St. Martin's Point lighthouse.

In May 1923, the States of Guernsey decided to install a light at the end of St. Martin's Point. There are many dangerous rocks at that corner of Guernsey, and the Harbourmaster at the Town harbour had received a lot of complaints from ships' captains saying how difficult it was to navigate safely in the southern approaches.

The small square building which we can see on a rock right at the end of the point was built by the Le Couteur Brothers and the Board of Administration, (as it was known at that time), took responsibility for it in May 1925.

At first, a battery made the light turn and controlled the fog-horn, but very soon Trinity house installed some machinery instead. In October the same year, the harbourmaster received a letter from a Captain Purdy suggesting that it would be a good idea if part of the light showing was red. I cannot tell you if that was done.

The same year the States decided to put some railings on both sides of the short bridge which led to the building because it was too dangerous. It was made of wood, but later it was replaced by one made in concrete.

There were many difficulties with the machinery and there were many complaints about the fog-horn which did not work very often as it should have done. At last, in 1934, an electric cable was installed.

Of course there was no keeper there as at the other lighthouses, and those at the harbour made sure that the light turned as it should.

Except for during the Occupation, when the light was reduced or extinguished, the light at St. Martin's Point has continued to warn mariners of dangers in the approaches to the Little Russel. It was the last one to be built and since 1925 there has been a lighthouse at each corner of Guernsey.