



*Life in the  
1859 Lighthouse  
by Norm Deam*

July 11, 2007



**Saugatuck Area**

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1 inch equals 100 feet  
April 2000  
Cartographic A-100



Survey of  
Kalamazoo River, Mich.

from  
Lake Michigan to Sanganuck,  
made under the direction of  
Sient. Col. S. J. Bydcher, Corps of Engrs. U.S.A.  
by S. W. Duncker, Asst. Engr.  
July-Aug. 1885.

Scale - 1 inch = 100 feet.

The bearings and distances were measured by spirit level, and the elevations by barometer.  
The contour of water level from 10 ft. to 10 ft. below the gauge at Lake Michigan.

Notes: The character of the bottom of the river  
is marked as follows: 1. Gravel and shells; 2. Sand  
and silt; 3. Mud; 4. Vegetation; 5. Other.

Forwarded to the Office of the Chief of Engineers, U.S.A.  
by J. B. Dyer, U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.  
at Detroit, Mich. Jan. 27, 1886.













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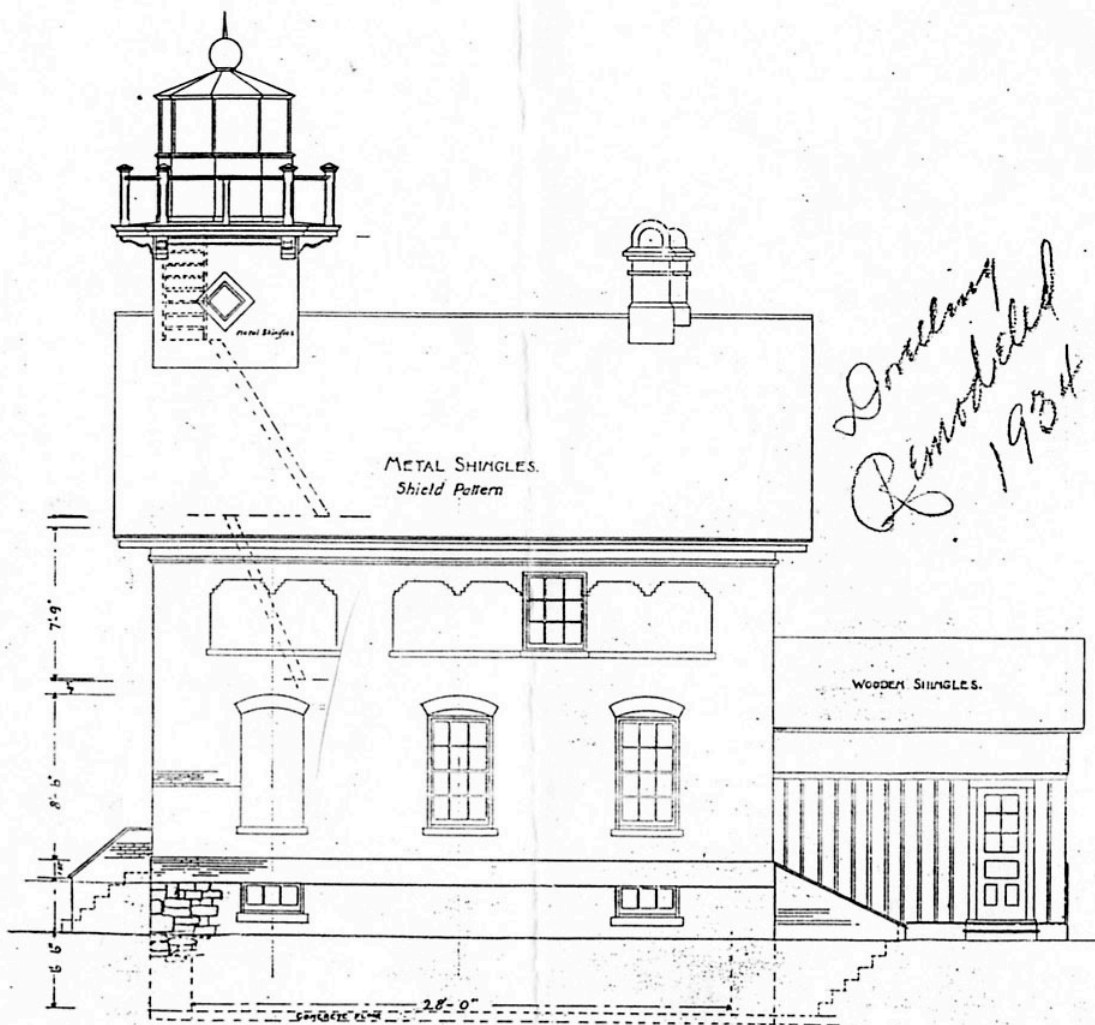
PHOTO BY J.D. KULLE





