

# CLIMB



# INTO

# HISTORY



ST. AUGUSTINE  
LIGHTHOUSE  
& MARITIME MUSEUM



Smithsonian Affiliate


MEDIA KIT 2018





## ABOUT THE **ST. AUGUSTINE** LIGHTHOUSE & MARITIME MUSEUM:


A pivotal navigation tool and unique landmark of St. Augustine for over 140 years, the St. Augustine Light Station is host to centuries of maritime history. Through interactive exhibits, guided tours and maritime research, the 501(c)3 non-profit St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is on a mission to preserve, present and keep alive the story of the Nation's Oldest Port<sup>SM</sup> as symbolized by our working lighthouse. We are the parent organization to the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) and an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution.


## ACCOLADES FOR THE MUSEUM

●●●●● Rating (3,264 reviews) on  **tripadvisor**<sup>®</sup>

2015  **tripadvisor**<sup>®</sup> Certificate of Excellence Recipient

★★★★☆ Rating (116 reviews) on 

5th Most Beautiful Lighthouse in the World 

5 Most Haunted Lighthouses to Visit 

Also featured on:



# WRECKED!

ONE SHIPWRECK.  
TWO STORIES.



**NEW!** Discover St. Augustine's ties to the American Revolution through this new, interactive exhibit featuring shipwreck artifacts and the science behind underwater archaeology.



## CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE OF THE PAST

America's history will never look the same after a visit to the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum.

From the breathtaking views of Northeast Florida to the artifacts recovered from our ancestors' vessels, our museum covers centuries of history from in and around St. Augustine, Florida.

### CLIMB INTO HISTORY

Guests are invited to ascend 219 steps and uncover 140 years of history on the way to a breathtaking 360° view of St. Augustine, the Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean.

In addition to the tower, the light station grounds have more to offer including the maritime hammock nature trails, children's shipyard play area, 1876 Keepers' House, World War II-era U.S. Coast Guard barracks and jeep garage.

**It's a unique experience you won't find anywhere else in the world!**

### MEET THE KEEPERS OF THE COAST

Discover the stories of past lightkeepers, sailors and fishermen who shaped and protected the coast of Florida for more than 500 years.

From the first lightkeepers who hauled oil buckets up the tower every night to the fishing pioneers who made St. Augustine the shrimp boat capital of the world, our museum covers centuries of maritime history in the Nation's Oldest Port<sup>SM</sup>.



### TOURS FOR ALL AGES & INTERESTS

Over 200,000 guests visit our museum each year. While many enjoy a self-guided exploration of the light station grounds, some enhance their experience with one of these guided tours:

#### BEHIND THE SCENES

Learn about lighthouse history and shipwreck archaeology on this guided exploration of the light station grounds.

**NOW INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION!**

#### SUNSET/MOONRISE

Enjoy champagne and hors d'oeuvres while watching the sunset and full moon rise during this unique monthly tour.

#### DARK OF THE MOON

Take a dark climb for a nighttime view of the city while you explore for ghosts on this paranormal tour of the lighthouse.

Private tours are also available for groups and special events, including an exclusive sunrise tour of the lens room, an area normally unavailable to the public.

## QUICK FACTS

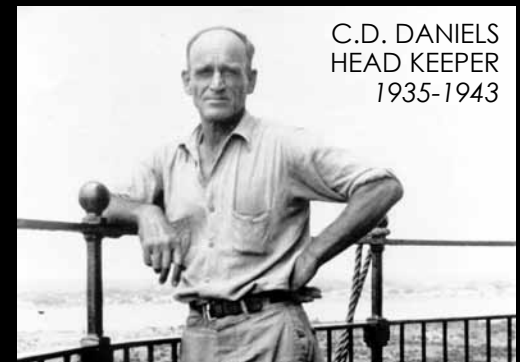
- » Our light still comes on every evening at dusk
- » It was lit for the first time on October 15, 1874
- » It is 165 ft. tall, with 219 steps to the top
- » The tower still houses our 1874 first order Fresnel lens
- » It is the second lighthouse in this location, the old coquina lighthouse fell into the ocean in 1880
- » Restored in the late 80's and early 90's by the Junior Service League of St. Augustine



FLORIDA'S FIRST LIGHTHOUSE  
1874



KEEPERS' HOUSE  
1970



C.D. DANIELS  
HEAD KEEPER  
1935-1943

## KEEPING THE LIGHT BURNING FOR GENERATIONS

### FLORIDA'S FIRST LIGHTHOUSE

Watchtowers on Anastasia Island date back to the 1600s, however it was a coquina tower first built in the 1700s that became Florida's first lighthouse in April 1824 when a \$5,000 grant from the federal government provided for 10 whale oil lamps to light the tower.

That tower fell into the ocean in 1880, but by then the new brick tower that still stands today was completed.

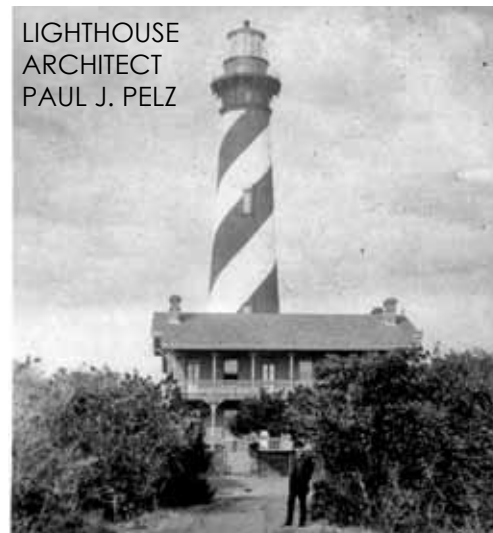
### ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE

Construction began in 1871 on the iconic black, white and red tower that stands today. The project was completed and lit for the first time in 1874.

