

July 27, 1977

Mr. Eugene Itogawa
Office of Historic Preservation
Natural Resources Building
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Itogawa:

I have received a copy of Dr. Mellon's letter to Commander H. J. Reckitt of the U. S. Coast Guard re the Point Pinos Lighthouse.

The comments including reservations about sandblasting the exterior are sincerely appreciated. There is no reason to forge ahead when damage is even a remote possibility. We have therefore decided to forgo our plan to sandblast the granite rock surfaces.

It was possible to test the quality of the mortar from several points where the stone wall interior is accessible. These locations were a crawl space above the present kitchen and from behind air vents on the 2nd floor. This mortar is very soft and would unquestionably require repointing should sandblasting occur.

The south wall was apparently repointed after the 1906 earthquake. The mortar joints here are all indifferently trowled flat rather than following the careful beaded joint pattern of other walls.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely yours,

Vernal L. Yadon
Director

VLV:sf

cc: Commander H. J. Reckitt
U.S. Coast Guard, San Francisco

Mr. Louis S. Wall, Advisory Council
on Historic Preservation, Denver