

DOGTOWN NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT

**National Register Nomination and
Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey Project**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

November 29, 2017

**Kyrouz Auditorium
Gloucester City Hall, Massachusetts**

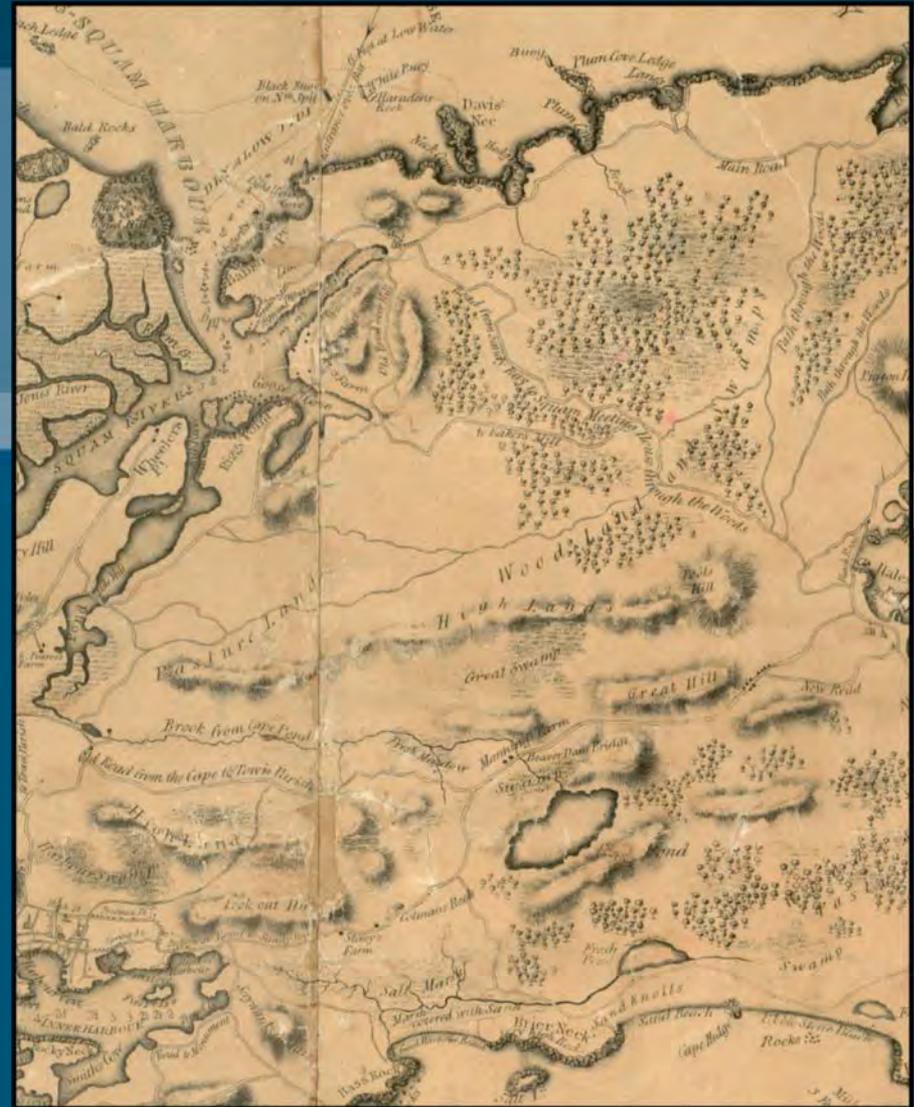


**A History of Preservation and
Progress Since 1982**

Public Archaeology Laboratory

Project Scope and Goals

Produce a detailed cultural and historical background for the approximately 3,000-acre Dogtown property in Gloucester and Rockport



1831 John Mason map of Gloucester;
Rockport was not incorporated as a separate
town until 1840

Project Scope and Goals



Establish and describe the historical and archaeological boundaries of the district, its contributing and non-contributing resources, and areas of significance through a comprehensive program of research and field survey

Project Scope and Goals



Produce a National Register nomination and archaeological reconnaissance survey report that meet all state and federal documentation standards by August 2018

