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Historic Light Station Information HAWAII

BARBERS POINT LIGHT

Location: KALAELOA, OAHU ISLAND, HAWAII

Station Established: 1888

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1933

Operational? YES

Automated? 1964

Deactivated: N/A

Foundation Materials: MASONRY

Construction Materials: CONCRETE

Tower Shape: CYLINDRICAL WITHOUT LANTERN

Markings/Pattern: WHITE

Relationship to Other Structure: SEPARATE

Original Lens: FOURTH ORDER FRESNEL

Historical Information:

- Barbers Point Light is named for Captain Henry Barber. His ship wrecked on a coral shoal off the point on 31 October 1796.
- The first tower was "constructed of coral [one source noted lava] in the days of King Kalakaua in 1888" according to a caption on an official photo sent to Headquarters in 1934 (link below). It stood 42 feet. The first keeper was A. Alona, Esq., who was appointed on 9 April 1888.
- In 1912 a cement cap was placed on the original lava rock tower and the old wick lamp was replaced.
- The current 72-foot tower was built in 1933. The older tower was intentionally toppled on 29 December 1933, the same day the new tower was lit.
- Light was automated in 1964. The last light-keeper was BM1 Fred Robbins.
- In a letter dated December 10, 1941, John M. Sweeney the Keeper at Barbers Point Light Station describes seeing Japanese and American planes flying overhead. They appeared to be dog fighting. He also describes parachutists [these were the aircrew of a damaged Japanese dive bomber who bailed out near the light station] landing near the light. He was warned not to go outside as the fighting raged on. The Army ordered the station open twenty four hours a day for full use by the Army. Machine gun emplacements were installed.
- The light is an active aid to navigation and is not open to the public.



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Researched and written by Melissa Buckler, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society.

CAPE KUMUKAHI LIGHT

EASTERNMOST POINT HAWAII ISLAND

Station Established: 1929

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1934

Operational? YES

Automated? YES 1960

Deactivated:

Foundation Materials: Concrete

Construction Materials: Steel

Tower Shape: Skeletal pyramidal

Markings/Pattern: White

Relationship to Other Structure: Separate

Original Lens: 375 MM 1929

DIAMOND HEAD LIGHT

Location: DIAMOND HEAD/OAHU ISLAND

Station Established: 1899

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1918

Operational? YES

Automated? YES 1924

Deactivated: n/a

Foundation Materials: Masonry

Construction Materials: Concrete

Tower Shape: Square

Markings/Pattern: White w/ red roof

Relationship to Other Structure: Separate

Original Lens: THIRD ORDER, FRESNEL 1899, built by Barbier and Benard.

Historical Information:

- 1856 – Wooden lookout tower constructed to watch for ships.
- 1893 – SS Miowera ran aground at Diamond Head prompting the Hawaiian legislature to recommend a lighthouse be established at Diamond Head.



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

- 1894 and 1895 – Funds requested for a lighthouse at Diamond Head, but nothing was allocated.
- 1897 – China ran aground, finally causing construction of an iron tower to begin. A 40' open frame tower was constructed at Honolulu Iron Works, but never installed.
- 1898 – Hawaiian legislature deemed tower should be masonry, not skeletal iron.
- 1899 – 1st light established. This was the last primary light built by the Hawaiian government.
- 1904 – A floor was added to the tower, 14' above ground level. Windows were placed in 2 existing openings in the tower walls and telephone lines were installed in the tower.
- 1910 – Incandescent oil vapor (IOV) system installed.
- 1917 – Funds allocated for new lighthouse.
- 1918 – Present lighthouse completed at a cost of \$6,109. The characteristic was changed from fixed to group occulting.
- 1921 – Keeper's house completed.
- 1924 – Lighthouse automated.
- 1939 – Light station turned over to the Coast Guard.
- 1980 – Placed on National Register of Historic Places.

Keepers:

- John M. Kaukaliu (1899 – 1914)
- Robert I. Reid (1915 – 1917, 1918 – 1919)
- Alexander D. Toomey (1919 – 1924)
- Charles K. Akana (1924)
- William J. Watkins (Assistant Keeper, Unknown – 1931)

Researched and written by Marie Vincent, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society.

