

Notre Dame Bay, Newfoundland
Bacalhao Island Lighthouse

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

The Bacalhao Island lighthouse was built in 1894. The manufacturer/designer of this cast iron structure was the Chance Bros. and Co. Lighthouse Engineers and Constructors, Birmingham, England. The property is owned by Transport Canada, Canadian Coast Guard. See FHBRO Building Report 88-1 35.

Reasons for Designation

The Bacalhao Island lighthouse was designated Recognized because of its historical association, its functional design and its landmark value.

The lighthouse illustrates the theme of navigational aids in Newfoundland when it was a British colony and well-known for its sea-faring activities.

Its prefabricated iron construction illustrates the growing industrialization around the turn of the 20th century, with Britain a leader in many respects.

Character-Defining Elements

The heritage character of Bacalhao Island lighthouse is defined by the exterior of the structure, its functional design and method of construction, and its location and setting.

The exterior is characterized by a substantial, solid concrete base, a tall and well-proportioned cast iron cylindrical tower, and an attractive lantern capped by a prominent weathervane. Its spiraling daymark extending up into the lantern's murette enhances the height of the lighthouse.

The exterior should be maintained so that the distinctive form and simplified lines are retained. Should the opportunity arise, the removal of the relatively recent adjoining shed would enhance the aesthetic qualities of the lighthouse. Frequent exterior painting of the tower's distinctive daymark colours and pattern will serve to inhibit the development of rust.

The physical prominence of the lighthouse from the water is increased by the lack of vegetation and other visual obstructions. The overall barrenness of the site should be maintained.

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