Project Scope and Goals



Provide the City of Gloucester, the Town of Rockport, and concerned stakeholders with detailed information about the cultural heritage of Dogtown as a part of the larger goal to preserve and protect the property for the future

Project Funding

The archaeological and National Register documentation of the Dogtown National Register District is being funded by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) Survey and Planning Grant Program

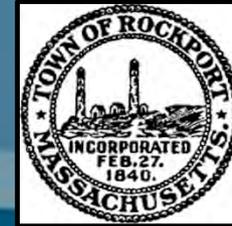
- Federally-funded, reimbursable, 50/50 matching grant program
- Designed to support historic preservation planning activities in communities throughout the state

Matching funds for the Dogtown project provided by the Dusky Foundation



Collaborative Effort

Municipal and State Organizations

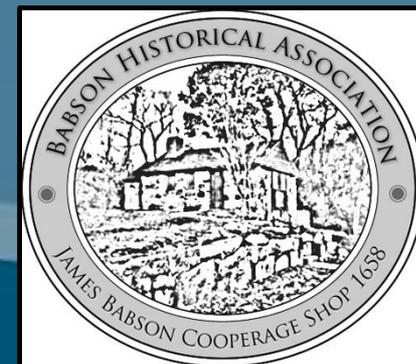


- **City of Gloucester and Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken**
- **Town of Rockport**
- **Massachusetts Historical Commission**
- **Gloucester Historical Commission (GHC)**
- **Rockport Historic District Commission/Historical Commission**
- **Dogtown Advisory Committee (DAC)**
- **Rockport Rights-of-Way**
- **Gloucester Open Space and Recreation Committee**

Collaborative Effort

Local and Regional Organizations

- Friends of Dogtown
- Cape Ann Trail Stewards
- Babson Museum and Historical Association
- New England Forestry Foundation
- Essex County Greenbelt
- Massachusetts Audubon
- Team Gloucester Running Club



Collaborative Effort

- Mary Ellen Lepionka and Bob Whitmarsh, Co-chairs, Bill Remsen, Local Project Coordinator (Gloucester Historical Commission)
- Mark Carlotto (Chair, DAC; Friends of Dogtown)
- Jim Ugone (Chair, Rockport Historic District Commission/Historical Commission)
- Mary Devaney (New England Forestry Foundation)
- Tom Mikus and Monica Lawton (Rockport Rights-of-Way)
- Dina Enos (DAC)
- Nick Holland (Cape Ann Trail Stewards)
- Steve Whittey (Team Gloucester Running Club)
- Eric Hutchins (NOAA Office of Habitat and Conservation)
- Ed Hand (Town of Rockport Planning Board)
- Peter Anastas
- Stephanie Buck (Librarian/Archivist, Cape Ann Museum)

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Kristen Heitert Senior Archaeologist

- **Project manager and primary point-of-contact for all Project-related communications**
- **Responsible for research and writing tasks associated with the district's history for inclusion in the reconnaissance survey report and National Register nomination**
- **Will focus on the identification, description, context development, and evaluation of known and potential post-contact (historical) archaeological resources and non-archaeological resources within the district**

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Dianna Doucette Senior Archaeologist



- Responsible for research and writing tasks associated with the prehistory of the district for inclusion in the reconnaissance survey report and National Register nomination
- Will draft the paleoenvironmental and existing conditions contexts for the Cape Ann region in general and the district in particular
- Will focus on the identification, description, context development, and evaluation of known and potential pre-contact (prehistoric) archaeological resources within the district

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Gretchen Pineo Architectural Historian



- Responsible for research and writing tasks associated with the preparation of the National Register documentation in collaboration with the senior archaeologists
- Will focus on the identification, description, context development, and evaluation of non-archaeological resources within the district
- Will provide technical expertise in the preparation of the National Register documentation in compliance with all NPS and MHC standards

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Jane Miller

Geographic Information System (GIS) Manager



- **Responsible for the technical mapping components for the archaeological reconnaissance survey and National Register documentation**
- **Will develop a web-based, GIS district map that can be continuously updated and refined with new information**
- **Will ensure that all digital and hardcopy map products conform to municipal formatting standards and meet established federal and state guidelines for National Register documentation**

