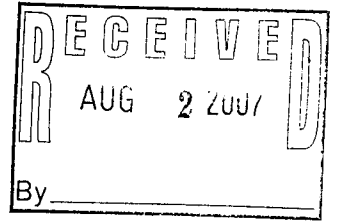




*Town of Edgartown
The Planning Board
P. O. Box 1065
Edgartown, Massachusetts 02539*

*Telephone (508) 627-6170
Fax (508) 627-6128*



August 1, 2007

Martha's Vineyard Commission
Attention: Ms. JoAnn Taylor
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

RE: ATTACHED DCPC NOMINATION
5 NEW PATHS PROPOSED FOR DESIGNATION

Dear Ms. Taylor:

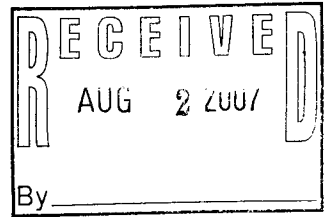
Attached is the DCPC nomination to add five new paths or ancient ways to Article XIV.2.2. Special Ways of the Edgartown zoning bylaws.

On July 31st the Planning Board reviewed their May 22nd decision and decided that the wording of the existing special ways bylaws needs to be modified to take into account the differences among the five new nominated ways and to ensure that property owners' rights are considered.

The Planning Board looks forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Roger G. Becker
Chairman



DCPC NOMINATION

Instructions

Please review Appendix "Critical Planning District Qualifications" prior to completion of the nomination. Only nominations in accordance with the "Critical Planning District Qualifications" will be considered.

Sponsors are encouraged to contact the Commission's DCPC Coordinator (Jo-Ann Taylor, 505-693-3453, Extension 19, taylor@mvcommission.org) prior to completing and submitting the nomination.

Please answer all questions as completely and concisely as possible, using additional sheets as necessary.

Include a locus map with proposed boundaries shown on an appropriate base, such as the town assessors' maps or a section of the most recent U.S.G.S. 1:25,000-scale topographic map.

If the sponsor is a town board or the Commission, include signature below and a copy of the vote.

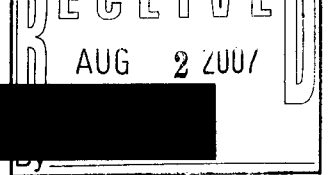
If a taxpayer petition is included, include tax collector(s) verification for 75 signatures.

Submit the signed nomination, in person or by certified mail, to Martha's Vineyard Commission, Olde Stone Building, New York Avenue, P.O. Box 1447, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557.

SIGNATURES: If the sponsor is a town Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission or Board of Health, or the Martha's Vineyard Commission, the appropriate officer of such board shall sign his or her name below. Attach a copy of the vote.

	CHAIRMAN, PLANNING BOARD	8/1/07
Name	Title	Date

IF THE NOMINATION IS BY PETITION, SEE ACCOMPANYING PETITION SIGNATURE PAGE.



NOMINATION INFORMATION

NAME AND ADDRESS of the nominating board (Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Martha's Vineyard Commission) or a signatory of the taxpayers' petition. All correspondence will be directed to the sponsor whose name and address appears here:

Name: Edgartown Planning Board
 Address: Town Hall, 70 Main Street, P.O. Box 1065, Edgartown, MA 02539
 Phone: (508) 627-6170
 Fax: (508) 627-6123
 e-mail: edgplan@vineyard.net

NAME AND LOCATION (TOWN OR TOWNS) OF PROPOSED DISTRICT:

Edgartown, Massachusetts

AREA PROPOSED FOR DESIGNATION:

Describe the location of the proposed district, referencing any distinguishable landmarks, structures, roads, assessors' map and parcel numbers, etc. which may act as boundary limits. If appropriate, give measurements in feet. Attach a locus map with proposed boundaries shown on an appropriate base, such as the town assessors' maps or a section of the most recent U.S.G.S. 1:25,000-scale topographic map. The proposed boundaries should be delineated as accurately as possible, both on the attached locus maps and in the narrative.

Within twenty feet of the center line of Ben Tom's Road: Begins at the north side of Edgartown-West Tisbury Road between Edgartown Assessors' Map 23 Lot 6 and Edgartown Assessor's Map 21 Lot 96 northwesterly and northerly following the west fork to Pennywise Path along the south border of Edgartown Assessors' Map 21 Lot 169.

Within twenty feet of the center line of Middle Line Path: Begins at Ben Tom's Road at the easternmost point of Edgartown Assessors' Map 21 Lot 133.1 and runs northwesterly until it merges with Pennywise Path at the westernmost point of Edgartown Assessors' Map 22 Lot 125.20.

Within twenty feet of the center line of Pennywise Path: Begins at the intersection of Tar Kiln Road and Three Cornered Rock Road easterly to the Vineyard Haven-Edgartown Road at northwestern point of Edgartown Assessors' Map 21 Lot 148.1.

