

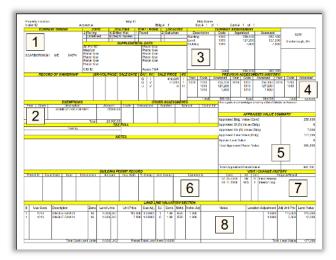


How to Interpret Your Property Card

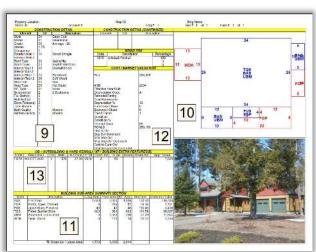
OBJECTIVE: At first glance, the real estate assessment Property Card (a/k/a "Field Card") can be intimidating. There is a wealth of information that can be difficult to decipher for someone who does not work in real estate. However, this guide was designed to educate those who wish to understand the layout and content of the Town of Scarborough Property Card.

BACKGROUND: The Town of Scarborough uses the Vision Appraisal Computer-Assisted-Mass-Appraisal, or CAMA, system for maintaining property information and for developing the real estate market model. The Property Card has two sides of critical information, most of which contribute to the value to your assessment, including land values; the quantity and quality of construction elements and condition of your home; and descriptions of features both inside and outside your home like a shed or barn or detached garage etc.

FRONT SIDE



BACK SIDE



The front side of the card contains a number of elements that are used to describe and value the property. Examples include:

- **Current Owner and Record of Ownership**, this includes the relevant owner names, deed book and page reference, sale date, and price.
- **Exemptions**, lists any exemptions you are receiving such as a Homestead, Veteran's, or Blind Person's property tax exemption. These exemptions reduce the taxable value of your property.
- Appraised Value Summary, totals the Building, Extra Features, Outbuilding, and Land value.

The back side of the card contains construction details, building sketch and photo, outbuildings and extra features, etc.

In the following pages, each major component of the record card is explained in detail.

FRONT SIDE: The information on the front side of the Property Card (a/k/a "Field Card") is legal and historical data about ownership, past sales of the property, previous assessments, inspection history, and current land valuation details. (The areas of the card described below correspond with the number on the sample card attached).

Section 1: Current Owner/Record of Ownership

Section #1, **Current Owner and Record of Ownership**, lists the ownership information as of the most recent sale date known to the Assessing Department, along with mailing address information obtained from deeds recorded at the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds.

CURRENT OWNER		горо	Т	UTI	ILITIES		STRT	/ ROA	4D	LOCATIO	N
	2 Roll Und	ing lefined			ed Well tic System	1	Paved	b		2 Suburban	
SCARBOROUGH ME 04074	Alt Pro Map/L Parcel Parcel Parcel	SUPPLEMENTAL DATA Prol ID Parcel Use									
RECORD OF OWNERSHIP	GIS ID	BK-VOL	/PA(e E	SALE DAT	F	As:	soc Pi		LE PRICE	VC
RECORD OF OWNERSHIP		BR-VOL	JAC	<i>,</i>	SALE DAT	_	900	- > >	34	416,625 77,500 0	1 1 11

The **Record of Ownership** section shows the ownership history and sales of a given parcel. This includes the names, book and page reference, sale date, and price.

- The "Q/U" column indicates whether a sale is qualified or unqualified for our sales analysis.
- The "V/I" column indicates whether the parcel is vacant or improved.
- The "VC" column indicates the verification code of the sale (1 is an "Arms-Length Transaction," while 2 is a sale between "Related Parties").

All sales are reviewed to identify arms-length transactions that can be used to represent the market. An **arms-length transaction** in real estate refers to situations in which there is a transfer of property and the buyer and seller act independently of one another. This kind of transaction ensures that both parties act in their self-interest to get the best deal, and that neither party exerts pressure over the other. Examples of sales that are not considered arms-length transactions are:

Those where the buyer and sellers are related parties such as family members (e.g. estates, divorce), or Bank approved short sales, auctions, where a seller may have gone into a nursing home, sales involved in bankruptcy, foreclosure, seller relocation transfers or other factors preventing a seller from a normal and usual marketing of the property.

