

(Established in 1834. Rebuilt in 1858, & 1876, & 1897.  
Range-lts. & fog-signal in 1893-'97.

Appropriated by act of Congress for

a beacon light at <u>Ashtabula</u> Creek, State of Ohio, - - - -	June 30, 1834,	\$2,000.
" For a dwelling for the keeper of the <u>Ashtabula</u> lt-ho. -	Mar. 3, 1871,	4,000.
" For rebuilding lt-ho. at <u>Ashtabula</u> , - - - - -	Mar. 3, 1873,	3,400.
" For estab. range-lts. & steam fog-signal at <u>Ashtabula</u> harbor, Lake Erie, O., - - - -	Mar. 3, 1891,	4,700.

Report of Lieut. C. T. Platt, U.S.N.,  
to the Secretary of Treasury.  
"Geneva, N.Y., November 26, 1838.

x                    x                    x                    x                    x                    x

*Doc. Rel.*  
*to Lt-hos*  
*1789-*  
*1871.*  
*1838.*  
*p. 159.*

*Ashtabula* beacon is lighted with eight lamps and six red reflectors. It is situated on the extremity of the east pier forming the entrance to the harbor, and is kept in excellent order. This is an excellent harbor, and sufficiently spacious to accommodate twenty vessels.

Here, again, it is necessary to submit an estimate for a dwelling for the keeper, which may be built of stone or brick for one thousand dollars, by contract, of the following dimensions: twenty-five by thirty-two feet, one story and a half high, partitioned so as to form on the first floor a bed-room, pantry, kitchen, and parlor, with two arched rooms on the second floor, with a good cellar. The necessary outbuildings and fences, with a well for water, may be built for two hundred dollars. A lot of ground of one-fourth of an acre can be bought for two hundred dollars, making a total amount of one thousand four hundred dollars.

*An. Rep.* "Genesee River light-house, Ashtabula, Sodus Point, Cleveland  
*1859* beacon, and Gibraltar light-houses have been completely reno-  
vated."

1868 29. *Ashtabula*.—Station in good working order; no repairs made during the past year, and none required for the coming season.

1869 34. *Ashtabula Beacon*.—The premises are in good condition. No repairs are needed. It is also without a dwelling for the keeper.

1870 419. *Ashtabula, Ohio, Lake Erie*.—There is no dwelling for the light-keeper at this light station, and an estimate has been submitted for an appropriation to erect one similar to the one proposed for Conneaut.

1871 476. *Ashtabula, Ohio, Lake Erie*.—An appropriation was made March 3, 1871, for building a light-keeper's dwelling at this station. Plans and specifications of the dwelling have been prepared, and sealed proposals will be publicly invited for the construction under contract, when the title-papers of the lot purchased for the site have been examined and approved by the Attorney General of the United States.

1872 492. *Ashtabula, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—An appropriation was made, March 3, 1871, for building a light-keeper's dwelling at this station. Proposals were publicly invited for its construction, and a contract was made. The contract has been satisfactorily executed, and the building has been accepted. It is a building of the same character as that at Conneaut, Ohio, and is situated on the left bank of the stream, within the township of Ashtabula. The beacon on the east pier is very old and dilapidated, and by the irregular setting of its crib has been much thrown out of verticality. It should be removed, and a pier-head beacon should be established in its stead. The appropriation required is \$3,400.

1873 517. *Ashtabula, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—An appropriation was made March 3, 1873, for building a new pier-head beacon. As an extension of the west pier is contemplated, on the head of which the new beacon is to be placed, the construction of the same is deferred, and it is recommended to continue the appropriation to June 30, 1875.

1874 531. *Ashtabula, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—An appropriation was made March 3, 1873, for building a new pier-head beacon. The lantern was made, but the contemplated extension of the west pier was not completed, nor will it be this season; when completed, the new beacon will be established.

1875 533. *Ashtabula, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—The new beacon proposed for the end of the west pier of entrance has not yet been commenced, as the pier extension is not completed. It is hoped, however, that the beacon can be built and lighted by the opening of navigation in 1876. The present beacon on the east pier will then be taken down.