Within twenty feet of the center line of Tar Kiln Path: Begins at the Manuel Correllus State Forest between Edgartown Assessors' Map 10 Lot 96 and Edgartown Assessors' Map 11 Lot 1.143 running east to its intersection with Three Cornered Rock Road in the interior of Edgartown Assessors' Map 11 Lot 86.1.

Within twenty feet of the center line of Watcha Path: Begins at the northeast point of Edgartown Assessors' Map 40 Lot 4.2 and runs southwest to the West Tisbury town line.

NEED FOR DESIGNATION

Please review Appendix "Critical Planning District Qualifications" before continuing. The Martha's Vineyard Commission will only consider proposals warranting designation in accordance with the "Qualifications".

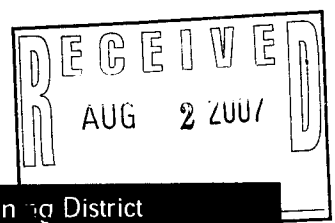
A. Indicate the type of district that is proposed (See Appendix "Critical Planning District Qualifications"). Nominations may include more than one category:

- 1. Drinking Water Resource District
- 2. Fishing Resource District
- 3. Farming Resource District
- 4. Wildlife, Natural, Scientific or Ecological Resource District
- 5. Cultural or Historic Resource District
- 6. Economic or Development Resource District
- 7. Major Public Investment District
- 8. Hazardous District

B. Referring to the SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS (See Appendix "Critical Planning District Qualifications"), explain why you feel that this area would warrant designation. Use additional sheets as necessary.

These five ancient ways each date back to 1600s and 1700s. As with many cart paths of the period, some likely traced over paths established by the native Wampanoags. Middle Line Path and Pennywise Path were both significant enough that they were used to define some of the earliest set offs of land to individuals. Tar Kiln Road is a reminder of the Island's nautical past, named for the important colonial industry of extracting pitch from pine trees for use in waterproofing ship hulls. Watcha Path skipped along the upper reaches of the south shore great ponds.

In addition to being visible reminders of how previous generations of Vineyarders have gotten around the Island and which places were significant to connect, today these ancient ways are enjoyed recreationally. They provide neighborhoods with paths to enjoy the outdoors and to exercise. They also link neighborhoods and provide an alternative to using automobiles for some trips. The interconnection of most of the ancient ways with other Special Ways and paths enables people to take longer excursions into other towns.



C. Referring to the **GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS** (See Appendix "Critical Planning District Qualifications"), please answer as simply as possible the following: (Use additional sheets as necessary)

1. Why is this resource or area important to more than one town or to the Island as a whole?
2. What are the problems associated with the uncontrolled or inappropriate development of the area?
3. What kind of development would be advantageous within the proposed district?

1. Why is this resource or area important to more than one town or to the Island as a whole?

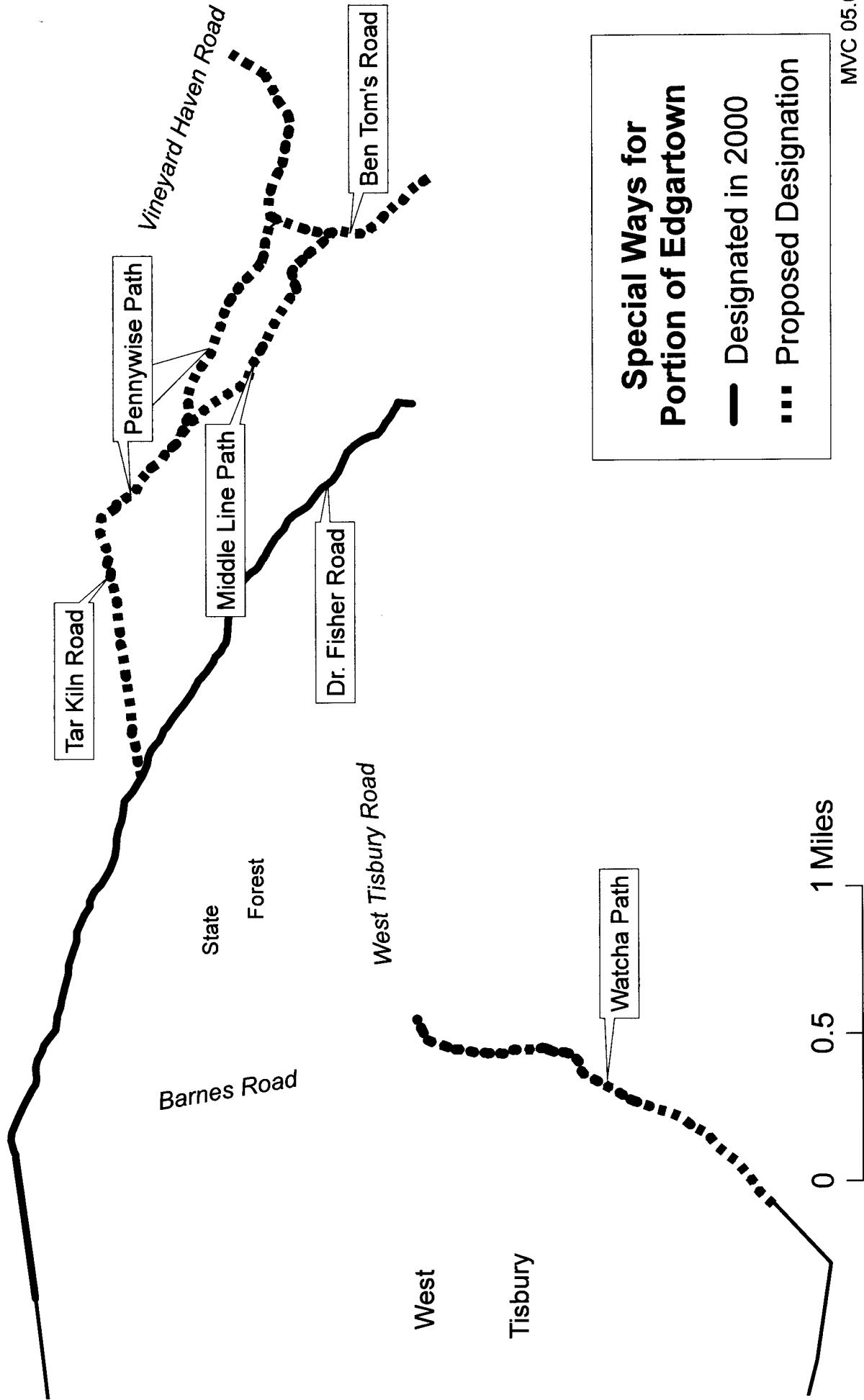
These ancient ways are artifacts from the Island's past. While the recorded historical references of these ancient ways apply to the European settlement of the Vineyard, many are presumed to have been established by Native Americans. Watcha Path is the only east-west route south of the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road and is an important walking and horseback-riding route. West Tisbury protected its portion of Watcha Path by designating it a Special Way in 1990. The interconnection of these ancient ways combine to allow users to travel extended distances – even to ancient ways and paths in other towns – that does not require using a motor vehicle. On the contrary, retention of these ancient ways fosters exercise and enjoyment of the outdoors, by visitors as well as residents.