Section 2: Exemptions

Section #2, **Exemptions**, lists any exemptions you are receiving such as a Homestead, Veteran's, or Blind Person's property tax exemption. If applicable, these exemptions reduce the taxable value of your property.

		EXEMPTIONS			ОТІ	HER ASSESS	SMENTS	
Year	Code	Description	Amount	Code	Description	Number	Amount	Comm Int
	1 HOMESTEAD EXEMPT		25000.00					
-	_	Total	25,000.00					
		<u>.</u>	TAX					
		Tracing						
			NO	TES				

Section 3: Current Assessment

Section # 3, Current Assessment, summarizes the information on your property card and shows the total value of the property. "Appraised Value" and "Assessed Value" will be the same unless the parcel is enrolled in a State current use program.

	CURREN	T ASSESSMENT		
Description	Code	Appraised	Assessed	3219
Building	1010	250,100	250,100	3219
Land	1010	127,200	127,200	Scarborough, ME
Outbldg	1010	7,800	7,800	Coarboroagn, ME
3				
	Total	385,100	385,100	

The **Current Assessment** is split into the Building, Land, and Outbuilding value. The Total Assessment is the sum of these values.

Section 4: Previous Assessments

Section #4, **Previous Assessments**, shows the assessment history for a parcel for the past three (3) years. As with the **Current Assessment**, it is split into the Building, Land, and Outbuilding value.

	PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS (HISTORY)														
Year	Code	Assessed	Year	Code	Assessed	Year	Code	Assessed							
2020	1010 1010 1010	250,100 127,200 7,800	2019	1010 1010 1010	250,100 127,200 7,800	2018	1010 1010	4							
	Total	385100		Total	385100		Total	329300							

Section 5: Appraised Value Summary

Section #5, **Appraised Value Summary**, totals the appraised Building, Extra Features, Outbuilding, and Land value. This should be the same as the **Current Assessment** unless the parcel is enrolled in a State current use program.

APPRAISED VALUE SU	IMMARY
Appraised Bldg. Value (Card)	250,100
Appraised Xf (B) Value (Bldg)	0
Appraised Ob (B) Value (Bldg)	7,800
Appraised Land Value (Bldg)	127,200
Special Land Value	0
Total Appraised Parcel Value	385,100
Total Appraised Parcel Value	385,100

Note: The difference between Section 5 and Section 3 is that the Building Value and Extra Features value are separated.

Section 6: Building Permit Record

Section #6, **Building Permit Record**, lists the recent building permit activity. It includes the Permit ID, description of the permit, the inspection and completion dates. The comments section is where we write our summary of the permitted work.

	BUILDING PERMIT RECORD													
Permit Id	Permit Id Issue Date Type Description Amount Insp Date % Comp Date Comp Comments													
								6						

Section 7: Visit/Change History

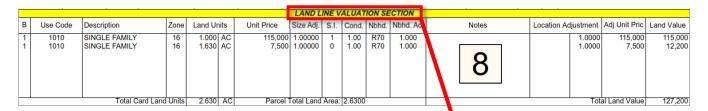
Section #7, **Visit/Change History,** is where we track visits by a town official or Assessor to your property and the reason why the visit was conducted, along with any in-office reviews/changes or corrections to your property. It shows the date, initials of the office member, and code for the change or visit. These codes include but are not limited to inspections, building permit changes, and reviews/corrections.

