

The Lighthouses of the New Jersey Atlantic Coast

by

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Front Cover: Twin Lights at Navesink

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Sandy Hook Light
1

Sandy Hook Light

First lit in 1764, this light is the oldest lighthouse “in service.” It is located on a spit of land in the entrance to the New York harbor.





Sandy Hook Light
3



Twin Lights at Navesink



Twin Lights at Navesink

Built in 1862, the two towers were originally separate but were later connected by construction that included keepers quarters for several keepers. The light was first illuminated by lard oil, then mineral oil, then an electric arc, oil again and finally, electric incandescent lamps. Marconi sent his first radio transmission from here in 1899. The North tower is still in use.

Bivalve lens. This lens was made in France in 1893. After display at the Columbian Exposition, it was placed in the South Tower of the Navesink light. First illuminated by an electric arc, it was so bright that it caused nearby chickens to stop laying eggs. The light was visible for 22 miles at sea and by reflection off clouds a distance of 72 miles at sea.





Twin Lights at Navesink
7

Sea Girt Light

Built in 1896, it marks the entrance to the Squan Inlet (Manasquan). It ceased operation in 1955 and is now operated as a museum by the Sea Girt Lighthouse Citizens Committee.





Barnegat Light
9



Barnegat Light
10



Barnegat Light

The present light was constructed in 1858 and operated until 1957, when a lightship was anchored at sea. The lighthouse is 165 feet tall. The lighthouse is now maintained by the State of New Jersey as an historical site and part of a State Park.



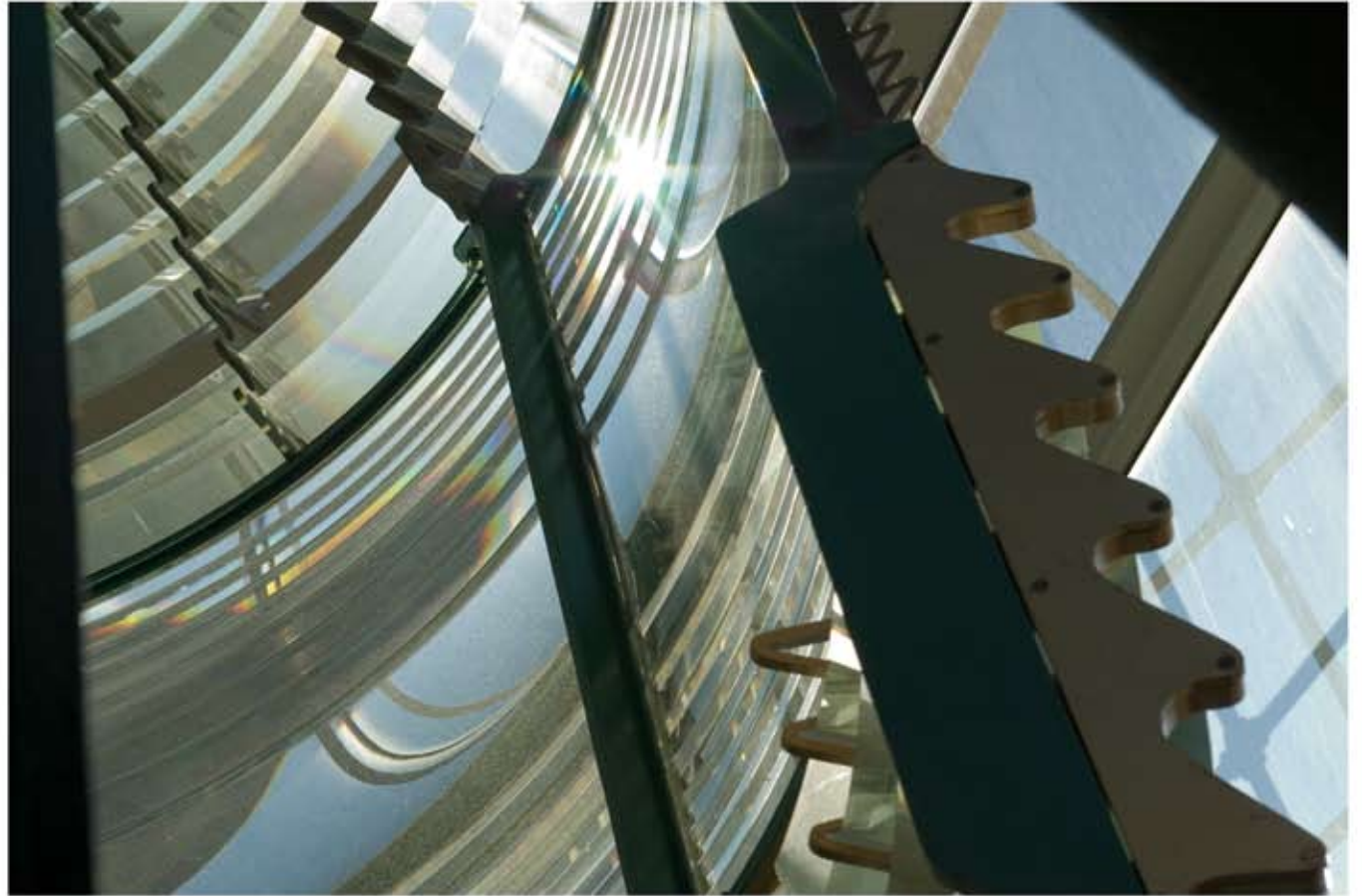
Absecon Light (Atlantic City)



Absecon Light (Atlantic City)
13

Absecon Light

First lit in 1857, it has continuously received the most visitors, which required an additional keeper to conduct tours. This light is 167 feet tall.





