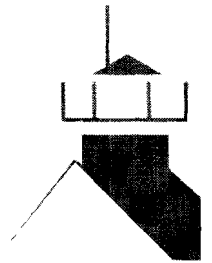


66650@roadrunner.com reingold@reingold.com
207-631-1547 202-550-4700

Cuckolds Island Fog Signal/Light Station | Box 117 Southport Island, ME 04576



June 15, 2010

NHLPA Program

Attention: Ms. Alisa McCann

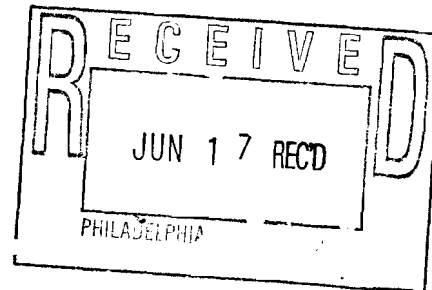
Architectural Historian

National Park Service, Northeast Region

US. Custom House

200 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, PA 19106-2878



Dear Ms. McCann,

On behalf of my colleagues on the Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station Council, I am pleased to submit our second report to the National Park Service, describing our progress toward preservation and restoration of the Light Station

For us, this is more than a commitment to the federal agencies from whom we acquired the remnants of the Light Station; the Cuckolds is our community's "front porch light" that stands 1/3 mile offshore on a small island at the entrance to Boothbay Harbor. It is also one of only two properties in this region that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, we feel it is our duty to restore and maintain this treasure for the community and for the visitors who come each year because of the four lighthouses serving this peninsula.

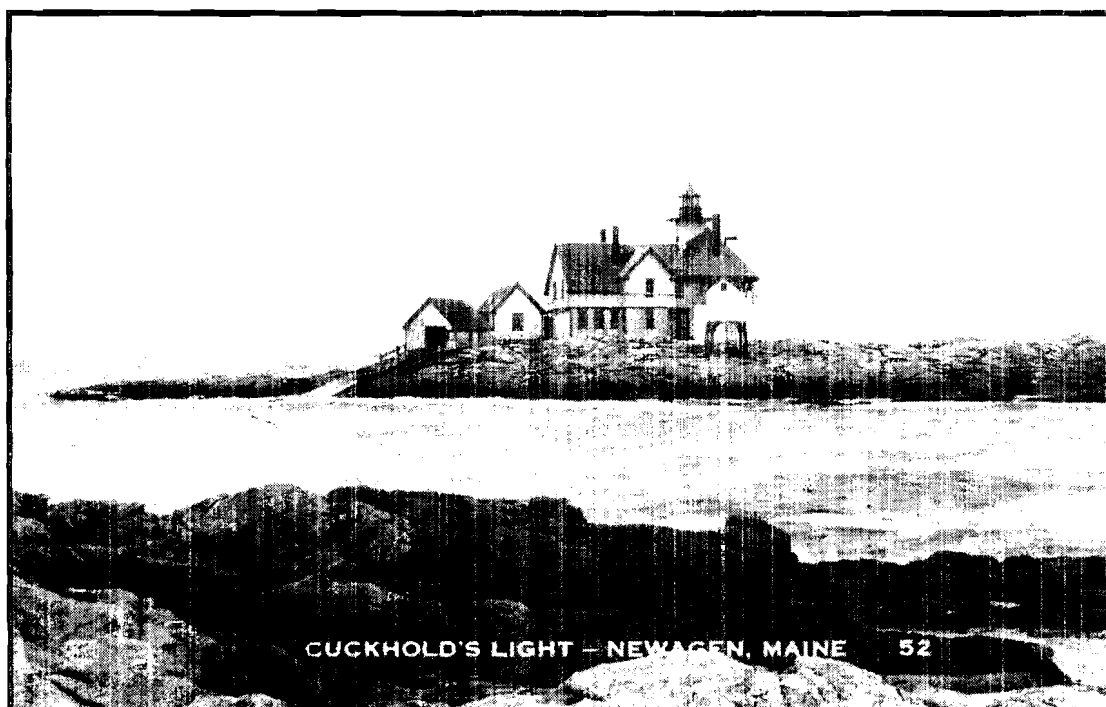
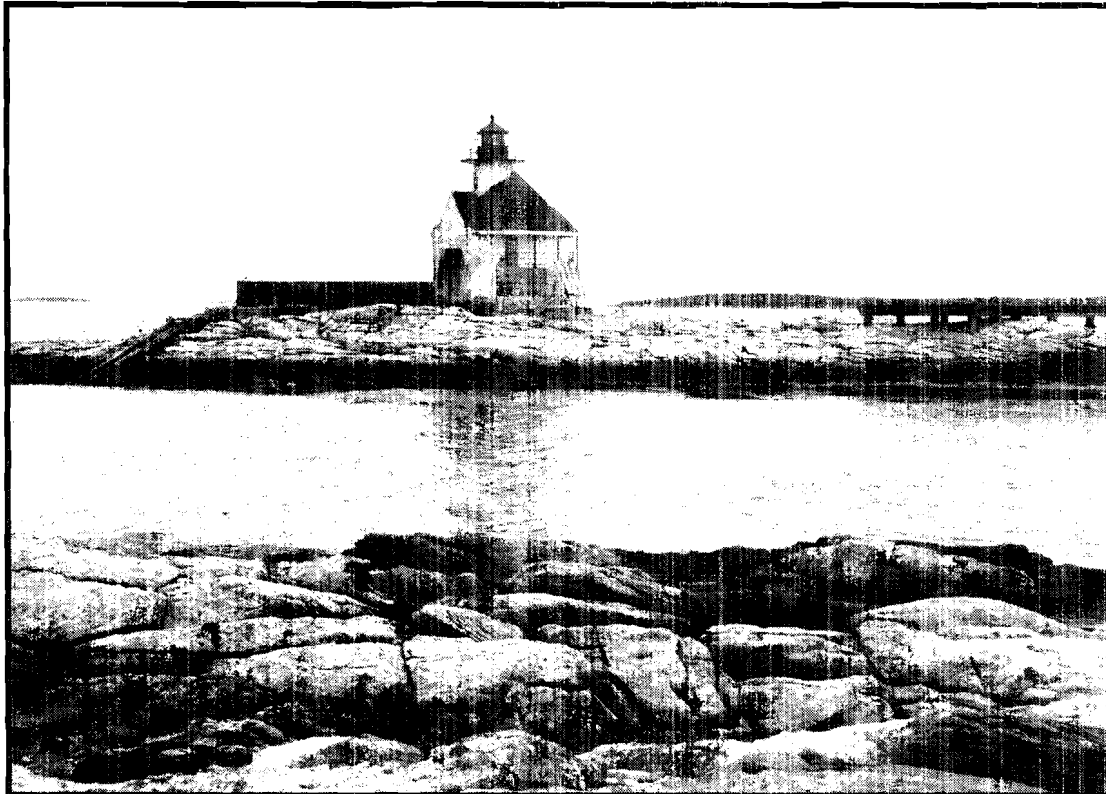
In this Report, we will document our preservation activities and site development; use of the property; financial status in raising the necessary funds to underwrite the extensive rebuilding that is necessary; issues/impacts or threats to the Light Station; legal involvements; and more.

