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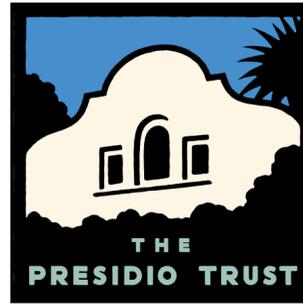


Presidio



A Monthly Publication of the Presidio Trust

Volume 1 Issue 4 November 1998



Preserving the Presidio
 as a Sustainable
 National Park

What's Inside

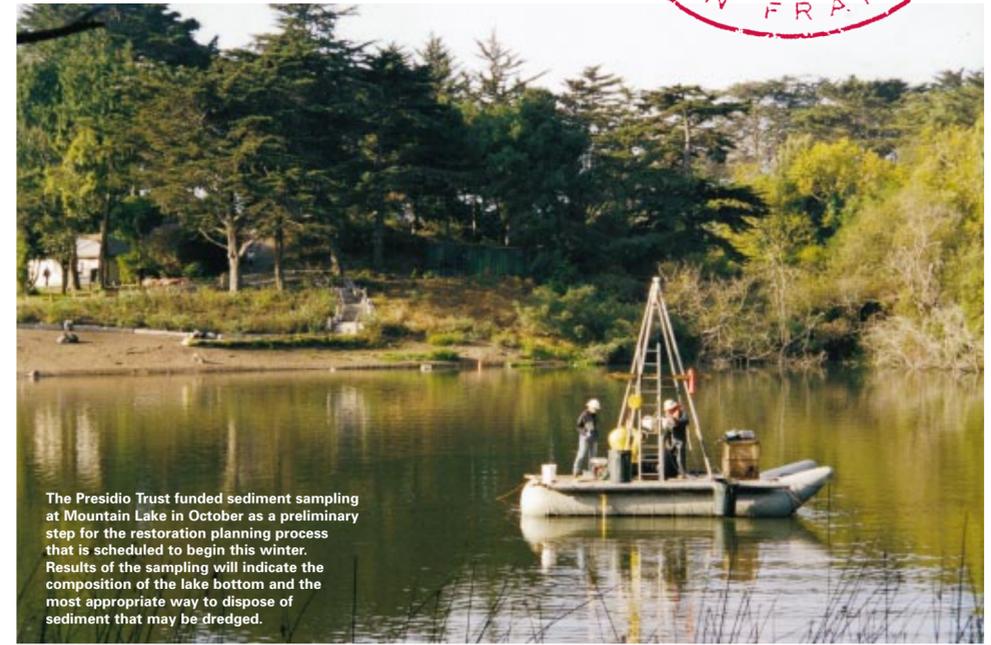
- Partnerships
- Meet the Trust Board
- Evolving Landscapes
- Trust Goes Live
- Resourceful Women
- Events on the Presidio
- News from Around the Park

News Briefs

Federal Funding Approved
 The U.S. Congress approved appropriations for the Presidio for fiscal year 1999, which began October 1. The park will receive \$25 million in operating funds that will be divided between the Presidio Trust and the National Park Service. The Trust will also be able to borrow \$20 million from the U.S. Treasury to pay for renovations and replacement. Federal appropriations for the Presidio Trust will end in 2013, when it must be financially self-sustaining.

Next Steps for Presidio Planning
 Planning efforts to complement the General Management Plan for the Presidio will begin in early 1999. During the December 2 Presidio Trust Board Meeting, the public is invited to review and comment on responses from firms proposing to manage master planning for the park. The Request for Qualifications for master planning was released on October 19, and responses are due to the Trust on November 13.

Property Management
 The Presidio Trust is seeking a property management company to manage the Presidio's non-residential buildings. The John Stewart Company handles residential property management, and the Presidio Trust Board of Directors sets leasing policies for all Presidio buildings. Requests for Qualifications were made available on October 19, and responses are due November 13.



The Presidio Trust funded sediment sampling at Mountain Lake in October as a preliminary step for the restoration planning process that is scheduled to begin this winter. Results of the sampling will indicate the composition of the lake bottom and the most appropriate way to dispose of sediment that may be dredged.

MOUNTAIN LAKE RESTORATION

SEDIMENT SAMPLING PRELIMINARY STEP FOR PROJECT

As one of the few remaining natural lakes on the San Francisco peninsula, Mountain Lake is an irreplaceable resource. After half a century of neglect, the lake is on the verge of being restored thanks to a partnership between the Golden Gate National Parks Association, the National Park Service, the City and County of San Francisco, the Presidio Trust and community members.

