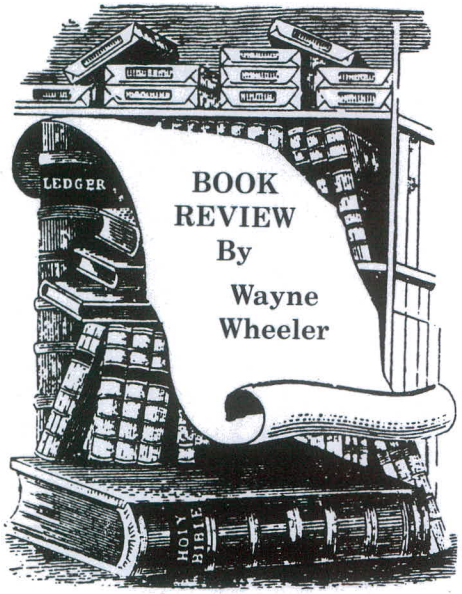


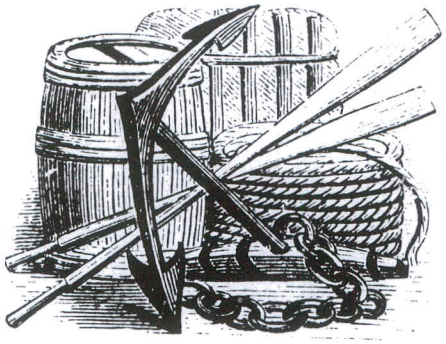
SENTINELS OF SOLITUDE

West Coast Lighthouses
by Chad Ehlers
& Jim Gibbs—1981
88 pages

This gorgeous book is in actuality a picture album of west coast lighthouses. Chad Ehlers was the prime mover behind this opus. He has spent many years in this country and Sweden plying the trade of photography. Most of his art deals with things of nature; a spider web sparkling with dew as an errant sunbeam glances off the strands, or a large full pine tree acting to eclipse the rays of a setting sun. Mr. Ehlers has a *very* artistic eye and when he focuses his camera on lighthouses magical things occur. This book will sate the appetite of people who love lighthouses for their beauty, mystery and romance. Some of the pictures are so artistic that they do not chronicle the lighthouse. That is, it is difficult to discern the structure. But, overall the book presents a "feeling" of *lighthouse.* You 'feel' the nature of lighthouses as you skim the pages because he has provided you with subtle, romantic, dramatic, storm tossed or sunset photos of your favorite subject. Small information paragraphs by Jim Gibbs on each lighthouse photographed are located at the rear of the book. Mr. Gibbs is a noted author of lighthouse books and generously provided short descriptions of each of the light stations depicted in this book. There is also a crude map showing the location of each west coast lighthouse which, unfortunately, has a few errors. Overall quite a nice pictorial on lighthouses illustrating many of the moods surrounding those sentinels of solitude. My only real complaint is that the book (soft cover) is very poorly bound. The most careful handling is required or the pages will fall out.

Sentinels of Solitude may be purchased, or ordered, at most bookstores. You may also write to the Graphic Arts Center Publishing Company, Box 10306, Portland, Oregon. The price is $9.95 plus shipping, I'd guess $2.00 would do it.

The OarHouse



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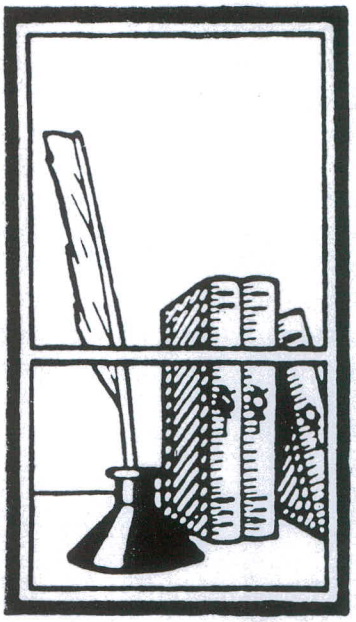

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