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PORT ORFORD LIFEBOAT MUSEUM ANNIVERSARY

2025 marks the 25th Anniversary of the opening of the Lifeboat Museum!



THE LIFEBOAT STATION MUSEUM
Forge River-type station was first built in 1934.



LIFEBOAT No. 36498



Photos: Lance Nix Collection

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE QUARTERS

On June 3 2000, the Port Orford Lifeboat Station opened its doors as a public museum and there was much rejoicing in Port Orford. Join us in 2025 as we take a trip down memory lane in the *Heritage Journal* in a series of articles to remember the events that led up to this momentous occasion and to recall what it means to be honored with such a distinction.

From *The Point Orford Heritage Society News* (Vol. 6/Iss. 2, p.1): "The Port Orford Lifeboat Station Museum/ Interpretive Center opened on June 3, 2000 (*State Parks Day*) with over 174 people in attendance for the grand opening ... It was nice to see Art Hinderlie and Wayne Gage, former Officers-in-Charge, and Tim Flake, son of Officer-In-Charge Odell Flake, attending the opening and reminiscing ... As of September 26, 2000 over 700 people have visited the museum and it has been very favorably received. From a volunteer's standpoint, it makes all the hours

worthwhile when you hear a former resident of the building (*U.S. Coastguardsman*) say "This is great" and it brings a tear to their eye or when someone goes to the local history area and says "I remember that!", or "Is that the way it was then?"

Another specific comment (*Vol. 6/Iss. 2, p.2*): "I stayed here for two weeks in the Summer of 1996 as the cook for the University of Oregon Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School.

It is great to see that the idea of a museum is being realized and that (*Lifeboat #36498*) has been returned. Port Orford is an incredible site in a wonderful town. I hope that plans continue to provide access to Nellie's Cove and

even have the boathouse reconstructed. Good luck with everything." — *Mara B. Nilsson in June 2000.*

And lastly from 2000: "More members with more ideas and more energy are always needed to keep us going on this inspiring and worthwhile project. Be sure to contact one of the Board of Directors, if you are interested in joining any of our activities." ~*This certainly remains true twenty-five years later. Come join us!* ✨



NELLIE'S COVE and the remains of the old boathouse.