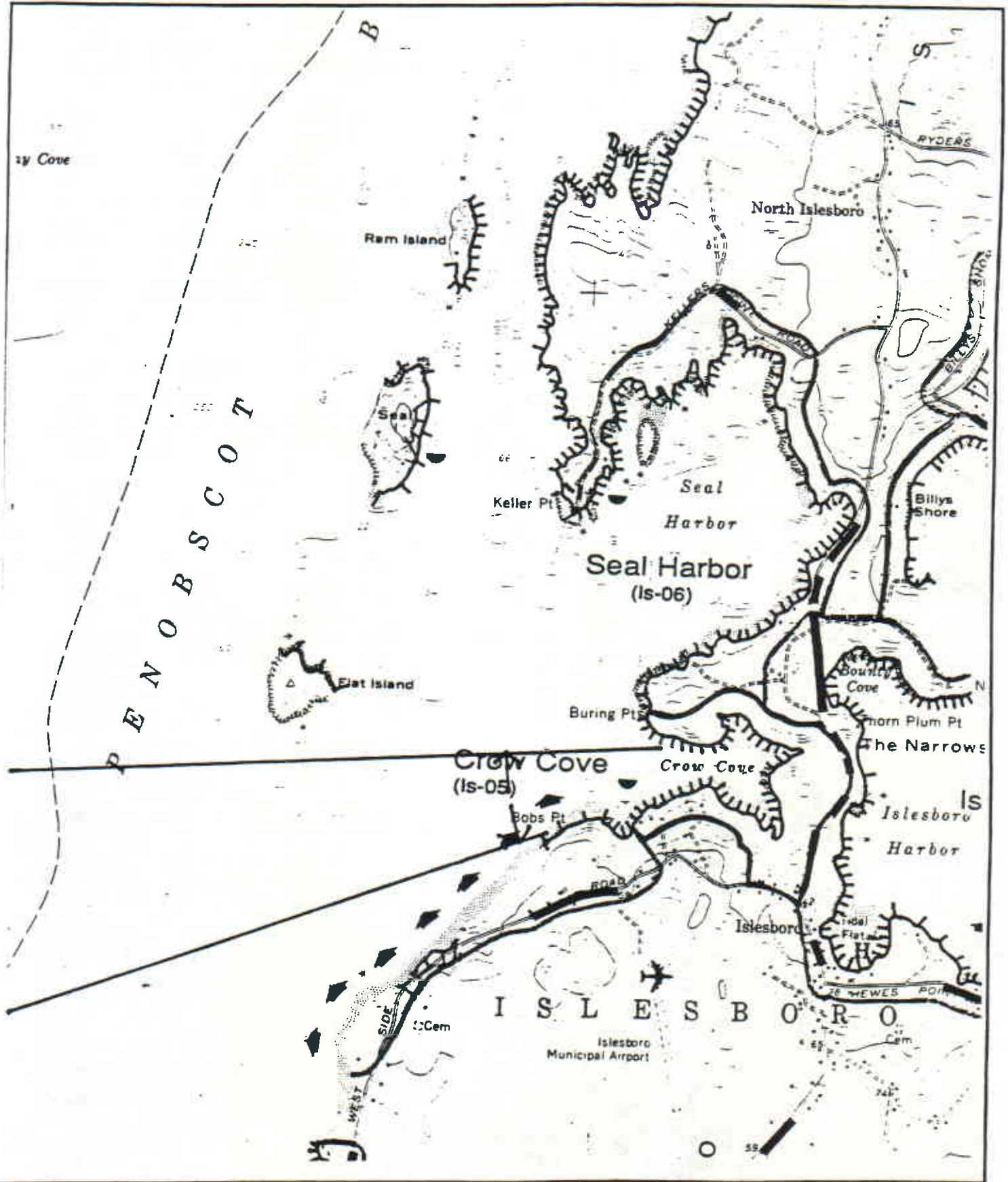
*Westerly view of Crow Cove at low tide, looking toward the hills of Northport and Ducktrap Mountain.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Crow Cove Code IS-05  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Seal Harbor  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-06  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
	9	X
	9	X
		6
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		39

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

5	
4	
3	
4	
6	
22	
TOTAL SCORE	
63	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

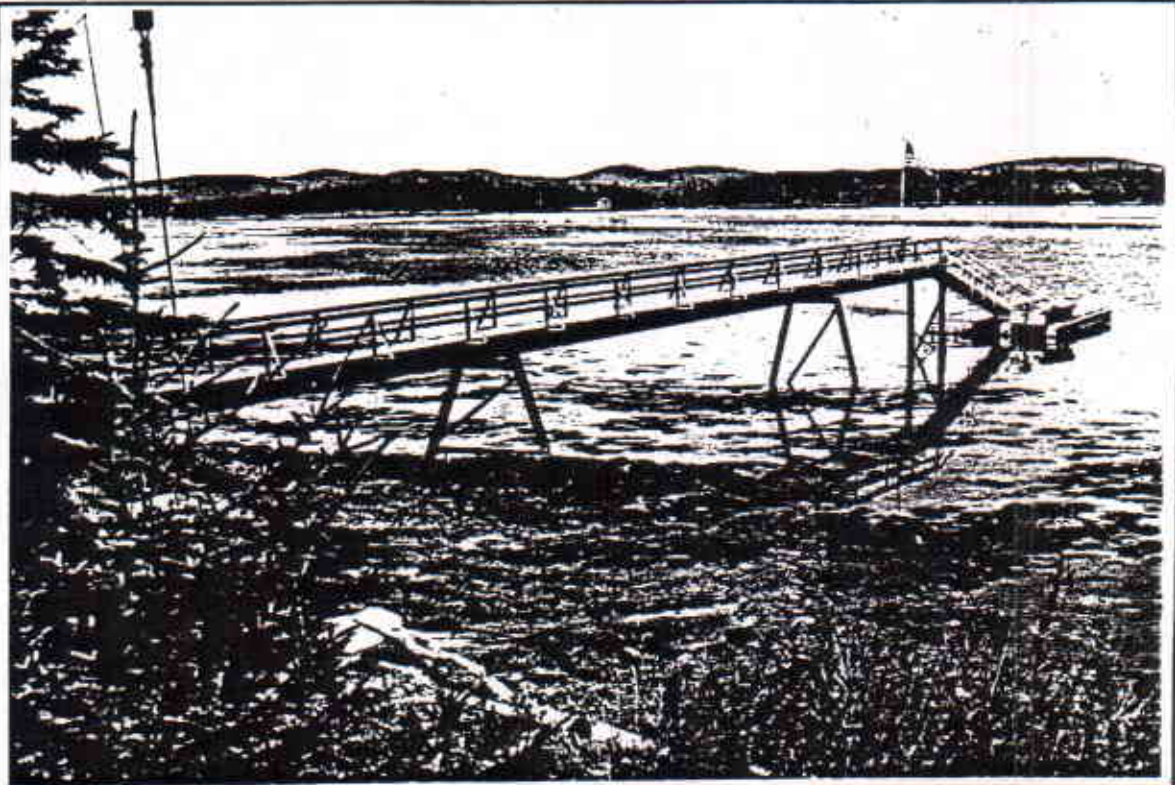
**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Seal Harbor is one of the largest coves on Islesboro, with several viewpoints along public roads. The primary viewing location is from the Main Road at an informal rest area in a grove of waterfront pines. While several private piers can be seen from this viewpoints, there are few visible signs of development within the harbor. Gravel roads on the north side of the harbor afford filtered views of the harbor across lawns and fields. The edge of the water is characterized by 15-20 foot cliffs and pebble beaches. The orientation of the cove is to the southwest, toward Keller Point and Flat Island, with the Camden Hills in the background. Parking is available for a limited number of cars along the roadway.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Provide better definition of parking areas. Selective vegetation management is necessary to open new views or to maintain existing vistas to the harbor.

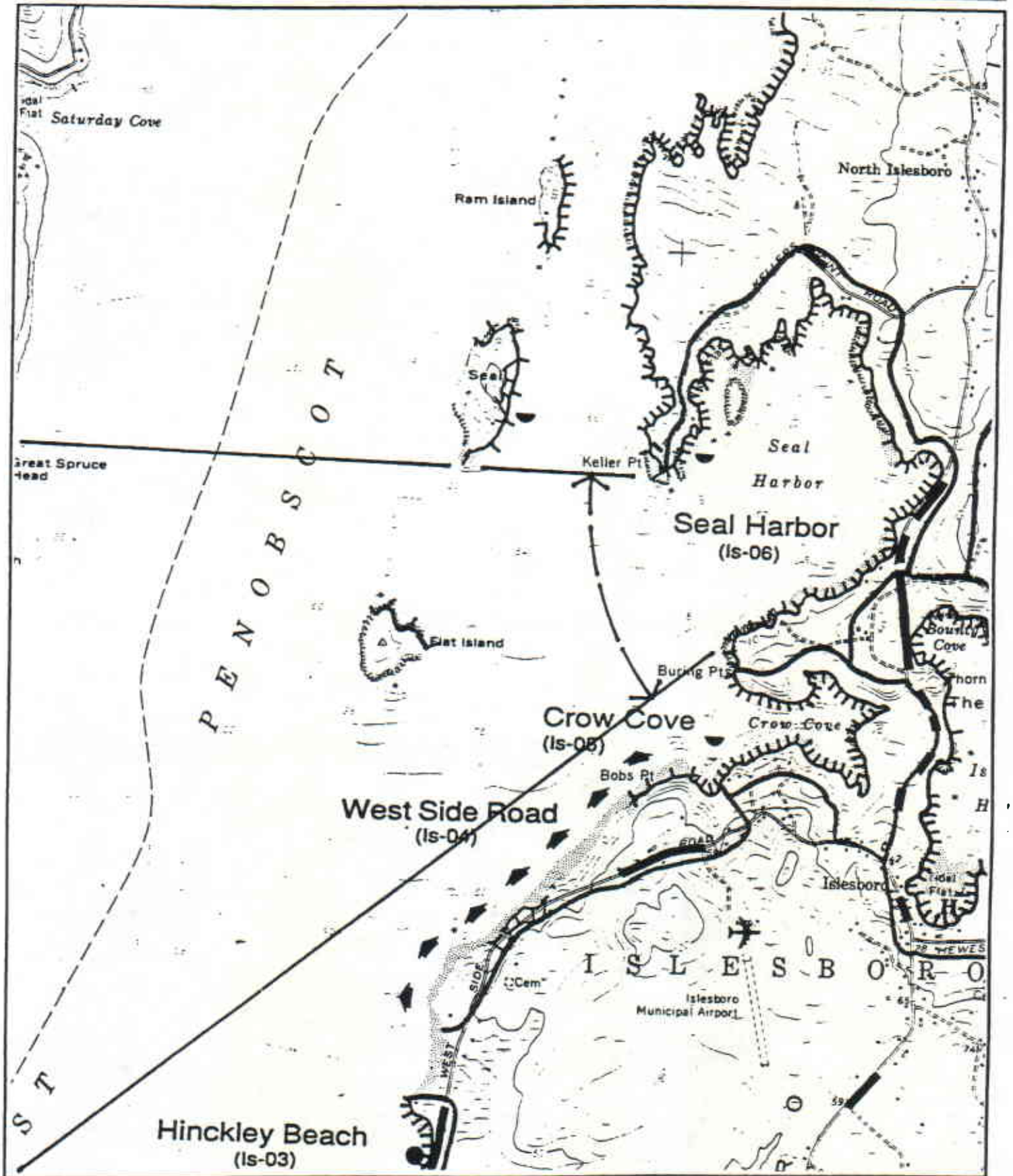


Westerly view from the main road toward Keller Point. Wooden pier in foreground is private.

**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Seal Harbor**      **Code IS-06**  
**Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**

**Town Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Turtle Head Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-07**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	3	X
	3	X
	6	
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
		5
<b>36</b>		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	3
	2
	2
	2
	4
<b>13</b>	
<b>49</b>	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

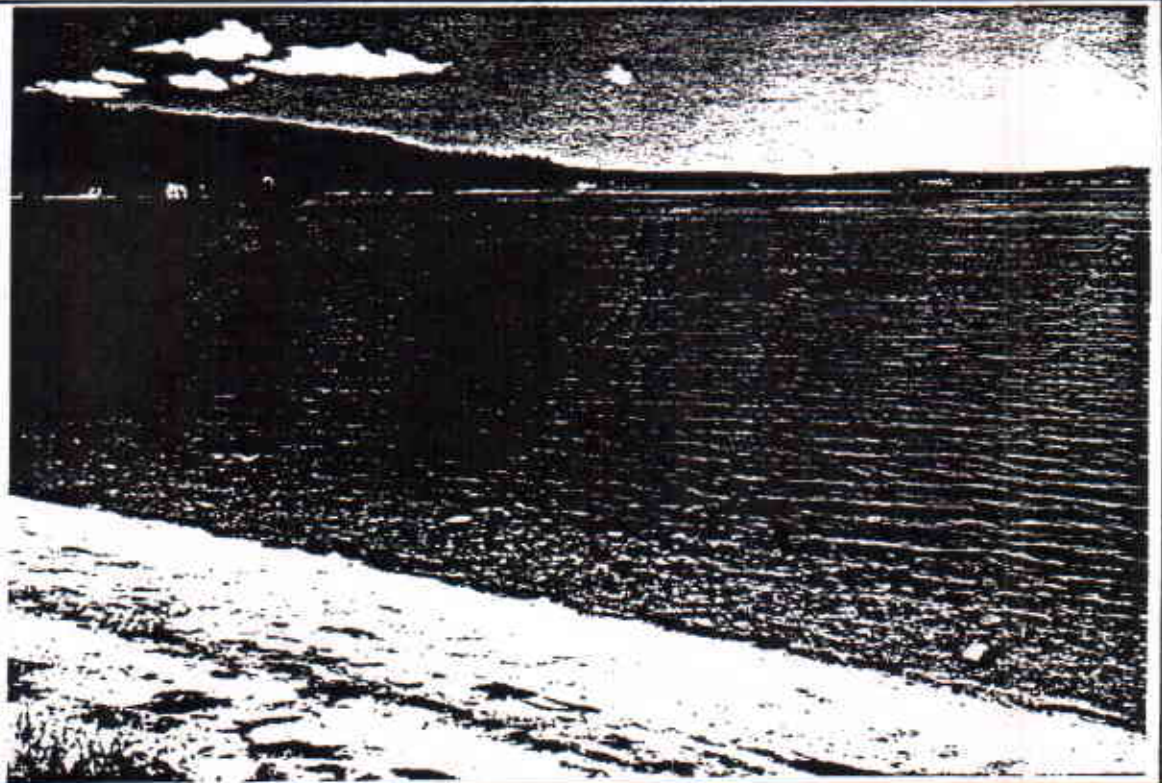
## Viewshed Description

A broad, open cove oriented to the northwest toward Belfast Bay and Searsport. The cove is defined by Turtle Head, a prominent rocky headland on the north, and Marshall Point on the southwest. Meadow Point Road descends a long hill (elevation 200 feet) southwest of the cove to parallel the water for .3 miles at sea level. Parking is limited by a salt marsh on the east side of the road and the beach on the west side. Development in the immediate area is well screened and not visible from the public roadway. The beach at Turtle Head Cove is one of the most popular recreation areas on the Island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Provide limited amount of public parking.

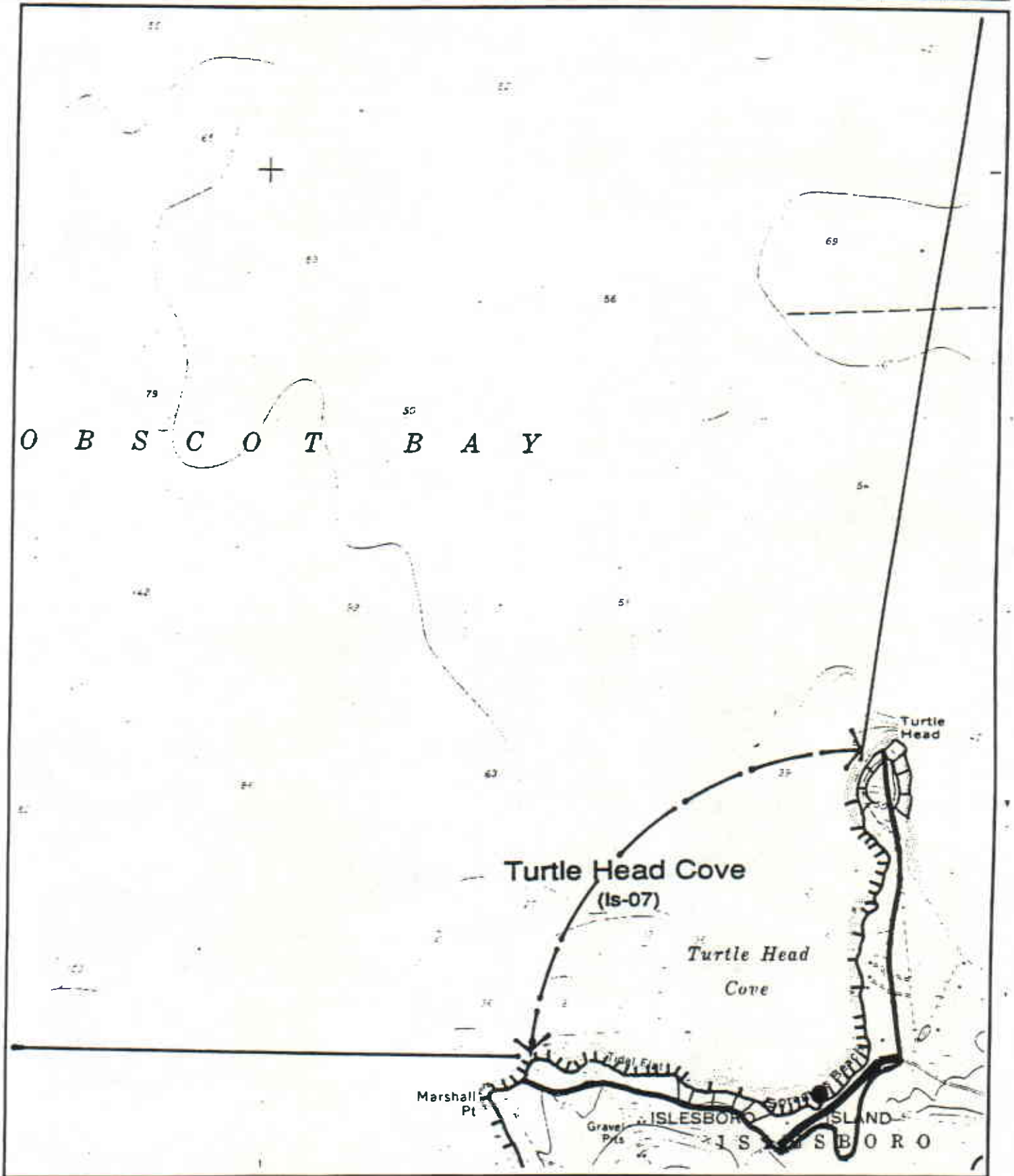
*Northwesterly view from Sprague Beach toward Marshall Point and Bayside, five miles distant.*



**Scenic Area Location**

Scenic Area **Turtle Head Cove** Code **IS-07**  
Searsport USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town **Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Parker Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-08**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
X	6	X
	4	X
	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
X	12	X
	6	X
		7
46		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	2
	3
	4
	6
21	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

67

**TOTAL SCORE**

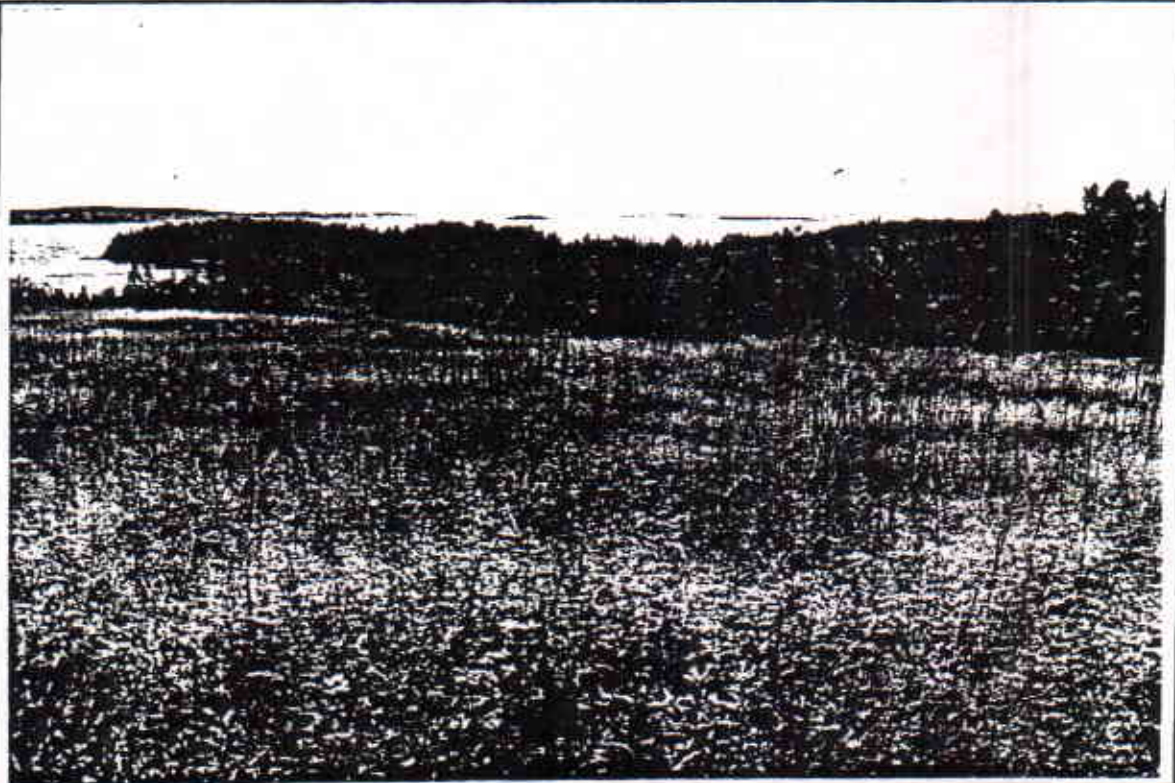
## Viewshed Description

Parker Cove, Coombs Cove, and Hutchins Island occupy a prominent midground position in the view from the largest hill north of the Narrows. This panoramic view extends easterly to Cape Rosier and the islands of East Penobscot Bay and offers excellent opportunities to see large sailing vessels plying the waters of the bay. The viewing opportunity is limited to approximately .2 of a mile along Main Road.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Preservation of open field on the east side of the road to maintain visual access to the bay. Conservation easements on the fields on the east side of the road. Site plan review to direct any new construction away from the fields and prevent blockage of the public view.

*Westerly view from main road over old pasture land toward Parker Cove, Hutchins Island, and Coombs Cove.*

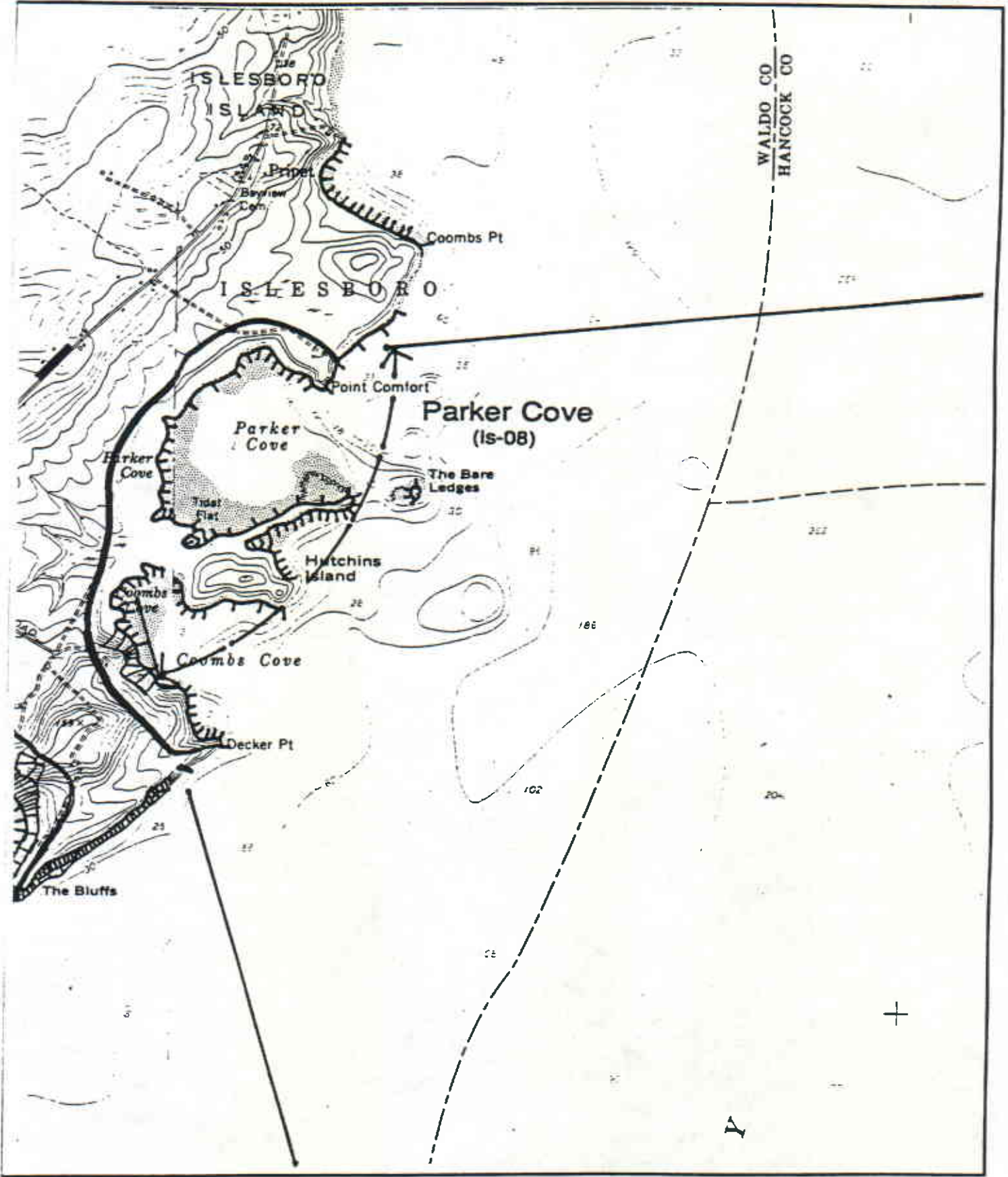


**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Parker Cove**  
Islesboro/Cape Rosier USGS Quadrange: 7.5 minute series

**Code IS-08**

**Town Islesboro**









Scenic Area Evaluation Form

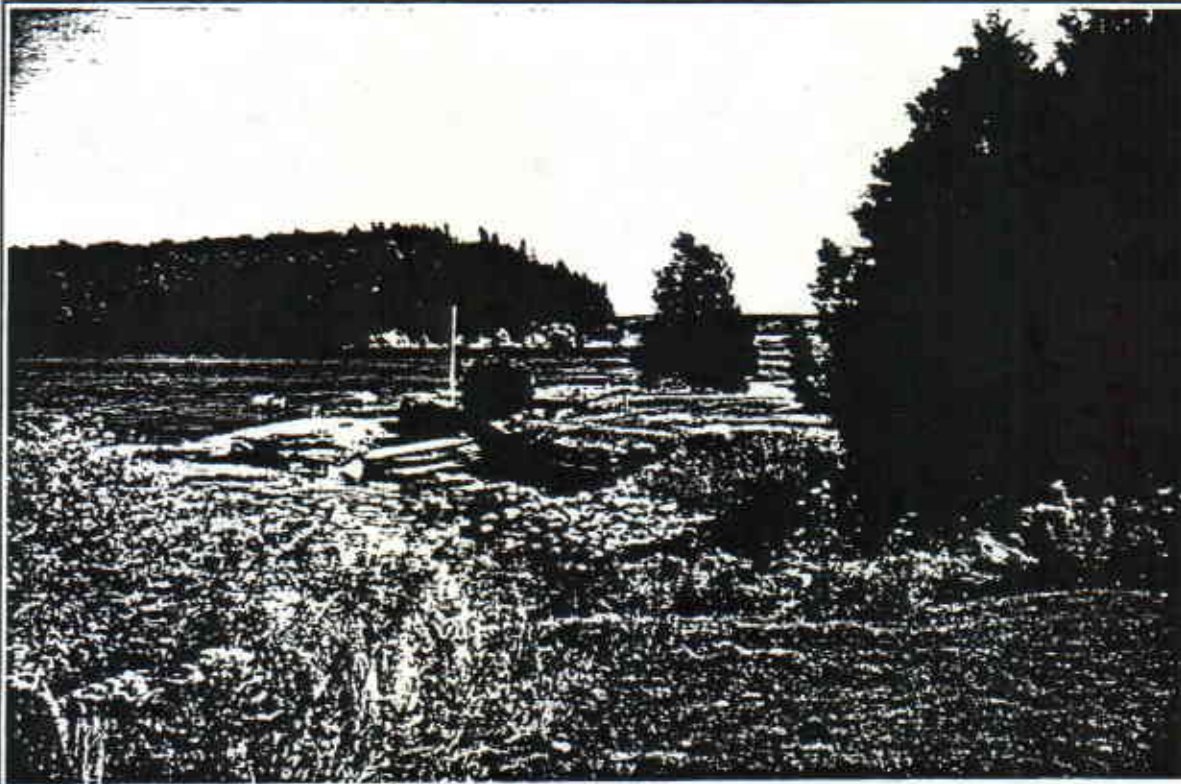
Scenic Area Sabbathday Harbor  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-09  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office



*The Head of the Cape at the southern end of Cape Rosier is four miles east south-east of Sabbathday Harbor across Penobscot Bay.*



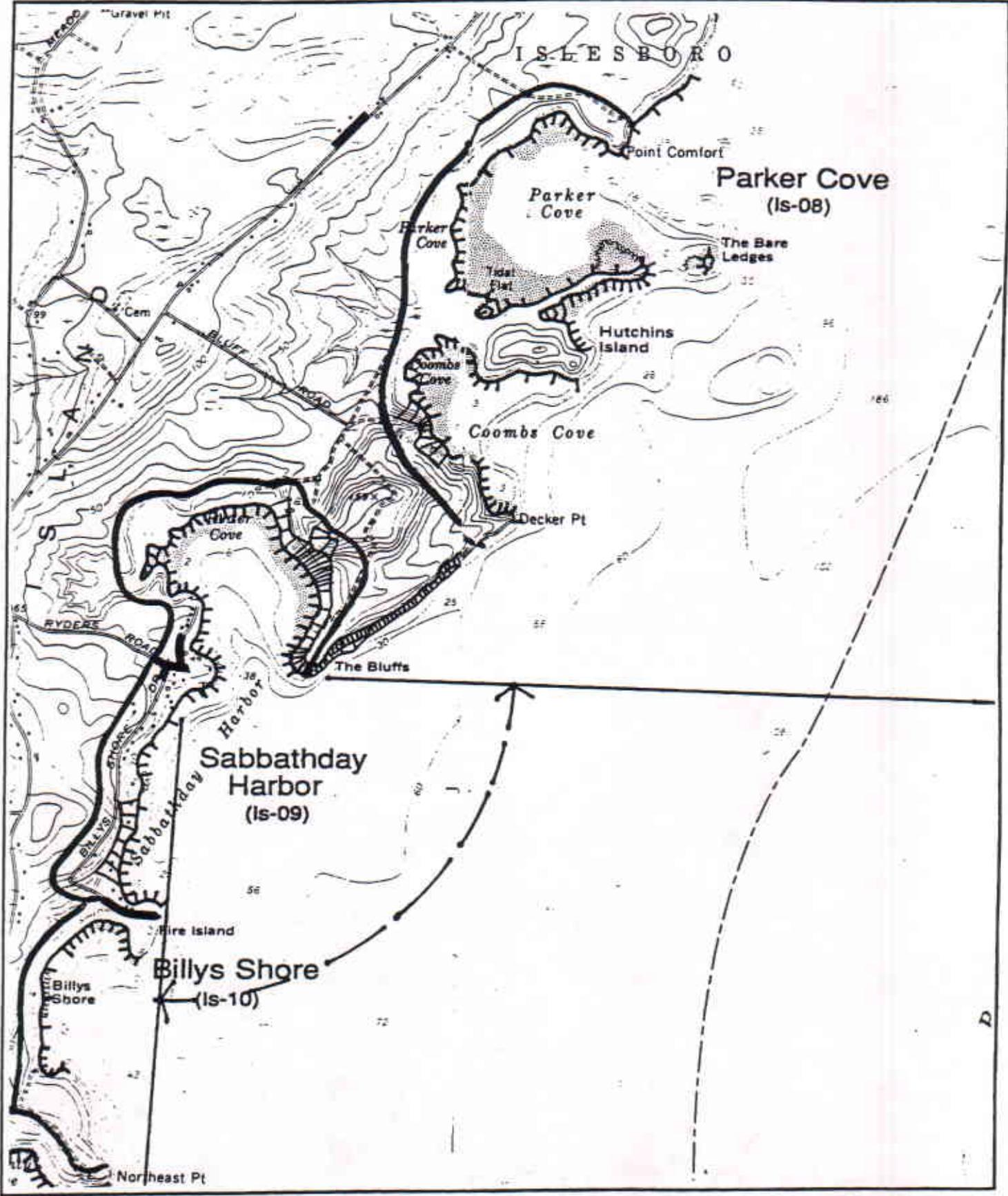
*The entrance to Ryder Cove is marked by the protective arm of The Bluffs, a long, wooded, undeveloped promontory.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Sabbathday Harbor Code IS-09  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro



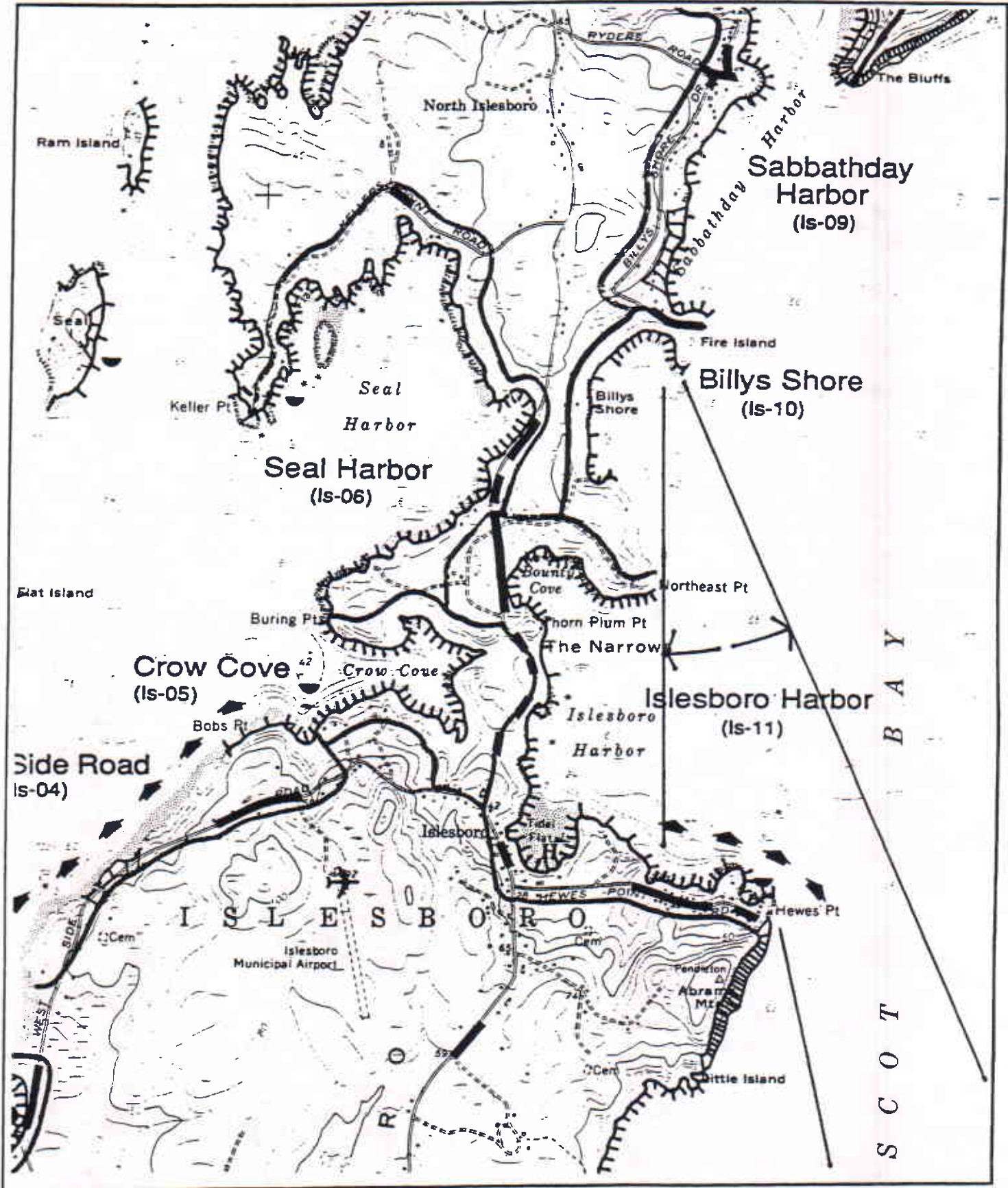




Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Billys Shore** Code **IS-10**  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town **Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Islesboro Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-11**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	3	X
	6	X
X	9	X
	6	X
X	12	X
	6	X
		7
45		

	5
	3
	6
	6
	6
26	

**71**

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

- Landform
    - Elevation
    - Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water
    - Duration of View
    - Type of Water
    - Quality of Horizon
  - Indicators Present
  - Desktop Subtotal
  - Landscape Character
    - Land Use
    - Roadside Characteristics
    - Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect
  - Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Islesboro Harbor is a complex place of inlets, coves, points, mud flats, and open water, oriented to the east and northeast toward Cape Rosier and East Penobscot Bay. The rating given is a composite of all the component parts of Islesboro Harbor. Most of the harbor is visible from public roads, although its relatively large size and configuration makes it impossible to see all at once. The harbor is composed of several smaller coves and inlets, each divided by evergreen-covered rocky headlands. The majority of the small homes that border the harbor are located along its southern shoreline, clustered around Main Road or Hewes Point Road. The most prominent natural feature is The Narrows, a thin spit of land connecting both halves of the island. A sea-wall has been built up to protect the roadway from easterlies blowing in from the bay. A clearing above Bounty Cove affords a spectacular view across the Harbor, framed by a group of picturesque old oaks along the shoreline.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Protection of open fields surrounding Bounty Cove by conservation easements. Scenic easements on Northeast Point and the land east of Main Road.



