

Anacapa Island Light, located on the easterly end of Anacapa Island—the most southerly of the group of islands forming the outer boundary of the Santa Barbara Channel—was lit in 1932. This 600,000 c.p. flashing white light, fog signal, and radiobeacon station replaced an unattended flashing beacon established in 1912.

About Thanksgiving Day, two years after the Light was opened, Mrs. Coursey, wife of an assistant keeper, was critically injured in a fall. When the station's radio operator sent a call for assistance, the message was picked up aboard the battleship *California*, then in the vicinity. Lo and behold, a few hours later, the mighty dreadnaught of the sea steamed up to the island, dropped a boat over its lofty side, and removed the sick woman from the island. She was taken to a hospital ashore where medicos said that her life had been saved by the promptness with which aid had reached her from the battleship.

Story of Mrs Coursey, wife of ass't. keeper

ANACAPA ISLAND LIGHT

The lighthouse was constructed in 1932, including dwellings for the personnel. The lens in this light is a classical type and is about one hundred years old. The light is 277 feet above the water.

This was the first station that was automated as part of the program to automate all light stations. The resident personnel were moved in 1969.

The light, fog signal and radio beacon are monitored by personnel from the Channel Island Harbor Station.

Anacapa Island Light Station is located on the easterly end of the island of this name, at the west side of the southern entrance to the Santa Barbara Channel, on the coast of California. The station was established to mark this channel more effectively. The island is quite precipitous, the cliffs rising from the water nearly perpendicular to a height of over 100 feet. Only one place was found at which a landing could be made. The principal problem of interest to engineers was the preparation of the site. Rock was blasted away to form a landing on which derricks could be installed for hoisting station supplies to the top of the rock. A roadway was constructed connecting the various buildings. A concrete rainshed was also necessary to provide a reservoir of water for all purposes. This supply was led by gravity into two 50,000 gallon tanks. The buildings are of a modified Spanish type consisting of a dwelling for each of 4 keepers, a reinforced concrete power house, concrete oil house, housing for the water storage tanks already mentioned, and general service building containing a garage, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop and general storeroom. All living quarters are equipped with electric service, electric lights and modern

3 panel lens with reflector. A 1000-watt electric lamp is the light source producing a candlepower of 600,000. The lens is revolved by an electric motor controlled from a switchboard in the power house. The fog-signal is a type F two-toned diaphone installed in duplicate, the two signals designed to sound simultaneously, one horn is directed toward the inside of the channel to serve south bound traffic along the coast while the other is directed to the southward for northbound traffic and seaward traffic in general. The fog signal is synchronized with the radiobeacon for distance finding, and the radiobeacon is in synchronization with radiobeacons of nearby stations to prevent interference. Air for the fog signal is supplied by 4 cylinder, single acting, 50 stage air compressor, direct connected to 4 cylinder, 50 horsepower gasoline engines. Electric current is furnished by 3 - 5 kilowatt, 115 volt direct current generators, each driven by a 10 horsepower gasoline engine. Additional equipment installed in the power house consists of duplicate radiobeacon transmitters, radio-telephone transmitters, rotary converter synchronizing equipment, voltage booster, motor-generator

Landmark lighthouse lens to adorn display

Part of an historic landmark, which for 52 years has provided a beacon for mariners transiting the Channel Islands, will soon be on public display at the National Park Service Visitors Center on Anacapa Island.

The classical Fresnel lens from the old Anacapa Island lighthouse will be presented to Park Superintendent C. Mark Shaver by Rear Adm. Marshall E. Gilbert, commander of the 11th Coast Guard District.

Rep. Robert J. Lagomarsino, R-Ventura, will also accept the lens on behalf of the 19th Congressional District. The presentation ceremony will take place at Channel Island National Park headquarters, 1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura at 11 a.m. Wednesday.

