



Bringing Back  
The Heart of the Presidio





There are a few special places in our nation where people can see, experience, and understand the sweep of American history. The Presidio is one such place. Guarding the Golden Gate since our nation began, the Presidio of San Francisco is a national jewel and a local treasure.

At the heart of the Presidio is the Main Post, the birthplace of San Francisco. With more than 100 buildings, the Main Post is a small town center that complements the park's forest, trails, and wild open spaces. Its significant past, iconic buildings, and magnificent bay views allow visitors to experience history, culture, community, and natural beauty.

The Presidio Trust is revitalizing the Main Post, bringing back its lively character, animating its historic buildings, and allowing for an expression of our own time. The Main Post will be the center of this unique urban national park, and will play a vital role in the cultural life of our community.

The Trust's goals are to:

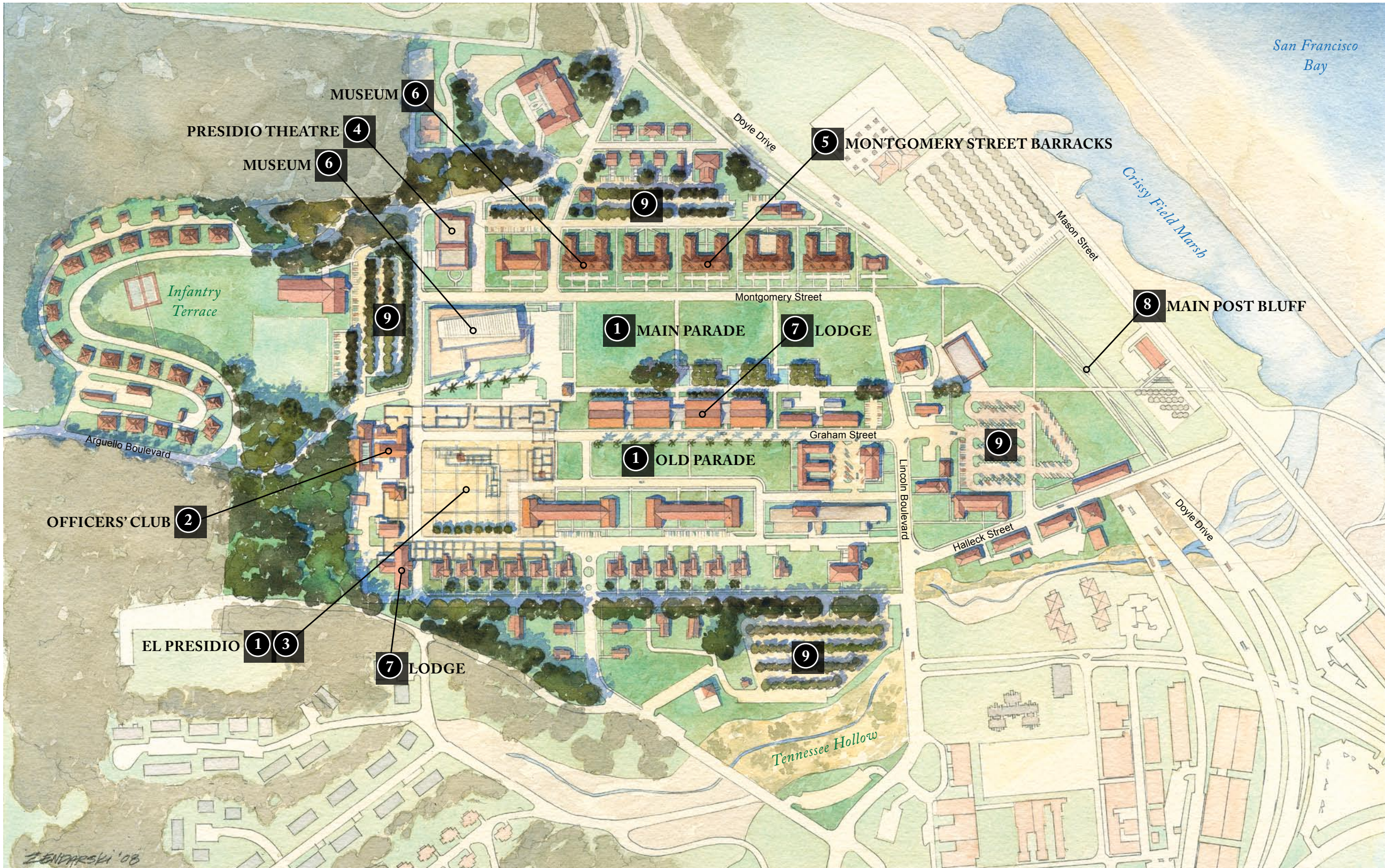
1. Reveal the layers of Presidio history.
2. Add public amenities and services that support the Presidio as an urban national park.
3. Express a spirit of innovation.
4. Create relevant cultural experiences for all.