*Southerly view of Hewes Point from the Narrows.*

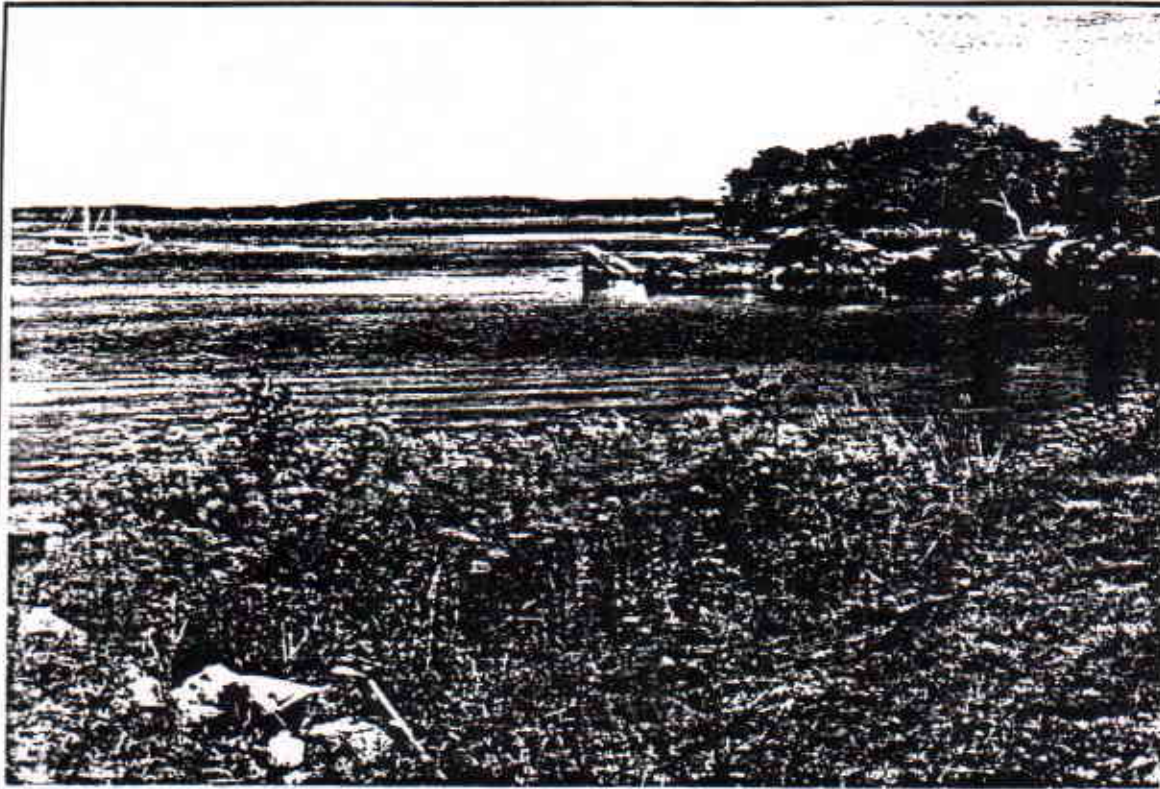


**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Islesboro Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

**Code IS-11**  
Critical Areas Program

**Town Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office



*Easterly point of Islesboro Harbor from Hewes Point Road. Cape Rosier and Harborside are four miles to the northeast.*



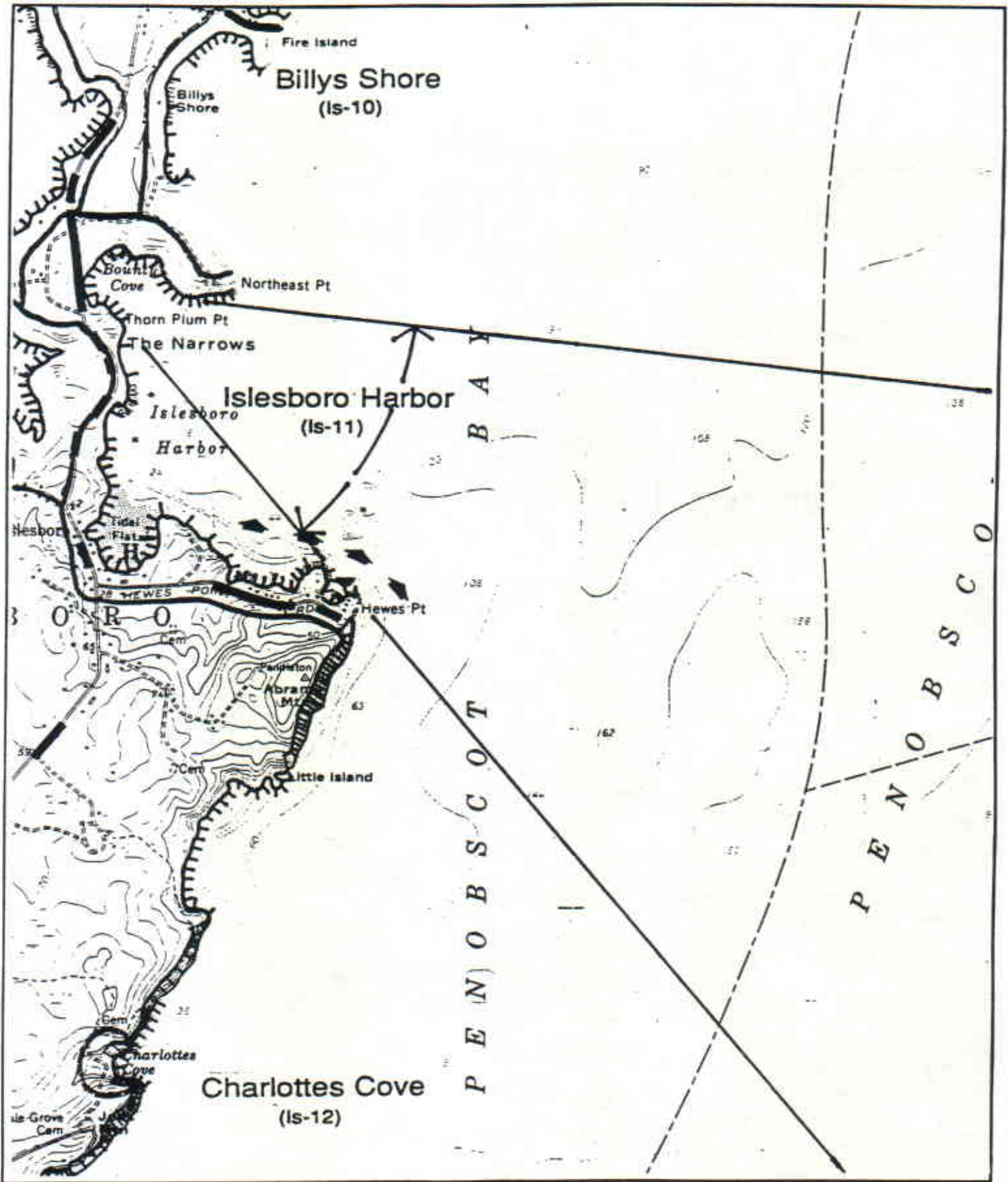
*Northerly view of Islesboro Harbor from Hewes Point Road. The village of Castine is seven miles to the north.*



**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Islesboro Harbor Code IS-11**  
**Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**

**Town Islesboro**



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Charlottes Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-12**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	3	X
	6	X
	6	X
	3	X
	9	X
	6	X
		7
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		36

1. Landform
  - Elevation
  - Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water
  - Duration of View
  - Type of Water
  - Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal

5
4
3
6
6
24

6. Landscape Character
  - Land Use
  - Roadside Characteristics
  - Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

60
----

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Charlottes Cove is the final, and most dramatic of a series of views along East Shore Drive, which winds beside cliffs, historic cottages, and neatly manicured landscapes. The Cove is a rather small indentation along the island's eastern shoreline, enclosed by 50-70 foot rocky cliffs topped with wind swept fir and spruce. A solitary cottage to the north, a private utility corridor, and the rough gravel road are the only traces of habitation. The 300 foot-long beach appears to be paved with well sorted flat weathered stones. The cove has a great sense of seclusion, brought about by its out of the way location, the lack of development, and the distance from Main Road. The easterly views across Penobscot Bay extends to Cape Rosier and Western Island, Hog Island, and Pond Island. This portion of the bay is a popular route for schooners, which appear in silhouette against distant islands. The difficult access and lack of parking provide a check for overuse.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Minor maintenance work on roadway and culvert.

View of southerly end of Charlottes Cove, looking toward East Penobscot Bay to the southwest.

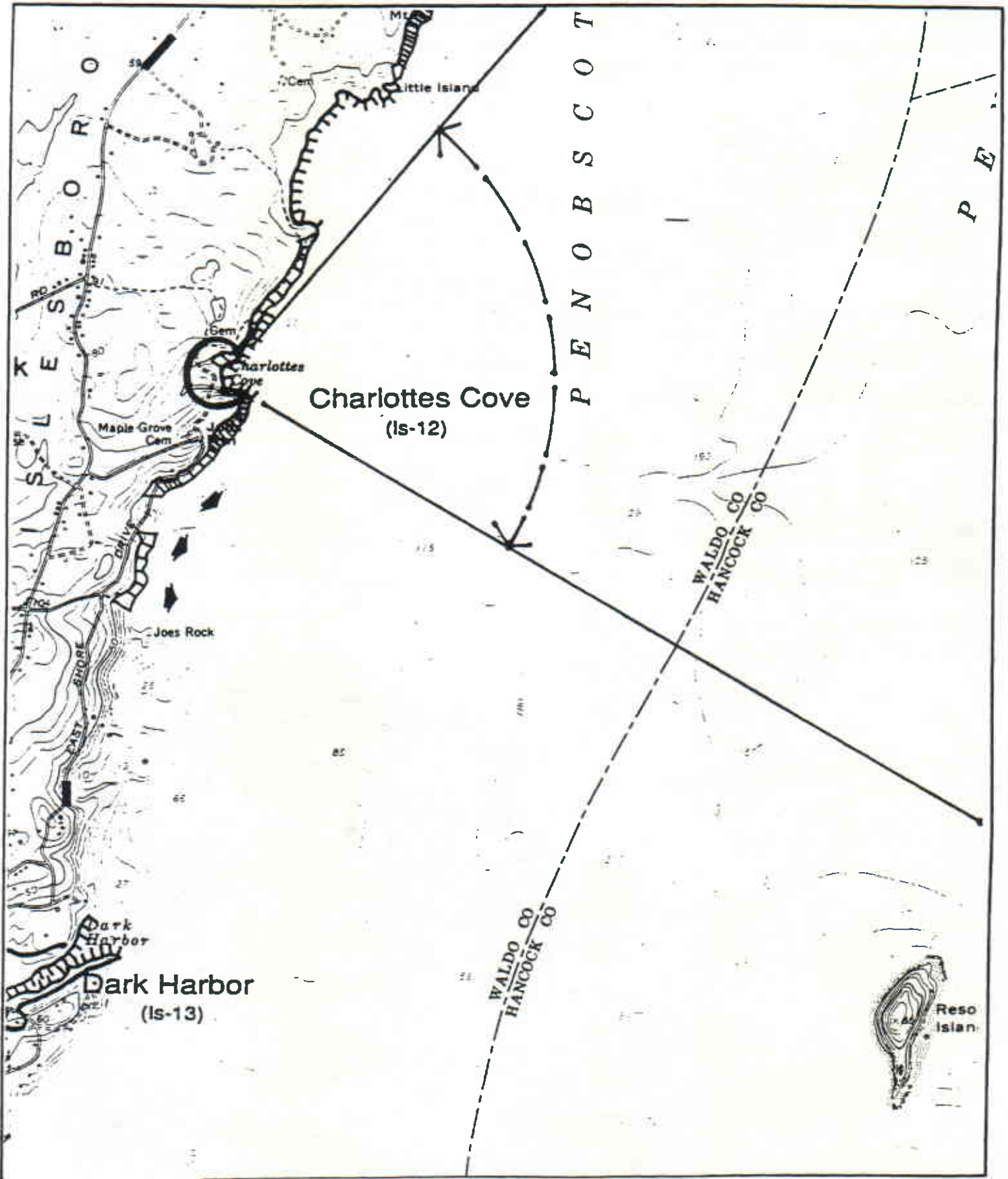




**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Charlottes Cove Code IS-12**  
**Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**

**Town Islesboro**



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Dark Harbor  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-13  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	3	X
	6	X
	9	X
	3	X
	6	X
	9	X
		7
33		

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	5
X	7
	7
X	7
32	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

65	
----	--

**TOTAL SCORE**

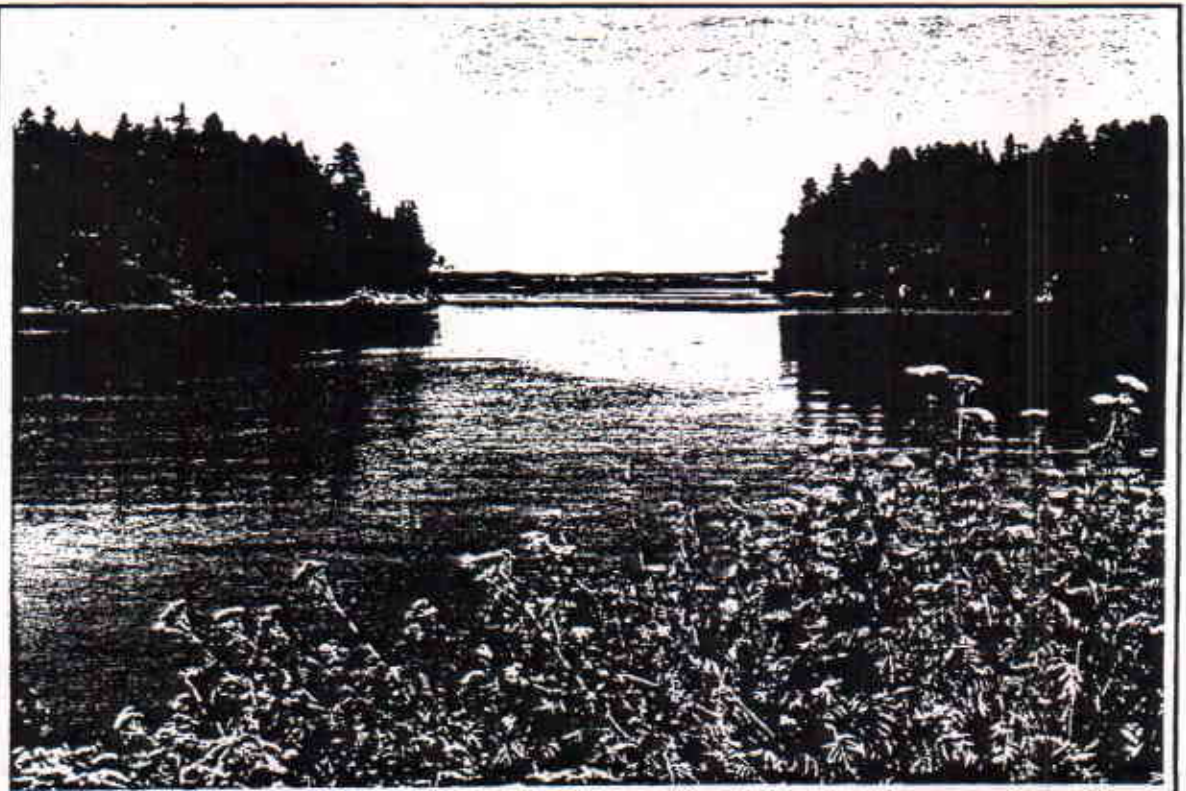
## Viewshed Description

Recognized as the focus of the "cottage" community on Islesboro, Dark Harbor remains a well manicured village, composed of stately summer homes, informal shops, small parks, hedges and gates, and a commanding view of its harbor. The majority of the visual interest is in the foreground. A tidal pool, with calm reflective waters, is formed by a dam built of massive granite blocks. The harbor is a long, rocky, narrow slot along the island's eastern shoreline. From the tip of the harbor the water appears almost totally enclosed, pinched by low hills on either side. Main Road offers good views at sea level before rising 60 feet to the south. This is primarily a landscape to be enjoyed on foot or bicycle: most of the waterfront is private property, as noted by subtle reminders. The detailing and scale of the cottages is best appreciated at a slower pace. See The Summer Cottages of Islesboro, 1890-1930, by Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., for a complete description of the architectural history of Islesboro.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Strict site plan review standards to assure site and architectural compatibility for future development proposals.

View from Main Road looking northeast at Dark Harbor.



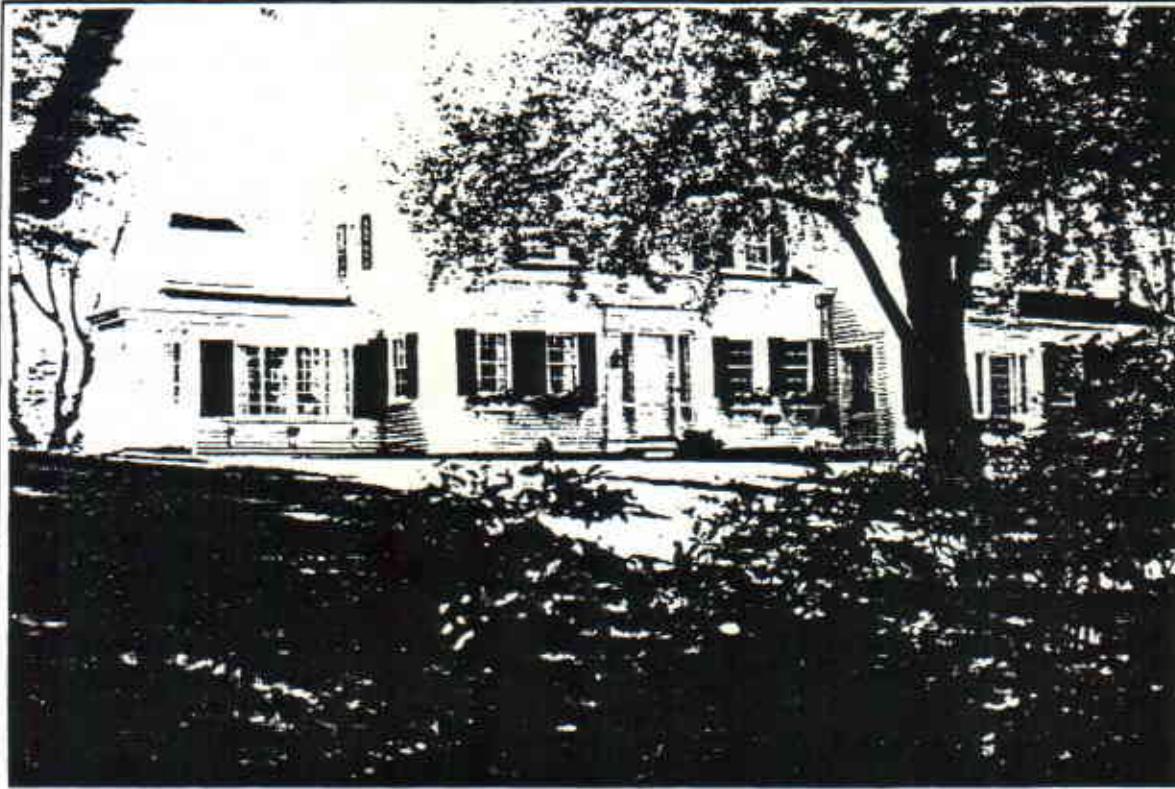


**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

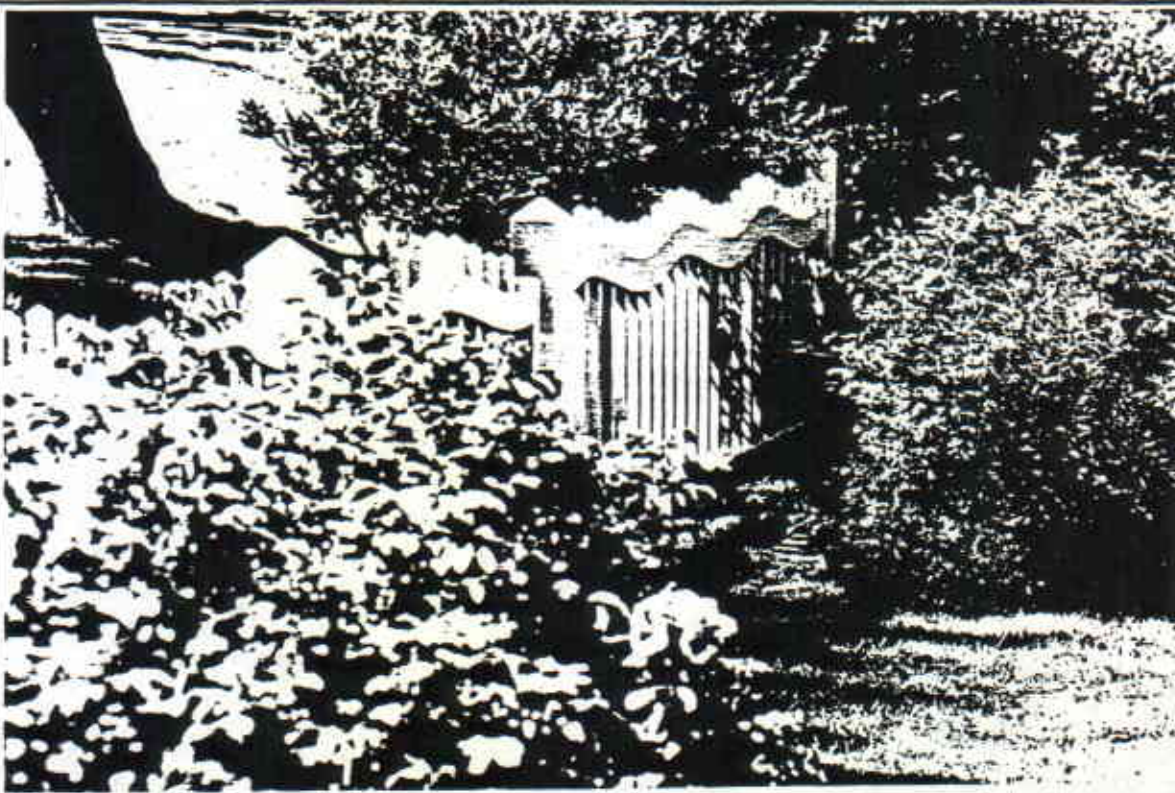
**Scenic Area Dark Harbor  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code IS-13  
Critical Areas Program**

**Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office**



*The Dr. Louis Starr cottage, renovated c. early 1900's, overlooking Dark Harbor.*



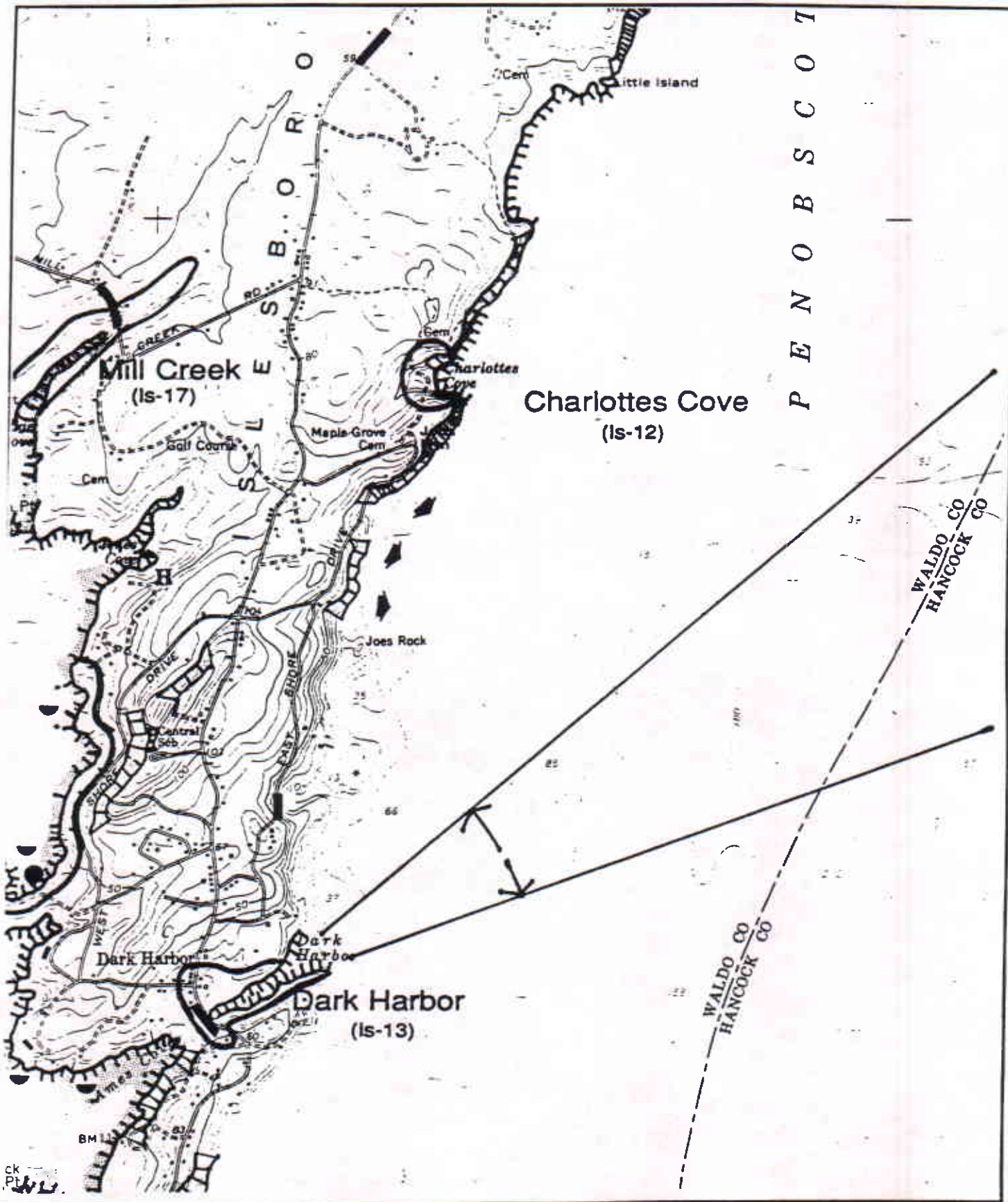
*Detail of garden fence below the Starr Cottage.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Dark Harbor** Code **IS-13**  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town **Islesboro**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Main Road Overlook**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-14**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	5	X
	2	X
	6	X
	3	X
	9	X
	9	X
		6
<b>34</b>		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	5
	3
	7
	6
	7
<b>28</b>	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**62**

**TOTAL SCORE**

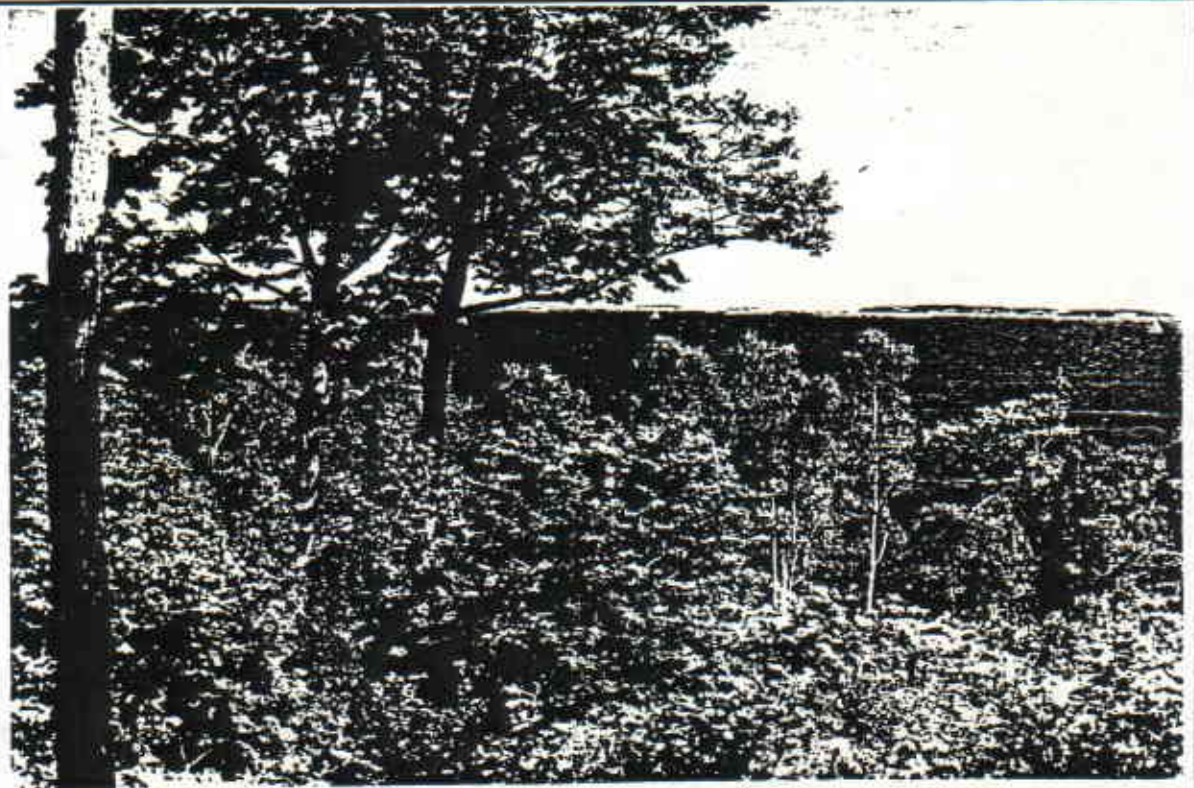
## Viewshed Description

Islesboro is not noted for its dramatic relief or sweeping public panoramas. A short section of Main Road, at one of the highest points on Islesboro (elevation 80 feet), affords the motorist, jogger, walker, or bicyclist a few brief glimpses of the dramatic expanse of Penobscot Bay. The nearby landscape consists of historic cottages, private parking areas, stone walls, and manicured lawns. The view extends across the Bay to Deer Isle, and looks out to Resolution Island, Beach Island, and Barred Island at a distance of 3-4 miles.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Work with private property owners to establish permanent view corridors to Penobscot Bay.

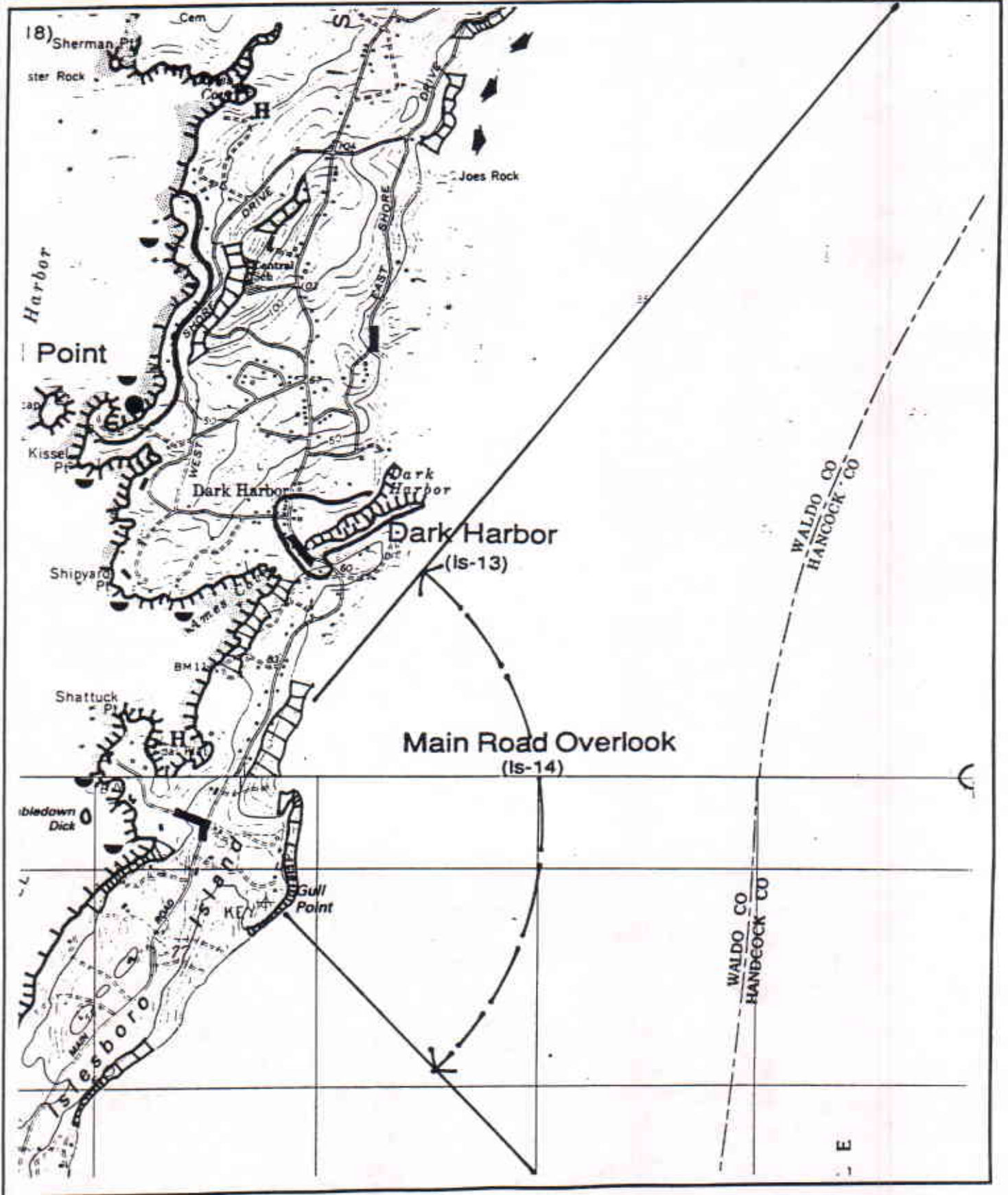
*View to East Penobscot Bay from a high point on Main Road, looking east to Deer Isle.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Main Road Overlook Code IS-14  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Pendleton Point  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-15  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
X	6	X
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
		7
42		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	5
	1
	3
	6
X	8
23	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

65

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The town beach at the southernmost tip of Islesboro is a major destination for summer visitors and day trippers. The park offers facilities for swimming and picnicking in a highly scenic environment. Spectacular views are found to the east and southeast toward Job Island and Middle Island, to the west and northwest to Bear Island, Little Spruce Head Island, Great Spruce Head Island, and North Haven Island, and Bracketts Channel. The views to the west exhibit a high degree of layering within the landscape. Views to the south and east are much more open with a distant horizon and very little to no layering. Bright colored orange/yellow lichens cover weathered rock formations along the shoreline. Typical seaside vegetation with large *Rosa rugosa*s and beach peas creeping at the edge of the rocks. The degree of naturalness is somewhat diminished by the proximity of the picnic/parking areas and a single cottage north of the beach.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Provide additional sanitary and picnic facilities near the outer parking area. Screen parking areas from view of beach users.

*The southern tip of Pendleton Point is protected on the west by Job Island and Middle Island. Rocky shoreline is typical of this section of Islesboro.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Pendleton Point**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code IS-15**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town Islesboro**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*Looking north from  
the east side of Pen-  
dleton Point.*



*View looking north  
from the west side  
of Pendleton Point.  
Middle Island rises  
above Bracketts  
Channel in the fore-  
ground.*

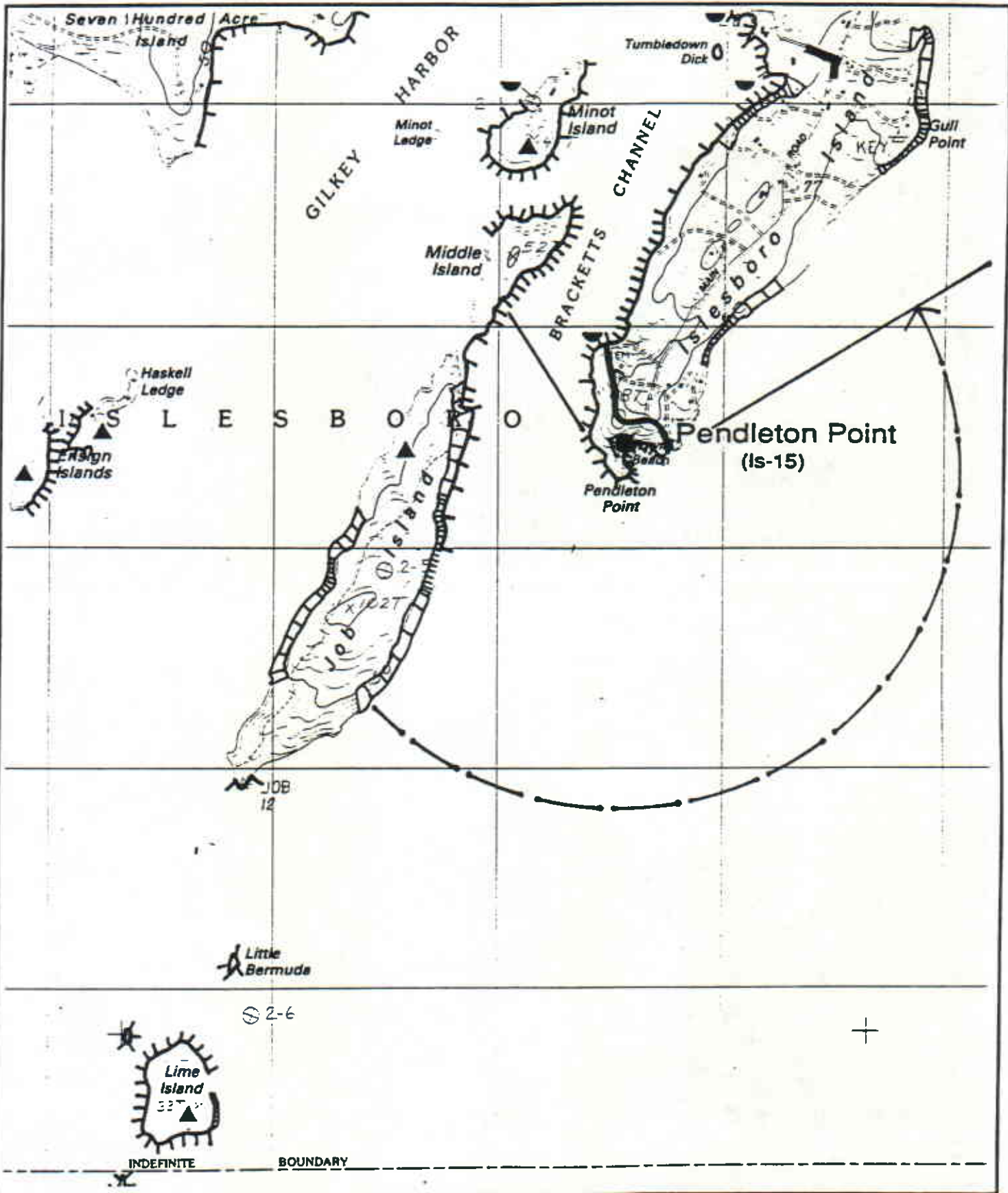
Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Pendleton Point

Code IS-15

Town Islesboro

North Haven West USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Kissel Point Road  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-16  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	9	X
	3	X
	12	X
	6	X
		6
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		39

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	7
	3
X	8
	6
	7
Field Evaluation	
31	
TOTAL SCORE	
70	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

TOTAL SCORE

## Viewshed Description

Gilkey Harbor is lined with many of the summer cottages described in Earl Shettleworth's The Summer Cottages of Islesboro, 1890-1930. This point along the Kissel Point Road affords a glimpse into the harbor, with its long stone piers, boat houses, and sailing vessels. The view gives a good sense of the protection offered by the harbor, since it seems to be totally enclosed at this point. The foreground includes manicured lawns and landscapes, several notable cottages, and the open waters of the harbor. The viewpoint is primarily of local interest, since the gravel road leads to several private drives without an easy point to turn around.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

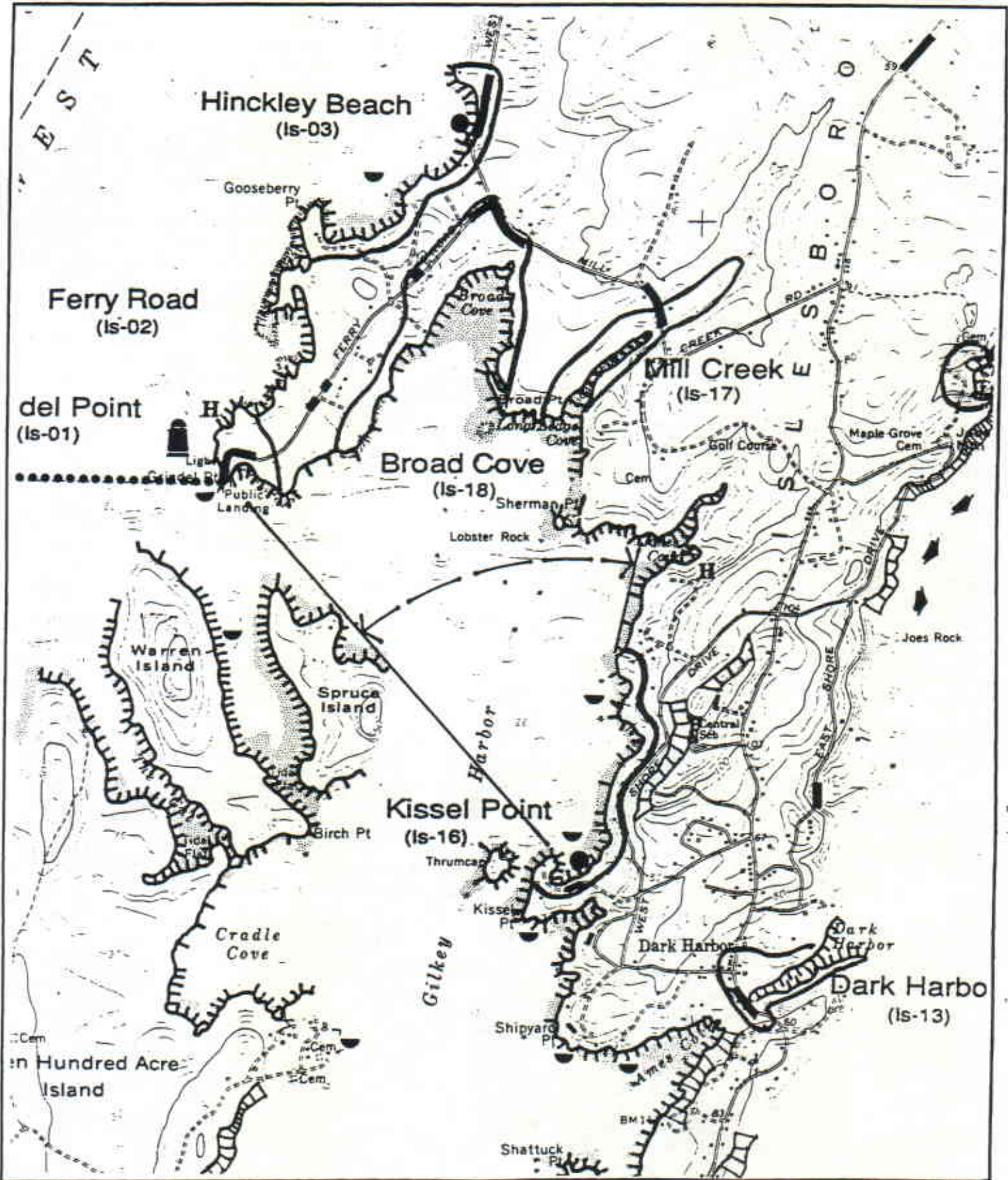




Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Kissel Point Road Code IS-16  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area Mill Creek  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code IS-17  
Critical Areas Program

Town Islesboro  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	4	X
	6	X
	3	X
	3	X
	6	X
	6	X
		6
28		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal

	4
	5
	6
	3
	5
23	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

51

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The view from the bridge over Mill Creek extends from a small tidal flat at the edge of Long Ledge Cove, a narrow inlet in Gilkey Harbor, to Spruce Island and Warren Island, 1.5 miles to the southwest. The duration of the view is limited by the alignment of the road and the dense evergreen vegetation on either side. The view up Mill Creek to the northeast is the only view of an estuary on the island. Mature locust, pine, birch, and cedars line the road and add a distinctive character to the residences located nearby. Locally significant views.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

View southwest toward Gilkey Harbor and Spruce Island from the bridge over Mill Creek.

