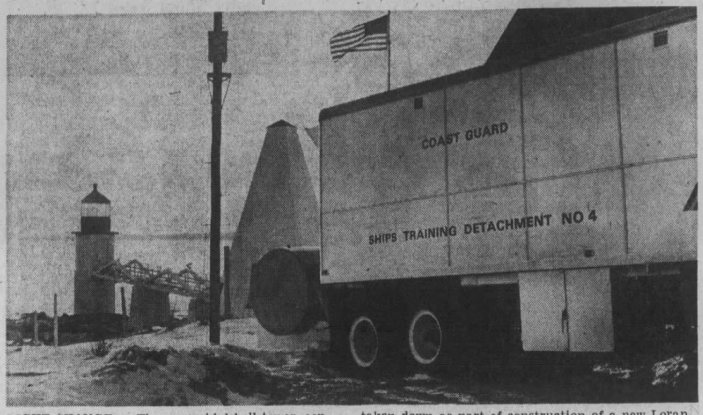
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Portland Press Herald

Portland, Me., Press Herald, Tuesday, February 2, 1971 11



LIGHT CHANGE — The pyramidal bell tower, center, at Marshall Point Light, Port Clyde, will be taken down as part of construction of a new Loran station there, and the light will become automatic.

Manned Since 1832

CG Light 'Automatic' In Future

PORT CLYDE — The fixed white beam of Marshall Point Light, manned at the mouth of Port Clyde Harbor since 1832, will go "automatic" when Maine's new Loran station gets into operation this summer.

Boatswain's Mate Second Class William Boddy who lives in the 1890 vintage house at the colorful light with his wife and two children, will probably be hte last resident keeper.

The house is being torn down as part of the operation, and so is the wooden pyramidal bell tower at the inboard end of the long catwalk by which the light, erected on a ledge that's flooded at high water, is reached.

The picturesque place has to be razed because of the electronic necessities of the station. There isn't too much room on the government property around the big concrete antenna base which was "unveiled" Monday by Chief Stanley Hiller, who with CWO Donald Medico of Boston has started the project.

LORAN requires a "ground plane" system as part of the antenna, with exacting ground wires radiating out at each three degrees from the antenna base. Those are 150 feet long. Some will be buried, others will be pinned down to ledge; but they must be exact as to direction and length.

That means some of the wires would have to be whese the house now is. So the house will have to come down.

A big metal weather bureau tower in the line with the ground wires also will be removed.

The Loran station was announced by the Coast Guard last month as the first in Maine, and will be a "satellite" sending out its micro - second electronic pulses. Boatmen with Loran receivers can pinpoint their positions on the ocean in synchronization with a major Loran station in Nantucket, Mass.

The Marshall Point Station signals will fill in a weak spot all the way up the Maritimes and be especially valuable to freighters, fishing vessels or pleasure boats fitted with Ooran receivers.

IN PLACE of the present lighthouse residence, said the Coast Guard will erect three mobile home type buildings. One will house the Loran elecronics, two will be "berthing trailers" for the seven man personnel. It is expected that this crew may also have charge of the fog signal which currently is controlled by Boddy from the light station.

Marshall Point Light is across from Hoopers Island at the mouth of the St. George River and faces Burnt Island where the Coast Guard maintains a lifeboat station. Bey9nd that at sea is Monhegan Island.

Chief Hiller has charge of the antenna work, and changes in the power situation. Probably heavier mainland power lines will be brought to the area. An emergency generator may be installed.

HILLER said the Coast Guard will make an evaluation of the Loran signal and its use after the station gets into operation July 1 and may as a result make other plans for the Maine coast.

As for what will happen to some of the materials from the dimantled parts of the station, ideas are unwanted on how to remove a complete wooden bell tower from a remote point at Port Clyde to Rockland

Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth N. Black, Rockland station commander, would like to have the tower as part of his Coast Guard exhibit of artificats, and is giving the matter lots of thought.

Pamela Sperry Selected To Youth Task Force



NEWCASTLE — "Involvement" and "genuine interest" in community and school activities are reasons given by Miss Pamela Sperry, 17, for her appointment to the Governor's Youth Task Force.

This organization is made up of 26 young people between the ages of 15 and 24 from all over Maine.

Miss Sperry, a senior and student council president at Lincoln Academy, is the only Lincoln County youth appointed

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