October 10, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to endorse the efforts by Massachusetts’ Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands to preserve the Lovells Island Oil House through DCR’s Partnership Matching Funds Program.

The Lovells Island Oil House is the last remaining structure on the island associated with the range light system that helped ships navigate into Boston Harbor in the early 20th century. Ships carrying European immigrants to their new home in America used the system of lights on Graves, Lovells, Spectacle and Rainsford islands to navigate around shoals and low-lying islands and safely into Boston Harbor. The humble brick oil house is now the only tangible resource remaining from a system of boardwalks and two lighthouses on Lovells Island, and along with Graves Light is one of only two structures remaining from the full range light system.

The rehabilitation of the oil house will enliven this history and inspire the integrated team of park rangers from DCR and National Park Service to bring the stories of immigrants, ship captains, and Boston’s commercial port to future generations of park visitors. We enthusiastically support the effort, and will look forward to contributing in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Michael Creasey
General Superintendent