

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
 HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
 Oregon State Highway Department, Salem 97310

2. County Tillamook

Town _____

Name (Common) Cape Meares Lighthouse

(Historic) (same)

Original Use lighthouse

Present Use (same)--automatic

Present Owner U.S. Government: lease to State of Oregon

Date 1890 Style _____

Source of Date see references

Architect _____

Builder _____

Site/Structure is historically significant to: Town County State Nation

Site/Structure has historical associations with the following themes:

- Aboriginal man Transportation/Com-
- Maritime exploration munication
- Overland exploration Military/Indian Affairs
- Fur trade Government
- Missionary frontier Arts and Sciences
- Oregon Trail migration Religion/Philosophy
- Mining frontier Social/Humanitarian
- Cattlemen's empire movements
- Agriculture Ethnic immigration
- Commerce/Industry Travel/Recreation
- Development town/city Conservation
- Other _____

3. CONDITION: Good Fair Poor Re-sited Altered Restored _____
 (Site) Open Overgrown Developed Obliterated by _____

NEIGHBORING LAND USE: Commercial/Industrial Residential Blighted Undeveloped

SITE ENDANGERED BY _____ ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC: Yes No

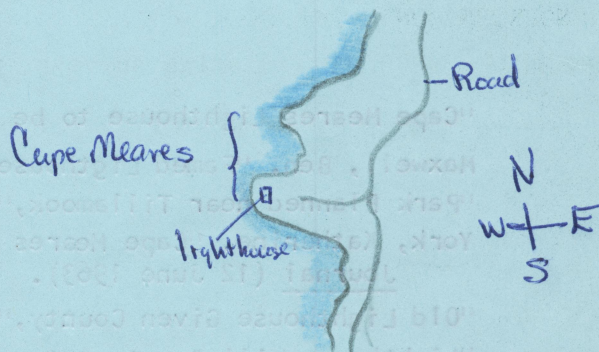
On what basis No Access to Lighthouse

Indicate North

4. DESCRIPTION

- Frame: Wood Iron Steel +
- Wall cover: Rough-hewn timber Concrete
- Lap/Tongue-in-groove siding
- Brick/Stone masonry Concrete Glass
- Stories: Basement 1 2 3 Attic
- Roof: Gable Gambrel Hipped Mansard
- Dormers Cupola Tower Spire Dome
- Other _____
- Chimneys: 1 2 3 4 _____ Stone Brick
- Interior trim:
 - Paneling: Milled Carved
 - Wainscot Baseboard Chair-rail
- Interior Walls: Boards Brick Plaster
- Ornament: Molded plaster Wood-carved
- Decorative painting
- Original: Fixtures Hardware Furniture
- Stairs: Central stair-hall Straight flight
- Geometric Dog-legged Double-return
- Enclosed Wood Iron Circular
- Openings: Regular Irregular
- Attachments: Simple Porch Double Piazza
- One/Two-story portico Veranda(s)
- Side/Center ell Wing(s) Shed
- Outbuildings: Wood shed Bath/Cook house
- Smoke house Carriage house Barn
- Other _____
- Landscaping: Formal Forecourt Informal
- Date executed _____ By _____