Project Tasks Completed to Date

- **Preliminary Archival Research**
- **Development of Working Base Map for Recording Historic Properties and Defining District Boundaries**
- **Field Survey**

Archival Research

Information Sources

2007 MHC Inventory (Area) Form for Dogtown prepared by Shary Page Berg and Gretchen Schuler

- **Provides summary history and baseline boundary, resource, and significance information about the property**

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (*MACRIS*)

- **Publicly accessible, on-line database developed and maintained by the MHC that contains information on historic properties and areas in the Commonwealth**
- **Provides information about the types and number of cultural resources that have been identified in and around Dogtown**



Archival Research

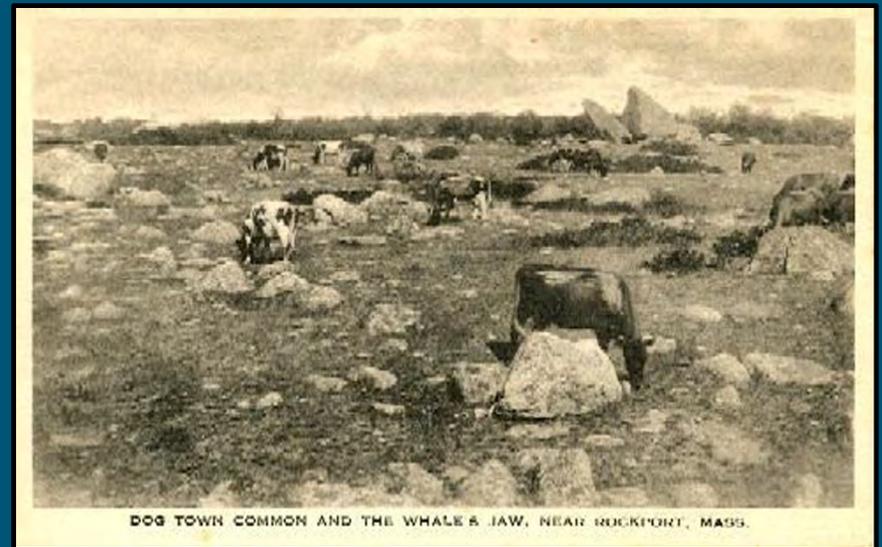
Information Sources

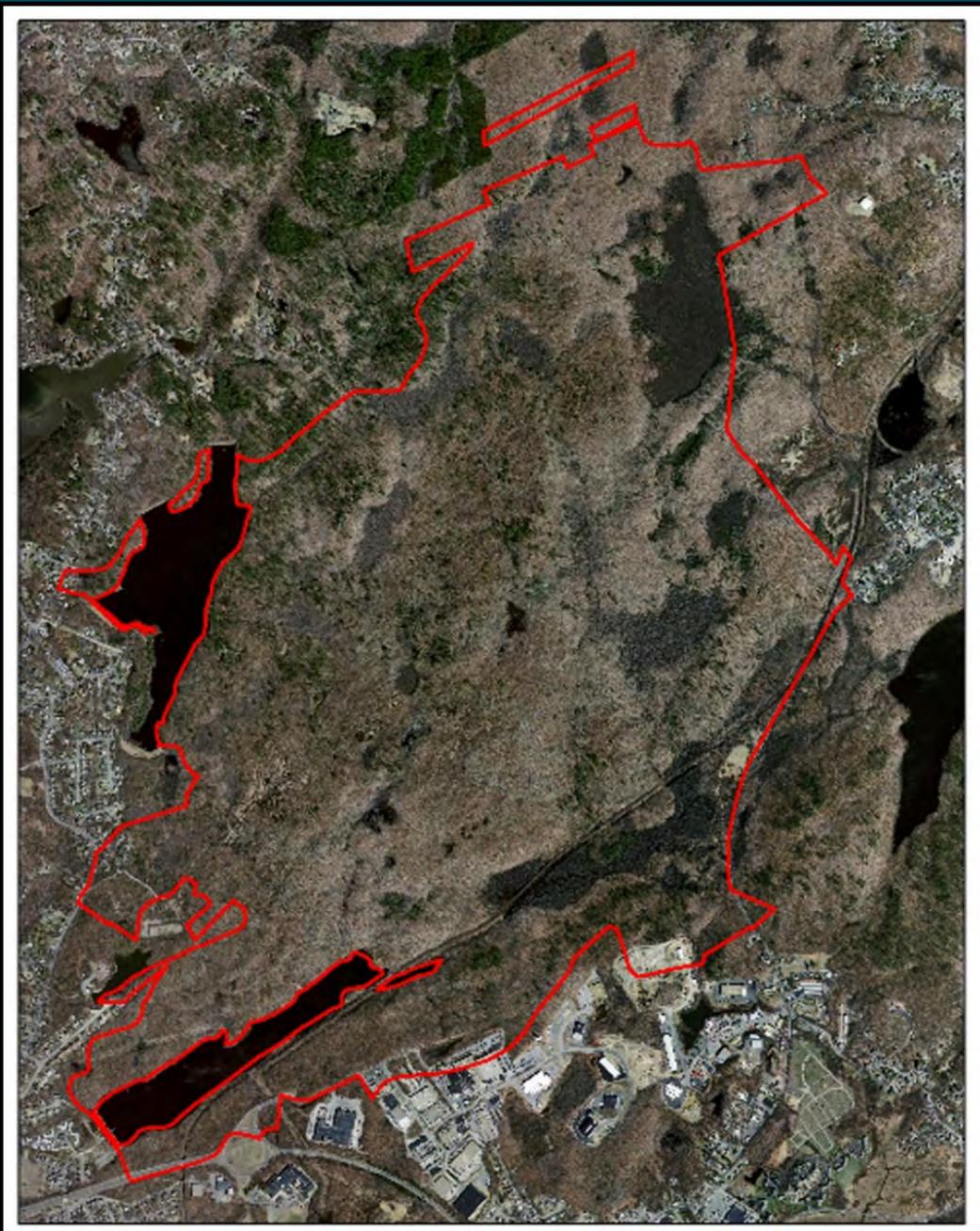
- **Previously published reports on the pre- and post-contact history and archaeology of Dogtown (e.g. Carlotto, Lepionka, Sucholeiki)**
- **Books, essays, and articles about the ecology, art, industry, legends and lore, and historical development of Cape Ann in general and Dogtown in particular**
- **Historical maps and photographs**
- **Municipal management plans**

Archival Research

Information Sources

- Gloucester Lyceum and Sawyer Free Library
- Gloucester City Archives
- Gloucester and Rockport Historical Commissions
- Rockport Public Library
- Cape Ann Museum
- Sandy Bay Historical Society
- Babson Museum
- Library of Congress
- Google Books
- Digital Commonwealth





Development of Project Base Map

Preliminary district
boundary derived
from 2016 set of
environmental
overlays produced
by Nick Holland of
the Cape Ann Trail
Stewards

Development of Project Base Map

Baseline resource information adapted from the DAC's web-based map and Carlotto's field survey data