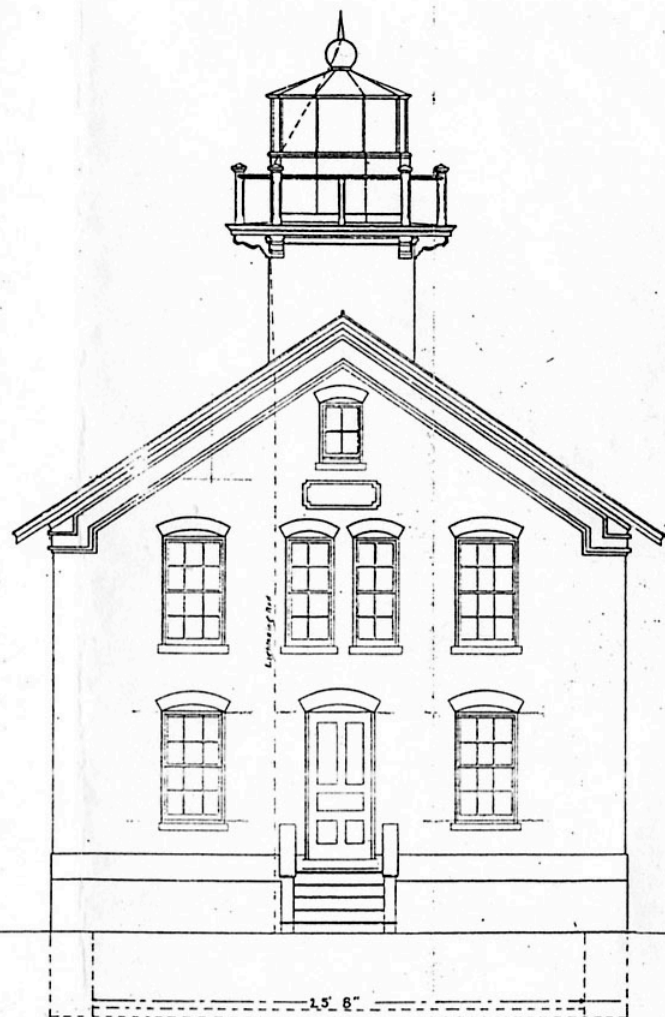






EAST ELEVATION

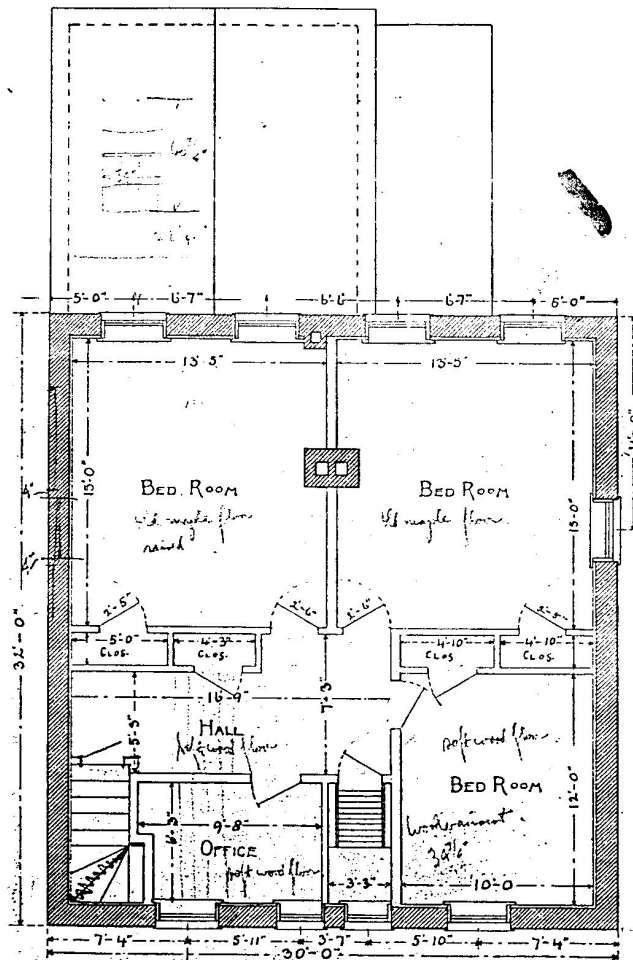
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SOUTH ELEVATION

