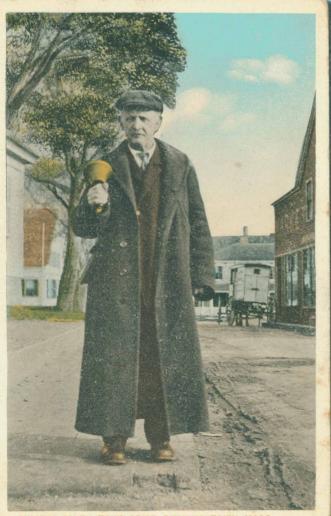








The Town Crier (On Road to The Monument) Provincetown, Mass.



WALTER SMITH, TOWN CRIER, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.





971 The Town Crier (On Bradford Street) Provincetown, Mass.



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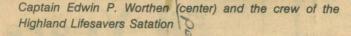








STEAMBOAT LANDING, PROVINCETOWN



By Jim Hildreth

Many a ship's been wrecked on the shoals off Cape Cod and many a life's been lost. Long before the United States Coast Guard took on sole responsibility for patrolling the shore line, the Life Savers prevented many deaths with heroic rescues of shipwreck victims. Until 1915, this group of brave individuals battled frigid weather and stormy seas, often putting their own lives on the line, to rescue the crews of ill-fated ships.

In 1872, nine lifesaving stations were erected on the Cape. The Outer Cape stations were located at Cahoon Hollow, Wellfleet, the Pamet River, Truro, Highland in swept the coast of Cape Cod."

On Christmas Eve, 1872, Worthen and the Highland crew rescued the entire crew of the German bark *Francis* during a northeaster. Shortly after the rescue, the ship was pounded by the waves until it broke apart. Later that evening another vessel, *Peruvian*, wrecked on the shoals a mile south of the lifesaving station. Although the Highland crew gave their best effort to rescue the crew members, all 28 people drowned in the freezing water.

Life Savers of

Cape Cod

The only original lifesaving station that still exists is at Race Point in Provincetown. The "Old Harbor" was

Provincetown. All were built on the backside of the Cape, facing the ocean.

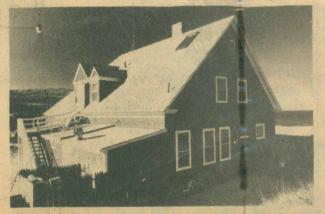
The buildings were two-story structures and each had an observatory that allowed the life savers to look out on clear days and keep a careful watch on shipping along the coast. The stations were painted red to make them highly visible from the sea and they were marked by a 60-feet high flagstaff.

By night and during bad weather the life savers patrolled the beaches. The distance between each station was approximately 5 miles and halfway between each station was a small hut appropriately called a halfway house. Life savers from each station would walk to the hut, keeping a watchful eye out for shipwrecks, and report to each other what was seen during the patrol.

The life savers utilized several pieces of rescue equipment and when needed, they skillfully put their machines and experience to good use. One means of rescuing shipwreck victims was to launch a lifeboat directly into the surf. It was the most hazardous'rescue method because most shipwrecks occurred during winter storms when the northeast winds blew with gale force and the water was icy cold.

Captain Edwin P. Worthen was the keeper of the Highland Life-Saving Station for 30 years. He served as keeper of the station longer than any other person in the United States. Captain Worthen was a warrior of the sea, "a triumphant fighter of the storms that brought to Provincetown in 1977 and was opened to the public in 1978. In previous years the Cape Cod National Seashore sponsored tours and lectures at the station. This year, however, the station is closed while an access boardwalk to the station is being repaired. The National Seashore will give evening lectures concerning the Life Savers at the Visitor's Center beginning Thursday, June 27.

The station at Cahoon Hollow, Wellfleet is not the original which was destroyed by fire, but it is the structure that replaced the original in 1893. When visiting Wellfleet stop at the Beachcomber on Cahoon Hollow Road and catch a glimpse of the building that housed the Wellfleet Life-Savers and imagine them crashing the surf every time a shipwreck was sighted.



the Beachcomber was Wellfleet's Life-Savers Station



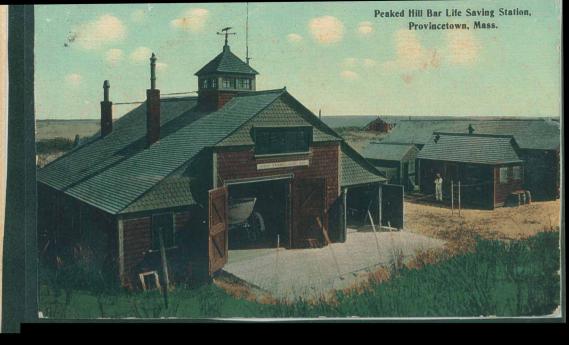


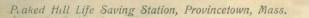




Peaked Hill Coast Guard Station, Provincetown, Mass.









