

Introducing...The Cape St. George Light!



The crane pulls away with a final salute to the Cape St. George Light.

With the permanent installation of the lantern room shortly after noon today, the Cape St. George Light is finally looking like her old self once again! The historic moment came on April 2, 2008, as the lantern room was raised to the top of the tower.

The installation was not without its tense moments. After yesterday's successful trial run, coring the openings for the lantern room's legs took longer than expected. Day turned to night, and the coring was still not completed.

Under the cover of early morning fog, the coring was finished, and the crew called the ready signal to the crane operator. Everybody in the gathered crowd raised their cameras.... and nothing happened. Suddenly brick mason superintendent Lee Wigglesworth was sawing inches off the legs of the grounded lantern room, as

we all nervously waited.

Then, almost catching us off guard, Richard Saucer gave the start-up sign from the top of the tower, the crane motor roared, and the lantern room began to rise slowly off the ground.

As the iron lantern room swung over the top of the tower, those of us who knew that the legs needed to fit perfectly into the cored openings held our breath. And then a cheer erupted from the crew at the top of the tower, and we knew that the lantern room was home. The crowd below responded in kind, with resounding applause and cheers to welcome the lighthouse.

The long journey has almost come to an end. The brick masons, who have been part of our lives for the past four months, packed up their equipment and left the island. We say goodbye and thank you to our friends. Jim Magee's crew from Masonry Incorporated did a great job, and we will miss them. Tomorrow we continue with the finishing details, but today we celebrate the achievement of our goal to "Rescue the Light!"