

Historical Marker - S742 - Francis Metallic Surfboat (Marker ID#:S742)



Front - Title/Description

Francis Metallic Surfboat

From about 1854 to at least 1863, this surfboat was used for lifesaving purposes near the Saugatuck Lighthouse. It was one of 48 used on the Great Lakes and one of 137 used nationally. Joseph Francis, owner of the Francis Metallic Lifeboat Company, used his patented press to form the boats' metal hulls. In 1890 Francis was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for his many inventions used to improve life-saving. In 2015 this boat was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Significant Date:

Statehood Era (1815-1860)

Registry Year: 2016 **Erected Date:** 2016

Back - Title/Description

Marker Location

Address: 130 Center Street

City: Douglas

State: MI **ZipCode:** 49406

County: Allegan

Township: Saugatuck

Lat: 42.64392600 / **Long:** -86.20327200

Web URL: