



PACIFIC GROVE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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3 November 2001

Nicholus E. Johnston
2839 Easy Street
Newport, NC 28570

Dear Nick,

We have just received the report on the status and proper maintenance of the Third Order Fresnel Lens in the Point Pinos Lighthouse. Although the report arrived from Gretchen Voeks, I know that it was a joint project from you both. You and Gretchen did a thorough examination of the lens. It was interesting and informative to witness some of your detective work in progress. The report is very clear and will be easy for us to use in guiding our care of the lens from now on.

It is good to know that the lens is generally stable at this time, despite past damage and some less-than-optimal restoration treatments performed at various times in the past. One of the most valuable aspects of your report is to instruct us on avoiding such treatments in the future. The maintenance protocols specified in your report are quite unambiguous and detailed; they will guide our actions from now on. Equally valuable are your directions for a complete conservation treatment for such time as one becomes appropriate.

I also appreciate the praise the report directs toward Bob Llewellyn's detailed records of recent conservation treatments of lighthouse objects. In the past absence of your specialized expertise not all of our treatments were optimal, but the thorough records were valuable to your analysis and facilitated the elucidation of proper versus improper treatments. We will extend these records to include the Fresnel lens maintenance.

We are very pleased with our decision to bring you and Gretchen to Pacific Grove to inspect and report on our lighthouse's Fresnel lens. It was money well spent. It was also a pleasure being able to host you for at least a short time while you were here. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Stephen F. Bailey, PhD
Museum Director