

MEMORANDUM

TO: CWO James R. Maxon, Operations Officer  
U. S. Coast Guard Gp. Monterey

FROM: Vernal L. Yadon, Director, Pacific Grove  
Museum of Natural History

DATE: May 31, 1990

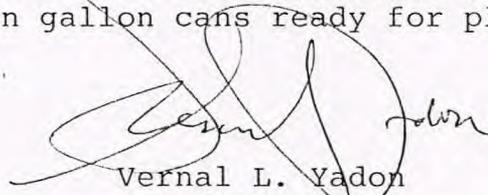
SUBJECT: Cypress Tree Thinning at Pt. Pinos Light Station

Around the turn of the century, Emily Fish planted a cypress tree hedge around a circular fence at Pt. Pinos Light Station. As years went by, the trees were maintained as a hedge but were allowed to slowly grow taller. Finally, a few years before the station was automated, hedge trimming ceased all together and the individual plants grew into recognizable cypress trees. A number of trees died over the years creating openings on the windward side of the lighthouse. Others simply blew over and were removed by the Coast Guard.

At the present time we have what constitutes a quarter circle of densely planted cypress trees which have a great deal of dead material in them. They also have twisted and splintered branches which tend to fall during heavy wind periods.

Because the trees are now presenting a hazzardous condition due to limb breakage and the likelihood that additional trees will blow down, it is proposed that the City of Pacific Grove be allowed to trim dead material from these trees. It will doubtless prove necessary to remove as many as four trees which are showing crown rot and which have so little living material in them that they are essentially dead.

The City proposes to replace any tree removed on a one for one basis using seedlings grown from the trees originally planted by Mrs. Fish. We have available twenty-five such seedlings growing in gallon cans ready for planting.

  
Vernal L. Yadon  
Director