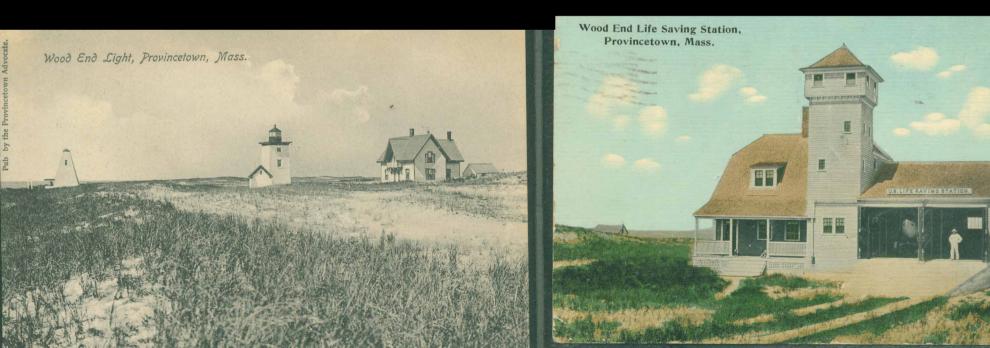


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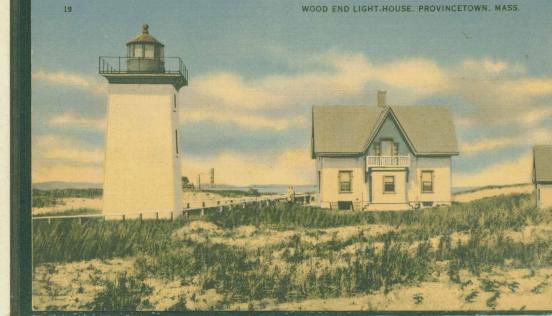






