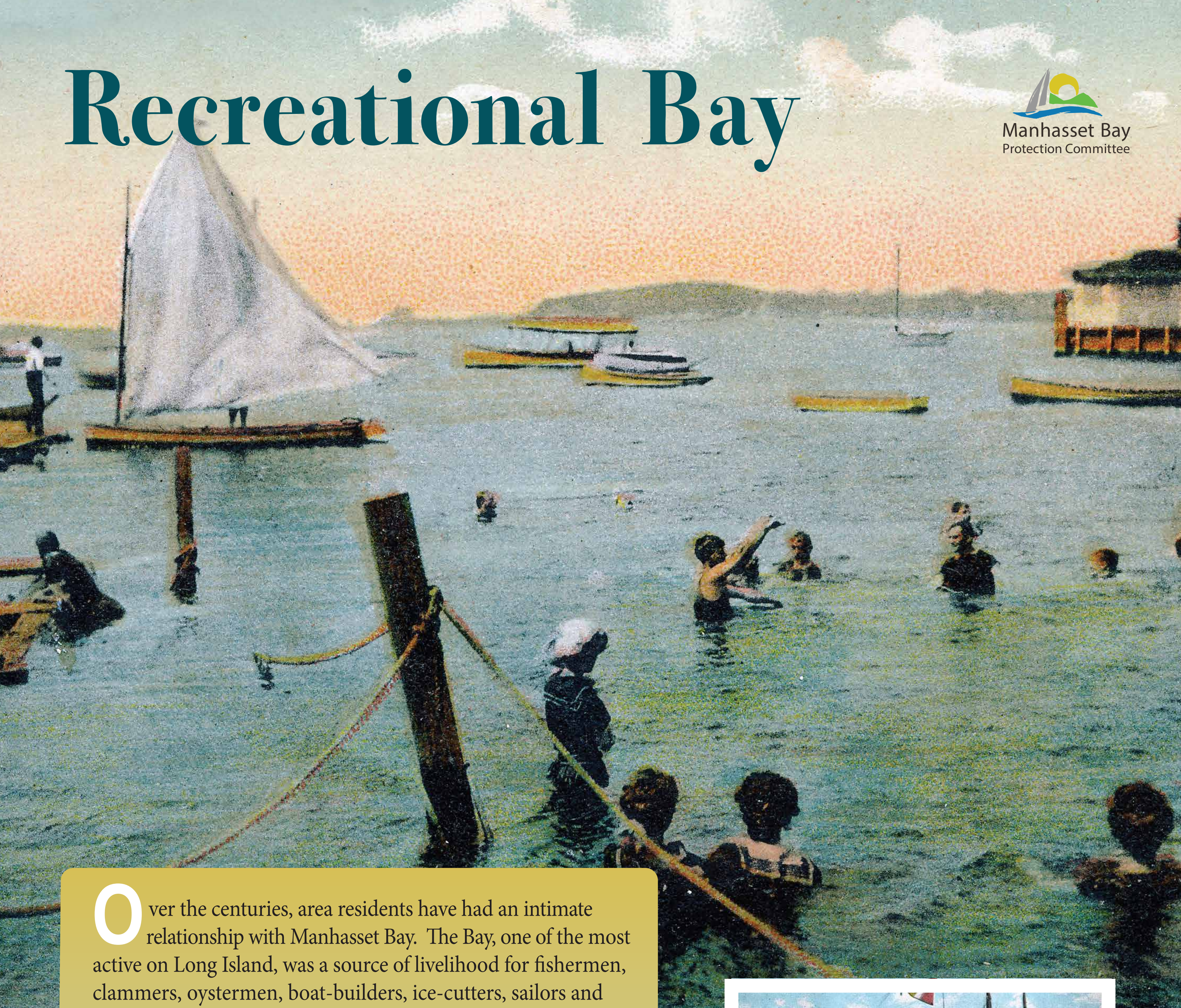


Recreational Bay



Over the centuries, area residents have had an intimate relationship with Manhasset Bay. The Bay, one of the most active on Long Island, was a source of livelihood for fishermen, clammers, oystermen, boat-builders, ice-cutters, sailors and shippers. Many children learned to sail and fish on the Bay at an early age.

The transformation from a traditional working harbor into a recreational one began in the late 19th-century, as wealthy industrialists bought land and built mansions overlooking the Bay. Yacht clubs founded by these patrons began a tradition of yachting regattas and competitions still active today. After World War II, an influx of new residents brought prosperity to boatyards and marinas as more people bought sailboats and motorboats for recreation. Watersports such as swimming, fishing, sailing, and boating became pastimes enjoyed by increasing numbers of sportsmen and beach-goers.

Today, the Bay is as thriving and busy as ever. Not only is it a safe and scenic recreational resource shared and loved by all, but an environmental jewel that is a nursery for fish and wildlife.

The work of the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee would not be possible without cooperation and assistance from the NYS Dept. of State, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, the Long Island Sound Study, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and NY Sea Grant.



Manhasset Yacht Club c. 1920



(Above) Powerboat racing in 1928
(Main image) Beach-goers, early 20th century

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