

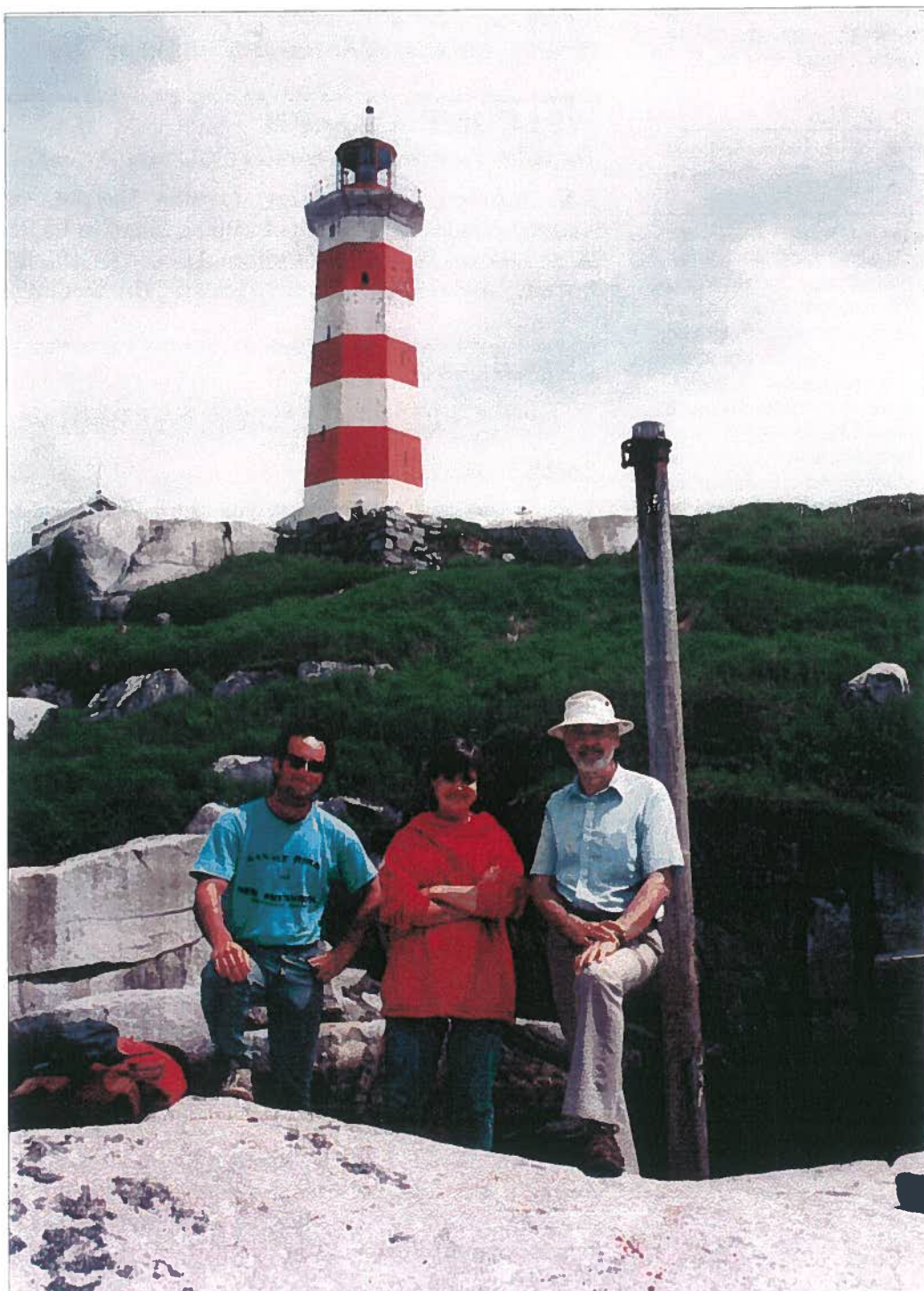


10th ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

THE Lightkeeper

The Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society

Vol. 11, No. 1, March 2004



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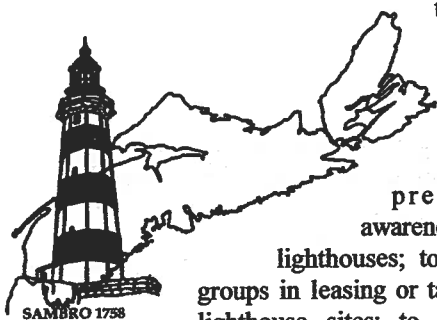
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CELEBRATIONS

Cover: NSLPS founding members Chris Mills, E. Patricia MacDonald and Graham McBride on Sambro Island. *Photo by NSLPS founding president E.H. Rip Irwin. Taken July 5, 1993, the day the idea for the NSLPS was born.*

Back Cover: NSLPS Founding president Rip Irwin in the lantern room of the venerable Sambro Island lighthouse. *Chris Mills*



The objectives of the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society are: To promote and support preservation and awareness of Nova Scotia lighthouses; to assist community groups in leasing or taking ownership of lighthouse sites; to provide access to written research and photographic documentation and to initiate oral history research, and to classify and monitor the status of historic lighthouse sites.

WEBSITE: <http://www.nslps.com>

LIGHTKEEPER EDITOR: CHRIS MILLS

PATRONS: Ian Anderson, Paul & Sally Bates, Carl R. Lautenslager, Serge Pare, Ronald Stewart, C.A. Straughn, Betty Schloss, Peter Westaway.