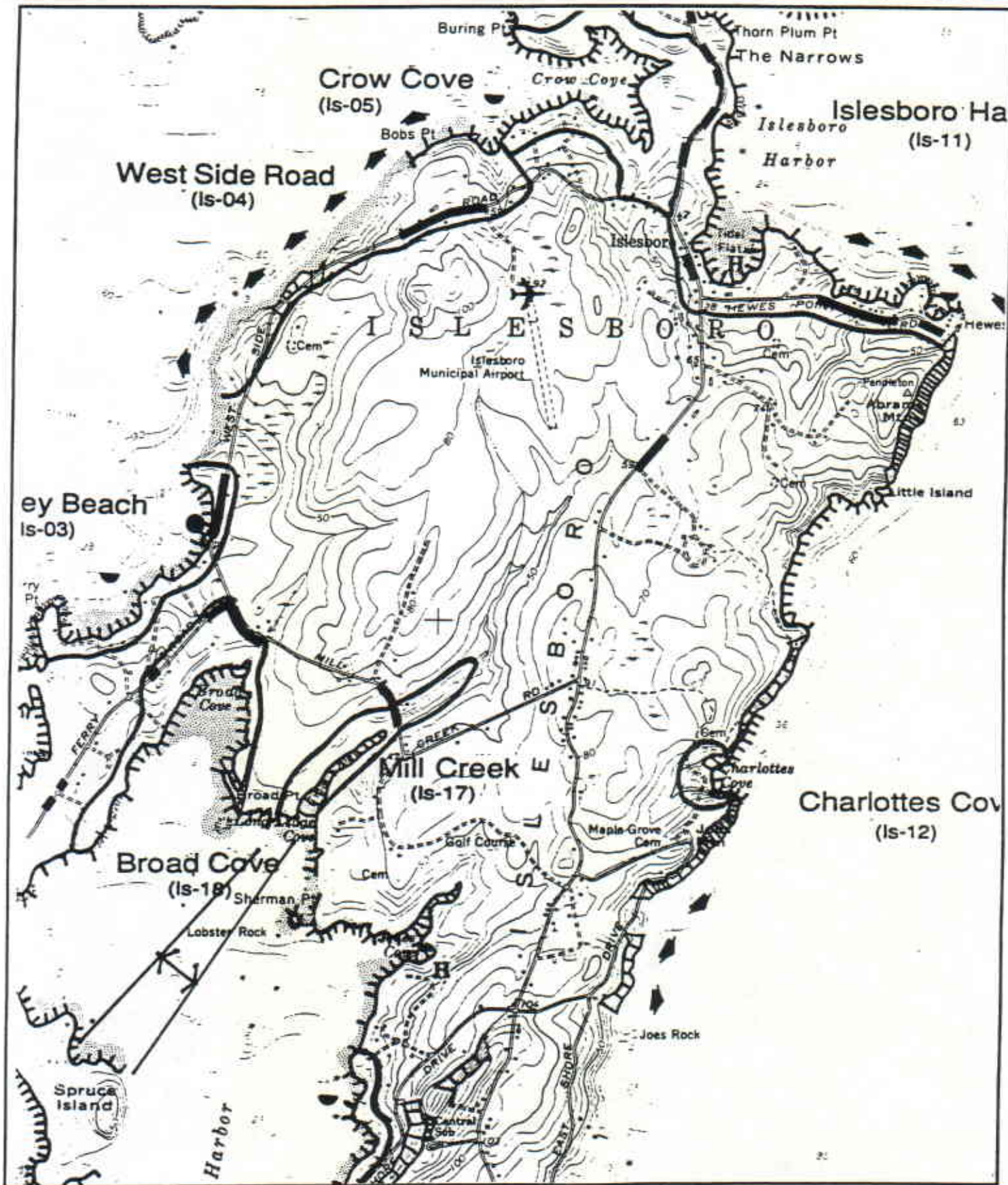




Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Mill Creek Code IS-17  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Broad Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **IS-18**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Islesboro**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	9	X
	9	X
	6	X
	12	X
	6	X
		6
		<b>42</b>

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	3
	2
	3
	5
	3
<b>16</b>	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**58**

**TOTAL SCORE**

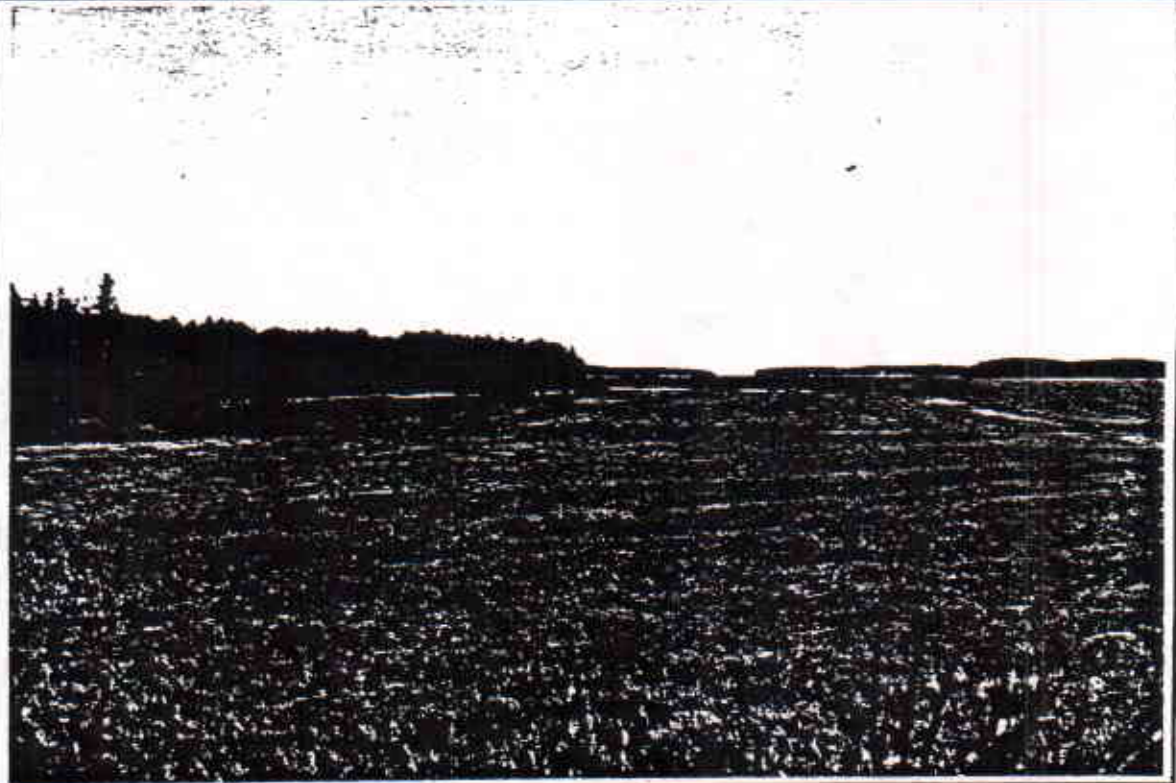
## Viewshed Description

The views to Broad Cove are primarily at sea level, looking over open fields with occasional homes and outbuildings. The cove is oriented toward Spruce Island, located 1.5 miles to the southwest. The view from the intersection of Mill Creek Road and Ferry Road is one of the longest of the Gilkey Harbor area, and is significant due to its proximity to the ferry landing. The horizon appears to be totally closed, due to the highly configured nature of the shoreline and the pattern of large islands in Gilkey Harbor. Most of the landforms visible from the road are low in profile with limited vertical interest.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Preserve visual access to Broad Cove with protective covenants on the open fields and strict site plan review standards.

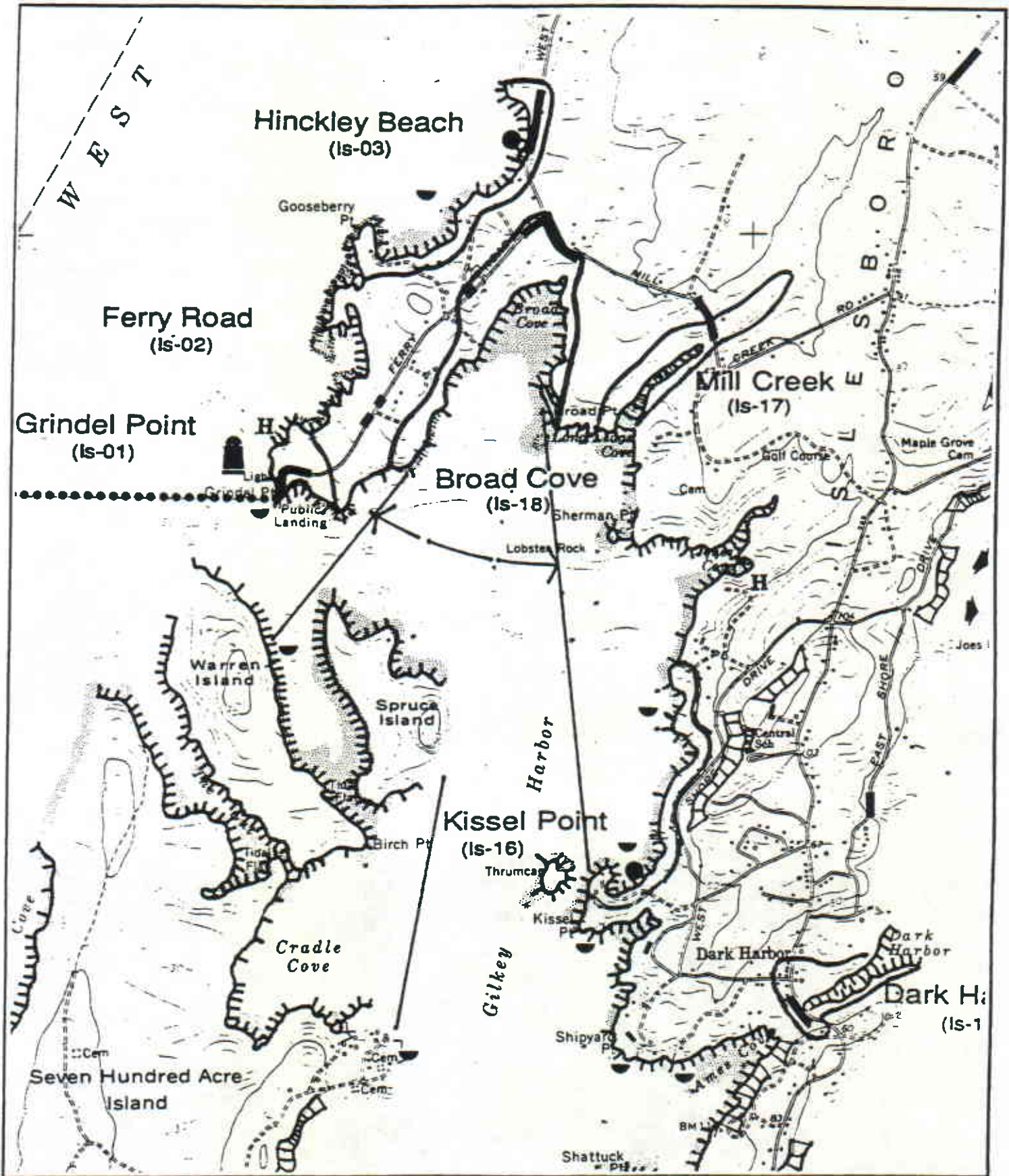
*Southerly view from Mill Road, looking at Broad Cove in the foreground and Gilkey Harbor in the midground*



Scenic Area Location

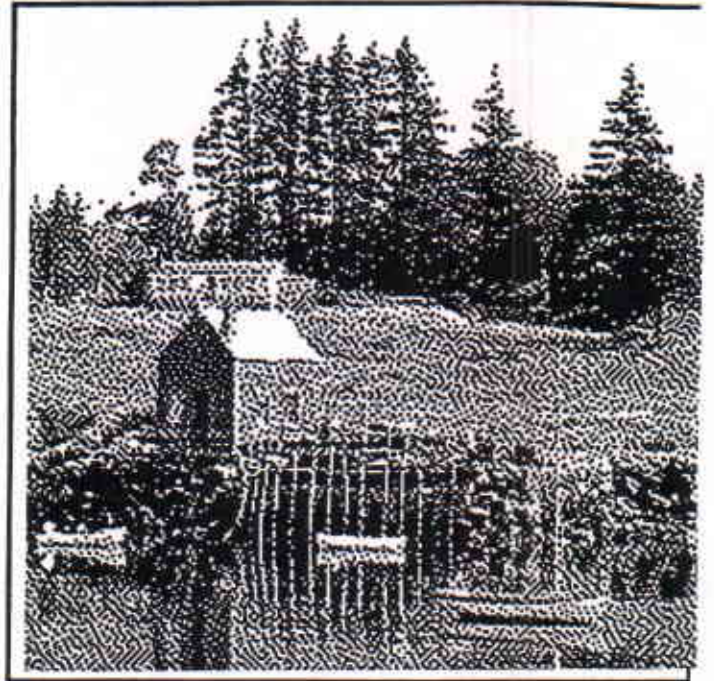
Scenic Area Broad Cove Code IS-18  
Islesboro USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town Islesboro

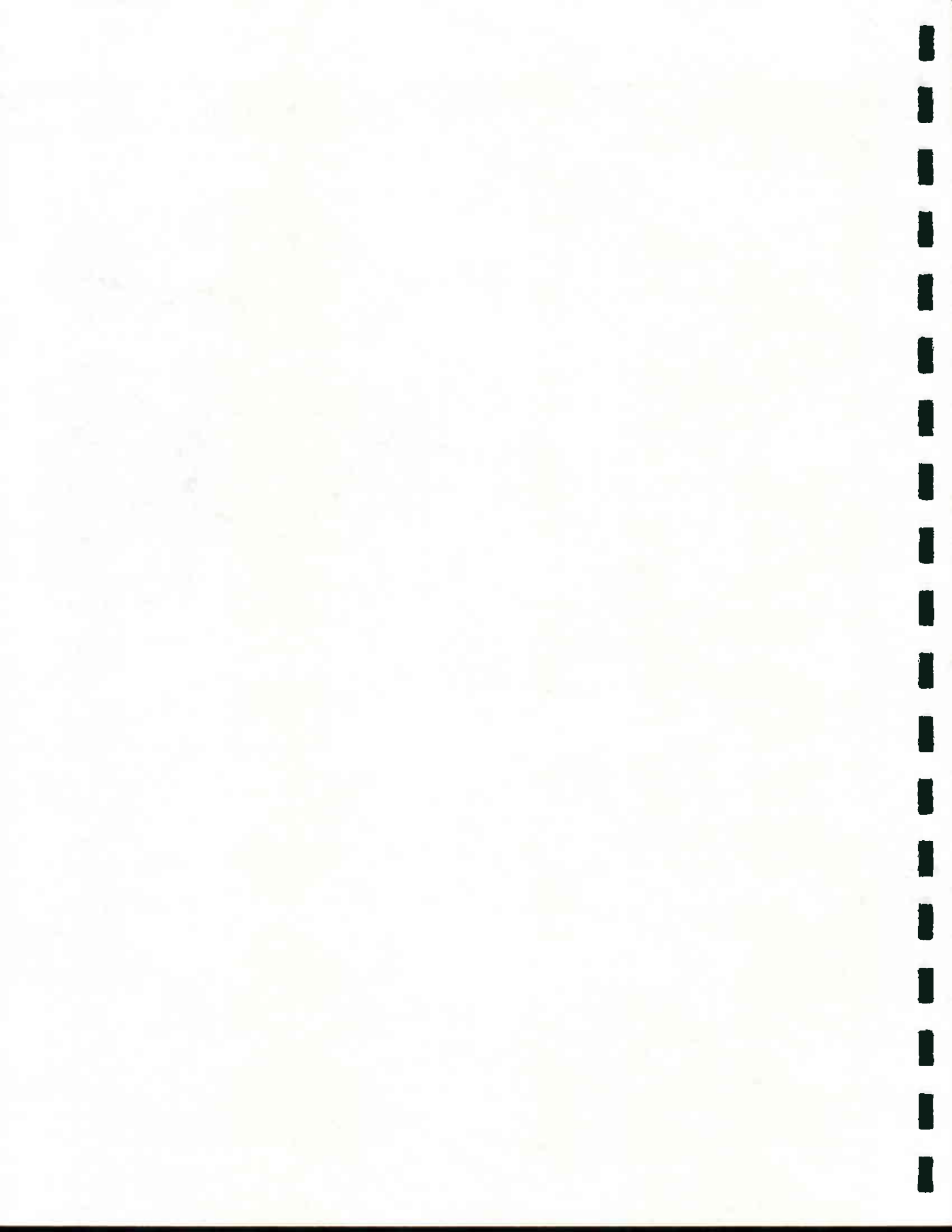




# VINALHAVEN



Carver's Harbor  
Carver's Pond  
Sand Cove  
Indian Creek  
Lane Island  
Old Harbor  
Barton Island  
The Basin  
Isle Au Haut Mountain  
Vinal Cove  
Crockett Cove  
Brown's Head  
Fox Island Thorofare  
Mill River  
Winter Harbor  
Geary's Beach  
Arey Cove  
Ambrust Hill



# VINALHAVEN

Vinalhaven is rich in history and strong in character, with a tremendous variety of landscapes throughout its 23 square miles. Vinalhaven and North Haven collectively are known as the Fox Islands, and are joined (or separated) by the Fox Islands Thorofare. Separate ferry for each island is available from Rockland.

The following is an overview of the island's visual character:

- Land use on the island can be categorized into several distinct patterns:
  - The town of Vinalhaven, with its working waterfront and distinctive neighborhoods
  - Medium density residential areas, often with a strong orientation to a small cove
  - Rural residential areas, with remnants of old farms and rolling fields
  - Enclosed woodlands and extensive wetlands
- The history of Vinalhaven is closely tied to the granite cutting industry. Throughout the island are many reminders and mementos of a time when stonecutting was the principal form of employment, an era that ended in 1939. Granite is found in the wharfs, horse troughs, foundations, walls, and the cemeteries, as well as in the old quarries.
- While there is a well developed road network throughout the island, there are relatively few areas to see water from public viewpoints.
- The major landmarks on the island are both natural and cultural: the town of Vinalhaven and Carvers Harbor, Lane Island, Geery's Beach, Winter Harbor, Fox Island Thorofare, Brown's Point Lighthouse, Tiptoe Mountain and Crockett Cove, The Basin, and The Reach.
- The entire island is surrounded by deeply indented coves, inlets, necks, and a multitude of smaller islands. The highly configured shoreline is the source of great visual interest as seen from public viewpoints on the land. Vinalhaven resembles Deer Isle in the number and depths of its coves and bays.
- The southeastern quadrant of the island is relatively flat, with hills and promontories the exception. Much of the land away from the coast is undeveloped woodland and wetlands, and of little visual interest. The eastern shoreline is exposed to the full force of the Atlantic Ocean, broken only by a few small barren islands.



- By contrast, the western and northern portions of the island is characterized by rolling to steep topography, with several prominent hills up to elevation 200. Tiptoe Mountain and Isle Au Haut Mountain both have provisions for public access that afford panoramic views of Penobscot Bay.
- The town of Vinalhaven is a distinctive Maine fishing village: protected harbor ringed with marine-dependant uses, backed by wood frame homes on the surrounding hillsides. The village is made up of many distinct areas that were evaluated for Critical Areas designation: Carvers Harbor, Carvers Pond, Sand Cove, Indian Creek, Lane Island, and Ambrust Hill.
- Vinalhaven is a working community, with a predominance of modest, well kept homes. The island has very few of the stately, historic cottages that characterize Islesboro and to a lesser extend North Haven. The exception is the small colony of summer homes lining Fox Island Thorofare, the channel that separates Vinalhaven from North Haven.
- The approach through The Reach, with its bold islands and indented coves, contributes to Islesboro's great sense of place. The hour-long journey from the mainland creates a great sense of expectation. The boater is likely to encounter lobster boats and kayaks, the Islesboro ferry and great sailing schooners plying the waters.

# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Carvers Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-01A**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	2	
	3	
	6	X
X	9	XX
	9	
	12	
X	9	X
51		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	3
	6
X	6
X	7
28	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

79

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The town of Vinalhaven and its harbor is one of the most memorable images along the coast of Maine. Carvers Harbor, which acts as the public gateway into town, is a highly unified, visually intact landscape, consisting of clusters of wooden buildings lining the water front, small homes at the base of low hills, and rhythmic pattern of weathered wooden pilings. The harbor is a dynamic mixture of fishing boats and pleasure craft. Evidence of the island's rich history in granite cutting is everywhere: from wharfs and walls to tailings and remnants. Grimes Park, which marks the southwestern tip of the harbor, is accessible by a footpath near the ferry terminal. The park features a small picnic area overlooking Sand Cove and several paths that wind through dense evergreens out to Smith point. Smooth outcrops and large boulders line the shore with clumps of roses sprouting from the cracks. Visitors are rewarded with spectacular views of the harbor, Potato Island, and the everpresent boat traffic, including graceful schooners passing through the Reach.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Maintain scale of the town through careful review of site plan applications. General maintenance on the ferry terminal.

*The entrance to Carvers Harbor, as seen from Grimes Park, is protected by Potato Island and several smaller land masses.*





Scenic Area Evaluation Form

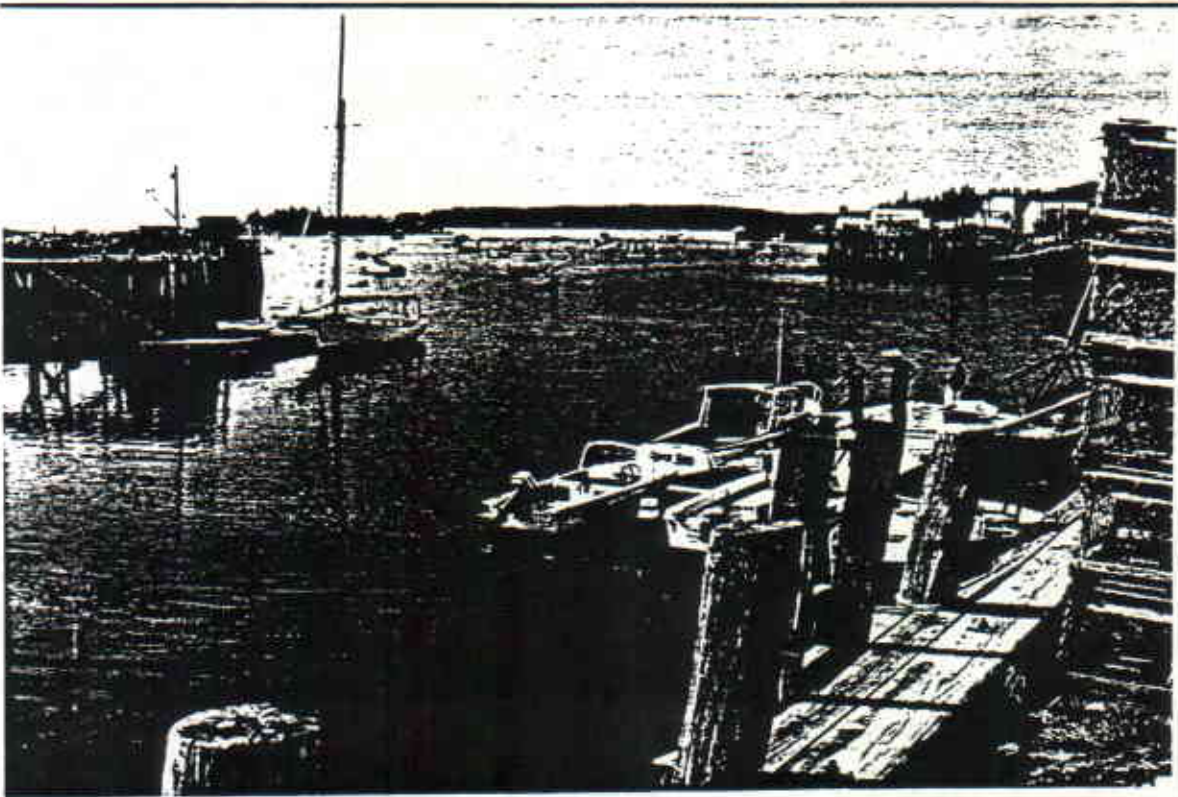
Scenic Area Carver's Harbor  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code VI-01A  
Critical Areas Program

Town Vinalhaven  
Maine State Planning Office



*Ambrust Hill Wildlife Reservation defines the eastern end of the harbor, providing a green backdrop to the activity at the edge of the water.*



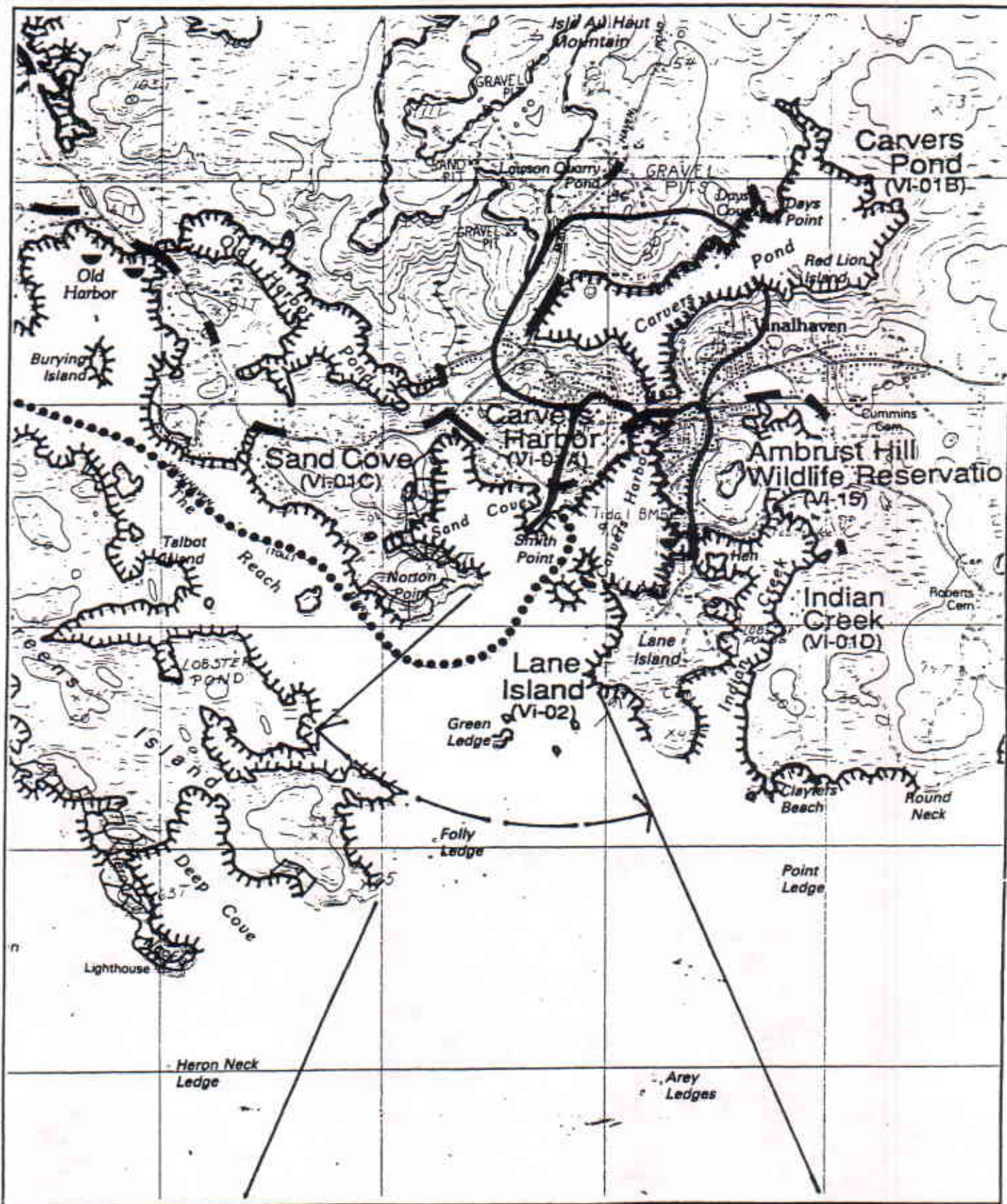
*View looking south to Lane's Island from the town pier.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Carvers Harbor Code VI-01A  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Carvers Pond**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-01B**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
		5
33		

1. Landform
    - Elevation
    - Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water
    - Duration of View
    - Type of Water
    - Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	3
X	6
	6
	7
28	

6. Landscape Character
  - Land Use
  - Roadside Characteristics
  - Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

61	
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**TOTAL SCORE**

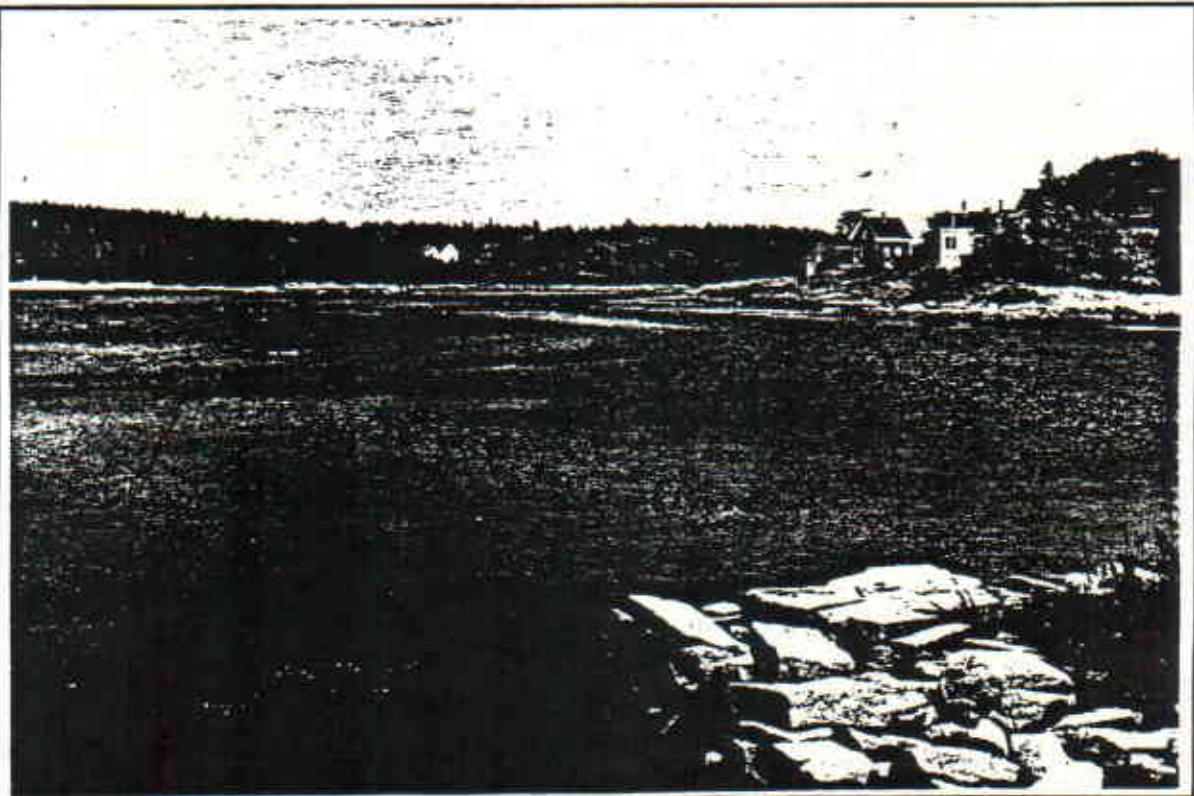
## Viewshed Description

Carvers Pond is a large, but relatively secluded, inland waterbody covering almost 150 acres on the north side of the village. The landscape is characterized by a highly configured shoreline, rolling topography, and a few scattered wood-framed homes. The pond is connected to the main harbor by a reversing falls in the middle of town. In-town views are limited to short glimpses that are framed by the commercial buildings on Main Street. The best views of the pond are found along the North Haven Road. However, the quality of the scene is detracted by rusty construction equipment at the edge of the water.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Strict enforcement of shoreland zoning. Acquisition of conservation easements within the viewshed of the pond. General clean-up of shoreline along the North Haven Road.

High tide view of Carvers Pond from center of Vinalhaven Village.





# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Carvers Pond Code VI-01B  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Sand Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-01C**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI	SC	IP
	2	
	6	X
	9	XX
	6	X
	12	X
	9	X
		6
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		44

	5
	3
	7
X	7
	7
	29

**73**

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal
  - Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Sand Cove is a highly configured waterbody just west of the village. The eastern shoreline has been used for lobstering, granite cutting, and other water-dependant uses. The western shoreline is virtually undeveloped, consisting of low hills covered with dark evergreens. Norton Point is the most prominent landform, and marks the entrance into Vinalhaven Harbor from The Reach. Foreground interest is generated by large bleached stones, meadow grasses, and abandoned lobster traps.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Conservation easements to protect Norton Point.  
Strict application of shoreland zoning.

*Lobster shacks and granite wharves attest to the mainstays of Vinalhaven. View looking south into Sand Cove.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Sand Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

**Code VI-01C**  
Critical Areas Program

**Town Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office



*Sand Cove is defined on the west by low rocky hills and dense evergreen cover.*



*Norton Point, as seen from Smith Point, marks the entrance into Vinalhaven Harbor.*

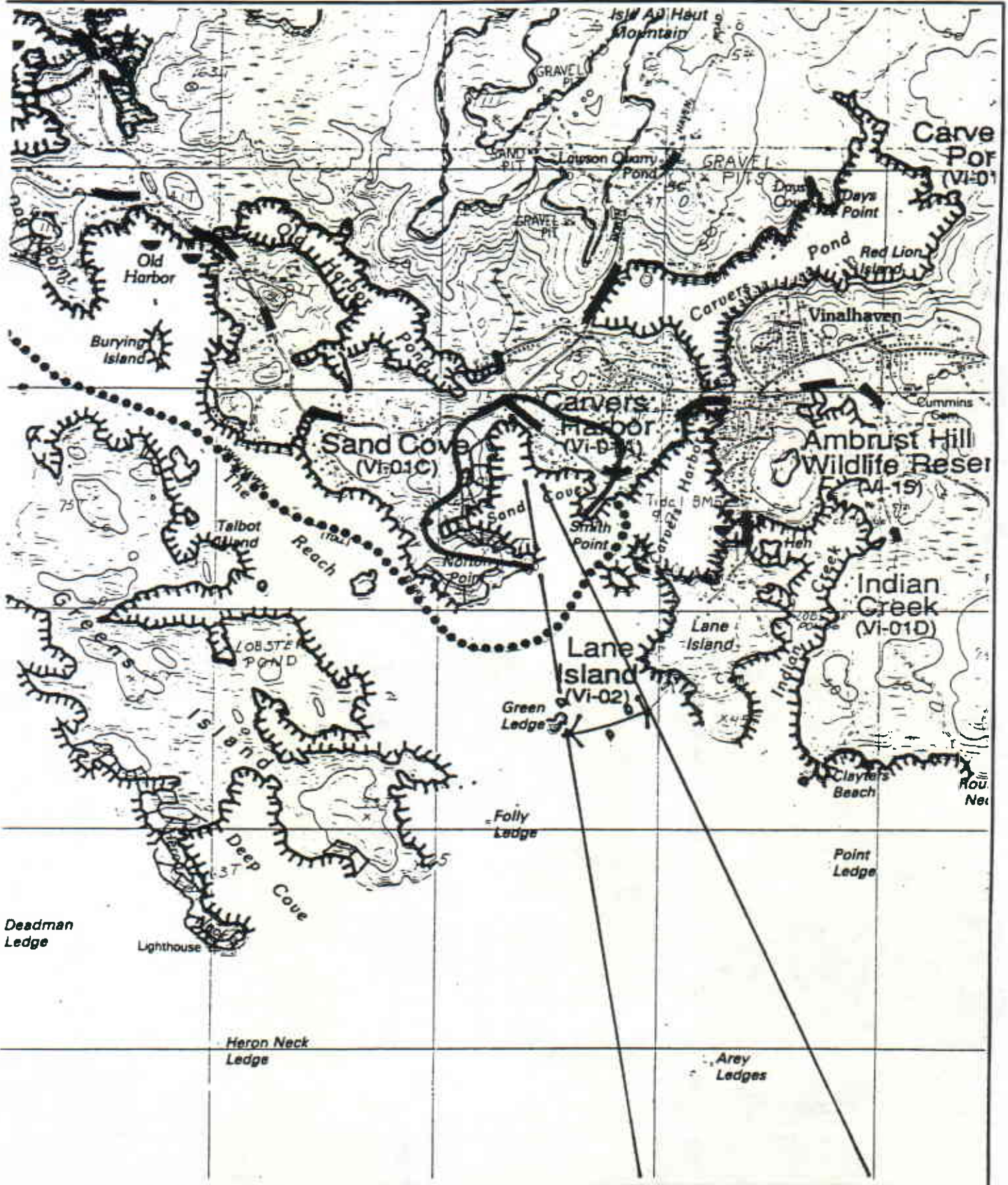


Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Sand Cove  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series

Code VI-01C

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Indian Creek**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-01D**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	4	X
X	6	X
X	9	XX
	3	X
X	6	X
	9	X
		7
37		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	7
	4
X	7
X	7
X	8
33	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**70**

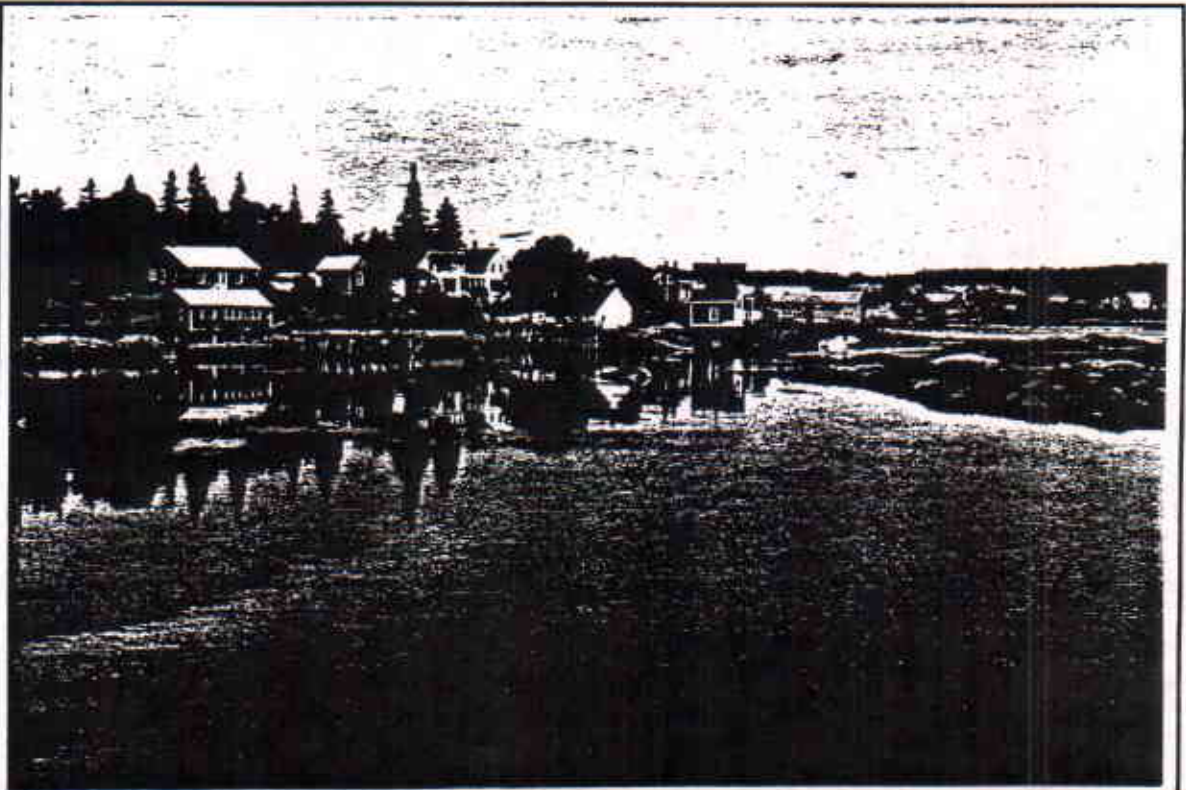
**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The Indian Creek viewshed contains most of the elements associated with the Maine fishing village: picturesque waterfront homes and commercial buildings, wooden pilings, small islands, spruce covered hillsides, fishing boats, and flocks of gulls screaming overhead. While this portion of the village is less compact than Carvers Harbor, it exhibits the same sense of vividness and intactness. Indian Creek is calm sheltered area offering a bit of respite from the main harbor immediately to the west. The creek marks the transition from the village of Vinalhaven to the remote, unspoiled grandeur of Lane Island. Views into Carver's Harbor are limited by the curve in the road, shoreline configuration, and waterfront development. The bridge is a unique collection of granite slabs, concrete pilings, painted steel guardrail, and wire cables.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Conservation easements to protect the viewshed of Indian Creek, Lane Island, and the Wildlife Reservations. Strict application of shoreland zoning. Any improvements to the bridge, approach road, or guardrail should be sensitive to its picturesque character and unique design.



