A watercolor illustration of a coastal village. In the foreground, a sandy beach meets a body of water with several small wooden boats. A stone wall is visible on the left. In the middle ground, there are several houses, including a prominent white one with a red roof and a grey one with blue shutters. The background is filled with lush green trees and rolling hills. The overall style is soft and painterly.

**Memories of Bay View**  
**Gloucester, MA**  
By Deborah (Marchant) Morris

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### **ABOUT THE COVER ART**

The background art on the cover is an original watercolor "Looking toward Little Beach" by Lester G. Hornby; owned by the author.

### **PHOTO CREDITS**

All photos are from the private collection of Deborah Marchant Morris unless otherwise noted.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Deborah is a collector of Bay View memorabilia. She graduated from Gloucester High School in 1970 and now lives in Duluth, GA.



# Memories of Bay View Gloucester, MA

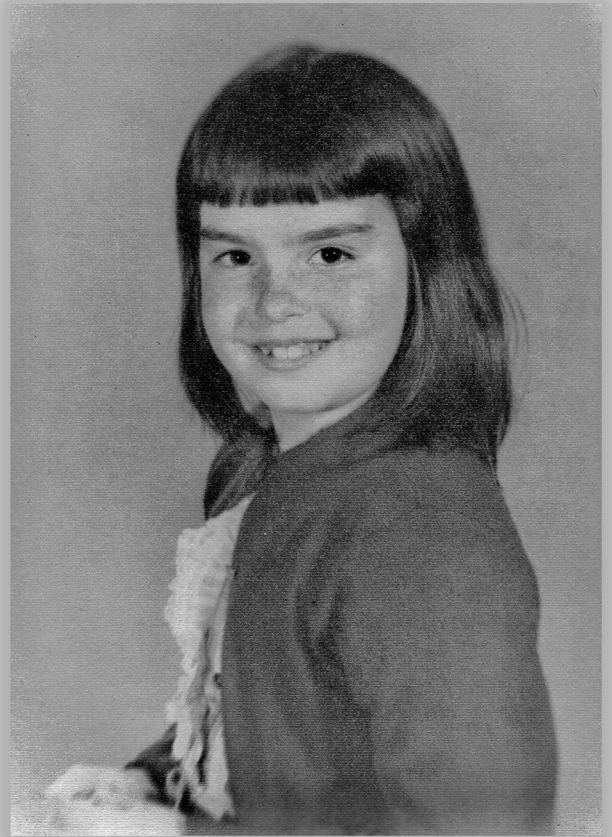
BY DEBORAH (MARCHANT) MORRIS

I grew up on Quarry Street, and my childhood memories are many. Swimming at Little Beach with neighborhood friends, catching horseshoe crabs and gathering periwinkles that we boiled and ate with safety pins. Digging for clams. Diving from Big Rock and collecting sand dollars at Sargent's Beach – watch out for the sand bar as the water level goes from waist-high to over your head in one step! Catching rays at Plum Cove Beach – who said that baby oil would result in skin cancer later in life – the tan was worth it at the time.

Breathtaking sunsets on Ipswich Bay. Climbing over the gate to swim with the eels in the Quarry Street pits and hiding when the Dept. of Public Works foreman (my dad, Jackie Marchant) showed up. Fishing from the Consolidated Lobster Company wharf and smashing those ugly Monk fish off our hooks in the parking lot.

Eating lobster from my dad's lobster pots - he cooked, picked, and delivered the delicious ready-to-eat morsels. Clearing the snow off Shawno's pond to ice skate. Sledding on metal flying saucers. Blueberrying in nearby woods and selling the berries for 50 cents a pint. Making candle holders to sell from birch logs and decorating them with greens, bittersweet and berries collected in the woods – all for a few bucks. Pie socials at the Bay View Brotherhood Club – walking the circle and landing on the called number to win a homemade baked item. Halloween parties at the Bay View Methodist Church – bobbing for apples and not worrying about sharing germs with the children who bobbed before you.

Sitting on the walls in front of Vicari's Variety Store enjoying penny candy and Twin Lights tonic. Buying snacks at Vicari's Package & Grocery Store – heaven help you if you entered through the package store door as Bat, the owner, could be pretty crotchety! Catching the big black salamanders with yellow spots under rocks - mini dinosaurs. Being chased by the watchdog geese at Shawno's Junk Yard. Walking the Ames estate wall. Shoveling snow and cutting grass for \$5.00 – per job, not hour. Babysitting for 50 cents an hour – per job, not child.



The author, Deborah (Marchant) Morris, circa 1960.

Reflecting back, I realize just how lucky I was to grow up in Bay View during the 1950s-60s. While everyone knew everyone else's business, it was also a very close community where everyone knew and looked out for one another. We spent all our free time outside and had freedoms and fun that children today don't enjoy. If I close my eyes, I can remember the smell of the ocean, the soft ocean breezes, and the lapping of the waves - joy to my soul and a smile to my face. While I moved away years ago Bay View will always be my heart's happy place.



On left is Raymond O'Connell, owner of the CLC of Gloucester with his pilot. CLC was said to be the first company to deliver lobsters by plane. At the wharf in Bay View, 1934.





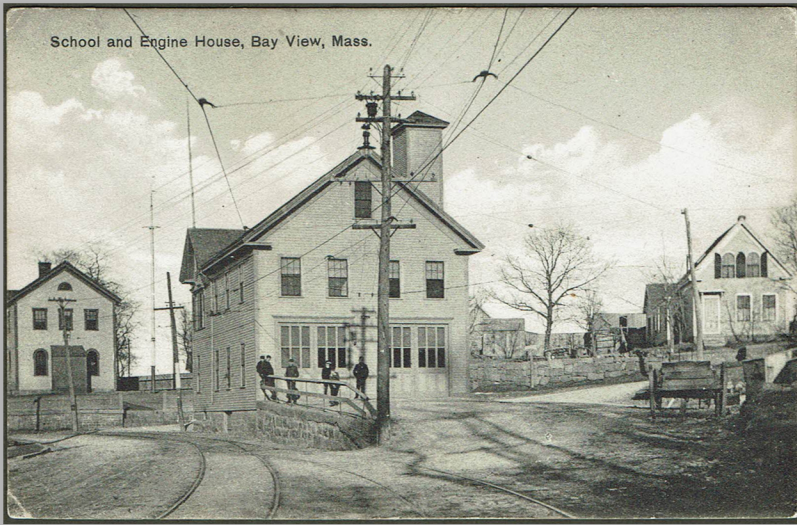
Locomotive owned by Rockport Granite Company. Probably on tracks near Quarry Street, 1901.

Location of Cape Ann Granite Company, circa 1870.



Marchant residence at 947 Washington Street built on land purchased for \$300 in 1871.





School and Engine House, Bay View, Mass.

The former Bradstreet School at the intersection of Briarwood and Washington Street, circa late 1800s or early 1900s.

The High Line House restaurant on Washington Street (in the 1950s or 1960s) which burned in a big fire.



The High Line House restaurant on Washington Street (in the 1950s or 1960s) which burned in a big fire.



Postcard of Bay View Methodist Episcopal Methodist church, 1916.