HONOLULU HARBOR LIGHT

Location: HONOLULU HARBOR NEAR OAHU, HAWAII

Station Established: 1826

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1969

Operational? NO

Automated? NO

Deactivated: N/A

Foundation Materials: CONCRETE



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Construction Materials: CONCRETE
Tower Shape: SQUARE
Markings/Pattern: GREY
Relationship to Other Structure: SEPARATE
Original Lens: FOURTH ORDER FRESNEL

Historical Information

- The original Honolulu Harbor Light was built in 1826. It was a white wooden structure on piles. It was nicknamed the Harbor Wink.
- In 1910 a grey, square concrete tower was built.
- That structure was replaced by the Aloha Tower in a different location. The Honolulu Harbor Light was destroyed in 1934.
- The Aloha Tower was deactivated in 1970. The tower served as a communications and harbor control center. The light has been deactivated.
- The Aloha Tower is open to the public and is part of a marketplace.

Researched and written by Melissa Buckler, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society.

HONOLULU RANGE LIGHTS

Location:
Station Established:
Year Current/Last Tower(s) First Lit:
Operational:
Automated:
Deactivated: n/a
Foundation Materials:
Construction Materials:
Tower Shape:
Height:
Markings/Pattern:
Characteristics:
Relationship to Other Structure:
Original Lens:
Foghorn:



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

KAILUA POINT

Location:
Station Established:
Year Current/Last Tower(s) First Lit:
Operational:
Automated:
Deactivated: n/a
Foundation Materials:
Construction Materials:
Tower Shape:
Height:
Markings/Pattern:
Characteristics:
Relationship to Other Structure:
Original Lens:
Foghorn:

KAUHOLA POINT LIGHT

Station Established:
Location: 20° 15.0' N x 155° 46.5' W
Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1933
Operational:?
Automated: 1951
Deactivated: ?
Foundation Materials: Concrete
Construction Materials: Concrete
Tower Shape: Cylindrical
Markings/Pattern: White
Height of tower: 85 ft
Relationship to Other Structure: Separate
Original Lens: 2 Grouse Hinds 36' revolving aircraft beacons (1933 tower)
Lamp: Clear Mogel Bi-Post T-20 C-13 (as of 1953);

KILAUEA POINT LIGHT



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NORTH OF KILAUEA/KAUAI ISLAND

Station Established: 1913

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1913

Operational? NO

Automated? YES 1976

Deactivated: 1976

Foundation Materials: Concrete

Construction Materials: Concrete

Tower Shape: Conical

Markings/Pattern: White w/red roof on lantern

Relationship to Other Structure: Separate

Original Lens: SECOND ORDER FRESNEL 1913

Historical Information:

- This important landfall light, providing a leading mark for ships bound to Honolulu from the Orient, was built in 1913. The tower is of reinforced concrete, and is 52 feet high, but it stands on a cliff which elevates the light to 216 feet above the water.
- The moving parts of the lens weigh 4 tons, and this mass turns on a mercury float, making a complete revolution every 20 seconds and giving each 10 seconds a double flash of 1,000,000 candlepower.
- The lens was built in France and cost about \$12,000.
- Kilauea Lighthouse was also a radio-beacon station providing radio signals for the guidance of ships.
- This light was the first landfall made in the first flight by an aeroplane from the Pacific coast of the United States to the Hawaiian Islands, in 1927, it was picked up from the air at a distance of 90 miles.