1876 544. *Ashtabula, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—The new beacon, for which an appropriation was made March 3, 1873, has been erected near the terminus of the present extension of the west pier, at the mouth of Ashtabula River. The light was exhibited upon the opening of navigation, (April 8, 1876.) When the extension of the west pier is completed, this beacon will be moved to the head of the pier. The old beacon on crib behind the east pier has been removed.

1880 583. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio*.—The dwelling was repapered and repainted. A new cistern was built. Some 60 feet of the elevated walk, which had been carried away by a schooner, were repaired, and the beacon was repainted inside and outside.

1882. 598. *Ashtabula, on west pier, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—The beacon was moved out 471 feet and the elevated walk was extended the same distance, and various minor repairs were made.

1884. 639. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The lower half of the corner posts of the beacon were spliced with new timber, the foundation of the beacon was renewed, 205 feet of elevated walk were rebuilt, 520 feet were repaired, and other minor repairs were made.

an. Rep.  
1885. 703. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The elevated walk on the west pier was extended 104 feet shoreward and various repairs were made.

an. Rep.  
1886. 737. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The elevated walk on the west pier was extended shoreward for a distance of 75 feet, the board walk leading from the fence gate to the front entrance of the dwelling, and a branch leading to the kitchen, were relaid, and minor repairs were made.

819. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The elevated walk on the west pier was repaired, 64 feet of the raised walk leading from the pier to the beach were rebuilt, and general repairs were made. an. Rep.  
1887.

an. Rep.  
1889. —. *Ashtabula range lights and fog-signal, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The establishment of this station was authorized by the act of March 2, 1889, but no appropriation was made for doing the work. The entrance to the harbor is narrow, the commerce is increasing rapidly, and now many vessels are forced to lay under Point Pelee waiting for daylight or for the fog to lift, as they fear to enter. It is claimed that if range lights and a fog-signal were established neither night nor fog would prevent vessels from entering the harbor at any time. It is estimated that these needed aids to navigation can be established for \$7,000, and it is recommended that this amount be appropriated.

1890 1055. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Water from the city mains was introduced into the keeper's dwelling. Some 31 linear feet of elevated walk on the west pier were entirely destroyed by the gale of January 13, 1890, and 60 feet, not continuous, were damaged. The damage was repaired as soon as the weather would permit. The damage done to the elevated walk by the schooner *H. W. Sage*, of Lorain, was repaired and paid for by the owner of the schooner. The following recommendation, which was made in the Board's last annual report, is renewed :

The establishment of this station was authorized by the act of March 2, 1889, but no appropriation was made for doing the work. The entrance to the harbor is narrow, the commerce is increasing rapidly, and now many vessels are forced to lay under Point Pelee waiting for daylight or for the fog to lift, as they fear to enter. It is claimed that if range-lights and a fog-signal were established neither night nor fog would prevent vessels from entering the harbor at any time.

This was authorized by act of March 2, 1889, but no appropriation was made to do the work. The Board now has to state, in addition, that, as the commerce seeking the harbor of Ashtabula is very large

(over)

1890

contd.

and rapidly increasing, and as the class of vessels consigned to this harbor are among the largest on the lakes, and as they visit this harbor late in the fall and up to the very close of navigation, when snow-storms are likely to occur, and as they enter by night as well as by day, this locality is deemed to be of sufficient importance to justify the expense of a steam fog-signal, at a cost not to exceed \$4,300, and it is recommended that an appropriation of this amount be made therefor. The entrance to this harbor is narrow, and there is a light only on the end of one pier. It is important that before reaching the end of this pier vessels should be headed directly parallel to it, otherwise they are liable to run into one of the two piers, or pass outside of both. There is no fixed light in the harbor on which to range. Hence pilots are at a loss at night to get a *sure* range toward which to head in time to get their craft straight before making the end of the pier. A suitable range-light can be erected at small cost near the inner end of the pier, on

which the light is located and made to range with the light on the outer end. It is recommended that this be done, at a cost not to exceed \$400, and it is recommended that an appropriation of this amount be made therefor.

1891.

