

Welcome to the Admiralty Head Lighthouse

Admiralty Head Lighthouse

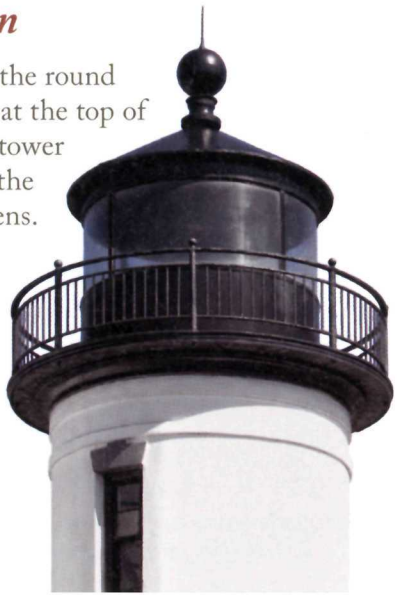
Dining Room



The dining room is dedicated to lighthouse and family history. The round dining table and sideboard are what residents might have used in the early 1900s. Family portraits are displayed and vintage memorabilia are in the china closet.

The Lantern

The Lantern is the round glassed in area at the top of the lighthouse tower and contained the lamp and the lens. The original Lantern is still in use at the New Dungeness Lighthouse, to where it was moved in 1927.



Fixed Fresnel Lens

This 4th order Fresnel lens is like the one that once sat atop the tower of both the Red Bluff and Admiralty Head Lighthouses. It did not rotate, but gave a constant light of 270° around the horizon as a directional beam.



Rotating Bull's-eye Fresnel Lens

This lens was given to Washington State Parks years ago and has since been on display at the lighthouse. The prisms concentrate the light to the bull's eyes, and when rotating, it appears to flash. Each lighthouse in Puget Sound has different characteristics.

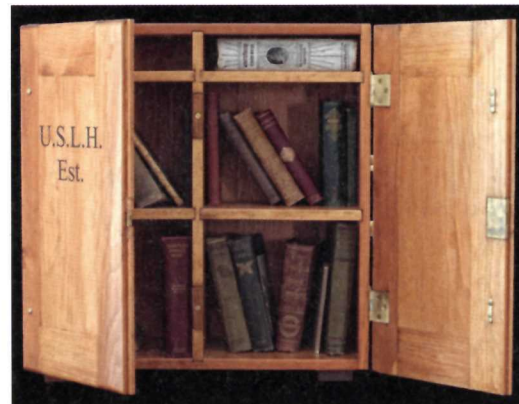


Heritage Garden

A flower garden is located on each side of the front steps of the lighthouse with varieties available in 1903. Lighthouse logs indicate that there were large vegetable gardens and one journal states that "the keeper planted 200 strawberry plants today".



The Traveling Library



Every few months, a Library box was delivered by the USLH Service tender to remote lighthouses. It was filled with a variety of books from classical to contemporary fiction and would include technical materials when requested.

The Workroom



A toolbox and workbench are on display in the tower workroom. Tools were issued to the Keeper, who was expected to do the general maintenance and repair of the premises. The workbench, shown in the original blueprints, contained supplies for the upkeep of the lantern, lens and light.

The Oil House

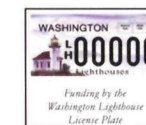
700 gallons of fuel was delivered by tender once a year and stored in this oil house. An optimum flame was maintained by burning a specific amount of oil. Burning too much or too little could mean that the Keeper was not doing an efficient job. Original lamps used whale oil, then mineral or rape seed oil and eventually kerosene.



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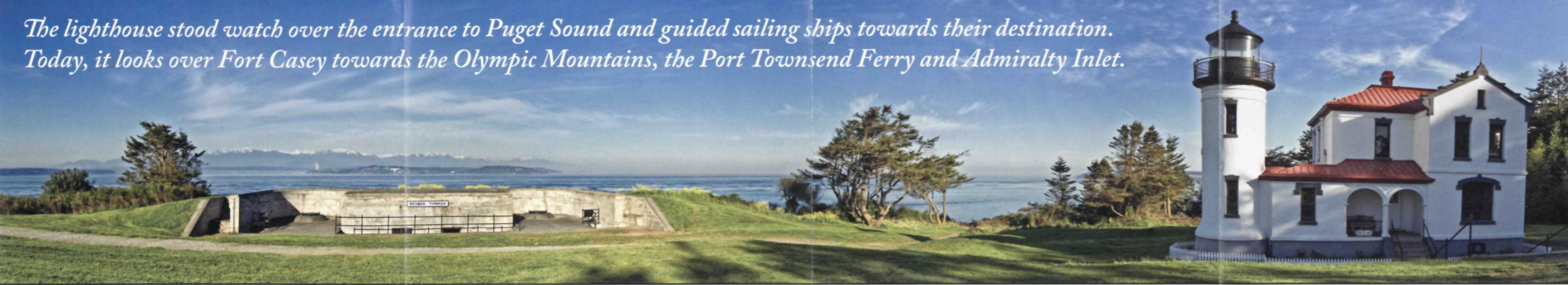
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Located on beautiful Whidbey Island