*Easterly view of Indian Creek as seen from the Lane Island bridge.*

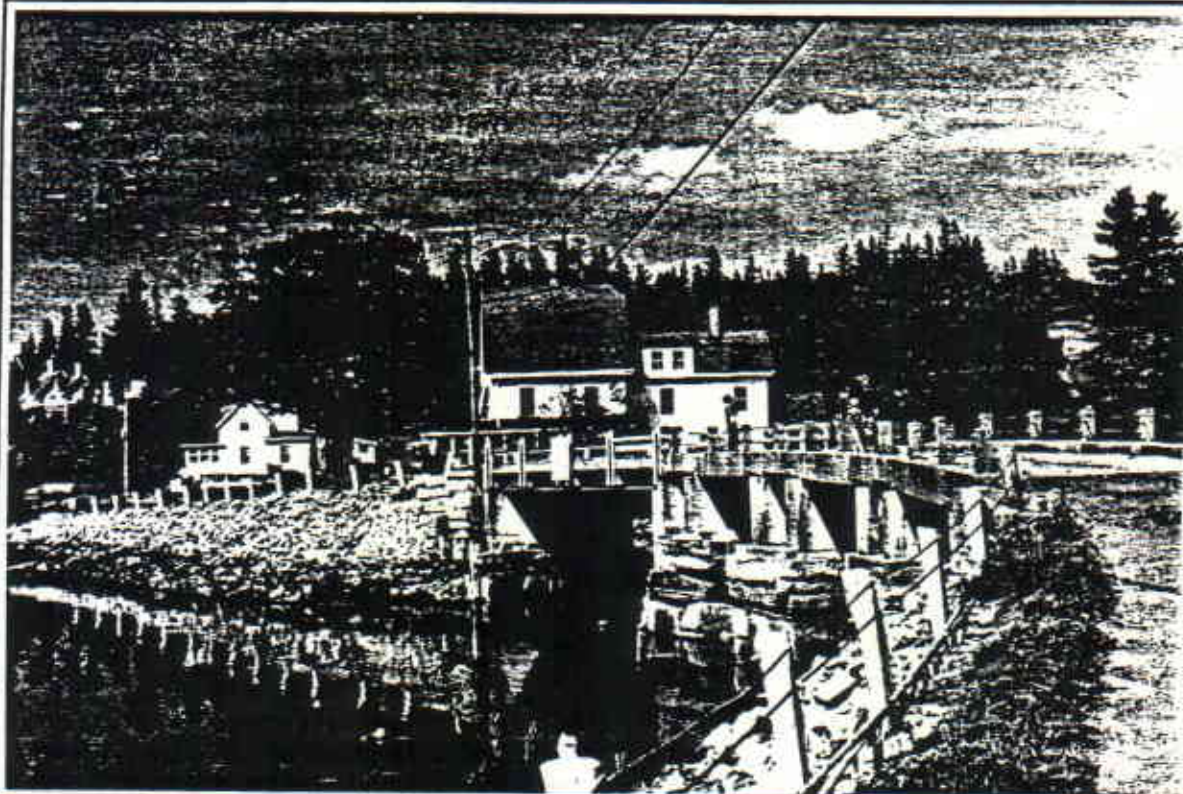


**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

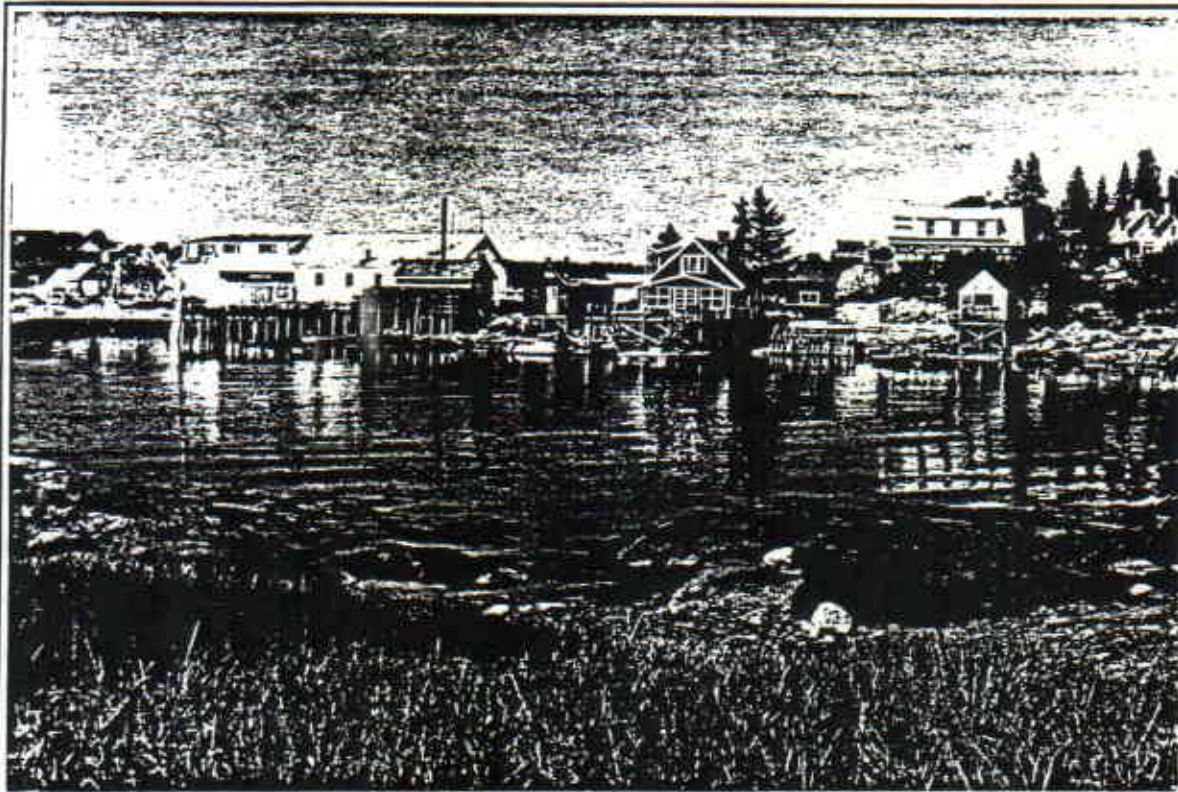
**Scenic Area Indian Creek**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code VI-01D**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town Vinalhaven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*The Lane Island Bridge is an eclectic mixture of granite, concrete, and steel.*



*The westerly view from the Lane Island Bridge toward Carvers Harbor.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Indian Creek  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series

Code VI-01D

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Lane Island**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-02**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
X	6	X
	6	X
X	9	X
X	9	X
	12	X
X	9	X
		6
		51

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	7
	4
X	6
X	9
X	9
35	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

86

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The Lane Island preserve, situated at the mouth of Carvers Harbor, is owned by the Nature Conservancy and opened to the public. The island is a diverse assemblage of habitats: rocky shorelines, sandy beaches, tide pools, cranberry bogs, freshwater marshes, mudflats, and extensive moors. Years of grazing and fires have kept the land open. A narrow footpath winds around the preserve, offering panoramic views of open ocean, Indian Creek, Carver's Harbor, The Reach, Robert's Island, Green Island, and many small island and ledges in Penobscot Bay. A handsome federal-style home dating to the early 1800's commands a high point on the island, just outside the preserve, and serves as a point of reference to hikers. A small family cemetery is located just above the sand beach on the eastern shoreline.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued protection through conservation easements. Vegetation management to maintain open character of the moors.

*Lane Island offers the casual visitor excellent opportunities to explore a variety of habitats.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

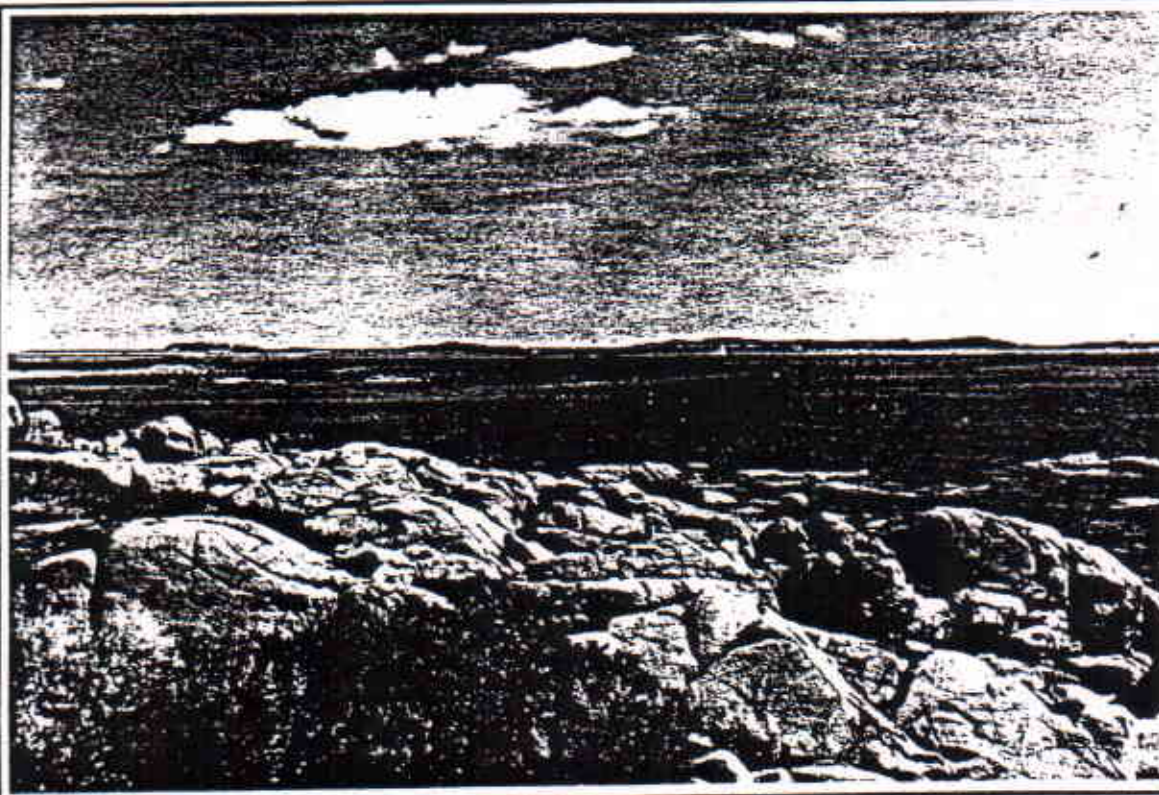
**Scenic Area Lane Island**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code VI-02**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town Vinalhaven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*The entrance to Indian Creek. View looking south east from the sandy beach on the eastern side of the island.*

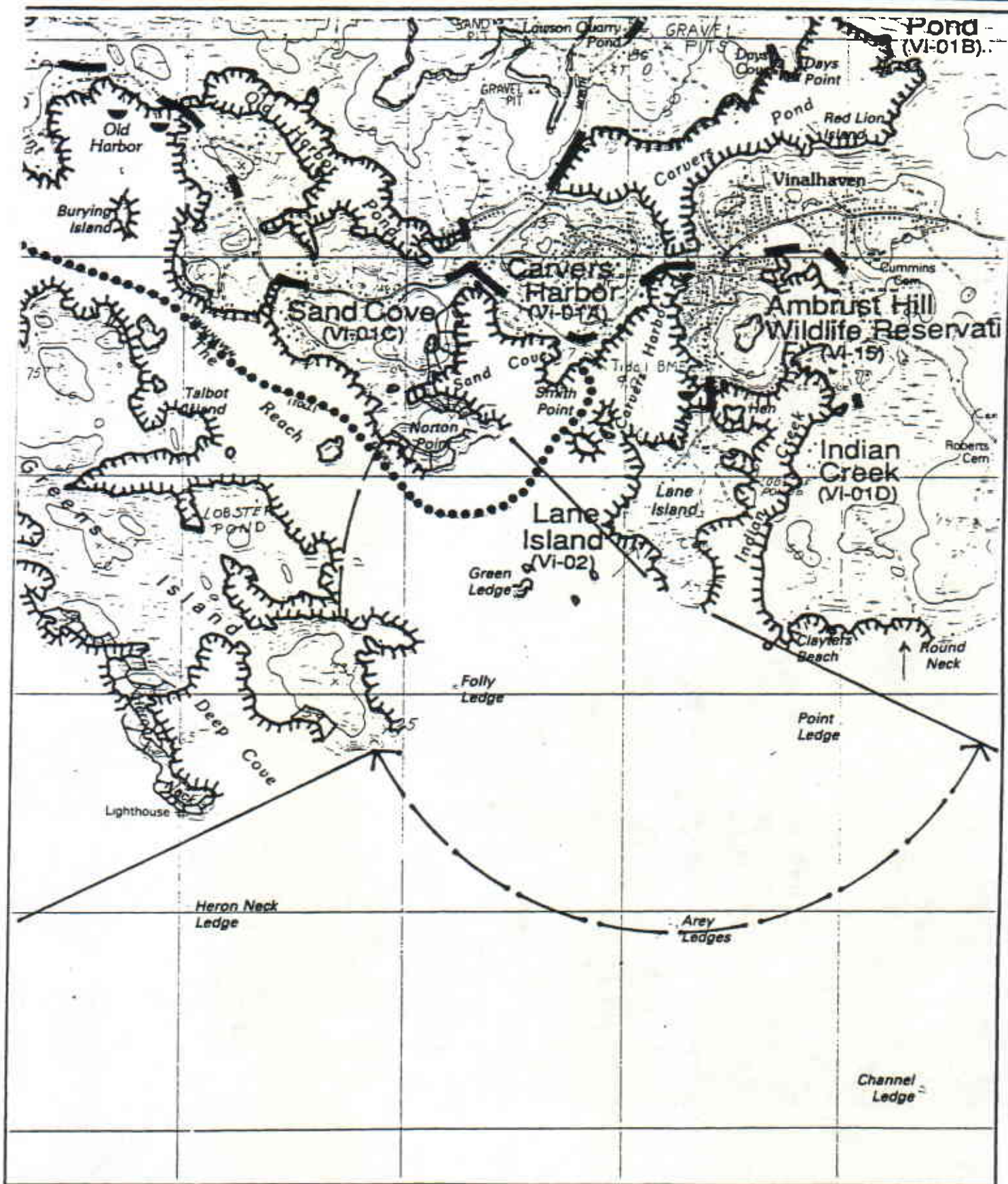


*The southern end of the island offers panoramic views of open ocean and offshore islands.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Lane Island Code VI-02 Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Old Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-03**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	9	X
	3	X
X	7	X
	9	X
		5
34		

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	7
	5
	7
X	7
	8
34	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

68	
----	--

**TOTAL SCORE**

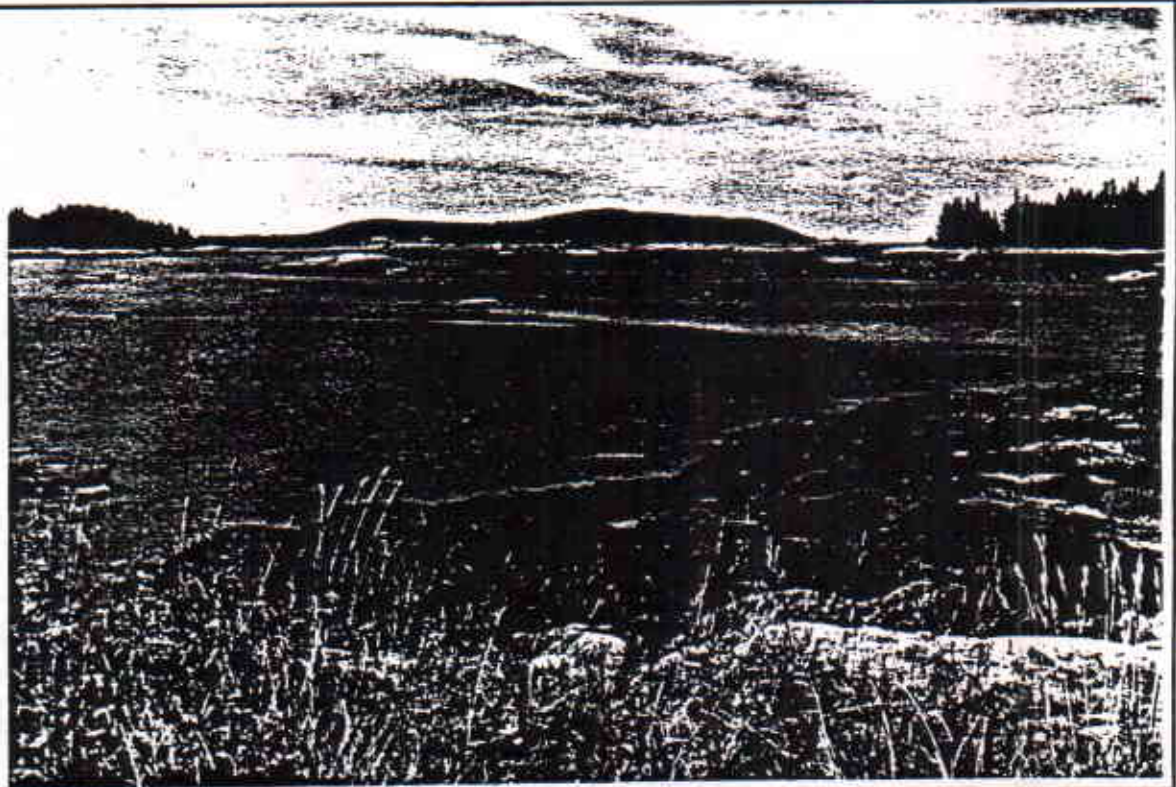
## Viewshed Description

Old Harbor is one of a series of small coves that form the southern coastline of Vinalhaven Island. Public viewpoints are limited to a few places along the Barton Island Road, where the view extends out to The Reach, Hurricane Sound, Burying Island, and Hurricane Island. The views from the land contain few intrusions other than an occasional dock. The shoreline is rocky, with spruce and fir extending to the edge of the cove. On the east side of the road the view includes Old Harbor Pond, a small tranquil saltwater pond with a highly configured shoreline. An old granite dike divides the pond which is dotted with numerous outcrops. Steep evergreen ridges enclose the view.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Vegetation management to preserve the views into the pond and the harbor. Conservation easement to protect viewshed of Old Harbor. Strict application of shoreland zoning ordinance.

View looking west toward Green Island, The Reach, and Hurricane Sound from Barton Island Road.





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Old Harbor**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code VI-03**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town Vinalhaven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*The shoreline of Old Harbor has little development visible from the Barton Island Road.*

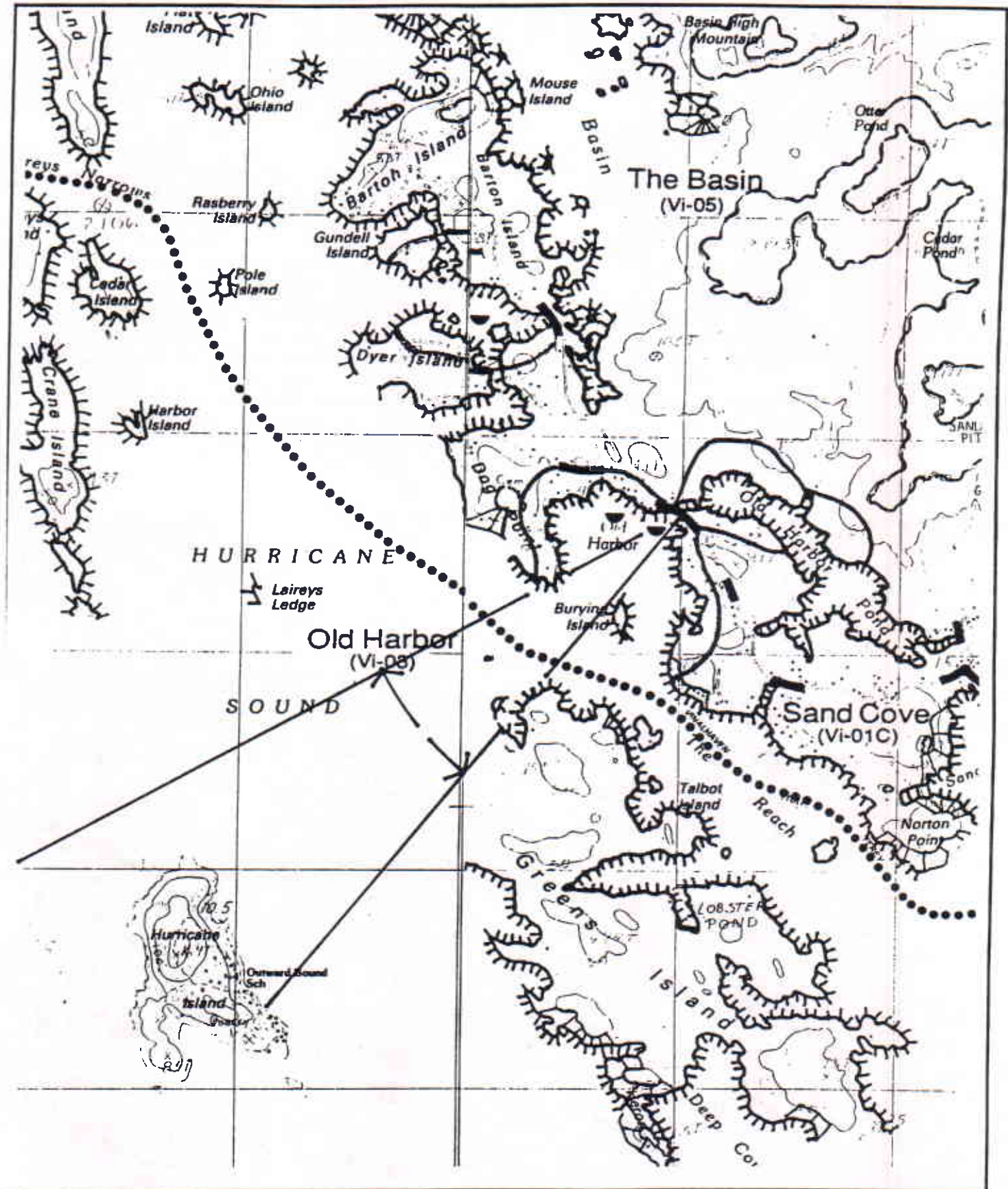


*Old Harbor Pond, as seen from the Barton Island Road.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Old Harbor Code VI-03 Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven/Leadbetter Island USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series







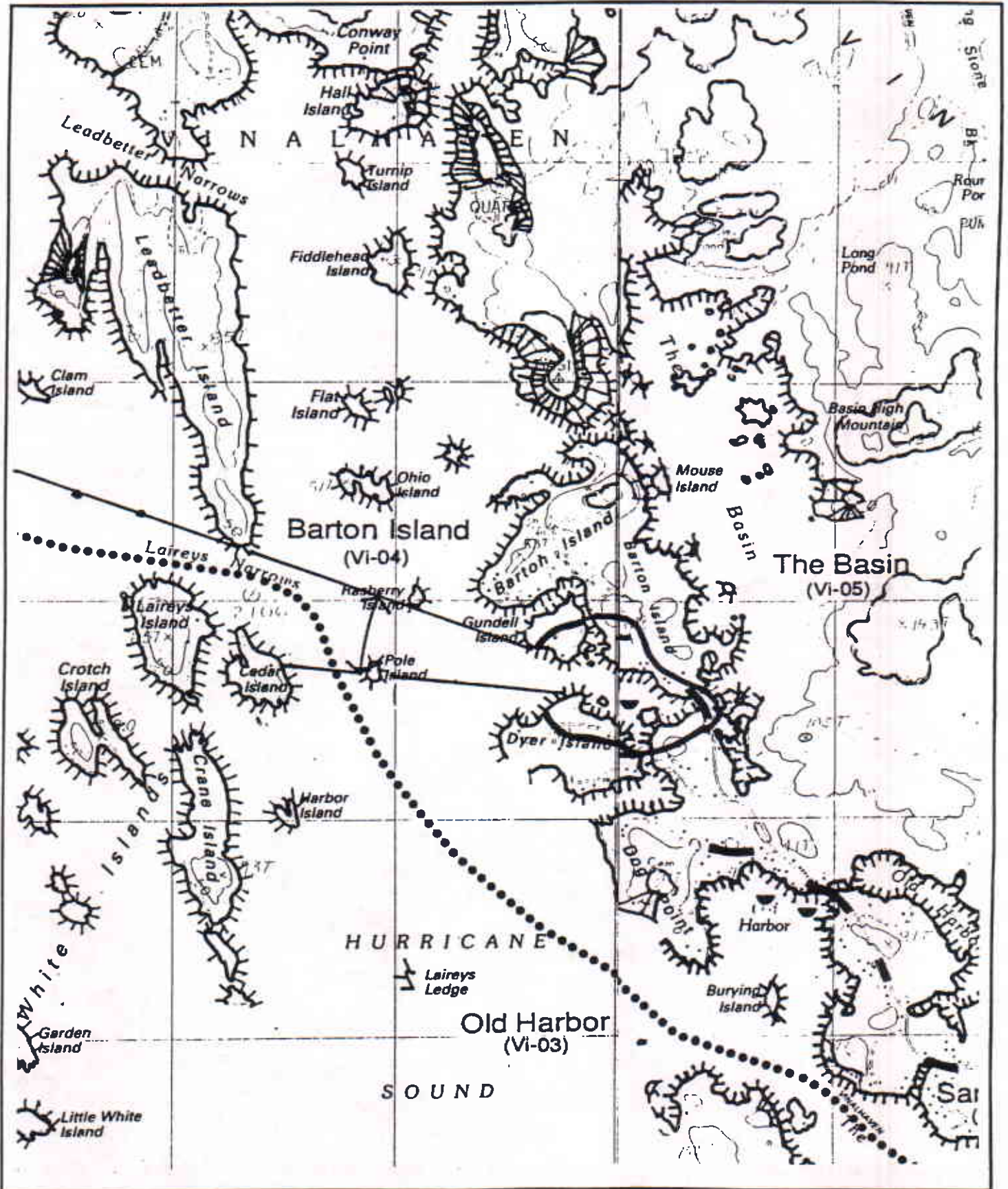


Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Barton Island  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Code VI-04

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **The Basin**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-05**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	2	X
	4	X
	6	X
	9	X
	3	X
X	6	X
	6	X
		7
36		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

X	8
	4
	8
X	8
	8
36	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

72

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The Basin is a large tidal lake at the northern end of the Barton Island Road. The road crossing, the only point of visual access, is marked by two lines of cut granite blocks. Boaters gain access by a twisting inlet at the north end. Despite its relatively large size and prominence, the Basin is virtually undeveloped, partially due to a number of conservation easements which have been placed on much of its viewshed. Basin High Mountain, a relatively low spruce-covered rise on the north, imparts a sense of enclosure to the Basin. The interior of the Basin is characterized by a number of small islands and a rocky shoreline, with evergreen cover extending to the waterline.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continue active acquisition of conservation easements to preserve the viewshed within the Basin. Vegetation management to preserve intermittent views of the Basin. Improve small parking area to reduce erosion and runoff.

Looking north into the Basin from the Barton Island Road.

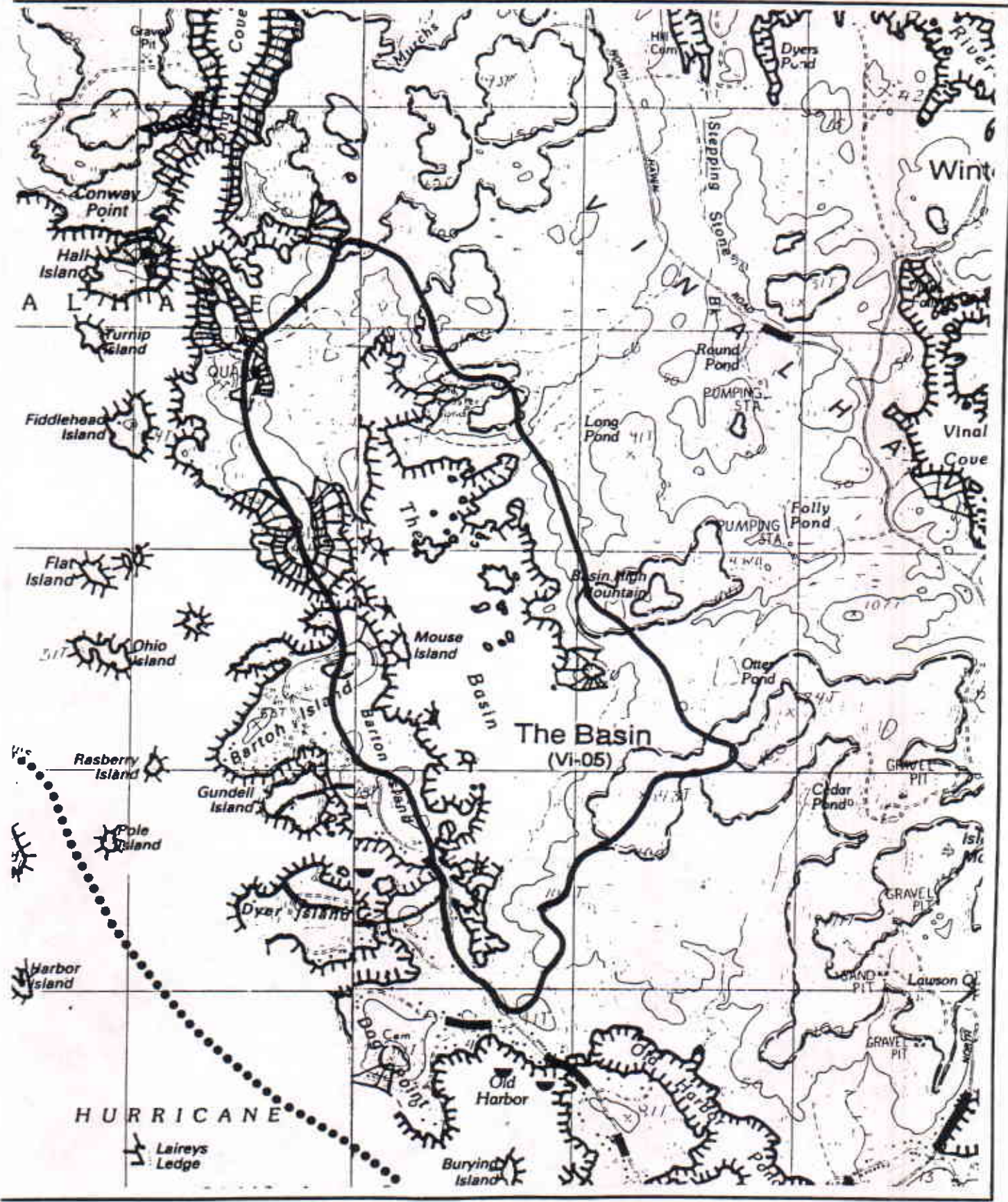




# Scenic Area Location



Scenic Area The Basin      Code VI-05      Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Isle Au Haut Mountain** Code **VI-06** Town **Vinalhaven**  
 1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory Critical Areas Program Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
 SC: Scoring  
 IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	2	X
	3	X
	3	X
	9	X
	6	X
		6
29		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	4
	9
	7
20	
49	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

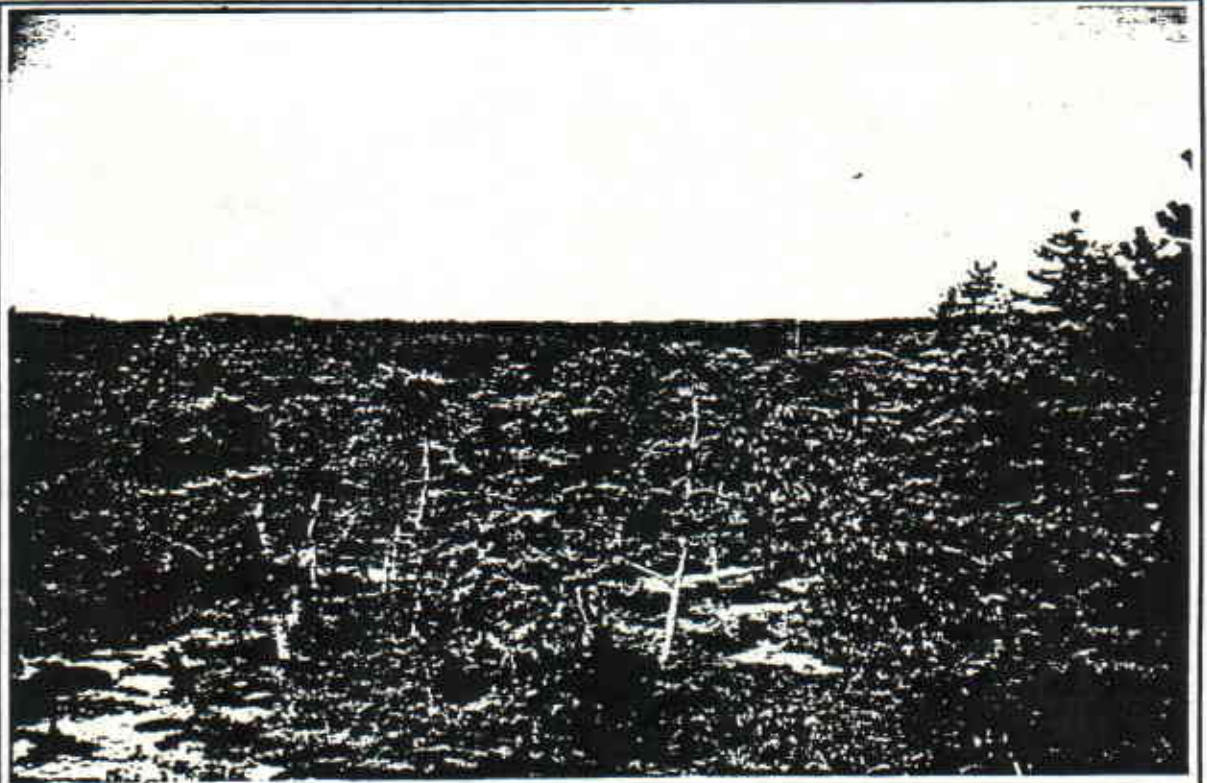
## Viewshed Description

The summit of Isle Au Haut Mountain (elevation 187') offers a stunning, though somewhat limited, panorama of Hurricane Island and Hurricane Sound. Views of the water are restricted by the rolling topography and heavy tree cover. The top is reached by a gravel road that passes remnants of earlier operations: large pieces of scrap metal, massive granite blocks, wood boat skeletons, and general industrial debris. Isle Au Haut Mountain is of local significance due to limited viewing opportunities and difficult access.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Improve trail markings. Clean up dump sites. Vegetation management to re-open views of Hurricane Mountain.

View looking west toward West Penobscot Bay from the summit of Isle Au Haut Mountain..





Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Isle Au Haut Mountain Code VI-06 Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Vinal Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-07**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	4	X
X	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
X	6	X
	6	X
		6
34		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	3
X	5
X	6
	8
28	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

62

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Vinal Cove is a small extension of Winter Harbor on the north shore of Vinalhaven. The main point of public visual access is along a short segment of the Round Island Road. The highly configured shoreline is enhanced by small spruce covered islands in the water and large square-cut blocks on the shoreline. Large granite blocks line both sides of the road. The neighborhood context is open and pastoral, with fields extend out from a single farmhouse. A second view opens up near Vinal Falls at the north end of the cove. The shoreline is highly configured, with a single white farmhouse complementing the scene on the east side of Winter Harbor. The low hills surrounding the cove are characteristic of much of the island, with spruce and fir extending to the waters edge.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Conservation easements to preserve the viewshed within Vinal Cove and Winter Harbor. Vegetation management to preserve intermittent views of the Cove.

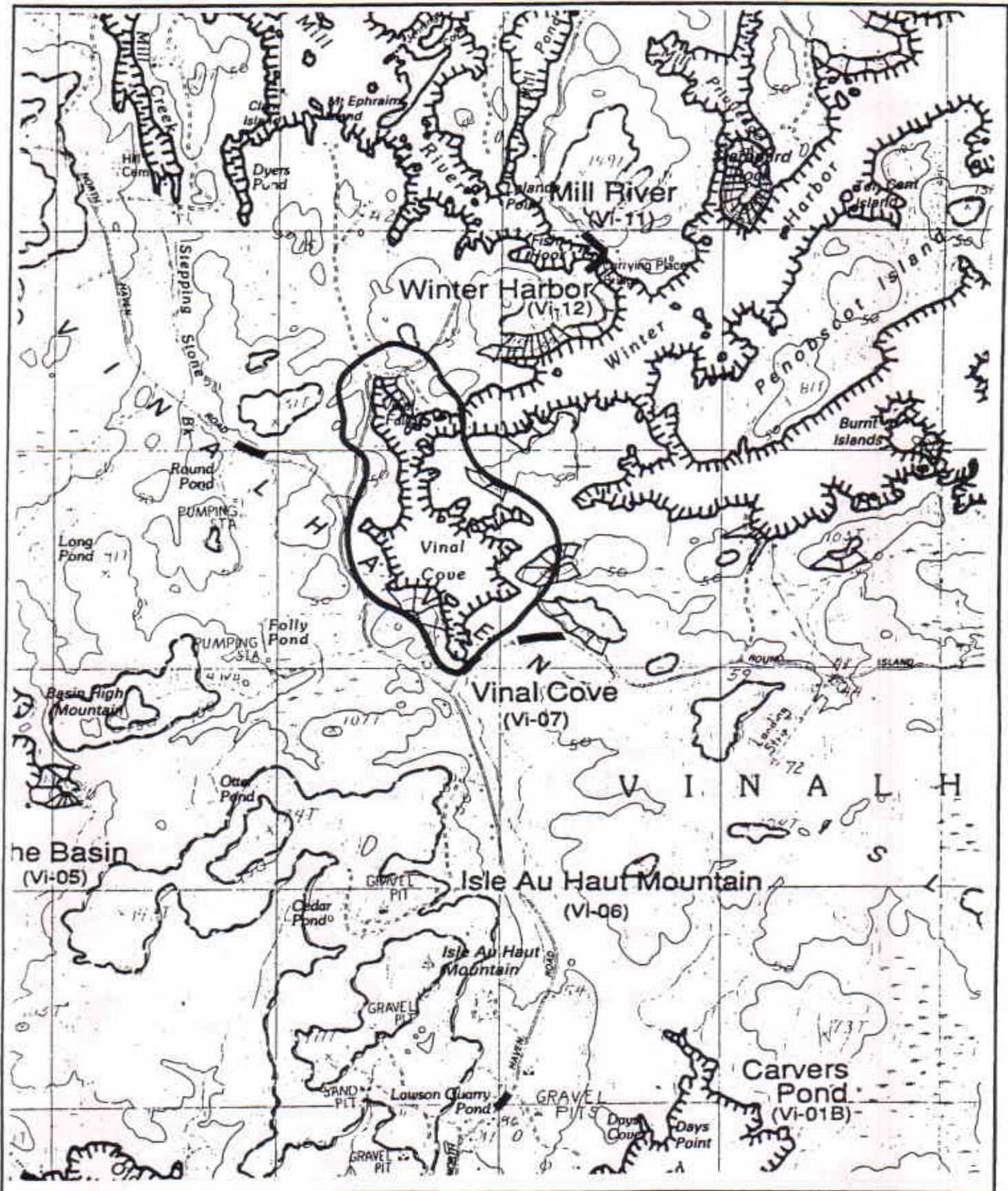
View north from Round Island Road into Vinal Cove toward Vinal Falls.





