



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: CHATHAM SITES

Chatham boasts some of the best preserved historic homes and buildings, culminating in the 2007 Distinctive Destinations Award by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The following locations are listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

- **Old Village Historic District:** National Register of Historic Places 2001
Established in 2001, the Old Village District protects more than 300 historic properties - approximately 85% of its structures - from demolition and substantial alteration. Residents work cooperatively to protect the oldest section of town.
- **South Chatham Historic District:** National Register of Historic Places 2022
Extending eastward from the Harwich town line along Main Street, the district developed in the 18th and 19th centuries as a maritime and farming village.
- **Chatham Lighthouse:** National Register of Historic Places 1987
37 Main St., Chatham
Considered the iconic landmark of the town, the Chatham Light stands 48 feet tall and 80 feet above sea level overlooking the infamous Chatham Bar. It is one of the few lighthouses in America that still operates 24 hours a day.
- **Godfrey Windmill:** National Register of Historic Places 1978
Chase Park, Chatham
Built by Colonel Benjamin Godfrey in 1797, the Mill remains almost exactly as it was when it was grinding corn for early Chatham residents. The Mill is located near Chase Park, off Shattuck place, just a short walk from the downtown Main Street. It is a prime example of a post-Revolutionary War commercial venture that served the community for more than one-hundred years.
- **Chatham Railroad Museum:** National Register of Historic Places 1978
153 Depot Rd., Chatham, Phone: 508-945-5780
The Chatham Railroad Museum is located in the old Chatham Railroad Company station on Depot Road. The building is now over 130 years old and on the original site. A striking example of Victorian-era architecture, the railroad depot was the stepping off – and on – point for riders of the old Chatham Railroad, which served the
- **Eldredge Public Library:** National Register of Historic Places 1992
564 Main St., Chatham, Phone: 508-945-5170
The Eldredge Public Library was a gift to the people of Chatham from one of its natives, Marcellus Eldredge. The Library was dedicated in formal ceremonies on July 4, 1896.
- **Marconi-RCA Wireless Museum:** National Register of Historic Places 1994
847 Orleans Rd., N. Chatham, Phone: (508) 945-8889
Built for Guglielmo Marconi in 1914, the 11.3-acre, 10-building Chatham Marconi Maritime Center campus of distinctive structures has been preserved by the Town of Chatham and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Marconi's Wireless Receiving Station was initially part of his visionary global network planned to link America with Europe and Japan. Today, the Operations and Residence Hotel buildings serve respectively as CMMC's museum and Education Center.



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- **The Brick Block:** National Register of Historic Places 1979
The 1-1/2 story English Revival structure at the junction of Main Street and Chatham Bars Avenue in downtown Chatham was built in 1914 by Joseph Nickerson, a master mason, to a design by Boston architect Harvey Bailey Alden. It originally housed shops on the first floor and residences on the upper floor.
- **Port Royal House:** National Register of Historic Places 1982
The two-story wood-frame house was built in 1863 by Seth Eldredge, a ship's captain. The Italianate villa was reportedly based on a house in Port Royal, Jamaica seen by Captain Eldredge, who acquired its plans and had it copied. The home is private property on Seaview Street at "the triangle" just off Main Street in downtown Chatham.
- **Old Harbor Life Saving Station:** National Register of Historic Places 1975
Built in Chatham in 1897, the station was operated by the U.S. Coast Guard, and its precursor the U.S. Life-Saving Service, until it was decommissioned in July 1944. The building was later obtained by the National Park Service, and in November 1977, it was moved by barge to Provincetown.
- **Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge Kelley House:** National Register of Historic Places 2005
The Mercelia Evelyn Eldridge Kelley House was built in 1877 and has vernacular Italianate styling. It is significant for its association with the Eldridge family, who were major landowners in South Chatham and promoted its development. The home is private property located on Main Street in the South Chatham National Register District.
- **Monomoy Point Lighthouse:** National Register of Historic Places 1979
The Monomoy Point Lighthouse is located on the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, at the south end of Monomoy. It is no longer an active lighthouse. The property is accessible only by boat.
- **Louis Brandeis House:** National Register of Historic Places 1972
The summer home of Justice Louis Brandeis, Associate Justice on the US Supreme Court from 1916 to 1939. The home is private property on Stage Neck near Oyster River and not visible from the street.