This tower is constructed from Alabama brick and Philadelphia iron works. A total of 165 ft. tall, it takes 219 steps to reach the gallery platform plus another 12 to enter the lens room.

### FIRST ORDER FRESNEL LENS

The lighthouse still has its original 1874 first order Fresnel lens. The lens is nine feet tall and built from 370 handmade prisms. In 1986, a vandal damaged 14 of the prisms while using the tower for target practice. U.S. Coast Guard Lampist Joe Cocking repaired the lens and it was re-lit in 1994.



LIGHTHOUSE  
ARCHITECT  
PAUL J. PELZ

### KEEPERS' HOUSE

In 1876, construction was completed on the Keepers' House. Originally a duplex, the north side was reserved for the Head Keeper and his family while the First Assistant Keeper and his family resided on the south side. Head Keeper William Harn, his wife, Kate, and their four daughters were the first family to reside in the house. They worked together to maintain the grounds, keep the light burning, and protect sailors at sea.

### LIGHT STATION RESTORATION

Years of neglect and a suspicious fire in 1970 left the St. Augustine Light Station in disrepair by the early 1980s. A group of dedicated women from the Junior Service League of St. Augustine stepped in and began a multi-million dollar community effort to restore the Keepers' House, tower and lens.



## TEACHING THE **FUTURE** THROUGH THE PAST

### HANDS-ON HISTORY EXPERIENCE

Each year, our museum introduces over 43,000 school age students to marine sciences and maritime history through summer camps, home-school days, hands-on tours, and program scholarships.

### SUMMER CAMPS FOR ALL

Students from kindergarten through eighth grade enjoy the museum's summer camp programs. Through science experiments, field trips, art projects and other hands-on learning experiences, students engage with the stories of our Nation's Oldest Port<sup>SM</sup>.

Our camps reach out to underserved and at-risk populations through scholarships and donations from our generous supporters like the Jaguar Foundation and Publix Supermarkets Charities. Scholarships and donations allow students to attend our camps



who have high academic achievement and potential but do not have the economic means to attend camp.

For many of these at-risk students, camp helps close the academic achievement gap and provides a summer safe haven.

### ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL

Undergraduate and graduate students from around the world visit the museum every summer for one of the nation's only underwater archaeology field schools.

Students have the rare chance to experience excavation and artifact recovery from a unique 18th century shipwreck, combining scientific diving, archaeological science, and history to make for a well-rounded field school experience.



ARCHAEOLOGISTS RAISING  
A CANNON FROM AN 1872  
BRITISH LOYALIST SHIPWRECK



## DISCOVERING HISTORY IN THE NATION'S OLDEST PORT

### UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY

The Lighthouse Archeological Maritime Program (also known as LAMP), plays a huge role at the Lighthouse.

This team of professional archaeologists is dedicated to the investigation, interpretation and better understanding of the maritime history and archaeology of St. Augustine, the "First Coast" region of Florida, and beyond. Through historical research and scientific study of shipwrecks and other maritime archaeological sites, LAMP seeks to share the dynamic stories of our Nation's Oldest Port<sup>SM</sup>.

### THE STORM WRECK

Since 2009, LAMP has been excavating a 1782 British loyalist shipwreck off St. Augustine's coast. Years of diving, recovering, conserving and researching artifacts have yielded clues as to the wreck's history.

A mix of loyalist soldiers and civilians evacuated Charleston, S.C., near the end of the American Revolutionary War. Sixteen ships of evacuees attempted to enter St. Augustine's port on New Year's Eve, 1782.

All 16 ships ran aground. While most of the passengers were able to escape safely on smaller boats, all of the belongings they brought from their homes to start a new life were lost to the sea.

From muskets and cannon to clothing irons, cooking cauldrons, shirt buttons and shoe buckles have been recovered from this wreck.

The museum's conservation team is now working to conserve these pieces so that we can tell the story of these shipwreck survivors and the archaeological process behind LAMP's excavation of this wreck through a new museum exhibition coming in the Spring of 2016.

### HERITAGE BOATWORKS

Also located on the museum grounds is a volunteer-powered program dedicated to keeping alive the wooden boatbuilding traditions of our ancestors. The Heritage Boatworks attracts attention from our visitors as well, especially when our volunteer boatbuilders are working. Currently, they are building a Florida Skipjack, British Yawl, and Catspaw Dinghy.





## YOU CAN HELP US **SHARE** MARITIME HISTORY

Please help us share the important history, culture and heritage of our Nation's Oldest Port!

If you would like to do a media story on any aspect of the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum, please contact:

**MICHELLE ADAMS**  
PR DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

(904) 829-0745 ext.212  
madams@staugustinelighthouse.org

### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum has been featured by CNN, CSPAN, The Weather Channel, Parade Magazine, Fox News, NY Daily News, Ghost Hunters, HGTV, and many other national, state and local affiliates.



### **QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE**

#### GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS

\$12.95 Adults  
\$10.95 Kids Under 12 & Seniors 60+

*Children under 44" tall are not able to climb the lighthouse, but do receive free admission.*

#### MUSEUM HOURS

Open Daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Extended hours until 7:00 p.m.  
between Memorial and Labor Days.

*Closed Christmas and Thanksgiving*

**The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization.**





WHERE  
*History* MEETS  
**ADVENTURE**

