

Mrs Emily Fish and the 1906 Earthquake

title	[narrator] Mrs. Emily Fish and the 1906 Earthquake
portraits	This is the story of Mrs. Emily Fish, known as the socialite keeper. Windowed at 48, she applied and was appointed the first female lighthouse keeper on the west coast at the age of 50 in 1893.
parlor ragtime lamp diagram	Though known to entertain, her primary responsibility was to the Point Pinos Lighthouse and grounds. Life was different, indoor outhouse, letter and telegraph, kerosene for the lighthouse lamp, horse, mule and walking to get around locally.
ocean sounds rocky shore	A mile from town, it was a quiet life. A small garden, a barn and a servant to help with chores and the required middle of the night lamp maintenance. Keeping the light lit and maintained was essential to safe shipping and the keeper's primary responsibility. The rocky shore was not forgiving.
	Our story begins in the keeper logs of Emily Fish in April 1906:
EF desk writing	[female voice] April 17th, Wind light from north west. Partly clear, fog. Tug and bark in tow bound in. Steamer bound in.
black screen EQ	April 18th, Fog, clear & fog - warm. At 5:13 A M violent and continued earthquake shocks jarred the lens causing it to bend the connecting tube and loosened the lens so it is movable- also enlarged the crack in the trim and coping.. The jarring of the dampers caused the flame to run up. This was quickly contained as the water in the wood house tank was thrown out on the floor. Telegraphic and telephonic communication obstructed beyond Salinas and Pajaro, track obstructed - No trains.
SF pic Del Monte Hotel	Del Monte Hotel wrecked by falling chimneys, two guests killed. Earth opened in cracks by the mouth of the lake. The Inspector's office and Engineer's office are reported destroyed as work of earthquake and fire in San Francisco. City under martial law. Torpedo destroyer "Public" came in with dispatches for the Presidio with orders for two battalions of the 20th Infantry of the Battalion of 14th Cavalry to go to San Francisco. An official letter for the Inspector was put aboard. The "Public" left at noon for San Francisco. Red Cross Society met to arrange for receiving refugees.
EQ report wind	April 29th, Wind fresh W, Partly clear. Mr. Russell of the Engineer Dept. visited the station to examine the damage by the earthquake of April 18 and shakes more or less come since that date.
	May 8th, Wind light W, Cloudy, fog. Earthquake at 11:40 P.M. quite severe. Lens etc. jostled, rattled and jingled.
Chinatown	May 16th, Wind fresh W, Clear. Chinatown burned in evening; only five or six homes left.

LH - eq pic <i>hammer</i>	May 22nd, Wind light to fresh NW, Partly clear, fog, light rain .03. Mr. Russell, Mr. Birk and helper of the Engineers Dept. begin on work on two frames for lens and lantern. Steamer bound in. Steamer. bound out, oil. Tug and schooner in.
Lens damage	May 23rd, Wind fresh westerly, Fog, ptly clear. U.S.Madrono bound in at 2 A.M., took up and replaced bell buoy and whistling buoy. Commissioner C. Mayo inspected the station and brought a lens lantern for use temporarily while present 3rd order light is being repaired.
EF LH pic	[narrator] Aftershocks continue until at least November 1909.
video of blinking light	Mrs. Emily Fish was keeper from 1893 to 1914. After her retirement at the age of 71 she lived out the rest of her life in Pacific Grove.
LP map	The 1989 the Lomapieta earthquake, was not as intense as the 1906 San Francisco EQ but still did a lot of damage. Parts of San Francisco burned, freeways collapsed, At the epicenter there were cracks in the road a 150 feet deep. There was no damage to the lighthouse itself. The repairs that were done in 1906 held.
<i>ocean sounds</i> Renovation	Salt air, driven by up to 80 mph winds, corrodes metal plates, fittings, paint and wood. Just as in Emily's time, maintenance was essential and continues, though this time by volunteers from the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, funded by personal donations and the City of Pacific Grove.
End Slide	Thanks to the Lighthouse Docents, the City of Pacific Grove and the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove for their help on this production.
Silver Ghost Coastals	