

## **HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

The lighthouse at Bull Head was built in 1908. It was most likely assembled from parts manufactured in Britain. Transport Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 91-34.

### **Reasons for Designation**

The Bull Head Lighthouse was designated Recognized for its aesthetic and functional design, its landmark qualities, and its historical associations.

Well proportioned and sparsely detailed, the lighthouse is important as a modest but intact example of cast-iron construction technology. This light is one of a group of about 26 lighthouses of prefabricated iron and steel construction, thought to be the only remaining examples of their type in Canada. Favoured because of their inexpensive cost, ease of erection, low maintenance requirements and long-term durability, these structures reflect the growing industrialization at the turn of the century and the desire to achieve a design that would withstand the rigours of the Newfoundland coast.

The lighthouse admirably fulfils its role as a landmark on a rugged, isolated site, and illustrates the theme of navigational aids in Newfoundland when it was a British colony with an economy almost totally oriented toward the sea.

### **Character Defining Features**

The heritage character of this lighthouse resides in its form, materials, construction details and setting.

The tall, slightly tapered tower has excellent proportions, with the suggestion of a classical column in its prominent base, elegant shaft and elaborate lantern. The utilitarian character of the tower is reflected in its smooth tubular form and small windows. Its construction system, comprised of rounded rectangular segments bolted together on the interior face, should be respected, and repairs executed in like materials, or materials closely matched on the galvanic scale, to avoid galvanic corrosion. The base of the tower should be kept clear of vegetation and decaying matter, and a sound protective paint layer must be maintained. Regular inspection and maintenance, and consultation with a metals conservator, are recommended. Early window sash should be retained and repaired.

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Alterations which might affect the structure's profile should be resisted. The lantern and cap with its prominent platform, handrail and weathervane is a focal point of the composition and should be preserved without alteration.

The rugged, exposed nature of the site contributes to the lighthouse's heritage character and landmark status. The sparse, utilitarian character of the site should be protected.

1994.08.30