

VESTIGES of *Lands End*



Left: Historic view of Point Bonita Lighthouse seen from Marin Headlands; *Center:* the Lighthouse in the distance, viewed across the water from Lands End; *Right:* Map showing location of Point Bonita relative to Lands End.

Point Bonita and the Golden Gate

The Point Bonita Lighthouse sits on the very tip of a narrow strip of land that marks the northern side of the Golden Gate, the entrance to San Francisco Bay. On a clear day the lighthouse can be seen from Lands End when looking across the water to the Marin Headlands.

The Lighthouse Board originally proposed it be built on Lands End but local mariners opposed the idea. They argued that the north side of the Golden Gate was a safer entrance into the Bay. Construction of the original lighthouse was completed in 1855. But heavy fog often obscured its beam, and in 1877 the lighthouse was moved to a lower elevation on the point.

The Point Bonita Lighthouse is still an active lighthouse. Its electric foghorn can frequently be heard guiding ships into San Francisco Bay.