5. LOCATION DIAGRAM (Refer to known points)



Beach road west of Tillamook
 Road or Highway to Oceanside Area

Street and No. _____

Township 1 ^N/_S Range 11 ^E/_W Section 13

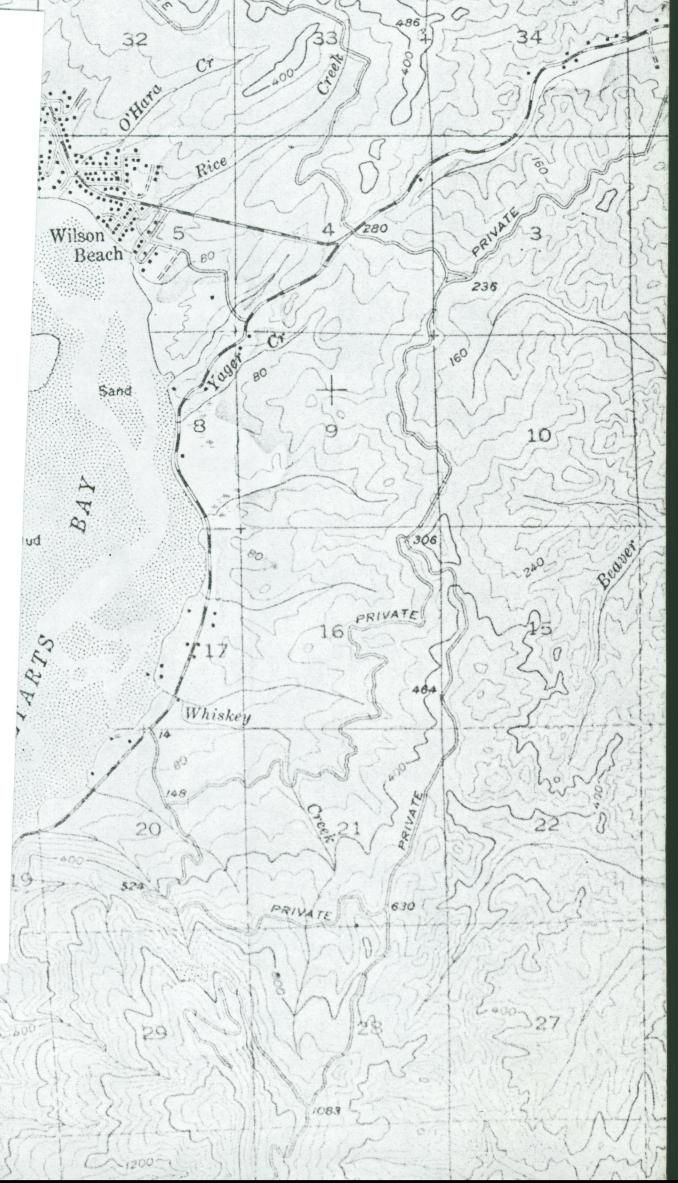
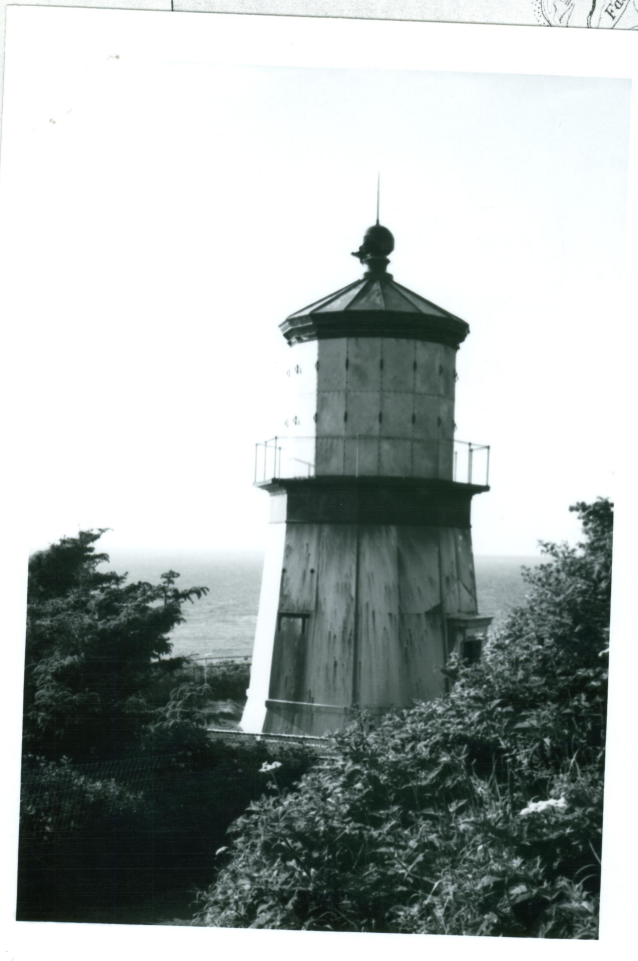
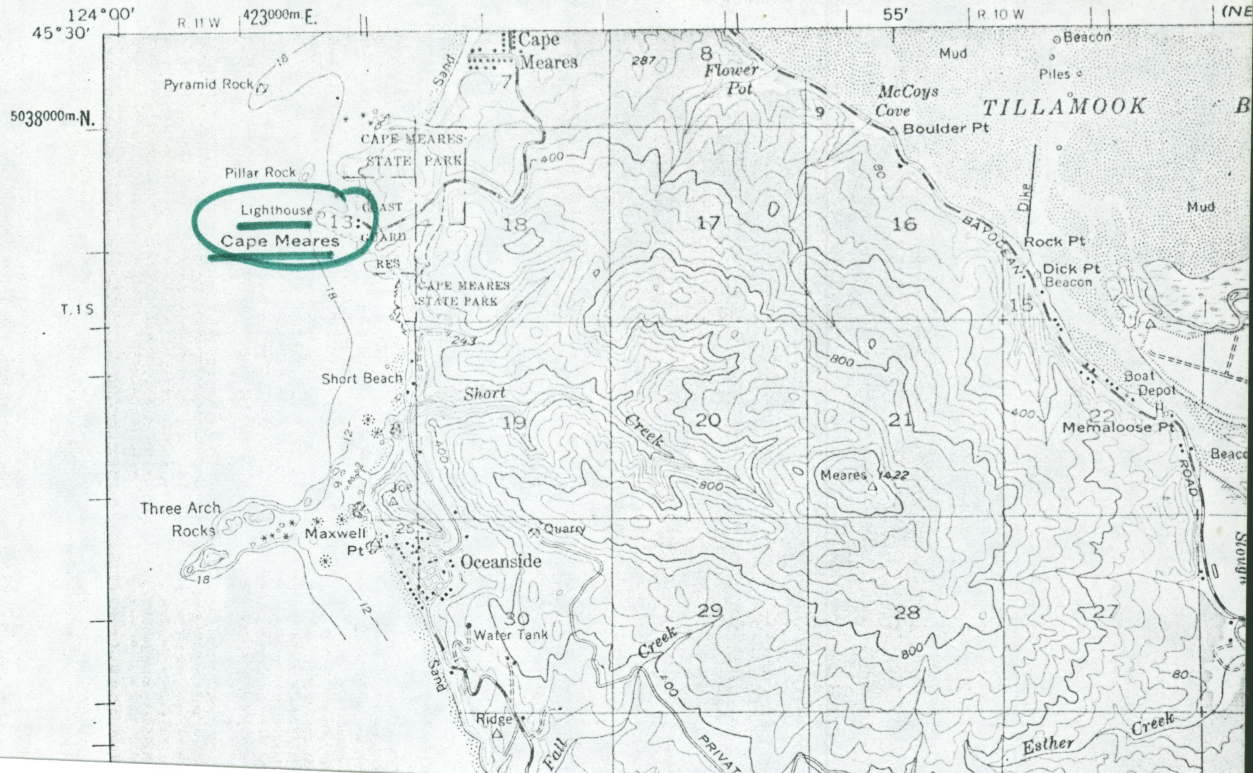
Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham

For OCCDC and State Parks Division

Date 1 Aug. 1974

Photo: Attached Available _____

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION (Comment on original condition, alterations, and notable features)

The lighthouse stands on the end of the Cape and is located 232 feet above the sea. The tower is a fifteen feet high masonry-concrete building. It has a large metal door on the elevation to the east and a window on the west. It is octagonal in shape and is surmounted by a light structure with windows on all sides (some broken in July, 1974). The tower has a metal dome, ball and spire on its top. The lens, manufactured in France in 1877 by Henry Lapaute of Paris, were broken by vandals in the spring of 1974. The keepers quarters, 1/2 mile to the east have been razed.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Elaborate on the historical theme circled on front of form)

This lighthouse was built to provide navigational aids for vessels on the northern Oregon coast and especially for those near the entrance to Tillamook Bay. Its light is 232 feet above the sea and has a visibility of 17 miles. The station was established in 1890 and was to have been on nearby Cape Lookout. Supplies were landed at Cape Meares instead. The station was automated on 1 April 1963; the two keepers and their families left the site at that time. The French fensel oil lens was lighted with a kerosene lamp for twenty years. In 1910 an oil vapor lamp was used. In 1934 electrical power from diesel generators on the site lighted the beacon.

SOURCES CONSULTED (Existing surveys, publications, records)

- "Cape Meares Lighthouse to be Automated," Oregon Statesman (9 Jan. 1963)
- Maxwell, Ben. "Famed Lighthouse, Tree Worth Look," Capital Journal (14 Dec. 1963).
- "Park Planned near Tillamook," Oregonian (11 March 1960).
- York, Katherine. "Cape Meares Lighthouse Stirs Childhood Memories," Oregon Journal (12 June 1963).
- "Old Lighthouse Given County," Oregon Journal (3 Nov. 1963)
- "Lighthouse Will Bow to Automation," Statesman (10 March 1963).
- Armstrong, Chester. "Cape Meares State Park," pp. 102-103, Oregon State Parks History 1917-63 (Salem, 1965).

District-Site Boundaries _____

Approximate acreage of site 138.51 acres

Location of current property title(s) _____

_____ County Assessor's Map No. _____ attached.