



Packing up the Lens

During the Civil War, Confederate soldiers realized that Union troops could use lighthouses to locate important ports and cities to attack with their ships and cannons. In 1861, a decision was made to remove the lenses from lighthouses so that they could not be used against the Confederacy. The lenses at Bodie Island and Cape Hatteras were carefully removed, packed in wooden crates, and loaded onto wagons to be shipped to the State Capital in Raleigh for safekeeping.