



ACTIVE PASS

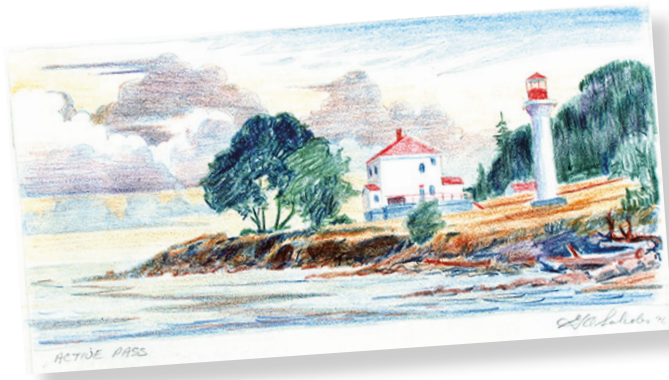
Established June 10th 1885
De-staffed in 1997
17.4 m above high water
Nominal Range 12 N miles



This was another of the few lighthouses to which my wife was able to accompany me, as I gathered reference material for the series. It is not an isolated station, being located on Mayne Island, which is on the ferry route between the BC mainland and Vancouver Island. Millions of ferry passengers have seen this lighthouse.

The striking feature that dominates this location is the *Arbutus* tree and its cumulous shape. I used Mother Nature to provided the answer to the compositional problem. The grandeur of the cumulus clouds and their puffy structure that mimics the tree form.

It was our plan to stop over for a supper at a small café, but Mother Nature had other plans. As we came out of Active Pass on route home, the wind and tide had their way with us. We had to plow through some very choppy seas, which on one occasion, washed over the bow of the boat and drenched us with 48°F sea water. We made a beeline for home with wet asses and my camera full of good reference material.



Colour Pencil sketch 22.3 x 10.2 cm