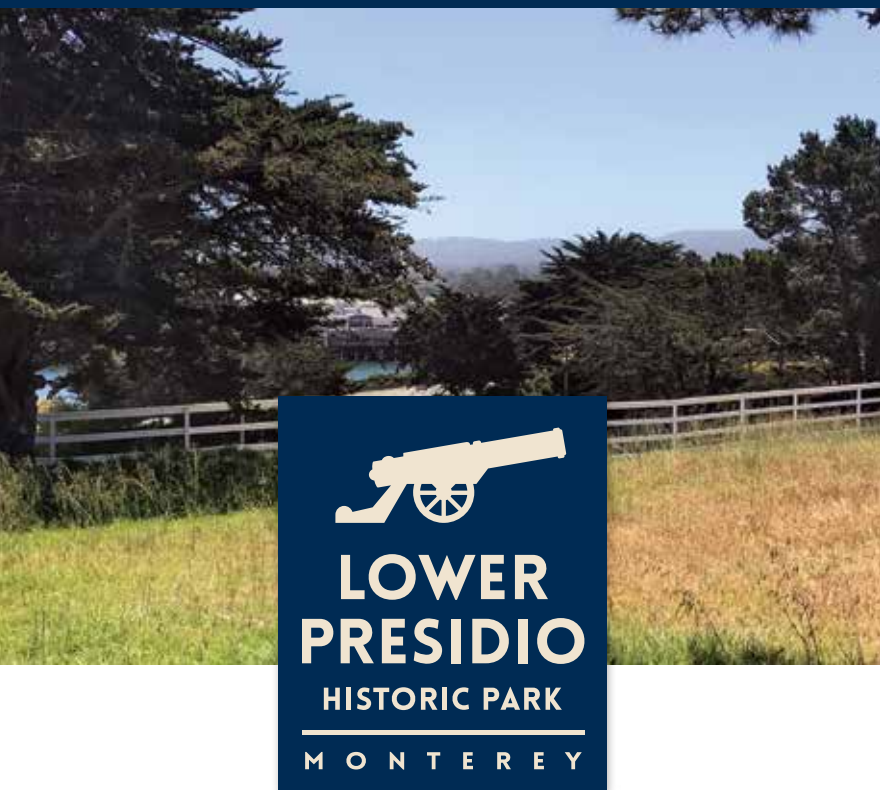


# STUDYING CALIFORNIA HISTORY?



## *While visiting Monterey's historic sites, make a stop at the Lower Presidio Historic Park*

**O**ld Monterey Foundation invites teachers and students to take a step back in time! Bring your class for a very special visit to the Lower Presidio Historic Park, the most historically significant site on the West Coast. In addition to its rich history, the park features breathtaking views of the Monterey Bay, provides a perfect place to picnic and includes ADA accessible trails. Walkable from downtown Monterey and Colton Hall and ample parking for buses.

### **Historic Walking Tour & Museum**

During your visit, Old Monterey Foundation can host a short walking tour and presentation by local Historian Tim Thomas including a visit to the adjacent Presidio Museum.

### **Schedule a Visit**

Call: (831) 346-3030

Email: [info@OldMontereyFoundation.org](mailto:info@OldMontereyFoundation.org)

Visit: [www.OldMontereyFoundation.org](http://www.OldMontereyFoundation.org)



*Old Monterey Foundation is a non-profit organization formed to promote, support and enhance the artistic and cultural environment of historic downtown Monterey, California.*

## *Lower Presidio Historic Park, the most historically significant site on the West Coast...*

**pre-1602** The site was occupied as a seasonal fishing ground by indigenous tribes of Ohlone Costanoan Esselen nation and other neighboring tribes.

**1602** Sebastian Vizcaino discovered Monterey Bay, landing at the foot of the LPHP and claiming the land for the King of Spain. It was named "Monterey" after the Viceroy of Mexico.

**1760** Gaspar de Portola and Father Junipero Serra landed at the same spot and declared this the City of Monterey.

**1818** The Argentinian privateer, Hippolyte Bouchard, attacks the Presidio (El Castillo) and then sacks the City of Monterey. This is the only land and sea battle ever to occur on the West Coast of the U.S.

**1842** Commodore Catesby Jones, commanding the U.S. Pacific Squadron, lands and captures Monterey without firing a shot.

**1846** Commodore John Sloat anchors in Monterey Harbor with the Pacific Squadron.

**1847** El Castillo reconstructed as what was eventually called Fort Mervine by Army troops stationed here during the Mexican American War.

**1849** Commander of Ft Mervine, acting as the first Governor of California, calls constitutional convention resulting in adoption of the first Constitution of the State of California and statehood.

**1866** Fort Mervine is abandoned by the Army.

**1901** The Army discovers it still owns the fort and reopens the post and the Presidio of Monterey as a cavalry and artillery garrison. Among its first units was the 9th Cavalry, the "Buffalo Soldiers".

**1940** 11th Cavalry, the last mounted regiment in Army history, departs to patrol the Mexican border. The Presidio then becomes a training post for civil administration officers trained for occupied territory during the War.

**1946** The Presidio becomes the Military Intelligence Service Language School, which evolved into the Defense Language Institute as it is known today.