1097. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Congress, by the act approved on March 3, 1891, appropriated \$4,700 for establishing here range lights and a steam fog signal. A contract was made on June 29, 1891, to furnish, deliver, and erect on the west pier a triangular skeleton tower, fitted with the necessary ball-bearing wheels for the lens hoisting apparatus, and one of the corner legs of the tower is to be supplied with steps to enable the keeper to ascend when necessary. It is proposed as a harbor improvement project to rebuild the outer portion of the east pier, to widen the channel. Hence no steps have yet been taken towards establishing the fog signal, as it is proposed to locate it upon this pier that the signal may be protected from the prevailing storms. The damage done on August 10, 1890, by the schooner *Annie Sherwood*, of Chicago, Ill., to the elevated walk on the west pier, was repaired at the expense of the owners of the vessel. Various repairs were made.

1892

1040. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Some 670 square feet of concrete walk were laid. The elevated walk was damaged by vessels at different times. The owners of the *Teutonia*, in December, 1891, repaired certain small damages she had inflicted on the station. The damages done April 4, 1892, by the steamer *Lansing*, and April 23, 1892, by the schooner *S. P. Ely*, were repaired, and the owners of the respective vessels paid the cost of the repairs.

1041. *Ashtabula Pierhead, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Appropriation was made by the act approved on March 3, 1891, for establishing these range lights. By contract dated June 29, 1891, a triangular skeleton iron tower 65 feet high was erected upon the west pier to show a light in range with the pierhead beacon light. A cubby house was built in the second lower section of the tower, but the lanterns ordered not having been received, the apparatus for suspending the lights has not yet been put up. The characteristics adopted for the rear range light are three lens lanterns arranged vertically, two red and one white, with the white in the middle. It is expected to light the rear beacon on the opening of navigation in 1893. On May 17,

(over.)

1892  
Contd  
1892, the tower was overthrown by the schooner *Chippewa*, which collided with it while in tow of the tug *John Gordon*. The tower was reerected 5 feet farther from the channel face, at a cost of \$146.05. The establishment of the fog signal, for which appropriation was made by the act approved on March 3, 1891, was unavoidably deferred. It will probably be in operation on the opening of navigation in 1893.

1893  
1068. *Ashtabula (front), entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—During a gale on October 28, and 29, 1892, about 30 feet of the elevated walk on the west pier was carried away and about 50 feet was wrecked. The damage was repaired. Some other small repairs were made. The machinery for the new fog signal is under contract for delivery by August 15, 1893, and preparations are being made to build the fog-signal house.

1893  
1069. *Ashtabula Pierhead (rear), entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The illuminating apparatus for this beacon was received but the fitting of the tower was delayed for lack of funds for the purpose. This work will be done during the summer of 1893.

1894  
1090. *Ashtabula (front), entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Extensive repairs to the dwelling were found necessary, and a contract was made to do the work and furnish all the materials for the sum of \$1,038.50, to be completed September 30. The work was begun in June and fair progress has been made. The beacon was moved 240 feet to the end of the new pier, built in 1893, and a new elevated walk was constructed for the same distance. Some 60 running feet of elevated walk, destroyed by a storm in October, 1893, was rebuilt. The lumber and ironwork for rebuilding 640 running feet of old elevated walk was purchased and delivered at the station. Various repairs were made.

A new steam fog signal was established at this station as authorized by act of Congress approved March 3, 1891. It was completed and ready for operation September 30, 1893. It is situated on the west pier next to and adjoining the outer pierhead beacon, to which it is connected by a covered storm house over the entrance to the beacon. The timbers throughout are of white pine. The structure is covered outside with corrugated iron, and painted brown. It has a cemented floor and a large storage room for fuel. Since the fog signal was completed the pier has been extended 240 feet. The fog-signal house and machinery has, therefore, been moved to the outer end of the pier extension.

1894  
1091. *Ashtabula Pierhead (rear), entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—This beacon was fitted with apparatus for hoisting the lanterns into position for displaying the light. The lights were exhibited for the first time September 25, 1893. The tower is a triangular skeleton pyramid of wrought iron; it was erected in 1891, but was not lighted owing to lack of funds. On May 17, 1892, the schooner *Chippewa*, in tow of the tug *John Gordon*, collided with the beacon and caused it to fall. The parties responsible for the damage, having failed to pay the expense of repairs, the matter was placed in the hands of the U. S. attorney for the northern district of Ohio, for legal action.

