

Cape Chronicle

February 20, 2020 | Issue 49

Photos of the Week

The following three photos were taken by a U.S. Coast Guard inspector on May 29, 1941. They were taken prior to the transfer of the Ocracoke Light Station from the U.S. Coast Guard to the National Park Service.



Ocracoke Light Station on May 29, 1941



View from the Ocracoke Lighthouse on May 29, 1941.



History



[Bodie Island Lighthouse history](#)



[Cape Hatteras Lighthouse history](#)



[Ocracoke Lighthouse History](#)



Ocracoke Lighthouse on May 29, 1941. Notice the black trim on the window sashes and the exterior parge finish of the lighthouse before the application of the thick shotcrete coating (sometimes called gunite) in the early 1950s.

Ocracoke Updates

- Ocracoke Island reopened to visitors in early December 2019. View the NC Department of Transportation's [Ferry Schedule](#).
- The first half of the Hammock Hills Nature Trail was recently reopened. The remaining half of the trail will reopen when the boardwalks are fully repaired.
- Silver Lake/Visitor Center public restrooms have reopened.
- Ocracoke Campground will reopen for the 2020 camping season on Friday, April 10. The campground kiosk was seriously damaged during Hurricane Dorian and will not be open by the beginning of the camping season. Camping reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov.
- The Ocracoke Beach Access parking area and new restroom facility are expected to open by the middle of April.
- The Ocracoke Visitor Center took a heavy hit from Hurricane Dorian. The Seashore anticipates being able to reopen the visitor center Memorial Day weekend.
- The Seashore's public boat ramps are open.
- [Ocracoke ponies](#) are doing well and can be viewed daily at the pony pen.

Other Seashore Updates

- Superintendent Hallac will provide updates on the 2019 season and visitation patterns at public meetings over the next two months. See schedule in the upcoming events section below.

Quick Links

Recreational Activities

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NC Ferry Schedule

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Emergency Alerts

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Ocean Safety

Visitors can sign up for beach safety text messages by texting "Join OBXBeachConditions" to 30890.

Outer Banks Forever

Outer Banks Forever (www.obxforever.org) is the official non-profit partner of Cape Hatteras National

- The Seashore will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse at a special event this December 16th. More details to follow.
- Beach visitors are encouraged to sign up for beach safety text messages by texting “Join OBXBeachConditions” to 30890. Visit [Love the Beach, Respect the Ocean](#) for important beach and ocean safety information.
- For current beach access information, go to: <http://go.nps.gov/beachaccess>.
- A Tideland Electric Membership Corporation project to improve the reliability of electric service to Ocracoke Island is over 50% complete. [View the most recent update on Facebook](#).

Seashore, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, and Wright Brothers National Memorial.



Large cable reel for the Pole Road underground power line project.

Upcoming Events

Community Discussion – Ocracoke Island [[Facebook Event](#)]

- **Date:** February 27 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Ocracoke Community Center
- **Description:** Superintendent Hallac invites the public to visit with staff and watch a presentation on visitation patterns and park activities during the 2019 season. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Community Discussion – Hatteras Island [[Facebook Event](#)]

- **Date:** March 10 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Location:** Fessenden Center Annex, 47017 Buxton Back Road, Buxton
- **Description:** Superintendent Hallac invites the public to visit with staff and watch a presentation on visitation patterns and park activities during the 2019 season. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

The sound of ocean waves, the starry night sky, or the calm of the salt marshes, you can experience it all. Whether you are enjoying the beach, kayaking the sound, or climbing the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, there is something for everyone to explore at the Seashore!

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Cape Hatteras National Seashore

For questions, or to subscribe/unsubscribe, email Michael_Barber@nps.gov