LAE O HA LA'AU POINT LIGHT

Location: SW end of Molokai Island, Hawaii

Station Established: January 2, 1882

Year Current/Last Tower(s) First Lit: 1972

Operational: Yes

Automated: 1912

Deactivated: n/a

Foundation Materials:

Construction Materials: steel

Tower Shape: pole



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

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Height: 20'
Focal Plane: 151'
Markings/Pattern: white
Characteristics: Flashing white every 2.5 sec.
Relationship to Other Structure:
Original Lens: 4th order fresnel
Foghorn:

Historical Information:

- Also known as Kalaeokala'au and La'au Point
- Named for a La'au – a club that had supernatural powers and was given by the gods to Palila, a hero of Kaua'i
- 1878 – H.N. Carleton wrecked on W. end of Molokai
- 1880 – \$2500 appropriated for lighthouse on W. end of Molokai
- 1881 – Construction of first lighthouse completed. Lighthouse was a white stone tower with a red lantern.
- 1882 – Light first exhibited
- 1902 – Stone light tower rebuilt and repainted.
- 1906 – Original stone tower replaced by 35' white, square, pyramidal wooden tower.
- 1912 – Light automated and placed on 20' cast iron pyramidal skeleton tower. Characteristic changed from fixed white to flashing.
- 1972 – Solar powered light installed on 20' steel pole with diamond shaped dayboard.

Keepers:

- John W. Burrows (Head Keeper, 1882 - 1898)
- J.R. Burrows (John's son, Head Keeper, 1898 - 1912)

Researched and written by Marie Vincent, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society.

LAHAINA LIGHT

Location: Lahaina Harbor, Maui
Station Established: 1840
Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1917
Operational: Yes



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Automated: Yes
Deactivated: N/A
Construction Materials: Concrete
Tower Shape: Pyramidal
Markings/Pattern: White
Original Lens: ?; whale oil lamps
Present Optic: VRB-25
Year Present Lens Installed: 1996
Height: 39'
Height of Focal Plane: 44'
Characteristic: Red, FL 7.5

Historical Information:

- In 1840 King Kamehameha III ordered a nine-foot wooden tower built on this site as an aid to navigation for the whaling ships that would anchor off Lahaina. It is therefore "the oldest lighthouse of the U.S. Pacific coast." It was equipped with a whale oil lamp and was cared for by a keeper who was paid \$20 per year.
- By 1856 the light was equipped with two "powerful locomotive lamps."
- The original light was rebuilt in 1866 with the tower height increased to 26-feet. The tower was built over a storehouse that was later leased out to a sugar company. In 1905 a new wooden tower was constructed, replacing the 1840/1866 tower.
- A new concrete tower was constructed and was placed in operation in 1917.
- In 1996 the Lahaina Restoration Foundation signed a 30 year lease agreement with the Coast Guard and assumed responsibility for maintenance of the site.

MAKAPUU POINT LIGHT

WAIMANALO/OAHU ISLAND
Station Established: 1909
Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1909
Operational? YES
Automated? YES 1974
Deactivated: n/a
Foundation Materials: MASONRY
Construction Materials: CONCRETE
Tower Shape: CYLINDRICAL
Markings/Pattern: WHITE W/BLACK LANTERN



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

Relationship to Other Structure: SEPARATE

Original Lens: HYPER-RADIANT 1909

Historical Information:

- All the commerce from the west coast of North America bound to Honolulu passes Makapuu Lighthouse. The largest lens in a lighthouse of the United States known as a hyper-radiant lens, is in use at this lighthouse.
 - The inside diameter is 8'2 feet, sufficient for several men to stand within. Although the tower is only 46 feet high the light is 420 feet above the sea. The 115,000 candlepower light can be seen for 28 miles. The effectiveness of this lighthouse has been greatly increased in recent years through the establishment of a radiobeacon at the station. The radio signals may be heard two hundred and more miles at sea.
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MOLOKAI (KALAUPAPA) LIGHT

NORTH SIDE OF KALAUPAPA PENINSULA NEAR KALAUPAPA, HAWAII

Station Established: 1909

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1909

Operational? YES

Automated? 1970

Deactivated: N/A

Foundation Materials: MASONRY

Construction Materials: CONCRETE

Tower Shape: OCTAGONAL

Markings/Pattern: WHITE WITH BLACK LANTERN

Relationship to Other Structure: SEPARATE

Original Lens: SECOND ORDER BIVALVE, FRESNEL

Historical Information:

- Molokai Light is the tallest US lighthouse in the Pacific.
- The light sits in the Kalaupapa National Park.
- The light remains an active aid to navigation.
- It is open to the public. Tours are by reservation.

