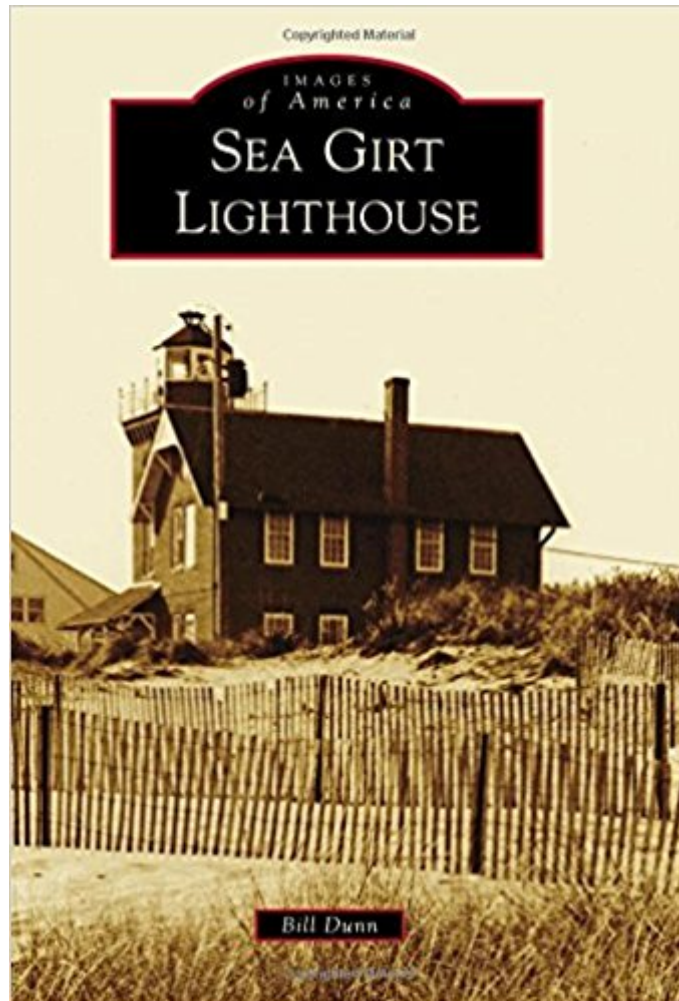


The book was found

Sea Girt Lighthouse (Images Of America)



Synopsis

In the New Jersey shore community of Sea Girt, where Commodore Robert Stockton's oceanfront mansion had a porch as long as a ship's deck from which he surveyed the waters, a lighthouse was built in 1896. Sea Girt Lighthouse illuminated a dark space, providing a crucial guiding light to passing ships. The station would become a lighthouse of distinction and innovation. In 1920, it was the first land-based lighthouse with a radio beacon transmitter, enabling ships to navigate through fog. During World War II, the Coast Guard extinguished the light, stood watch in the tower, and patrolled the beaches. No matter the mission, the lighthouse met every challenge. In 1956, the town acquired the decommissioned lighthouse, making it the library and recreation center. By 1981, however, the building needed extensive repairs and was at risk of being sold. Concerned residents formed the Sea Girt Lighthouse Citizens Committee to save our lighthouse. And they did, restoring it, preserving its history, and keeping it busy with community events.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bill Dunn's account of the Sea Girt lighthouse is a fascinating read. From the early debates surrounding its construction, through the succession of each keeper and their families, and finally to its current function as a community center and museum, Dunn takes us on a historical journey that spans three centuries. As time marches on, the Sea Girt lighthouse features as a centerpiece for a fascinating array of notable local events and ever-intriguing cast of characters, woven together in a

continuous thread that reads more than simply an historical document. What makes the story of this "medium size" mid-point lighthouse so engaging is Dunn's expert ability to place each moment of its specific account within larger historical context, such as the consequences of pivotal changes in the structure and philosophy of federal governance, the breakout of war, the impact of modern technology, and the cultural and social changes the nation has felt as a whole. This makes the tale of the Sea Girt lighthouse, its keepers, and the surrounding township, resonate with the history of virtually every small town in America. The incredible level of detailed research by the author, and his personal connection to the subject, brings a unique experience to the book. As new artifacts and documents are discovered, we feel the joy of digging through this history right along with him, and even learn a lot along the way. I can't recommend highly enough Bill Dunn's "Sea Girt Lighthouse: The Community Beacon".

I just completed this book and can't speak highly enough of this! This is such a well-researched history of Sea Girt Lighthouse that it should be in the libraries of every historical association, educational facility and museum in New Jersey - if not the entire eastern seaboard! As the President of the New Jersey Maritime Museum, I am honored to host a presentation and book signing by this accomplished author! No doubt, our attendees will be in awe of his knowledge of such a vital part of our state's maritime history.

I live near there!

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