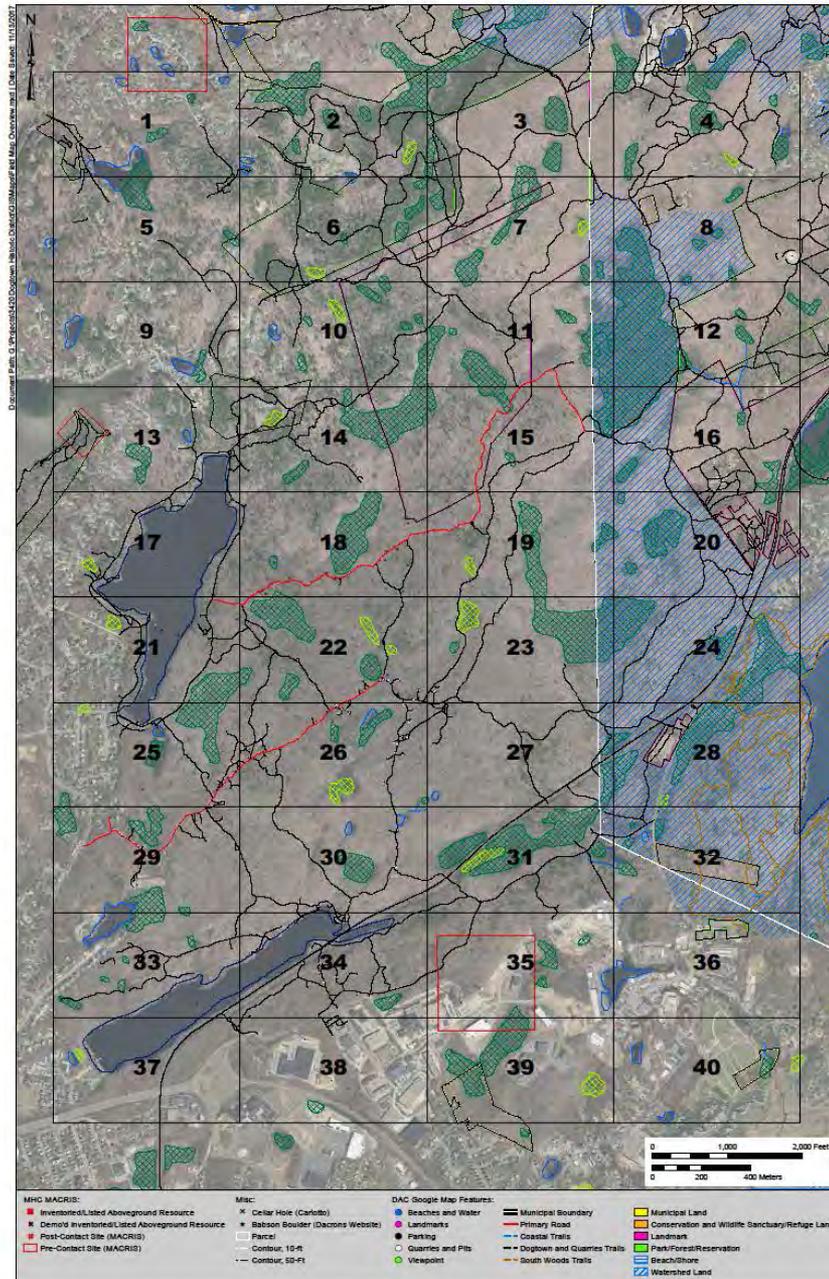
- Land types (watersheds, conservation and forestry lands)
- Trails
- Cellarholes
- Babson Boulders
- Stone Features
- Landmarks
- Views



Development of Project Base Map

Dynamic web-based interface will be overlaid with a range of data categories to refine the district boundary and record historic properties

- USGS topographic quadrangles
- Trail maps
- Wetlands and waterbodies
- USDA soils
- Topographic contours
- LIDAR data
- Existing cultural resources information derived from MACRIS
- Assessors data
- Historical and contemporary maps and aerial imagery



Initial Field Survey

November 14-16, 2017



- PAL's field orientation to Dogtown with guided tours of the Gloucester and Rockport portions of the property
- Opportunity to meet collaborating individuals and groups and discuss their specific interests in the Dogtown documentation process
- Designed to photograph and map Dogtown's best known resources

