

= Mystic Seaport Light =

Mystic Seaport Light is a lighthouse at the south end of Mystic Seaport , 2 miles (3 @. @ 2 km) upriver from Noank , Connecticut . The light is a two @-@ story white shingled structure topped with a glass @-@ enclosed lantern and is a replica of the 1901 Brant Point Light . The Mystic Seaport Light was designed by William F. Herman Jr. and constructed in 1966 . It was formally dedicated in August 31 , 1967 , but remained unlit due to active navigational regulations imposed by the United States Coast Guard . The Mystic Seaport light is now an active light , but not an official aid to navigation .

The structure was used as an example of a lighthouse for Mystic Seaport visitors , but was not part of an exhibit until a 2008 renovation . The interior of the lighthouse was equipped with five LCD televisions to display two short educational films that highlight the history and architectural diversity of American lighthouses .

= Design and construction =

The Mystic Seaport Light was designed by William F. Herman Jr. and constructed by Engineered Building in 1966 . Funds for the project were donated by Mr. and Mrs. John P. Blair . Mr. Blair was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Marine Historical Association since 1963 . The Marine Historical Association was the original name for the Mystic Seaport . Prior to the construction of the light , a total of \$ 5 @, @ 000 was donated by Coast Guard Auxiliary members from Maine and Delaware to build the keeper 's cottage .

The original artist 's conception called for a generic lighthouse that was designed to be representative of all lighthouses , but the actual design of the lighthouse was later changed to a replica of the 1901 Brant Point Light located on Nantucket Island in Massachusetts . Constructed on the tip of Shipyard Point , it is a two @-@ story white shingled structure topped with a glass @-@ enclosed lantern . The light measures 18 feet (5 @. @ 5 m) by 12 feet (3 @. @ 7 m) by 38 feet (12 m) . The lighthouse houses a fourth order Fresnel lens .

The design of the keeper 's house did not change much from the original artist 's conception , though Tim Harrison notes that " it does not resemble a typical lighthouse keeper 's house . " The dedication of the lighthouse was held on August 31 , 1967 , which was described as " another quiet [,] but proud ceremony " by Mystic Seaport . Care and maintenance of the lighthouse is performed by the Mystic Seaport .

= Operational requirements =

The Mystic Seaport Light is subject to United States Coast Guard regulations to become operational , and because it is a full @-@ sized replica of a lighthouse , requirements include supervisory schedules and installation of an emergency , backup light . This was not a financial priority for Mystic Seaport in 1967 and it was not made a fully functional lighthouse .

In 1979 , Brierley noted that the present use of the lighthouse remained as " [a] n example of a lighthouse used as a navigational aid . " Regardless of its intended function , the lighthouse was used as the starting mark for the Mystic River Day seine boat race in 1981 . By 2014 , it is active , using a fourth order Fresnel lens on loan from the Coast Guard , but is not an official aid to navigation .

= Design renovation =

In late 2007 , the Mystic Seaport asked Oudens Ello Architecture to develop a design proposal for the light . Oudens Ello Architecture developed a " multilayered system of open wood slats and sound absorptive material creating an interior environment evocative of a Nantucket basket . " The task called for an " audio @-@ visual display in a single , conical room of little more than 100 square feet . " The renovated exhibit was also made wheelchair accessible via a ramp .

= = Sentinels of the Sea = =

In July 2008 , the Mystic Seaport Light became part of the visitor experience when the interior was opened as part of the " Sentinels of the Sea " exhibit . The exhibit displays two short educational films , The Heyday of Lighthouses and How to Look at a Lighthouse , on five LCD screens . The two films highlight the history and architectural diversity of American lighthouses .