No. 36.

Fifth DISTRICT.

15

Encl 12 & Letter

DESCRIPTION

OF

LIGHT-HOUSE TOWER, BUILDINGS, AND PREMISES

AT

Cape Hatteras Beacon,

Dare Co. North Carolina

December 16, 1885.

RECEIVED DEC 17 1885 LIGHT HOUSE BOARD

4

Entered in Index.

NAME AND POSITION OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE AND LIGHT-STATION. Cape Hatteras Light Beacon.

By whom described. Aug. C. Thompson

Date of description. December 16- , 1885

Distinguishing character of light or lights.

Latitude of tower. } Authority.
Longitude of tower. }

PREMISES—A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF, EMBRACING—

Area of the entire site.

Character of surface soil. Sand

Distance of tower from nearest high-water mark. One hundred & thirty yards.

Enclosures to premises. None.

Wharf or landing on premises. None

Road to landing or wharf, character of, and distance from tower. - Sandy. Two miles.

Means by which the light-station may be reached.

Distance to the nearest public road, railroad-station, or steamboat-landing, and to which One hundred miles to Elizabeth City.

Tower or other means used for supporting the lantern and apparatus. Wood.

Number of separate lights.

When first built or established.

When last thoroughly rebuilt, repaired, or renovated. Dec. 4. 1883.

Condition at this date. bad.

Shape of tower in plan. Square.

Height of tower from base to cowl of lantern. 30 Feet.

Height of focal plane of lantern above the mean sea or lake level.

Back-ground of the light-house, upon which it is projected, as seen from the sea or lake. Sand Hills.

Color of tower.

Color of tower, how produced. Dark red, by half red lead and half indian red.

Tower—connected with keepers' dwelling, and how, or detached. No dwelling for Keepers.

Object: sea-coast, lake-coast, bay, harbor, channel, or range; for general or local navigating purposes. Sea Coast - local navigating -

Materials of which the tower is built. Wood.

General description, embracing—

Thickness of walls at base.

Thickness of walls at parapet.

Diameter of tower at base. 14 ft. by 14 ft.

Diameter of tower at parapet. 8 " " 8 . 6 inches

Kind of stairway and steps. Wood ladders.

Number of landings of stairway.

Size of glass for glazing tower-windows. 8 X 10

Number of windows in tower, and size of sash. One 2 ft 11 inches by 4 ft. 6 inches

Number of doors. One

Kind of foundation and depth below the surface. Wood piling

Character of soil at and surrounding the light-house. Sandy

Soil susceptible of being protected by grass, shrubbery, or trees. None

Miscellaneous remarks upon tower and site.

LANTERN AND LANTERN FIXTURES.

Order or class of lantern. Sixth

Diameter. 3 feet 6 inches

Number of sides in plan. Six.

Height glazed.

Number of plates in height. One

Number of plates in each side. One

Thickness of plates. 3/8

Size of different plates. 2 ft. 6 inches by 2 ft 8½ inches

Number of storm-panes of glass. five

Unglazed side of lantern in plates or degrees of arc. One

Materials of which the lantern is constructed. Wood tin and iron.

Dome. Iron.

Cowl.

Lightning-conductor spindle.

Lightning-conductor, of what material; how attached to spindle; how led, and how far below the surface of dry earth, or otherwise, as the case may be.

Balustrade and outside gallery. Tin and wood.

Lantern-doors, and how fitted.

Floor of lantern—of what materials. Wood

Watch-room door leading into the lantern, and how fitted. Hole cut in floor.

VENTILATORS.

In parapet, wall, or lower part of lantern. In Wall

Lantern-ladders for cleaning plate-glass outside. Wood.

Curtain-hooks inside of lantern—how fitted.

WATCH-ROOM.

How fitted. None.

Bell-wires, or speaking-tubes, for calling relief keepers—kind. None

ILLUMINATING APPARATUS, &c.

Order and characteristic distinction of apparatus. Sixth order, fixed white

If movable; time of revolution, and intervals between and duration of flashes.

If fixed, or fixed varied by flashes; arc of fixed part in degrees, and between what points of the compass seen.

Number of panels in the lens apparatus. Four

Number of prisms of each panel *above* the dioptric drum or central belt of the lens. Five

Number of prisms of each panel *below* the dioptric drum or central belt of the lens. Three

Pedestal. Iron

Service table. None

Tube leading through the centre of the upper metal ring of the lens into the cowl, to carry off the gases of combustion and to assist in producing a proper draught in the lantern—of what material, diameter, and how fitted and connected with damper-tube when in place. Iron 7½ inches diameter.

If revolving, revolving machinery.

Revolving cord or chain—how led.

