

In 1872, a sturdy beacon was built on the rocky shores of the San Mateo coast to guide mariners to their homes and families in San Francisco. Now one of the oldest lighthouses on the west coast, the Pigeon Point Light Station is a stunning landmark, admired by both surrounding residents and the millions of tourists that travel up and down California's beautiful Highway One each year.

Set like a jewel on 4.3 acres, and dramatically silhouetted against the backdrop of coastal mountains and vast open spaces, the lighthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. But for the past few years, this majestic monument has begun to fade, and today, sadly, the most beautiful lighthouse on the Pacific Coast is closed to the public.

A HISTORIC STRUCTURE AT RISK

Time and the elements have taken their toll on this 115-foot gem. In December 2001, a large section of the lighthouse tower's upper iron belt course broke off. Because the belt course functions like a rubber band, holding the tower together, this represents a major threat to the entire structure.

At the moment, temporary cables are providing support, but this is just a short-term solution. Because the strength and stability of the lighthouse has been compromised, it is at risk of being greatly damaged or destroyed by a major windstorm or earthquake. The Fresnel lens, with its 1,000-plus panes of delicate glass, is particularly vulnerable. And rust and corrosion are further marring the dignity of this beautiful landmark.

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

For more than 20 years, California State Parks leased the lighthouse from the U.S. Coast Guard. Together with their community partners, the State Parks staff and volunteers cared for the lighthouse and provided tours and information for millions of visitors. However, since the State Parks did not officially own the Light Station, they were limited to conducting only routine maintenance. In May 2005, California State Parks officially acquired the Pigeon Point Light Station from the U.S. Coast Guard, creating a golden opportunity to bring it back to its original glory.

RESTORING THE JEWEL OF THE PACIFIC COAST

California State Parks Foundation is spearheading a multi-million dollar fundraising campaign, in partnership with State Parks and the San Mateo Coast Natural History Association, to restore the Pigeon Point Light Station and once again open it to the public. The restoration will go a long way towards forging a bond between lighthouse visitors and a priceless piece of California's history, and it will protect the integrity of one of the State's most architecturally significant structures.

LIGHT UP THE FUTURE

Please join with the California State Parks Foundation in saving the Pigeon Point Lighthouse. Together, we can make a difference in bringing this incomparable jewel back to life.

YES, I Want to Help Restore Pigeon Point Lighthouse!

Enclosed is my donation of \$1,000 \$500 \$250
 \$100 Other _____

Enclosed is my check, made payable to California State Parks Foundation

Please charge my: Visa MasterCard
 AMEX Discover

Acct # _____ Exp Date _____

I want to help with the Lighthouse campaign.
Please contact me.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Make a secure online donation at www.calparks.org.

The California State Parks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) and every donation is deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Clip and mail to: Lighthouse Restoration
California State Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 548
Kentfield, CA 94914

Thank you for your support