Background

Sheringham Point Lighthouse

Height: 20 metres
Design: Hexagonal concrete tower designed by William Anderson
Light: Sheringham Point Lighthouse originally used a third-order Fresnel lens, removed in 1976 and eventually became part of the Sooke Museum's collection where most of the components are in storage. Originally the huge lens sat in a pool of mercury that allowed it to turn easily. It was operated by a series of weights and pulleys that needed to be re-wound every three hours.

An automatic flashing green light is now the aid to navigation at the site.
There were seven senior lightkeepers at Sheringham over the years. The first one, Eustace Arden, served for 34 years. There were also junior keepers living at the site as assistants.

Timeline

1906	After the wreck of the SS Valencia near Carmanah, an inquiry into the tragedy recommended more aids to navigation in the area
1912	Sheringham Point lighthouse opened
1925	Foghorn added
1931	Road completed to the lighthouse - *(now Sheringham Point Road)*
1942	Camouflaged naval watch station and a bomb shelter constructed
1989	Lighthouse was destaffed and automated
1989-2016	Site closed to the public
1996	Lightkeeper's house and outbuilding burned down by the Federal Government
2003	Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society formed
2010	Canadian government declares lighthouse surplus
2010	Federal government passes the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act
2015	Sheringham receives heritage designation and ownership is transferred to SPLPS

Restoration plans for Spring/Summer 2017

Current work in the lantern room (atop the tower) includes:

- Stripping the existing paint and refabricating the metal structure of the badly corroded structure on site, replacing broken windows with new ones manufactured at a specialty glass fabrication shop (due to the unique size and curved shape)
- Refabricating the lantern room door
- Reopening vents in the lantern room (many of which are now painted shut)
- Repainting the lantern room with the traditional red colour scheme.

Work on the tower and engine room includes:

- Re-painting, both inside and outside
- Concrete patching and repairs
- Restoring power by installing a solar power array in the lower field, to meet all operational needs such as powering the Environment Canada weather station and orca monitoring, and to help stem the corrosion of the lighthouse lantern room by providing heat and air circulation. The system is tied in to the BC Hydro grid as a backup.

Landscaping

- Lightkeeper families planted ornamentals, fruit trees and other vegetation. An inventory of the vegetation on site is being developed. Following the restoration work the site will be re-landscaped.

Projects started in 2016

- Road repairs and grading on the public access section of Sheringham Point Road
- Reinforced both sides of the causeway that provides access to the tower from the passive park
- New signage ordered for the road to improve safety
- Improved access and safety for children and people with limited mobility