AFFILIATES: Beacon Memories, Burntcoat Head Park, Cape Sable Historical Society, Central Nova Tourist Association, Chapel Hill Historical Society, Chebucto Head Lighthouse Society, Clyde River Inn, Coastal Peoples Learning Network Ltd., Cunard Steamship Society, English Harbour Heritage Society, Fieldwood Heritage Society, Five Islands Lighthouse Society, Friends of the Yarmouth Light Society, Gilbert Cove and District Historical Society, Greville Bay Shipbuilding Museum Society, Hampton Lighthouse Society, Henry Island Lighthouse Preservation Society, Islands Historical Society, Keepers of the Beacons, Lin Art Designs, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Medway Area Communities Association, Mosher Island Lighthouse Preservation Society, Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, North Shore Development Association, Nova Scotia Lighthouse Interpretive Centre, Old Cape Light Restoration Committee, Outdoor Club, Paddy's Head Lighthouse Preservation Society, Port George District Lighthouse Society, Region of Queens Municipality, Sambro-Ketch Harbour Elementary School, Sandy Point Recreation Group, Spencers Island Community Association, Sydney Harbour Fortification Society, Terence Bay Lighthouse Committee, Town of Lockeport, Walton Area Development Association.

NSLPS EXECUTIVE 2003/2004

President/Lighthouse Protection Act- Barry MacDonald 827-2027 e-mail: threefathom@eastlink.ca

Past President- Tony Thompson 477-7366 e-mail: tony@mscs.dal.ca

First Vice President: 1st Director, Affiliate Services: Doug Bamford 494-8180 (w) e-mail: dbamford@nscad.ns.ca

Second Vice President/Editor, *The Lightkeeper*- Chris Mills 868-2313 e-mail: ketch@ns.sympatico.ca

Treasurer- Peter Flemming 477-7531 e-mail: peterf@nscad.ns.ca

Secretary- Donna Merriam

461-0868 (h/w) e-mail: d.merriam@ns.sympatico.ca

Director, Website Content, Trips & Programmes- Kathy Brown 479-3115 e-mail: kathy@fromthesea.ca

Director, Webmaster, Membership, Databases-

Peter MacCulloch e-mail: peter@twrsoft.com

Director, Trips and Programmes/Mail person- Dorothy MacLeod 423-8034

Director, ALC Community Committee- Josette d'Entremont e-mail: josette_dentremont@msn.com

Director, Historical Research- Dan Conlin e-mail: conlindg@gov.ns.ca

Director, Member-at-Large, ALC Chairperson: Brian Liekens

Director, Member-at-Large- Brenda Shannon e-mail: bshannon@sprint.ca

Director, Member-at-Large- Dan Sinclair 677-2133

WELCOME ABOARD

The following new members recently joined the NSLPS:

R.K. Acheson, Pete Delaney, Quentin Haughn, Gayle Keresey, Velda Knowles, Rita Lampier, Mandine Le Blanc, Brian Liekens, Deborah McCulloch, Lorna Mitchell, Elinor Roberts, Muriel Smiley, Betty L. Thomas, Elizabeth Walker

PROGRAMS

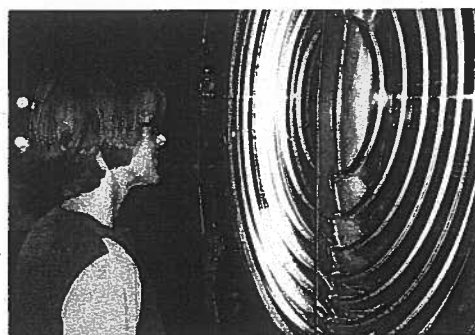
★ HAPPY BIRTHDAY, NSLPS!!! ★

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday April 28, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

7:00 PM: AGM

including the final report on the exciting J.M. Kaplan Fund grants that helped restore and preserve seven of Nova Scotia's heritage lighthouses, presentation of the third annual Craig Harding award for service to lighthouses, launching of the new NSLPS website on large screen, reports, election of officers and board.



Sambro lens. *Chris Mills*

8:30 PM: Birthday Party

NSLPS is 10 years old in 2004 and we're going to party! Founding member Chris Mills will give an illustrated overview of the accomplishments and activities of the past ten years; we'll light lighthouse lenses including the magnificent optic from Sambro Lighthouse, and blow fog horns and of course we'll enjoy some birthday cake. Join us for a celebration like no other!

SENTINELS ON CANVAS: BRITISH LIGHTHOUSES AS DEPICTED IN NOVA SCOTIAN SHIP PORTRAITS

Wednesday, June 16th

7:00: Reports of NSLPS Activities

7.30 pm: Illustrated Talk

In the nineteenth century, sailing ships from Nova Scotia were a common sight on the oceans of the world. Many crossed the Atlantic to Liverpool. These ships, the pride of their owners, were documented by artists in stunning 'Ship's Portraits,' some of which will be on display at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic this summer.

Many of these paintings feature lighthouses in the background – lighthouses that are not figments of the artist's imagination but depictions of real buildings.

Join us for a very special evening with Eric Ruff, Director/Curator of the Yarmouth County Museum and an authority on these paintings. In 2003 he visited North Wales and photographed lighthouses on that coast and at the entrance to Liverpool Harbour. He'll show us the lighthouses as they are today and paintings that depict the towers and the ships that passed them a century or more ago.

TRIPS

ON THE WATER: TOURS OF HALIFAX HARBOUR LIGHTHOUSES

Saturdays: May 29, June 26, July 31, August 28, and September 25

Depart Purcell's Cove Marina, 521 Purcell's Cove Road at 9 AM

Return at approximately 4 PM

See the Lighthouses of Halifax Harbour and approaches close up, aboard the Sea Tiger, a Canadian Coast Guard approved 42-foot Cape Islander. Get an on-the-water view of Halifax's magnificent harbour. NSLPS guides will tell you about the lighthouses: **Maughers Beach (on McNabs Island), Chebucto Head, Sambro Island, Devils Island, and Georges Island.**

There will be a trip ashore on Sambro Island (weather permitting), to get a close look at the lighthouse and have lunch. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. **Cost- \$50 per person - lunch and refreshments included.** A portion of the trip fee will be donated to the NSLPS. Registration required.

