

March 11, 1979

Civil Archives Division
National Archives
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Sir:

We are in the process of writing a history of the keepers of the Point Pinos Lighthouse, located in Pacific Grove, California. One of the persons we need information on is Charles H. Layton who was the first keeper.

Charles H. Layton, came to Monterey in January 1847 aboard the Erie. He was ordanance sergeant of Company F 3rd U.S. Artillery v519, stationed at Fort Hallock, now Fort Mervine. A native of England, he had also served in the British army. Married to Charlotte Wade, who came with him around the Horn. At the time of his death there were four children in the family.

Our information is that he was in the gold fields in 1849-52, and that he was later appointed keeper of the lighthouse at Point Pinos.

While a member of a sheriff's posse, he was fatally wounded while attempting to capture an outlaw. He died on November 7, 1854. His wife was appointed to carry on the work at the light.

We have been unable to find any survivors of this family. We hope that you will be able to send us all the information you have on this pioneer Californian.

Sincerely,

Vernal L. Yadon

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