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Race Point Coast Guard Station - A 1958 postcard

1961 - Thursday, August 31 in Provincetown

RACE POINT COAST GUARD STATION was practically isolated Tuesday night and most of yesterday when a bolt of lightning struck the station late Tuesday afternoon, burning out the switchboard in the station and tearing up seven poles between the station and Highland Light, throwing out communications. Electric service repairmen are still busy repairing the damage. No one was injured, but a lot of damage was done and Race Point is still hobbling along on its own generator until the damage is repaired. Race Point escaped much of the torrential rain which fell in the Cape End during the storms Tuesday and only half an inch was measured there. At noon today the temperature was 85 degrees with a five-mile breeze from the southwest.

JANUARY 11, 1962

Marr Promoted By Coast Guard

Chief Boatswain's Mate Robert Marr, currently officer in charge of the Race Point Lifeboat Station, has been promoted to the highest enlisted rank possible in the Coast Guard, that of Master Chief Boatswain's Mate. Chief Marr, a veteran of 24 years service, has been officer in charge at the Race Point station since September, 1960. Prior to that he had served as skipper and executive officer of Coast Guard craft stationed here for a number of years. The 45-year-old chief is now entitled to wear two stars above his chief's rating badge, replacing the one he now wears of senior chief.

His new rating has a two-fold meaning, it not only gives him \$60 a month more in pay, but requires him to serve for two more years in the service. Chief Marr enlisted in the Coast Guard on February 17, 1938 and will reach his 24th anniversary next month.

He was born at Block Island, R. I., and after enlisting at Wakefield, R. I., his first duty was at land stations at Nantucket and at Block Island. He has served at Southwest Harbor, Maine, where he also owns a home, and Boston, and was skipper of the first 83-foot craft out of Provincetown, serving also as its executive officer. He also has served as executive officer on an 83-footer at Beals, Maine, and on the 95-footer at Provincetown, transferring from this vessel to Race Point 15 months ago.

Chief Marr holds several medals, including the Good Conduct, National Defense Service, American Defense Service, American Campaign, and World War II Victory, as well as medals for expert rifle fire and expert pistol fire.

As present Chief Marr and his family live off Route 6A in North Truro.

Boat Exchanged By Coast Guard

Last Thursday, the 36-foot motor lifeboat of the Race Point Coast Guard Station was exchanged in Boston for a "Greenland Cruiser" which is approximately the same size as the old craft, but is decked over. The cruiser will come from the Coast Guard Cutter Eastwind, according to Chief Boatswains Mate Robert Marr, in charge of the station.

The station's old boat was escorted across the bay to Plymouth by the 95-foot Coast Guard patrol boat, and then made the trip to Boston by itself. Those aboard included Boatswains Mate First Class Robert E. Oliver; Engineman First Class George Gaspa and Seaman Robert Kelley. The return trip with the new boat was made Friday.

This new craft provides heat, and has bunks to provide facilities for crew members when they must ride out storms in Provincetown Harbor.

- July 26, 1962 -

Admiral Visits Cape Stations

The Race Point Coast Guard Station was open for inspection yesterday as Rear Admiral Charles Harding, Commandant of the First Coast Guard District, and his staff arrived for the start of an inspection tour that will cover all of the units in the Cape Cod group.

The admiral was accompanied by Chief of Staff, Captain S. R.

Sands, and chief of the civil engineering branch, Lieutenant-Commander W. C. Brown. They arrived at Provincetown Airport in an amphibian airplane at 8 a.m. yesterday and were met by Chief officer in charge of the Race Point Station.

The admiral and party inspected the station and its personnel, moved to Race Point Light and then were due to visit Cape Cod Light, North Truro; Chatham, and other Cape stations before returning to Boston.

November 27, 1956

Sea Victims Finally Get a Memorial

PROVINCETOWN, (UP) — It took 58 years of patient research to find out just how many persons died when the steamer Portland sank off Cape Cod during a blizzard.

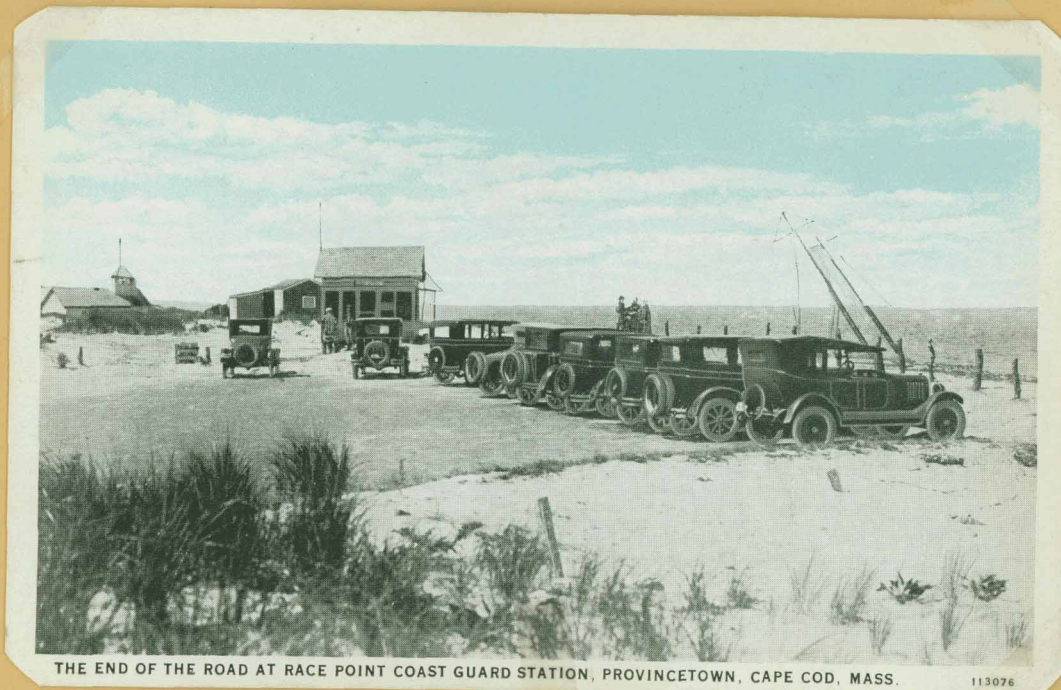
Members of the Portland Assn., comprising descendants and friends of the victims, delayed erecting a memorial tablet until recently when it was determined 190 persons had perished.

Historian Edward Rowe Snow reported that in 1919 the casualty figure was 163. In 1935 it was revised upward to 171. The final figure, 190 dead, was determined this year.

The steamer Portland left India Wharf, Boston, on Nov. 27, 1898, and vanished during a snowstorm en route to Portland, Me. Divers later located the hull off the tip of Cape Cod.

A tablet in memory of the victims was unveiled at the Race Point Coast Guard Station here on the eve of the 58th anniversary of the disaster.

(See also this plaque) at Highland Light



THE END OF THE ROAD AT RACE POINT COAST GUARD STATION, PROVINCETOWN, CAPE COD, MASS. 113076

1922 - Note Rum Runner, Annie Spindler's Masts on right, and also the old Life Saving Station cupola on far left.

was there asking about it
Crew knew nothing about it!