Extensive information on plans, progress, and partnerships can be found on the website: www.CuckoldsLight.org. and further information may be available upon request.

While your guidelines provide a helpful, generic template, they make assumptions that are likely applicable to many—perhaps most—Lighthouses. However, this Light Station requires not just maintenance, but major reconstruction. It is a challenging venue in terms of access for materials and manpower. It is located in a seasonal community, so work can only be done during the few short summer months.

On the following page, you will see a photograph of the Light Station as it is today, and how it looked more than 100 years ago. This is the challenge before us.

Today, this is what remains of the historic Cuckolds Light. These photos were taken from the Western Cuckolds.



The Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station is on the National Register of Historic Places. [Please note, this old postcard misspelled the name Cuckolds.]

CUCKOLDS FOG SIGNAL AND LIGHT STATION: PROGRESS REPORT 2010

In the 2009 Report for the Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station, dated June 15, 2009, we provided a detailed review of our considerable progress with the "Cuckolds Rescue."

Virtually all the enumerated programs and activities in the 2009 Report continue now in 2010.

I. IMPROVEMENTS, MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

In the 2009 Report, we also alerted the Government to issues of concern to Southport Island's all volunteer Planning Board. These concerns, subsequently aggravated by a few obstructionists voices in the community, required protracted public debate to fully resolve and reconcile the commitments to Federal law and the requirements of local perceptions of Maine law and policy. Taken together these very public and protracted processes caused unanticipated delays through the 2009 building and marine construction season, and engendered frictions, factions, and frustration within the Southport Island community. Consequently, little new work was completed, albeit that much was accomplished, during the reporting period:

- A. The Rescue Plan, previously approved by both Federal and State agencies, has now been approved by the local volunteer Planning Board. Getting this approval took many months of work and discussion through 2009, and delayed other efforts to move forward.
- B. Detailed construction drawings for the boat house are complete, and the material take-offs for construction have been done so that we can secure materials. Bids are being solicited for necessary construction materials and supplies, and efforts have been underway and will continue in the year ahead to secure donated materials and supplies as well. Final preliminary floor plans have been drafted along with the first draft of the framing drawings for the boat house and the keepers house.
- C. Basic maintenance, i.e., stabilization, roof, rails, and paint, for the portion of the Light Station that remains and construction of the Boathouse begin this month.
- D. We have located the electric cables that provided power to the Cuckolds, which were reported removed when the Light Station was automated in 1977. Georges Bockstael, Chief of the United States Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit for the Northern District reviewed Coast Guard records in Washington, DC, and found no report of a vessel capable of removing the cables ever visiting Boothbay Harbor. Chief Bockstael speculated that they might still be in place on the sea bed. Richard Merrick, a diver with almost 40 years experience in the worlds oceans, volunteered to make the search. With the help of residents who remembered the former cable connections, and Carl Young, the Coast Guard electrician who serviced the cables, we had a good idea of where to look. The

results: The cables' condition appears surprisingly good, and now it may be possible to reconnect the Cuckolds to the Central Maine Power grid. Tests and time will tell.

