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ES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
COMMANDANT
U. S. COAST GUARD
HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON 25,

7 September, 1949
FILE: FS-P 408

MEMORANDUM

Subj: Disposal of Fort Popham Light

Ref: (a) Headquarters Administration Order No. 23-45 dated 28 August, 1945.

1. The Commander, 1st Coast Guard District, submits to Headquarters Board of Survey No. D2-50 covering Fort Popham Light, Popham Beach, Maine, as follows:

1 - Light Structure, wood frame building standing on timber legs held in place by iron straps dowelled into the rock, approximately 30-feet high, shingled walls and roof with main floor and attic floor, outside dimensions of main floor 15-feet x 15-feet.

1 - Footbridge, consisting of connected timber trusses which rest on piers and connects the light structure with the shore line, approximately 250-feet long and 5-feet wide.

.11 of an acre of land surrounding the light structure, almost entirely under water at high tide.

2. The Board finds that the light structure was erected in 1903 and is in good condition; that the footbridge was built in 1903 and is in fair condition; that in 1949 the light and fog bell were removed from the light structure area and a new light and fog bell installed on top of the adjacent fort; that the light structure is not now in use and there are no plans for future use; that the land was originally part of a larger tract held under a revocable license from the War Department; that an Act of Congress dated 26 April, 1938 transferred the land to the control and jurisdiction of the Treasury Department; that all of the original tract except the .11 acres was disposed of to the State of Maine by the WAA; that the WAA assumed from the Coast Guard formal custody and accountability of the area so disposed, by letter dated 20 June, 1947; that the fort and land surrounding the unused light structure are owned by the State of Maine who received the property from the War Department on the condition that it be used as a public park.

3. The Board is of the opinion that the light structure, footbridge and land comprising what was known as Fort Popham Light are surplus to the needs of the Coast Guard and should be disposed of.

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4. The Board, with the approval of the Commander, 1st Coast Guard District recommends that the light structure, footbridge and land be offered to the State of Maine to become part of the public park reservation; that if the State of Maine does not wish to accept the light structure and footbridge they be sold to the highest bidder on the condition that they be removed from the premises; that if there are no bidders for the purchase of the light structure and footbridge they be demolished and disposed of by the Coast Guard; that if the light structure and footbridge are sold or demolished, the land be turned over to the State of Maine to become part of the public park reservation.

5. This office recommends that the light structure, footbridge and .11 acres of land be declared surplus to the needs of the Coast Guard and turned over to the General Services Administration for disposal by that agency; that if it is desired to retain the site, the light structure and footbridge be disposed of in accordance with the recommendation of the Board., by selling to highest bidder or razing.

6. In accordance with the above reference, the following offices are requested to indicate approval or disapproval.

H. P. KNISKERN
Acting Chief, Supply Division

OFFICE OF	APPROVED	DISAPPROVED	SIGNATURE OF CHIEF
Operations:	V	----------	
Engineering:	V	----------	

Note: Disposal of site and structures.