The Presidio Trust funded sediment sampling in October as a preliminary step for the Mountain Lake planning process that is scheduled to begin this winter. Once 30 feet deep, Mountain Lake has filled to a murky depth of just 10 feet during the past half century.

Increasing sedimentation and algae infestations are contributing to the lake's decline. Results of sediment sampling will indicate the composition of the lake bottom and the most appropriate way to dispose of sediment that may be dredged.

Mountain Lake is fed by two subterranean springs and was San Francisco's primary water source during the Gold Rush era. Home to fish and fowl, Mountain Lake also offers recreation to neighbors and

several meetings with ample opportunity for public input. Mountain Lake planning and restoration activities will be funded primarily with \$500,000 in mitigation funds from the San Francisco International Airport (SFIA) that were negotiated as part of the airport expansion.

Preliminary planning for Mountain Lake's restoration began as a grassroots effort by a cross-section of neighbors, community organizations and agencies during a

AFTER HALF A CENTURY OF NEGLECT, THE LAKE IS ON THE VERGE OF BEING RESTORED THANKS TO A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION, THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, THE PRESIDIO TRUST AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

1995 Greening of the Presidio meeting. Now - with funding available - a formal restoration project plan for the lake will be created during the fall and winter of 1998/99 through a public planning process involving community members and the agencies responsible for Mountain Lake.

The restoration project plan will be authorized only after preparation of environmental documents and permits, a process that will involve

several meetings with ample opportunity for public input. Mountain Lake planning and restoration activities will be funded primarily with \$500,000 in mitigation funds from the San Francisco International Airport (SFIA) that were negotiated as part of the airport expansion.

The Golden Gate National Parks Association - a nonprofit support partner for the Golden Gate National Parks - will manage the restoration of Mountain Lake in partnership with the Presidio Trust and the National Park Service. The majority of Mountain Lake is managed by the Trust - a federal executive agency charged with preserving the Presidio as a sustainable part of the Golden Gate National Parks.

The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department manages Mountain Lake Park, which is adjacent to Mountain Lake. The lake is fortunate to have a large group of neighbors and volunteers who are committed to its restoration. To become involved or for more information about Mountain Lake planning and restoration, please call 561-4844.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARK

GETTING THE JOB DONE

Thirty Presidio Trust and National Park Service employees worked around the clock to complete renovations on the Trust offices at 34 Graham Street on the Main Post. Shown: Deputy Director for Facilities Bruce Anderson grills hamburgers and veggie hot dogs at a bar-be-que to thank the facilities staff.



MAIN POST BUILDING AVAILABLE FOR SMALL USERS

Twelve historic buildings totaling 175,000 square feet on the Presidio's Main Post are available for lease. Responses to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for prospective tenants are due on December 7. Responses to the RFQ for the Presidio Officers' Club are also due in December.

Legend

- 1 The Main Post
- 2 Crissy Field
- 3 Fort Point and the Golden Gate Bridge
- 4 Fort Scott
- 5 Coastal Bluffs
- 6 Presidio Forest
- 7 Cavalry Stables
- 8 San Francisco National Military Cemetery
- 9 Letterman Complex
- 10 Housing Areas
- 11 Presidio Golf Course
- 12 Public Health Service Center
- 13 Lobos Creek Valley



RESTORING HISTORIC CANNONS

Bullets from the Civil War were among the items discovered during a recent conservation process to preserve the cannons in front of the Presidio Officers' Club. Preservation efforts in partnership with the National Park Service are an important part of enhancing the Presidio as a national park.



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE HOSPITAL EXHIBIT

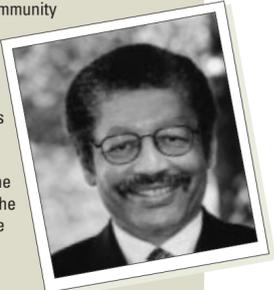
A display at the Presidio's William Penn Mott, Jr. Visitor Center from November 9 to December 31 will chronicle the history of the Public Health Service Hospital. Now vacant, the building was used as a hospital between 1932 and 1982. The Presidio Trust will seek a new tenant for the site in 1999. For more information about the display, call 561-4323.



Board Profile

Edward Blakely brings expertise in land planning and community development to his service on the Presidio Trust Board of Directors. Currently a Professor of Economic Development in the University of Southern California's School of Policy, Planning and Development, Blakely has held academic positions in teaching, research, academic administration, and policy development for more than twenty-five years. He is a leading scholar in the fields of planning, agriculture and rural and community economic development.

