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Old Freeman Wharf ruined in a storm - - - - Advicate 1979



New Coast Guard Pier with the old Freeman Wharf underneath - Oct. 1980

the new station will have a few disadvantages but many big advantages.

For one, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Mike Page said, his car won't get sandblasted every winter. At Race Point the heavy winter winds destroy paint jobs and ruin windshields. Nor will they have to risk accidents on icy back roads driving to rescue calls, back from a night out or driving to and from the three nightly boat checks.

While the privacy and isolation and beautiful sunsets at Race Point have their advantages, along with vistas of beautiful girls sunbathing at Race Point Beach, during the winter their isolation is wearisome.

"We have a celebration when the first car comes into the parking lot each spring," Boisvert said.

Race Point Station Chief Ron Knipple said the living accommodations at the new station will be "300 percent better." He said now he has 19 men living in four bunkrooms. At the new station there will be two men to each room. The new station also has accommodations for up to four women Coast Guardsmen, who Knipple said will probably be joining the crew after the station is finished.

The women will serve as boat crewmembers and will do the work any other station crewmember performs, Knipple said.

One of the problems at the new station, he said, will be organizing tours for those who want to see the new station and keeping people off the new pier. The narrow pier can't accommodate visitors and rescue trucks, Knipple said.

One of the design criteria for the pier was to give it a low profile on the waterfront. But to do that the structure had to be kept to a utilitarian minimum.

What to do with the remains of the wreck of old Freeman Wharf next to the new pier is still undecided. DelDeo wants the remains preserved. The Coast Guard has asked for permission to tear it down while making a permanent record of the structure.

The old pier is one of two remaining pile piers left in Provincetown. DelDeo wants the remains of the pier shored up so that people can walk, fish and tie boats to it. The Coast Guard feels that preserving an old, rotting wood structure is next to impossible, and would rather not have