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For Immediate Release  
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### **Work Is Completed on the Interpretive Exhibit at Bakers Island Light Station**

Salem, MA – Essex National Heritage Commission is pleased to announce the completion of a new interpretive exhibit for the Bakers Island Light Station. The exhibit features interpretive panels detailing the history of the light station, beginning with the unlit day beacon in 1791 and continuing through the lives of many Bakers Island lighthouse keepers. The exhibit also includes a touchscreen program which shows the evolution of the light station through the years using an interactive timeline and 3D animation.

The history of the Light Station spans over two centuries and it has been maintained by many dedicated keepers over the years. This project highlights those efforts, as well as the challenges faced by Bakers Island lighthouse keepers. Through the interpretive panels, interactive computer programs, and significant artifacts, the exhibit shows the many changes experienced by the light station through the years.

“This spring didn’t go as planned, but we are very pleased that we could complete this exciting exhibit. Through extensive research and communication with the families of past keepers, we were able to uncover many exciting stories from the light station,” said Annie C. Harris, Essex Heritage CEO. “We hope to build upon this exhibit and continue to share new stories in the coming years.”

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, and although there are fewer visitors to the island this year, we know that this exhibit will be extremely valuable in the education of future visitors,” said Harris.

Research for the exhibit was done by David Moffat, Susan Baker Leavitt, and Essex Heritage staff. Exhibit panel design was done by Great Island Design. Panel production was done by Advanced Imaging, Inc. Interactive tablet design and programming was done by New England Technology Group, Inc.

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](http://www.DAR.org). For more about applying for a Special Projects Grant from DAR, visit [www.dar.org/grants](http://www.dar.org/grants).

Essex Heritage is the non-profit organization that manages the Essex National Heritage Area by developing programs that enhance, preserve and encourage recreation, education, conservation and interpretation projects on Boston’s North Shore and the Lower Merrimack River Valley. The Essex National Heritage Area is comprised of the 34 cities and towns of Essex County, MA. For more information, visit [www.EssexHeritage.org](http://www.EssexHeritage.org) or call (978) 740-0444.

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