- E. We have been negotiating with US Coast Guard's Archivist for a commitment to return the original Cuckolds Fresnel Lens to the Cuckolds for preservation, maintenance and display. There are details for insurance and review of display plans that must be completed, but are optimistic that these details will be finalized before the space to display the lens is completed.

II. USE OF PROPERTY

Located 3/8th of a mile south of Southport Island's Cape Newagen, marking the approach to Boothbay Harbor, the Cuckolds stands at: **Latitude: 43° 46' 48" N | Longitude 69° 39' 00" W**. This is largely a season, summer island, and access to the Cuckolds is difficult except for four months in the summer.

The Cuckolds is not yet ready for public access. However, we have taken a number of steps to promote public awareness, provide information on progress and plans, and prepare for public use:

- A. The Maine Island Trail Association (MITA) is partnering to help clean up and prepare the Western Cuckolds for public use as a kayaking destination and camping ground. See page 116 in the 2010 Maine Island Trail Guide. We expect to have six people, two work boats, and necessary equipment to remove washed up debris and to create overnight campsites. This activity is planned to complete by 31 July, 2010.
- B. We are undertaking upgrades and improvements to the CuckoldsLight.org Website, so that it will be more interactive, easier to update, and more accessible by the broad public. We expect to complete these upgrades and updates by late summer 2010.
- C. We have continued to host "Fireside Chats" at the Newagen Seaside Inn to brief the public on our project. Two more of these Fireside Chats are planned for this season: July 14 and August 11, 2010.
- D. Signage. You had requested that we amend our Cuckolds Sign to reflect the specific language required in the Deed. We have done this, and we hope it meets your requirements. Please see Photograph provided herein. The sign now reads:

**Cuckolds Fog Signal & Light Station
Circa 1892
Rescued 2006**

Home to keepers and their families from 1892 to 1974, these islands are now a community restoration project, rebuilding the most visible symbol of our maritime heritage and dependence on the sea. Future site for learning about the environment, coastal navigation and maritime safety. A place for adventure, summer outings, and overnight stays.

www.CuckoldsLight.org

The United States of America donated this property to the Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station Council for restoration, preservation and public use through the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act. This program is administered by the National Park Service.

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As of June 1, 2010, the balance of the Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station checking account is \$117,000. Our 2009 tax returns for the 501(c)(3) Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station Council are available upon request.

The Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station is a 501(c)(3) organization, and is led and staffed 100 percent by volunteers. We have no formal or audited financial statements as of this date. We have raised more than \$200,000 to date, in contributions, grants, and pledges. Fundraising efforts were temporarily suspended until construction is underway. Aggressive efforts are planned for the 2010 season to solicit major gifts, investments, and donations.

IV. ISSUES/IMPACTS OR THREATS TO THE LIGHT STATION

We have experienced NONE of the complaints, threats, or difficulties you provide as examples in your guidelines, and we do not anticipate any of this nature.

There are a few individuals (a highly vocal minority of 6 or 7 people within the community), who have spread untrue rumors, and have actively campaigned against restoration of this Light Station. Their issues are voiced as worries that our fundraising will detract from other needy causes within the community, fears of added traffic (cars at Newagen town landing or boats in the Newagen Harbor), and fears of commercial use of the restored Lighthouse. There have also been complaints that our island's major Inn might somehow profit from their offer to provide housekeeping, reservation service, catering, and transportation to and from the rebuilt Lighthouse for overnight guests. In fact, the Inn will be providing these services below cost. To date, regardless of the substantial effort we've made to spread facts instead of falsehoods, some opposition remains.

The most significant threat we have encountered to date is the permitting delays incurred as a consequence of the local government's volunteer planning board's inability to place this unique, historically significant project within the framework of their local regulations.

V. LEGAL INVOLVEMENTS

None of the legal problems suggested in the compliance guidelines have occurred thus far. The only difficulties we have encountered are documented in Section V as described earlier. These permitting issues have prevented and delayed our commencement of construction, and continuing delays are anticipated.

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

For a full description about plans, progress, broad community participation and partnerships, please visit: www.CuckoldsLight.org

Sincerely



Gerry Gamage
President

Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station Council,
Maine Domestic Nonprofit Corporation,

Attachment: Photos of new Cuckolds signage.



Cuckolds Fog Signal & Light Station

Circa 1892
Rescued 2006

Home to keepers and their families from 1892 to 1974, these islands are now a community restoration project, rebuilding the most visible symbol of our maritime heritage and dependence on the sea. Future site for learning about the environment, coastal navigation and maritime safety. A place for adventure, summer outings, and overnight stays.

www.CuckoldsLight.org

"The United States of America donated this property to the Cuckolds Fog Signal and Light Station Council for preservation and public use through the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act. This program is administered by the National Park Service."

New Cuckolds Sign, with the added language required by the Deed.