VISIT / CHANGE HISTORY											
Date Id Cd Purpost/Result											
07-15-2019	DR	11	Field Review								
04-11-2019	WS	1	Interior Insp								

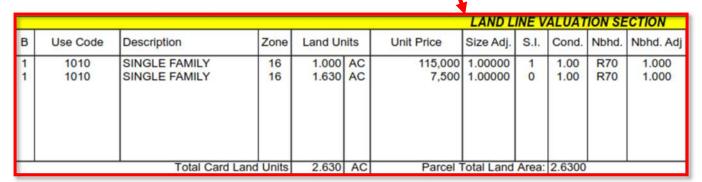
Section 8: Land Line Valuation

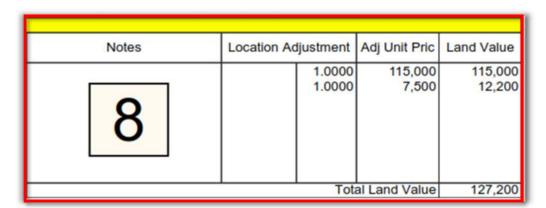
Section #8, Land Line Valuation, provides the information necessary for land valuation. The land is assigned a "Use Code" according to various classifications (i.e., single- or multi-family residences, mixed use properties, type of commercial and industrial properties, vacant land, and exempt properties), but this in itself does not impact the value.

The land value of a property is derived from the sales data. The value is largely determined by its permitted uses and its location within the Town and within its neighborhood, and then is adjusted for any unique influences such as wetlands or easements.



Below is a close-up snapshot of Section #8 that provides a detailed preakdown of the land assessment:





Please see the next page for descriptions

Section 8: Land Line Valuation (continued)

"Land Units" shows the acreage of the property. The first acre of a parcel is considered the baselot and is associated with any improvements to the property. Any acreage beyond the baselot is considered rear land and is assessed at a lower unit price.

"Unit Price" shows the price per acre.

"Size Adjustment" shows the effect of the land curve on the lot. The land curve captures how the price of land increases or decreases relative to the base lot size, which is derived from sales data and zoning districts.

"S.I." stands for Site Index and accounts for differences in land value within the same Neighborhood.

"Cond" stands for Condition Factor. This is where you would see an adjustment for unique influences. You can usually see what the adjustment is for under "Notes."

"Nbhd" and "Nbhd Adj" indicate the Neighborhood, or Market Area, of a property and the effect that has on the value of the land.

Multiplying the Land Units by the Unit Price, Size Adjustment, Condition Factor, and Neighborhood Adjustment will determine your final land value.

Please Note: If you own a condominium, you will have a land value based on your percentage ownership of the common land.

PROPERTY CARD – BACK SIDE

The back side of the Property Card (a/k/a "Field Card") shows all of the details used in valuing the structure(s), including outbuildings (e.g., sheds, detached garages) and extra features (e.g., fireplaces, hot tubs). A sketch of the principal structure with the measurements used for the replacement cost calculation is also shown. Abbreviations used in the sketch are explained in the **Building Sub-Area Summary Section** at the bottom of the card (see Section 11). Each section of the guide corresponds with each numbered section on the card.

Section 9: Construction Detail

Section #9, **Construction Detail**, shows the elements of construction for the building. This information influences the new construction cost of the property as determined by published construction industry data and modified by the sales analysis. Each element has a code and a description. The cost per square foot is the base rate adjusted for certain elements.

C	CONSTRUCTION DETAIL											
Element	Cd	Description										
Style	04	Cape Cod										
Model	01	Residential										
Grade	05	Average +20										
Stories	1.75											
Occupancy	1											
Exterior Wall 1	14	Wood Shingle										
Exterior Wall 2												
Roof Type	03	Gable/Hip										
Roof Cover	03	Asph/F Gls/Cmp										
Interior Wall 1	05	Drywall/Sheet										
Interior Wall 2												
Interior Floor 1	12	Hardwood										
Interior Floor 2	09	Soft Wood										
Heat Fuel	03	Gas										
Heat Type	05	Hot Water										
AC Type	01	None										
Bedroom(s)	2	2 Bedrooms										
Full Bath(s)	2											
Half Bath(s)	0											
Extra Fixture(s)	0											
Total Rooms	7	250 0										
Bath Quality	1	Modern										
Kitchen Quality	1	Modern										
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Section 9: Construction Detail (continued)

This section identifies the special features of your property with the most important being the style of your home. If the style of your home (Cape, Colonial, split etc.) is incorrect, then the foundation for your Adjusted Base Rate could be recorded incorrectly and that would directly impact the Assessed Value of your property. Other categories within this section that could have an effect on your valuations are the number of bedrooms, bathroom, kitchens, etc.

