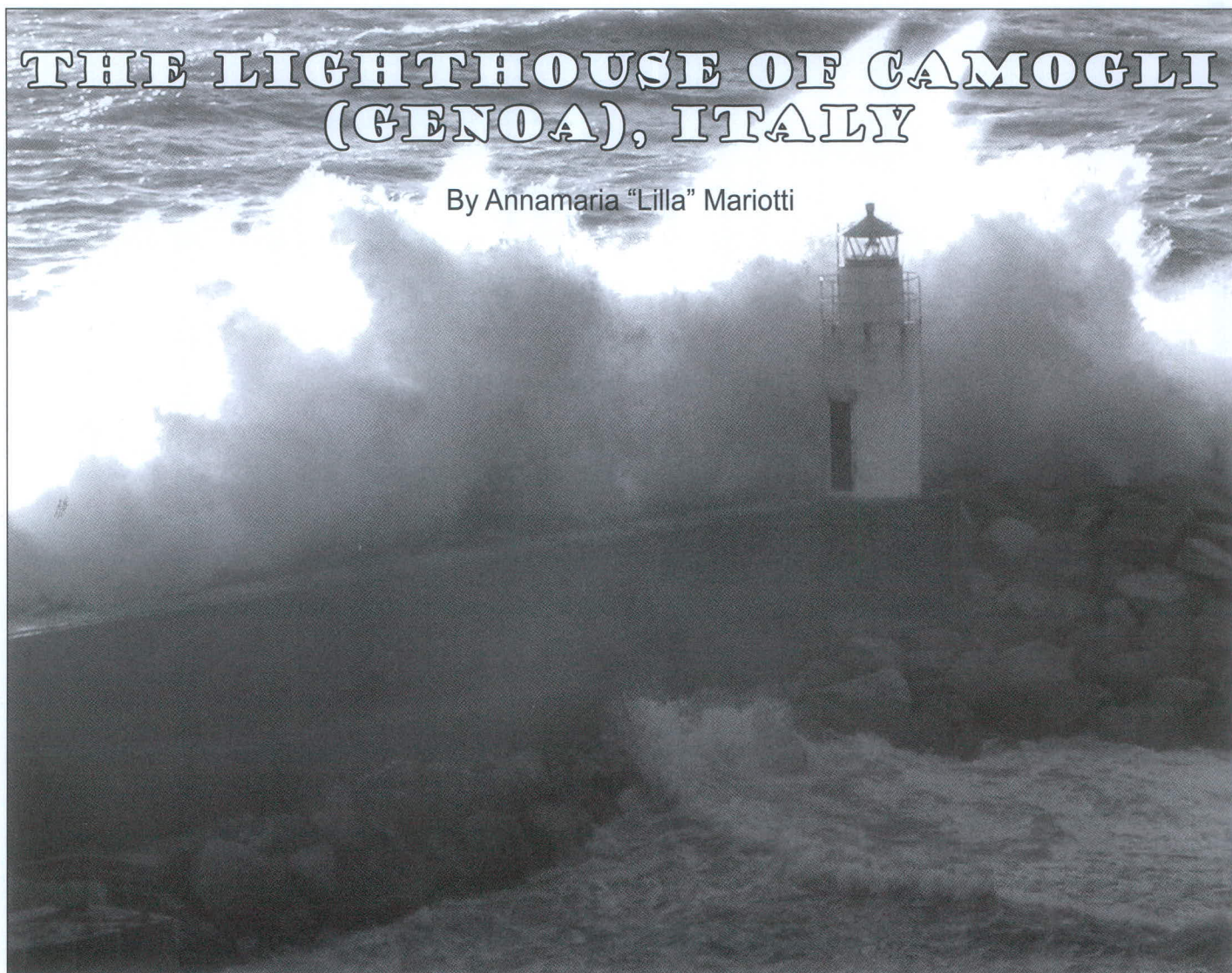


THE LIGHTHOUSE OF CAMOGLI (GENOA), ITALY

By Annamaria "Lilla" Mariotti



It is not easy to tell the history of this lighthouse, located on the west end of the pier in the Camogli harbor.

It is a small lighthouse, and even if it has a story, it has been lost. In an old photo of Camogli dated 1875 there is no lighthouse, but in a picture taken in the early 1950s, you can see the first lighthouse, a metal pylon with a light on top. This beacon has been destroyed many times by the rough sea and was last rebuilt in the 1970s as a white concrete tower, 11 meters high with a nice lantern room on top. Its geographic coordinates are 44° 21'1" N, 9° 9'0" E.

During the night of December 16, 2011, a terrible gale with rough seas as had not been seen for many years battered the lighthouse. The next morning the lantern room had disappeared, and it is still missing.

Before losing the lantern room, the lighthouse had a fixed light that flashed a white beam every few seconds that could be seen for nine miles to show boats the harbor entrance. The lighthouse is about a dozen miles down the coast from the bigger lighthouse at Genoa. The lighthouses worked together to keep the sea safe.

In April it was reported in the news that the Superintendency of Public Works was going to rebuild the lantern room and light. However, as of the early summer, nothing had been done.

Even if small, the lighthouse at Camogli is a true lighthouse, list-

ed as number 1671 in the Navy directory of the Italian lighthouses. Many people wish to see a new lantern room on top of it.



Top: Camogli Harbor Lighthouse in 2006.

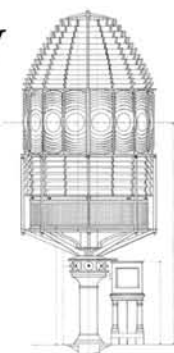
Above: December 2011 after the lantern was destroyed.

Facing page: Earlier in 2011. All photos by the author.





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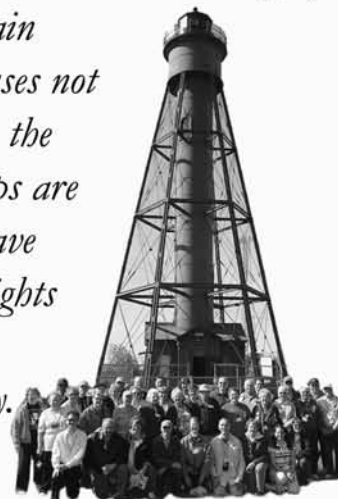
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