



Discontinued front range light with HPLA status
Credit: NSLPS - DC Jul 2025



Same light paired with rear range light now gone
Credit: Kelly Ann Loughery pre-2022

Would you call this structure a lighthouse? Parks Canada gave it top federal heritage status, HPLA, in 2022. Erected in 1883 as the front tower of a range light pair, it is a 6.3m (20.6ft) high tower capped by a pyramidal roof but without a lantern room. There is a square window at the top of the tower where a shelf held an oil lamp with a reflector to shine a light for 14km (9 mi). This style was used in New Brunswick, PEI, Quebec and Ontario, but not in Nova Scotia (NS). The Havre Boucher range lights nearby the Strait of Canso, NS were originally a pair of pepper-shaker lighthouses built in 1879 and topped with square wooden lanterns. So why was there a difference as all three towers were built around the same time? Nova Scotia is noted for its hilly coastline while shores in the other provinces are flat in comparison. Perhaps there was a need to make the NS range lights very distinctive to pick them out from the surrounding terrain!



Havre Boucher Front Range now gone
Credit: Bernard Clausen 2004



Havre Boucher Range Lights today
Credit: Lighthouse Friends 2012