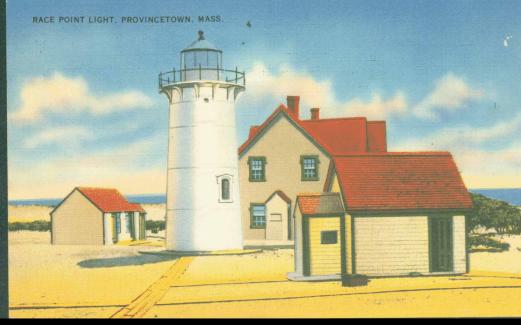


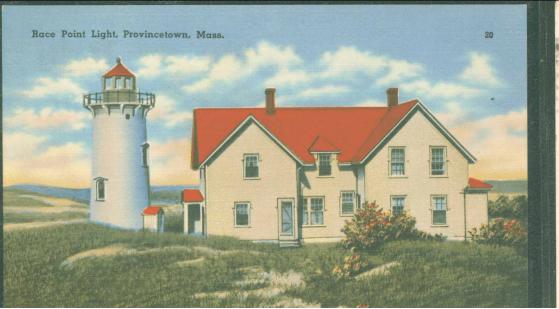


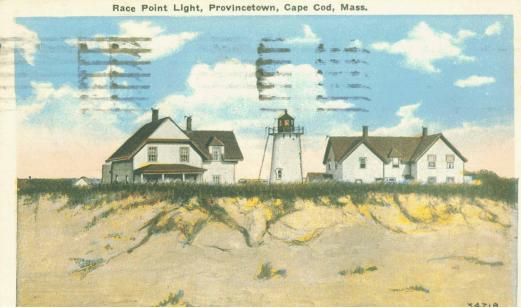


39. WOOD END LIGHT AND COAST GUARD STATION, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.











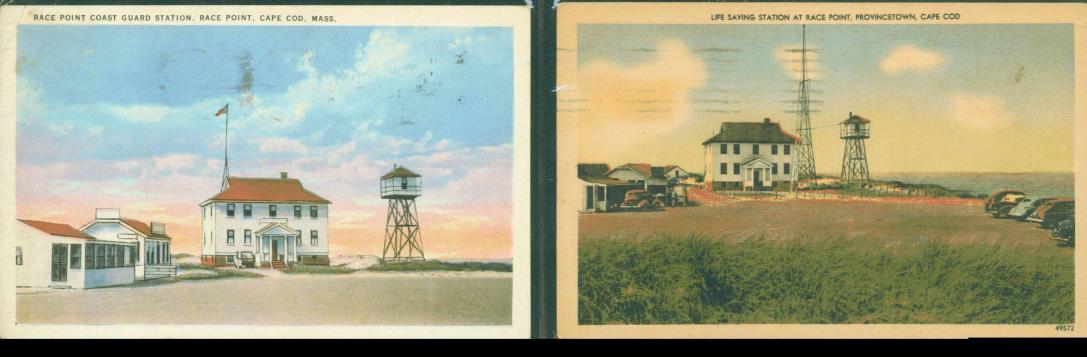




















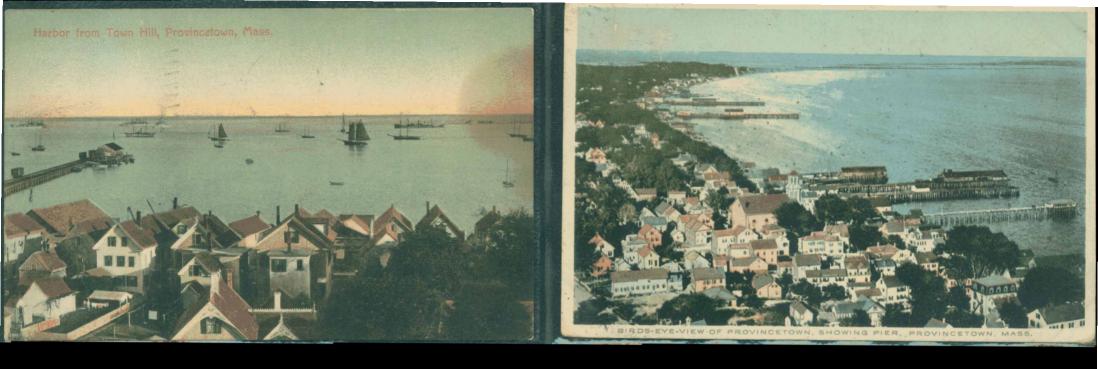


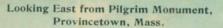


View from Town Hall looking East, Provincetown, Mass.

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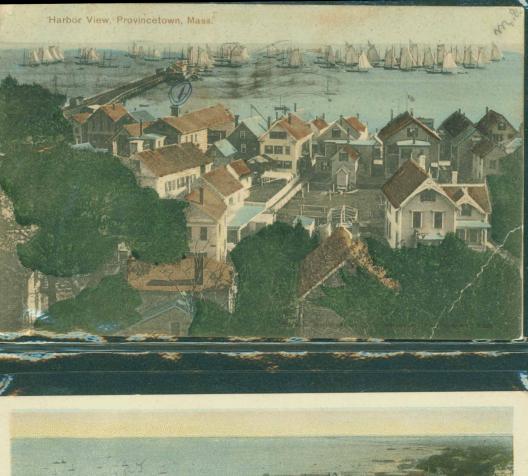
View from Town Hill showing Town Hall, Provincetown, Mass.













BIRD'S EYE VIEW LOOKING WEST FROM PILGRIM MEMORIAL MONUMENT, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.



Harbor and Wharf, from Pilgrim Memorial Monument, Provincetown, Mass.

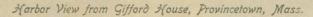






VIEW FROM PILGRIM MEMORIAL MONUMENT, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.





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PROVINCETOWN HARBOR. FROM PILGRIM MEMORIAL MONUMENT. PROVINCETOWN. MASS.









VIEW FROM PILGRIM MEMORIAL MONUMENT, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.



PROVINCETOWN. MASS







































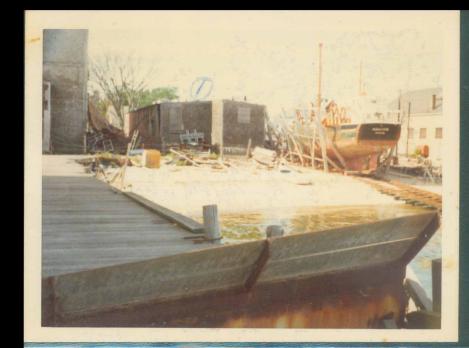
















1. Cestle- "murchisons"

2. Red shim



















