

## An Oil House That Can Tell Time?



The oil house was built in 1894 when the Lighthouse was moved to where it now stands. The building is 16'x12' and stands 18' high. Kerosene was used to fuel the Fresnel lens before electricity and, since it's very flammable, they stored it in the oil house. They only took into the Lighthouse what was needed for a few days at a time from the shipments they received by boat every 6 months.

Once the Lighthouse was electrified in 1931, two large fuel tanks were placed in the oil house to power a pair of generators installed in

the Lighthouse basement. The generators and tanks were removed when commercial power came out to the Lighthouse in the early 1950s.

The oil house was also used to store life-saving equipment, which was hung from the outside walls. A brick walkway placed around the oil house in the early 20th Century formed the bow of a boat, as seen from the top of the Lighthouse. The building's roof was blown off during a storm in the 1970s and not replaced until the oil house was restored to its original 1894 design in late 2003.



Life-saving equipment hung on oil house.



Brick walkways joined to form a boat's bow.



A palm tree planted behind the oil house is an interesting witness to the passage of time. Can you put these photos in relative chronological order?