**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Vinal Cove**      **Code VI-07**      **Town Vinalhaven**  
**Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Crockett Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-08**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	3	
	4	
X	6	X
	6	X
X	3	X
X	9	X
	9	X
		5
46		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	8
	1
	8
X	9
	8
34	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

80

**TOTAL SCORE**

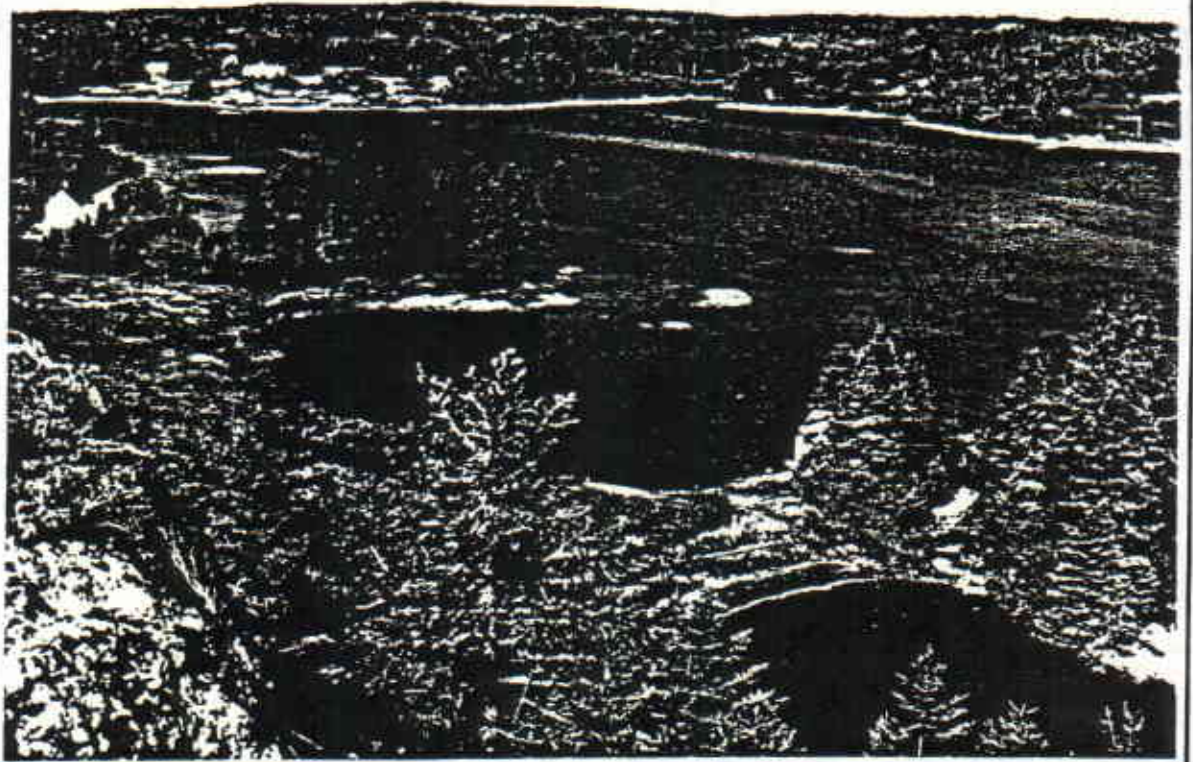
## Viewshed Description

Crockett Cove is a deep indentation along the north-western corner of the island. Much of the land surrounding the cove is settled, with a number of open fields extending down to the water from farmhouses and cottages. One of the few overlooks on the island is found atop Tip Toe Mountain, a 100 foot peak rising abruptly from the western shoreline. The summit offers a dramatic panorama of the cove out to Dogfish Island. The town has established a small park at Tip Toe Mountain with picnic tables, parking spaces, and several trails. Intermittent views of the cove are found along the Crockett River Road.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Interpretive signage. Vegetation management to maintain open summit.

*The summit of Tip Toe Mountain offers on of the most striking panoramas on the island.*



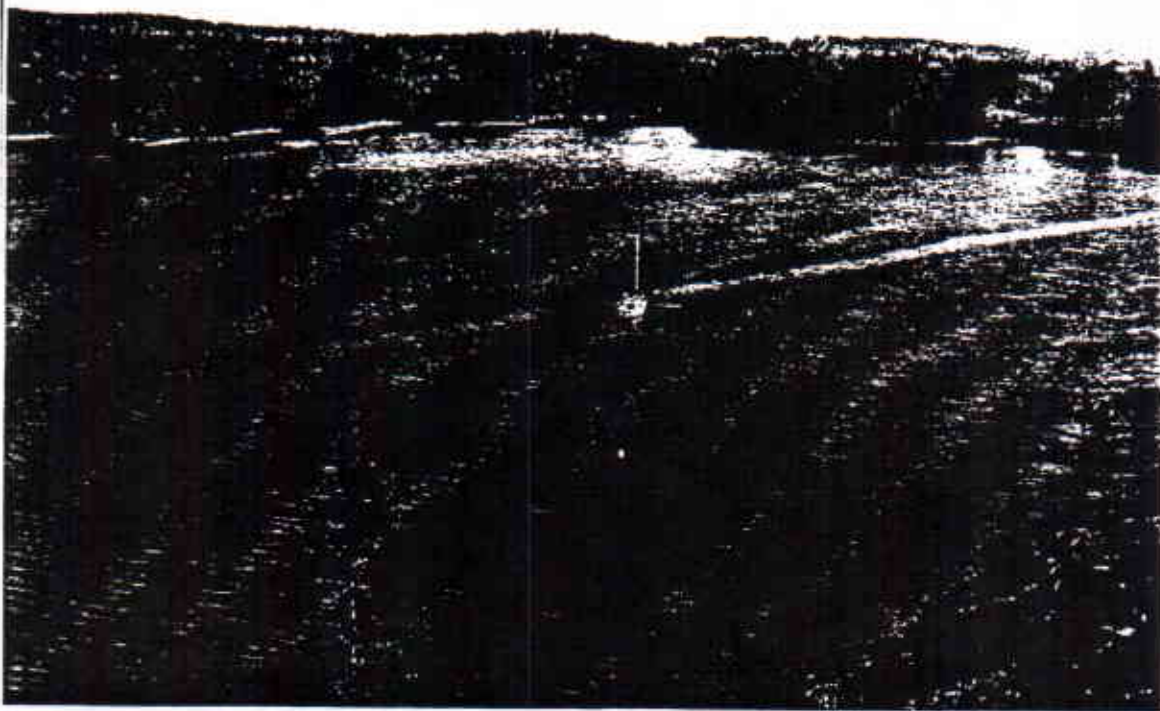


**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area** **Crockett Cove**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code** **VI-08**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town** **Vinalhaven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*The view from the summit of Tip Toe Mountain, looking east across Crockett Cove.*

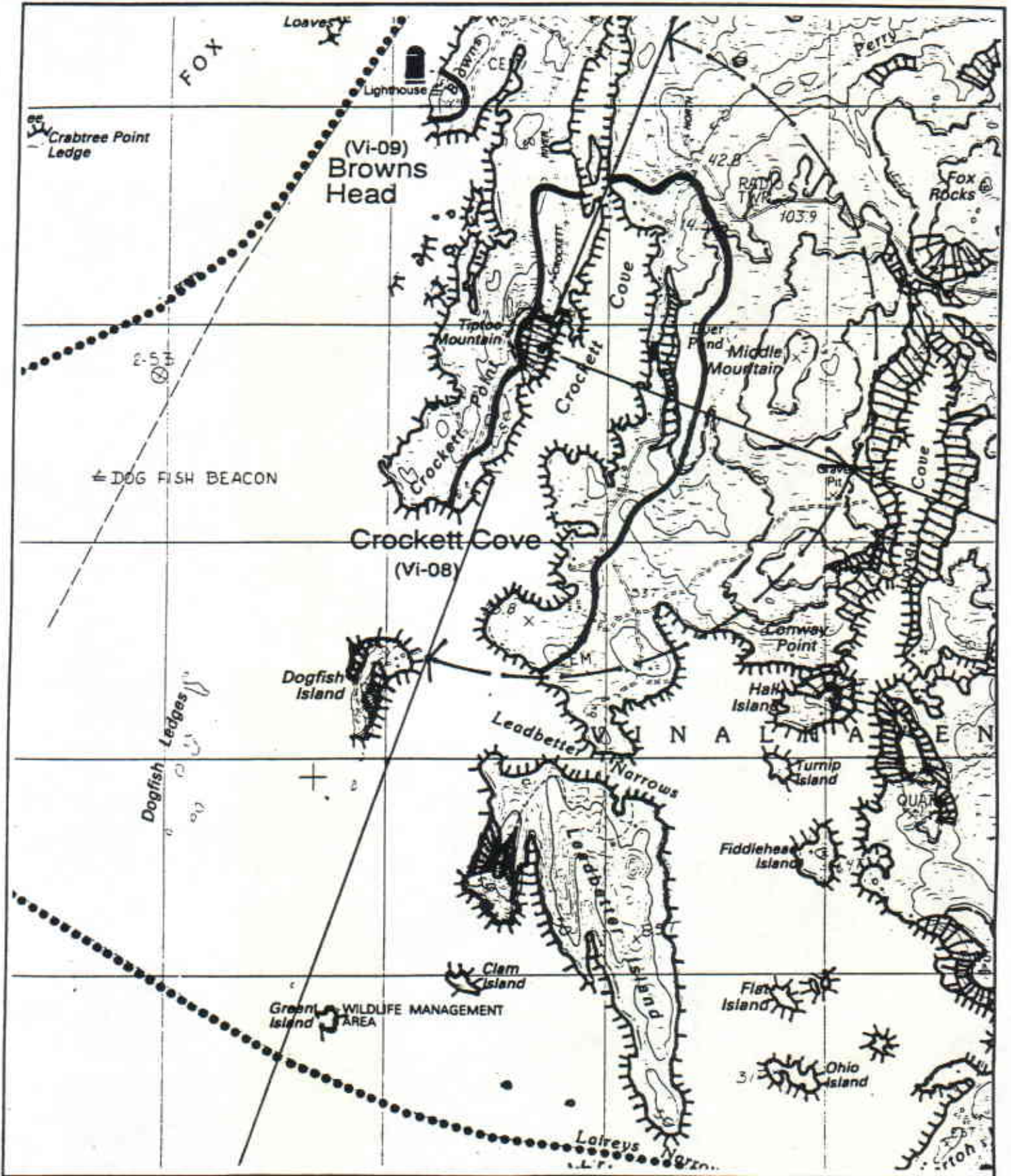


*View looking southeast over the cliffs of Tip-Toe Mountain and Crockett Cove toward Penobscot Bay.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Crockett Cove** Code **VI-08** Town **Vinalhaven**  
Leadbetter Island USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Browns Head**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-09**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	2	
X	9	X
	3	X
	12	X
	6	X
		4
35		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	5
	3
	6
	6
	6
26	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

61

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The light at Brown's Head signifies the entrance to the Fox Island Thorofare, the highly scenic passage between Vinalhaven and North Haven Islands. The view at Brown's Head includes the lighthouse, the Thorofare, the southern tip of North Haven Island, West Penobscot Bay, and the Camden Hills. A bell marker clangs with the wind and waves, marking the entrance to the Thorofare and the edge of a narrow channel running between the Sugar Loaves and Vinalhaven. Public access is limited to a parking lot above the lighthouse. A highly vivid landscape, especially in the summer months when the waters are filled with sailing and racing boats of all descriptions. The lighthouse was built over 150 years ago, commissioned while Andrew Jackson was president.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Screening of maintenance buildings. Better definition of parking lot/turnaround at the end of the road.

*View north overlooking Browns Head Light, the Fox Island Thorofare, and the southernmost tip of North Haven. On a clear day the view extends to the Camden Hills.*





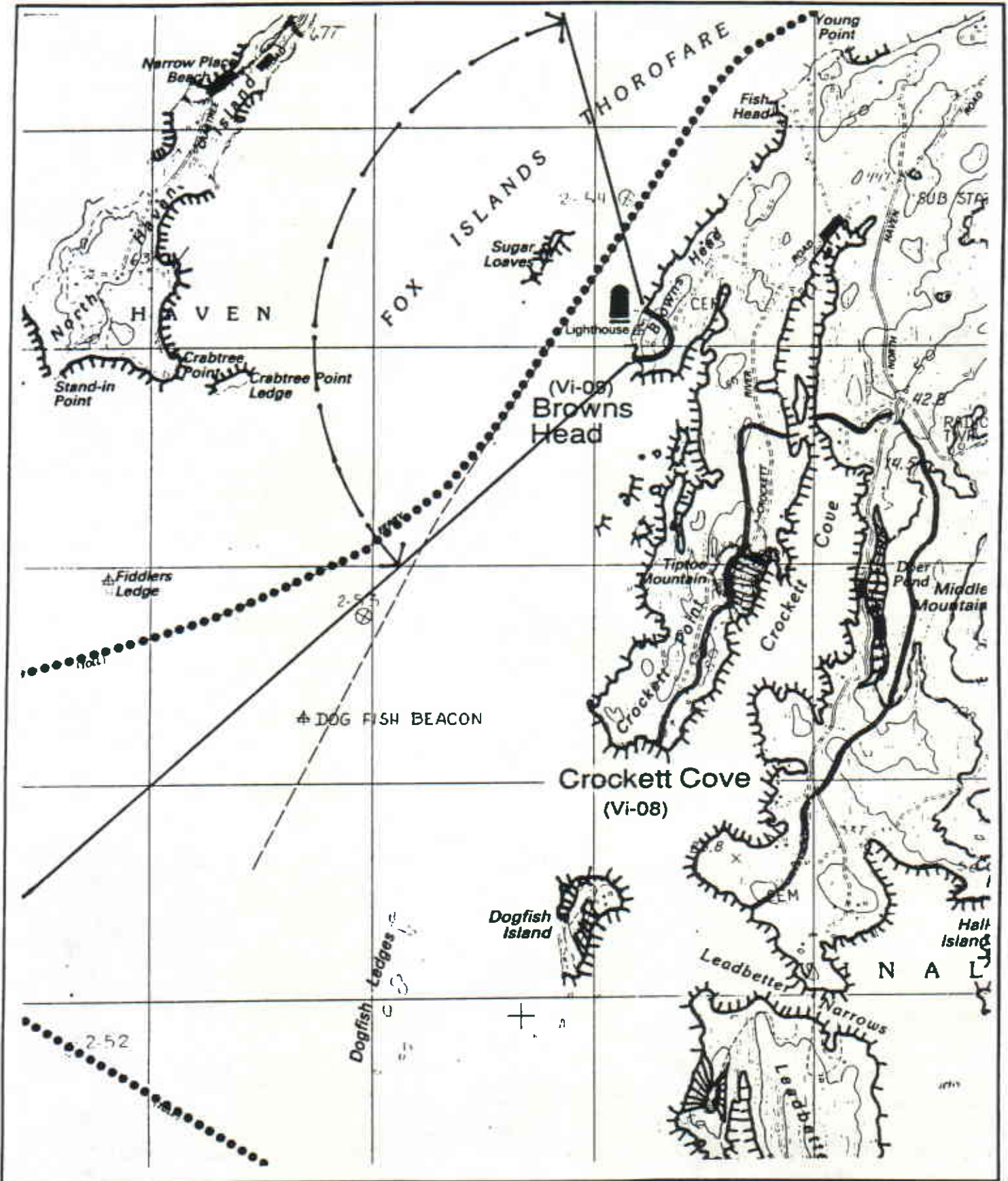
# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Browns Head

Code VI-09

Town Vinalhaven

Leadbetter Island USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Fox Island Thorofare**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-10**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	2	
	3	X
X	9	XX
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
		6
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		38

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

X	7
	1
X	9
X	6
	9
Field Evaluation	
32	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect

**TOTAL SCORE**

70

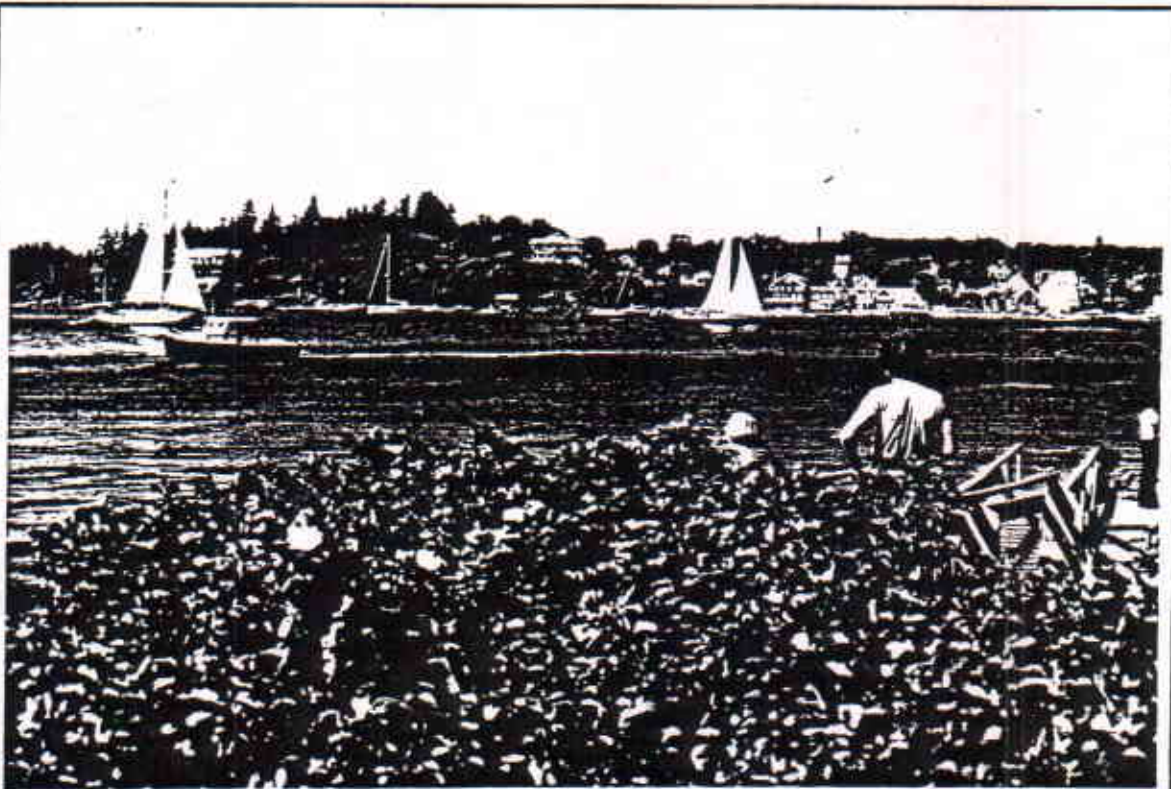
## Viewshed Description

The Fox Island Thorofare is a place of legendary significance to the sailors of Maine. The passage-way varies in width from 100 to over 500 yards, and extends for 7 or 8 miles between the islands of Vinalhaven and North Haven. During the summer months, the Thorofare witnesses a continuous parade of pleasure boats and fishing vessels of all sizes. Despite its relative length, the only point of public access in Vinalhaven is from the Town Landing, opposite the picturesque village of North Haven. Rosa rugosa line the shore. The views to the west are limited by the undulating shoreline, while the view to the east extends down the shoreline toward Calderwood Point. The Vinalhaven shoreline is lined by stately cottages set into the hillside; however, they are only visible from the water or from the North Haven side of the Thorofare.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Vegetation management to preserve open character of the waterfront surrounding the town landing. Strict application of shoreland zoning ordinance. Conservation easements to limit development that could protrude above the horizon on both sides of the Thorofare.

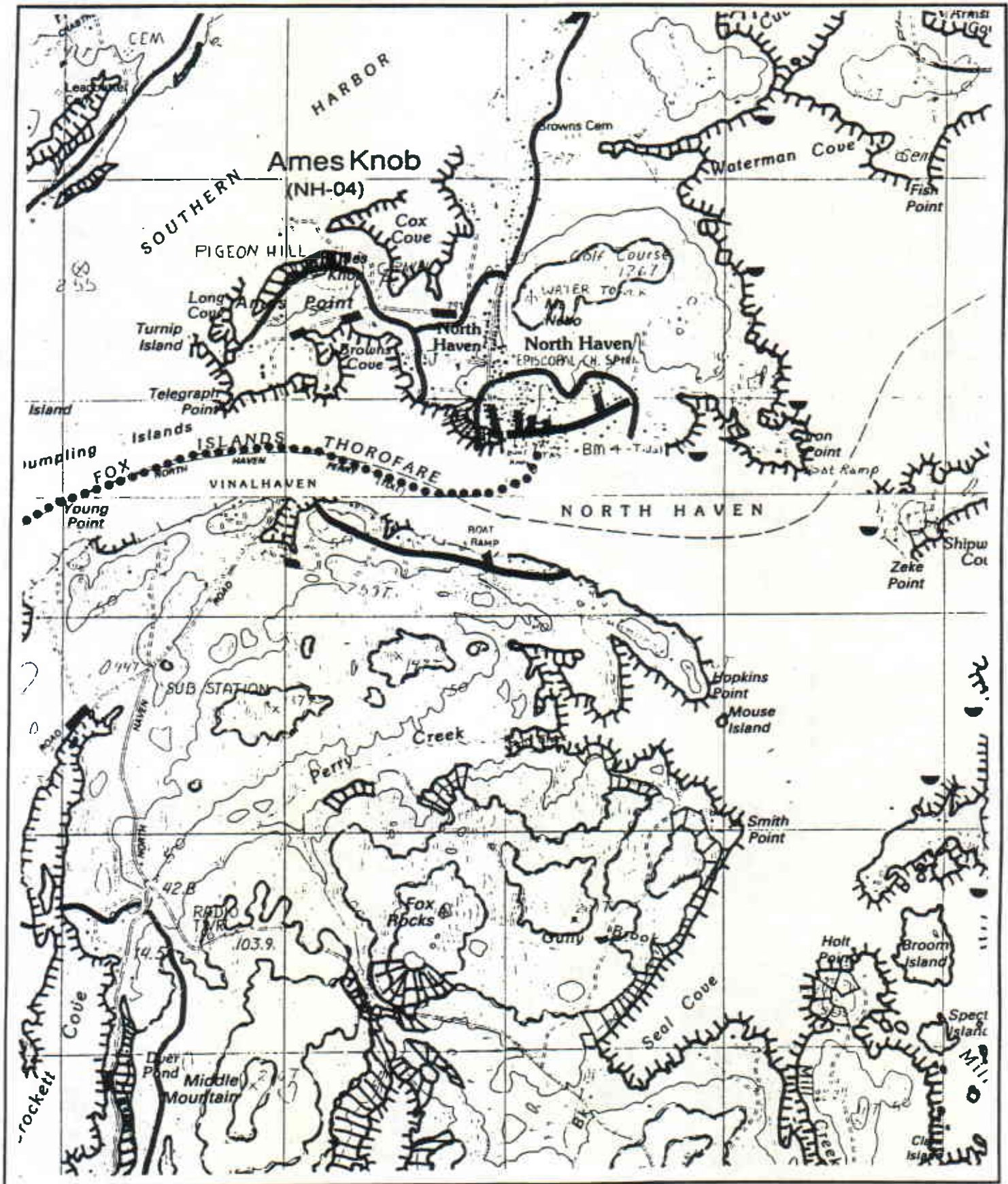
*The Fox Island Thorofare and North Haven Village as seen from the Vinalhaven town landing.*





# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Fox Island Thorofare Code VI-10 Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven/Leadbetter Island USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Mill River**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-11**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	6	X
	3	X
	6	X
	3	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		24

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

	5
	3
	6
	5
	6
	26

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

	50
--	----

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Mill River is one of the many coves on Vinalhaven that extend long fingers inland, with limited public visibility. The Carrying Place Bridge on the Calderwood Neck Road is the only point where the cove is visible from a road. The view extends for nearly 1/2 mile to the northwest along a highly configured, rocky shoreline. Evergreens extend to the shoreline throughout most of the view. There is some evidence of residential development on the northern shoreline where the trees have been limbed up, exposing a manicured lawn.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Strict application of shoreland zoning ordinance. Conservation easements to protect the viewshed of Mill River, especially the ridgeline.

*View of the Mill River looking northwest toward Fish Hook from the Carrying Place Bridge.*





# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Mill River Code VI-11 Town Vinalhaven  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Winter Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-12**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	6	X
	3	X
	6	X
	3	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		24

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	3
	2
	3
	7
	6
Field Evaluation	
21	
TOTAL SCORE	
45	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

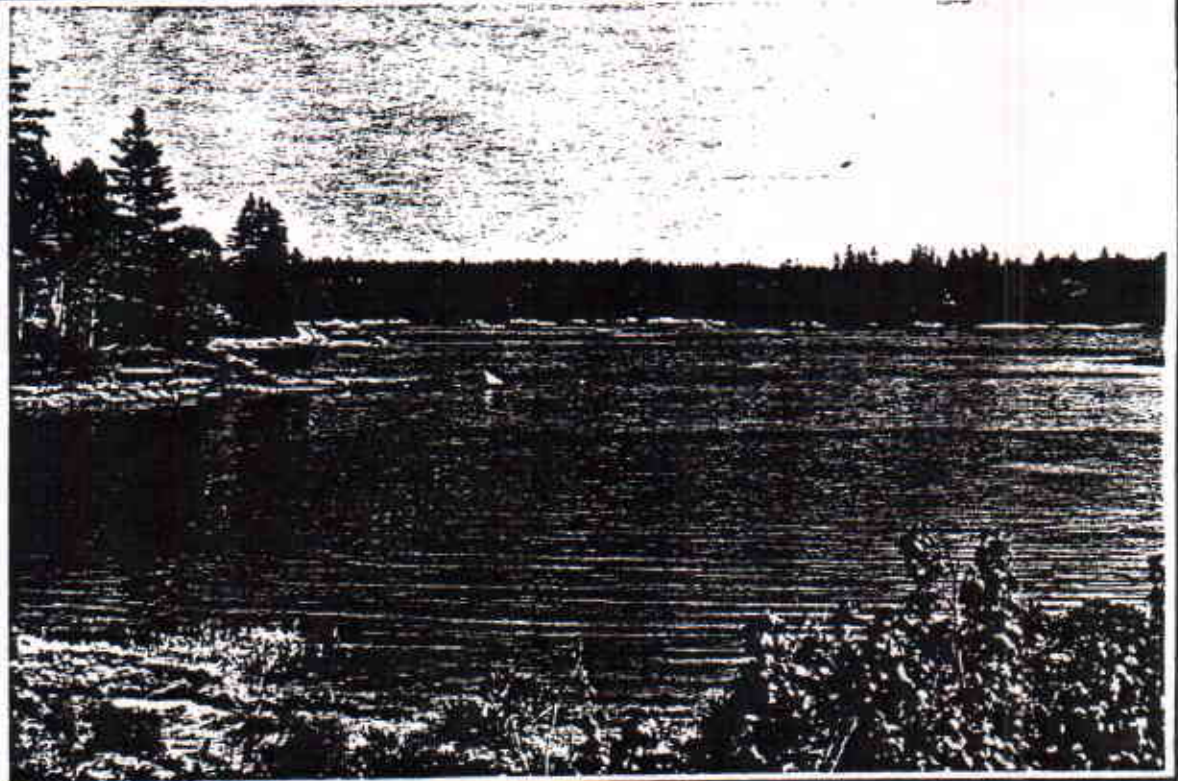
## Viewshed Description

View to the southeast from Carrying Place Bridge. The view from the gravel road leading to Calderwood Neck is lined with dense understory vegetation which limits most views from the road. With the exception of the two private homes little development is visible along the highly configured shoreline. The harbor is dotted with rocks exposed throughout the tidal changes. The view is totally enclosed by the strong evergreen edge. The view extends across to harbor to undeveloped Penobscot Island. While the harbor offers a sheltered anchorage for cruising boats, they are generally not visible due to the undulations in the shoreline.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Strict application of shoreland zoning ordinance. Conservation easements to protect the viewshed of Winter Harbor.

*View looking southeast toward Penobscot Island on Winter Harbor from the Carrying Place Bridge.*





Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Winter Harbor  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Code VI-12

Town Vinalhaven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Geary's Beach**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-13**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	9	X
X	9	X
	12	X
	9	X
		6
		48

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal

	3
	1
	6
	7
	7
	24

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

72

**TOTAL SCORE**

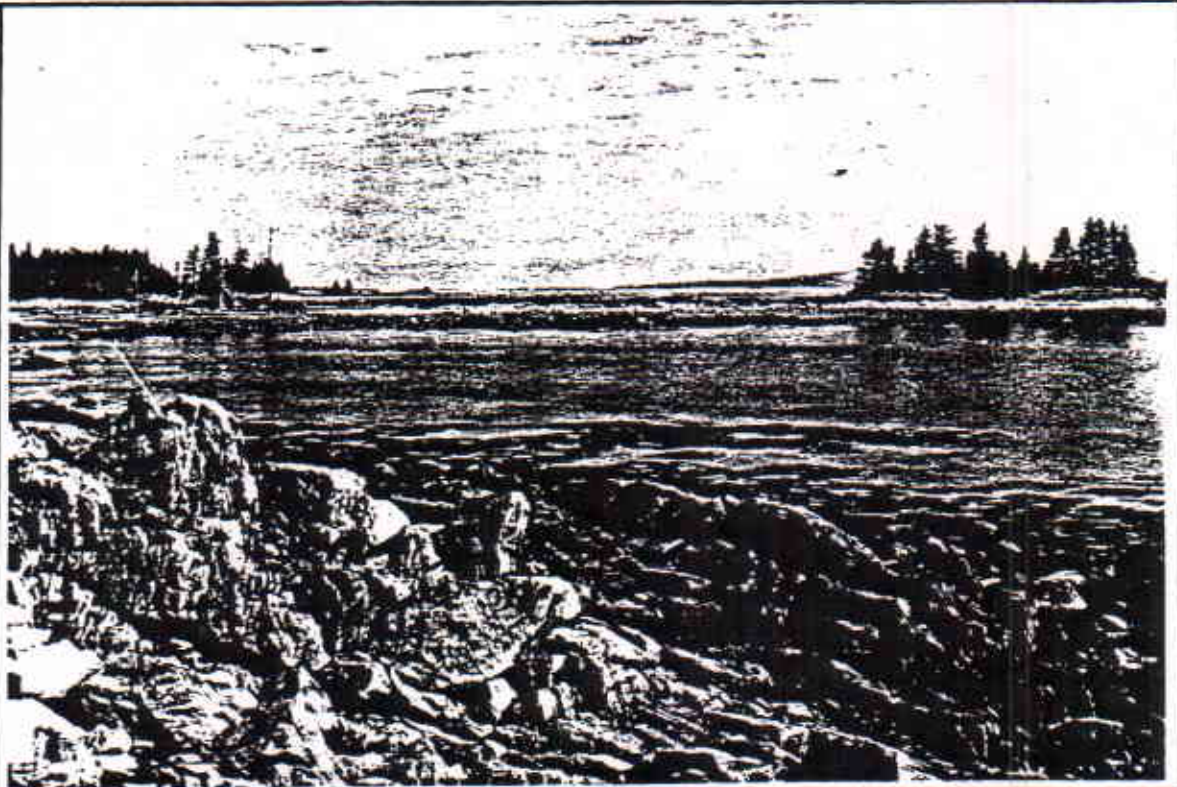
## Viewshed Description

Geary's Beach and Arey Neck Woods are town-owned recreation areas on the island's eastern shoreline. Facilities include footpaths, picnic tables, and two beach areas. The shoreline affords panoramic views of Isle Au Haut, Brimstone Island, Matinicus Island, the distant mountains of Mount Desert Island, and the boating traffic in East Penobscot Bay. The foreground offers a high level of visual diversity: sheltered coves, a rocky neck, remnants of tidal mills, sand beaches, freshwater wetland, fields, and evergreen forests. The spit which extends out to Bob Meadow Point forms a high degree of enclosure with Arey Neck and Greer Island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued high level of maintenance. Conservation easements to protect viewshed of recreation area. Interpretive signage to further educational and recreational value of the property.

View looking east from Geary's Beach toward Bob Meadow Point.

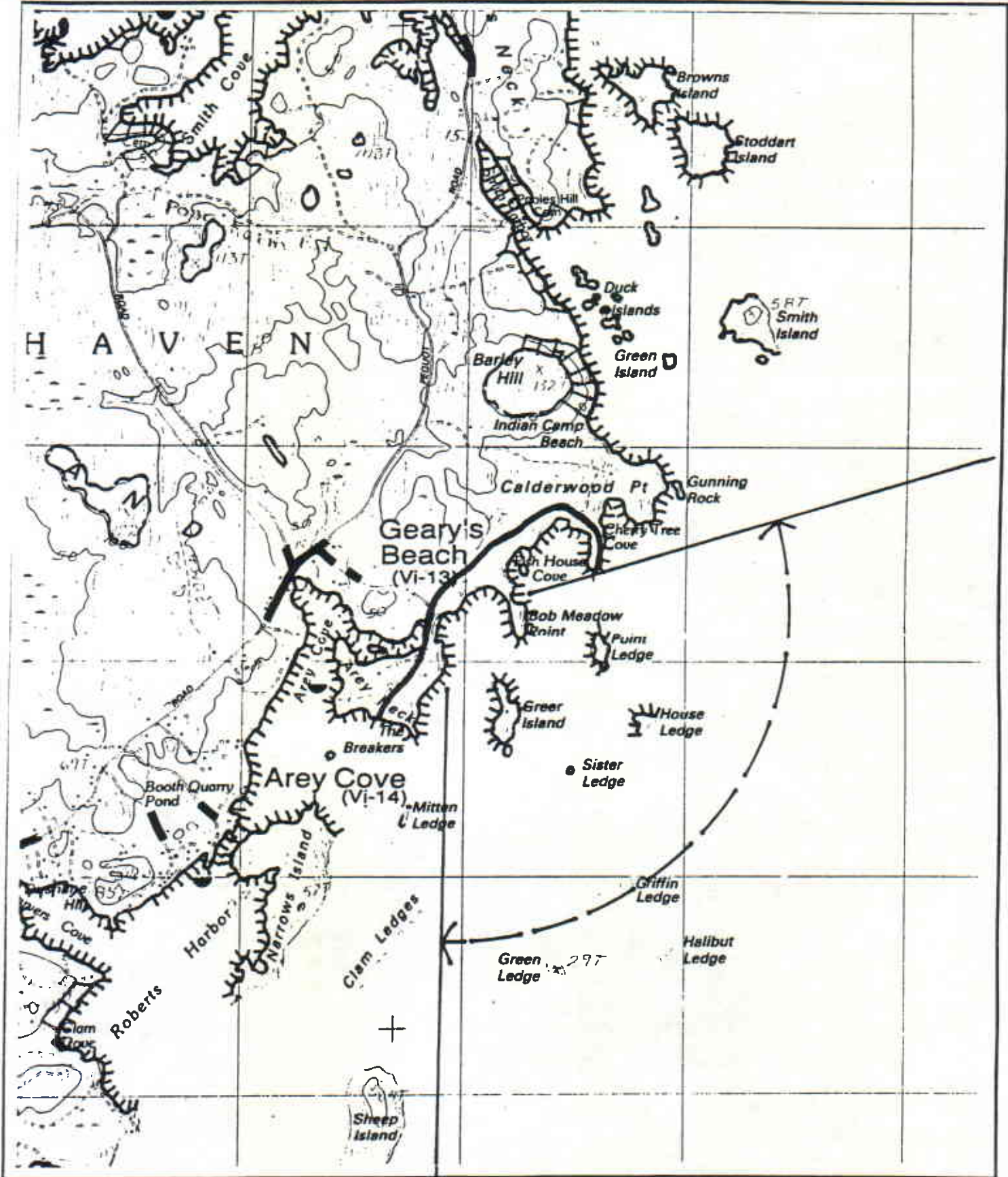




Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Geary's Beach** Code VI-13  
Vinalhaven USGS Quadrange: 7.5 minute series

Town Vinalhaven



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Arey Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **VI-14**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **Vinalhaven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	1	
	6	X
	6	X
	9	X
	12	X
	6	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		40

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

	3
	3
	4
	6
	16

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect

**56**

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

The sparsely settled Arey Cove area extends from Arey Neck to Narrows Island. The primary public viewpoint is from Narrows Park at the end of the Booth Quarry Road. The park is currently under construction by dedicated volunteers who are transforming a former dump into a town recreation area. Although the views from the park are somewhat limited by the proximity and size of Narrows Island, it does offer a good diversity of landforms and a highly configured dramatic shoreline. Arey Cove, Arey Neck, the Breakers, Greer Island, Isle Au Haut Bay, and Isle Au Haut are all visible from the park.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued development of Narrows Park. Removal and/or burial of debris from the former dump. Reestablishment of vegetation on the slopes facing Arey Cove.



*View looking northeast into Arey Cove toward Arey Neck from Narrows Park.*



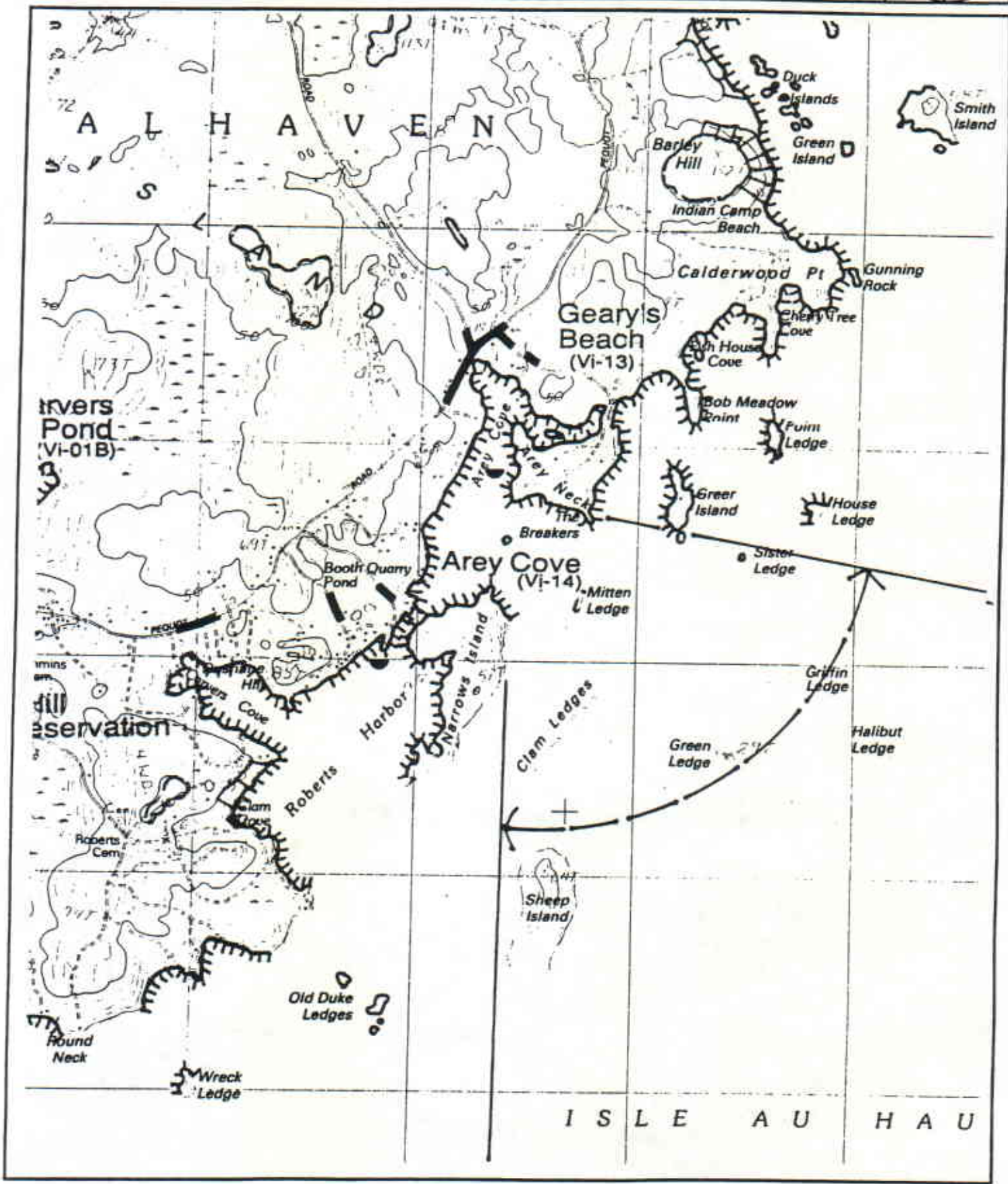
# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Arey Cove

Code VI-14

Town Vinalhaven

Vinalhaven USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Ambrust Hill Wildlife Reservation** Code **VI-15** Town **Vinalhaven**  
 1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory Critical Areas Program Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
 SC: Scoring  
 IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	3	
	6	X
	9	X
	3	X
	12	X
	9	X
		6
42		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

X	7
	3
	7
X	7
	7
31	
73	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Ambrust Hill Wildlife Reservation occupies a prominent position on the east side of Carver's Harbor at the entrance to Vinalhaven. The old quarry site, now overgrown with dense evergreens, offers an unexpected counterpoint to the trim composition of homes and commercial buildings along Main Street. The reservation preserves remnants of Vinalhaven's first quarrying activity, which produced paving blocks for many mainland city streets. From the high point of land, at elevation 110 feet above sea level, hikers are afforded filtered views of Matinicus Island, Wooden Ball Island, and Seal Island. The landscape in the foreground is characterized by dramatic steep cliffs, abandoned quarries, narrow pathways, and small streams.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Aggressive vegetation management to preserve island views and open up new vistas to other parts of the island and Penobscot Bay.

