Bamburgh Lighthouse

(Near Bamburg, Northumberland)
History

The dangers of the North East coast have long since been noted, although no warnings or safety precautions were apparently employed until the late 18th century. The turbulence of the waters, however, can be matched by the turbulence of the area’s history.

The Bamburgh area, and Bamburgh Castle in particular, has played an important role in English history since the occupation of the site by the Romans. Only 20 miles from the border Bamburgh Castle was once captured by the Scots and has also been fought over by the Danes and the Kings of Mercia and Northumbria.

By the late 18th century Bamburgh Castle had fallen into disrepair and became a charity school run by a Doctor Sharp, who also instituted various measures for the benefit of passing mariners. He set up an elementary lifeboat station in Bamburgh Village, operated a warning system of bells and guns from the Castle ramparts, and whilst gales persisted, employed 2 riders to patrol the shore and keep watch for ships in distress.

For over 80 years the small unmanned lighthouse at Bamburgh has given a guide to shipping in passage along the coast as well as to vessels in the waters around the Farne Islands. Bamburgh Lighthouse was built in 1910 and extensively modernized in 1975. A local attendant carries out routine maintenance at the station which is monitored from the Operations & Planning Centre at Harwich. It is the most Northerly land based lighthouse in England.

Specifications

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Established</td>
<td>1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Height Of Tower</td>
<td>9 Metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height Of Light Above Mean High Water</td>
<td>12.5 Metres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrified</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optic</td>
<td>3rd Order Dioptric</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamp</td>
<td>Cluster of 3 x 50W Tungsten Halogen</td>
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## Optic
- **1st Order Catadioptric Fixed Lens**

## Character
- Occulting White, Red And Green Light Twice Every 15 Seconds

## Intensity
- 27,000 Candela

## Range Of Light
- White 17 nautical miles; red and green 13 nautical miles

### Location

![Map of the location](image-url)

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