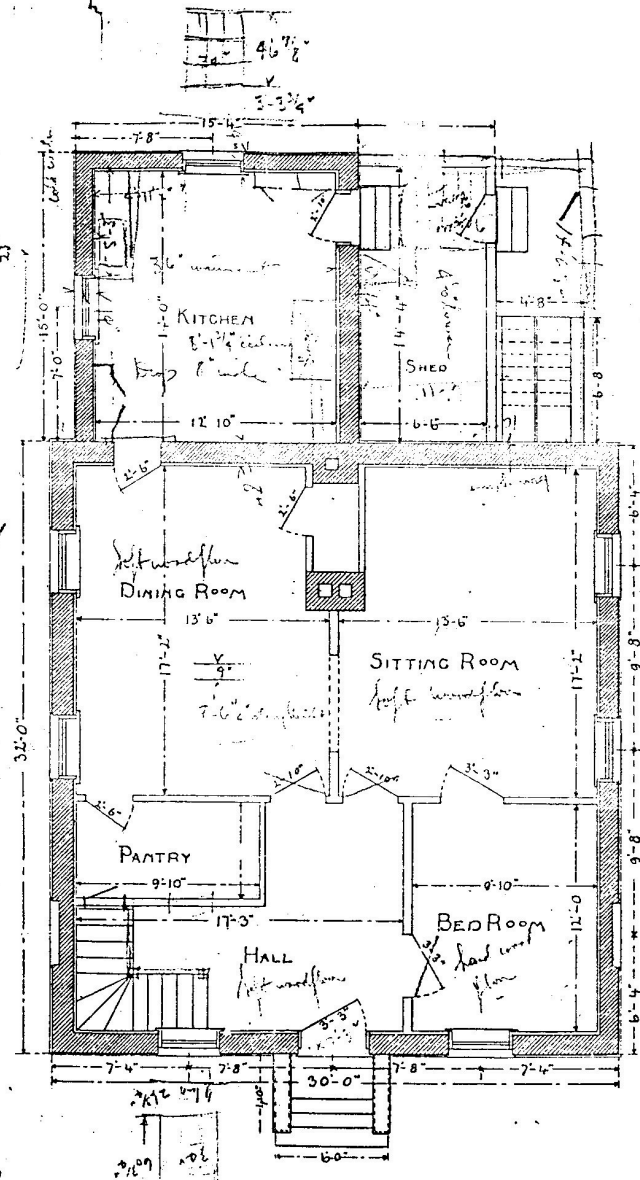


Top finish w/ft floor.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

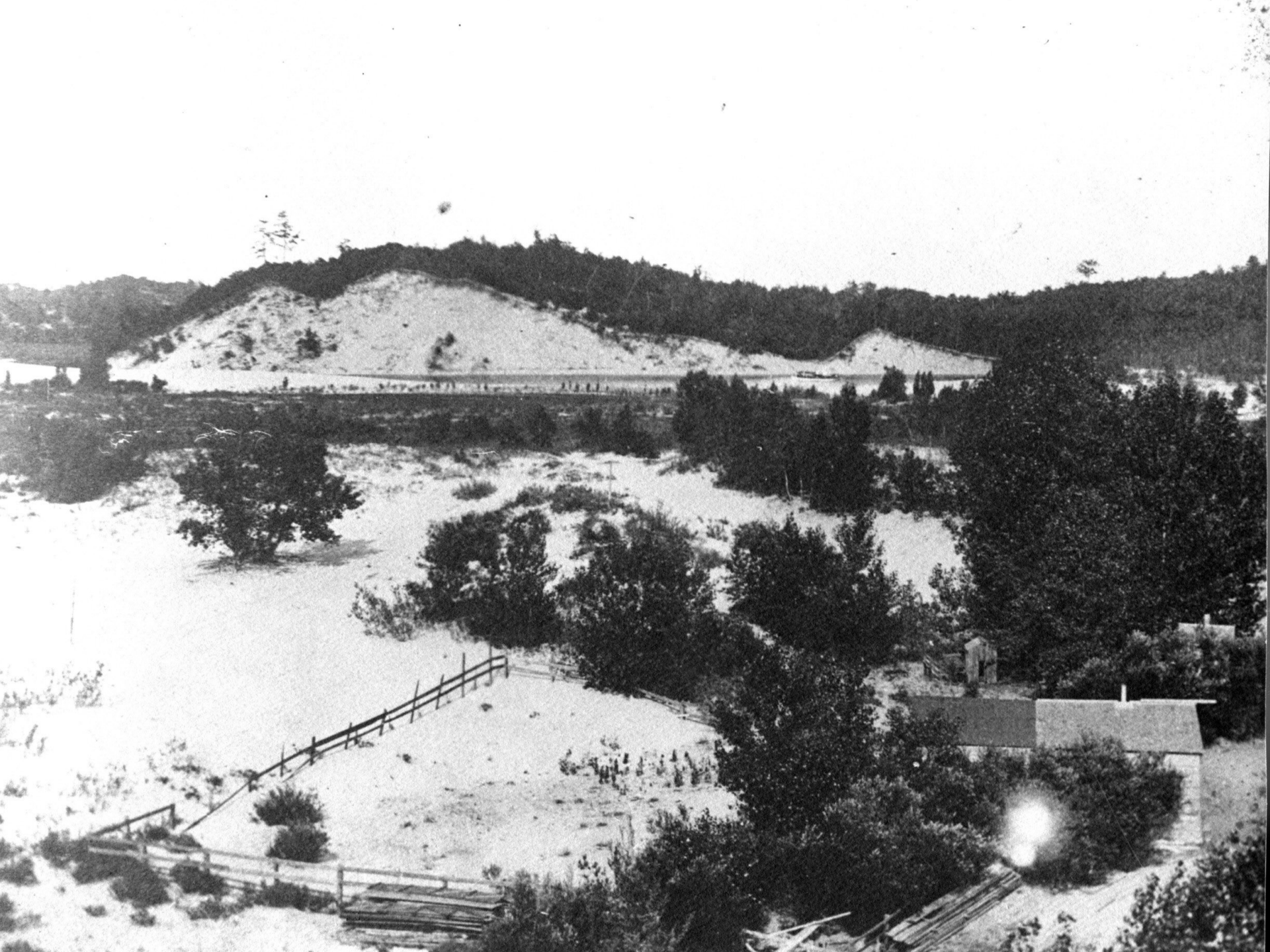
SCALE 1/4" = 1 FOOT

















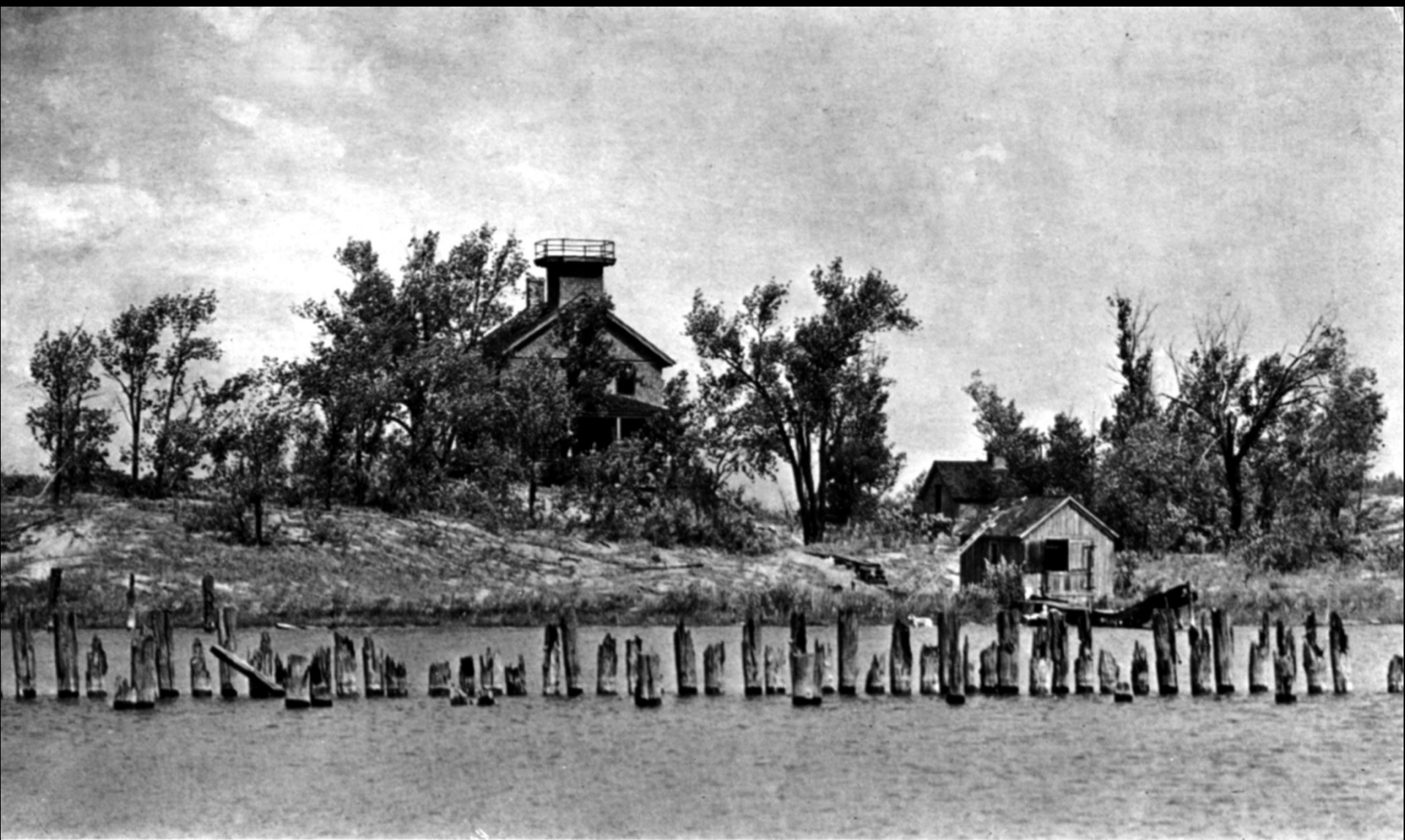












LIGHTHOUSE ON OLD HARBOR ENTRANCE - SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN









