View looking southwest across the Reservation toward Penobscot Bay.





**Scenic Area Location**

**Scenic Area Ambrust Hill Wildlife Res. Code VI-15 Town Vinalhaven  
USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series**



# NORTH HAVEN



North Haven Village  
Brown's Cove  
Southern Harbor  
Ames Knob  
Wooster Cove  
Bartlett Harbor  
Pulpit Harbor  
North Shore Road  
Banks Cove  
Mullen Head  
Mullen Cove  
Little Thorofare  
Kent Cove  
Fresh Pond  
Mill Stream





## NORTH HAVEN

With a land area just under 12 square miles, North Haven is the smallest of the three large islands in Penobscot Bay. North Haven and Vinalhaven together form the Fox Islands, and share the highly scenic passage known as the Fox Island Thorofare. A small auto ferry out of Rockland provides the only public link with the mainland. A private water taxi shuttles passengers across the Thorofare from North Haven Village to the Vinalhaven town landing.

The following overview describes some of the highlights of the island's scenic qualities:

- Land use on the island can be categorized into several distinct patterns:
  - The village of North Haven, a well maintained mix of tidy homes, waterfront businesses, and civic buildings, geared more toward the pleasure boater than the fisherman
  - Small settlements
  - Rural residential areas, with several old farms
  - Enclosed woodlands and extensive wetlands
  - Large expanses of open fields
- Despite its open landscape character, North Haven remains a place of great privacy. While there are a number of rambling old cottages, most of the homes are modest and well tended.
- The road network consists of a major loop around the eastern half of the island, and a spur that extends westerly to Wooster Cove along the north shore of Southern Harbor. Very little new development is evident from either the roads or the water.
- With the exception of Pulpit Harbor, the north shore of the island is almost totally without any indentation or major physical feature of note. This lack of configuration is unique to the three islands in the study, and inconsistent with the characteristic landscape of Penobscot Bay. The nearest major land mass is the southern tip of Islesboro, over five miles to the north.
- By contrast, the remainder of the island is characterized by many indentations, coves, and harbors, and several large offshore islands. The arching mass of Vinalhaven's north shore creates a tight sense of enclosure within the Fox Island Thorofare, which is only several hundred yards across at its narrowest point.
- There are very limited number of opportunities for public access or visual access to the water on the island, with some notable exceptions.



- The majority of the topography on the island is flat to gently rolling, with steep embankments along the north shoreline. Ames Knob, a small promontory 150 feet in height just west of the village, affords the public a dramatic 360 degree panorama of the islands and Southern Harbor.
- The distinctive character of North Haven Island is established by a number of memorable places where man-made structures have been set into the natural landscape: North Haven Village, Fox Island Thorofare, Pulpit Harbor, Mullen Head, Kent Cove, and Crabtree Point. Some of the smaller features in the landscape are just as memorable: the osprey nest atop the rock at the entrance to Pulpit Harbor, the stone monument at the tip of Crabtree Point, the isolated cottage at Wooster Cove, the Goose Rocks lighthouse.
- Privately maintained fields contribute to the sense of openness, a rather unique characteristic of the three islands. These pastures and hayfield provide a visual link with the bay while offering a note of civil contrast to the surrounding forest and rocky coastline.
- Part of the visual excitement to the Fox Island Thorofare is the variety and number of boats in the passageway, flanked by grand summer cottages and tall pines. The boating here is primarily for pleasure, with people drawn to the Thorofare from up and down the eastern seaboard.

# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area North Haven Village Code NH-01  
 1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory Critical Areas Program

Town North Haven  
 Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
 SC: Scoring  
 IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	9	XX
	9	
	9	X
	6	X
		4
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		36

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

X	7
	3
X	9
	8
X	9
Field Evaluation	
36	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect

TOTAL SCORE	
72	

## Viewshed Description

North Haven is one of Maine's most intact and visually unified seacoast communities, noted for its trim architecture, compact form, and the variety and number of sailing vessels and lobster boats. The village is horizontally stratified: the waterfront, with the ferry terminal, boatbuilders, chandlery, restaurants, shops, and yacht club; Main Street, the center of commercial activity; and the hillside, with well kept New England homes and churches rising up the hillside. The grid pattern of streets, open spaces, and wood framed buildings is reinforced by picket fences, stone walls, and hedgerows. Views between buildings open to the Fox Islands Thorofare and the Vinalhaven shoreline. The village has fortunately escaped much of the building boom that swept through Maine in the 1980's. New construction has been accomplished with a sensitivity to the character and scale of the village.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Conservation easements on Vinalhaven to protect the view from North Haven and the Fox Islands Thorofare. Strict adherence to Shoreland Zoning provisions and Site Plan Review standards.

*The ferry terminal, reaching into Fox Islands Thorofare, is the first point of contact. Vinalhaven Island forms the backdrop to the harbor.*

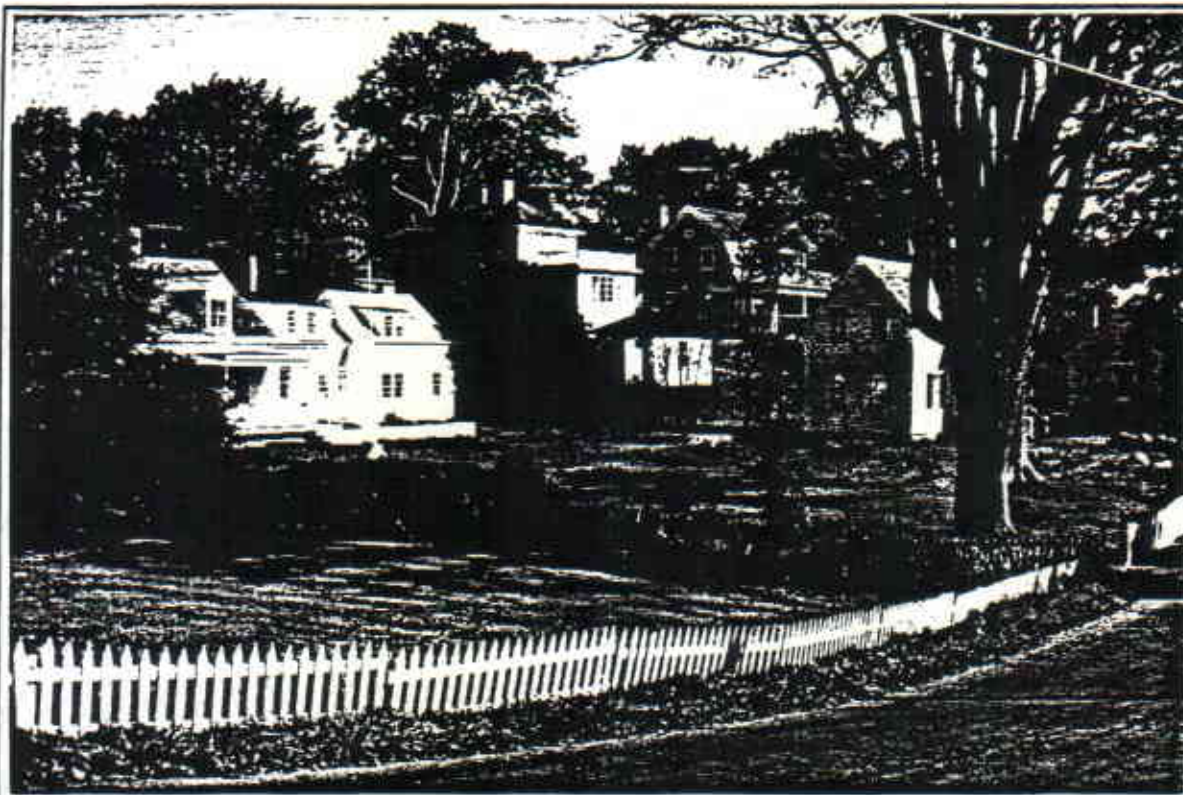




Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area North Haven Village Code NH-01  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory Critical Areas Program

Town North Haven  
Maine State Planning Office



*The character of the village is defined by traditional New England architectural forms, reinforced by fences, walls, and hedge-rows.*



*The waterfront is a diverse mixture of shops, galleries, and restaurants set among the ferry terminal, chandlery, and boatbuilding shop.*



# Scenic Area Location



Scenic Area North Haven Village Code NH-01 Town North Haven  
North Haven East/North Haven West USGS Quadrangles: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Browns Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-02**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	4	
	6	X
	9	X
	3	
	7	X
	3	X
		4
32		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	3
	6
	7
	7
29	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

61	
----	--

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Browns Cove is a relatively small indentation in Fox Islands Thorofare, just west of the village. The shoreline is moderately configured and open to Vinalhaven on the opposite shoreline. The sense of openness extends to Ames Knob, a prominent rock outcrop that affords a spectacular view of the cove and much of North Haven Island (see NH-04). Views of the cove are somewhat limited by the dense evergreen vegetation along the Ames Point Road. However, the viewpoint is within an easy walking distance from the ferry terminal and the village.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued vegetation management to preserve open views to Fox Islands Thorofare.

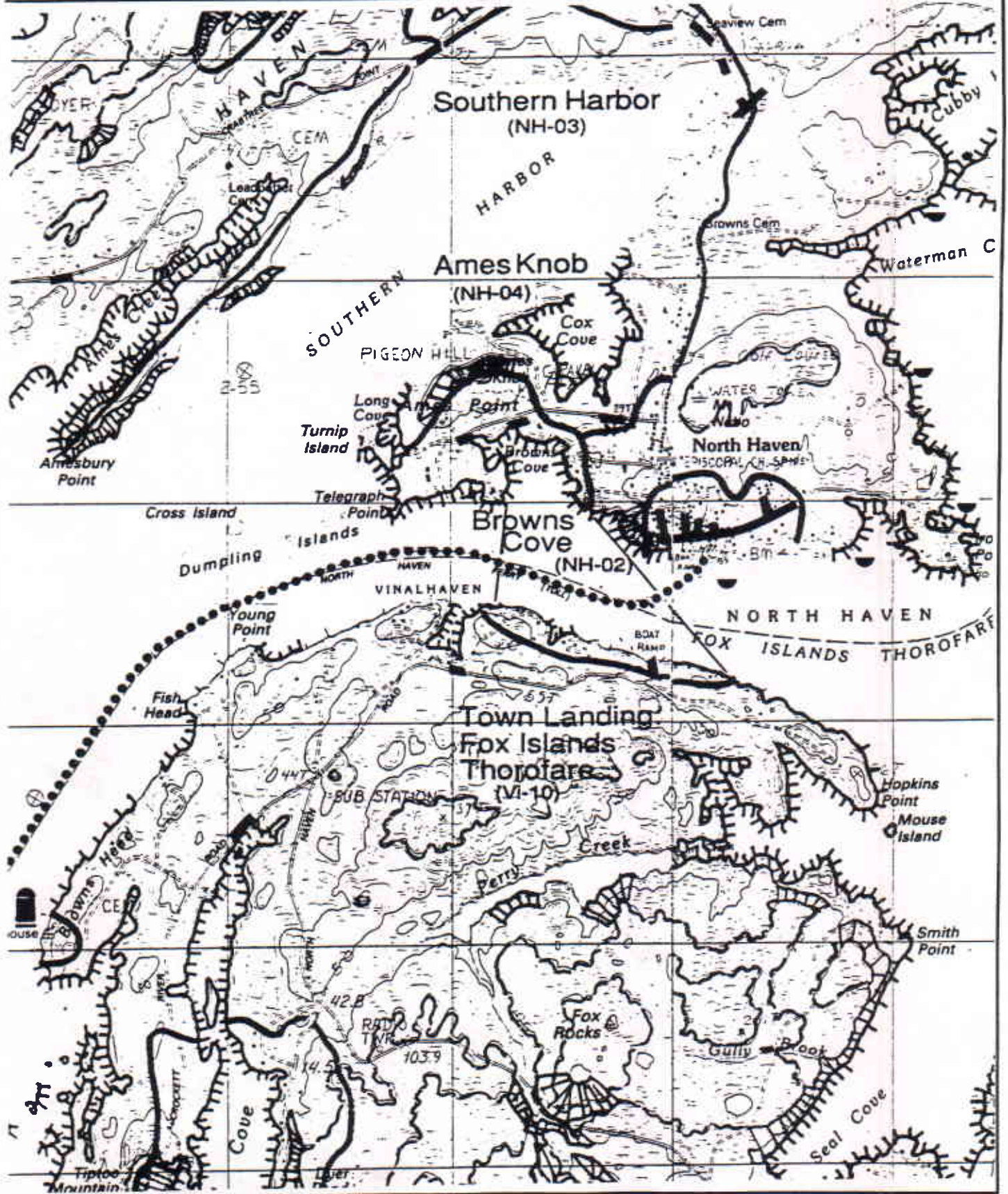
*The view from the Ames Point Road opens south into Browns Cove, extending to Fox Island Thorofare and Vinalhaven beyond.*





# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Browns Cove Code NH-02 Town North Haven  
North Haven West USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Southern Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-03**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	
	6	X
	6	X
	6	X
	9	X
	6	X
		5
39		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  2. Open Land
  3. Shoreline Configuration
  4. Scenic Features
  5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal

X	5
	3
	6
X	6
	6
26	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

65

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Southern Harbor is the largest of the extensions emanating from Fox Islands Thorofare. Public view-points are limited to a few openings along the perimeter roads and the Seaview Cemetery at the eastern end. The cemetery is noted for its ornate tombstones, cast iron fencing, and dramatic setting at the head of the cove. The cove is sparsely developed with village homes, farmhouses, summer cottages, and a large boatyard. The shoreline is highly configured, with evergreen slopes and open fields meeting saltmarshes and open water.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Vegetation management to preserve the few openings along the perimeter road. Conservation easements to protect the viewshed of Southern Cove. Continued maintenance of the Seaview Cemetery. Selective vegetation management within the cemetery.

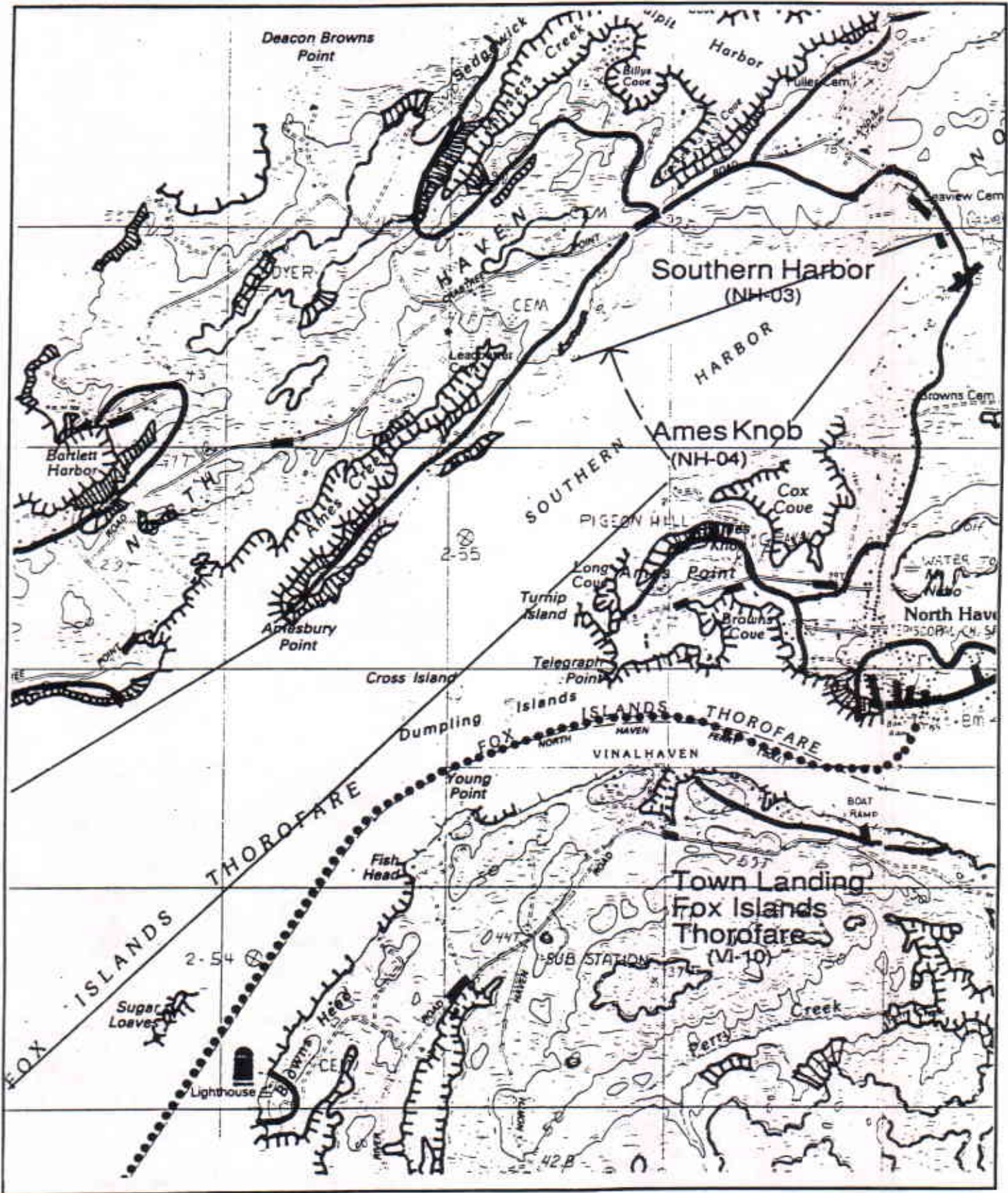
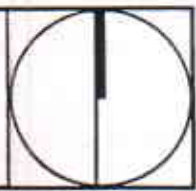
*The Seaview Cemetery at the eastern end of Southern Cove is one of the few points of visual access available to the public.*





# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Southern Harbor Code NH-03 Town North Haven  
North Haven West USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Ames Knob**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-04**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	2	X
	2	X
	6	X
	9	X
	3	
X	12	X
	9	
		6
49		

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon
- Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	5
	6
	9
	8
34	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

83

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Ames Knob, elevation 140, offers the hiker a dramatic 360° panorama of Southern Harbor, Fox Islands Thorofare, Pulpit Harbor, and the northern portion of Vinalhaven. The view gives an instructive overview of the characteristic landscape of North Haven, with its deeply indented coves, well maintained fields, scattered settlement patterns, and granite bedrock foundation. The narrow foot path to the top winds through a richly textured moor of ferns, bayberry, sumac, rock outcrops. Ames Knob is the finest publicly accessible viewpoint on the island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued vegetation management to maintain the panoramic view at the summit and keep the moor at the base of the knob open.

*From the top of Ames Knob, the viewer has a 360° panorama of the Fox Islands Thorofare, Southern Harbor, and much of the northern part of Vinalhaven. View looking north toward Southern Cove with Cox Cove in the immediate foreground.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Ames Knob**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

**Code NH-04**  
Critical Areas Program

**Town North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office



*Southerly view from the summit of Ames Knob encompasses Fox Islands Thoro-fare and the northern portion of Vinalhaven.*

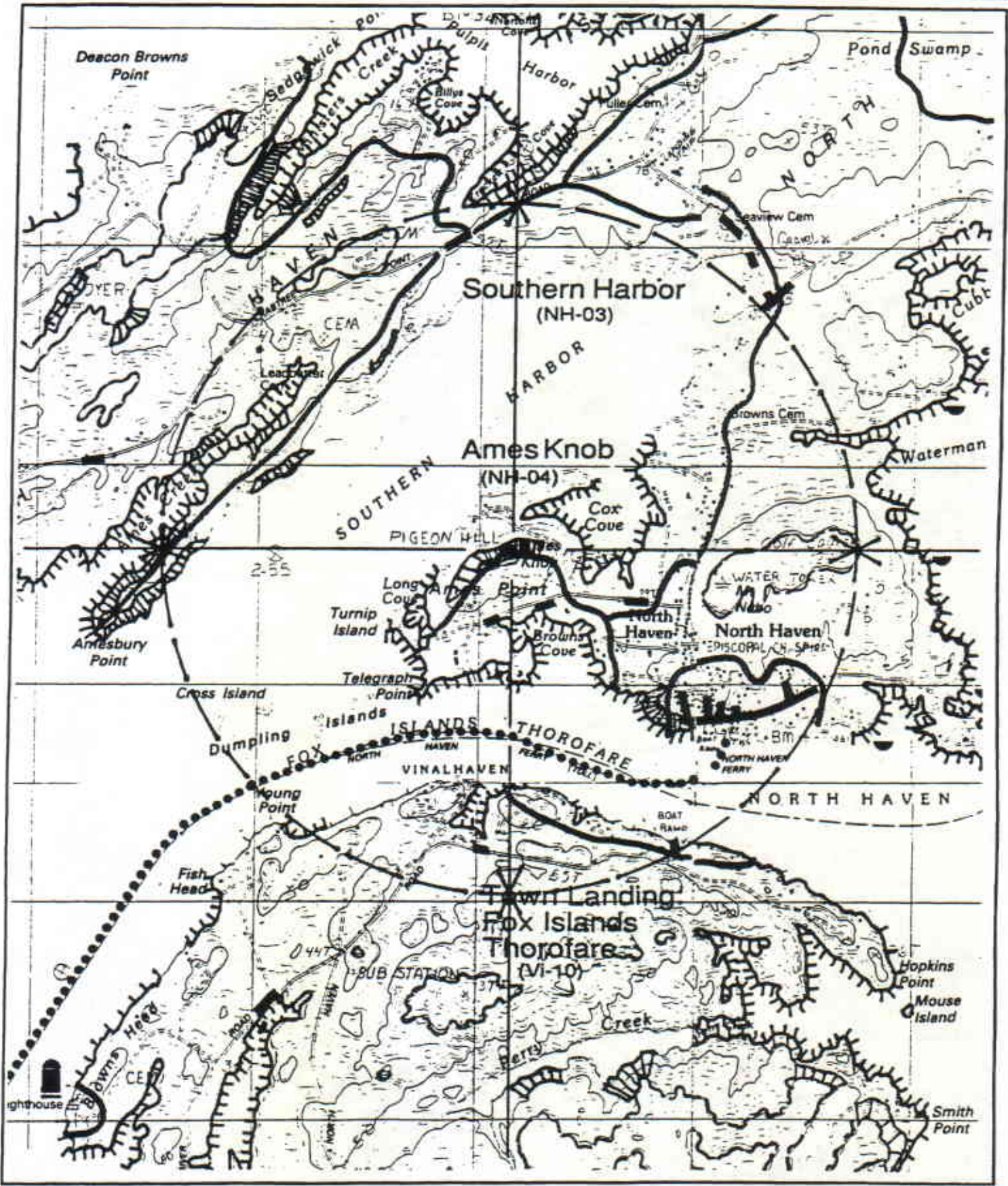


*Extensive, well maintained fields are part of the characteristic landscape of North Haven. View looking northwest from Ames Knob toward Amesbury Point. Camden Hills can be seen in the background.*



# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Ames Knob Code NH-04 Town North Haven  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Wooster Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-05**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	2	
	2	
	6	X
	9	X
	3	
	9	
	6	X
		3
	37	

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6
	4
	5
	7
	7
	79

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

	66
--	----

**TOTAL SCORE**

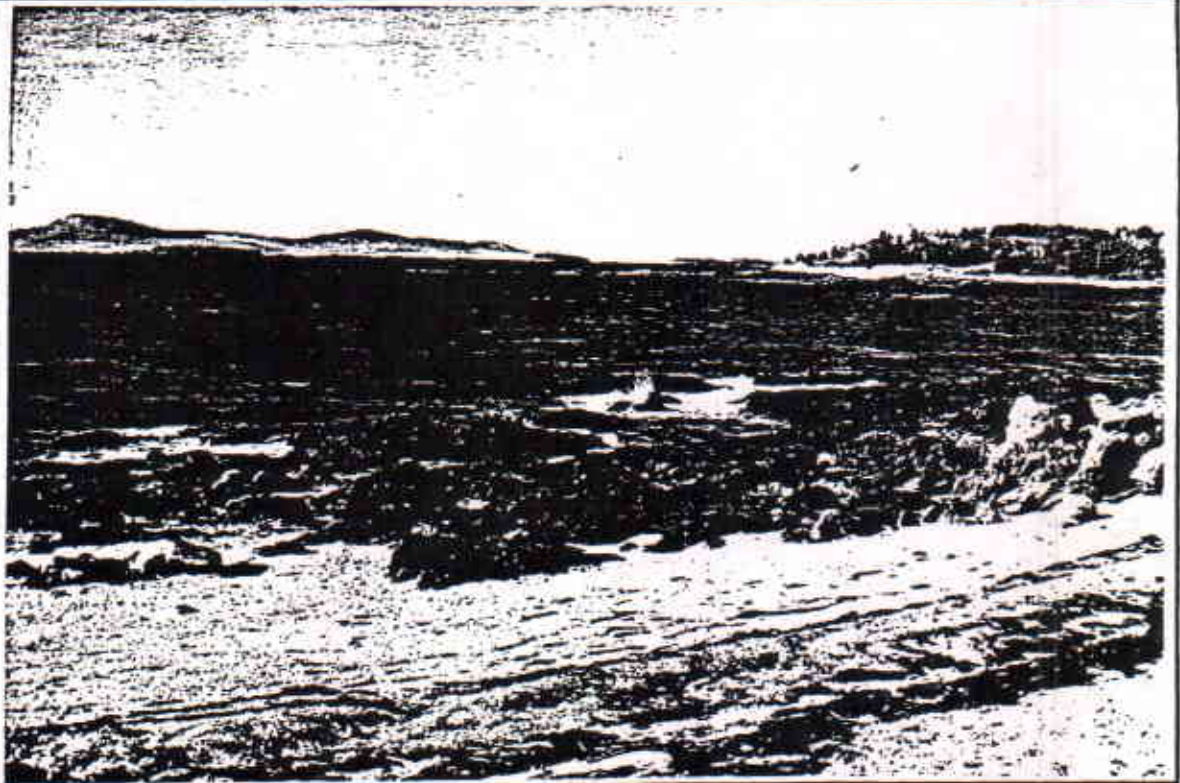
## Viewshed Description

Wooster Cove is the southernmost point of public access to Penobscot Bay on North Haven Island. The cove features sweeping westerly views of West Penobscot Bay, the Camden Hills, and several of the small islands south of Islesboro. The light pebble beaches contrast with the black igneous rock out crops. The foreground features include Narrow Place Beach and Wooster Cove, which lead the eye to a solitary, grand old cottage at the tip of Northwest Point. A small gravel parking area or turn around is conveniently located near the terminus of the public right of way.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Vegetation management to preserve views at the end of Crabtree Point Road.

*The view from Wooster Cove includes a sandy beach, dramatic views of the Camden Hills, and an large cottage perched on Northwest Point.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

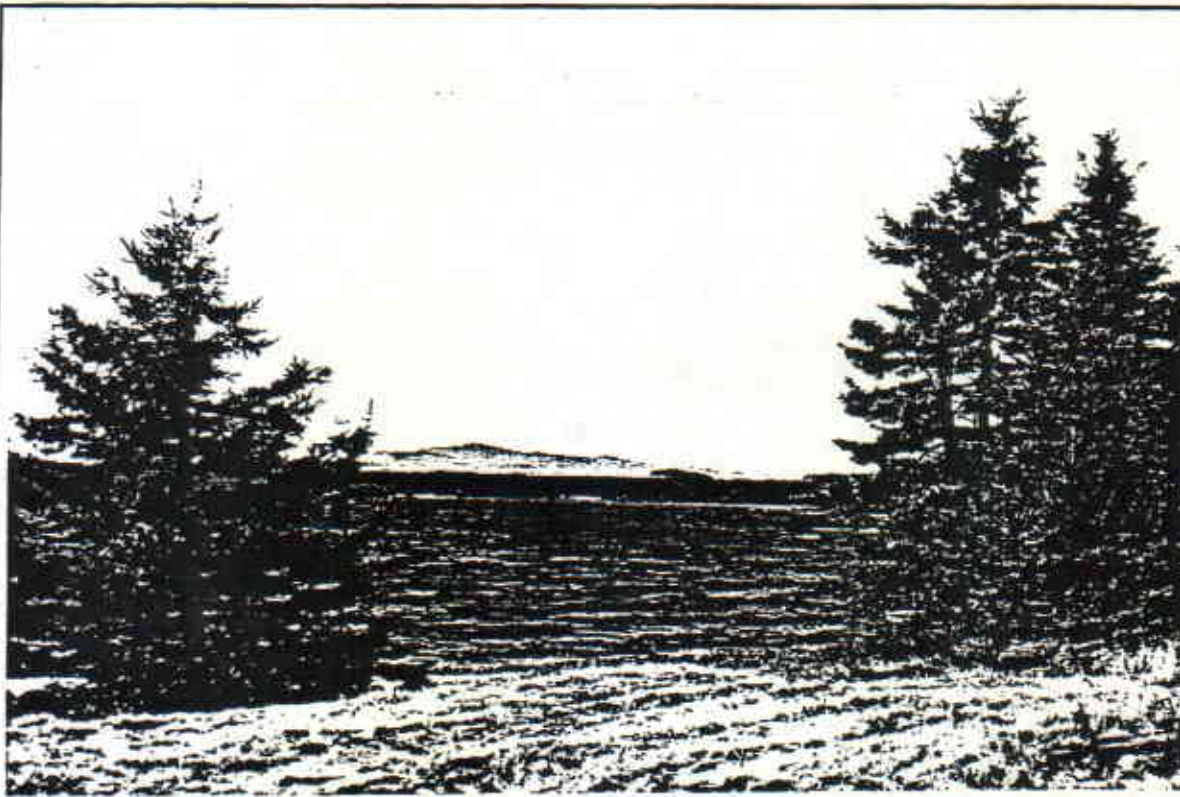
**Scenic Area Wooster Cove**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code NH-05**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town NorthHaven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*The view to the southwest includes the entire Camden Hills range.*

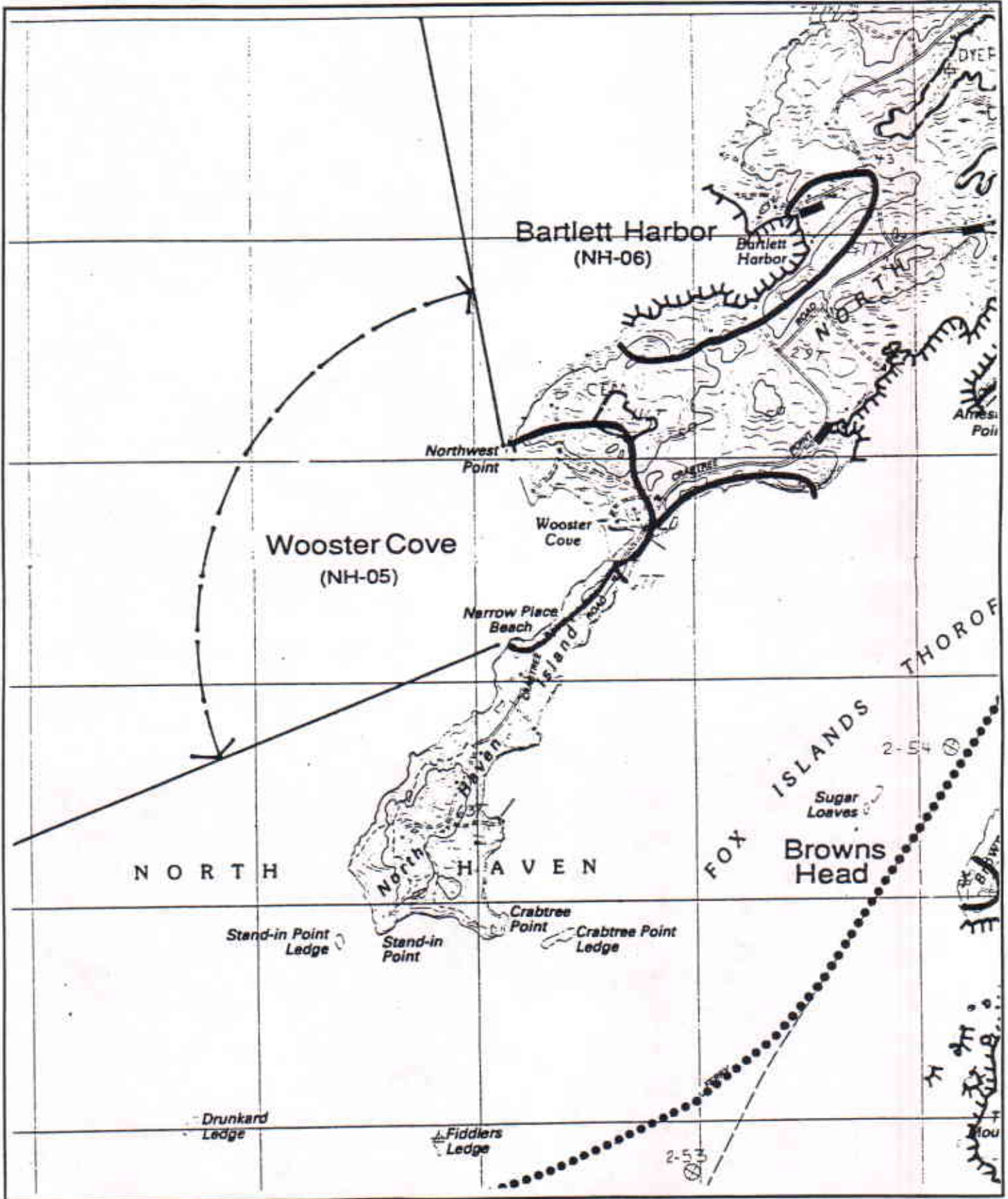


*The view to the northwest includes Mark Island, at the southern end of Islesboro.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Wooster Cove** Code **NH-05** Town **North Haven**  
North Haven West USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Bartlett Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-06**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	2	
	1	
	6	X
	9	X
<b>5. Scenic Quality of Water</b>		
	3	
	6	
	3	
		2
<b>Indicators Present</b>		
<b>Desktop Subtotal</b>		
		<b>30</b>

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	6	
	1	
	6	
	3	
	6	
		<b>22</b>

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**52**

**TOTAL SCORE**

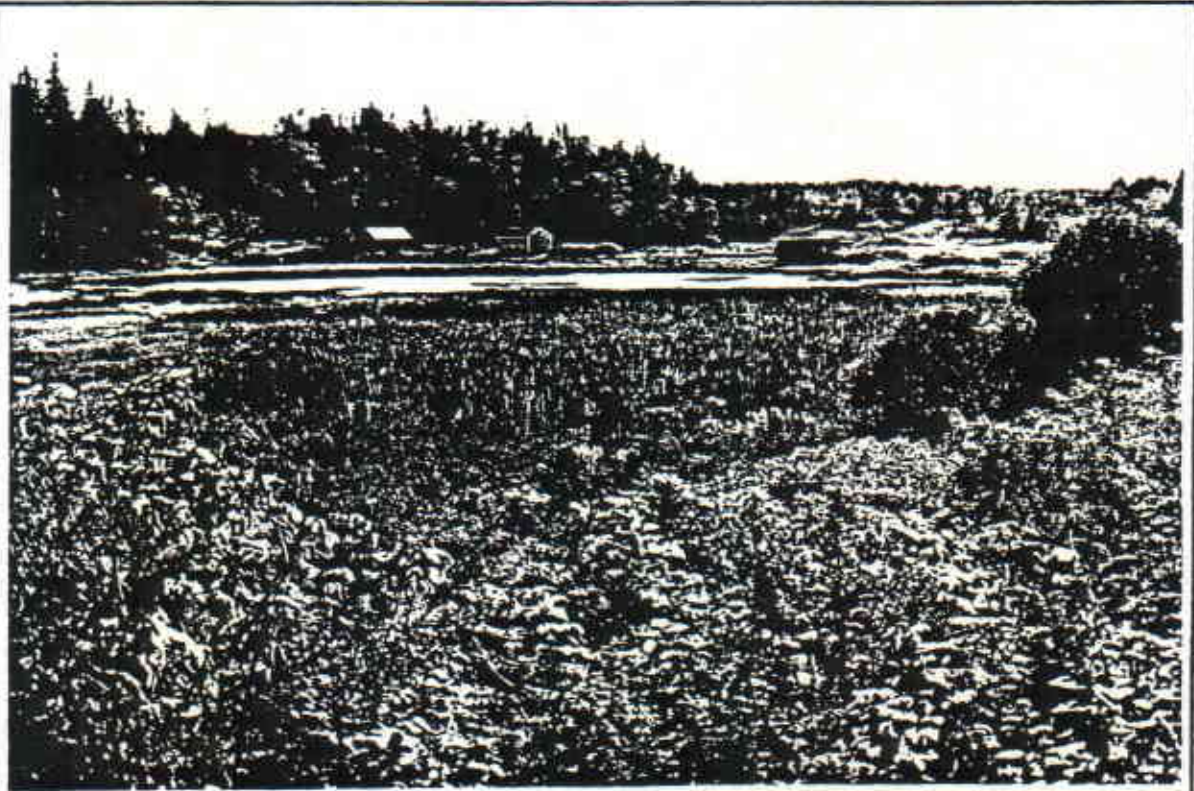
## Viewshed Description

Bartlett Harbor is a relatively small, very private cove on the northwestern face of North Haven. The harbor is further enclosed by a pronounced series of wooded ridges on the south, which lead the eye out to the water. Views of the water are limited, since the gravel road terminates in a private yard, with limited space for a turnaround. An old dike separates the pond from the Harbor while serving as the access to several cottages on the southern shore. Bartlett Harbor is primarily of local visual interest due to its limited visibility and access constraints.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

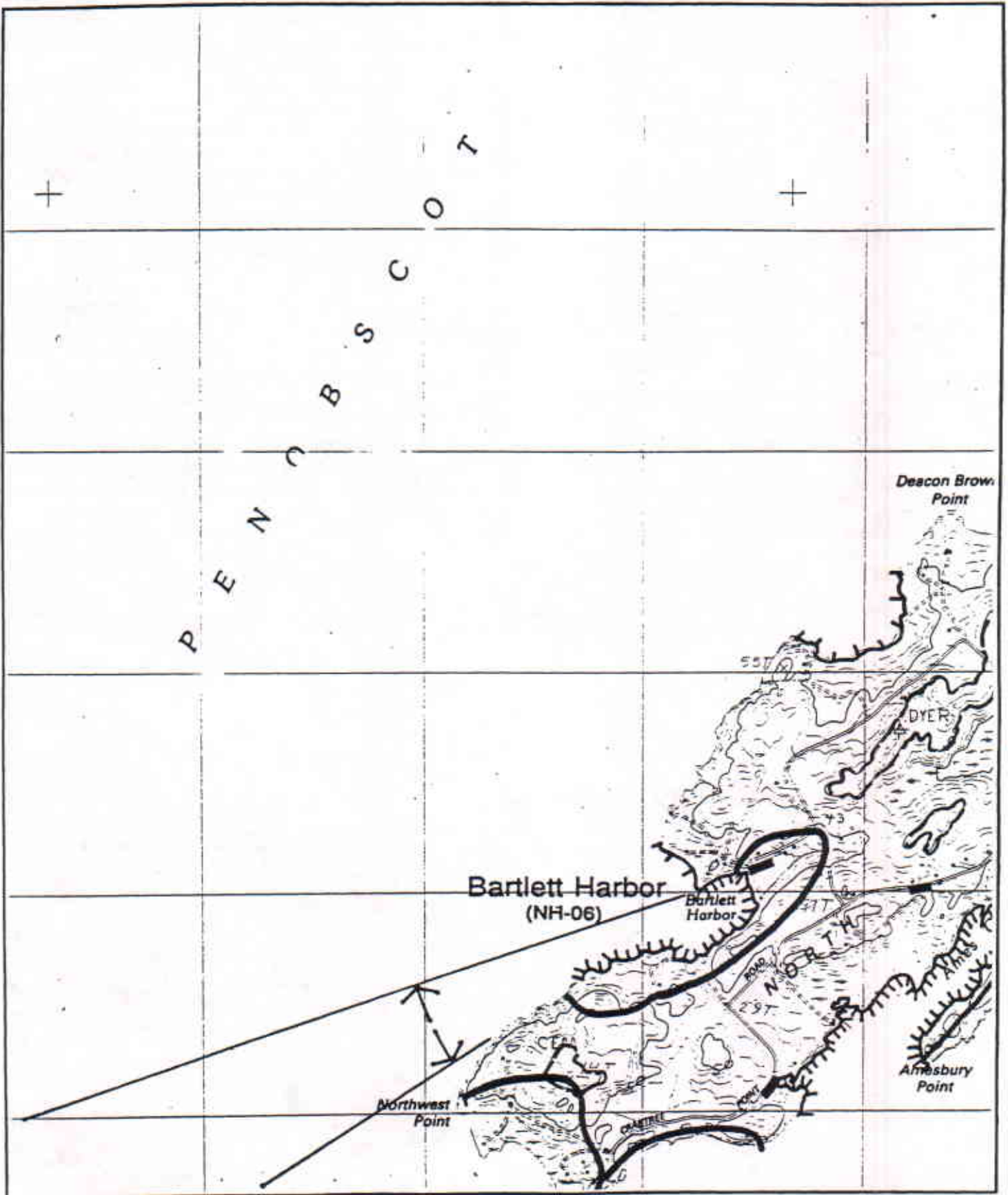
Strict adherence to site plan review and shoreland zoning provisions to guide development on the hillside overlooking the harbor.

