



## **TIME LINE FOR PETITE POINTE AU SABLE LIGHT STATION**

1870 – The need for a lighthouse at this location was first mentioned in the *Annual Report of the Lighthouse Board*

1872 – Congress approved funding for construction of the lighthouse and land was reserved.

1873 – Construction began in April.

1874 – The buildings were completed and the light was exhibited for the first time at the opening of navigation.

1899 – The tower was painted white so it was more easily seen by the ships.

1910 – The official name was changed to Little Sable Point Light Station.

1911 – Dormers were added to the north and south sides of the keeper's dwelling and windows were put into the attic.

1939 – President Franklin D. Roosevelt abolished the U.S. Lighthouse Service. Jurisdiction for lighthouses was transferred to the U.S. Coast Guard.

1954 – Little Sable was electrified and automated.

1955 – The Coast Guard demolished the keepers' house and outbuildings.

1972 – Ownership of the lighthouse property was transferred to the U.S. Forest Service Manistee National Forest.

1973 – A land exchange between the federal government and the State of Michigan was approved.

1974 – The State of Michigan received the deed to the lighthouse and the land.

1977 – The Coast Guard removed the paint from the tower.

1985 – Lake Michigan water levels were extremely high and significant erosion began.

1986 – The Coast Guard changed the light bulbs in the tower from two 1,000 watt lamps to four 250 watt lamps. (Only one is lit at a time. The other three serve as backup.) This reduced the distance the light was visible out in the lake from 19 to 18 miles.

1988 – The tower foundation was stabilized and rip rap stone for erosion protection was added.

2005 – The Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers' Association received a lease from the State of Michigan and restoration began.

2006 – Little Sable Point Lighthouse tower opened to the public for the first time since 1949.

Present – Restoration continues.