Absecon Light (Atlantic City)

The light was decommissioned in 1933, and was again relit in 1999.



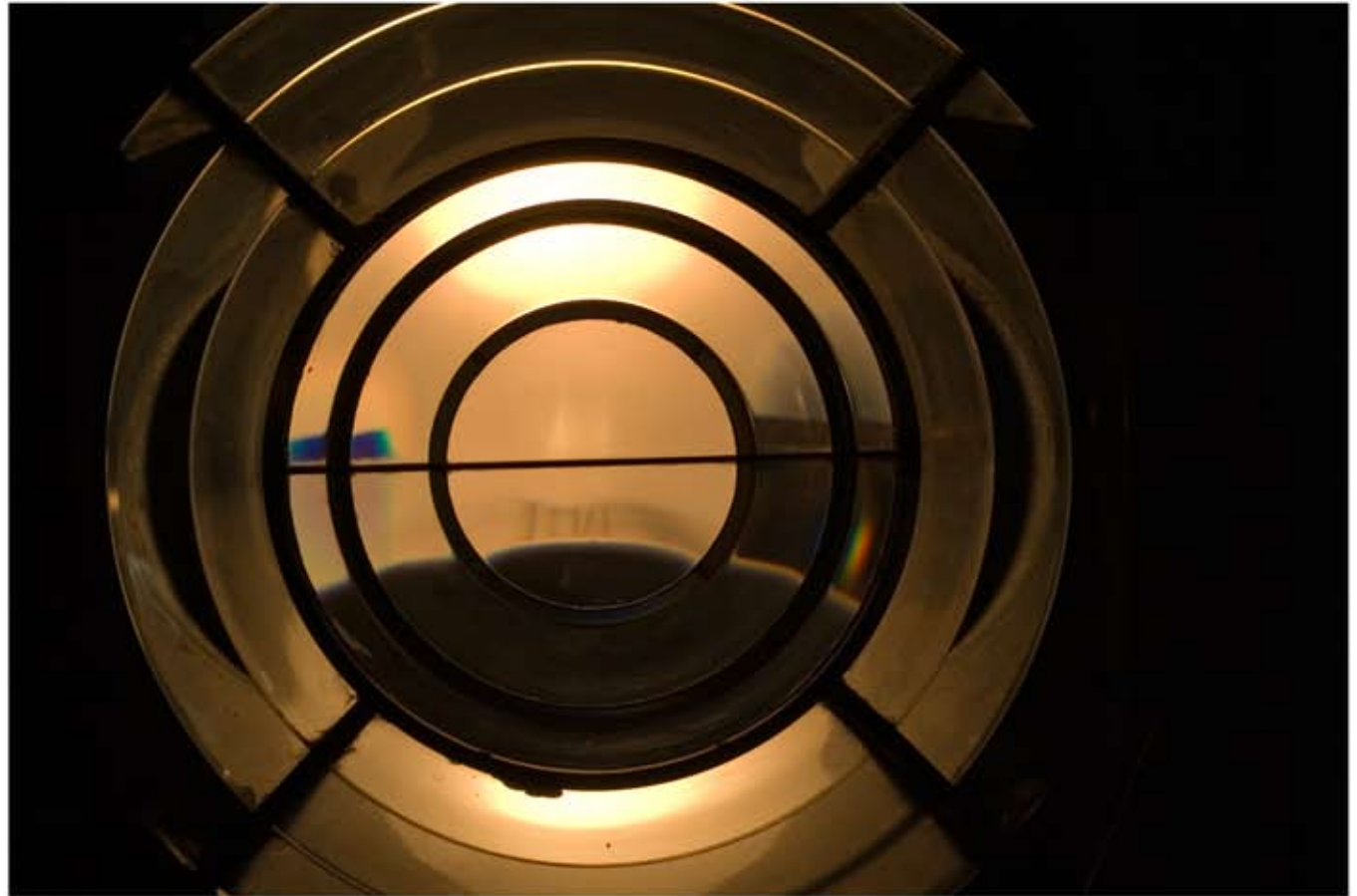
Hereford Inlet Light
16



Hereford Inlet Light
17

Hereford Inlet Light

Hereford Inlet Light was first lit in 1874. It marks the entrance to the harbor near Anglesea. (North Wildwood) The light was replaced by a beacon on a nearby metal tower in 1964. The light was returned and relit in 1986. The lighthouse and keepers quarters are now open as a museum. The light is 57 feet tall and is presently in service.





Cape May Light
19



Cape May Light
20



Cape May

Present tower built in 1859 to a height of 157 feet. Prior light towers were constructed as early as 1823.

Acknowledgments

National Park Service (Sandy Hook)

State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (Twin Lights at Navesink, Barnegat Light, Absecon Light, and Cape May Light)

Sea Girt Lighthouse Citizens Committee (Sea Girt Light)

City of North Wildwood (Hereford Inlet Light)

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