

Ken Hinshaw

From: "Alic" <alic@nara.gov>
To: "Ken Hinshaw" <KenL@redshift.com>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2009 4:22 PM
Attach: light-house0001.pdf
Subject: Re: Pt. Pinos Lighthouse

Dear Mr. Hinshaw:

Thank you for your recent inquiry concerning Pt. Pinos Lighthouse.

You sent your inquiry to the Archives Library Information Center (ALIC), which works with published records. I checked the 1907 Annual Report of the Light-House Board and found an entry describing the repairs to the Pt. Pinos Lighthouse. There is little detail, but I am sending the entry to you as an attachment.

Journal of the Lighthouse Board is part of Record Group 26, Records of the U.S. Coast Guard. I have forwarded your inquiry to the archivists who handle those records, and you will hear from them directly within a few weeks.

I hope that this information is of use to you. Once again, thank you for your interest in the National Archives and Records Administration.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Gilliam
Reference Librarian
Archives Library Information Center
National Archives and Records Administration

>>> "Ken Hinshaw" <KenL@redshift.com> 9/24/2009 11:15 AM >>>

Good Morning: I am with a non profit group dedicated to the preservation of Pt. Pinos Lighthouse in Pacific Grove, Ca. We were hoping that there existed some technical information about the rebuilding of the lighthouse tower after the (April) 1906 earthquake. This would facilitate the analysis of possible damage lately uncovered and future remedies. I am guessing that the information may be in Part 3: Operations Series 1, Journal of the Lighthouse Board, May 20, 1851-Jan. 1, 1908. Thank you for your help.
Ken Hinshaw, Coordinator Lighthouse Preservation Comm.
Pacific Grove Heritage Society

9/28/2009

Ken Hinshaw

From: "Chris Killillay" <chris.killillay@nara.gov>
To: "Ken Hinshaw" <KenL@redshift.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 8:02 AM
Subject: Re: Rebuilding of Pt. Pinos Lighthouse

Mr. Hinshaw, I have come across one more file designation for you. These are original Site Files. Not sure if they may devulge some information or not. Designation is Record Group 26, Entry 66, File 66, box 15.

Chris Killillay (Archives Technician)
Archives 1, Textual Reference Section
Textual Archives Services Division, NWCT1R

>>> "Ken Hinshaw" <KenL@redshift.com> 9/29/2009 7:47 PM >>>

Chris: we may need to hire a structural engineer to go over the info you

have uncovered. Thank you for your help. Ken

----- Original Message -----

From: "Chris Killillay" <chris.killillay@nara.gov>

To: <KenL@redshift.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2009 6:15 AM

Subject: Rebuilding of Pt. Pinos Lighthouse

> Dear Mr. Hinshaw,

>

> This is in response to your inquiry relating to documents available
> describing the rebuilding of the above mentioned lighthouse after
the

> 1906 earthquake.

>

> We examined Record Group 26, Records of the United States Coast
Guard

> and located several files for the time period of the rebuilding.

>

> Following is a list of where the file are located in our collection.

>

> Entry 78 - Correspondence of the Lighthouse Board 1901-1910, File
987,

> 11E4, Box 161, Row 8, Comp. 10, Shelf 6.

>

> Entry 23 - Press Copies, Letters Sent to District Inspectors and

> Engineers 1852-1910 (12th District). 11E4, Box 231, Row 6, Comp. 4,

> Shelf 3.

>

> Entry 8 - Field Records, Records of the 12th District Lighthouse

> Division, Pt. Pinos 1904-1910. 11E4, Box 15, Row 17, Comp. 11,
Shelf

9/30/2009

- > 3.
- >
- > Entry 50 - Correspondence of the Bureau of the Lighthouse, 1911-1939.
- > File 1576. A. Repairs and Improvements, B. Supplies and Equip. C. Characteristics D. Fuel and Provisions E. Misc.
- > 11E4, Box 1011, Row 11, Comp. 11, Shelf 6.
- >
- > Since the documents relating to your subject are dispersed throughout
- > the files, identifying them will require substantive research. If
- > possible, we would prefer to make the records available in our research
- > room so you or your representative can examine and select documents for
- > reproduction.
- >
- > Limitations of time and staff preclude our screening the large volume
- > of records that pertain to your inquiry.
- >
- > If you are unable to come to the National Archives, you may hire a
- > private researcher to do research for you. A list of independent
- > researchers available for hire is on our website at
- > <http://www.archives.gov/research/hire-help/>.
- >
- > When you come to Washington to do research, our records and microfilm
- > publications are available for consultation without charge in our
- > research rooms. There are self service copiers available. The National
- > Archives in Washington, DC, is located at 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW,
- > between 7th and 9th Streets, directly across from the Archives/Navy
- > Memorial Metro stop on the Yellow/Green Subway line. The Pennsylvania
- > Avenue entrance provides access to the Central Research Room, Microfilm
- > Research Room, and the Textual Reference staff. To enter the building
- > you must show a photo identification card and proof of a current mailing
- > address. Entry into the Microfilm Research Room does not require any
- > additional identification. If you intend to use original archival
- > records, you will need a valid researcher identification card. If you
- > do not have a research card, you must apply for one at the Researcher
- > Registration area. Once you have your researcher identification card,

