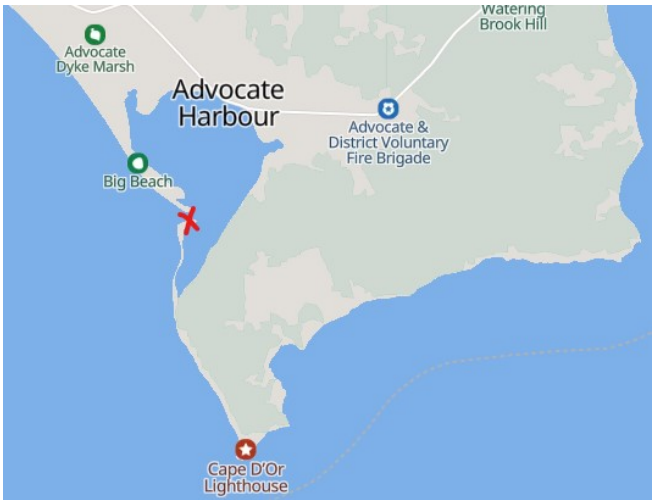




Advocate Harbour Lighthouse
Credit: Lighthouse Friends



Red X marks location of lighthouse
Credit: Mapcarta

Most people think that Cape d’Or was the first major NS lighthouse built on the northern shore of the Bay of Fundy. Not so! In 1884 a square wooden tower mounted on cribwork was erected on a sand bar on the main channel of water leading into Advocate Harbour. It had a 6th order Fresnel lens that projected a fixed red light for 11.3 km (7 mi) in clear weather.

The Fundy tides with their high tidal range eroded the sand bar and made it necessary to move the Advocate Harbour Lighthouse twice along the sand bar. Finally in 1888 it was moved to the opposite side of the channel and a dwelling attached to the lighthouse was built at the same time.

This lighthouse had seven lightkeepers, five of who had “Morris” as their last name. However it was World War I veteran, Vance Barteaux, who was hired in 1920 to tend the light seasonally from April to January. The Federal government had decided it was cheaper to hire veterans as lightkeepers than it was to pay them a pension.

Vance met his future spouse in France when he introduced himself by walking up behind her and giving her hair a tug. She returned his greeting by hitting him on the side of the head. Life is strange; the two married in 1919 and had seven children. Every spring the family plus a pig and some chickens would move out to the lighthouse and every fall they would move back to the village of Advocate Harbour probably to let the children attend the local school.

In 1958 the lighthouse became unmanned and in 1964 a fire destroyed the lighthouse. In its place a fluorescent orange skeletal tower was set up. Today a square metal tower covered with red and white slats marks the entrance to Advocate Harbour.



Close up of Advocate Harbour Lighthouse
Credit: Library and Archives Canada



Current aid to navigation at Advocate Harbour
Credit: LF – David Harding