November 7th 1985

Charles R. Merritt
Officer in Charge
Light Station,
Watch Hill, Rhode Island 02891

Dear Officer Merritt,

The news that the light Station at Watch Hill is to be automated in the near future causes mixed emotions here in the Community. During the many years that the station has been manned we have had a close association with the Coast Guard, the men and their families. The prospect that this relationship may be coming to an end leaves us with feelings of sadness.

While we will certainly miss the wonderful lighthouse personnel

already started planning for our Centennial in 1989 and have been discussing the possibility of establishing a museum of Watch Hill memorabilia. The lighthouse would be the perfect site for such a museum.

We feel that the Improvement Society would be the appropriate local association to assume responsibility for the future of our beloved lighthouse.

The news has come upon us so quickly that time has not permitted extensive in-depth discussion. However, our executive Committee, as well as the two other

major local organizations, have indicated enthusiastic support for our proposal. The moderator of the Watch Hill Fire District has complete confidence that our tax payers will willingly provide the financial support that we would need.

We would appreciate your kind consideration and we ask for your guidance and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Crawford
President