

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

165 FOREST AVENUE • PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA 93950-2612 • (408) 648-3116 FAX (408) 375-9863

August 31, 1994

To Whom it May Concern:

The Point Pinos Lighthouse was completed and lighted in 1855. The lighting mechanism is a third order Fresnel purchased in France. It remains the oldest continuously operated lighthouse on the west coast having been first lit with whale oil and later converted to kerosine and finally electricity. This lighthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Lighthouse is under the operation of the United States Coast Guard. Under a lease agreement the City of Pacific Grove through the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History operates the lighthouse on weekends from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. as a free museum.

The National Questers Adobe Chapter Number 375, a non-profit organization, is involved in the parlor restoration of the Point Pinos Lighthouse. The focus for refurbishing is late Victorian style with special emphasis on the years 1893 to 1914 when Emily Fish was the Lighthouse Keeper. With the help of the Questers and other volunteers, visitors to the Point Pinos Lighthouse will gain a new appreciation of early life along the central California coast.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Finnegan Assistant Curator

Paul M. Lemegan

PMF:bj