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Ms. Jessica De Vivo
Cichanowicz, Callan, Keane, Vengrow & Textor, LLP
61 Broadway, Suite 3000
New York, NY 10006

Dear Jessica,

I'm writing about the collision between the insured ketch *Sumurun* and the New York 30 class sloop *Amorita*. As technical editor of *WoodenBoat* magazine and a former curator at Mystic Seaport Museum, I've had a long association with classic yachts and over the past 30 years have actively participated in rescuing and restoring many of them. Currently I edit a feature called "Save a Classic" that appears on the last page of each *WoodenBoat* issue. Through this, word is circulated about worthy old boats needing new owners and complete restorations. Many have changed hands and a number of the 50+ that have been featured have been beautifully restored.

For the past 25 years, I've also had the pleasure of helping select photographs for the award winning Calendar of Wooden Boats and have done the research and written the captions on each of the 12 annually featured wooden boats. Through the calendar's annual circulation of 40,000 or so, awareness has been raised and deserving boats have been saved, restored, and enjoyed.

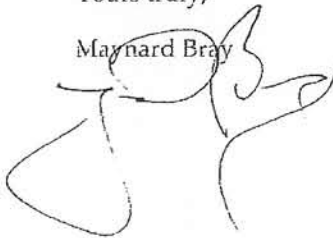
My point in the above is to make you aware that there's passion, interest, and commitment among yachtsmen of means and influence. More specifically, there's a good deal of interest in rescuing and restoring surviving New York 30s—a class that in 2005 celebrated its centennial. These are not just any boats, but are classics that are loved and revered. They are not to be "totaled" and discarded, and any move to do so would be met with consternation and dismay. I'd be among the first to publicize such a move.

I've been led to believe that instead of underwriting the cost of a proper repair of the damage inflicted by *Sumurun* to *Amorita*, *Sumurun*'s company is proposing to "total" her without regard to her historic value or the esteem with which New York 30s are so widely held. To me, this doesn't seem right. *Amorita* isn't just any old boat that can be replaced with another. She is dearly loved and was lavishly cared for—and, when hit, was in near perfect condition. I feel that *Amorita* deserves to be restored to be as good as she was when *Sumurun* hit her, and that the guilty party or his insurance company should bear the entire cost.

If you feel I'm misinterpreting the situation, I'd be happy to hear from you.

Yours truly,

Maynard Bray

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Maynard Bray', written over the typed name. The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with a large loop at the end.