For further information and to make arrangements for a wonderful day on the water, call George Hebb at 477-6537.

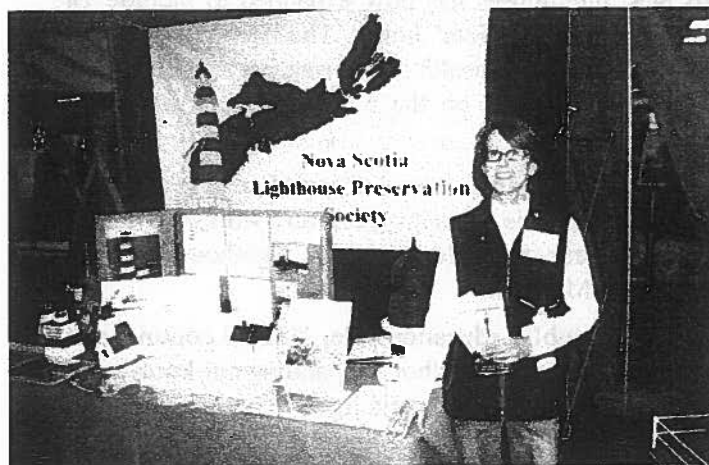
NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Donna Merriam

Just in case you missed the news – this is the NSLPS's 10th Anniversary Year!! Plans are moving ahead rapidly for an interesting and fun program to celebrate this milestone at the Annual General Meeting on April 28th at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. It's a great opportunity to reminisce about the crests and troughs of the past ten years and share a laugh or two along the way. There will be plenty of tea to wash down the anniversary cake, so plan to attend and bring a friend!

The New Year got off to a busy start for the board as work on the new website design and expanded content moved swiftly forward thanks to the concerted efforts of former president Kathy Brown and NSLPS webmaster Peter MacCulloch. The old site attracted 72,000 hits in the past five years and has been a valuable tool in spreading word of the beauty and value of Nova Scotia lighthouses.

We're enthusiastically anticipating the prospect of a much updated and informative site, which will be well on its way to completion in time for this year's summer touring



Energetic NSLPS board member Josette d'Entremont at the 2004 Boat Show. *Courtesy Josette d'Entremont*

season. Be sure to organize a group of your family and friends to visit some of these great sites this summer and be sure to visit the new website for the latest information and photographs so you'll know what to expect when you travel to our lighthouses.

In February the International Boat Show at Exhibition Park in Halifax garnered its full share of attention and required substantial work by many board and member volunteers. Post-show discussions deemed it a highly successful, very informative as well as enjoyable, effort. The NSLPS again shared exhibition space in an area donated by the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, where wooden boats were featured and a sloop was being built on-site.

In contrast to the overwhelming number of fibreglass boats on display elsewhere in the show, the emphasis on wood in this area harkened to the splendid days of Nova Scotia Sail and our deep roots in the wooden boat tradition. Lighthouses and the activities of NSLPS were very much at home in this space and garnered lots of interest in divestiture and new memberships.

This issue of *The Lightkeeper* provides an overview of the NSLPS lineup of 2004 Trips and Programs, all providing exciting opportunities to expand or renew your awareness of our lights and meet other lighthouse enthusiasts. Considerable volunteer hours are devoted to the arrangements by Dorothy MacLeod, who will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding your participation. Be sure to check out the new Halifax Harbour tours. Bring your family or friends and make a day of it, out on the water, hiking the islands, seeing Nova Scotia lights up close and experiencing our famous hospitality first-hand.

The school program initiated by Josette D'Entremont, which features a virtual walk for students to N.S. lighthouses has now expanded to include 18 schools and a seniors' home. The new website will serve up a greater wealth of information and photos for teachers to access on the 52 lights included in the program.

Furthering our quest to inform school-age children, Graham McBride again this year ran a workshop during March Break to build miniature lighthouses at the Maritime Museum.

In its public education role, NSLPS continues to support the work of authors expanding our knowledge of the history of Nova Scotia lights. The society held a book launch in February for Bill Budge's *Life on St. Paul Island*. An enthusiastic group turned out despite the cold weather to welcome this new edition illustrating a piece of our lightkeeping history.

In a similar vein, board member Chris Mills has completed more interviews with keepers and family members recounting the lightkeeping days of old in Nova Scotia, for part two of the NSLPS Oral History Project. Photographs of all accessible HRM lights will be coupled with these informative and entertaining memories, making the subsequent bank of information a valued resource to preserve and to add to the website.

The board has been concerned about the damage done to buildings on Georges Island and Sambro Island by Hurricane Juan. Parks Canada is responsible for work on Georges Island. The NSLPS has allocated funds to make the gas house at Sambro weather-tight,

but the work has been delayed due to winter weather.

The NSLPS maintains its momentum in communicating with national, provincial and municipal levels of government regarding responsibility for Nova Scotia lights and with community organizations working to restore lights for public access. As the divestiture timetable unfolds and as issues come to the fore, NSLPS will stay informed and will actively represent members' concerns. If you would like to share your perspective on lighthouse issues, please contact NSLPS President Barry MacDonald c/o the NSLPS address on p.11 of this issue.

NEWS AND VIEWS

NEW NSLPS WEBSITE

Kathy Brown and Peter MacCulloch

Work is proceeding quickly on the new website project. Webmaster Peter MacCulloch, designer Peter Eastwood and editor Kathy Brown began building the site in earnest on January 8. As of March 1, the following has been accomplished:

The basic page templates for the general pages have been created and we have working versions of *Lighthouse Lists*, *Home Page*, *Lighthouses to Visit*, and *Sounds & Video*, done by Peter MacCulloch. Peter is doing the beautiful Interactive Maps as a voluntary contribution. His work continues in making templates, organizing, linking and activating the whole site. Many thanks to Peter.

