

# HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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CAPE DECISION LIGHT STATION  
South Kuiu Island on Sumner Strait  
Petersburg vicinity  
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area  
Alaska

HAER AK-56

## INDEX TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Todd A Croteau, photographer, 2012

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| AK-56-1 | Aerial view taken from US Coast Guard Helicopter looking Northeast towards Baranoff Island showing the entire light station.   |
| AK-56-2 | Contextual view looking West towards the lighthouse from the land. The helipad is at left.   |
| AK-56-3 | Looking West towards the lighthouse from the helipad and looking across the trestle to the entry steps of the structure. The trestle originally carried a railway for coal carts to supply the boilers.            |
| AK-56-4 | Similar view showing more trestle.   |
| AK-56-5 | Detail of the trestle looking East towards the helipad.  |
| AK-56-6 | Looking west towards the lighthouse from the helipad showing more of the South face.   |
| AK-56-7 | Looking Northeast from below towards the lighthouse with the trestle and helipad to the right. Note that the solar panel array on the left is a recent addition to charge the battery bank for the electric light. |
| AK-56-8 | Similar view looking more North showing the footbridge, and old antennae footings.   |

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- AK-56-9 View East showing West elevation with footbridge across gap. Note the solar panel array at the base of the building.
- AK-56-10 View East showing West elevation and footbridge from a higher elevation on the rocks.
- AK-56-11 3/4 view showing North and West elevations looking East towards the land. Antennae foundations are at left and the pier can be seen in the background at the far right. Also note the oil tanks located next to the structure. These are not original.
- AK-56-12 Detail of oil tanks located at the Northeast corner of the lighthouse. Note these tanks are not the original size, shape and capacity of the original oil tanks.
- AK-56-13 East (front) elevation of the lighthouse showing the stairway and entry into the building. Note that the coal chutes were located to the left of the stairway and oil tanks are to the right.
- AK-56-14 Interior of the lighthouse looking North across the living room and galley. Note that this is not the original configuration. Some changes were made. Also note the compass rose design on the floor is a recent addition of the Cape Decision Lighthouse Society.
- AK-56-15 Interior of the lighthouse looking South across the living communal space with a bedroom visible in the background.
- AK-56-16 Interior view of a typical bedroom...this being the Southwest corner room. There are four bedrooms in the station.
- AK-56-17 Same view, with Chris Brooks, Board Member of the Cape Decision Lighthouse Society, updating log books
- AK-56-18 Interior view of bathroom, toilet is to the right. Note the ropework detail on the sink pedestals. The tile work was recently replaced.
- AK-56-19 Interior view of recreation room in the basement with pool table and dart board. This was formerly a coal bunker and the coal chute doors can be seen at the top of the wall on the left in the gray band. There are two doors.
- AK-56-20 Interior view of cast concrete stairway up the tower to the light.

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- AK-56-21 Interior view stairway up the tower where the concrete stairs meet the metal stairs into the lantern. Note the battery box on the floor and control unit on the wall are new additions for the LED light being tested on the site.
- AK-56-22 Interior of lantern showing the electric light at center and the experimental LED light in the foreground. This view is looking to the West.
- AK-56-23 Exterior of lantern with the light visible inside.
- AK-56-24 Aerial view of the trestle, helipad and pier from atop the tower.
- AK-56-25 Similar view looking more Southerly towards the helipad and pier.
- AK-56-26 Close-up view of the end of the pier looking South. Note the cargo and boat derrick are a replacement to the original hoist on the pier. The original hoist motor is to the right of the newer unit. Note the skiffs in the water are on a mooring pulley system to keep them off the rocks but easily retrieved. This pier replaced an original derrick for which components still remain on the site.
- AK-56-27 View of pier looking Southeast from the water's edge.
- AK-56-28 Close-up from the same spot.
- AK-56-29 View of trestle and helipad from the base of the lighthouse looking Southeast showing the support structure.
- AK-56-30 3/4 view of the lighthouse from the beach below looking Northwest showing the trestle to the right.
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- AK-56-32 Detail of underside of the helipad showing support system and deck structure. Note the pipe and wire system along the edge is a safety barrier around the pad.
- AK-56-33 Detail of helipad structure underneath.

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- AK-56-34 Detail of trestle structure looking South towards pier structure. Note the pyramidal concrete structure at center was the base of the of the original derrick.
- AK-56-35 View Southeast towards the trestle at left and pier at right. The turntable and boathouse structure are at center.
- AK-56-36 Detail of boathouse/turntable structure (burned) and the beginning of the pier structure at left. Note the remains of the boom derrick on the rocks below.
- AK-56-37 View Southwest along the top of the boathouse/turntable structure looking towards the pier.
- AK-56-38 Detail of the boathouse/turntable structure with the turntable collapsed below from the fire damage. Note the metal brackets that support the beams.
- AK-56-39 Detail of turntable carriage in its collapsed position laying upside down.
- AK-56-40 Detail of original boom derrick remains on the rocks. This was the pulley wheels at the end of the boom.
- AK-56-41 Detail view looking West of the pier. The original boom derrick pylon is at left and the footings for the boathouse/turntable structure are at right. Note the boathouse footing was extended with another pour to support the pier bent.
- AK-56-42 Detail view looking Northwest showing the original boom derrick pylon, pier, and lighthouse in background.
- AK-56-43 Detail elevation of pier looking North, old derrick pylon, and trestle in the background.
- AK-56-44 Detail of pier looking North with crew working the derrick.
- AK-56-45 Detail of pier looking West along top of decking showing the rail system and the derrick.
- AK-56-46 Portrait of Steve Grover, who served at the station in 1964/65.
- AK-56-47 Group photo of volunteer work crew on the steps of the lighthouse.