

A photograph of a forest path. The path is made of dark brown mulch and leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. On the left side of the path, there is a grassy slope with several large, thick tree trunks. The forest is composed of tall, thin trees with dense green foliage. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating bright spots and long shadows on the ground. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

A SEASONAL GUIDE TO THE PARK

AT THE PRESIDIO

SPRING 2006



TO THE RESCUE! The Presidio and Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906

By Dr. Randolph Delehanty, Presidio Trust Historian

The great earthquake struck at 5:12 a.m. on April 18, 1906. Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston, the Presidio acting commander, immediately sent troops into the burning city. By 7 a.m. soldiers were patrolling the streets with orders from the mayor to shoot looters. Army artillery officers dynamited a fire break along Van Ness Avenue to save the western part of the city.

Lt. Col. George H. Torney opened the U.S. Army General Hospital at the Presidio to civilians. A tent hospital was erected in front of the damaged hospital. The barracks of the Army Hospital Corps were used as temporary wards. Col. Torney assumed the duties of Chief Sanitary Officer and within twenty-four hours had divided the city into districts with an Army surgeon in charge of each one. Twenty-six Army medical dispensaries were set up to provide assistance to San Franciscans. Army surgeons supervised sanitation in the city and prevented the spread of disease.

Four tent camps that housed 16,000 refugees were erected on the Presidio near the hospital, in Tennessee Hollow, near the golf course and at Fort Winfield Scott. The camp at Fort Scott served refugees from Chinatown. Army supply depots across the nation began sending blankets, tents, stoves and other supplies to the burned-out city. The Army organized the distribution of food and clothing. During the next 75 days, some 5,800 U.S. Army troops participated in the relief efforts. The emergency brought together the largest military force – Army, Navy and Marine Corp – ever assembled in peacetime.

The Relief Committee built small cottages in the city's parks. There are two restored earthquake cottages at the Presidio, moved here in 1986 and placed behind Building 2 on Funston Avenue.

The press exaggerated the number of looters shot. Nine men were shot in the aftermath of the disaster, two by the California National Guard but none by the regular Army troops. After the emergency, Gen. Funston was criticized by some for exceeding his authority.

The Presidio itself sustained only minor damage. The wood frame structures rode out the quake. Two converted adobe quarters from the Spanish-Mexican era had to be demolished. The ten-year-old brick barracks along Montgomery Street suffered cracks in their walls. The landward wall of old brick Fort Point moved outward by about eight inches and the fort was evacuated. When construction resumed at the new Mission-style Fort Winfield Scott complex, the Army switched from brick to concrete construction.

Rebuilding in the city was remarkably rapid because San Francisco was still the most important port on the West Coast and the headquarters of many banks and insurance companies. By 1909, much of the downtown was rebuilt and new apartment buildings began blanketing the hills to the north and west. San Francisco was back. **{See *Calendar for Listings* }▶**

The writer wishes to acknowledge assistance from NPS Rangers Will Elder and Bob Holloway, and Don Lanier, USA (ret.), of the Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association.

Thank God for the Soldiers

by H. Charles McBarron

A stream of emergency supplies from U.S. Army Quartermaster depots across the country saw San Franciscans through the aftermath of the great earthquake and fire.