In response to shipwrecks in the area, the Lighthouse Service built an acetylene light tower on Anacapa Island in 1912, according to the Coast Guard. The light watched over the Santa Barbara Channel from a cliff at

feet above sea level and made it visible up to 26 miles.

In 1932, the early skeletal structure was replaced by a short, cylindrical tower of modified Spanish architecture featuring the third order classical Fresnel lens now on display.

The Coast Guard said the cut glass lens was the working optic in the lighthouse for 52 years until June 1990, when it was removed to make way for a new rotating aero beacon.

The old lens follows the 19th century design developed by the French physicist Augustin Fresnel. It consists of a series of glass prisms set into a brass framework. Each prism is placed at a slightly-different angle in the framework so that the light beam reflected by each prism is bent and focused into a single parallel stream.

The resulting intensified light can be seen at greater ranges than a solid lens would allow, according to the Coast Guard. Anacapa's mercury vapor lamp was magnified to more than a million candlepower and could

ANACAPA

1906

— *Santa Barbara channel islands, California.*—Three islands in this group, San Clemente, Anacapa, and San Nicolas, reserved for light-house purposes, were rented and the lessees have paid the rent for the ensuing year.

1907

— *Santa Barbara channel islands, California.*—Three islands in this group, San Clemente, Anacapa, and San Nicolas, are reserved for light-house purposes. San Clemente was leased for a period of five years from January 1, 1906, at \$1,000 per annum. Anacapa was leased to the highest bidder for five years from April 1, 1907, at \$362.50 a year. San Nicolas was leased to the highest bidder for five years commencing on April 15, 1907, at \$362.50 a year.

1909

Anacapa Island light-station, California.—Anacapa Island is one of the most difficult points on the southern California coast to pass in foggy or otherwise thick weather and is regarded as the most important point for a light-station on any of the channel islands. It is estimated that a light and fog-signal station can be established here for \$100,000, and the Board recommends that an appropriation of that amount be made therefor.

ANACAPA ISLAND

2 small logs; 2/19/1932 thru 3/31/1940

Frederick Cobb

Feb. 1, 1932 Cobb reported to Anacapa Light Station

March 25, 1932 Anacapa Light placed in commission

New Keeper: May 1, 1933 M.P. Kenyon

Aug. 20, 1933 ~~Sundakozgik~~ Sunday school class visited station and held church on station.

Setp. 22 Motorship "Buelah" of Panama grounded on south side of Island b
rain shed at 2/30 av in dense fog. Was reported by Mr. Lewis 3;3
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5:30 am and reported that they were operntly undamaged, Procee
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(C O P Y)

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#3

P.A.Ws

D E P A R T M E N T O F T H E I N T E

Washington,

July 30, 1891.

The Secretary of the Treasury.

26

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours
of the 27th instant enclosing plats of three proposed re
for light-house purposes on San Clemente Island off the

COPY,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

January 23, 1867.

Hon. O. H. Browning,

Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter from the
Naval Secretary of the Light House Board, dated 15th inst
requesting the reservation of 23 tracts of land on the Pacific

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Tr. 29
Tr. 30

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COPY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Washington, D.C., Jan. 25,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration a letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to this Department on the 23d instant, and inclosing a letter addressed to him by the Light House Board on the 18th instant requesting reservations for Light House purposes in various

COPY.

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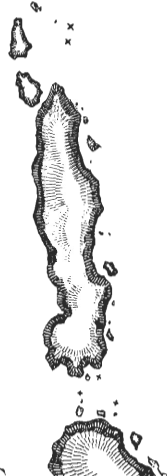
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D.C., Jan. 28,

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your appropriate action a letter addressed by the Department to the President on the 25th recommending the reservation of certain lands in California

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U.S. COAST SURVEY

A. D. BACHE Supdt

Sketch of

ANACAPA ISLAND

IN

SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL

By Lieut. T. H. STEVENS U. S. N. Assist. U. S. C. S.

1854



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