

Anticosti Island, Quebec
Lighthouse, Cap de Rabast

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

The lighthouse at Cap de Rabast, also known as Pointe Nord, is located near the west end of the north coast of Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It was built in 1917-1918 by the Department of Marine and Fisheries. The station initially consisted of a double dwelling, and a fog alarm building. The lighthouse is now owned by the Canadian Coast Guard. See FHBRO Report 89-1 87.

Reasons for Designation

The lighthouse at Cap de la Table was designated Recognized for historical and environmental reasons.

The lighting of the north coast of the island helped improve maritime transportation by making the passage of vessels taking the shorter route from the Strait of Belle Isle to the mouth of the St. Lawrence River safer.

The presence of the lighthouse reinforces the maritime setting of the site. Since its construction, the lighthouse has been a landmark for all mariners and fishermen, and forms an integral part of the landscape.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage value of the lighthouse derives from its method of construction and from its strategic location for navigation in Jacques Cartier Strait.

This reinforced concrete octagonal tower is 72 feet high. Built in the style developed in the early part of the century, it is well suited to the constraints of its function and of the site. The pedimented cap over the doorway and the triangular lintels over the windows are decorative elements which lighten the building's austerity.

A regular maintenance program should ensure the preservation of all historic elements of the lighthouse, structure and lantern. Conservation specialists should be consulted before any repairs are done on the concrete. Although it is the only original building, the lighthouse, with the two dwellings built in the 1950s, forms a coherent whole which should be preserved.

Translation