ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
PORTLAND, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

665-E

LIGHT AUG 9 1915. HOUSES

CBS-CLK

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 1ST DISTRICT
PORTLAND, ME.

Portland Head Light Station, Me. August 7, 1915.
Site.

Commissioner of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.

Referring to the Bureau's letter of Nov. 16, 1914,(on Form L.H. 145), last clause:

From investigation and study of the subject, it appears to be impracticable to move the station, and from the mariners' viewpoint very undesirable.

1 The station is situated between the sea and the batteries, which extend a considerable distance on either side, so that nothing would be gained by moving to any point within that area, and to move the station inland to the rear of the batteries, necessarily a considerable distance, would, of course, very much impair its usefulness.

2 Another consideration was to move the dwelling only, leaving the fog signal and tower as at present; but aside from the keepers being quartered at a considerable distance from an important station, the expense would be too great to make it advisable.

3 By careful observation of the effect of the last firing on the different structures, it is noted that when timely warning is given, which is usually the case, there is not a large amount of damage done. For instance, at this last firing, the damage to tower was slight, and the same may be said of the outbuildings. The dwelling chimneys fare the worst in every case in the space between the attic floor and the roof. It is thought the trouble may be greatly reduced by making two or possibly three large

windows in the roof, and portable casings of wood around the chimneys to act as buffers, etc.

It is thought that by the above procedure, damage in the future may be greatly reduced, so that the cost of repairs in comparison with that of moving the station would be negligible.

4 It is therefore recommended that until the above is tried out, the matter of moving the station be held in abeyance.

5 To move the station would practically mean new buildings and a new purchased site, probably requiring an expenditure of from $25,000.00 to $30,000.00.

Sherman
Inspector.

Reminded 1st 12-8-15 10

WPH-D Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D.C., August 12, 1915.

Returned to First Inspector. The Bureau concurs in your recommendation in this matter and authorizes you to take necessary measures as outlined to protect the station, submitting report at proper time upon the results obtained. See in this connection Bureau's indorsement on copy of letter to War Department relative to damage recently sustained by gunfire practice.