Courtesy U.S. Army



Alan Hopkins

{ Gray and other whales are heading north to produce young – Alan Hopkins }



{ Pacific chorus frogs heard on Crissy Field marsh }



{ Coyote vocalizations are heard at night }



Eddie Partley

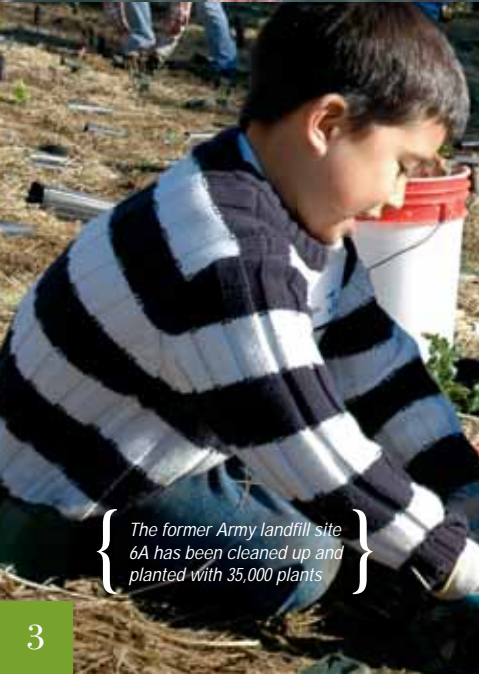
{ Western bluebirds observed near Lobos Creek, a species that returned last year to the Presidio – Eddie Partley }



{ Wildflowers are blooming throughout the park }



{ Severe storms have taken down a number of trees }



{ The former Army landfill site 6A has been cleaned up and planted with 35,000 plants }

presidio watch: reports from the field.

You are the ears and eyes of the Presidio! In your travels in the park, if you have questions or concerns about Presidio plants or wildlife, or would like volunteer information, please call 415/ 561 4449 or email nature@presidiotrust.gov.

{ *Presidio Native Plant Nursery* }



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

@ the Presidio



An environmental document analyzing several alternatives for the next phase of work in the watershed will be released this summer for public review and comment. If you aren't already on the Tennessee Hollow mailing list and would like to receive a notice when the document is ready for your review, please let us know. Call 415/ 561 5414 or email projectTH@presidiotrust.gov

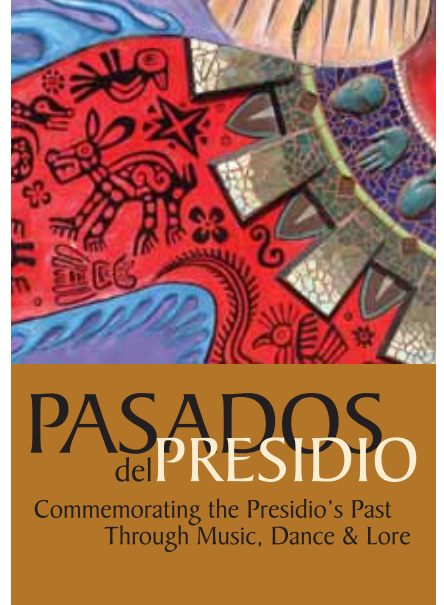
Tennessee Hollow: Come to the Watershed

The park's largest watershed, Tennessee Hollow, is home to many — from endangered plants to people. Whether you are up at its crest near Inspiration Point where the views are truly inspirational, or down where it drains into the Crissy Field Marsh and the Bay — there are many opportunities for exploration, rejuvenation, and fun. The Presidio Trust is working to enhance this beautiful and complex natural area. Buried creeks will be brought to the surface, the watershed's cultural and historic heritage will be honored, and there will be new opportunities for you to explore and enjoy your park!

In January, the Trust hosted an open house to talk about scientific studies that are helping to guide ongoing thinking and planning for the watershed's future. In response to many of the comments made that evening, we are hosting a series of events, from guided hikes about the area's intriguing history to opportunities to get your hands dirty and start working on habitat restoration.

Events are scheduled for April 29, May 6, 9, 11, and 20.

{[See Calendar for Listings](#)} ►



Pasados del Presidio: Remembering the Birth of San Francisco

Two hundred and thirty years ago, a group of tired and dust-covered colonists completed their long trek from Mexico to a territory near the Golden Gate. Anza's second in command, Lt. Jose Joaquin Moraga, scouted ahead and camped overnight at Mountain Lake. He returned with 30 soldiers, their wives, children, and livestock to San Francisco Bay in June 1776. They founded the Presidio of San Francisco, creating a self-sustaining settlement, and Mission Dolores. This year's Pasados del Presidio, an annual commemoration of the founding of our city, will mark the 230th anniversary of the Presidio, which would become the City of San Francisco. Today the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic

Trail traces the early path taken by the settlers from Nogales, Arizona to the Presidio of San Francisco, one of the most beautiful and beloved cities in the country.

