



SOUTH FOX ISLAND LIGHT

State: Michigan
Location: Approach to Straits of Mackinac / Lake Michigan
County: Leelanau
U.S.C.G. District: 9
Year Station Established: 1868

Existing Historic Tower

Year Light First Lit: 1868
Is the Light Operational? No
Date Deactivated: 1934
Construction Materials: Brick
Markings/Patterns: White w/red trim
Shape: Square - badly deteriorating
Relationship to Other Structures: Attached
Tower Height: 30
Has tower been moved? No
Previous Tower(s): N/A

Modern Tower

Year Tower Constructed: 1934
Type: Steel skeletal
Tower Height: 60
Existing Sound Signal Building? Unknown

Existing Keepers Quarters

Year Constructed: 1868
Construction Materials: Brick
Current Use: Abandoned
Owner/Manager: Michigan Dept. of Natural
Open to the Public? No

(From the Maritime Heritage Program of the National Park Service.)

RESTORATION PROJECT

During the summer of 1991, Doug McCormick, past caretaker of the Grand Traverse Lighthouse, filmed South Fox and her light. His father was keeper there between 1916 and 1921. Mr. McCormick found the lighthouse in "horrible condition, overgrown with trees, one even growing through the roof, vandalized, *but still solid.*" On a personal visit in 1997, we inspected the light and keepers quarters with DNR approval. They are restorable we believe. Much support has already begun being partnered.

Help is needed to restore this light. The biggest obstacle is the island's remote location. Ideas are needed along with a way to raise financial support and willing volunteer workers.

Public meeting

Monday, Oct. 18th, 2004 at 7:00pm at the Suttons Bay Bingham Township Firehall, 104 St. Mary's Street in Suttons Bay.

Contacts, Web site

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Information on the project is available at www.southfoxisland.us.tc - updated pretty frequently.