

Cove Point Lighthouse Timeline

(Located four miles north of the entrance of Patuxent River, Calvert County, MD.
Oldest operating LH in MD- Revised 09/02/08)

- 1828** Thirty-eight foot tall masonry tower (later raised to 51 feet), marking the shoal that extends offshore near Calvert Cliffs, MD and detached keepers dwelling built by John Donahoo. Fitted with eleven lamps and 18" reflectors. James Somerville appointed first keeper.
- 1855** Reflecting apparatus replaced by Fifth-order Fresnel lens.
- 1883** House enlarged with addition of second story.
- 1892** Seawall constructed to halt erosion.
- 1899** Electric lamps installed. Lens replaced by stronger fourth-order model. Exhibits flashing white light every ten seconds.
- 1907** Light station fully electrified.
- 1925** Keepers dwelling further enlarged.
- 1953** Tower surfaced with cement. Seawall constructed.
- 1976** Air-powered horn replaced by electric diaphone.
- 1986** Station automated.
- 2000** US Coast Guard transfers Lighthouse and grounds to the Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons, MD.
- 2008** CMM receives grant to renovate tower.

Source: *Bay Beacons* by Linda Turbyville