

BASSING BEACH: A HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE 1968



Views of Bassing Beach from Government Island and Beacon Rock in 1968.

It was the intention and pledge of the Conservation Trust to keep the area as it was and to continue to allow residents of Cohasset and Scituate to use it as a recreation area.

Under the purchase agreement, and in line with the policies of the Trust, it was stated that there will be no commercial or residential development of the land.

Further, the Trust stated that an effort would be made to keep the area free of debris and to prevent any abuses that would infringe on the enjoyment of it by the public.

Did you “buy a bit of Bassing Beach?”

In 1968, Parker Schofield of Bailey Island in Scituate, offered the newly created Cohasset Conservation Trust the opportunity to buy 12.5 acres of Bassing Beach comprising the most attractive part of the land area of the spit on the condition that the purchase price be paid in full by July 31, 1968.

Then Trustees Ed Long, Hatherly Souther, Jack Hubbard, Ozzie Ingram and Dick Leggat decided to make an effort to acquire this important shore tract.

A down payment toward the total purchase price of \$7,500 was made from the Trust’s membership dues and contributions.

The remainder was raised from donors who were thanked with a ‘deed’ granting them *“An undivided interest in common with others in the enjoyment to be derived from the preservation of certain property abutting Cohasset Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean known as Bassing Beach, in its natural state for the benefit of this and future generations.”* An example of the certificate issued is pictured below.

