



BLOCK ISLAND LIGHTHOUSES

by Robert M. Downie

Drawings by Edmund V. Gillon, Jr.

This book is primarily H-O scale cut and assemble models of the two lighthouses on Block Island. North Lighthouse, a granite structure, constructed in 1867, was the fourth lighthouse to occupy the site. The other Block Island sentinel is Southeast Lighthouse—a beautiful, and unique, 1873 brick duplex with tower attached.

Robert Downie has written a concise and accurate history of both light stations which appear in the front of the book. The H-O scale models are graphically beautiful and very detailed in their construction. They are printed on heavy stock and accompanied by detailed instructions. A word of caution, these are not slap dash models that one can assemble in a ½ hour session. A certain amount of patience and dexterity is required to correctly complete the structures. However, once assembled the structures provide very accurate models of the stations.

The Block Island Historical Society has published this book as a fund raiser in support of the North Lighthouse (which they own and wish to restore) and Southeast Lighthouse (which they hope to acquire in the

near future). Southeast Lighthouse is in danger of being destroyed by erosion as the steep cliffs slowly erode toward the tower. An engineering firm has stated that the huge 2,500 ton structure can be moved (in one piece) some 200 feet out of harms way. The price tag is a hefty \$1 million dollars. The profit on the sale of this book is a first, albeit small, step toward raising the necessary funds to save a truly unique example of a Nineteenth Century lighthouse. The book would be a colorful addition to your library even if you chose not to construct the models.

Block Island Lighthouses may be ordered by writing Block Island Historical Society, P.O. Box 79, Block Island, RI 02807. The cost is \$10 plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

Block Island

H-O Scale
Cut-and-Assemble Models

Lighthouses

Text by Robert M. Downie • Drawings by Edmund V. Gillon, Jr.
The Block Island Historical Society



H-O scale model of the beautiful Victorian Southeast Lighthouse on Block Island, R.I.