"As the Presidio community unfolds, there will be a myriad of opportunities to create a very special place in this park," said Blakely. "People will come here from across the street and around the world to experience the confluence of historic buildings, stunning natural landscapes and a center for living and learning."



He is the former Dean of the University of Southern California's School of Policy, Planning and Development, where he is now a Professor of Economic Development. Blakely was previously Chair of the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of California at Berkeley. He has served as Co-Director of the Institute of Urban and Regional Development and Executive Director of Oakland - Sharing the Vision and the University-Oakland Metropolitan Forum. He is policy advisor to the State of California on economic development planning.

Blakely is author of six books and more than 100 scholarly articles. He holds a B.A. from the University of California at Riverside, an M.A. from the University of California at Berkeley and an Ed.D from the University of California at Los Angeles. He was also a Guggenheim Fellow and a Senior Fulbright Fellow. Blakely now serves on the Fulbright Commission and on the Committee for the Rhodes Scholarship in the Western Region.

Board Members

John Berry	Mary Murphy
Edward Blakely	William Reilly
Donald Fisher	Toby Rosenblatt
Amy Meyer	

Requests for Qualifications

	Due
Master Planning	Nov. 13
Property Management	Nov. 13
Main Post Buildings Leases	Dec. 7
Officers' Club Lease	Dec. 14

November

Friday, November 6, 7 p.m.

You Come Too

Share your talent at the Presidio Community Performers Showcase, which will include musical performances and story telling. Main Post Chapel. Free.

Saturday, November 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Last Gun

A park ranger will showcase the last operational gun of the 1904 Endicott System battery by Baker Beach. Meet at Battery Chamberlin at the north end of the Baker Beach parking lot. Rain cancels. Call 561-4323 for more information.



Saturdays, November 7, 14 & 21, 9 a.m. to noon

Volunteer Workdays at Crissy Field

Be a part of history by planting some of the first plants on the newly configured Crissy Field dunes. The replanting is one of the first phases in the Crissy Field restoration process. Call 561-3034 ext. 3445 for more information.

December

Wednesday, December 2

Trust Board Meeting

Contact the Trust offices for more information about this Presidio Trust Board meeting that will be held to solicit public input about the next level of planning for the Presidio. Planning efforts to complement the General Management Plan for the Presidio will get underway in early 1999. Call 561-5300.

Saturday, December 5, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Welcoming the Stranger: A Celebration of Hospitality

People of differing religions will share rituals, stories, music and food that express hospitality. Pre-registration for two days costs \$50, including food. An interfaith service of worship in appreciation of hospitality will take place after the Sunday event. Main Post Chapel. Call 775-4635 for more information and a map.

Sunday, December 6

Festival of Lights

Join members of the Presidio community for the traditional tree lighting ceremony on the Main Post. Call 561-5319.

Executive Director's Column

PRESIDIO PARTNERSHIPS

When it comes to managing a national park in the heart of an urban area, no one entity can do it well without meaningful involvement from its partners. The Presidio benefits from close partnerships between the Presidio Trust and many other entities and groups. While the National Park Service manages coastal areas of the park and the Trust oversees the interior, we work together to ensure that our visitors enjoy a seamless transition from one area to the next.

The Golden Gate National Parks Association is an invaluable support partner to both the Park Service and the Trust, as our cover story points out. Tenants on the Presidio are critical partners in our efforts to transform the park into a place where people can live, learn, work and play.

The City and County of San Francisco is our partner in many ways, from mutual aid agreements between our fire and police departments to cooperative planning efforts to improve transportation and access for all San Franciscans. And community members who live in the park, in San Francisco and across the country have offered their involvement and commitment to seeing the Presidio preserved and enhanced as a national park.

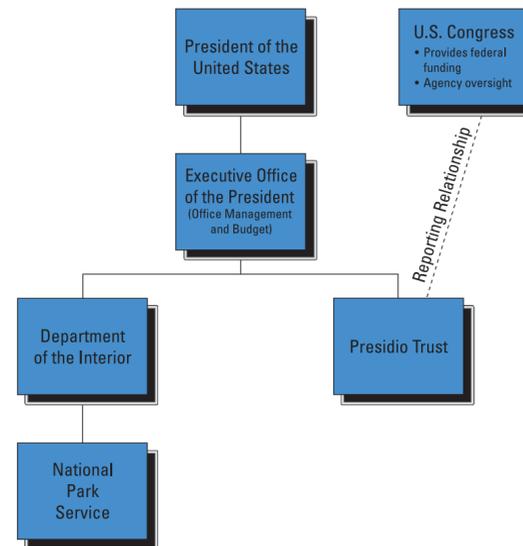
Many thanks to our partners who are essential for sustaining the Presidio as an outstanding national park.

