



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
801 19TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

August 22, 1968

Mr. Vernal L. Yadon
Curator
Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central Avenues
Pacific Grove, California 93950

Dear Mr. Yadon:

As a result of your letter of the 13th, I visited the National Archives today to see just what was available on the Point Pinos Light Station.

The Clipping File is of routine size and contains the routine information plus a short (2 page) history of Point Pinos Light Station. A light station clip file consists primarily of references to the individual station clipped from the published Annual Reports of the Lighthouse Board.

The Site File for Point Pinos is unusually thick; indeed, two folders are required to hold all the material. Most of the information, however, deals with the dispute over ownership of the land where the lighthouse is.

I asked about possible logs that may have survived. Four volumes, for the years 1872-1944, for the Point Pinos light remain. I did not examine these books because they have been transferred from the main Archives to the branch in Suitland, Maryland.

The letter presses of the 12th District Inspector and 12th District Engineer for the years 1874-1910 also are in the Archives. In research on lighthouses such letter presses are useful and usually fruitful. At least some, and possibly all, of the volumes are indexed; consequently, the information they contain would be readily available.

Unless your organization is particularly affluent, I would not recommend obtaining copies of the letter presses. I would recommend, however, securing xerox copies of the sheets in the Clipping File. The cost should not be more than two or three dollars. If you are interested in the controversy over land ownership, I would recommend you have the Site File copied. In view of the thickness of this file,

I would suggest that the copying be done by microfilm; it would be considerably cheaper than xeroxing. Microfilming of this material would run \$10 to \$15, whereas xeroxing could run as high as \$60.

The lighthouse logs are each about one-half inch thick and probably run 200 to 250 pages. Microfilming all four logs would cost in the neighborhood of \$35 to \$40. I am not sure it would be worth the effort to microfilm each page of the logs. Lighthouses were notoriously routine, and I suspect that 95 percent of the entries were about weather conditions and/or oil consumption.

Do you have a microfilm reader or access to one? Microfilming at the National Archives costs five cents a frame whereas xeroxing costs twenty cents a sheet.

If you would like any of this material reproduced, you can either write directly to the National Archives, or you can let me know whether you want xeroxing or microfilming and I can make arrangements to have it done.

How fast do you expect to move ahead with interpretive development and restoration of the lighthouse? Do you have a tentative timetable established yet?

I hope this information will be useful to you. If there is anything else I can do, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "F. Ross Holland". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

F. Ross Holland
Research Historian