Dogtown Common

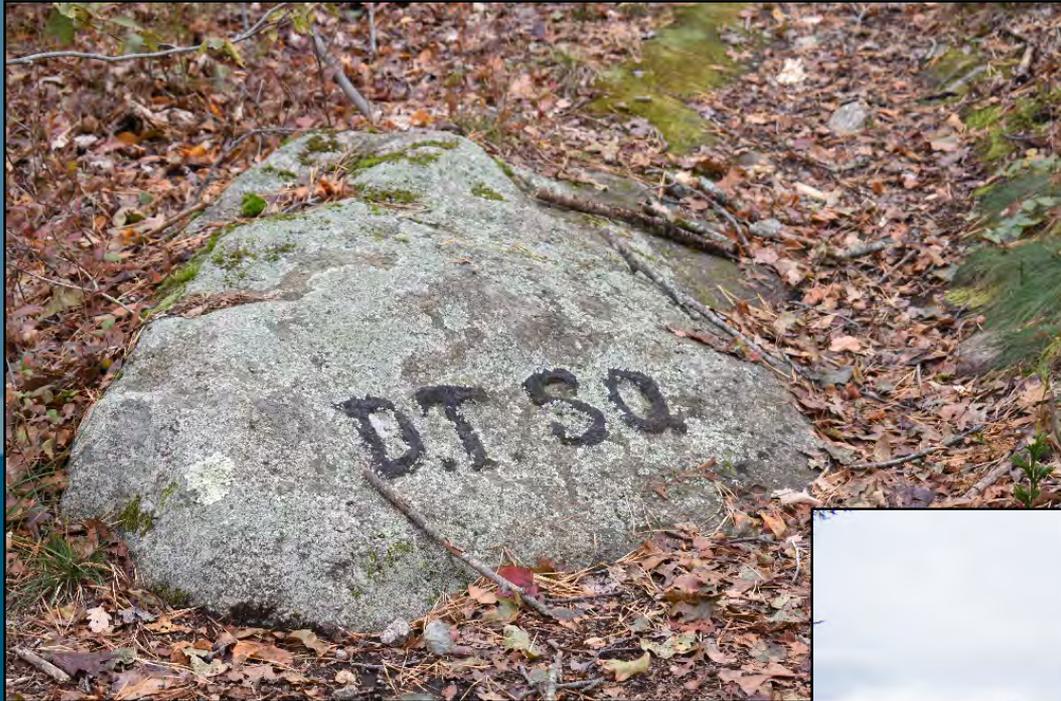


One of dozens of carved boulders marking the locations of former buildings and structures in Dogtown

Joseph Stevens
cellarhole, circa 1741



Dogtown Common

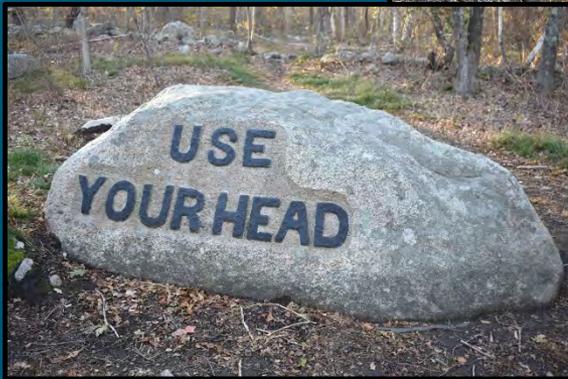
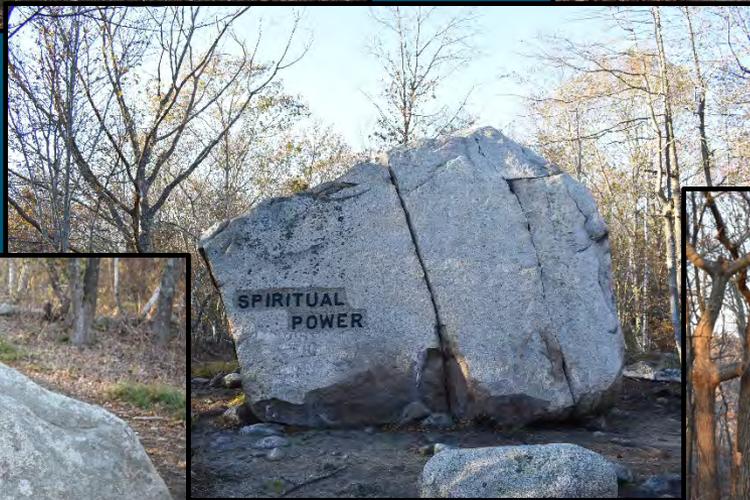
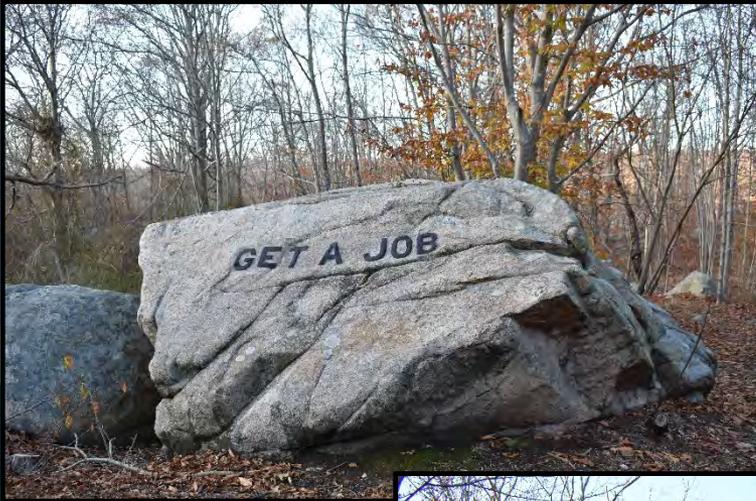