{See *Calendar for Listings*} ►

Memorial Day: A Presidio Tradition

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. This year, we honor our nation's soldiers on May 29. For decades, this solemn commemoration has taken place in the National Cemetery in the Presidio and is the largest Memorial Day observance in San Francisco. The day begins with a parade led by the 91st Division's Color Guard and Pipes and Drums. The parade forms at 10:30 a.m. in the Main Post

{Montgomery Street @ Sheridan Ave} and proceeds to the National Cemetery {Lincoln Blvd @ Sheridan Ave}. The formal program starts at 11:00 a.m. and includes historic vehicles, salute battery demonstrations, National Cemetery tours led by Park Service rangers, music by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, rifle volleys by the Northern California Brigade of United States Volunteers, and helicopter flyovers by the California National Guard. The event concludes with a 21-gun salute delivered by the 91st Division Salute Battery. The guns used for the salute are over 60 years old and originally belonged to the Presidio's own 6th Army.

{See *Calendar for Listings*} ►

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. It was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Presidio's Memorial Day is co-sponsored by the Presidio Trust, 91st Division USAR, Golden Gate National Cemetery Administration, the City and County of San Francisco, and the National Park Service.



TRAILS IN THE PRESIDIO

Just Got Better!



Work is progressing to improve the Presidio's trails, which give a glimpse into some of the Presidio's treasured landscapes – flowering hillsides, majestic forests, breathtaking views, secret gardens, and coastal batteries. Many of the trails trace the daily footsteps of the soldiers who once lived here.

The Presidio Promenade is a major pedestrian trail, connecting the Lombard Gate to the Golden Gate Bridge. Last year the Presidio Trust completed improvements on the trail from the Lombard Gate to the Thoreau Center, restoring the promenade's historic character. This year, the Trust will complete improvements to the section of the trail that reaches the Cavalry Stables.

The Bay Area Ridge Trail takes a 400-mile route around the bay, entering the Presidio near the Arguello Gate. It winds along the Golf Course, National Cemetery,

and other historic sites, departing the park at the Golden Gate Bridge. "The Ridge Trail passed through several Presidio neighborhoods, which was not ideal for the hikers or the residents," said Michael Boland, Director of Planning and Park Projects for the Trust. "The multi-use trail now goes through more scenic areas." The Presidio portion of the trail has been resurfaced, and a picnic area overlooking the Pacific Ocean will be installed this summer. Pack a lunch, hit the trail and come enjoy the scenic vista from Immigrant Point!

Finally, a portion of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, which marks the route de Anza followed to San Francisco, has been improved. The trail segment from Immigrant Point to the Golden Gate Bridge has been re-routed to lead hikers past the new Immigrant Point overlook and picnic area. The de Anza trail is for pedestrians only.

“

One of the most popular uses of the Presidio is hiking its magnificent trails," said the Presidio Trust's Michael Boland. "It will take years and a lot of funding to bring all our trails up to the highest standards. But we will create a network of trails that is suitable to all sorts of visitors including athletes, bikers, hikers, runners, children, the elderly, and the handicapped. Then the Presidio will truly be a place for all to enjoy.

”

SUMMER CAMPS

In the Presidio



GULF OF THE FARALLONES SANCTUARY CAMP

Campers visit tide pools, sandy beaches, and lighthouses. June 26 through June 30 and August 7. Ages 8 to 13. Full days with extended care available. For more information, call **415/ 561 6625 ext. 303**.

SERRA PRE-SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Program includes nature and arts workshops, puppets and theater, and play time. July 3 through 28. Ages 2.9 years to 5.9 years. For information, call **415/ 561 2200**.

PRESIDIO GOLD CLUB JUNIOR GOLF CAMP

The Presidio Golf Course will conduct Junior Gold Camps from June 12 through July 28. Ages 7 to 17. For more information, call **415/ 561 4661**.

