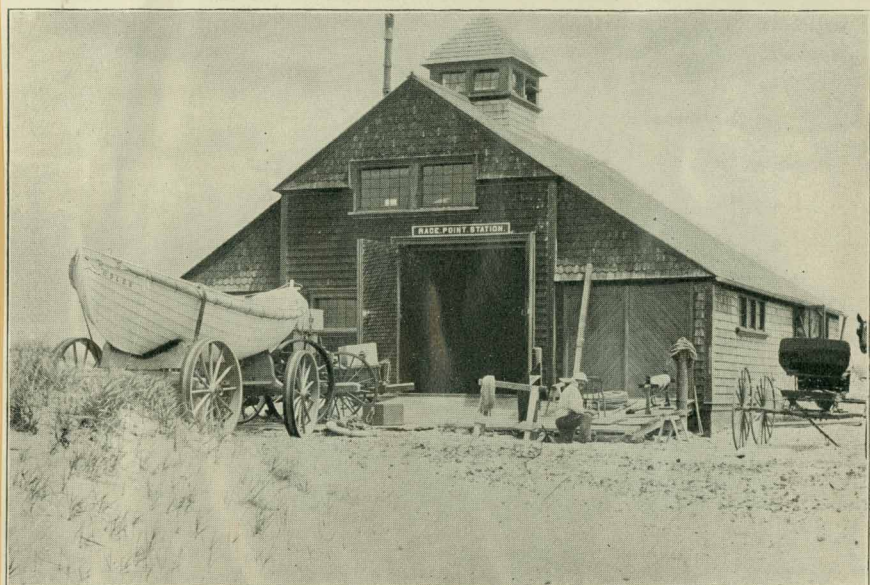


From: J. W. Dalton's
The Life Savers of Cape Cod. - 1902

RACE POINT STATION.

This station is one of the original nine stations erected on Cape Cod in 1872, and was manned in the winter of 1873. The station is one and five-eighths miles east of Race Point, from which it derives its name. Its approximate position as obtained from the latest coast survey charts is latitude north 42° 04' 45", longitude west 70° 13' 15". From Provincetown the station is about four miles distant, and easy of access over a highway across the sand dunes. The coast at Race Point is very treacherous, and has been the scene of many wrecks. The tides run past the point with great velocity, and vessels are fre-



RACE POINT STATION.

quently swept to destruction on the sunken reefs which lie along the coast there.

The surfmen of this station go over a patrol westward of two and one-half miles, and eastward about one and three-quarters miles. On the eastward patrol the surfmen meet and exchange checks with the surfmen from Peaked Hill Bars Station; on the westward patrol the surfmen use a time clock, as "Race Run" so called, an inlet through the beach, prevents them from meeting the surfmen from Wood End Station. The station is supplied with three surf-boats of the Race Point model, two beach carts, with guns, breeches-buoys, etc., and a life-car

Ninety-two vessels, of all descriptions, have met with disaster near this station since Capt. "Sam" Fisher has been keeper. On these vessels there were over six hundred seafarers, including two women. Of this number of persons taken ashore, thirty-seven were landed by the breeches-buoy, the surf-boat being employed to bring the others that were saved to the shore.

"Nigger," the horse which is on duty at the Race Point Station, is a noble and intelligent animal. When storms are sweeping the coast,



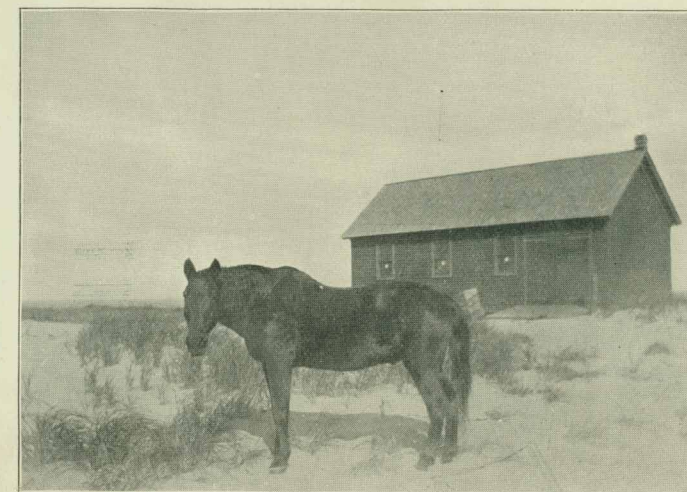
CAPT. "SAM" O. FISHER, KEEPER OF RACE POINT STATION.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1960

Buildings Disappear

A little activity down at the Race Point Light has been noticed within the past few days. The largest of the cluster of white Coast Guard buildings is being razed by local contractor, James Silva. These buildings are often used as landmark references by pilots and sports fishermen, alike. During the past years many photographs have been taken of the lighthouse area and, no doubt, the absence of this building will be a disappointment to many.

"Nigger" shows a restlessness that is not dispelled until fair weather again prevails. As the surfmen return from their patrol at night, "Nigger" always gives evidence in some way or another that he is awake and ready for duty. "Nigger" takes kindly to the work of dragging the heavy beach apparatus and surf-boat through the sands,



NIGGER, THE HORSE KEPT AT RACE POINT STATION.

and responds to the call "ship ashore" as lively as the surfmen. "Nigger" is the pet of all the surfmen, and seems to enjoy having visitors call to see him.

CAPT. SAMUEL O. FISHER.

Capt. Samuel O. Fisher, keeper of the Race Point Life-Saving Station, was born in Provincetown in 1861, and has been in the life-saving service twenty-three years, eight of which he spent as surfman at Peaked Hill Bars Station and fifteen as keeper of this station. "Sam" Fisher came from a seafaring family and is a near relative of the late Isaac G. Fisher, a noted life saver. He went to sea as a sailor on a coasting vessel when a young man. He left the coastwise trade to go to boating, which he followed for a short time, when he again entered the coastwise trade. He was also a fisherman and boatman off the shores of Cape Cod. He entered the life-saving service when

nineteen years of age, being assigned to the Peaked Hill Bars Station under the late Captain Atkins. He was then an experienced boatman, strong and robust. He had been a member of the station crew but a short time when he came near losing his life in a terrible tragedy that took place on the bars near the station.

It was at the time the sloop *C. M. Trumbull* stranded on Peaked Hill Bars. Captain Atkins and his brave crew had pulled out to the stranded sloop and was about to effect the rescue of the imperiled crew when the surf-boat was capsized, throwing all hands into the raging sea. Captain Atkins and two members of the crew perished, Fisher and two others managing to reach the shore after a desperate struggle. After the death of Captain Atkins, the late Capt. Isaac G. Fisher was prevailed upon to take charge of the station. Capt. "Sam" Fisher remained as surfman under Capt. Isaac Fisher until he was