

May 18, 1978

Lt. David Lyon
U. S. Coast Guard
100 Lighthouse Avenue
Monterey, California 93940

Dear Lieutenant Lyon:

We are now nearing the completion of our refurbishment of the Point Pinos Lighthouse building. Most of the wood surfaces have now been scraped and new paint applied. We have patched numerous holes and restored the floors in the old parlor and one upstairs bedroom. And thanks to your cooperation were able to add many years to the life of the tower by replacing corroded iron strips with brass along with the copper flashing which serves to protect against driving rain. All in all I am pleased with the outcome. There is of course additional work to be done on the grounds.

I thought at this time to draw your attention to three problem areas which need attention and my proposed solutions. Numbers one and two are somewhat imperative while number three will need eventual attention.

1. While stripping paint on the east side of the building, it was noted that an active termite infestation is present. Further examination proved that the studding around the east windows was badly eaten. The same problem exists in that portion of the building near the basement entrance. I recommend that the building be fumigated by a commercial termite exterminator. There should be no need for this contracting service to bill an inspection fee since there is little question that these insects are present.

2. The porch on the west side of the building was built without ventilation holes in the foundation. The flooring in this area has therefore produced dry rot necessitating floor replacement on two occasions within the past few years. I discussed the problem with

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Mr. Gene Itagowa, State Preservation Officer, on September 28, 1977. He agreed with my solution that ventilation holes be knocked into the foundation with the use of a jackhammer. His specific reservation was that the building should be carefully examined during the operation to insure that no damage due to vibration was taking place. The vent holes would then be covered with decorative grating as in other parts of the lighthouse. This procedure could be done by city work crews, but must receive Coast Guard approval before we proceed.

3. The wooden walkway around the tower should eventually be replaced. While it still retains considerable strength, it has numerous cracks and other weakening features which make it a potential danger area for visitors. Certainly no school group should be allowed on this outside decking while it is in its present condition.

I personally appreciate the cooperation that you, CPO Steve Dorman and others under your command have afforded me while the above refurbishment has been underway.

Sincerely yours,

Vernal L. Yadon
Director

VLV:da

cc City Manager
Mr. Itagowa