NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: The Ocean Gate Yacht Club
LOCATION: Foot of Ocean Gate Avenue
MUNICIPALITY: Ocean Gate
USGS QUAD: 
OWNER/ADDRESS: 

COMMON NAME: BLOCK/LOT 27/1290-A
COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION
Construction Date: 1911-1912
Source of Date: Ocean Gate, New Jersey 1918 - 1968.
Builder:
Architect:
Style: vernacular Colonial Revival
Form/Plan Type: modified pavilion plan
Number of Stories: 1

Foundation:
Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Fenestration: 5 bay - triple 6/6 windows in dormer, 9/1 along the first floor
Roof/Chimneys: hipped

Additional Architectural Description:

There is a central gabled dormer with near-continuous fenestration which functions as a light well for the large central hall within. There are central double entrance doors, a screened shed front porch and an addition to the west.
SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Ocean Gate Yacht Club is directly on the waterfront and at the foot of the borough's major street. It is the borough's focal point. A boardwalk which follows the river extends in front of the structure.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☐ Scattered Buildings ☐ Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☑ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐ Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☑ major street

(see #1522-2) / waterfront

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Ocean Gate Yacht Club is among the charter members of the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association, and its 1910 incorporation pre-dates the formation of the borough of Ocean Gate, thereby indicating its importance to the community. The Yacht Club structure is typical of early yacht clubs of this area. Photographs document that the building's present appearance is nearly identical to its original form and it may be unique in the county on that basis.

ORIGINAL USE: Yacht Club
PRESENT USE: Yacht Club

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☑ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☑ Possible ☐ No ☐ Part of District ☐ Local
THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐ significance
No Threat ☑ Other ☐

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

50th Anniversary Book Committee, Ocean Gate, New Jersey 1918 - 1968.

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

DATE: July 1981
STREET NAME: Ocean Gate Avenue  CROSS STREETS: Avalon, Chelsea, Longport, Bayview, Lakewood, Long Branch, and Atlantic Avenues
MUNICIPALITY: Ocean Gate  COUNTY: Ocean

DESCRIPTION/SIGNIFICANCE:

Ocean Gate Avenue runs in a north-south direction beginning at the Toms River and extending into Berkeley Township. The commercial district here is concentrated in the six northermost blocks. At the foot of the street is the Ocean Gate Yacht Club (#1522-1), a pivotal structure which can be readily seen from all points of the streetscape; the boardwalk extends before it. On either side of the Avenue is a mixture of residential/commercial buildings from 1½ to 2½ stories high. Most have their roofs oriented to the street, and most are of clapboard, although brick and decorative masonry blocks are used as well. Most of the commercial buildings are characterized by flat facades and close proximity to the street. However, due to the back-and-forth conversion of many structures here (from residence to commercial to residence again) there is not always a clearcut distinction. The Anchor Inn and Kiesel's old hotel (#1523-L3), now a rooming house, are the dominant structures here.

There is considerable open space between some of the structures, due to some demolition, lack of development, and space for residential front yards. A large open area marks the area of the old railroad tracks, and an open field behind the Post Office (west side) indicates the old athletic field.

The streetscape is significant in that it was an intentional and concentrated commercial area which provided an autonomy to the summer communities here.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 30
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF BUILDINGS: Excellent ___ % Good ___ % Fair ___ % Poor ___ %
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ___ Possible ___ No X Part of Larger District ___
THREATS TO STREET: Roads ___ Development ___ Zoning ___ Deterioration ___ No Threat ___ Other ___

The streetscape has significance as a planned commercial center on the River's south bank.

MAP:  SLIDES:  REFERENCES:


RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik  DATE: July 1981
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission
1522-2
Ocean Gate Avenue
Ocean Gate
July 1981
View: Northeast

1522-2
Ocean Gate Avenue
Ocean Gate
July 1981
View: Northeast

1522-2
Ocean Gate Avenue
Ocean Gate
July 1981
View: Southeast
Ocean Gate Schoolhouse / Arverne Avenue

1½ story, 3 bay, stucco, hipped roof, Contractor's Georgian style, c.1914. Central entrance with gabled portico; sidelights and transom; 2/2 windows. This was the original 1 room schoolhouse (later expanded to 2 rooms) in the Borough. It was renovated by the Mease family in honor of the late Mayor, Warren Mease, and presented to the Borough. It is now the kindergarten building.

Old Train Station / Municipal Shed / Arverne Avenue

1 story, 4 bay, german siding, gable roof parallel to street, asymmetrical massing, 2/2 windows, c.1910. The station has been moved from its original site but is still intact.
Hotel Kiesel / Ocean Gate Avenue

3 story, 5 bay, asbestos shingle siding, mansard roof, c.1915. The hipped front porch has been infilled with jalousies with radiating windows above; central entrance door marked with an aluminum canopy; 1/1 windows.

Ocean Gate Methodist Church / Asbury and Bayview Avenues

1½ stories, 3 bay, asphalt shingle siding and plastic siding over cast cement block foundation, 1/1 non-pictorial stained glass windows with pointed arch above, asymmetrical entrance tower with louvered belfry, 1924. The structure is distinguished by its tripartite lancet window on the west facade; its extremely high basement level with central (secondary) entrance; and its curved apse projection to the rear. The first Methodist Church here began around 1909. Early ministers are said to have rowed across from Island Heights.
1522-L5

Ocean Gate Municipal Building / 151 East Longport Avenue

3 story, 5 bay (2 sections), asbestos shingle siding over cast cement block elevated basement, 1/1 windows, c.1915. Northeast diagonal corner. This building had originally been a boarding house.

1522-L6

Comfort Station/ Wildwood Avenue at the Riverfront Beach.

1 story, 3 bay, vertical board over cast cement block foundation, hipped roof with exposed rafter tails, c.1915. There are internal entrance windows. A landmark clock projects from the roof. This comfort station was among the early improvements authorized by the Borough government.
Ocean Gate Boardwalk

The Ocean Gate Boardwalk is one mile in length, and was first constructed in 1924. It was the only boardwalk along the Toms River at that time and remains one of few today. Two public piers extend from the walk, which follows the line of the river for the entire extent of the town, and several small pavilions, constructed by the Ladies Civic Club of Ocean Gate, provide sheltered rest areas. The boardwalk is an important artery of the town and preserves a non-commercial public beach area.

Ocean Gate Lighthouse / Riverfront

The exact, small-scale replica of Barnegat Light was erected in the 1970s by former Mayor Floyd W. Mease, and has become a landmark of the Borough. It marks the point where Jeffrey's Creek ("the duck pond") flows into the Toms River.