

---

FHBRO Number 90-99

## **Big Shippegan Shore Light**

Chiasson, New Brunswick

The Big Shippegan Shore Light at the entrance to Shippegan Gully was constructed in 1905-06. The design was prepared by the Engineering Branch of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. Alterations include replacement of the lantern, replacement of the wood crib foundation by a concrete foundation (1947) and removal of the first floor window (c. 1947). The internal stair was replaced in 1947. The building is currently a fully automated lighthouse. The Canadian Coast Guard is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 90-99.

### **Reasons for Designation**

The lighthouse was designated Recognized for its environmental significance and its architectural importance as well as for its historical associations.

The lighthouse is prominently sited on a sand spit and maintains its historical relationship with the natural environment. To mariners using the harbour and tourists visiting the adjacent sand dunes, the lighthouse is an obvious landmark.

The octagonal tower has a simple form and elegant proportions. The well-proportioned lantern contributes to the characteristic lighthouse profile.

The lighthouse is associated with campaigns to improve the safety of maritime commerce at coastal locations by building navigational aids. The simplicity and economy of construction reflect the desire of the government to expediently build a large quantity of lighthouses.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The heritage character of the lighthouse resides in its overall massing, profile, architectural features, construction materials and site relationships.

The medium-height, tapered octagonal structure has a prominent cove-profile cornice which contributes to its graceful silhouette. The octagonal cast-iron lantern with cone-topped ventilator is well-proportioned to the scale of the tower. The symmetrical massing and profile, including the relationship of lantern to tower shaft, should be respected.

The simple form of the lighthouse is enhanced by facades executed in white-painted horizontal wood shingles without corner boards, and the fine-scaled cove boarding below the cornice. The projecting pedimented window and door hoods, the lantern platform and the flared cove follow classical design precedents and add textural interest and visual contrast to the simple tower form. The construction materials are

---

---

FHBRO Number 90-99

**Big Shippegan Shore Light**

Chiasson, New Brunswick

characteristic of this lighttower type and should be maintained.

The three-line iron pipe railing projecting from the gallery lantern has distinctive articulated joints and ball knobs. This configuration is appropriate to the functional nature of the lighttower. The paint scheme (white tower with red accents) is a striking feature contributing to the lighttower character.

The wood sash windows appear to reflect original design intentions. However, the first floor window glazing has been removed and replaced with solid panels. When the windows are being repaired, reinstallation of glazing should be considered as it would enhance the heritage character.

The simple, undeveloped setting is appropriate to the building and should be respected.

97.11.14

Updated 25.04.28

For further guidance, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*.

---