

THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF DIGBY REGISTERED HERITAGE PROPERTY



Registered 2018

Boar's Head Lighthouse

Circa 1957

The first lighthouse erected at this site was in 1863. Boar's Head is situated on the northwest side of the mouth of Petit Passage. Ships travelling from Saint John, New Brunswick to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia would save a considerable amount of time and distance if they travelled through the passage. The first lighthouse was constructed with a light keeper's residence attached to the light structure. The name Boar's Head derives from the rock formation that resembles the profile of a boar pig.

In 1910 an automated fog horn was installed next to the lighthouse. Like most horns of its day it was powered by a gasoline motor pumping air through to a diaphone horn device to create a loud distinctive sound that mariners would recognize.

The current lighthouse was constructed in 1957, and is a salt shaker design, common along the Nova Scotia coast. Over the 124 years of operation, Boar's Head only had four light keepers. Henry Ruggles (1863 – 1901), Frank Ruggles (1901 – 1929), Elmer Wyman (1929- 1957), Angus Smiley (1957 – 1987).

Today Boar's Head welcomes people from all over the world to experience the Fundy coastline from its own spectacular rocky view point.