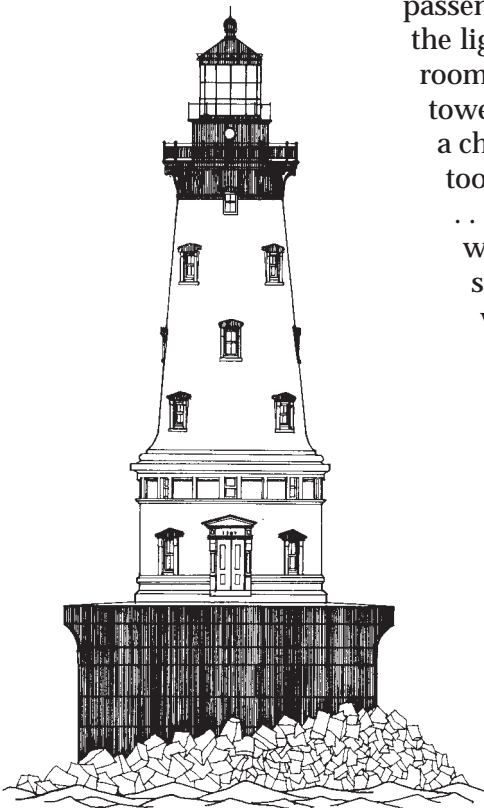


## Rock of Ages, Michigan (Lake Superior)—1908

Located two-and-one-half miles off Isle Royale, the lighthouse was built atop a steel caisson. The tower of masonry and concrete includes seven levels or decks. Above the cellar containing the heating plant, the first level housed the fog signal equipment and engines for the crane's hoisting mechanism. An office and common room were located on the second deck with a kitchen and eating area on the third. The keepers' living quarters were on the fourth and fifth decks while the service and watch rooms comprised the seventh and eighth.

Four keepers were assigned to the station, with each keeper rotating off one week a month. In 1930, the station was electrified and the siren fog signal was replaced with a horn. On May 27, 1933, with the fog signal fully operational, the passenger steamer *George M. Cox* stranded on the reef with 127 persons aboard.



. . . The sea was calm so that the passengers and crew were able to reach the light station in safety. There was not room for all of the people inside the light tower, so the crew and passengers spent a chilly and uncomfortable night; they took turns inside to warm themselves . . . On the following day all persons were removed to the shore . . . All signals at Rock of Ages Light Station were operating at the time of the disaster; the radiobeacon had been in operation 3 hours and the sound fog signal 1 hour. These two signals are arranged to furnish a means of obtaining the distance from the station.

*Lighthouse Service Bulletin,  
July 1933*

Now fully automated, Rock of Ages Lighthouse is located within the Isle Royale National Park.