Peter Eastwood has completed the page headers, primary light page images, buttons and locator maps for each of the 170 lighthouses - a huge job. He is now working on the 80+ masthead images. (We are including all the images we have now and will add more later.)

Kathy Brown has spent countless volunteer hours establishing official names for the lighthouses, choosing and editing masthead and page images, and helping to prepare the Interactive Maps. She's now working on the database.

Assistance has been given by Chris Mills, Dan Conlin, Josette d'Entremont and Barry MacDonald.

All in all, this exciting project is on schedule and will undergo testing starting by the end of March. The big launch will be at the AGM on April 28. We plan to have a large screen so that everyone can admire our new baby! Thanks to everyone who is donating volunteer hours for the site. Because of the tremendous effort this site will be among the very best on the Internet. As a final note: we are still fund raising to match the grant from the Tourism Opportunities Program of the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture.

cont'd on page 9...



Helen (Jollimore) Slaunwhite. *Chris Mills*

VOICES OF THE LIGHTS

Helen Slaunwhite and the Terence Bay Lighthouse

Families were always the heart and soul of the Nova Scotia lighthouse. Mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers pulled together to keep landfall lights and little harbour beacons flashing and winking their welcome and warning to mariners.

Such was the case at the Terence Bay light, where John Hezron Jollimore kept the light from 1942 to 1967. Throughout 1950s, Hezron's young daughter Helen was her Dad's right-hand girl, making the daily trek to the lighthouse from the family homestead in Sandy Cove.

The Terence Bay light still shines today, as do Helen's memories of her days as a lightkeeper's helper.

Well, my father bein' a lightkeeper, I really, truly loved lighthouses. I took part in looking after our lighthouse with Dad, sweeping and cleaning the big windows – it was quite a thrill, you know! We got along so well doing it together, right? Of course he expected it!

The light was in a little place called Sandy Cove, about a ten minute walk from Terence Bay. It was located out on the very point, on a rocky, sodded area. It was a five minute walk from our homestead itself. There was always

a path there.

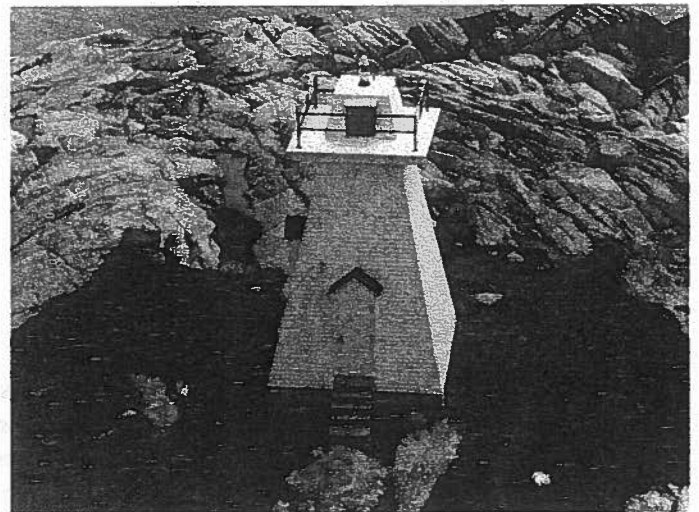
I remember tourists in the summer time would come down. They would park below the hill where our house was situated. They would come up and ask if they could walk back to see the lighthouse. I remember my father's reply was "Why most certainly you can! The path is there for you to enjoy as well as the light and its beautiful scenery."

The scenery *was* spectacular, especially when you went up on the catwalk. You'd look around and you'd see Pennant, you'd see all of Terence Bay – the beautiful church, the water, the horizon. It's just as pretty as Peggy's Cove!

I was probably between six and eight years old and I remember Daddy goin' over and checkin' things out. He had to keep a record of what the weather was like, how strong the wind was blowing, what direction it was coming from, if it was a sunny day, a rainy day, and the sunset, the sunrise – everything pertaining to the weather. I would watch him keepin' all those logs

Once we opened the door, you would walk in to quite a wide opening, and I remember the steep steps, the smell of wood and the smell of straw. The straw was in a long box at the far end of the one wall, which the supplies were kept in, like the round red globes for the light itself, and cleaners for the windows. Anything that was breakable was packed in this long box with straw.