BEA &

SID SODERBERG



NORM & MAR



NORM



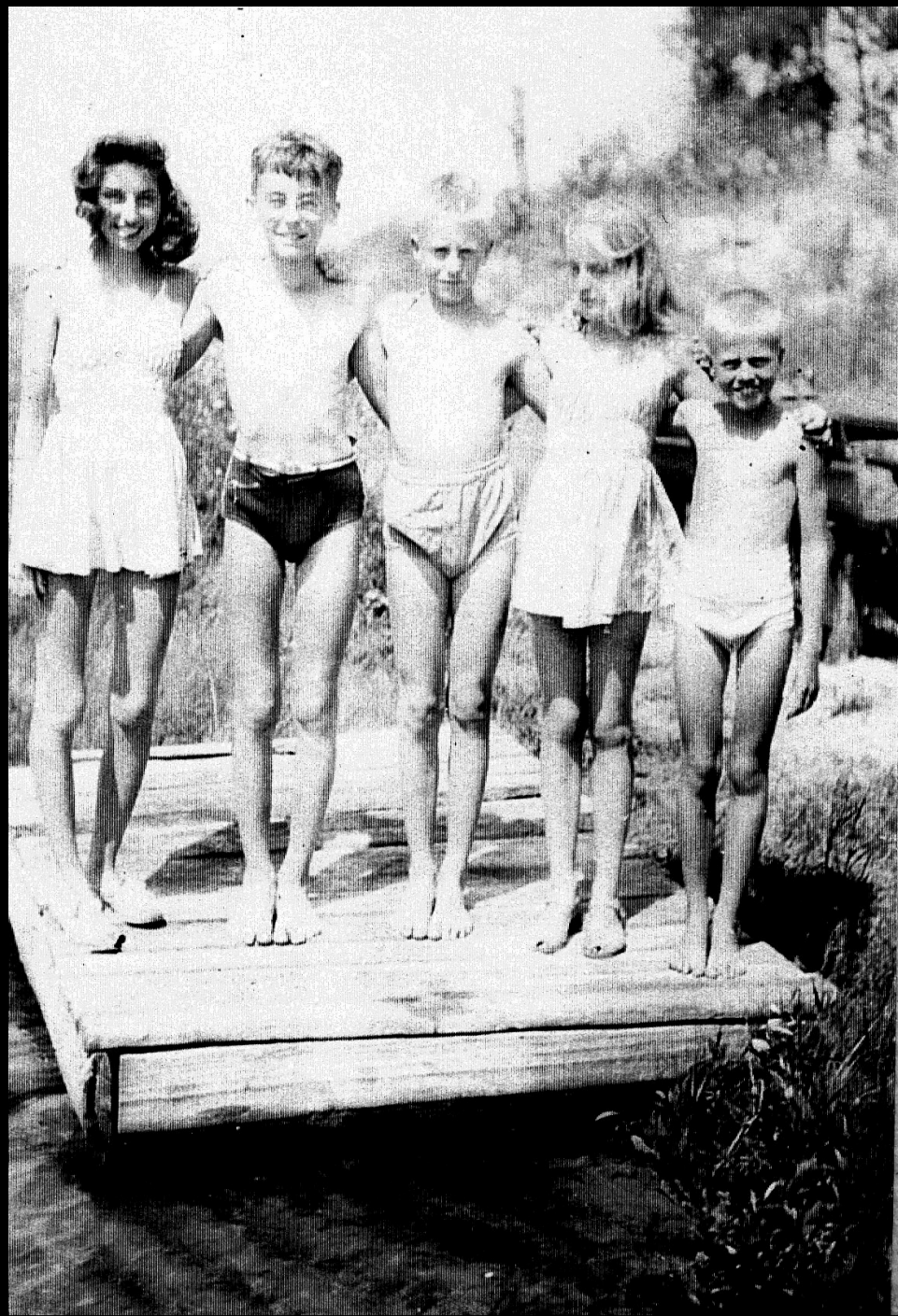
TED SODERBERG & NORM



July 1935











SPARKY, ALICE WALL, CHARLES DEAM, ED, CAROL,  
DICK, JOHN OGVEN, DICK SWAN





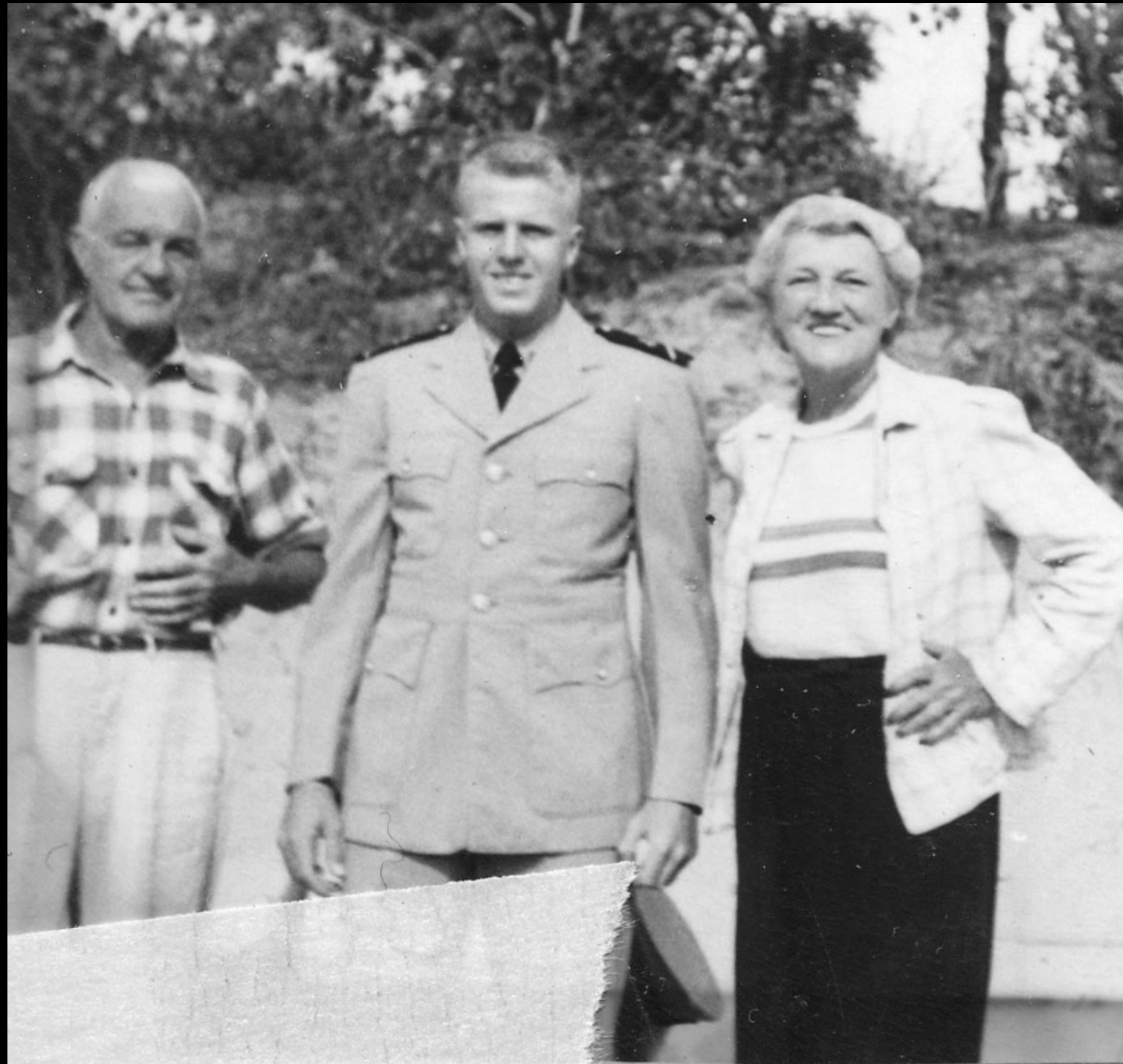




*Lighthouse  
Laundry*









AFD's &  
CHIPPER  
1947

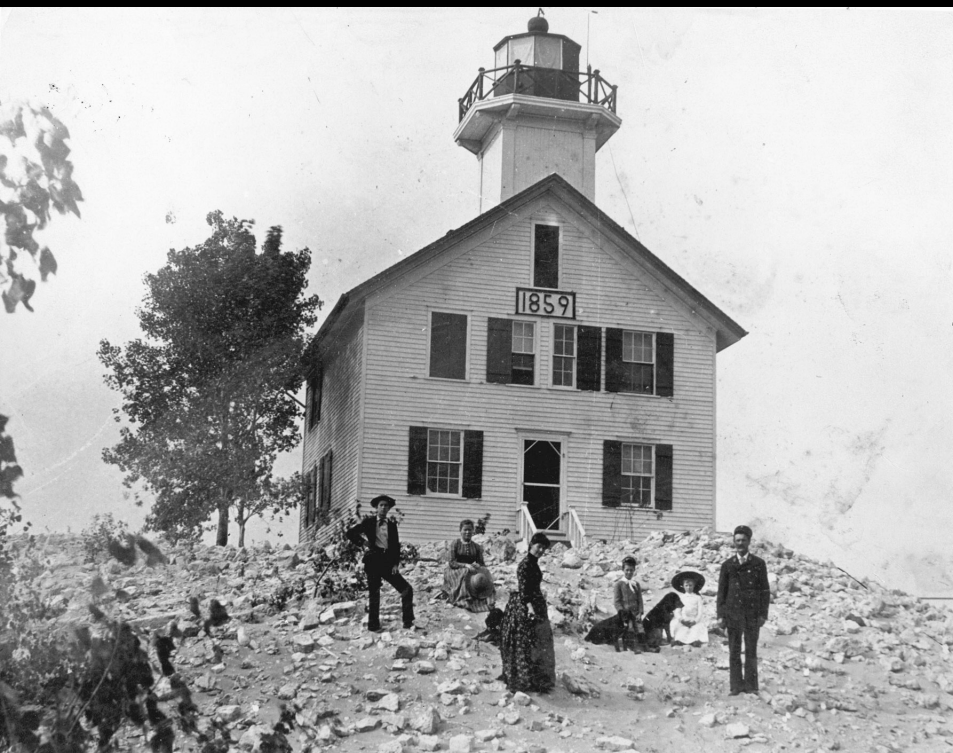




L-A EDWARD LEE MYATHA,  
THYRA SCHUBERTS, NOAHAN ARTHUR,  
ARTHUR FRANCIS DEAM







At 93 years the construction of the Lighthouse is of exciting interest to all. The government built a most unusual but permanent structure. There is no reason for the Lighthouse not to attain the age of some of our famous frame structures of colonial days, as it is as well built as the original colonial houses and built of comparable materials.

With reasonable care throughout the future years it would be possible for the Lighthouse too, like its predecessors of colonial days, to attain a 300th birthday.

It was Mr. Fursman's policy and is our present policy to preserve and keep the structure in its original condition. No major repairs have been necessary.

The original sash and storm sash remain. New roofs have been installed over the old roofs and adequate painting for preservation has been done. The original framing, and lower structure is literally in as good condition as the date of the building.

This lower structural timber plate and balloon framing, a typical characteristic of our oldest frame structures in New England, is worthy of note as it is in this structural frame on which one can predict the longevity if there be no catastrophe.

An added feature, however, holds up the 12" x 12" timber plate on which the building is constructed. This feature is unique in most construction but is highly desirable for construction in locations exposed to inclement weather.

The Lighthouse rests on large iron piling with a large iron plate supporting the timbers. No part of the wooden structural frame is less than four feet from the sand dune on which the Lighthouse was constructed.

The health and comfort of the original occupants of the Lighthouse were considered further by an insulation of rag wool and sawdust between the joists of the first floor.