2. What are the problems associated with the uncontrolled or inappropriate development of the area.

Watcha Path and Pennywise Path are telling examples of what development can do to these ancient ways. Both paths have segments that are well traveled by automobiles and other segments that receive little or no vehicular traffic. Over time, the former have been widened between 12 and 20 feet and land has been subdivided fronting the paths. There is little if anything distinguishing these traveled segments from any other recently created dirt road in Edgartown or on Martha's Vineyard. On the other hand, vegetated, 8-foot wide, two-track "roads" or even narrower pathways that oftentimes are bounded by natural vegetation buffering any nearby development characterize segments not regularly traveled. Unchecked continued expansion of development along these ancient ways would forever erase the visual reminders they hold of the Island's past.

3. What kind of development would be advantageous within the proposed district?

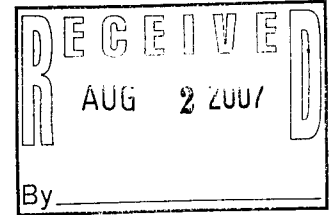
Existing residential neighborhoods are bordered by some of these ancient ways and are well served by the recreational opportunity they provide. If the ways are to be used by occupants of additional homes, the ways would not be compromised as long as new development complied with the provisions of the district. There is also a fair amount of conserved green space along some of the ancient ways that allows both abutting landowners and users of the ways to enjoy the outdoors.





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Town of Edgartown
The Planning Board
P. O. Box 1065
Edgartown, Massachusetts 02539



August 2, 2007

Martha's Vineyard Commission
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

**RE: Attestation of Vote of the Planning Board
To Nominate 5 new ancient ways as Special Ways
under Article XIV.2.2. of the Edgartown Zoning Bylaws**

Dear Commissioners:

On May 22, 2007 at a duly posted public hearing, the Edgartown Planning Board unanimously voted to nominate five new ancient ways to be added to the existing special ways bylaws Article XIV.2.2 and to refer the nomination to the Martha's Vineyard Commission.

On July 31, 2007 at a public meeting, a majority of the Edgartown Planning Board voted to attach a letter to the nomination stating that "the wording of the existing special ways bylaws need to be modified to take into account the differences among the five new nominated ways and to ensure that property owners' rights are considered."

I certify that the above is a true statement of the actions of the Planning Board.

Georgiana Greenough
Georgiana Greenough
Assistant, Edgartown Planning Board

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

County of Dukes County, ss

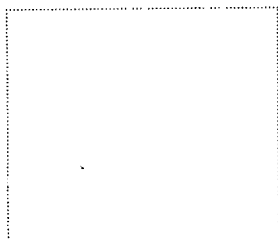
2 August, 2007

Then personally appeared before me the above named Georgiana Greenough, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification which was _____, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same as his/her free act and deed.

PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF IDENTITY

Mia C. [Signature]

Notary Public



My commission expires: 11 May 2012