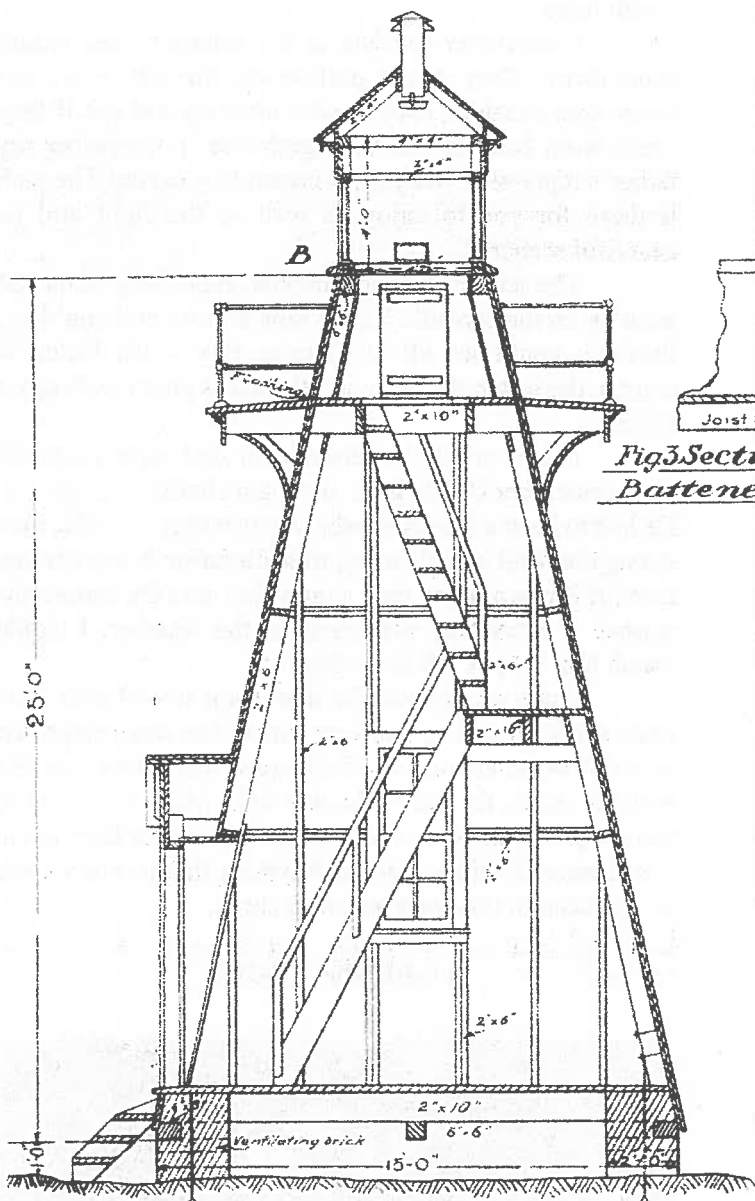
A GUIDING LIGHT



The Terence Bay lighthouse. *Canadian Coast Guard*

In the early days the light was kerosene. My father would go over around dusk and light the light, but I was *so* young that I was never involved in goin' over for that particular thing. I was too small to climb the steep steps at that time.

When he had to light it, he was over there for a small amount of time, because if anything was going to



*Fig. 3 Section of
Battened door.*

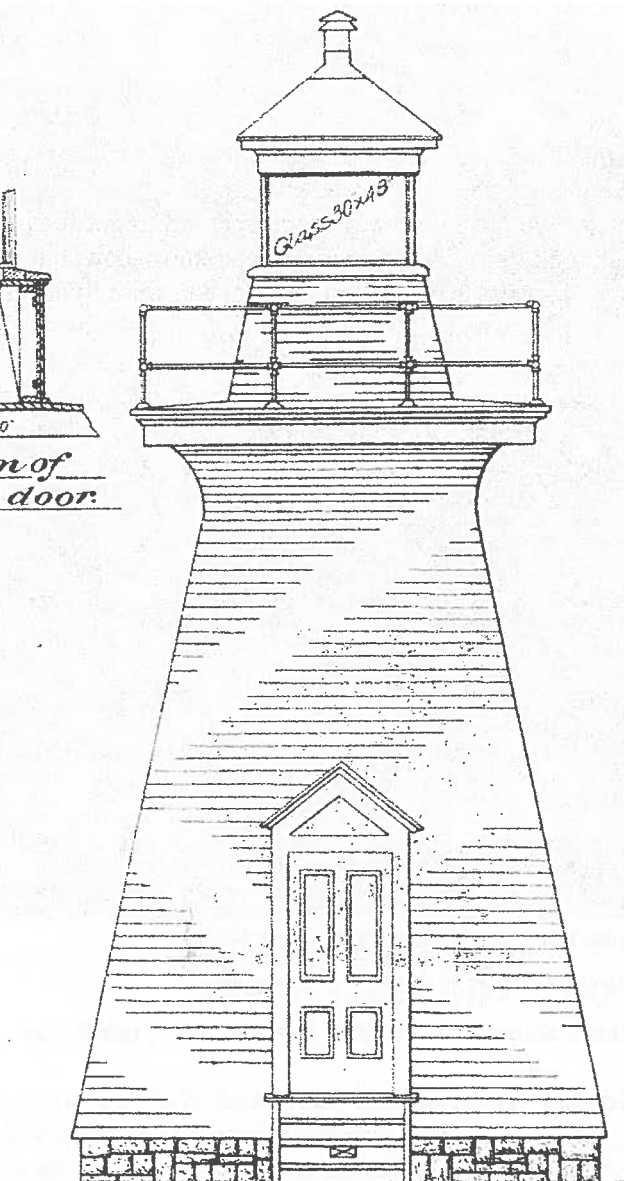


Fig. 2. Elevation.

Terence Bay light. Canadian Coast Guard

happen, it would have happened in the first few minutes the light was lit. So he stood there for about 15-20 minutes to make sure all was well. At home he would always be looking out of the window to make sure she was doing her thing, throwing her beacon off to the ocean.

The lighthouse was very important, *very important!* There was a lot of shoals and breakwaters around and without that little light, I think a lot of boats would have went adrift, and had a lot more wrecks.

The light was very bright, especially the odd time I would be on the water. When I would go fishing with Dad and the brothers it was basically not totally dark, but

enough that you could see the light flashing. It was somethin' I'll always remember. It was just like that light was sayin' "I'm here to watch over you, 'till you finally make it back to land again."

DAD'S ASSISTANT

I was 8 or 9 years old when I started goin' over with Daddy and learning to climb those steep stairwells and learning to sweep up.

The first flight of stairs were quite high, but they were on an angle. They weren't too bad. But when you left that flight and went up another smaller flight, it was just

straight up and down and the steps were very narrow. When you finally ascended that little last stairway, you had a trap door you would open up and go up inside to where the light was. That floor, if I remember correctly, was all metal. You didn't have too much room to move around with the light bein' involved and all.