This is the only example known to the writer of this method of insulation although it may have been common in governmental construction of early days.

A still further guarantee against stormy weather for the Lighthouse keepers consisted of strongly constructed walls of almost nine inches in thickness. It is entirely weatherproof.



The present condition of the adjoining land and the present relation of the Lighthouse to the lake are considerably different than the condition and relationship at the time of the construction of the Lighthouse.

The Lighthouse was built on the only dune in the reservation with the west line of the Lighthouse being less than 90 feet from Lake Michigan.

For more than 50 consecutive years the government operated the Lighthouse with complete personnel. One of the duties of the Lighthouse keeper was to tend the light on the end of the south pier in Lake Michigan.

In addition to the present Lighthouse, toolhouse and boathouse, some of the early maps and photographs show a barn and livestock belonging to the Lighthouse Reservation.

This barn also housed the only other means of communication with Saugatuck for the families of the Lighthouse keeper other than the communication by water.

On a detailed governmental survey of 1895 the road from the Lighthouse to Saugatuck is plotted.

This road formed the land route from the Lighthouse to Saugatuck and traversed the area northeast of the Lighthouse, through the area of the present channel and down the present north bank of the Kalamazoo River.

In seven years we plan on celebrating the hundredth birthday of the Lighthouse. All local friends of the Lighthouse and of this delightful neighborhood will be invited.

The Lighthouse is indeed an interesting historic spot and we assure all interested citizens that we will do everything in our power to preserve it as a historical feature of the Saugatuck-Douglas community.

(END)







*Connie and Norm Deam  
Honeymoon Dec 1955*

CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, President

1201

SYMBOLS  
DL=Day Letter  
NL=Night Letter  
LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PAT 24

(37).

