

U.S. Coast Guard History Program

Station Manomet Point, Massachusetts

USLSS Station #5, Second District
Coast Guard Station # 31



Location:	West shore of Cape Cod Bay, on Manomet Point, 5 3/8 miles south southeast from Gurnet Light; 41-55' 29"N x 70-32' 18"W.
Date of Conveyance:	1873 (?)
Station Built:	1874
Fate:	Turned over to GSA in 1955

Remarks:

This station, built in 1874, was first listed as being located on the "west shore of Cape Cod Bay, seven miles southeast of Plymouth, Massachusetts." The 1901 *Annual Report* mentions that "the old station at Manomet Point, Massachusetts, which was dilapidated and antiquated, has been replaced by a new building." The station was still listed in 1945, but was removed from the list of stations in April 1947. Subsequently the property was turned over to the GSA in 1955.

Keepers:

The first keeper was Stephen Holmes, who was appointed at the age of 37, with twenty years as a surfman, on October 15, 1874, and then resigned on October 1, 1884. He was followed by Miranda R. Sampson (October 13, 1884 and resigned March 22, 1902), George W. Holmes (April 4, 1902 and resigned due to physical reasons July 31, 1908) and August B. Rogers (appointed July 29, 1908 and retired with thirty years service December 3, 1923) In 1922, the station is not listed, but must have been rebuilt during this period; subsequently, its listing included the footnote "including auxiliary boat and apparatus house, eastern entrance Cape Cod Canal." The latter was built in 1919. The next keeper was Robert E. Ellis, reassigned from Monomoy Point station on September 19, 1923 and reassigned to the Monomoy station on July 10, 1924. Chief Petty Officer A. J. Young is shown as assuming command in 1927 followed by Chief I. L. Hammond in 1932, and Chief A. J. Young in 1934; Chief Young was not listed in 1935.

Surfmen Cashman, Griswold, and Stark were drowned during an attempt to assist the stricken passenger liner *Robert E. Lee* off Cape Cod in 1930. On the return trip from the stranded liner, the surfboat overturned in the surf.

Photography:



**Manomet Life Saving Station
USLSS
Manomet, Massachusetts**

Outside Photo Plaque, on Frame: "August 22, 1909"

Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell



Group Photo Plaque, on Frame:

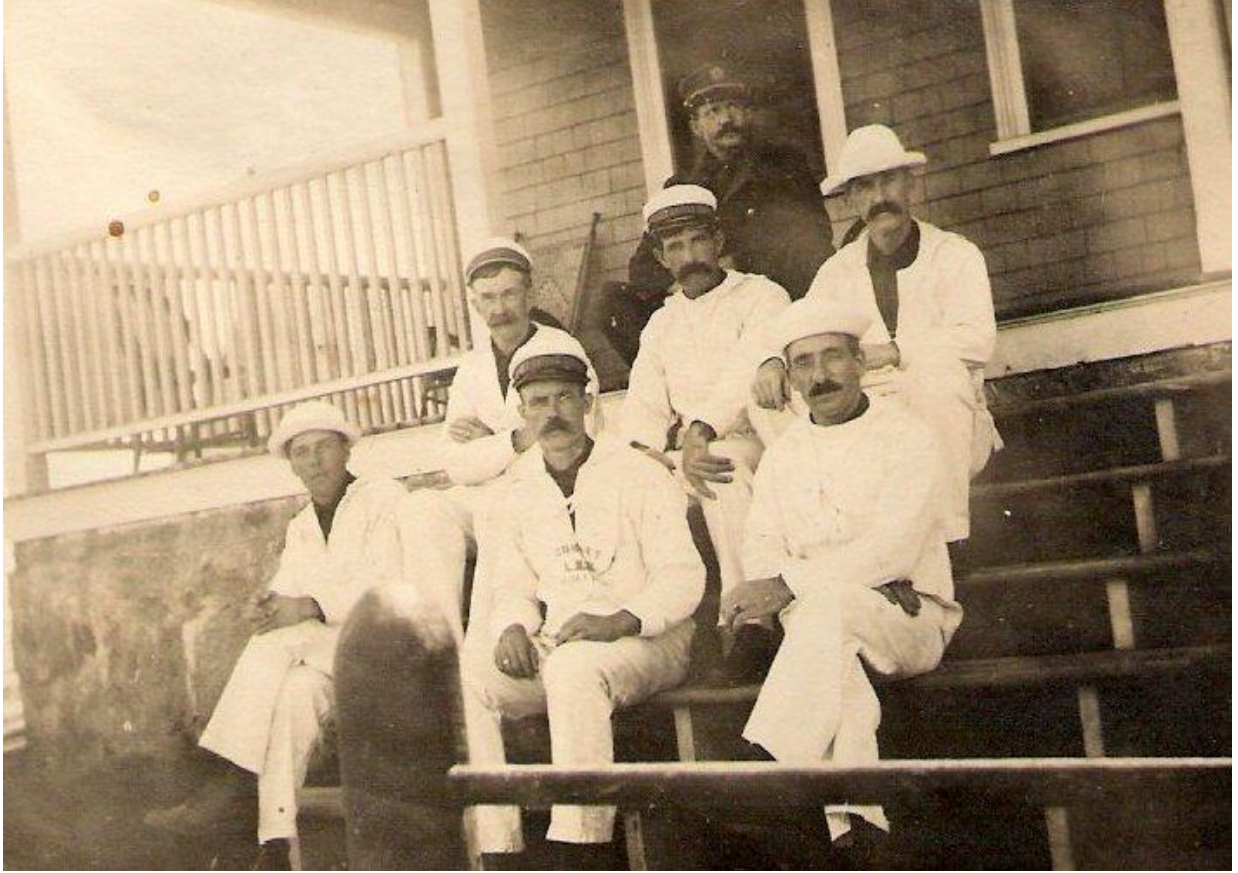
**“Presented to the
Crew of the Manomet
Life Saving Station
By
Miss Ida B. Harris
Jan. 1, 1911”**

**Handwritten note on the back of the photo: “Back row, left to right: Arthur Young [;] John Gustafson [;] James Donovan [;] Charlie Dixon [;] Allie(?) Gillison(?)[;] Mike Joyce [;] Billy Lane [;]
Front row: Steve Holmes [;] Capt. Geo. Holmes [;] Unknown Lady”**

Also, on the note:

“Billy Lane had just come back from liberty and hadn’t had time to change clothes. Very likely haven’t spelled all names right but you will know who I mean”. “Gladys”

Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell



**Manomet Life Saving Station Crew
USLSS
Manomet, Massachusetts
Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell**



**Manomet Life Saving Station
USLSS
Manomet, Massachusetts
Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell**



**Manomet Life Saving Station
USLSS
Manomet, Massachusetts
Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell**



**Manomet Life Saving Station
USLSS
Manomet, Massachusetts
Scan courtesy of Peter D. Haskell**

Sources:

Scanned material courtesy of Peter D. Haskell

Station History File, CG Historian's Office

Ralph Shanks, Wick York & Lisa Woo Shanks. *The U.S. Life-Saving Service: Heroes, Rescues and Architecture of the Early Coast Guard*. Petaluma, CA: Costaño Books, 1996.

U.S. Treasury Department: Coast Guard. *Register of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers and Cadets and Ships and Stations of the United States Coast Guard, July 1, 1941*. Washington, DC: USGPO, 1941.