The lighthouse stood watch over the entrance to Puget Sound and guided sailing ships towards their destination. Today, it looks over Fort Casey towards the Olympic Mountains, the Port Townsend Ferry and Admiralty Inlet.



The Tarquina

This square rigged brig "Tarquina" was owned by Captain William Robertson, the first Lighthouse Keeper in the wooden Red Bluff lighthouse, who served from 1861 to 1865.



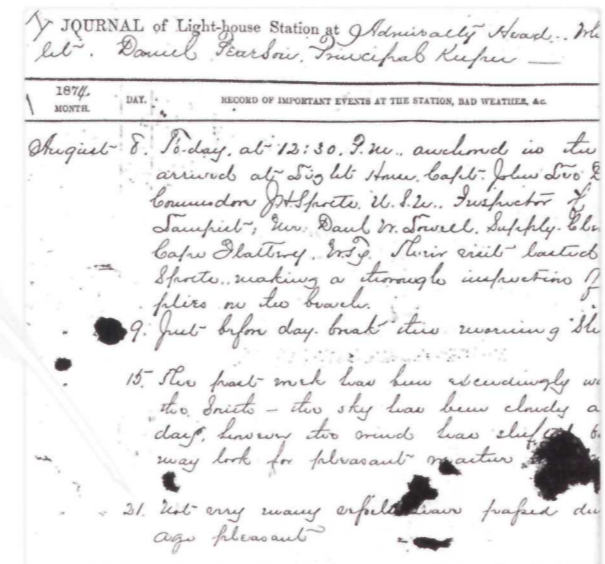
The Keeper & The Soldier

Keepers, (left) were issued a uniform and expected to wear it when on duty. The coat and trousers are navy blue wool, with brass US Lighthouse Service Buttons. The lapels have a gold embroidered loop with the letter "K" which designates the Principal Keeper.

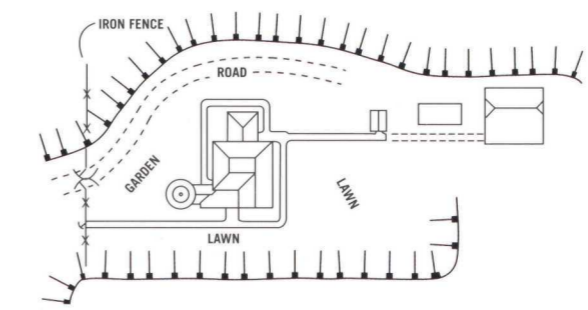
The army M1902 full dress senior non-commissioned officer's uniform, (right) with wreath and lightning bolts on cap and sleeve, represents an Artillery Electrician Sergeant First Class. Each hash mark is for 3 years of service, and the overlay indicates combat service in the Spanish American war and the Philippine Campaign. The sword was used for ceremony as well as combat.

The Lighthouse Journal

The entry reproduced at the right was a required record for the Lighthouse Service. Keepers were instructed to note the weather, the supply boat deliveries, maintenance accomplished and repairs made. The ink blots on the page show the difficulty of record keeping using the primitive pens available. Flora Pearson, Assistant Keeper, made the entries dated August 8, 1874. Visitors were welcome and invited to sign the lighthouse log.



The Light Station Map



This footprint of the lighthouse station is from historical archives.

The Admiralty Head Lighthouse is located in Fort Casey State Park

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Eliot Scull
Agency director: Rex Derr

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.



The Red Bluff Lighthouse

This wooden building sat on the promontory to the south. It was in operation from 1861 until Fort Casey was established, and its Fresnel lens moved to Admiralty Head Lighthouse in 1903. It was an important social gathering place for Whidbey Island's young people.