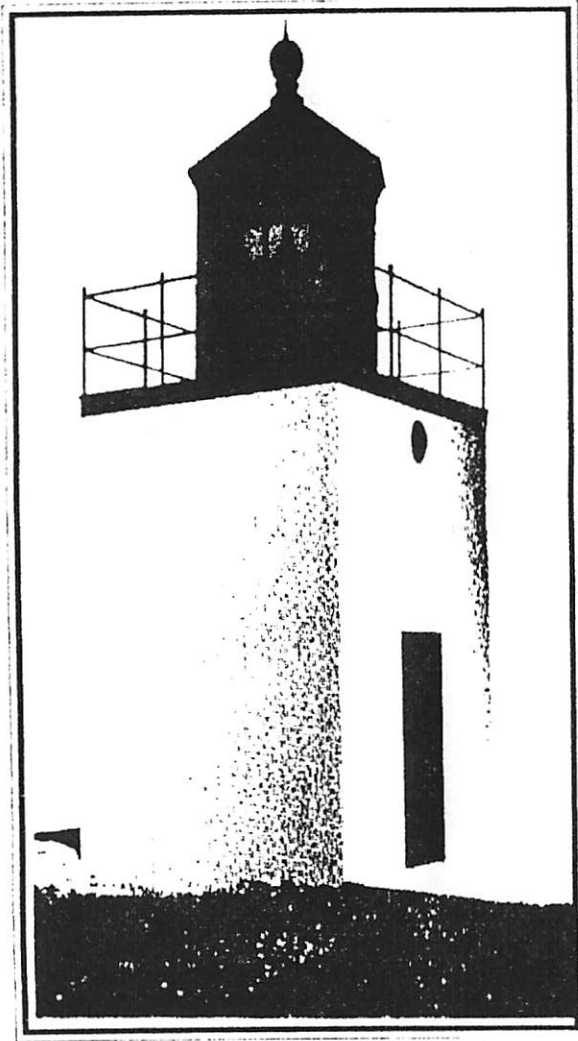


Derby Wharf Light Station
1871



Salem Maritime National Historic Site
174 Derby Street
Salem, Massachusetts

Derby Wharf Light Station
Constructed 1871
Acquired by National Park Service 1979

The Derby Wharf Light Station was established on the south end of Derby Wharf in 1871. Early blueprints and photographs indicate that some structural changes were made over time; however, dates have not been definitively established for them. The original lens type was a stronger 5th order Fresnel; later lens changes and differing illumination sources have been well documented.

Derby Wharf Light was established as part of a three-point range guide for Salem's channel. Hospital Point, Beverly and Fort Pickering lights on Winter Island completed the system.

The building is brick, two stories tall, twelve-feet square and topped with an iron deck and cupola. The light flashed a red three-second signal powered by a solar panel with battery backup. The lamp is currently a 300-candlepower unit with an automatic bulb changing mechanism.

The National Park Service was awarded jurisdiction of the Lighthouse in 1979. The National Park Service restored it in 1983 and again in 1989. The U.S. Coast Guard services the lamp; the Park Service maintains the structure. It is still listed as an aid to navigation.

List of Keepers at the Derby Wharf Lighthouse, 1871-1912. Salem, Massachusetts.

Keepers

Charles C. Pettengill	January 10, 1871
Robert Peele, Jr.	January 23, 1873
John Lynch	July 1, 1885
Shepley Paul Sawyer	December 1, 1905
Charles L. Wales	November 26, 1908
H.C. Tedford	October 16, 1911

(In 1911, the position of keeper was changed to laborer)