PRESIDIO DANCE THEATRE SUMMER CAMPS

Dance classes for all ages from June 12 to August 11. For more information, call the Dance Theatre at **415/ 561 3958** or email **info@ppaf-sf.org**.



YMCA

The Presidio Community YMCA offers traditional, specialty, and sports camps. Specialty and sports camps focus on one theme such as ballet, lacrosse, or surfing for the entire week, with some time for other activities. Traditional day camps feature arts, crafts, sports, and field trips. For more information, call **415/ 447 9622** or visit **ymcasf.org/presidio/camping.html**

Crissy Field Summer Camp Program

One and two-week day camps give young people in-depth park experiences. The sessions feature outdoor activities, field outings, and hands-on projects. Crissy Field Center's Urban Ecology Lab, Arts Workshop, Computer/Media Lab, and Community Kitchen are home base for adventures. Campers get the best of both worlds as they investigate the outdoors and then roll up their sleeves to create, imagine, and experiment. Camps are for kids aged 6 to 13 and run from 8:30 am to 4 pm. For more information, call **415/ 561 7773** or visit **crissyfield.org/center/summer.html**



PARK CALENDAR

ONGOING EVENTS

Tours of Arion Press and Grabhorn Institute's Gallery
 Artists' books, book bindery, letterpress print shop, and typefoundry. \$7 per person, with reservations required.
415/ 561 2542
www.arionpress.com

Presidio RX Running Group
 Mondays + Wednesdays, 6:30 pm
 Runners meet Mondays under the Palace of Fine Art's Dome and Wednesdays at the Lombard Gate. www.woohoo.org/presidiorex

APRIL

Magnitude X: Quake Science Month at the Exploratorium
 Through April 31, Tuesday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm
415/ 397 5673
www.exploratorium.edu

22

PRESIDIO 1906 EARTHQUAKE COMMEMORATION
 April 22, 11 am - 3 pm
 Music, history, tours, tent exhibit, and earthquake preparedness. Presidio Fire Station.
415/ 561 5500
www.presidio.gov
 {See *History Notes*, p. 2 }

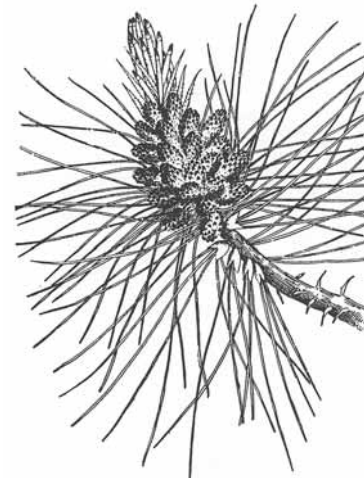


23

Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association
 April 23, 10 am - 2 pm
 Sail under Golden Gate Bridge and out to the Farallones. \$50 per person.
415/ 561 6626, x311

29

The Wildflowers of Inspiration Point
 April 29, 10 am
 Meet at Inspiration Point Overlook for a walk along the serpentine grasslands above Tennessee Hollow. Please RSVP.
415/ 668 2052
www.presidio.gov
 {See *In the Spotlight*, p.4 }



MAY

2

**Joseph Goldyne:
Thirty Years of Unique
Limited Edition Books**
May 2, 6:00 pm
A talk with the author
at Arion Press in the
Presidio.
415/ 668 2548
www.arionpress.com

6

**Morning Trek to
the Tributaries**
May 6, 10 - 11:30 am
Meet at Inspiration
Point Overlook.
Explore the Eastern
Tributary of Tennessee
Hollow and learn
about riparian habitats.
Please RSVP.
415/ 561 4323
www.presidio.gov
{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4}

9

**Exploring Tennessee
Hollow's Treasures**
May 9, 12 - 1 pm
Meet at Inspiration
Point Overlook. Enjoy
Serpentine grasslands,
rare blooms and
Allen's migrating
hummingbirds on this
walk. Please RSVP.
415/ 561 4323
www.presidio.gov
{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4}