- > the staff can help you fill out your request form. Our research rooms
- > are open from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday and Tuesday. The
- > research rooms are open late from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Wednesday,
- > Thursday and Friday evening and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.
- > Our subject matter specialists are not on duty after 5 p.m. We retrieve
- > original records from the stacks at 10:00, 11:00, 1:30, and 2:30, Monday
- > and Tuesday and again at 3:30 Wednesday through Friday. Requests for
- > original records must be made before 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday (or before
- > 3:30 on days we are open late for evening hours); no requests for
- > original records can be made on Saturday.
- >
- > I hope this information is helpful.
- >
- > Sincerely,
- >
- >
- > Chris Killillay (Archives Technician)
- > Archives 1, Textual Reference Section
- > Textual Archives Services Division, NWCT1R
- >

1906 Earthquake
repair
info

National
Archives

Ken Hinshaw

From: "Chris Killillay" <chris.killillay@nara.gov>
To: <KenL@redshift.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2009 6:15 AM
Subject: Rebuilding of Pt. Pinos Lighthouse

Dear Mr. Hinshaw,

This is in response to your inquiry relating to documents available describing the rebuilding of the above mentioned lighthouse after the 1906 earthquake.

We examined Record Group 26, Records of the United States Coast Guard and located several files for the time period of the rebuilding.

Following is a list of where the file are located in our collection.

Entry 78 - Correspondence of the Lighthouse Board 1901-1910, File 987, 11E4, Box 161, Row 8, Comp. 10, Shelf 6.

Entry 23 - Press Copies, Letters Sent to District Inspectors and Engineers 1852-1910 (12th District). 11E4, Box 231, Row 6, Comp. 4, Shelf 3.

Entry 8 - Field Records, Records of the 12th District Lighthouse Division, Pt. Pinos 1904-1910. 11E4, Box 15, Row 17, Comp. 11, Shelf 3.

Entry 50 - Correspondence of the Bureau of the Lighthouse, 1911-1939. File 1576. A. Repairs and Improvements, B. Supplies and Equip. C. Characteristics D. Fuel and Provisions E. Misc. 11E4, Box 1011, Row 11, Comp. 11, Shelf 6.

Since the documents relating to your subject are dispersed throughout the files, identifying them will require substantive research. If possible, we would prefer to make the records available in our research room so you or your representative can examine and select documents for reproduction.

Limitations of time and staff preclude our screening the large volume of records that pertain to your inquiry.

If you are unable to come to the National Archives, you may hire a private researcher to do research for you. A list of independent researchers available for hire is on our website at <http://www.archives.gov/research/hire-help/>.

When you come to Washington to do research, our records and microfilm publications are available for consultation without charge in our research rooms. There are self service copiers available. The National

9/29/2009

Archives in Washington, DC, is located at 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, between 7th and 9th Streets, directly across from the Archives/Navy Memorial Metro stop on the Yellow/Green Subway line. The Pennsylvania Avenue entrance provides access to the Central Research Room, Microfilm Research Room, and the Textual Reference staff. To enter the building you must show a photo identification card and proof of a current mailing address. Entry into the Microfilm Research Room does not require any additional identification. If you intend to use original archival records, you will need a valid researcher identification card. If you do not have a research card, you must apply for one at the Researcher Registration area. Once you have your researcher identification card, the staff can help you fill out your request form. Our research rooms are open from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday and Tuesday. The research rooms are open late from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday. Our subject matter specialists are not on duty after 5 p.m. We retrieve original records from the stacks at 10:00, 11:00, 1:30, and 2:30, Monday and Tuesday and again at 3:30 Wednesday through Friday. Requests for original records must be made before 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday (or before 3:30 on days we are open late for evening hours); no requests for original records can be made on Saturday.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

Chris Killillay (Archives Technician)
Archives 1, Textual Reference Section
Textual Archives Services Division, NWCT1R

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Basic Search Path for Records Relating to Lighthouses

Part 1: Introduction

This web page provides a brief introductory guide to researching lighthouse buildings and property and their operations and personnel. The most frequently used records relating to lighthouses are in Record Group 26, Records of the U.S. Coast Guard. The series numbers cited below are those shown in Forrest R. Holdcamper, *Preliminary Inventory (P.I.) NC-31, Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Coast Guard* (unpublished, National Archives, 1963).

