U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

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JUL 23 2003

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. James McConaha, SHPO
Division of Historical Resources
P. O. Box 2043
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-2043

Dear Mr. McConaha:

We are preparing a Report of Excess (ROE) that will be used to notify the General Services Administration (GSA) of one lighthouse property located within the State of New Hampshire that has been determined to be excess to the needs of the Coast Guard. As a result, the following property will become available for transfer to qualified persons or organizations interested in ownership:

LIGHTHOUSE	CITY	STATE	ON-SHORE OFFSHORE	NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED OR ELIGIBLE
Portsmouth Harbor Light	New Castle	NH	Onshore	Listed (73000169)

Transfers involving lighthouses and associated properties either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be carried out in accordance with the National Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000 (NHLPA) (Public Law 106-355; HR 4613). The Table above indicates the National Register status for the lighthouse, as best determined from our records. Please verify that this information is accurate. GSA will transfer any property that is not eligible or listed on the Register in accordance with the standards of the Federal Property and Administrative Procedures Act of 1949.

As stated in the NHLPA, the purpose of this undertaking is to afford interested parties the opportunity to obtain ownership of certain lighthouses and associated property for the purpose of preserving their structural/historic integrity and making them reasonably available for education and appreciation by the public. The NHLPA recognizes that such interested parties are capable of applying more dedicated time and funding to the care and maintenance of these properties than the Coast Guard can under current budget limitations and expanding mission requirements. The Coast Guard will retain the right to access the properties for the purpose of maintaining the aid to navigation equipment for as long as it is deemed necessary for the safety of navigation.

The National Park Service (NPS) will provide applications to interested parties and review and evaluate the applications that are submitted. Furthermore, in accordance with the NHLPA, your office will be consulted by the NPS prior to making recommendations to GSA for conveyance of ownership. The conveyance issued by GSA will require the eligible entities to maintain the historic light station in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. In addition, any changes proposed by the new owners will require review by the National Park Service in consultation with your office. For the non-eligible properties, the Coast Guard will recommend that GSA encourage the new owners to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

After making the Report of Excess, the Coast Guard will continue to be the owner and caretaker of this property until such time that GSA transfers ownership or assumes financial responsibility for maintenance and protection in accordance with Title 41, Section 101-47.402-2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. We believe that the current action by the Coast Guard to report this lighthouse excess to its needs in accordance with the NHLPA, will have no effect on properties eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places within the area of potential effect of the selected lighthouse properties. Please provide your comments with regard to this Coast Guard undertaking, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

If there are any questions or additional information is needed regarding the undertaking described above, please contact Mr. Luke Dlhopolsky of our environmental protection branch at the above telephone number, mailing address or via electronic mail at LDlhopolsky@CEUProvidence.uscg.mil. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rachel Marino

RACHEL MARINO
Environmental Branch Chief
By direction of the Commanding Officer

Copy: CG DONE (oan) (dpl)
CG ANT Portland