



U.S. Coast Guard History Program

Station Oregon Inlet, North Carolina

USLSS Station #16, Sixth District
Coast Guard Station #176

Location:	1 1/2 miles south of Oregon Inlet, and 3 5/8 miles southeast by south of Bodie Island Light; 35-47' 30"N x 75-32' 10"W
Date of Conveyance:	1874
Station Built:	1874
Fate:	Still in operation

Remarks:

In 1873 Congress approved and appropriated funds for the building of 29 lifesaving stations, one of which was the Bodie Island Station, located on the south side of Oregon Inlet. In 1883, the station on the north side of Oregon Inlet (also known as Tommy's Hummock) was officially named the Bodie Island Station and the "old" Bodie Island Station (south of the inlet) was renamed as the Oregon Inlet Station.

By 1888, the Oregon Inlet Station had to be relocated to a new site. It is assumed that this relocation was necessary because of the shifting of the Oregon Inlet channel to the south and the encroachment of the ocean from the east. The station was decommissioned and moved to a new "safe" location some 400 feet westward toward the sound.

Less than a decade later a storm totally destroyed the Oregon Inlet Station. By 1897, a new station was under construction and was completed in Feb. 1898 for a cost of \$6,860.70. As part of a modernization program in 1933-34, the Oregon Inlet Station was extensively modified to look very much like it does today. In 1979, a new extension was added. By 1988, the station was completely

abandoned when the southward migration of the Oregon Inlet threatened to swallow it.

In July 1990, a ceremonial ground breaking was held at the new building site, located just behind the Oregon Inlet Fishing center, on the north side of Oregon Inlet Bridge for construction of a new Multi-Mission station. Estimated to cost \$3.5 million. On 16 March 1992 the Officer in Charge (Master Chief Boatswain Mate Ronald R. Winslow) and crew took command of the new station. The new station was designed with the comfort of the crew, operational adaptability and with the traditional architectural design of older stations located on the Outer Banks in mind. It is a symbol of continuing service to the mariners and the people of the Outer Banks.

Keepers:

Marcus L. Midgett was appointed on MAR 10, 1879 and died in service on JAN 12, 1889.

Samuel J Payne was appointed on MAR 22, 1889. He transferred to Kitty Hawk Station on JAN 8 1892.

Macajah W. Etheridge was appointed on JAN 8, 1892. He left the service in 1915.

Edward S. Daniels was appointed in 1915 and was still serving through 1915.

Sources:

Station History File, CG Historian's Office

Dennis L. Noble & Michael S. Raynes. "Register of the Stations and Keepers of the U.S. Life-Saving Service." Unpublished manuscript, compiled circa 1977, CG Historian's Office collection.

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

