

1307



Long Point Light showing Keepers House now gone
- 1971 -



* 1976 *



Another of Long Point Light, with one of the old
Forts on the rihgt - 1976

Provincetown Advocate,
Thursday, February 2, 1978

Sea parts dunes near Wood End

Storm winds in the last three weeks have pushed the sea through the dunes at Wood End, separating Long Point and part of Wood End from the rest of Cape Cod.

At high tide the waters of Cape Cod Bay flow directly into the marsh behind the West End breakwater. The cut is reduced to a small stream at low tide. But people who have gone out to the cut this week said it is impossible to go out to Long Point, even at low tide, without sinking axle-deep in the stream.

Matt Costa, president of the Highland Fish and Game Club, said he is concerned that the cut will damage the salt marsh. He and others have noticed that the marsh fills with water much quicker now than in the past, when water could only flow in through the breakwater.

Frank Walker, a summer resident and winter visitor, noticed the cut after the flooding three weeks ago. He said the cut

is much deeper now. This weekend he informed the National Seashore of the change.

Chief Ranger Harry DeLashmutt said the Seashore is concerned about the erosion but will not take any immediate steps to fill the cut. "We'll let nature take its course," he said. The last time the sea broke through there was seven years ago, DeLashmutt said.

The Seashore put a snow fence up to trap sand and "did some scooping" to fill in the deeper parts of the cut. But the philosophy has changed at the Seashore concerning natural processes. He said the Seashore only acts now when people are affected by geographical changes. He said they want to see if nature will correct the problem.

The recent storms have taken their toll on other parts of the Cape as well. Coast Guard Beach in Orleans was particularly hard hit. DeLashmutt said the Atlantic has broken through in at least 10 places over the Nauset spit into Nauset Marsh.

DeLashmutt said he will try to discourage traffic in the cut. He said people wishing to drive out to Long Point should keep on the bayside beach and stay away from the eroded area.