

* August 10, 1967 *

PROVINCETOWN, MASS.

Historical Marker For Long Point

An historical marker in memory of Capt. John Thomas Dunham, keeper of the Long Point Light from 1850 to 1862, is under design by the light keeper's great-grandson, Kenneth H. Dunham of 3 Dyer Street, and will be placed on Long Point.

The simple stone marker, with the words: "Captain John Thomas Dunham, Long Point Lighthouse Keeper, 1850-1862," will be prepared by William Pierce of Conwell Street.

Kenneth Dunham is the descendant of a long line of Provincetown settlers and seafarers dating back to the Mayflower. His grandfather, who was also a "Captain John" — a son of the lighthouse keeper — was owner and skipper of the whal-

ing schooner, William A. Grozier, out of Provincetown.

Captain John, incidentally, lost a leg when he fell overboard from a dory in the West Indies and a shark severed it in the brief space of time he was scrambling to get back aboard the dory.

Mr. Dunham relates that in the excitement of the mishap his grandfather felt no pain from the shark's underwater attack nor was he aware of what had happened until he had gotten back into the dory. He somehow survived the catastrophe.

The William Grozier was lost off Hatteras in a storm in 1919—in February or March, Mr. Dunham recalls. At that time Capt. John was at home in Provincetown and his brother, George, master of the ship.

Captain George was lost with the Grozier.

Capt. Neil MacMillan, father of Rear-Admiral Donald MacMillan, was at one time first mate on the William Grozier, before he had his own ship.

It was a Dunham — Oren Dunham — who in 1695, with 12 local men, went to Boston to call on the senior Paul Revere, father of the revolutionary hero, and get from him the charter for establishment of the Masonic order in Provincetown.

(The town wasn't Provincetown

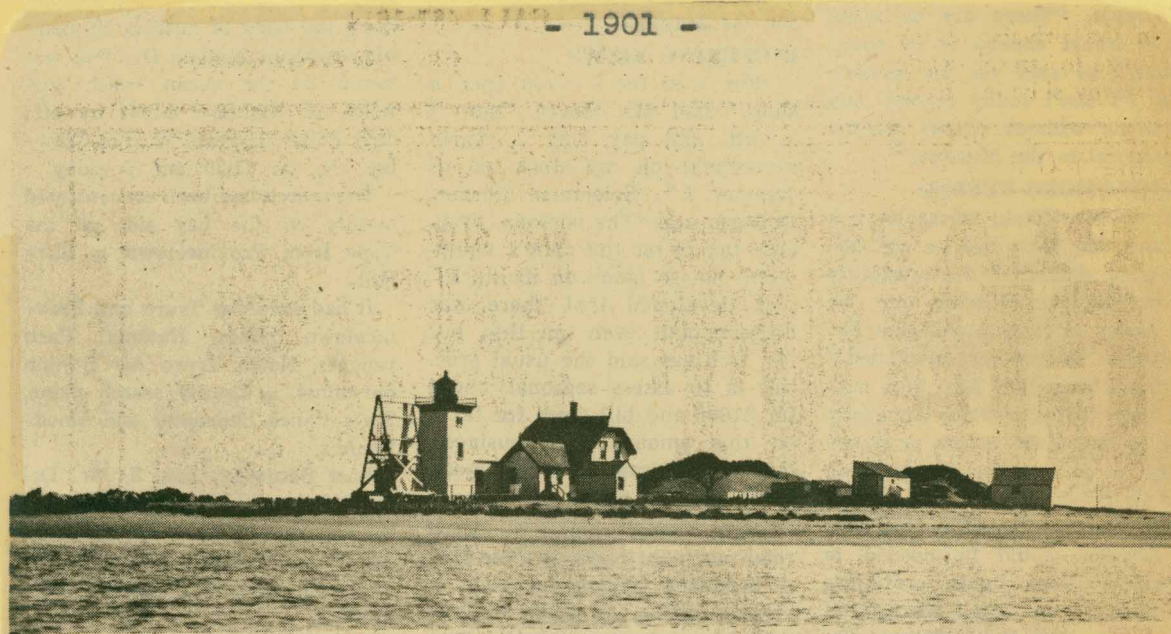
then or even a town. It was known as "Cape Cod," a sparse settlement of fishermen and seafarers, where sailors and adventurers from foreign ports frequently put in).

Paul Revere, Sr., held the British charter for the establishment of the Masonic order in what was then a British colony and was empowered to issue charters to settlements of the colony.

Kenneth Dunham spends as much time as he can spare from his government post in the old Dunham home on Dyer Street



Long Point Light from the Air - 1965



LONG POINT LIGHTHOUSE in 1901 (top photo) was fully manned by the Life Saving Service before the U. S. Coast Guard took over coastal protection; the crew lived in the two-story house next to the light. Below, the lighthouse is automatic. The bell's wooden support is now a low structure (in front of tower) and an electric plunger strikes in foggy days. By boat and beach buggy picnickers flock there in summer.