**Open House at
Presidio Laser
Medicine**
May 9, 5:30 - 9:30 pm
5 Funston Avenue,
Suite B
415/ 885 2737
www.presidiolaser.com

11

**The Birds of
Tennessee Hollow**
May 11, 5 - 7 pm
Meet at El Polin Spring.
This walk will offer an
intimate glimpse into the
world of birds. Please
RSVP.
415/ 561 4323
www.presidio.gov
{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4}

12

**San Francisco's
Birds and Where
to Find Them**
May 12, 7 - 8 pm
Expert Alan Hopkins
gives an overview of
local bird life.
415/ 561 4449

13

**Monitoring Rare
Bird Species**
May 13, 9 am - 12 pm
Join a volunteer
program to look for
California Quail and
other species.
415/ 561 4449

**Presidio Wild at
Crissy Field**
May 13, 10 am - 1 pm
Games and activities
for the entire family
celebrating the natural
and cultural heritage of
Crissy Field.
415/ 561 3034, x3445
www.crissyfield.org



14

**Native Plant
Garden Tour**
May 14, 10 am - 2 pm
Two Presidio sites are
included in the city-
wide experience,
including Baker Beach
and the Native Plant
Nursery.
415/ 561 4449

18

Bike to Work Day
May 18, 6:30 - 9:30 am
Visit the Energizer
Station on the
Presidio's Main Post.
415/ 561 5367
www.511.org

20

**Get Your Hands
Dirty Volunteer Day**
May 20, 9 am - 12 pm
Join the Presidio Park
Stewards in Tennessee
Hollow for a creek
restoration project.
Please R.S.V.P.
415/ 561 4449
www.presidio.gov
{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4}

29

**MEMORIAL DAY
CEREMONY**
May 29, 10:30 am - 12 pm
Presidio Main Post and
National Cemetery
Parade and formal
program.
415/ 561 5500
www.presidio.gov
{See *In the Spotlight*, p.5}

JUNE

27

Los Californianos Descendent Commemoration

June 27, 11 am - 12 pm
Early California descendents remember the 230th Anniversary of the Anza party's arrival. Presidio Main Post Flagpole.

415/ 561 5500

www.presidio.gov

{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4 }

Talk and Book Signing with Vladimir Guerrero

June 27, 7 - 8 pm
Meet the author of "The Anza Trail and the Settling of California". Presidio Officers' Club

415/ 561 5500

www.presidio.gov

{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4 }

Lecture on the Anza Trail

June 29, 7 pm
Learn about the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail with NPS's Stanley Bond. Presidio Officers' Club.

415/ 561 5500

www.presidio.gov

{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4 }



30

PASADOS DEL PRESIDIO

Passport Through Time

June 30, 11 am - 4 pm
Kids! Get your passport and enjoy an afternoon of family fun, activities, music and lots more! Presidio Officers' Club

415/ 561 5500

www.presidio.gov

{See *In the Spotlight*, p.4 }



Evening Fandango

June 30, 7 - 9 pm
Enjoy music and dance from Coro Hispano de San Francisco.

415/ 561 5500

www.presidio.gov

{See *In the Spotlight*, p. 4 }

JULY

1

San Francisco Birthday Mass

July 1, 11 am - 1pm
At Mission Dolores.
415/ 621 8203 www.missiondolores.org



fyi. Save the date for a free exhibition at the Officers' Club, **PLANTS + INSECTS: Art and Science, Through the Green Fuse.** The Cameraless Plant Photography of Robert Buelteman, The Entwined Lives of Plants and Insects and the Close-up Photography of Edward S. Ross.

August 25 - November 19, 2006

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AT THE PRESIDIO is published by the Presidio Trust. Your questions and comments are welcome. Please email to: jnichels@presidiotrust.gov

{Cover}

Amy Wolff

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THE PRESIDIO TRUST

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www.presidio.gov

415/561 5418



{ DID YOU KNOW? }

The building that currently houses the bank and post office was formerly a guard house built in 1900.