Boulder marking Dogtown Square

Site of William Hilton House /John Morgan Stanwood's cobbler shop (boo) submerged in Goose Cove Reservoir



Babson's Boulders



Monumental Stone Features



Peter's Pulpit



Whales Jaw



Raccoon Ledges

Iconic Artistic Views



View east up Dogtown
Road between Cellars
15 and 16



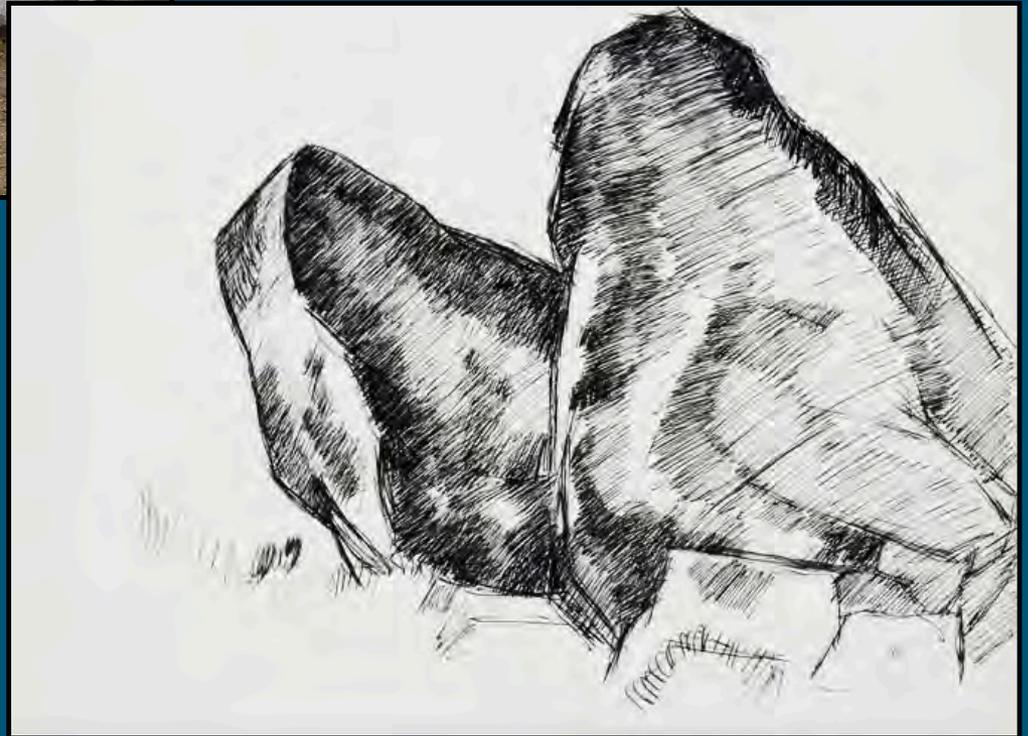
Summer Outward Bound, Gloucester
(1931)

Iconic Artistic Views



Blueberry Highway, Dogtown (1931)

Iconic Artistic Views



Goose Cove and Babson Reservoirs



West side of Goose Cover Reservoir



Babson Dam



View southwest down Babson Reservoir from Babson Boulder Trail

Granite Quarries and “Motions”



**Nickerson's Pit,
Rockport**



Motion in Rockport

Next Steps

- **Intensive archival research to identify areas and periods of significance for the district**
- **Supplemental field survey to document additional resources identified during research and to refine district boundaries**
- **Identification of contributing and non-contributing resources within district**
- **Production of National Register district documentation**
- **Production of archaeological reconnaissance survey report to document pre- and post-contact resources not included in the district nomination**

