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For Immediate Release
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Work Continues on Interpretive Exhibit at Bakers Island Light Station

Salem, MA – Essex National Heritage Commission is pleased to announce the progress being made on a new interpretive exhibit for the Bakers Island Light Station. The exhibit will feature the lives of the Bakers Island lighthouse keepers from the first resident keeper, Captain George Chapman, in 1798 to the Andersons who were the last family to reside at the station in the late 1960s. The exhibit will be installed in the Assistant Keepers House in the spring 2020.

The history of the Light Station spans over two centuries and it has been maintained by many dedicated keepers over the years. This project will highlight those efforts, as well as the challenges faced by Bakers Island lighthouse keepers. Through interpretive panels, hands-on demonstrations, and original artifacts, the exhibit will focus on the daily tasks performed by keepers and the technologies involved in operating the lighthouse.

“Through extensive research we are thrilled to have uncovered many of the compelling stories of Bakers Island Lighthouse keepers and we can’t wait to share them,” said Annie C. Harris, Essex Heritage CEO.

Essex Heritage was awarded a grant by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in the amount of \$7,500 in April 2019. Funding for this project was made possible through the sponsorship of Colonel Timothy Pickering Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, located in Salem, Massachusetts.

“The generous support of the DAR makes it possible for us to tell the important history of Bakers Island Light Station, educating nearly 1,000 visitors to the island each year,” said Harris.

The DAR grants program was started in 2010. Funding is awarded to support projects in local communities which promote the organization's mission areas of historic preservation, education and patriotism.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to promote patriotism, preserve American history, and support better education for our nation's children. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. With over 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. To learn more about the work of today's DAR, visit www.DAR.org. For more about applying for a Special Projects Grant from DAR, visit www.dar.org/grants.

For more information, please contact Annie C. Harris at 978-740-0444 or visit essexheritage.org.