

Turkey Point Lighthouse Timeline

(Located in Elk Neck State Park, Cecil County, MD – tallest focal plane of any MD lighthouse -revised 09/02/08)

- 1833** Thirty-five foot masonry tower and wooden keepers' quarters built by John Donahoo on 100-foot bluff overlooking the Elk and North East Rivers.
- 1856** Fourth-order Fresnel lens visible for 13 miles installed.
- 1880s** Improvements made to the dwelling & outbuildings. Fog bell added.
- 1925** Fannie May Salter named keeper by President Calvin Coolidge after death of husband, Clarence.
- 1942** Tower electrified.
- 1947-8** Salter retires and light fully automated.
- 1972** Keepers' house torn down. Original Fresnel lens later stolen. Light replaced by plastic lens. Wooden stairs removed and other measures taken to prevent vandalism.
- 1995** Turkey Point Light Station, Inc. established to restore light station to original condition.
- 2000** US Coast Guard decommissions light.
- 2002** Light reactivated and serves as private aid to navigation.
- 2006** Ownership of Turkey Point light tower transferred to MD Department of Natural Resources, Elk Neck State Park. TPLS signs renewable 30-year lease.
- 2007** New wooden staircase replaces aluminum ladder.

Source: *Bay Beacons* by Linda Turbyville