

OLD MONTEREY FOUNDATION PRESENTS



**THE  
MARCIA  
F. DEVOE  
FUND**

**2019 LECTURE SERIES**



THE HISTORY AND RESTORATION OF THE  
**ROYAL PRESIDIO  
CHAPEL**

**August 21  
6-7:30 p.m.**

**Irvine Auditorium,  
McCone Building,  
MIIS**

**499 Pierce Street,  
Monterey**

**FREE Admission  
Reception to follow**

The parish of San Carlos will celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding in June of 2020. This, the longest continuously operating house of worship on the West Coast, has witnessed the full span of Monterey's history. The current home of San Carlos Cathedral began as The Royal Presidio Chapel, serving the officials and soldiers that claimed Alta California for Spain. The building itself is the oldest architecturally-designed, block-construction structure in California. During a recent major renovation, many artifacts and clues to the original design were unearthed. This allowed the project to achieve its goal of returning the interior design as closely as possible to the original.

## LECTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Speaker William Breen, with assistance from Mrs. Kay Horner, will present the highlights of the long history of the Royal Presidio Chapel and the Presidio it served:

- The reasons the Spanish returned to Monterey after a more than 160-year absence.
- The turmoil caused by relying on a spurious report by an earlier explorer.
- Father Serra's choice to abandon Monterey as a mission and transfer his efforts to Carmel.
- Changes in San Carlos' status, parishioners and architecture over the centuries.
- Reasons for the major retrofit and the resulting discoveries.
- And a sample of the lore surrounding the parish: the salvaging of the Serra Oak, pirate invasion, Russian influence, etc.

## WILLIAM BREEN



William Breen is a retired Army Officer, graduate of West Point and the Naval Postgraduate School. He has served as a docent at the Royal Presidio Chapel and San Carlos Cathedral for over ten years.

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LECTURES SERIES IS PRESENTED BY



Old Monterey Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, was formed in 2011, with the mission of promoting, supporting and enhancing the artistic, cultural and historic environment of downtown Monterey, California.

*For more information, call [831] 346-3030  
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