

WALTER B. JONES
3D DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

ROOM 2333
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3415

COMMITTEES:
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1105-C CORPORATE DRIVE
GREENVILLE, NC 27858
(252) 931-1003
(800) 351-1697

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

December 20, 2013

Superintendent Barclay Trimble
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
1401 National Park Drive
Manteo, NC 27954

Dear Superintendent Trimble:

I am writing to request an update from you about the National Park Service's (NPS) policy regarding maintenance of the original Cape Hatteras Lighthouse foundation stones.

Earlier this week the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and Genealogical Society contacted me to express concern about the Park Service's commitment to maintaining the stones. According to the society, the Park Service has stated "that it no longer intends to keep maintaining the stones due to it being no longer practical to keep uncovering and rearranging the stones after each storm." The society also stated that "each year, especially through peak tourist season, thousands visit the lighthouse per day and purchase climbing tour tickets . . . It is not hard to do the math and to see that indeed, there are funds out there to preserve the site."

As I know you understand, Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is an enormously important piece of Eastern North Carolina's heritage. Preserving the foundation stones, which bear the names and dates of all of the lighthouse keepers, is essential.

I would be grateful if you would provide me with a response to this letter which outlines the Park Service's position on the foundation stones, as well as your thoughts on how the Service can assist in ensuring that these important pieces of Eastern North Carolina history survive for future generations to visit.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress