Issac Wall, Collector of Customs for Monterey, appointed Charles Layton as first Keeper of the newly finished lighthouse at Point Pinos. He had moved in with his wife Charlotte Layton and four children, first as caretaker in 1853, then as keeper in 1855.

Issac Wall and Thomas Williamson were killed on November 9, 1855 while on a hunting trip, by the suspect Anatascio Garcia. A posse was formed and as Charles Layton had years of military experience, he was chosen and deputized with three others to accompany Sheriff Keating and the existing deputy Joaquin de la Torre.

They arrived at dusk, in low light, at the suspect’s shack in the willows of the Salinas River. The Sheriff knocked on the front door. Charles, Joaquin and Jim went to the rear to cut him off.

The back door opened and Garcia’s wife and a small child came out saying Anastacio was not there. At that moment Anastacio came out from behind her, shot Joaquin twice in the face, once at Charles, where the bullet took off one finger, part of another, ricocheted off his gun and lodged in his stomach. He then took Jim’s horse, shooting him twice, and made his escape.

Joaquin, Charles and Jim died of their wounds. Garcia was eventually caught in Los Angeles, brought back to Salinas where his gang broke into the jailhouse and hung him to prevent his talking.

Charlotte became the first female lighthouse keeper on the West Coast, eventually marrying an assistant keeper, who became principal keeper and she returned to assistant position.

Joaquin was the first Hispanic Deputy killed in the line of duty in the new state of California.
**Docent's Corner**

Some of our docents are retired, some still work full time. All use their skills to help with visitors and each other.

Those who worked in schools help train docents to help enlighten visitors to the wonders of the lighthouse.

A webmaster runs our website and social media. Engineers help us all understand how things work then and now. Managers set up fund raisers and social events.

Sometimes it feels like herding cats, but somehow it all works. Visitors get a new experience with each docent and with each visit to our lighthouse.

We are all happy and proud to serve you!

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**Restoration Report**

The Restoration crew, all part of the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, have been restoring the inside and outside of the lighthouse for years now. The inside is basically done and awaits full reopening. The crew now spends time on the tower, ground maintenance and the usual maintenance for any structure this old, door knobs, hinges, painting, etc. All are volunteers where ever possible and their labor is much appreciated.

On the tower, all of the railing, desk plates and support plates for the lantern room have been removed and sent to the processor to be repaired or replaced.

This is not the first time this has had to happen. The last full rebuild occurred in 1994. Salt air and winds up to 80 miles per hour really do a number on any structure this close to the ocean. The lighthouse is no exception. Stainless steel is to be used this time, which hopefully will cut down on the frequency of repair.

**Tech Corner**

Automatic Lamp Changer

If a lamp burns out, power to the coil is lost. This releases the spring to flip a new lamp into position and restore power.

Learn more

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