Length of drop-tube.

Length of time revolving machinery will run after being wound up.

How machinery is protected.

How regulated; describe.

How the flashes are produced: By the whole apparatus revolving; by the central belts only revolving; by panels of vertical elements revolving outside of fixed lens, and, if so, the number of such panels, or how?

IF COLORED LIGHT.

How is the color produced? Describe.

LAMPS AND BURNERS.

Description of lamp in use and number of wicks to burner. flat wick burner.

Number of spare lamps at the station. Two

Number of spare lamp-burners at the station. Seven.

TOOLS, IMPLEMENTS, AND ACCESSORIES.

Lantern-curtains. Two.

Lens-covers. Two.

Damper-tube and key.

Spare damper and key.

Carillon, or alarm-bell, for overflow lamp.

Time-marker for revolving light.

Gauge (250-gram measure) for regulating the overflow of oil through burner.

Spare lamp ready for use. One

Rod lamp ready for use.

Curtain-hanger for putting up and taking down lantern-curtains.

Heater, (if required.)

Spare lamp-cover.

Lamp-stand.

Mechanical lamp-cords or chains.

Revolving machinery cords or chains.

Revolving machinery weights.

Clutch for resting weight on.

Spare fly or governor.

Gauge for oil-cistern of lamp.

Feather brushes. Two

Linen towels. Seven

Sponges.

Chamois-skins. Two

Scissors.

Chimney-lifters.

Coupling-plyers.

Service basket and implements.

Cleaning materials.

Keeper's aprons, &c., (see list.)

CLOSETS IN TOWER.

How fitted and used. One closet in side of house.

OIL-ROOM OR CELLAR.

Describe where placed and how fitted.

Regulation 100-gallon oil-butts—number.

Regulation 50-gallon oil-butts—number.

gallon oil-cans—number.

Oil-butts—how placed.

CLOSETS AND STOREROOMS.

Where placed, how fitted and used.

Damp or dry, suited or unsuited to the purposes for which they were designed.

FOG-SIGNAL.

Describe in detail, embracing—

Kind and character of instrument.

Characteristic distinction of.

Location, with reference to the light-house, to a particular danger or channel, or to the special object for establishing it.

Distance from the light-house.

Water supply for it.

How it is reached from the light-house.

Kind and size of fog-signal building or buildings.

DWELLINGS FOR KEEPERS.

Location, with reference to the light-house tower.

Materials of which built.

Number of rooms in each dwelling.

Number of keepers and assistants to each dwelling.

Out-houses.

Paths or walks on the premises.

Area of premises enclosed, and how.

Area of garden.

Area in timber or shrubbery.

Area susceptible of profitable cultivation. None.

Area cultivated or prepared for cultivation.

Character of adjacent surrounding country: Soil sandy, clay, marsh, swamp, wood, fast ground, or shifting sands. Sandy.

Distance to the nearest post office.

Distance to the nearest village or town.

Facilities for reaching the light-station by public conveyance.

Facilities for reaching the light-station by private conveyance from the nearest village, town, railroad-station, or steamboat-landing, and the distance. Hire a boat and come one hundred miles from Elizabeth City, N. C.

WATER FOR DRINKING AND DOMESTIC USES GENERALLY.

How procured.

Quality.

Quantity ample or not for the station at all seasons of the year.

Liable or not to be injured by the inroads of storm-tides and seas.

If rain-water in tanks or cisterns, what precautions have been taken to insure its purity.

Capacity of tanks or cisterns, and where placed.

Tanks or cisterns—of what materials made.

If from a well, describe and give depth.

Diameter.

Lined or not.

Water obtained by pump or bucket.

Distance from keeper's dwelling.

HEALTH OF THE LIGHT-STATION AND VICINITY.

General opinion in regard to the healthiness or unhealthiness of the light-station and vicinity.

Good

Diseases—what are most prevalent at the station and in the vicinity?

Chills

Do they prevail at particular seasons of the year or not? In Spring and Fall.

Are there any local causes, such as swamps, marshes, &c., in the immediate vicinity of the light-house which are likely to be the cause of these diseases?

Plenty of Marshes

Would draining or other artificial means employed on the light-house premises be likely to improve the sanitary condition of the light-station? Would improve to drain but would cost too much.

LANDING, WHARF, BOAT-HOUSE, AND ROAD TO THE LIGHT-HOUSE.

Describe.

Two miles from landing road. Sandy

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS UPON THE GENERAL CHARACTER AND CONDITION OF THE PREMISES, TOWERS, BUILDINGS, AND ILLUMINATING APPARATUS AT THIS DATE.

Tower in bad condition.
Illuminating apparatus good.