To learn more, join us for a guided walk (see back page), and then share your thoughts on the future of this great national park.





# MAIN POST PROPOSALS AT A GLANCE







## 1 THREE PARADE GROUNDS

The Main Post evolved around its three parade grounds — El Presidio, the Old Parade, and the Main Parade — open spaces where troops conducted drills, ceremonies, and exercises. New buildings will re-frame the parade grounds and welcome the public. The largest of these, the Main Parade, will become a welcoming green where the community gathers. It will feature

magnificent bay views, abundant seating, a safe and clean environment, places to eat, and protection from the weather. The parade grounds will be linked by the Anza Esplanade, a broad new pedestrian “Main Street.”



## 2 THE OFFICERS' CLUB

Sitting at the head of El Presidio, the Officers' Club has always served as the social and cultural hub of the Presidio. It will be rehabilitated to support three public functions: a heritage center, the archaeology lab and educational program, and a venue for special events. San Francisco's oldest building will be a state of the art public facility with a dynamic mix of history and contemporary culture at its front door.

## 3 EL PRESIDIO

Spanish colonists established El Presidio in 1776 — it is the birthplace of San Francisco. Visits to the Presidio will begin here, where the



lore of the Presidio will be told. Over time, the original garrison's foundation will be excavated and visitors can experience an active archaeological site.

## 4 PRESIDIO THEATRE

The 1930s-era theatre, unused for more than a decade, will be rehabilitated and expanded for film and other theatrical performances.



## 5 MONTGOMERY STREET BARRACKS

Built in the 1890s, the elegant brick Montgomery Street Barracks that frame the Main Parade will feature visitor-serving activities — restaurants, galleries, and cultural institutions — inviting the public to visit and enjoy. Activities will spill out on to the Barracks' expansive front porches.





## 6 CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM

For more than two hundred years, generation after generation has created a new layer of history and experience at the Presidio. A museum of contemporary art built south of the Main Parade will

express the architecture of our time; an internationally renowned collection of 20th and 21st century works will be a significant cultural addition to the park and the region. An annex in a nearby historic building will offer public art programs, artist workshops, and classes. [illustration © 2008 J. F. Mahoney]

## 7 PARK LODGE

In the tradition of national park lodges, a lodge will provide overnight accommodations in an historic building and in a new building along the Main Parade with views of the Golden Gate Bridge. The lodge will also provide other important amenities that invite and serve the public.



## 8 MAIN POST BLUFF

Portions of Doyle Drive, the highway that connects San Francisco to the Golden Gate Bridge, will be placed underground as it passes in front of the Main Post, creating ten acres of open space, the Main Post Bluff, and restoring the Main Post's connection to the waterfront. The historic buildings along Halleck Street will house services for the Presidio community and visitors to the park.



## 9 PARKING

Parking will be relocated to the perimeter of the Main Post to create a pedestrian district in the heart of the park. The number of parking spaces will remain about the same as today, 2,100. The PresidiGo Shuttle will connect parking lots to key visitor destinations. The Transit Center will remain the hub for MUNI and the Shuttle.



# GET INVOLVED

## COME FOR A MAIN POST WALK

Come see for yourself what proposals for the Presidio are all about.

On this easy-to-moderate 90-minute guided walk, Presidio Trust staff will describe the birthplace of San Francisco at the heart of the Presidio – the historic Main Post – and discuss ideas for revitalizing it as the heart of an urban national park. Learn about proposals for a heritage center, an archaeology lab, public uses in the iconic brick barracks, a park lodge, reuse of the historic theatre, and a museum of contemporary art. Get answers to your questions and learn how you can make your comments heard in this public process. Layered clothing and comfortable shoes are recommended.

**Every Wednesday and Sunday, 2 to 3:30 pm**

**June 15 to July 30, 2008**

**Meet at the Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue**

**Drop in...no RSVP needed**

**\*group/special request tours are available upon request**

## READ THE DOCUMENTS

Download the *Main Post Update* and the draft *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement* at [www.presidio.gov](http://www.presidio.gov). Request a copy by mail by calling (415) 561-5418.

## WRITE US

The Presidio Trust

Main Post

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## JOIN US

Presidio Trust Public Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, July 14, 6:30 pm

Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue, Main Post

Offer comments on the draft *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement* and *Main Post Update*.



**(415) 561-5418**

**[www.presidio.gov](http://www.presidio.gov)**