Part 2: The Buildings and the Property

1. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 66, Lighthouse Site Files, 1790-1939.** These are files relating to the sites on which lighthouses were located. The records often include plans of the property which delineate the property boundaries and indicate where the lighthouse and associated buildings are, or will be, located. Some files also include deeds to the property as well as supporting documentation concerning the transfer of the property to the U.S. Government. The records are arranged alphabetically by state, and then numerically by the number assigned to the lighthouse. The numerical arrangement is often also alphabetical by the name of the lighthouse.
2. The ***Annual Reports of the Light-House Board to the Secretary of the Treasury, 1852-1903***, and the ***Annual Report of the Commissioner of Lighthouses to the Secretary of the Commerce and Labor, 1903-1910***, are in RG 287, Publications of the U.S. Government, and can be found in U.S. Government Depository Libraries (large public or university libraries) under the call number T.25.1 (1852-1903) or C.9.1 (1903-1910).

Part 3: Operations

1. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 1, Journal of the Lighthouse Board, May 20, 1851-Jan. 1, 1908.** The journal is a series of 28 volumes of unabridged records of the Board's proceedings, including some correspondence signed by the Chairman, the Engineer Secretary, and the Naval Secretary. These records are arranged chronologically and indexed alphabetically by subject at the beginning of the volume.
2. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 38, List of General Correspondence, 1791-1900.** This "list" is actually more of an abstract/index to the letters received by the Lighthouse Board. Each 3/8" slip of paper contains the name of the writer, an identifier for that person (e.g. 1st District inspector, or 1st District engineer), the topic of the letter along with a brief synopsis, the date of the letter, the book (volume) in which the letter appears, and the "page number" (the number of the letter within the volume). Many of the volumes were destroyed or severely damaged in 1921 while stored in the Department of Commerce building.
3. **Letters Received by the Lighthouse Board** include several series of letters: **RG 26, NC-31, Series 24, Letters Received from District Engineers and**

Inspectors, ca. 1853-1900**RG 26, NC-31, Series 36, Letters Received by the Lighthouse Service, 1829-1900****RG 26, NC-31, Series 9, Reports Submitted to the Lighthouse Board by Committees, 1874-1900****Part 4: Personnel**

1. **Lighthouse Keepers and Assistant Keepers.** NARA microfilm publication **M1373, Registers of Lighthouse Keepers, 1845-1912 (6 rolls)** includes lists of keepers and assistant keepers. The lists typically consist of the names, the district and the name of the light, the date of appointment, the date of resignation or discharge or death, and sometimes the annual salary. Most of the lists do not actually begin until 1849.
2. Similar lists, which have **not** been microfilmed, are as follows:
RG 26, NC-31, Series 97, List of Appointments and Transfers, 1870-1903. RG 26, NC-31, Series 98, List of Lighthouse Keepers and Other Employees, 1853-1868. RG 26, NC-31, Series 100, List of Appointments of Lighthouse Keepers, 1832-1860. RG 26, NC-31, Series 101, Record of Salaries of Lighthouse Keepers, 1801-1849 and 1881-1902. RG 26, NC-31, Series 105A, Register of Lighthouse Employees, 1871-1907.
3. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 82, Correspondence Concerning Keepers and Assistants, 1821-1902.** These letters contain nominations of keepers and assistant keepers with testimonials, lists of examination questions, notifications of appointments, oaths of office, requests for transfer, recommendations for promotion, complaints, petitions, and reports of inspectors. Also included are letters of resignation. The records are arranged alphabetically.
4. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 85, Correspondence Relating to Personnel of Lighthouse Vessels, 1850-90.** The correspondence relates largely to nominations for masters and other officials, claims for compensation, resignations and requests for transfer. It is arranged alphabetically by name of light vessel.
5. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 87, Nominations for Employees of the Lighthouse Board, 1865-1907.** The first volume shows the name of the nominee, the date of appointment, the position applied for, the annual salary, the date the oath of office was taken, and other miscellaneous remarks. This volume is arranged by district and then chronologically. It also includes an index by employee name. The remaining 5 volumes show date of appointment, the name of the light station appointed to, the name of the nominee, the nominee's place of residence, the annual salary, and other remarks. These volumes are arranged alphabetically by station name.
6. **RG 26, NC-31, Series 102, Letters of Appointment of Lighthouse Keepers, 1886-1907.** These are 13 volumes of press copies of letters of appointment, declination and promotion. Since they are arranged chronologically, it is first necessary to search NARA microfilm publication M1373 for the date of appointment.

Part 5: Lighthouse Plans and Drawings

A list of lighthouse plans and drawings has been published as *Special List No. 57, Lighthouse Plans in the National Archives* (Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1990). This publication is currently out of print.

Reproductions of the plans and drawings are available through NARA's:

Cartographic and Architectural Branch

Special Media Archives Division
National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Phone: 301-713-6885

Part 6: Online Information

Search the [Archival Research Catalog \(ARC\) database](#) for online information about lighthouses (keyword = lighthouse). Please note that relatively few records are available online in ARC.

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