P LLC490 RX T=PHILADELPHIA PENN 4 926PME=  
ARTHUR F DEAM=

1936 APR 4 PM 9 54

CARE CONDR TRAIL BLAZER ENROUTE TO CHICAGO  
RIDING IN ROOMETTE DUE 104 AME PGH=

TORNADO HIT LIGHT HOUSE HAVE ASKED MARY K TO HIRE  
WATCH UNTIL YOU ARRIVE ED HAS CAR AND WILL MEET  
YOUR TRAIN AT GARY 736 CENTRAL STANDARD TIME=

T=

*Handwritten: RX*

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

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PB851

1936 APR 4 6 79.42

P LLC489 RX .T PD=PHILADELPHIA PENN 4 923PME=  
CONDUCTOR, ROOMETTE SECTION=

THE TRAILBLAZER ENROUTE TO CHICAGO DUE 104 AME PGH=

TELEGRAM BEING DELIVERED IN YOUR CARE ADDRESSED ARTHUR  
F DEAM AWAKEN MR DEAM AND DELIVER AT SIX AM INSTEAD OF  
ON RECEIPT THANK YOU

=MRS ARTHUR F DEAM=

*Handwritten: RX*



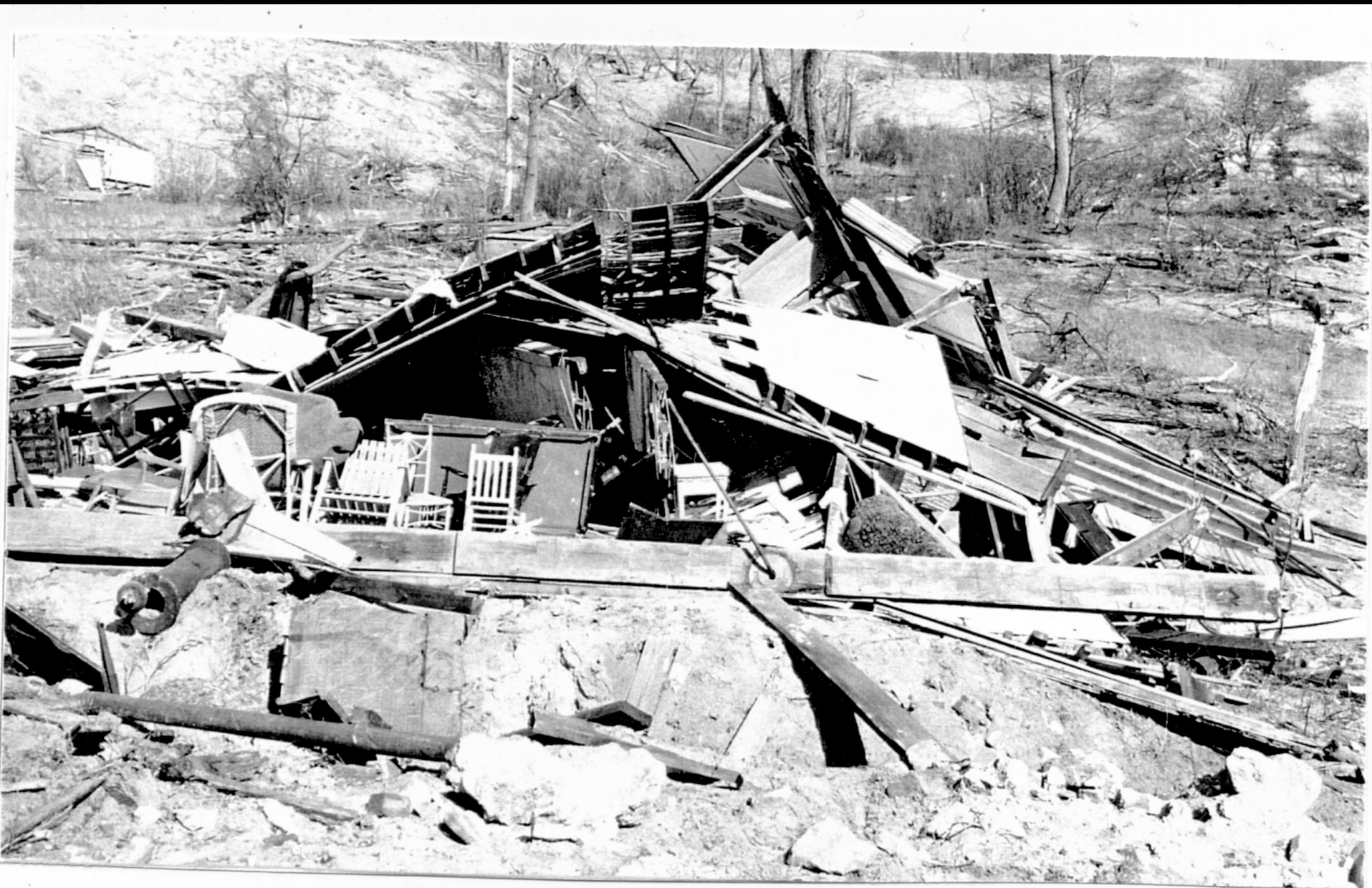




























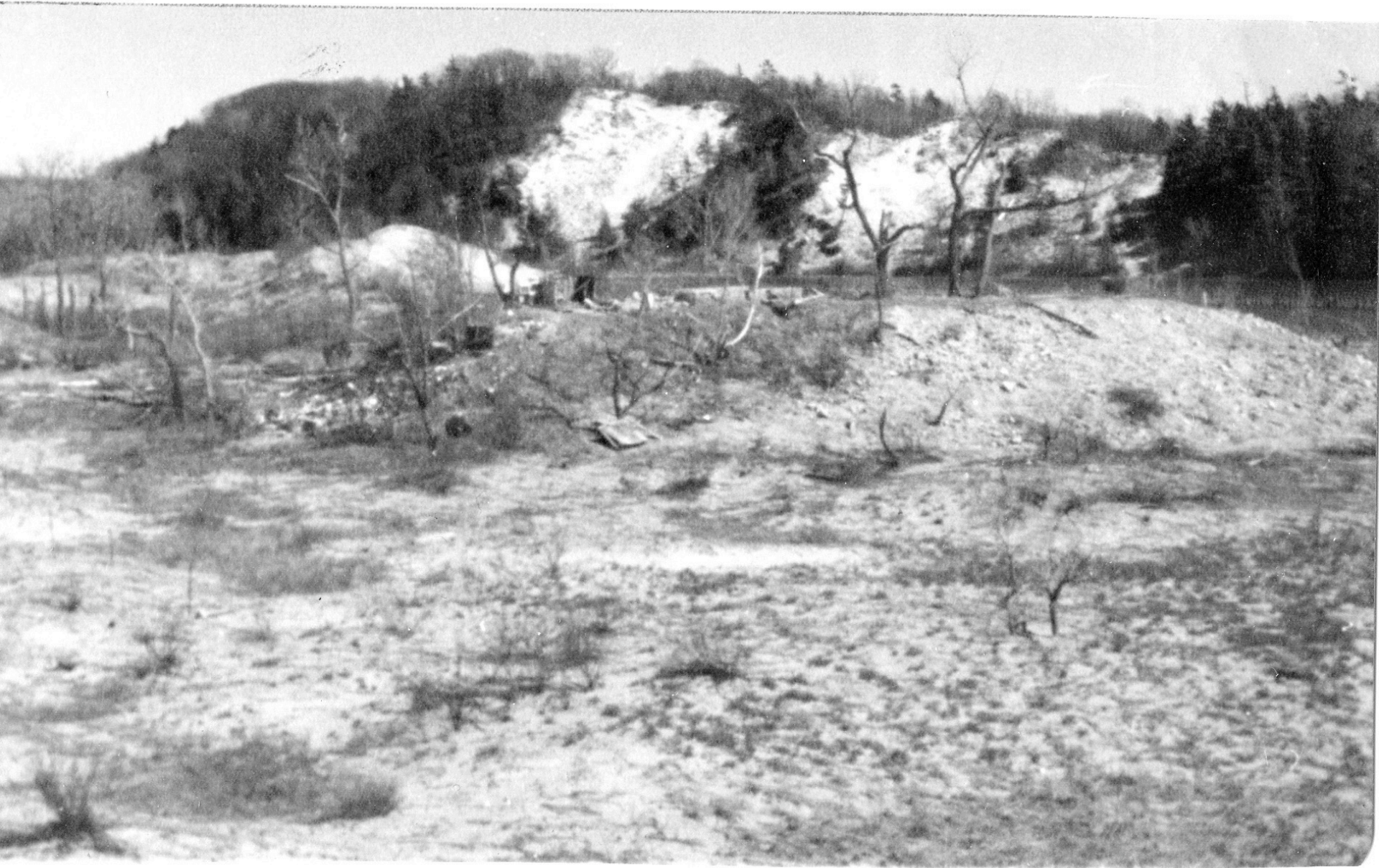