Researched and written by Melissa Buckler, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society.



U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

NAWILIWILI HARBOR LIGHT

Location: Ninini Point, north side entrance to the harbor on Kauai Island

Station Established: pre 1897 (some sources); 1906 (NPS)

Year Current Tower(s) First Lit: 1933

Operational: Yes

Automated: Yes, 1953

Deactivated: n/a

Foundation Materials: Masonry

Construction Materials: Concrete

Tower Shape: Cylindrical

Markings/Pattern: Buff

Relationship to Other Structure: Separate

Original Lens: First order bivalve, Fresnel

Characteristic: Fixed white (originally); flashing white (by 1948)

Fog Signal: None

Historical Information:

- Original tower was erected sometime prior to 1897.
 - Original tower was of wooden construction, a single 6" x 8" timber, 34 feet in height with spikes driven into the structure for access to the light. The light was an incandescent oil vapor lamp (300 mm) of 160 candlepower. The focal plane height of the light was 65 feet above mean high water and visible five miles to seaward. The light was lowered to the ground during daylight for cleaning and servicing.
 - On 1 March 1917 the light station property was purchased by the U.S. Government from the Lihue Plantation Company, Limited, a total of 3.2 acres, for the sum of \$8.00.
 - The station was improved with restoration work in 1932, including the construction of a new cylindrical tower of reinforced concrete.
 - The new tower was 118 feet above mean high water of 1,200,000 candlepower and was visible 17 miles to seaward.
 - In 1960 the light was up-graded to a capacity of 2,000,000 candlepower.
 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 15 "adopted" the lighthouse in 1994. Flotilla members promised to "maintain the light and the surrounding area, and carry on the old seafaring tradition of lighthouse keepers."
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U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

PAUWELA POINT LIGHT

Location: NE Coast of Maui, HAWAII

Station Established: 1910

Year Current/Last Tower(s) First Lit:

Operational: yes

Automated: 1964

Deactivated: n/a

Foundation Materials:

Construction Materials:

Tower Shape: White post

Height: 40'

Focal Plane: 161'

Markings/Pattern:

Characteristics: Flashing white every 15 seconds; range 15 nautical miles.

Relationship to Other Structure:

Original Lens: Lens Lantern by Barbier, Benard & Turenne

Foghorn:

Historical Information:

- 1910 – First light put into operation was an unattended acetylene light shown from a mast.
- 1915 – Mast light replaced by wooden tower on keeper's dwelling.
- 1921 – Light was automated.
- 1937 – Automated light replaced with one that required a keeper (airport revolving beacon with green lens) atop a 72' reinforced concrete tower.
- Circa 1946 – concrete tower replaced by 48' tall steel skeletal tower.
- Date unknown – skeletal tower replaced by white post.

Keepers:

- Philip Kepilino (1911 – 1921)
- John Enos, Jr. (1937 – 1941)
- Ed Marques (1946 – 1962)
- Robert Hearn (USCG Petty Officer, 1962-1964)

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U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Preserving Our History For Future Generations

PEPEEKEO POINT LIGHT

Location: On the point, off HI 19 about 6 miles (10 km) north of Hilo

Station Established: 1907

Year Current/Last Tower(s) First Lit: 1907

Operational: Yes

Automated: 1917

Deactivated: n/a

Foundation Materials:

Construction Materials: steel

Tower Shape: Steel pole

Height: 75', focal plane 147'

Markings/Pattern: white and black dayboard

Characteristics: white light occults every 4 sec.

Relationship to Other Structure:

Original Lens:

Foghorn:

Historical Information:

- Also known as Aila Point Light or Makahanaloa Light
- Built to replace the 1897 Makahanaloa lighthouse.
- Escaped serious damage from a major tsunami in 1960.
- Considered to be a companion lighthouse to Paukaa Point Light.

Keepers:

- David Kalili (1907-1913)
- George Brockman (1913-1917)

Researched and written by Marie Vincent, a volunteer through the Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Light House Society.
