



1st Apple River Lighthouse with fog horn building
Credit: Library and Archives Canada



Site of Apple River Lighthouse
Credit: Google Map

Apple River in Cumberland County may be a quiet village today, but in 1848 its harbour was considered the only safe anchoring place in the area. At first two lights shone from a house at nearby Cape Capstan until the house burned down in 1869. A wooden “church” lighthouse was then built in 1870 with a tall square tower topped by a red lantern room rising from one end of the lightkeeper’s dwelling. There were only six lighthouses with this style built in Nova Scotia and just one on East Ironbound Island remains today. In 1968 the lighthouse was replaced with a tall square concrete tower and lantern erected on the corner of the square concrete fog horn building. In 1973 this lighthouse was automated and unmanned. Later on the lantern room was removed probably due to lack of onsite care and an airport beacon installed on top of the tower. Therefore it is surprising to know that the Canadian Coast Guard reinstated a new red lantern on top of the tower in 2019. Hopefully this lantern will get the maintenance it needs so it doesn’t get removed a 2nd time!



2nd Apple River Lighthouse without lantern
Credit: Lighthouse Friends



2nd Apple River Lighthouse with new lantern
Credit: Allan Shepherd