*The Bartlett Harbor area is a rich landscape of freshwater wetlands, wooded hillside, and small cottages, oriented to Penobscot Bay.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Bartlett Harbor Code NH-06 Town North Haven  
North Haven West USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Pulpit Harbor**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-07**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	2	
	2	
	5	X
	9	X
	9	X
	6	
	6	X
	6	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		45

	5
	3
X	6
X	8
X	7
39	

**84**

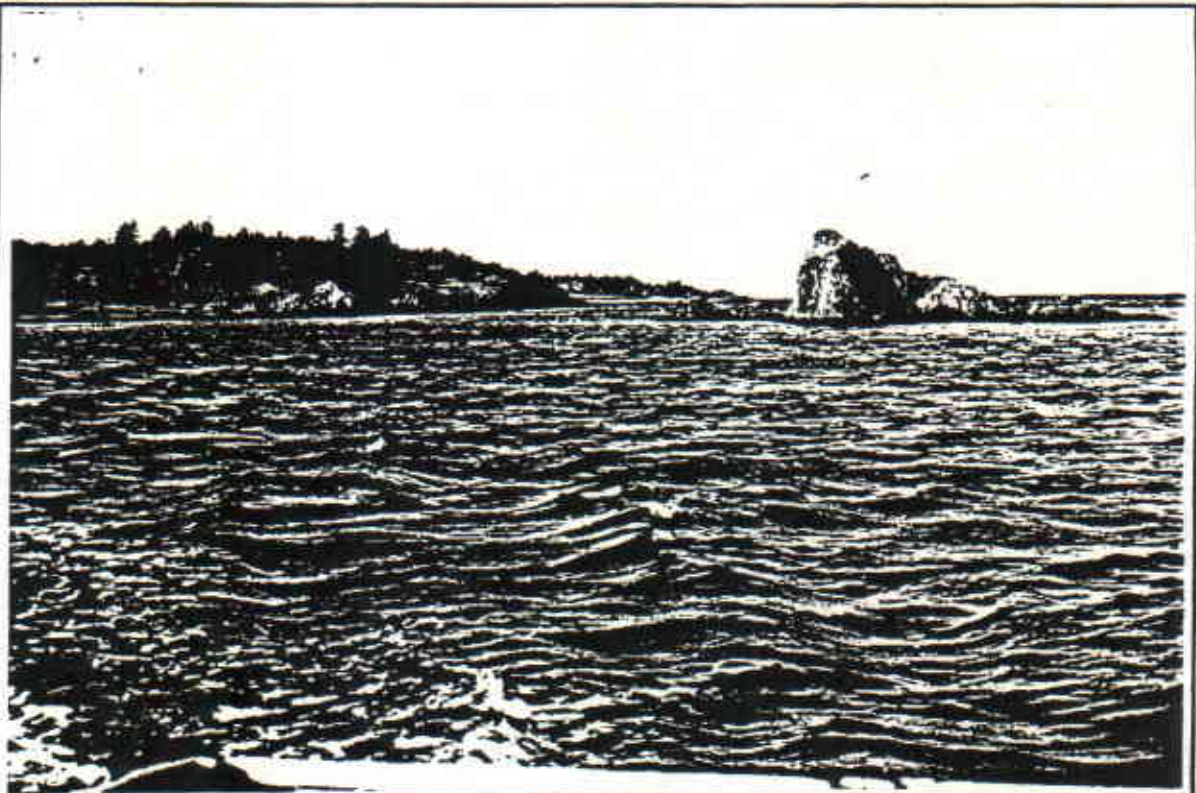
- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal
- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**TOTAL SCORE**

**Viewshed Description** Pulpit Harbor is one of the most sheltered small harbors on the coast of Maine. Its highly configured shoreline is bordered by well maintained cottages, low hills, rolling open fields, and mixed woodland. The contrasting vegetation and intimate scale of the homes create memorable patterns in the landscape. Several large estates are nestled among tall spruce trees. Boats are moored at the head of the cove within sight of the town landing. Windjammers commonly moor over night. Ospreys have nested on Pulpit Rock at the entrance to the harbor for over 150 years. Pulpit Harbor is a private place, with limited visual access to the water. A rugged granite bridge over Norton Cove offers the most direct views. A **CRUISING GUIDE TO THE MAINE COAST** gives Pulpit Harbor a five star rating (its highest) for "beauty/interest".

**Viewshed Management Recommendations** Continued maintenance of open fields to sustain the feeling of depth and variety in the landscape. Preservation of shore frontage and ridgetops through careful use of scenic easements, tax incentives, and/or development review. Minor improvements to parking facilities at the town landing.

*Pulpit Rock, and its longstanding osprey's nest, marks the entrance to Pulpit Harbor.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Pulpit Harbor**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code NH-07**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town North Haven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*Pulpit Harbor, one of the most protected moorings along the coast, is noted for its gracious cottages and well groomed landscape. View looking east near the entrance to the harbor.*



*Open fields give a sense of spaciousness to North Haven Island that is unique to the large land masses in Penobscot Bay. View looking east into Pulpit Harbor*







# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area North Shore Road  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code NH-08  
Critical Areas Program

Town North Haven  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	6	X
	6	X
	9	XX
	6	
	6	
	9	X
		4
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		42

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

X	7
	6
X	6
X	7
X	9
35	
77	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

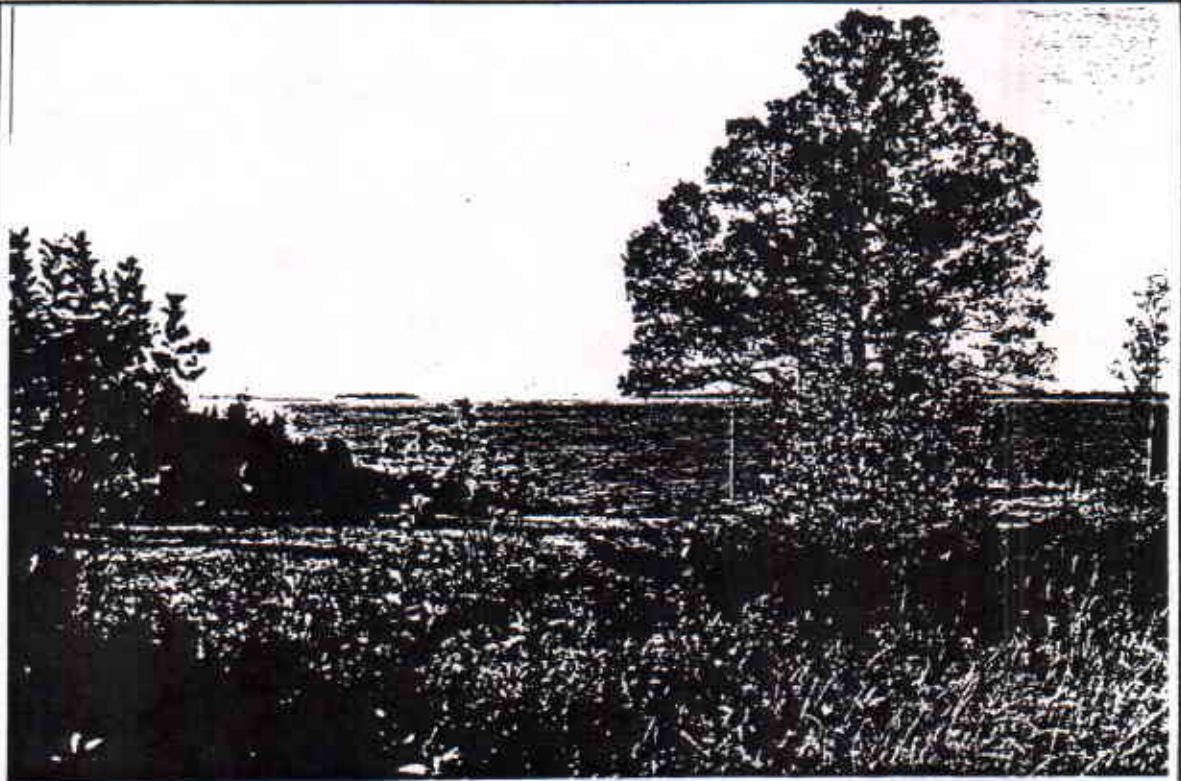
## Viewshed Description

The northern portion of North Haven Island is characterized by rolling fields, hedgerows, solitary stands of pines and birches, and panoramic views into West Penobscot Bay. Near Webster Head, where the road is 100' above the water, the view extends over the fields out to the Camden Hills, with Islesboro and many other smaller islands enriching the scene. Many islands, especially those beyond 3 miles, are indistinguishable with the mainland. The fields appear to drop out of sight as they extend toward the water, giving the views a great sense of depth. The views from the North Shore Road are among the most memorable on the island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Maintain existing fields to preserve open vistas.

*The Camden Hills are a prominent feature on the horizon, seen rising above West Penobscot Bay. View from the North Shore Road just west of Webster Head.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

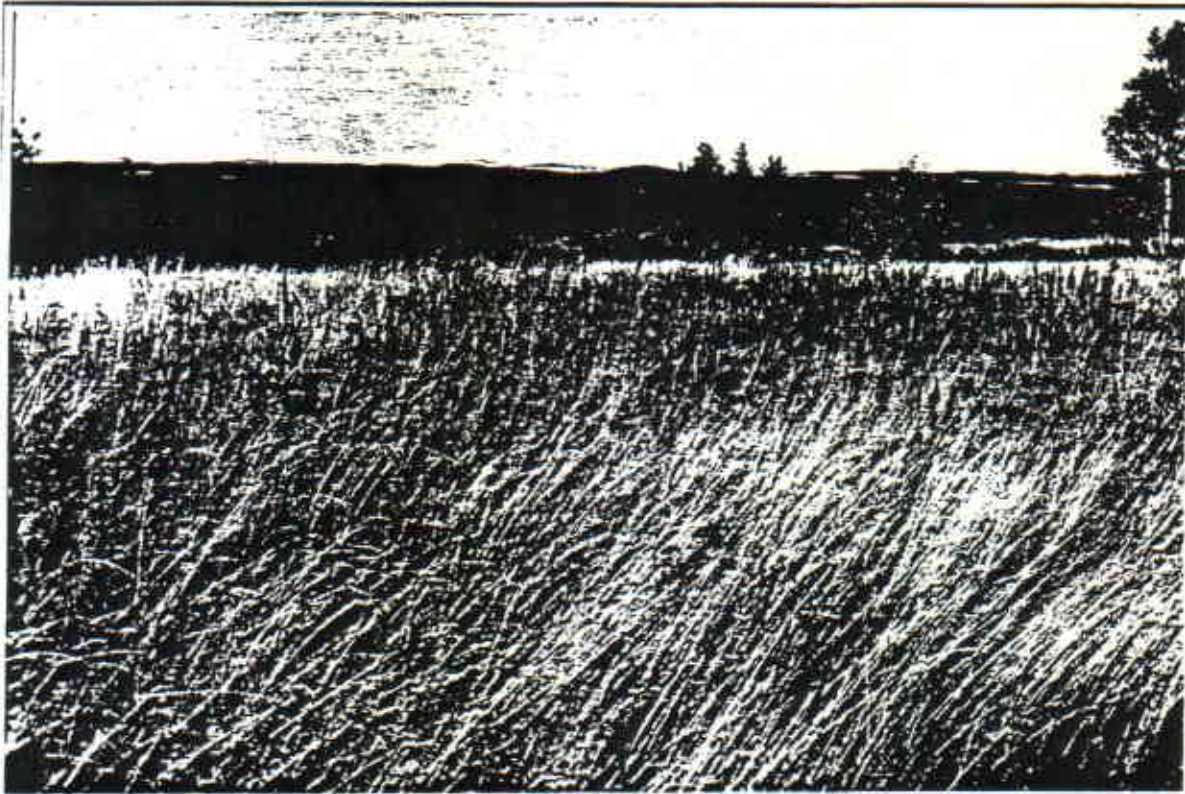
**Scenic Area North Shore Road  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code NH-08  
Critical Areas Program**

**Town North Haven  
Maine State Planning Office**



*View looking northwest from the North Shore Road to West Penobscot Bay.*

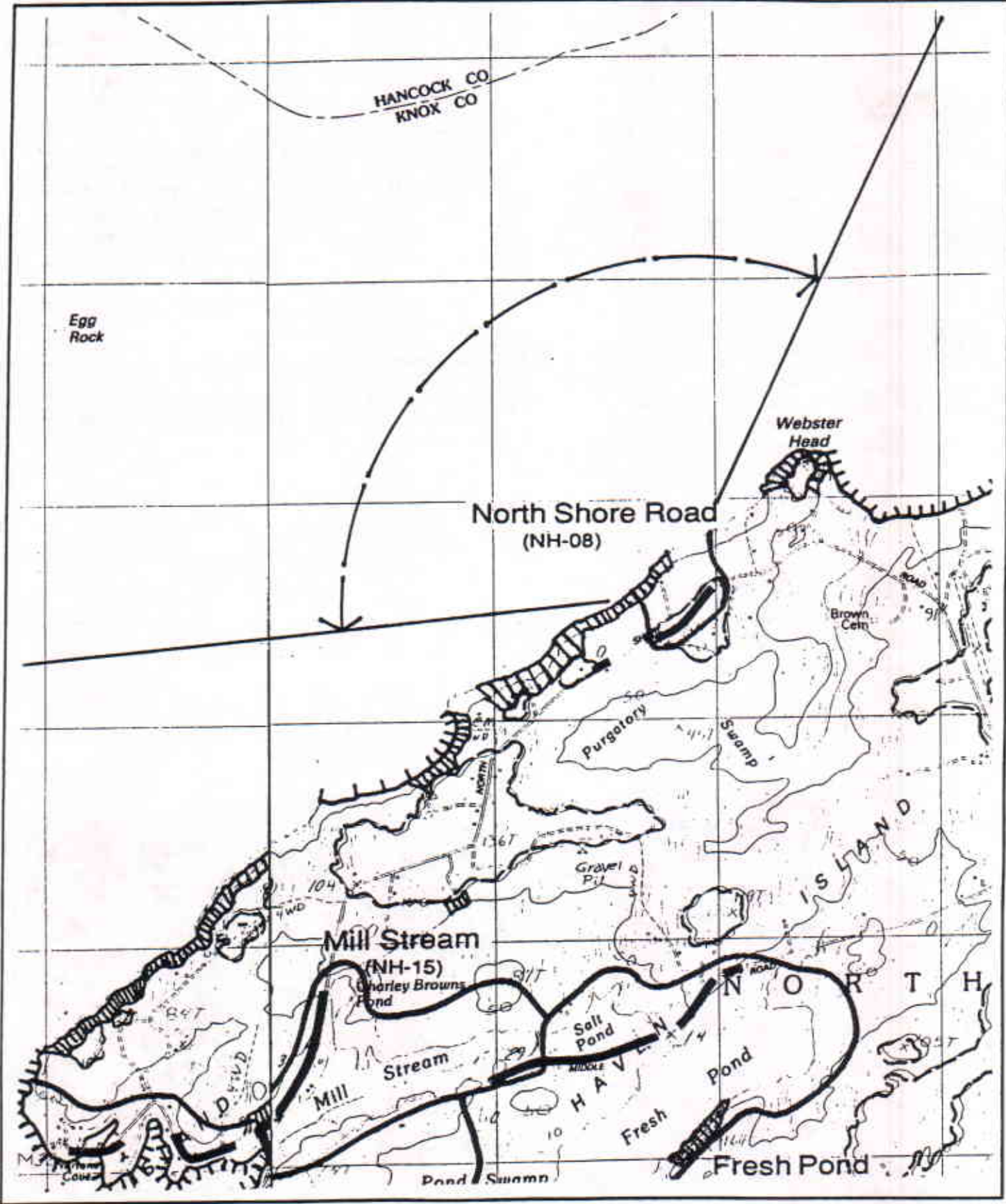
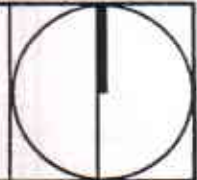


*Open fields maintained by private landowners are a characteristic feature of the North Haven landscape.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area North Shore Road Code NH-08 Town North Haven  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Banks Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-09**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI	SC	IP
	6	
	9	X
	3	X
	9	
	6	
		2
33		

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	5
	3
	6
	7
	9
33	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

66

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Banks Cove is a semi-enclosed waterbody opening in a northeasterly direction to East Penobscot Bay. Its wide sweeping, regular shoreline allows views of the entire cove from all points. The shoreline is a mixture of small pebble beach areas combined with more the characteristic rocky edges. The predominantly evergreen cover is broken by a large field extending to the waters edge at the northern end of the cove. One home is visible from the cove. A campground and small picnic area located near the center of the cove, part of the town park, provides ample opportunity for public access. The cove affords good views of distant island clusters and Deer Isle on the eastern horizon.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued high level of maintenance for all facilities.

*The broad sweep of Banks Cove draws the eye outward to Sheep Island to the northeast and Boy Scout Island on the east.*



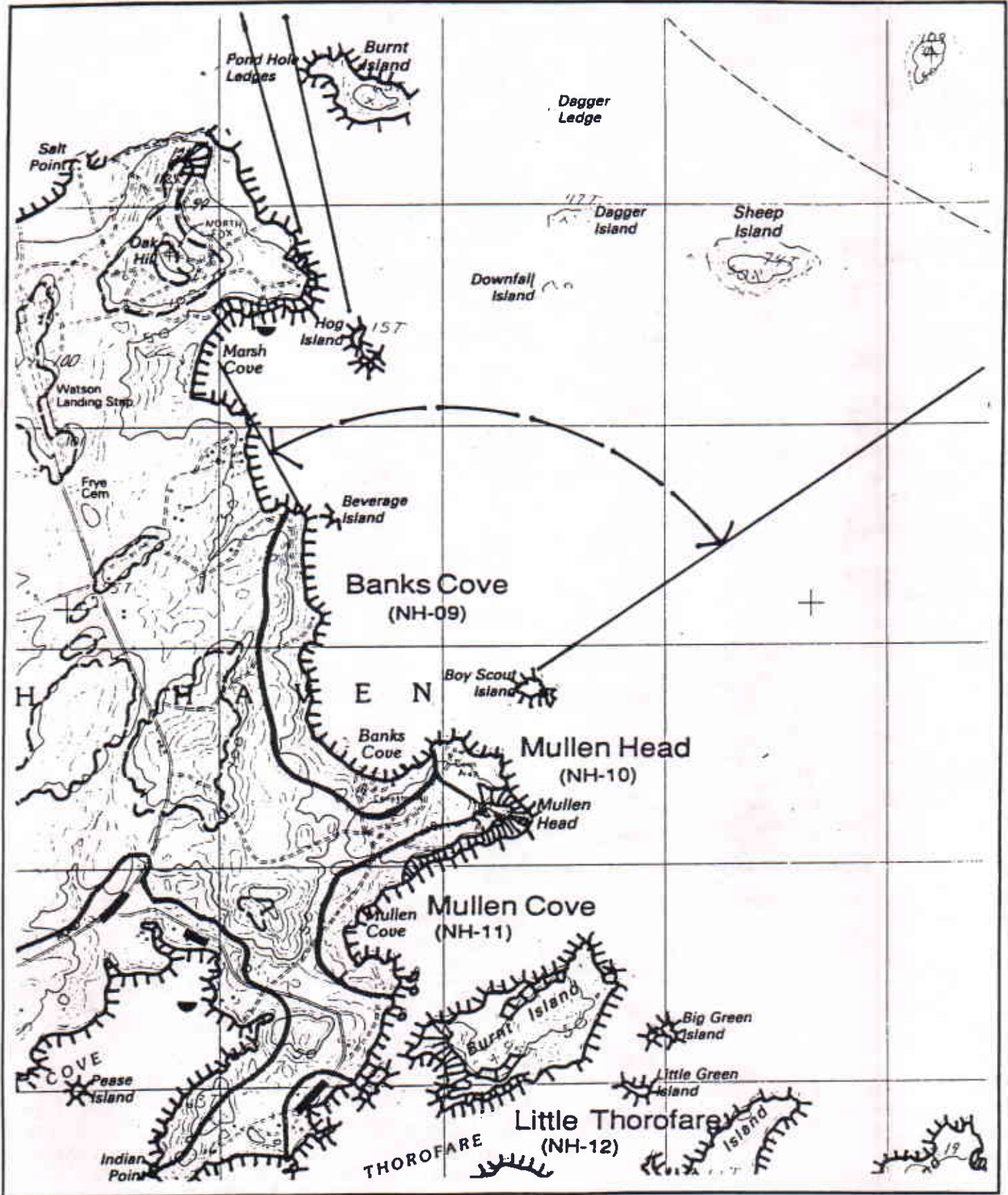


# Scenic Area Location



Scenic Area Banks Cove Code NH-09  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series

Town North Haven





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Mullen Head**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-10**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	3	X
	9	X
	3	
X	9	
	9	
		3
36		

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	5
	2
	6
X	7
X	7
27	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

63

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Mullen Head is the most easterly point on North Haven Island, and affords a 180 degree view of East Penobscot Bay, Babbidge Island, and other nearby islands. Of interest in the foreground is Boy Scout Island, immediately offshore, Banks Cove (see NH-09), and a small beach. The coarse pebble beach curves smoothly around the point, terminated at each end by large, lichen-covered outcrops. The head is part of a town park, with picnic facilities and hiking trails provided in a naturalistic setting. Mullen Head good location to watch the sailing activity in Penobscot Bay.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Continued high level of maintenance.

*The coarse pebble beach at Mullen Head, just south of Banks Cove.*





**Scenic Area Evaluation Form**

**Scenic Area Mullen Head**  
**1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory**

**Code NH-10**  
**Critical Areas Program**

**Town North Haven**  
**Maine State Planning Office**



*View looking south east along the shore toward Mullen Head, Calderwood and Babbidge Island.*

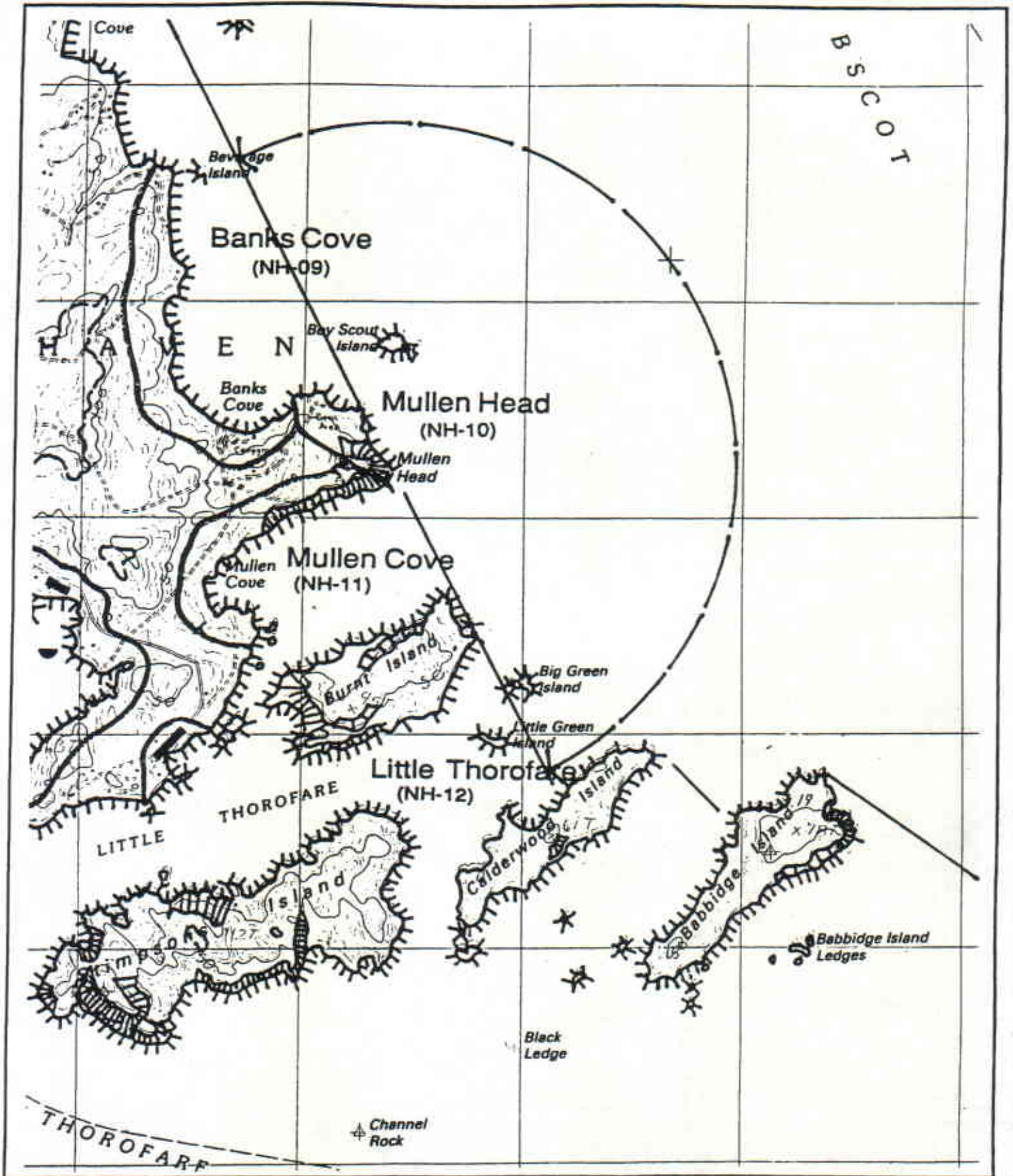
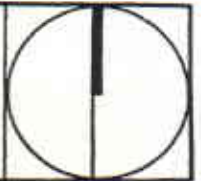


*View looking North west toward Banks Cove.*



Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Mullen Head Code NH-10 Town North Haven  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Mullen Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-11**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
X	5	X
	9	X
	3	
	9	X
	9	
		3
39		

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present  
Desktop Subtotal

	7
	3
	6
X	6
X	8
30	
69	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  7. Vegetation
  8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation
- TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Mullen Cove is a deep recess along the eastern face of North Haven. The gap between North Haven and Burnt Island, immediately offshore, affords a narrow view into Little Thorofare. The cove is surrounded on three sides by spruce-covered ledges that drop onto rocky beaches. On the north the town park provides good access via hiking trails and overlooks. Access to Mullen Head is difficult, however, since the trail is largely overgrown, narrow, and unmarked.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Improve footpath to Mullen Head. Continue high level of maintenance in park. Monitor paths and banks for evidence of erosion.

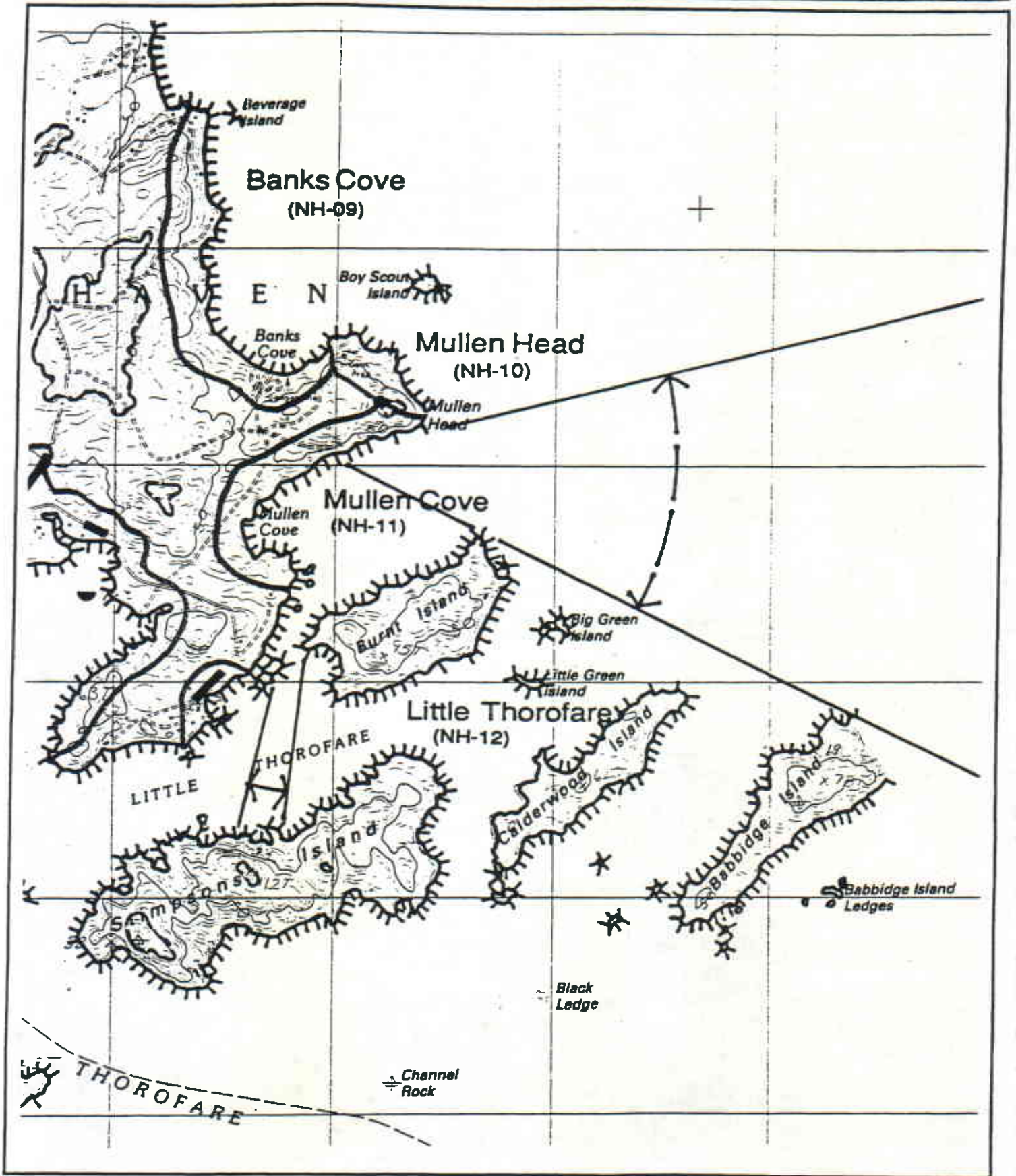
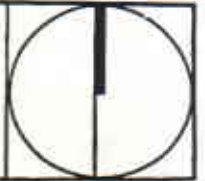
*Mullen Cove opens into Little Thorofare between Burnt Island (on the left) and the mainland portion of North Haven. Stimpsons Island appears in the background.*





**Scenic Area Location**

Scenic Area **Mullen Cove** Code **NH-11** Town **North Haven**  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Little Thorofare**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-12**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	4	X
	6	X
	9	X
	3	
	12	X
	6	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		40

- Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
- Open Land
- Shoreline Configuration
- Scenic Features
- Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

	5
	3
	6
X	7
X	6
Field Evaluation	
27	

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
- Vegetation
- Composition & Effect

TOTAL SCORE	
67	

**TOTAL SCORE**

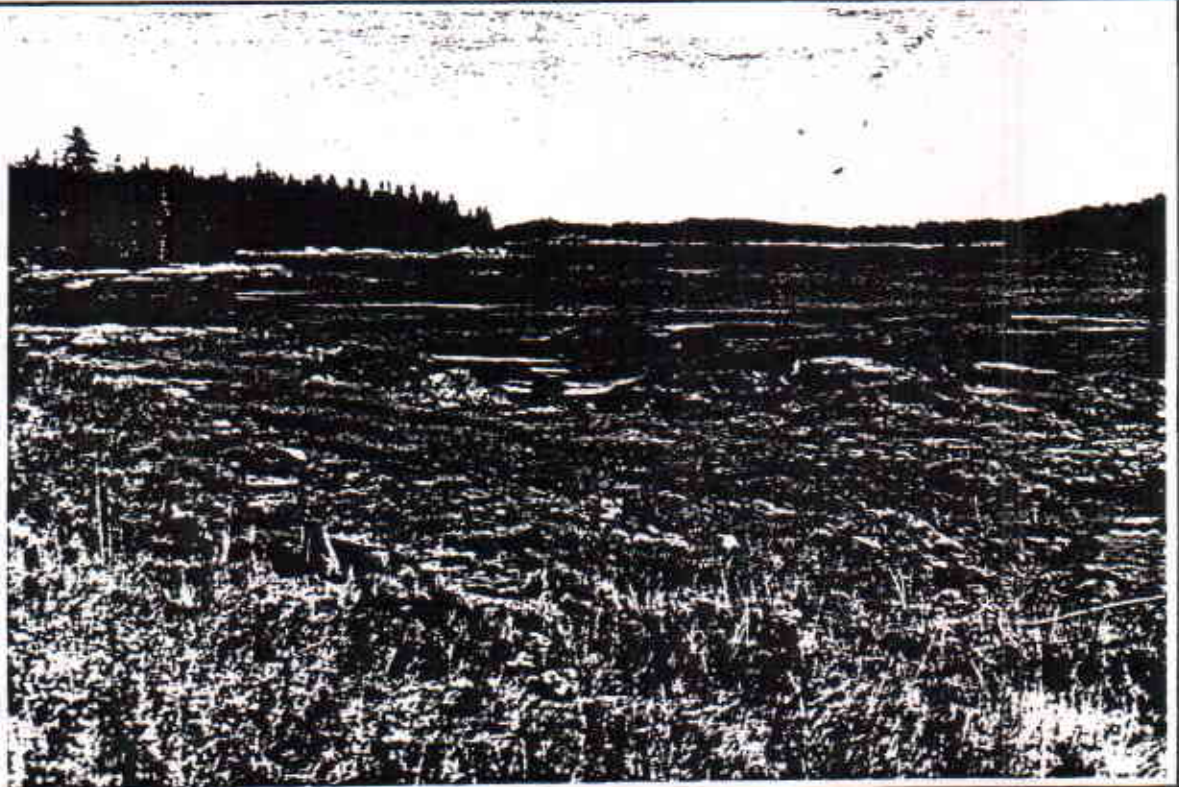
## Viewshed Description

Little Thorofare is a rocky east-west passage between several large islands at the eastern end of North Haven. The public view of the passage is limited to one location near the end of Indian Point Road, just before it turns into a private drive. From this point the view includes Stimpson Island, Burnt Island, (both heavily wooded), and Calderwood Island, noted for its patterns of open fields crossing the midsection. Little Thorofare exhibits a highly configured shoreline and a considerable number of small islands and ledges, which add considerable interest with the changing tide. Evergreen stands cover each point and the small island providing a striking contrast with the weathered rock outcrops. Colorful patterns are created by the seaside sedges and grasses and the pink rocks in the foreground. One house is visible on Stimpsons Island.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Conservation easements to protect viewshed of Little Thorofare.

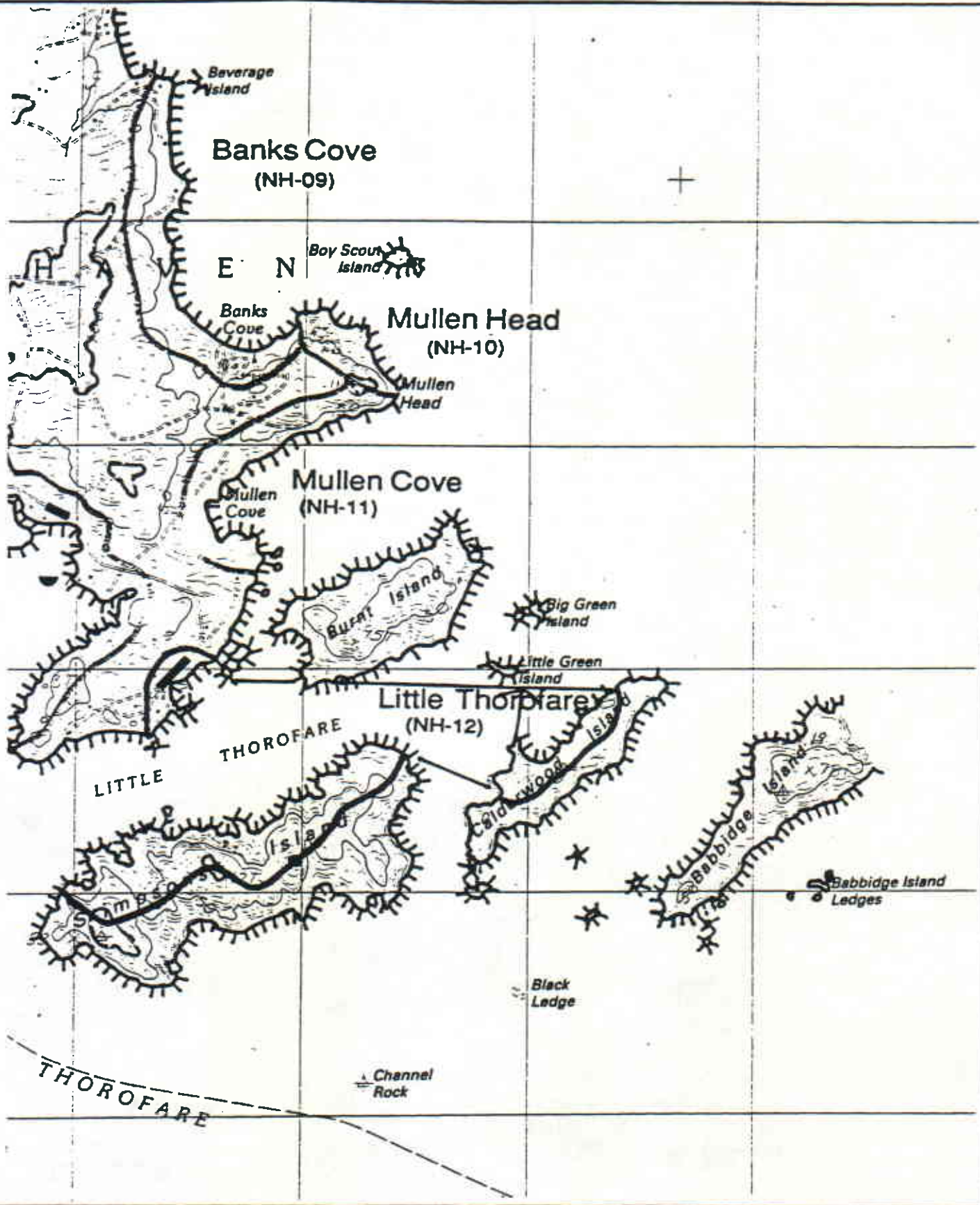
Views into Little Thorofare are enclosed by Burnt Island (on the left), Calderwood Island (in the center with the open fields), and Stimpsons Island (on the right).