To push that trap door back and to get it to stay back took quite a bit of strength and know-how, but then once you were up there you felt like you were flyin'! You were so high up. With the water on three sides it was just like you were floating.

After a few months I finally got the courage to walk up and out on to the landing. Very scared, but I just had to do it because I wanted to help Daddy clean the glass on the outside, where of course there was so much ocean salt spray. I just had to get up the courage to say "Well, I'm going to do this, and I'm gonna be with my Daddy and I'm gonna be cleanin' those windows as well!

Ohh! My heart was just a-pounding! Gripping on to the side rails with all my might! Opening the little hatch door and saying "Can I go out there?" 'Course Daddy



Helen looks over her father's Lighthouse Logbook. *Chris Mills*

would encourage me. "Just go out. Just hold on to the railing. Be very careful and don't do any stupid moves 'till you get the feel of it!" So that's what I did. After a period of time it was no problem!

HEZRON JOLLIMORE

Daddy was a very, very easy-going man. To a certain point! I mean I remember buggin' him about money or wantin' to go here, do this, but I knew the look he would give me! I knew when to stop! He would help anybody out, but I knew when to stop to antagonize him!

But he loved people, he loved life. He enjoyed bein' a fisherman. He would leave and be out on a fishing trip anywhere from two to three days. It was just a normal living for us. But I do remember one incident when my father and my brother were both out on a boat with another guy from up in the bay further and a hurricane did come. And I remember – our house was two stories – my mother and I, we just walked from one room to the next the whole night through. One bedroom faced the lighthouse – that's where we would just basically stay and look out the window, and pray that God would bring him home safe.

The winters were really bad because we were so open. We had no shelter from the wind. But with an old woodstove we were quite snugly and warm. Going to school was quite a procedure. I had about a 15 minute walk to and from school. I *loved* school, so even on stormy days, even though Daddy would say "You can't go today. It's too cold, it's too much snow down!" You couldn't persuade me. I just had to go!

Daddy would be up at four o'clock in the morning and he would have the fire going and by six o'clock when I rolled out of bed, everything was beautiful and cosy warm, and homemade bread every day!

Believe it or not, we lived old-fashioned! I think I was pretty well into my teens before we even got the house wired electrically. I remember doing my homework by lamp light. We never had any washroom and we had to



The Terence Bay lighthouse today. *Chris Mills*

bring our water in from the well. Everything was a lot of more work back then, but we were healthy. We were well-exercised, right?! No time to get into trouble. You went to your school, you come home, you had your chores to do. I wish things were that simple today!

When I was about 12, 13 years old Daddy would say to me "Well, I guess you need a winter coat. I guess you're gonna have to come out and do your share of fishing to earn your wage for a winter coat!"

So I remember getting up at four in the morning and getting out on the water by sun-up to be hand-lining or lobstering and getting back on land by seven o'clock, getting yourself washed and getting yourself off to school. But I earned my wages, what little bit there was and I did get my winter coat, the coat I desired. Out of the catalogue, of course!

I never got to see the city until I was about 15 years old. I thought I was in New York! Daddy went to town every fall to go into the wholesalers to pick up huge bags of flour, 'cause we made all our homemade bread, and a big supply of potatoes. We never had *teabags*, we always had loose tea, so he would stock up on big crates of tea. That was once a year.

But to get into the city, which was really only around Armview, where the wholesalers were and to see all these cars! It was an experience that I'll never forget.

PART OF MY LIFE

The older I got, the lonelier I got. I lived a 15 to 20 minute walk away from my school friends, which I would go up to be with after school quite a bit. At 17 I met my husband of today and we went together, I think it was less than a year before we were married. I just said "Daddy, I'm spreadin' my wings," I said. "I just wanna get out of Terence Bay for a while and see what the world is all about."

But when I go down to the bay now and I sniff the salt air, now I *know* what they mean by "smell the salt air." And the sound of the seagulls and the sound of the water lapping against the shore. There's no greater peacefulness than hearin' the waves on the beach. It just lulls you to sleep. I miss that. I *truly* have a hard time to sleep, missing the sound of the water. I never thought that would ever be, but it surely is. I go down now and this is what I hear. Even today if there is somethin' bothering me or if I feel down, we'll go down to Terence Bay on a Sunday and we'll just sit, my husband and I, and reminisce.

It means more to me now than it did back then. Being at an early age I didn't really appreciate it. It was just a part of growing up, part of life. But, yes, to work with my father and to go over there and work together, it meant a lot. At that time my father was well in his 50s, and gettin' a little more feeble, so I basically watched him, as he was watchin' me, as far as those steep steps were

concerned. I'd say "Daddy, you do the bottom steps and I'll do the top of the steeper ones. I'm a little younger so I got a little more agility."

We would just be together a couple of hours, totally enjoying one another's company. I think he totally enjoyed it because he would never tell me I *had* to go over. It was always "Okay, it's time to do the cleaning. Are you willing to come? We'll go over together and work together."

It just meant a lot to me, knowin' that it wasn't something that I was forced to do. It was our time together, just doing something we both enjoyed. I'm proud of that life. It meant the world to me.

This interview is part of the second installment of NSLPS lighthouse oral history project, covering keepers and their families in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Special thanks to Helen (Jollimore) Slaunwhite for sharing her memories of the Terence Bay light.

FROM THE PAST...

The Devils Island West Lighthouse (now gone), circa 1935. Courtesy Dorothy York



NEWS AND VIEWS cont'd from page 4...

We want to thank The Westaway Charitable Foundation for their major contribution and all members and affiliates who have sent donations. Your names (with your permission) will be on the Partner's Page. Remember that when you donate you get a charitable tax receipt.

By supporting the new website you help us let the world know about our lighthouses, NSLPS, and the need for community action and support to save the lights from private ownership, reduced public access and inappropriate commercial development.