Yours very truly,

Jim Meadows

TRUST GOES LIVE

PRESIDIO TRUST BECOMES FULLY FUNCTIONING FEDERAL AGENCY



FISCAL YEAR 1999 BEGAN ON OCTOBER 1, WHEN FOR THE FIRST TIME THE PRESIDIO TRUST BECAME A FULLY FUNCTIONING FEDERAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY.

All accounting and budgeting are now handled internally by the Trust, whereas federal funding had been managed through the National Park Service during the agency's start-up phase. Presidio tenant organizations and residents now pay rent to the Trust, which in turn funds operations and improvements for the interior 80 percent of the park.

During fiscal year 1999, the federal government will fund the Trust with \$15 million in appropriations, and the National Park Service will receive almost \$10 million to manage coastal areas, offer visitor services, operate resource protection programs and provide fire and emergency services.

Congress also approved \$20 million in federal borrowing authority as authorized in the Presidio Trust Act. The funds will help with the

overall \$312 million cost of renovations and infrastructure improvements between now and 2013.

The Trust will be one of the first federal agencies to report all payments and accounting to the Federal Treasury electronically.

Government appropriations for the Presidio Trust will end in fiscal year 2013, when the agency is projected to generate \$36.6 million annually to support the park.

As the diagram demonstrates, the Presidio Trust reports through the Office of Management and Budget to the President of the United States. Members of the Presidio Trust's Board of Directors are appointed by the President. The Trust Act also establishes a reporting relationship to Congress, which provides federal funding and oversight.

PRESIDIO TENANT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

RESOURCEFUL WOMEN

Classes convene almost daily on the second floor of the Thoreau Center for Sustainability where the non-profit Resourceful Women offers a unique service - educating and empowering women to make informed financial choices.

Through individual counseling and consulting, financial and philanthropic literacy classes, and mentoring and affinity groups, Resourceful Women gives its members the tools they need to be savvy investors, informed consumers and thoughtful contributors. Members are typically business owners and working professionals who have financial assets but varying levels of financial literacy.

"The Presidio is meant to be a place for learning, and Resourceful Women exemplifies that principle," said Executive Director Judy Bloom. "Our members are women who want to take control of their financial resources, and by extension take control of their lives."



Women who won awards from Resourceful Women share a laugh during a public briefing. Resourceful Women provides women with the tools to take their finances into their own hands.

Even after accomplishing their goals, many members stay involved to support Resourceful Women's advocacy on behalf of women in the financial and philanthropic areas. The Women Donors Network comprises women philanthropists

dedicated to grantmaking that promotes social and economic justice, diversity and sustainability.

For more information about Resourceful Women, call 561-6520.

EVOLVING LANDSCAPES



Before there were trees or buildings on the site that would later become the Presidio, an expedition of Spanish settlers arrived at a body of water now known as Mountain Lake. According to an account of March 27, 1776, after marching four hours, the expedition that established the Presidio as a military post "bathed on the banks of a lake or spring of very fine water near the mouth of the port of San Francisco."

By the Gold Rush in the mid-1800s, Mountain Lake had become a popular source of potable water. Water-carriers peddled water from the lake on mules and carts to San Francisco's growing population.

In 1850, the United States government officially established the boundaries of the Presidio and included Mountain Lake. Nonetheless, the next year saw the formation of the Mountain Lake Water Company under a special act of the California legislature that allowed a 24-year grant to provide water to public and private interests.

San Francisco granted the company a monopoly to provide the city with water in 1852, and the company constructed a three-mile aqueduct that extended to Larkin Street in San Francisco. Mountain Lake Water Company failed six months later and another company that used water from nearby Lobos Creek began supplying most of San Francisco's water.

In 1898, the Army considered using water from Mountain Lake for drinking, but doctors advised against it due to runoff from nearby homes and a Marine Hospital.

After decades of decline, a new page will soon turn in the history of Mountain Lake. As discussed on the front page, a planning process and restoration project for the lake will begin this winter.



A water flume along the Presidio's cliffs provided a novel walk in the mid-1800s. The two-by-two-foot wooden structure carried water from Lobos Creek to Fort Point, then by cement pipe across Crissy Field to the City of San Francisco.

Photo courtesy of The Society of California Pioneers.