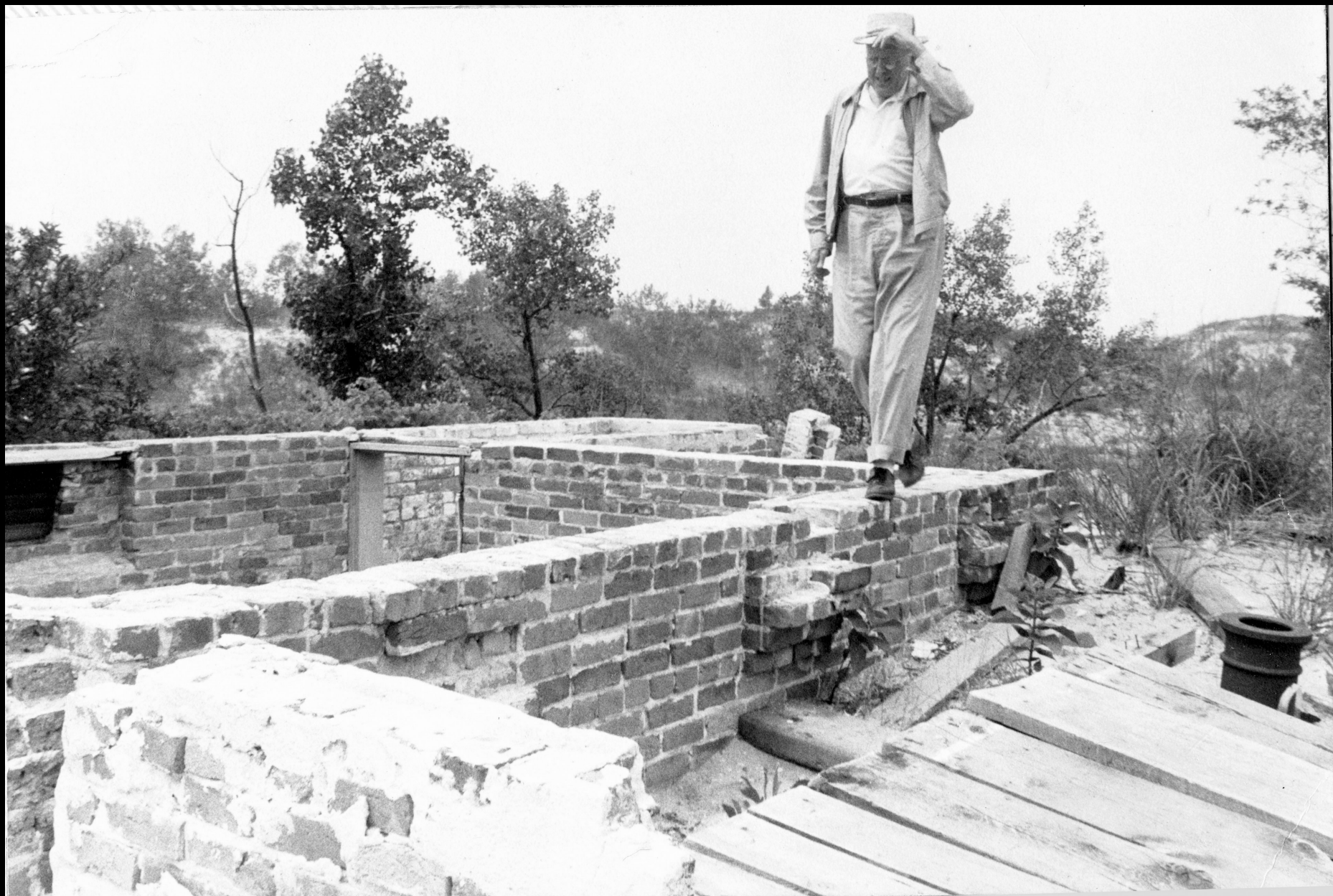
























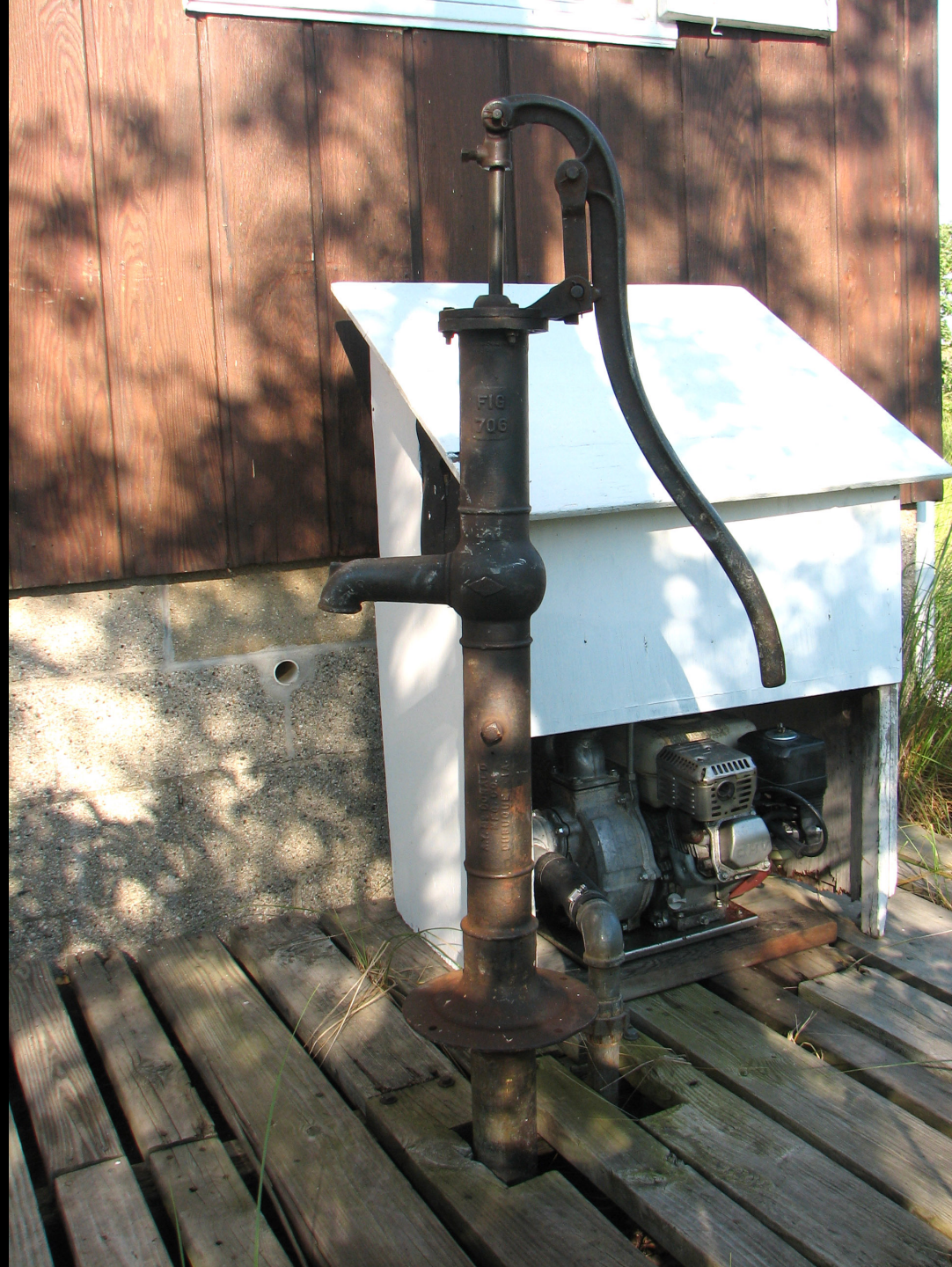














# *The A-Frame Outhouse*

ca 1964 - 74









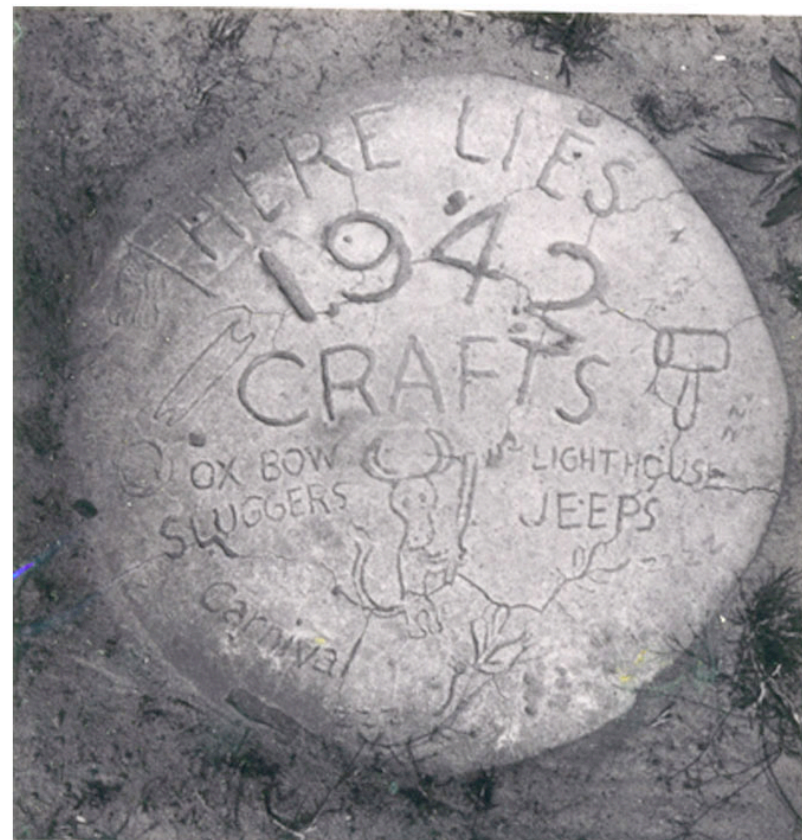








## ***Lighthouse Jeeps Softball team***



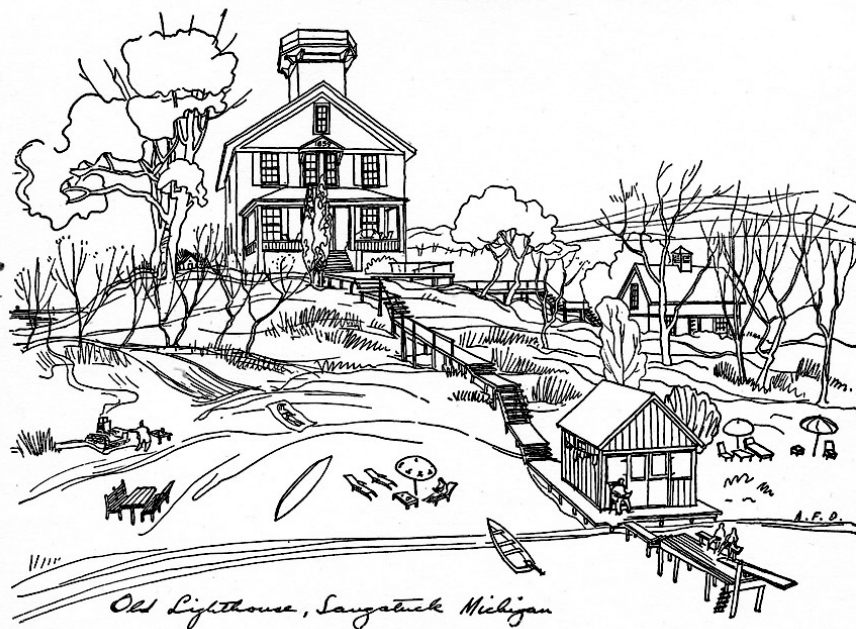








REBUILDING AT LIGHTHOUSE SITE  
SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN



Old Lighthouse, Saugatuck Michigan

*The End*

*The SDHS Thanks Norm*