**Scenic Area Location**

Scenic Area **Little Thorofare** Code **NH-12** Town **North Haven**  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series



# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Kent Cove**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-13**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	X
	6	X
	3	
X	9	X
	6	
	9	X
	9	X
		5
Indicators Present		
Desktop Subtotal		48

1. Landform  
Elevation  
Slope
2. Open Land
3. Shoreline Configuration
4. Scenic Features
5. Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon

X	6
	3
X	6
	7
X	8
30	
78	

6. Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
7. Vegetation
8. Composition & Effect  
Field Evaluation

**TOTAL SCORE**

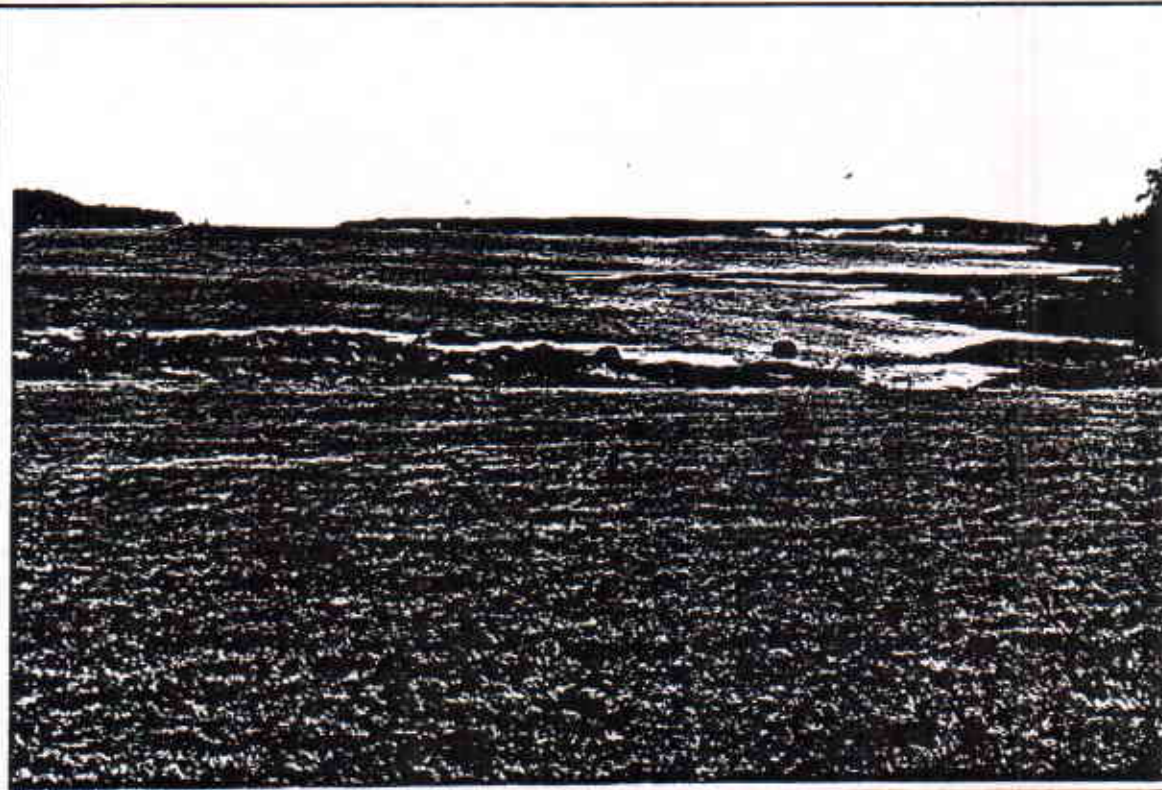
## Viewshed Description

The view of Kent Cove from the South Shore Road is one of the longest enclosed views in Penobscot Bay. The viewshed extends out to the north shore of Vinalhaven, and includes Calderwood Point, Widow Island, Stimpsons Island, and Indian Point. The foreground is a classic island pastoral landscape: an old homestead, a family cemetery (Kent) on the hillside, freestanding mature trees, and rolling fields extending to the shoreline.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Vegetation management to maintain open fields. Conservation easement on open fields. Continued maintenance for cemetery.

*View of Kent Cove at the base of Apple Tree Hill on South Shore Road. Goose Rocks Lighthouse can be seen to the right of the Fox Islands Thorofare passage around Vinalhaven.*





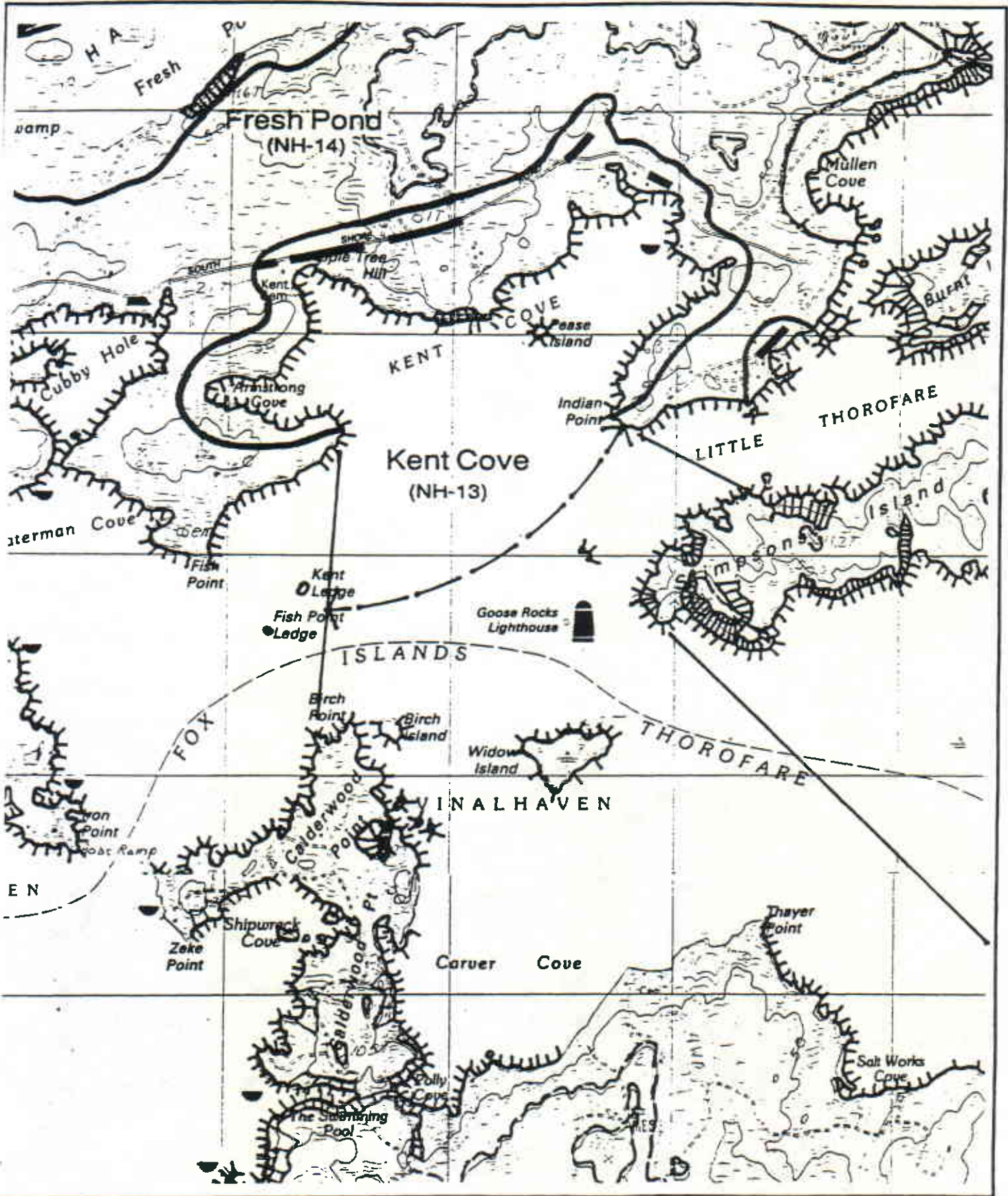
Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area Kent Cove  
North Haven East

Code NH-13

Town North Haven

USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series









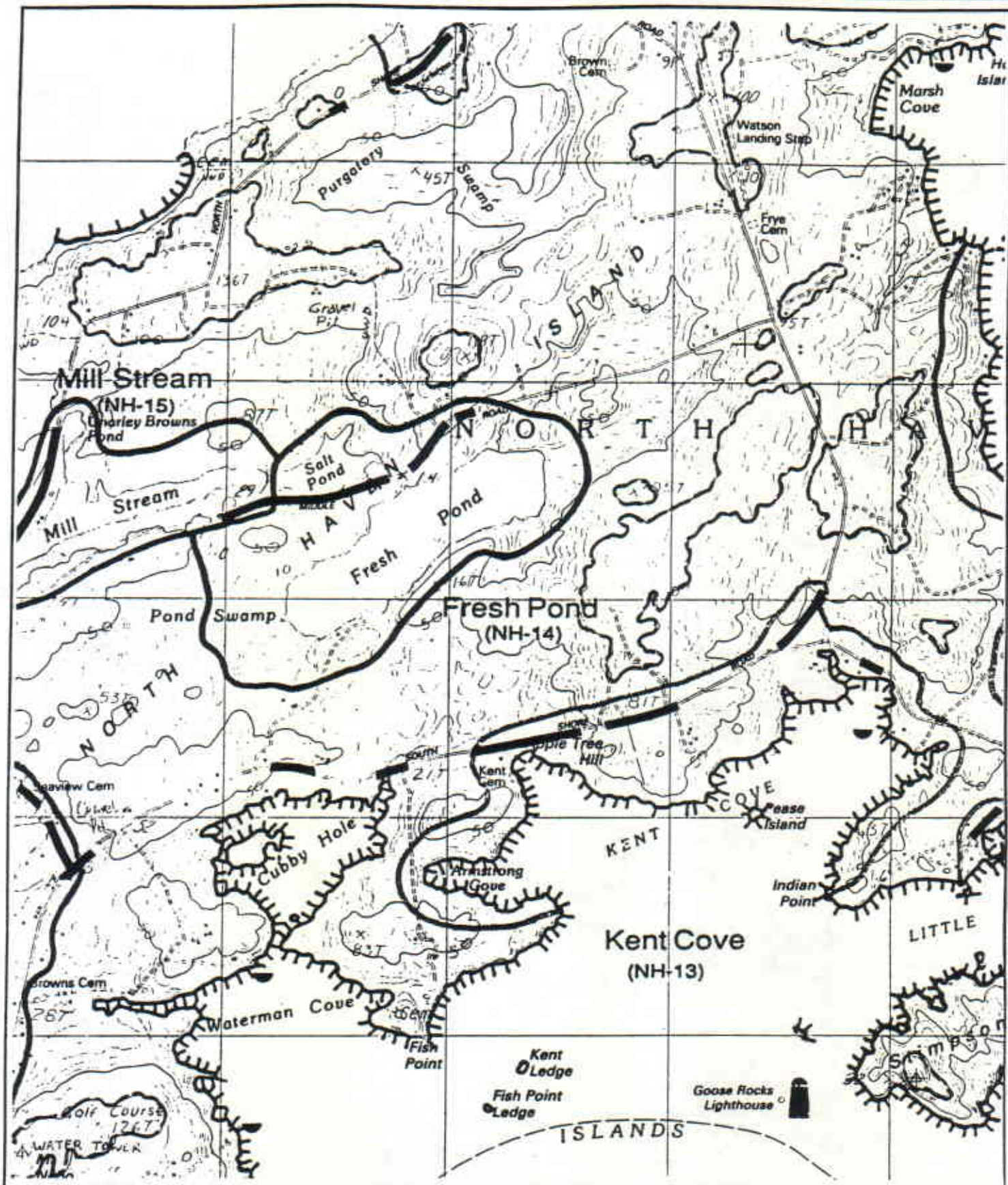
# Scenic Area Location

Scenic Area **Fresh Pond**

Code **NH-14**

Town **North Haven**

North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series





# Scenic Area Evaluation Form

Scenic Area **Mill Stream**  
1990 Coastal Scenic Inventory

Code **NH-15**  
Critical Areas Program

Town **North Haven**  
Maine State Planning Office

## Scenic Evaluation

SI: Special Interest  
SC: Scoring  
IP: Indicators Present

SI	SC	IP
	3	
	6	X
	6	X
	6	
	6	
	3	
		2
	30	

- Landform  
Topography  
Slope
  - Open Land
  - Shoreline Configuration
  - Scenic Features
  - Scenic Quality of Water  
Duration of View  
Type of Water  
Quality of Horizon  
Indicators Present
- Desktop Subtotal

	6
	3
X	6
	6
	7
	28

- Landscape Character  
Land Use  
Roadside Characteristics  
Settlement Characteristics
  - Vegetation
  - Composition & Effect
- Field Evaluation

58
----

**TOTAL SCORE**

## Viewshed Description

Mill Stream is actually a narrow tidal pond at the head of Pulpit Harbor. Public views are found along a considerable section of the North Shore Road. The best vantage point is from the bridge over the stream, where there are views in both directions (including a dramatic view into Pulpit Harbor) mowed field areas among the evergreen trees. Residential development, in the form of open fields, docks, and a few well sited homes, are visible from a number of vantage points.

## Viewshed Management Recommendations

Strict adherence to shoreland zoning regulations.

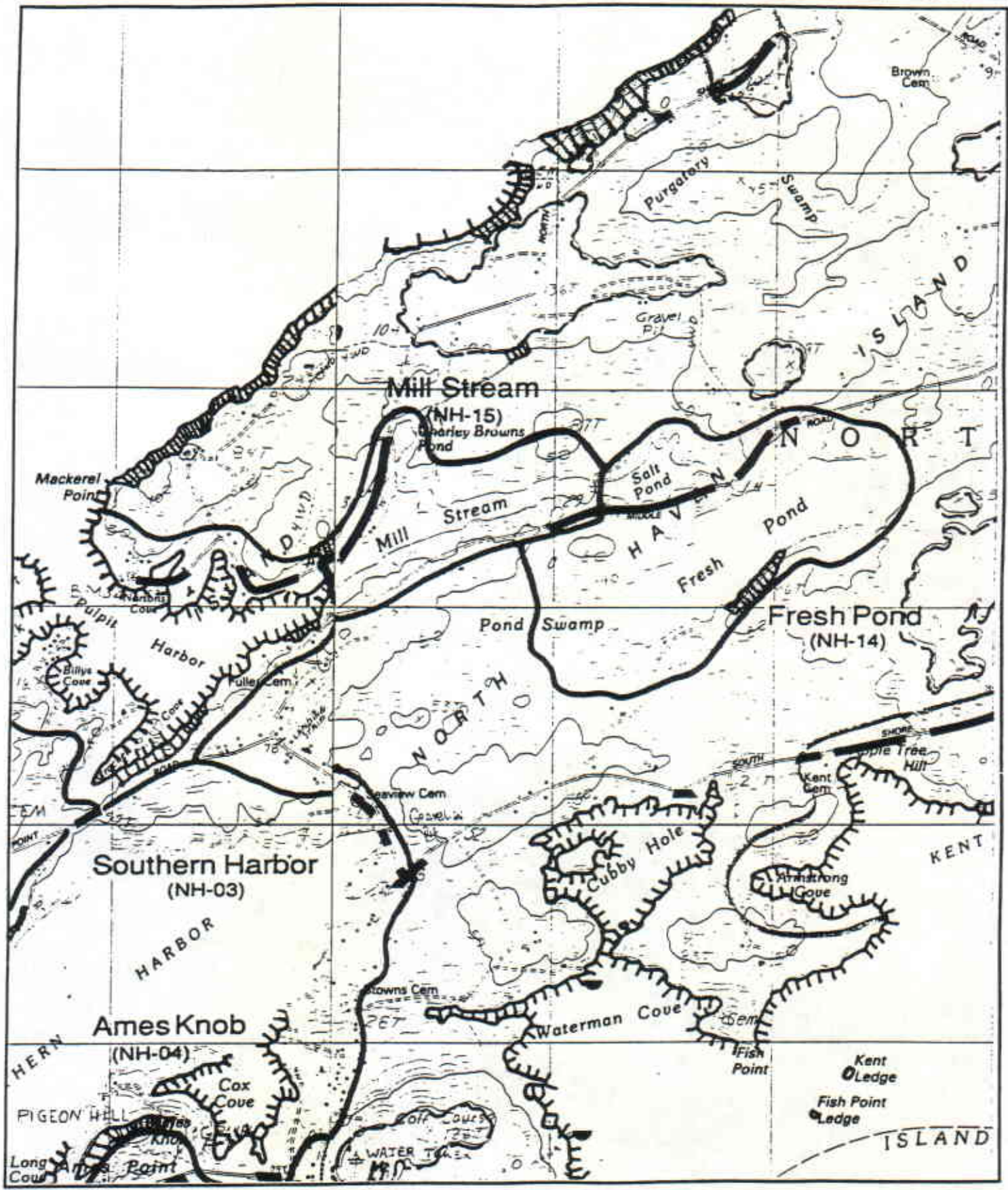
*Mill Stream is a narrow tidal channel that flows into Pulpit Harbor. View from the highway bridge looking northeast.*



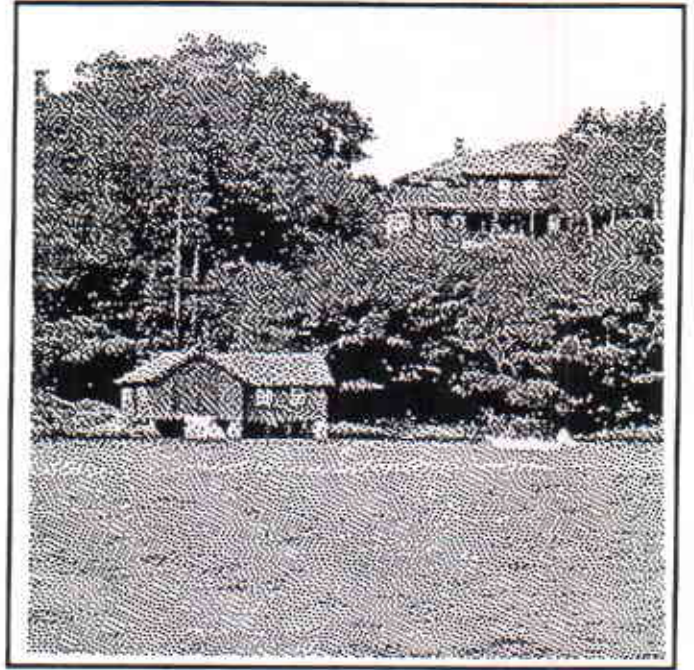


# Scenic Area Location

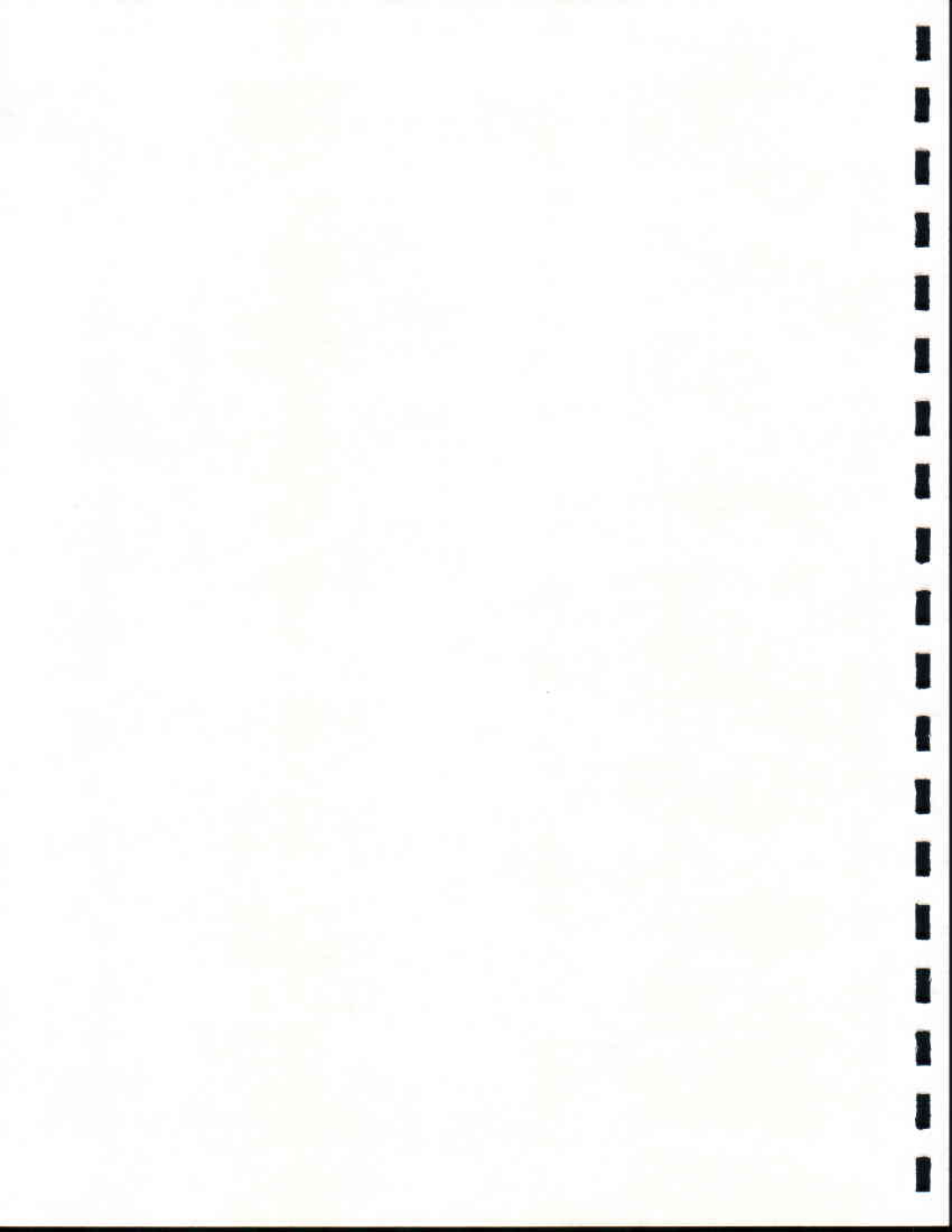
Scenic Area **Mill Stream** Code **NH-15** Town **North Haven**  
North Haven East USGS Quadrangle: 7.5 minute series



# GLOSSARY







## GLOSSARY

Visual impact assessments is a relatively recent development in natural resource analysis. Several federal agencies have instituted Visual Resource Management (VRM) systems, utilizing their own procedures and terminology, many of which have applicability to Maine.

Over the past two decades a vocabulary has evolved which has been used to describe the landscape and to evaluate changes to it. Many of the concepts developed by the federal agencies have relevance to the Inventory of the Penobscot Bay Islands.

The vocabulary's origin and use vary. Some are common terms employed in the usual way. In other cases, technical meanings have been applied to very specific functions. Terminology has also been drawn from specialized areas like aesthetics and human physiology.

**AESTHETICS:** The science or philosophy concerned with the quality of sensory experience; the use here is limited to visual experience.

**ANGLE OF OBSERVATION:** The vertical angle between a viewer's line of sight and the slope being viewed. The visual magnitude of a slope or object being viewed increases as the angle of observation approaches 90 degrees.

**ASPECT:** The side of a surface of a landscape element facing a given direction. Visual impacts decrease as the viewer aspect, or lateral viewing angle, increases and as the aspect of the main surface of a landscape element is oblique to the viewer.

**ATMOSPHERIC PERSPECTIVE:** The effect of distance from the viewer on the color and distinctness of objects. Typically, as distance increases, objects become bluer, greyer, lighter, less contrasting and less distinct.

**CHARACTER TYPE:** A relatively large area of land that has common distinguishing visual characteristics of landform, rock formations, water forms, and vegetative patterns. Paul Adamus, in The Natural Regions of Maine, describes the state in terms of five major physiographic regions: 1. Coastal Region, 2. Uplands Region, 3. Norumbega Hills Region, 4. Northern Forest Region, and 5. Mountain Region. Each of these is further subdivided into several subregions, or character types.

**CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE:** The naturally and culturally established landscape in a region. It is described visually by the basic vegetative patterns, landforms, rock formations, water forms, and structures which are repeated throughout the area.



**COGNITIVE FACTORS:** The largely quantifiable characteristics of visual impact assessment: the number and location of viewers; distances, angles, duration, and conditions of viewing; the characteristic landscape types; and the size, character, and location of the proposed changes. In addition to these, visual assessment involves compositional and connotative factors.

**COLOR:** The portion of the electromagnetic spectrum visible to the human eye which cause activity in the retina of the eye and its associated nerve systems, enabling one to distinguish between identical objects. Color consists of the three components of saturation, hue and brightness.

**COMPOSITIONAL FACTORS:** Those visual aspects of the landscape usually considered in aesthetics, namely, color, texture, line, form, dominance, and scale. In addition to composition, visual assessment involves cognitive and connotational factors

**CONNOTATIONAL FACTORS:** Observers' mental connections, bonds, or associations between a viewed landscape and sensations, perceptions, ideas, feelings, or memories. Associative values also cause nuclear cooling towers, for example, to receive extreme negative visual ratings despite their handsome, hyperbolic shapes. Together with cognitive and compositional factors these form the basis for visual assessment.

**CONE OF VISION:** The horizontal and vertical angle of the landscape that is visible from a viewpoint. Constrictions to the viewer's eye may include buildings, street trees, forest edges, or foreground landforms. Travel speed and the design of the automobile are additional constrictions to the viewer's eye.

**CONFIGURATION:** The amount of irregularity and/or enclosure in the shoreline. Shorelines with coves, points, bays, islands, and other features are considered highly configured, and are usually thought to be highly scenic.

**CONGRUITY:** The conformity of one landscape element to its surroundings. The opposite of contrast.

**CONTRAST:** The way in which an introduced element may be compared to determine differences. Contrast is measured in terms of form, line, color, texture, dominance, or scale.

**DISTANCE ZONES:** Horizontal divisions of the landscape being viewed. The delineations correspond to the most recent draft of the Scenic Character Regulations of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Alternatively, the three zones can be defined as being any distance that conforms to the major divisions created by prominent

edges or significant lines in the landscape, the only requirement being that the foreground is nearest and the background farthest from the observer.

**Foreground** - The visible landscape within one quarter mile from the observer. At this range textures and gross details are easily discernible. Trees, for example, may be appreciated for their individual characteristics. In some visual evaluation systems this distance can fluctuate from one quarter to one half a mile from the observer..

**Midground** - Extends from the edge of the foreground to 3 miles from the observer. Texture is normally characterized by the masses of trees in stands of uniform tree cover.

**Background** - Extends from the midground to infinity.

**DOMINANCE:** The extent to which an object is noticeable when compared to the surrounding context. An object(s) may be:

**Dominant** - The element is visually prominent and occupies a visually sensitive position within a landscape, usually at an upper elevation. A dominant object will greatly influence the visual perception of the landscape from a particular viewpoint

**Co-Dominant** - Two or more elements have relatively equal visual importance in the landscape

**Subordinate** - The object is visually inferior to the rest of the landscape as a result of its relative size, brightness, distance, color, or mass.

**DURATION:** Relative measure of the time available to experience a view. The actual elapsed time will be a function of many factors: mode of transportation, speed of movement, obstacles in the foreground, intention of the viewer, amount of clearing between viewer and view, and opportunities for pull-offs along a road.

**Short Views** - Fleeting glimpses of relatively short duration, from 1 to 3 seconds.

**Medium Views** - Visible for a moderate amount of time, from 3 to 10 seconds.

**Long Views** - Visible for extended periods of time, greater than 10 seconds.

**FORM:** The mass or shape of an object or combination of objects which appear unified: the physical structure of an object(s).



**HUE** : The name of a color, such as yellow-green or red, and one of color's three components.

**LANDFORM**: The dominant topographic features of the landscape, described in terms of slope and repetitive natural forms.

**LANDSCAPE**: The surface features of an area including landform, water, vegetation, cultural features and all other objects and aspects of natural and human origin.

**LANDSCAPE QUALITY**: Relative level of visual diversity or landscape character. Features such as Landform, Vegetation, Water, and Cultural Features are compared singularly or in combination with those commonly found in the study area. Landscapes can be classified into variety classes to indicate the degree of variety present:

**Class A: Distinctive** - Areas where vegetation patterns, landforms, water bodies, rock formations, cultural patterns, or combinations of these elements are of unusual or outstanding visual quality, and are generally considered to be of state-wide or national significance. Examples might include Mount Katahdin, Camden Harbor, or the Loop Road at Acadia National Park.

**Class B: Scenic** - A combination of landscape elements that is above the average for the characteristic landscape, but not outstanding relative to national or state-wide measures. Examples might include Wolf's Neck State Park, Rangeley Lake, or Rockland Harbor.

**Class C: Common** - The characteristic landscape of an area.

**Class D: Below Average** - Little or no visual variety with the landscape. Characterized by monotonous patterns of tree growth, little topographic relief, and the lack of water bodies.

**Class E: Disturbed** - Landscapes that have been severely altered by natural or man-made forces that result in an alteration or degradation of visual quality. Disturbed landscapes may be either temporary, semi-permanent, or permanent in nature. Examples might include a forest scarred by a forest fire, tailings from a mining operation, or a highly visible quarry on an island.

**LINE**: Anything that is arranged in a row or sequence. The path, real or imagined, that the eye follows when perceiving abrupt differences in form, color, or texture, or when objects are aligned in a one-dimensional sequence. Line is usually evident as the edge of shapes or masses in the landscape.

**MITIGATION:** Any action taken or not taken to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate, or compensate for actual or potential adverse environmental impact. Actions may include:

**Avoidance** - Not taking a certain action

**Design** - Measures taken during the siting or design of a facility to minimize contrasts in form, line, color, texture, or scale with the surrounding landscape

**Screening** - Installation or preservation of physical visual barriers to minimize views of a proposed activity

**Minimization** - Limiting the magnitude, duration, or time of an activity

**Rectification** - Restoration, repair, or rehabilitation of an affected environment

**Management** - Reducing or eliminating an impact through preservation and maintenance operations during the life of a project

**Compensation** - Replacement of affected resources or provision of substitutes.

**SCALE:** The proportional size relationship between an introduced object(s) relative to the surrounding landscape. Severe contrasts result from the introduction of major objects significantly larger than their surroundings. Viewing angle can affect the perception of scale. Scale can be described in terms of:

**Absolute Scale** - A measurement of height or width

**Relative Scale** - The apparent size relationship between the object and its surroundings.

**SCENERY:** The general appearance of a place; the features seen in the landscape.

**SCENIC AREA:** A place which exhibits a high degree of variety, harmony, and contrast among the basic visual elements, resulting in place with greater than normal visual quality.

**SCENIC HIGHWAY:** A section of state-assisted highway that has been noted by the Maine Department of Transportation for its scenic quality.



**SIGHTLINE:** The unobstructed line of sight between an observer and an object.

**TEXTURE:** The aggregation of small forms or color mixtures into a continuous surface pattern, resulting in a surface's mottling, graininess, or smoothness. These smaller parts do not appear as discrete objects in the landscape.

**VALUE:** The sensation that one color appears to be lighter or darker than another. Value is one element in determining the relative contrast or congruity between landscape elements.

**VIEW:** That portion of the landscape that is seen from a particular vantage point.

**VIEWER ELEVATION:** The position of the viewer relative to the scene being viewed.

**Viewer Inferior** - Viewer is below that portion of a scene with the greatest visual interest.

**Viewer Normal** - Viewer looks straight ahead to see the majority of the view; the most common relationship between viewer and scenery.

**Viewer Superior** - Viewer is elevated above the scene observed, usually looking down to the rear portions of the foreground. This position tends to increase the importance of landscape elements observed because of the viewer's usual tendency to look slightly downward and more of the view is obstacle-free.

**VIEWER EXPECTATION:** An estimate of people's concern for visual quality in the environment.

**VIEWERS:** People who see the landscape at present, or who are likely to see a project in the future.

**VIEWPOINT:** The actual point from which a viewer sees the landscape or a proposed alteration.

**VIEWSHED:** All the surface areas visible from a particular viewpoint; also, the surface area(s) within which a critical object or viewpoint is seen.

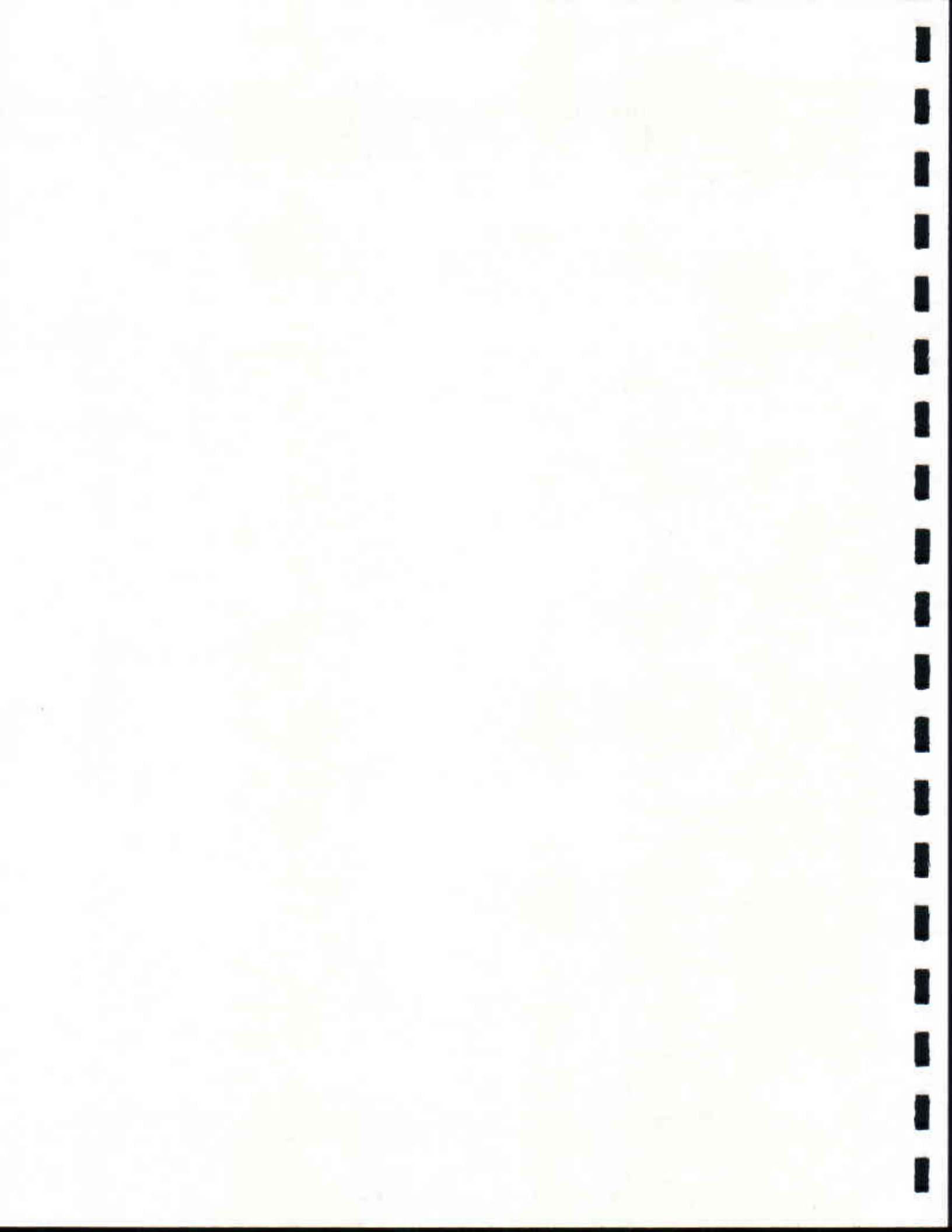
**VISUAL ACCESS.** The degree to which a landscape element can be seen from a particular viewpoint. The loss of visual access to a scenic resource could be considered an adverse visual impact.

**VISUAL CHARACTER:** The overall impression of a landscape created by the order of the patterns composing it: the visual elements of these patterns are the form, line, color, and texture of the landscape's components. Their interrelationships can be described in terms of dominance, scale, diversity, and continuity.

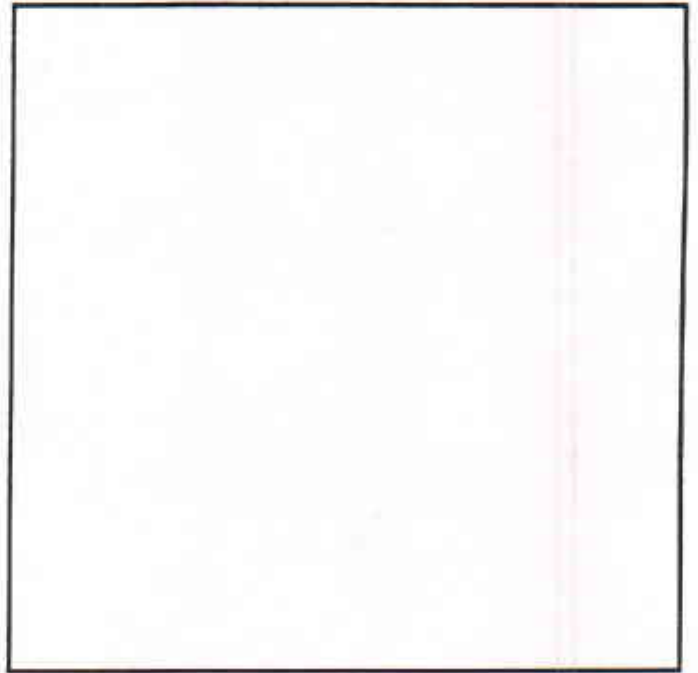
**VISUAL IMPACT:** The degree of scenic quality change that results from a land use activity. Negative visual impacts affect environmental quality, either by limiting visual access to scenic resources or by disrupting the harmony, diversity or character of natural landscape elements.

**VISUAL RESOURCES:** The features that make up the visible landscape.

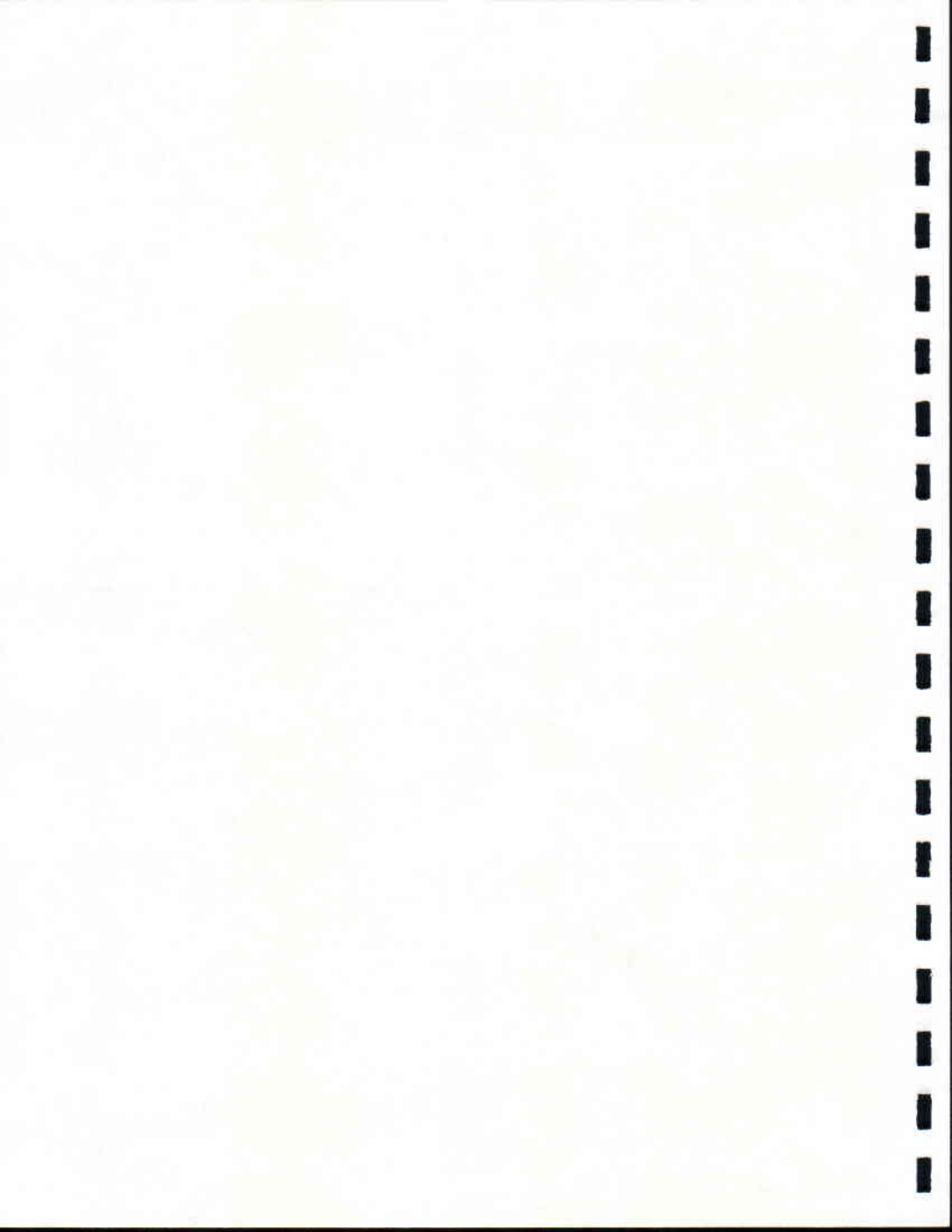




# REFERENCES







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