1895  
1109, 1110. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Some 633 feet of elevated walk were rebuilt on the west pier. Alterations to the keeper's dwelling under contract were completed. The building of an oil house was authorized, and the brick for its lining was purchased and delivered.

## Ashtabula light-station, Ohio.

1896 1222. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The woodshed was rebuilt and enlarged. On November 1, 1895, a skeleton iron framework constituting the rear beacon of the range was struck by the boom of a dredge working in the vicinity, impairing it so that it fell on the next day. This type of tower is unsatisfactory. A temporary wooden tower was erected to remain until a permanent beacon of suitable type can be built.

1897 1222. *Ashtabula, front, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—On September 28, 1896, a steamer, while passing out of Ashtabula Harbor, ran into the west pier, breaking one of the guard timbers and starting up some of the plank in the platform in front of the fog signal. The damage was repaired by the vessel's agent. Various repairs were made.

1223. *Ashtabula Pierhead, rear, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The frame structure erected for the temporary display of the rear range lights was taken down and the lights were transferred to a tower erected on the west side of the west pier. The lights were first exhibited from the new beacon on the opening of navigation, 1897. The number of lights was reduced from three to two, the lower one being red and the upper one white, and the distance between them was increased to 6 feet. A square iron oil house was erected. Various repairs were made.

1898 1244, 1245. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—Some 224 feet of elevated walk on the west pier was rebuilt. An addition was built to the keeper's dwelling for the use of the assistant keeper. The timber protection work in front of the fog signal was repaired and strengthened, and an iron hand rail was provided on the front and south sides of the fog-signal platform. Repairs were made.

1899 90, 91. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The bathroom was connected with the sewer and the water works. The color of the rear range light was changed to fixed red, and it was shown with a lens lantern since the opening of navigation, April 11, 1899. The 6-inch steam whistle of the fog-signal was replaced with a 10-inch whistle, at an increased height of 10 feet. A new smokestack was provided.

1901 94, 95. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—A set of new fifth-order lamps was provided for the front range light. Various minor repairs were made.

1902 96-97. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—A cement walk from the back door of the dwelling to woodhouse, and a board walk from the back door to the assistant keeper's dwelling were built. Some 75 feet of sewer pipe were laid under ground from the assistant keeper's dwelling north to side of the hill to drain the cellar. By the act approved on June 28, 1902, an appropriation of \$18,000 was made for establishing a light and fog-signal station on the new pierhead at the end of the west breakwater entrance to Ashtabula Harbor. The work will be done as soon as practicable.

7

1903  
*See Log.*  
96-97. *Ashtabula Range, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—On October 15, 1902, a vessel ran into the pierhead and beacon foundation, damaging both, and causing the beacon to settle several inches to the northward. The beacon was temporarily secured. The company which is to build a new pier in a new location will, in the meantime, maintain the old or present pier. To facilitate the rebuilding of the west pier, the rear range beacon was moved northerly along the pier on the range line some 541 feet, thus reducing the distance between the two beacons of the range to about 750 feet. Various repairs were made to the keeper's dwelling. Bids for the erection of the light and fog-signal house on pierhead at end of the west breakwater are being invited by public advertisement.

1903  
*C. L.*  
96-97. *Ashtabula range, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The bids for the erection of the light and fog-signal house on the pierhead at the end of the west breakwater, opened on July 17, 1903, were rejected as exorbitant. The construction of them by hired labor and open-market purchase of materials being authorized, schedules of the material are being prepared.

1904  
96, 97. *Ashtabula, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—Work has progressed on the West Breakwater light and fog-signal at such times as it could be advantageously carried on by hired labor and open-market purchases of materials. The concrete bulkhead or wall surrounding the site on the pierhead was completed, and the concrete foundation of the tower and fog-signal house was completed to a point ready for setting the iron posts. Much of the material has been already obtained and is being delivered at the site. The fog-signal apparatus, which will consist of a siren operated by oil engines, in duplicate, and compressed air, is being provided.