The principal elements are described below:

Style – The style of a property shows the type of building and determines the base rate, which is the current estimated new construction cost per square foot.

Grade – The grade of a property measures the construction quality of the property given the workmanship, materials, finishes, and customization. The grade of a house generally does not change except in the case of major renovations.

Interior Wall and Floor – The type of wall and floor influence the cost of construction. Please note that **"Floor 1"** and **"Floor 2"** do not refer to a first and second floor, but the primary and secondary flooring types in a property. For example, if you have a ranch that is about half carpet and half vinyl, "Floor 1" will be carpet and "Floor 2" will be vinyl.

Heat and AC – The type of heating system you have affects your value, while AC affects your value by the same factor regardless of the system. Heat fuel does not affect your assessment.

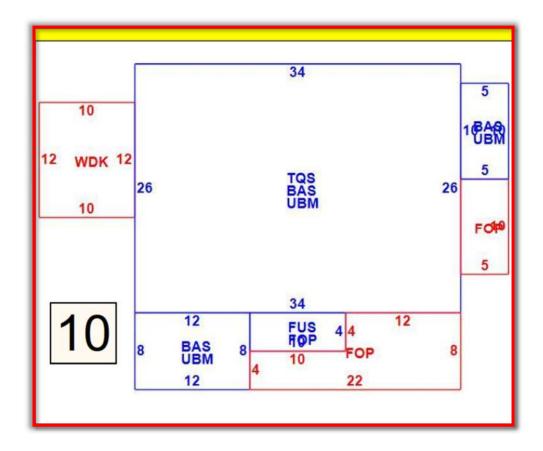
Bedrooms – Bedroom count only affects your value if you have two or fewer bedrooms.

Bathrooms – A full bath is a bathroom with three fixtures, generally a toilet, a sink, and a shower or bath. A half-bath has two fixtures. Three-quarters baths are considered full baths for assessing purposes because of the number of fixtures. If you have two sinks, a separate shower and tub, or any other additional plumbing fixture, it is considered an "extra fixture" and is listed as a separate element.

Bath and Kitchen Quality – This element indicates the style relative to the age of the property. In some cases, because of our software conversion, quality has defaulted to 1: Modern. This has no bearing on your assessment.

Section 10: Sketch

Section #10, **Sketch**, shows the footprint (i.e., diagram/sketch) of the principal structure.



The sketch shows the actual exterior measurement of the buildings, including all floor levels and indicates attached items such as garages, patios, porches, or decks. The different areas are identified by codes described in Section #11: **Building Sub-Area Summary**.

Section 11: Building Sub-Area Summary

Section #11, **Building Sub-Area Summary**, explains in further detail each part of the structure identified in the sketch. Primary living areas count at 100% of gross area and make up the bulk of the building value. All other spaces count at less than 100% of gross area.

	BUILDING SUB-AREA SUMMARY SECTION														
Code	Description	Living Area	Floor Area	Eff. Area	Unit Cost	Undeprec Value									
BAS	First Floor	1,030	1,030	1,030	135.45	139,518									
FOP	Porch, Open, Framed	0	226	57	34.16	7,721									
FUS	Upper Story, Finished	40	40	40	135.45	5,418									
TQS	Three Quarter Story	663	884	663	101.59	89,807									
UBM	Basement, Unfinished	0	1,030	206	27.09	27,904									
WDK	Deck, Wood	0	120	18	20.32	2,438									
	Ttl Gross Liv / Lease Area	1,733	3,330	2,014											

A size adjustment factor is used to adjust the base rate. All else being equal, a smaller structure will cost more per square foot and a larger structure will cost less per square foot. The size adjustment factor accounts for this trend, but it does not appear on the card.

