

Memorial Light

Friends of Madison Library

The Memorial Light is located at the head of Silver Lake. Estlin Cummings enjoyed the view across the Lake while waiting for Marion Morehouse to shop at Gilman's store or pick up their mail from the Depot across the street. The stone pillar was built in part to honor Cummings' father who developed the eastern shore of Silver Lake. The Cummings' place on the lake, "Abenaki," built c. 1910-1911, is best seen by boat.



The Memorial Light (Photo: FOML)

An early post card on display at the Madison Historical Society shows the original metal structure with a light on top. According to several local residents, a light was installed at the head of Silver Lake after two children staying at a local inn became lost in fog on the lake and drowned.

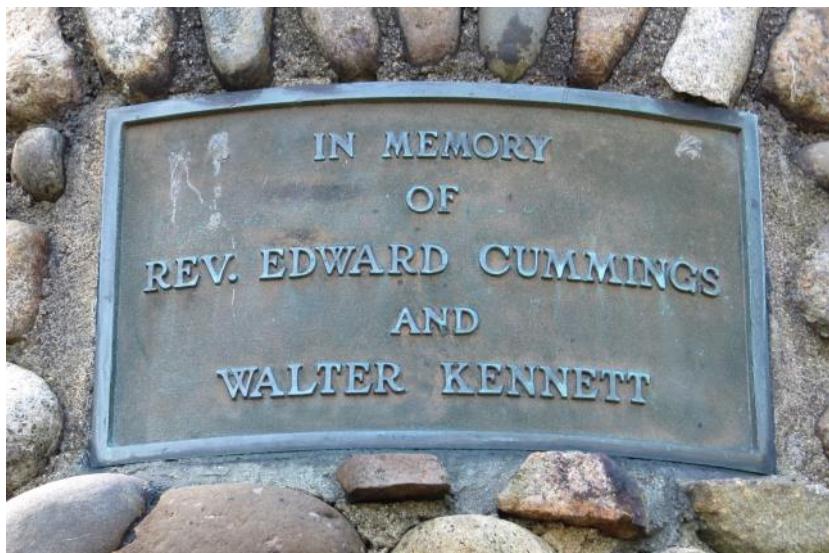
The present stone tower was completed and the lantern put in place around November 1927. Although there is no mention of who built the tower, in Roy Bubb's book *Among the Giant Pines*, there is a photo of Mr. & Mrs. Almon

Stacy "in front of the cobblestone lighthouse he built at the head of the lake" (45).

A newspaper article dated 11/24/1927 states that “the tower was erected through the untiring efforts of Miss Ethel Long” and that the lantern was presented by a “Mr. Alvin Dodd of Washington, DC.”

Edward Cummings was killed in a car train crash in Ossipee, New Hampshire on November 3, 1926. Local resident and land owner Walter Kennett died in March of 1926.

When a local youngster asked her father why these two men had been honored, he replied, “They were both good men, highly respected.” One was a native, the other “from away.”



Commemorative Plaque (Photo: FOML)

Photos from: “[Memorial Lighthouse](#).” *Cummings at Silver Lake*. Friends of Madison Library, April 2015. Web.