Former Lightkeepers Homes Burned



"X" marks the Green Island keeper's house burned by the Coast Guard a few weeks ago. A one-and-a half storey house and the former combined dwelling/lighthouse remain, for now.
Canadian Coast Guard

The Coast Guard has burned former keepers houses on Country Island in Guysborough County and on Green Island, near Isle Madame. Coast Guard sources say the buildings were badly vandalized and weather-beaten.

The loss of these buildings further underscores the need to save what little is left of Nova Scotia lightstations.

The buildings on Green and Country Islands had been abandoned for close to two decades and although they are located in exposed, isolated locations, these sites are not beyond the reach of community-driven preservation and development.

Deteriorating lightstation buildings remain on many other islands around the province. Some can still be saved.

The Coast Guard and community groups *must* work together to facilitate awareness of and support for these buildings, which were once essential to the operation of our guiding lights.

★ ★ ★

Maughers Beach Lighthouse Records Top Hurricane Wind Speed

Dan Conlin

Continuing the important role lighthouses have long played in weather monitoring, the Maughers Beach lighthouse on McNabs Island recorded Hurricane Juan's highest land measurement of wind speed in September, 2003.

Peter Bowyer of the Canadian Hurricane Centre said in a lecture at the Nova Scotia Museum of Nature on March 3, that the Maughers Beach lighthouse recorded 151 km/h winds with gusts to 176 km/h at 12:24 a.m., Sept 29. (The Coast Guard ship *Earl Grey* in Bedford Basin recorded winds over 200 km/h but its measurements are not considered as scientifically reliable.)

Environment Canada uses the Maughers Beach lighthouse as a platform for their weather instruments, courtesy of the Canadian Coast Guard. The classic 16.5 metre octagonal concrete tower (built 1941) was not damaged during the hurricane but the beach itself was heavily eroded, cutting the lighthouse off from the rest of McNabs at high tide.

Oral History

Chris Mills

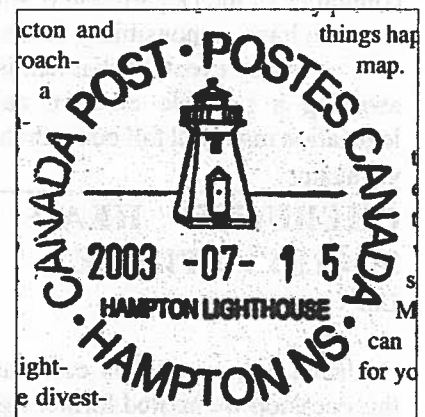
Part Two of the "Lighthouse Life in HRM" oral history project is well in hand, with interviews now complete for Betty Island, Terence Bay, Inner Sambro Island, Bull Point, Owls Head, Beaver Harbour Head, and Beaver Island.

I am still trying to locate keepers and/or family members from Nichol Island (Ship Harbour), Jeddore Rock, Egg Island and Sheet Rock. Any assistance from *Lightkeeper* readers would be greatly appreciated!

Hampton Gets Lighthouse Cancellation Stamp!

The Hampton Lighthouse is now a world traveller, with the launch of a new cancellation stamp issued by Canada Post. Thanks to the efforts of Hampton residents Louise Sanderson and Barbara Sancton, all letters and parcels mailed from the community post office will carry an image of the historic Hampton light.

Louise says the cancellation raises "awareness of Hampton and who we are, along with putting Hampton on the map." Anyone interested in a copy of the cancellation, can contact Louise Sanderson, General Delivery, Hampton, Nova Scotia B0S 1L0.



LIGHTHOUSE PROTECTION ACT

Brenda Shannon

For several years the NSLPS has been urging the federal government to recognize the importance of enacting legislation to protect our heritage lighthouses. While the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is keen to go ahead with its program of disposing of many of our lighthouses and their associated buildings, legislation to protect those buildings with heritage status is still winding its tortuous way through the parliamentary process.

Sponsored by Senators Mike Forrestall and Pat Carney, legislation has been set back by prorogation a couple of times, meaning it had to go back to the beginning of the process and start again - a time consuming exercise. Sponsored in the House by M.P. Gerald Keddy, it had again reached the Commons committee stage late last year when the House proroged again. However new rules introduced in the House allowed for the reinstatement of a Bill if various conditions were met. Bill S-5 has been reinstated.



Devils Island in 2003. *Chris Mills*

It has now been referred to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage, but as of this writing, the committee has not been formed nor has

the Chair been appointed. It may stay with this committee or, if legislation is amended, it may be moved to a committee of the Department of the Environment which is slated to have responsibility for this matter.

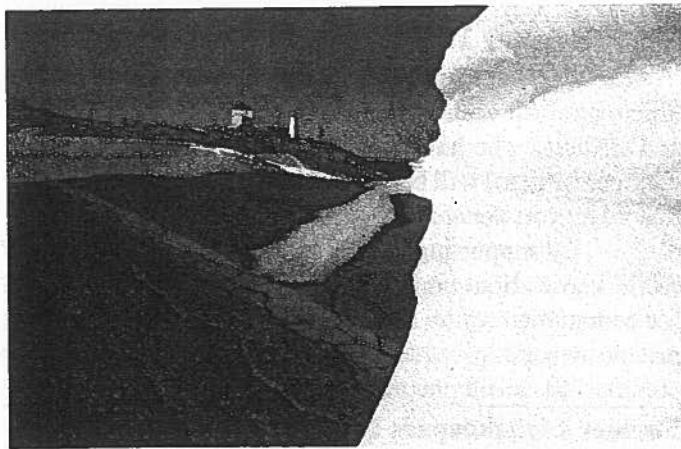
In any event, Parliament is again in a state of flux awaiting a possible election call, in which case the legislation may well fall beneath the wheels of prorogation yet again.