Section 12: Cost/Market Valuation

Section #12, **Cost/Market Valuation**, shows the calculation of the depreciated building cost, which is your final building value.

COST / MARKET	VALUATION
Rcn	284,206
АҮВ	2004
Effective Year Built Depreciation Code	Α
Remodel Rating Year Remodeled	
Depreciation %	12
Functional Obsol Economic Obsol	0
Trend Factor	1
Condition Condition %	
Percent Good RCNLD	88 250,100
Dep % Ovr	40
Dep Ovr Comment Misc Imp Ovr	
Misc Imp Ovr Comment Cost to Cure Ovr	
Cost to Cure Ovr Comment	

First, the **Adjusted Base Rate** is calculated by multiplying the base rate, adjusted for certain construction elements, by the size adjustment and the grade factor. This is multiplied by the Effective Area of the property. Any flat value items are added to this number. The resulting value is the **Replacement Cost New (RCN).**

The **Replacement Cost New** is depreciated based on the age and condition of the property. This is represented by the "**Depreciation Code**" (Excellent, Very Good, Good, Average, Fair, Poor, or Very Poor). "**Depreciation** %" shows the amount of depreciation taken off. Unusual circumstances will sometimes require an additional discount for Functional or Economic Obsolescence.

"Percent Good" shows the final percentage that is multiplied against the Replacement Cost New. This results in the Replacement Cost New Less Depreciation (RCNLD). This is your final building value.

Section 13: Outbuildings/Extra Features

Section #13, **Outbuildings/Extra Features**, lists additional structures on the parcel or extra features for the building:

- Outbuildings include sheds, detached garages, or pools
- Extra features include fireplaces, hot tubs, and elevators

	OB - OUTBUILDING & YARD ITEMS(L) / XF - BUILDING EXTRA FEATURES(B)														
Code	Description	L/B	Units	Unit Price	Yr Blt	Cond. Cd	% Gd	Grade	Grade Adj.	Appr. Value					
FGR4	W/LOFT-AVG	L	576	27.00	2019	Α	50		0	7,800					
	13														

Value for outbuildings and extra features is calculated by multiplying the "Units" by the "Unit Price." The unit will either be the size in square feet or the quantity of the feature.

The **"Year Built"** indicates the age of the item. For Outbuildings, it is the year built, and for Extra Features, it is generally the same year built as the primary structure. Due to our conversion, the year may have defaulted to 2019.

"Cond Cd" indicates the condition of the item, and "% Gd" shows the depreciation on that item. The total value is multiplied by this percentage to determine the "App Value" of the item. The totals are shown on the Appraised Value Summary on the front page.

SAMPLE PROPERTY CARD

Please see a Sample Property Card below with the areas labeled to correspond with the sections highlighted in this guide.

We know this information can be overwhelming and at times difficult to absorb but it is necessary for you to have complete transparency of information in order to make sure the assessed value of your home and property is based on accurate information.

Some examples of the types of errors that could affect your property tax calculation:

- Count of bedrooms/bathrooms
- Attic is not finished
- Shed is no longer there/was removed

If you believe any of the information on your Property Card is inaccurate, you should report these errors to the Assessing Department as soon as possible either by writing, emailing Nick Cloutier, Assessor, at (ncloutier@scarboroughmaine.org) or calling (207) 730-4060.

Our mailing address is:

Town of Scarborough P.O. Box 360 Scarborough, ME 04070

Remember, the Assessing Department is here to serve you and is always willing to respond to any and all of your questions regarding your tax assessment and the assessing process. Call us at 207.730.4060.

