

FHBRO Number 96-087

Langara Island, British Columbia

**Lighthouse,
Langara Point**

The lighthouse at Langara Point was constructed in 1913. The design was prepared by Colonel Anderson with the Department of Marine and Fisheries. The building is currently a fully automated lighthouse. The Canadian Coast Guard is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 96-087.

Reasons for Designation

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

The balanced proportions of the tapered hexagonal tower contribute to its sturdy, modern appearance. The lighthouse has an attractive profile because of the symmetrical arrangement of windows and the pedimented door heads, as well as the rhythm of the brackets supporting the lantern gallery. The prominent, well-proportioned lantern contributes to the characteristic lighthouse profile. The existing 1st Order dioptric apparatus was state-of-the-art for 1913, and the clockwork mechanism is still in place.

Situated on the edge of an island cliff, the lighthouse is a character-defining element in its maritime setting and a familiar landmark for commercial marine traffic.

The lighthouse construction is illustrative of campaigns to provide aids to navigation on the west coast of Canada. The tower is associated with the growth of trans-oceanic traffic to Prince Rupert.

Character Defining Elements

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

The proportions of the medium-height, hexagonal structure contribute to its modern silhouette. The cylindrical metal lantern with its domed ventilator and weathervane is well-proportioned to the scale of the tower and this relationship should be respected. 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 the monolithic, smooth-surfaced concrete construction. The design relies on the simplicity of the scale and proportions of the brackets and edge profile of the lantern deck for its modern design character. The simple formed openings for the windows and the projecting, pedimented door hood add visual contrast to the simple tower form. The structural system and materials are integral to the character of the tower and should be respected.

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Painted steel is used for the lantern railings which have an elaborate post profile and joint construction reflecting the functional utility of early lighthouse components. The circular form of the guardrail reflects the lantern shape. The paint scheme, which provides contrast between the white tower and the metal elements, is a striking feature contributing to the lighthouse character and if operationally appropriate should be maintained.

The multi-paned metal sash windows appear to reflect original design intentions and should be maintained.

The modest, cleared site reflects the functional nature of the lighthouse operation and should be respected.

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

1999.11.19