CHEBUCTO HEAD LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY UPDATE

Lise Chapman

On January 7, our society celebrated its 1st birthday. For this occasion we invited former lightkeepers and residents from Chebucto Head to our Annual General Meeting.

Chris Mills gave an inspiring talk on the people's history based on many interviews with former keepers and their families. Life at Chebucto Head - the hardship and isolation, but perhaps even more so the magic and fun - came alive in slides and many quotes.



Chebucto Head after the January 19th blizzard. *Lise Chapman*

Chris's accounts were supported by Don Gallagher, whose father had been lightkeeper at Chebucto Head, and by Dorothy Kiley, whose husband was an assistant keeper for many years.

Both volunteered many stories and impressions and time was too short to satisfy everyone's wish to find out more. "You mean, you walked all the way to school in Ketch Harbour"? - "How did you get food supplies?" - "Would you go back?"

It was suggested to continue the story-telling over a barbecue up at Chebucto Head in the summer.

To express our appreciation and to establish closer ties with former lightkeepers and their families our society awarded honorary memberships to the Gallaghers and the Kileys.

Looking back on our first year, we have overcome a number of hurdles towards becoming recognised as the major community group interested in the future of Chebucto Head. We have established contacts with different levels of government involved in the divestiture process, including federal, provincial and municipal.

Simultaneously, support for our goals is growing from within the local communities as may be seen from new faces at our meetings and through demonstrated interest in the issues.

However, progress with obtaining an interim lease agreement has been slow. This has prevented us from carrying out the necessary immediate repairs to the keeper's house.

The problem appears slightly less pressing because the overnight gate closure at Chebucto Head has been very effective in reducing vandalism, but we would like to begin breathing new life into the building as soon as possible.

Captain Andrew Rae from the Halifax Marine Pilotage authority gave an excellent presentation on the significance of Chebucto Head for marine pilots in the past and in the future at our March 8th meeting in Herring Cove

LIGHTSHOP

Help support the NSLPS! Profits from these items go to the society to help save our historic lights. *Please note: NSLPS now has Charitable Tax Status and an HST number. Because of this we must add tax to our prices.*

Lighthouses and Lights of Nova Scotia: A Complete Guide, by E.H Rip Irwin. Nimbus Publishing, 2003. The definitive book on all existing Nova Scotia lighthouses.

\$32.00 including tax. **Book + packing and postage:** Nova Scotia: \$40.00. For mailing in Canada outside Nova Scotia: \$43.00. For mailing to USA: \$45.00. Air mail to USA please add \$3.00

NSLPS Membership Pin:

Enhance your prestige with this oval pin, showing the NSLPS logo in red and gold on a dark blue background.

\$7.50 including packing and postage.

Sambro Lighthouse Pewter Key Chain:

\$16.00 including packing and postage.

Lighthouse Locator Map:

Correlates with the book *Lighthouses and Lights of Nova Scotia*.

\$18.00 including packing and postage

Order from: Pam Tupper, 6501 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Head of Saint Margaret's Bay, NS, B3A 2C5

e-mail: gannetrock@yahoo.ca

Orders must be pre-paid. Please make cheques payable to the NSLPS.

GILBERTS COVE CELEBRATIONS

Gail Long

The Gilberts Cove Lighthouse is one hundred years old!

Join us this summer to celebrate!

On Sunday, August 01, 2004 we will have our Baie Ste. Marie Acadian Reunion. It will start at the Ste. Croix Holy Cross Plympton Parish at 9:00 am with a mass dedicated to all Acadian families with descendants in this

area. Following the mass at there will be a guided tour of the cemetery of Holy Cross

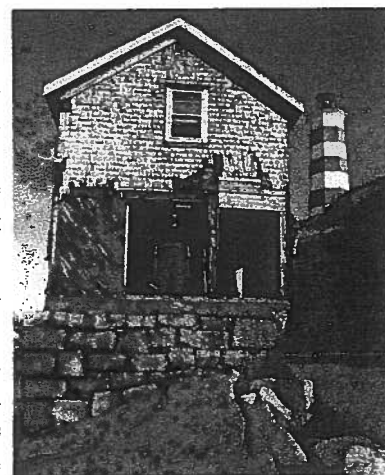
At 10:45 am will be a trip to Doucetteville to tour the Sacred Heart Church and cemetery as well as a visit to the area that was settled by "Le Grand" David Doucette who first named Doucetteville. From 1:00pm -5:00pm we will gather at the Gilberts Cove lighthouse where we will have music, a chowder lunch, cake-cutting ceremony, an "elder-circle" with a display of artifacts, blessing of the light by priest and a children's program.

SAMBRO ISLAND GAS HOUSE DAMAGE

The NSLPS has written to the DFO to request repairs to the gas house on Sambro Island. The century-old structure was badly damaged during Hurricane Juan last September and requires immediate attention to prevent further damage to this FHBRO-recognized structure.

Juan's storm surge smashed the south west wall of the structure, ripping out the ladder to the loft and casting debris over the concrete floor. Heavy seas also plucked massive granite blocks from the foundation of the building, leaving the back entrance unsupported.

The gas house is an integral part of the deteriorating Sambro Island lighthouse complex and as a FHBRO-rated structure it deserves some federal assistance in its upkeep.



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NSLPS MEMBERSHIP FORM - January 1 - December 31, 2004

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ POSTAL CODE _____
E-MAIL _____ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership Number: _____

Family/Group names for extra cards _____

Single - \$15.00 Institution/Group - \$30.00 (4 cards) Patron - \$100.00
Family - \$20.00 Sustaining - \$50.00 Foreign - \$15.00 U.S. Funds, or equivalent.

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Please make cheques payable to Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society

Mail to: THE NOVA SCOTIA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

c/o Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax, B3J 1S3