1905  
96-97. *Ashtabula range, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—The sounding of fog-signals with the 10-inch steam whistle at the outer end of the west pier was on June 3, 1905, permanently discontinued. The light heretofore exhibited from the tower on the outer end of the west pier was, on that day, also permanently discontinued.

On June 3, 1905, a fixed red fourth-order light was established in the structure recently erected at West Breakwater, northeast end. On the same date a compressed-air siren was established in the structure, which is a white square two-story iron house, with pyramidal roof surmounted by a low cylindrical tower with a black cylindrical lantern. Various repairs were made.

1906  
95-96. *Ashtabula range, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—On June 12, 1906, the steamer *Philip Minch* collided with the west breakwater pierhead, doing some slight damage to the light-house premises. The damage was repaired at the expense of the owners of the steamer. A five-day lens lantern was installed in the rear beacon in place of a one-day lens lantern. Various repairs were made.

1907.  
102-103. *Ashtabula Range, entrance to Ashtabula Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio.*—A new 20-horsepower oil engine was installed to replace a defective 13-horsepower oil engine, and the latter was shipped to the general light-house depot. Various repairs were made.

TENTH DISTRICT.

1914  
*Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—The act of October 22, 1913, appropriated \$45,000 for rearranging, rebuilding, and improvement of the aids to navigation at Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio. The preliminary plans for this work have been approved and the work on the detailed plans is in progress. The establishment of acetylene flashing lights on the east and west pierheads will be completed during the season of 1914. It is expected to complete the work of building up the west pierhead during the present season and complete the project during the season of 1915. Amount expended to June 30, 1914, \$221.44.

TENTH DISTRICT.

1915  
*Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—The act of October 22, 1913, appropriated \$45,000 for rearranging, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation at Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio. Detailed plans were completed. Acetylene flashing lights were established on east and west pierheads July 17, 1914. On June 30, 1915, the forms for building up

the concrete base had been completed and deposition of concrete begun. Metal work for addition to fog-signal house is being constructed under contract. Diaphone fog-signal apparatus has been ordered. It is expected to complete the project during the present season. Amount expended to June 30, 1915, \$8,987.29.

TENTH DISTRICT.

*Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—The act of October 22, 1913, appropriated \$45,000 for rearranging, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation at Ashtabula Harbor,

1916  
Ohio. Work has been in progress at the site during the fiscal year, except during the winter months. On June 30, 1916, the old lighthouse structure had been moved to the new pierhead, the steel addition constructed and the interior was nearing completion. Temporary light and fog signal were in commission in rebuilt structure. It is expected to complete the structure and install new light and fog signal during the present season. Amount expended to June 30, 1916, \$29,656.71.

TENTH DISTRICT.

1917  
*Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.*—The act of October 22, 1913, appropriated \$45,000 for rearranging, rebuilding, and improvement of aids to navigation at Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio. Work has been in progress at the site throughout the year. New light placed in commission September 21, 1916, and new fog signal in commission March 26, 1917. It is expected to complete interior finish of structure during present season. Amount expended to June 30, 1917, \$41,313.45.

From "Statement of Appropriations, &c."  
 from March 4, 1789, to June 30, 1882,  
 Published in 1886.

FORM 152.

General object (title of appropriation), and details and explanations.	Date of act making the appropriation.	Reference to the Stats. at Large.			Amount of annual appropriation.	Year of expenditure.	Expenditure by warrants.	Repayments.	Amount carried to the surplus fund.	Net expenditures.
		Volume.	Page.	Section.						
<i>Ashtabula light-station.</i>										
For a beacon light on a proper site for Ashtabula Creek, in the State of Ohio .....	June 30, 1834	4	721	.....	2,000 00	1834	2,000 00	.....	.....	2,000 00
For the erection of a dwelling for the keeper of the Ashtabula light-house .....	Mar. 3, 1871	16	512	1	4,000 00	1872	4,000 00	.....	.....	4,000 00
For rebuilding the light-house at Ashtabula .....	Mar. 3, 1873	17	522	1	3,400 00	1874	1,000 00	.....	.....	1,000 00
						1876	2,400 00	.....	.....	2,400 00
Total .....					9,400 00		9,400 00	.....	.....	9,400 00