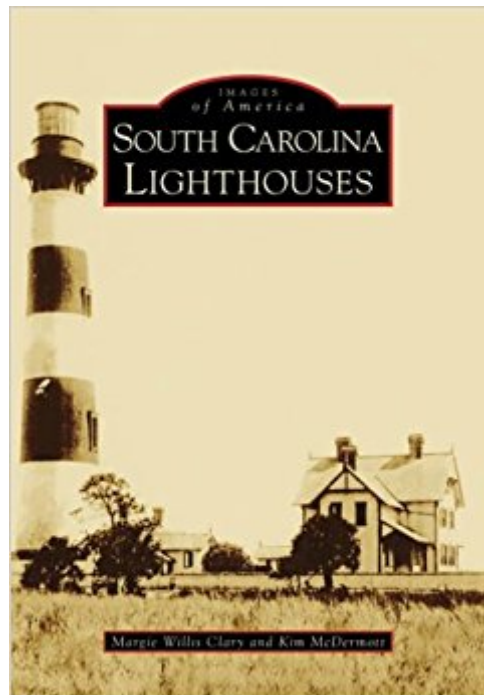




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# South Carolina Lighthouses (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

Boasting one of the oldest lighthouses in North America and the most working lighthouses today, South Carolina has a long seafaring history. In 1767, the Morris Island Lighthouse was built at the entrance to Charleston Harbor, and before 1860, there were lighthouses in Georgetown, Cape Romain, Bulls Bay, and Hunting Island. During the Civil War, all lighthouses on the eastern coast were darkened. Many were destroyed. After the war, towers that had been damaged were repaired, and additional lights were erected on Daufuskie and Hilton Head Islands. In 1962, the new Charleston Light on Sullivan's Island replaced the Morris Island Lighthouse, which was suffering from erosion by the ever-encroaching sea. The new light contained an elevator and two rotating beacons capable of producing 28 million candlepower, a light that can be seen 26 miles out to sea. At that time, it was considered one of the most powerful lights in the Western Hemisphere.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Title: Reading Room Author: Julie Bookman Publisher: Charleston Style and Design Magazine Date: Winter 2009 South Carolina Lighthouses By Margie Willis Clary and Kim McDermott (Arcadia, \$19.99) Morris Island in Old Charleston. Cape Romain on Lighthouse Island. Bloody Point and Haig Pont on Daufuskie Island. The beacons of South Carolina's Lowcountry hold ghosts whose tales go back some 240 years. They are tales of murder, mystery and mayhem, and of long-gone keepers who warned and guided sailors, braved cruel elements and living conditions, and battled profound loneliness. Lighthouses appeal to our sense of romance and wonder, to our yearning for a

supposedly simpler time. These stalwart towers rise up in places of rugged beauty. They are symbols of purpose and hope, of light and safety emerging on a black, starless night of uncertainty. When so much of our history is bulldozed these days, lighthouses such as Morris Island are being rescued and restored; this volume covers that effort and updates us on the status of other beacons, from Hilton Head and Hunting Island to Georgetown Light at the entrance to Winyah Bay. For so compact a book, Clary and McDermott have compiled an immense amount of historical facts and anecdotes. When tooling about the Palmetto State coastline, be sure this book's in the glove compartment.

South Carolina lighthouses have aided in marine navigation and saved lives for almost 250 years. With this in mind, Margie Willis Clary, South Carolina author and lighthouse enthusiast, has joined forces with Kim McDermott, Charleston author and educator, to present this history of the Palmetto State's lighthouses. The authors hope that *Images of America: South Carolina Lighthouses* will provide insight into how each light played a part in making our state's shores safer for seafarers from home and abroad.

There have not been enough books written about the maritime history of South Carolina which was the site of the first lighthouse commissioned by George III and has the last and most modern lighthouse erected on the east coast. This book includes stories of the keepers and their families, rescues at sea and even legends. The photographs are outstanding, There is even one from the Civil War era. Great book.

Authors of books in Arcadia's *Images of America* series have many things for which to strive when working with the limited format, but there is nothing more important than narrative flow. And this book nails it. The coauthors have backgrounds in education, and it shows. The book is an excellent introductory history to some of the most historical lighthouses in America, from Morris Island to Hilton Head to Bull's Bay Island. Its strength as a popular history is its attention to the human side of lighthouses, the stories of the lighthouse keepers and their families. From page after page they stare back at the reader with memories of storms, tales of ghosts and the rippling aftershocks of the 1886 earthquake that struck the state. The books in this series are the ultimate tourist's pick-up. If you want to whet your appetite on the history of any locale, start with *Images of America*. Not all are perfect, but if it's South Carolina's lighthouses you're interested in, this book will get you off to a great start.

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