



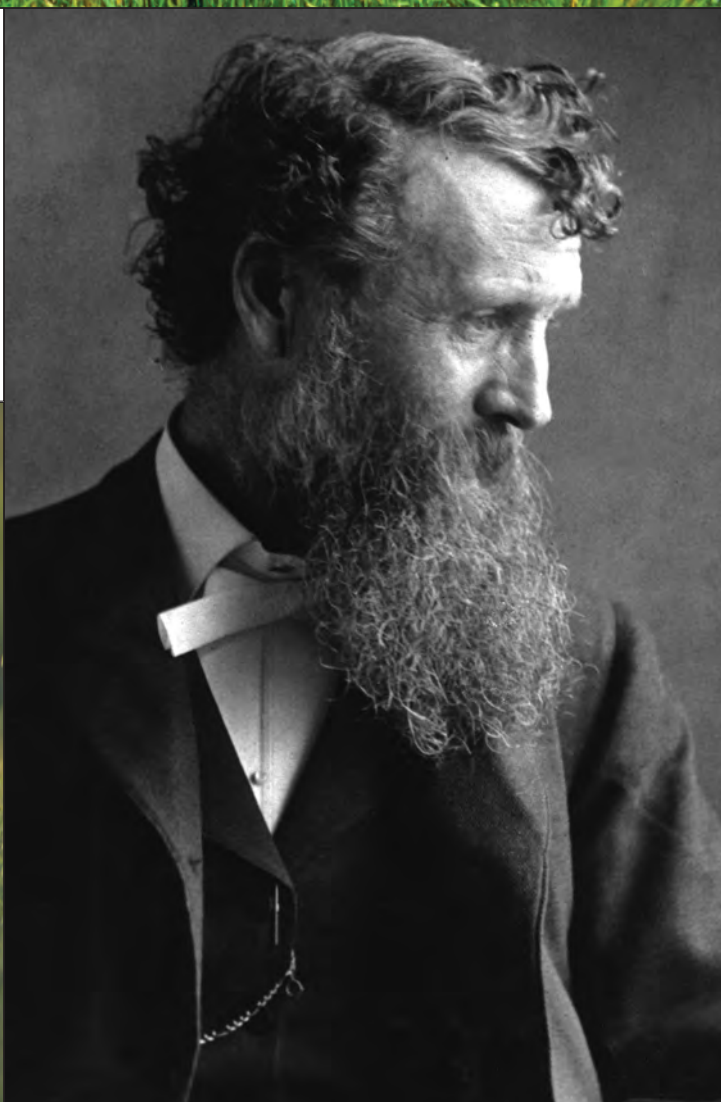
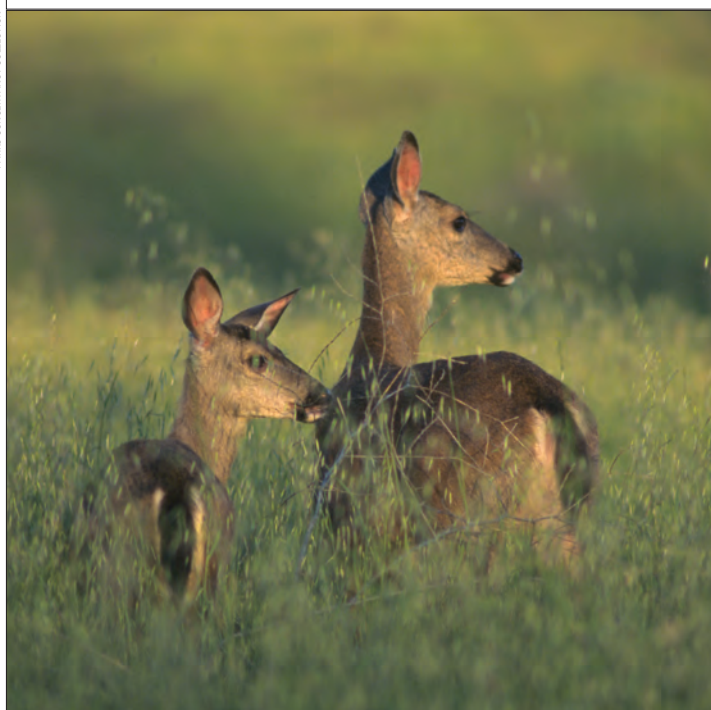
BRENDA THARP



PARKS CONSERVANCY COLLECTION



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Experience Your America

Each year, our country's national parks are visited by literally millions of people. Some crave time alone in nature, others want to learn more about the past. Regardless of their specific motivation, park visitors know that when they see the NPS arrowhead, they're in a special place. The 390 sites that make up our National Park System represent more than pretty views or touching elegies to bygone days—they are our shared heritage, places that mark who we are and define our collective journey across the centuries. For more on this topic, start with "Your National Parks," by John Reynolds of the National Park Foundation, page 3.

On Behalf of the Future

As the NPS celebrates its 90th birthday, Golden Gate National Parks Superintendent Brian O'Neill reflects on the nature and meaning of the National Park Service in the 21st century.

4

Interpretation and the Park Experience

Division of Interpretation Chief Howard Levitt considers the idea of "civic engagement," and ways it might be implemented in the national parks at the Golden Gate.

6

Be It Enacted

Interpretive Park Ranger Jim MacDonald discusses the centennial of the Antiquities Act and how it was used to save the ancient redwoods of Muir Woods for posterity.

7

Behind the Scenes—New and notable in the parks, 2

Park Programs—Event calendar Pull-out Center Spread

News from the Parks Conservancy—Parks Conservancy Marks 25 Years, 5



Behind the Scenes

Golden Gate National Recreation Area consists of over 75,500 acres of land, and protects more than 1,250 historic structures, 27 rare and endangered species, and many small “islands” of threatened habitat. NPS staff, volunteers, and partners work hard to take care of the park’s treasures for the millions of people who visit each year, and for future generations.

Cooperative Conservation: Planning Moves Ahead

In August 2004, President Bush issued an Executive Order on Cooperative Conservation. The order directs federal agencies that oversee environmental and natural resource policies and programs to promote cooperative conservation in full partnership with states, tribes, local governments, community groups, private-sector organizations, and individuals. The objective behind the executive order was to advance cooperation and partnered problem-solving as holding the greatest promise for achieving environmental goals, reducing conflict, and leveraging conservation resources.

The Executive Order called for the convening of a White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. This three-day conference took place in St. Louis in August 2005, and was attended by four cabinet members and a broad and diverse audience of 1,300 participants. In preparation for this conference, a background publication, “Faces and Places of Cooperative Conservation—Profiles in Citizen Stewardship,” was developed. The report defines the term and lays out the landscape of cooperative conservation. It includes 152 rich profiles of the many ways Americans are coming together to cooperatively address, manage, and govern the lands, waters, and wildlife of the places that mean the most to them. It also highlights an additional 800 examples of on-the-ground cooperative conservation.

called by some the fourth chapter of America’s conservation history. Among its principal characteristics are that it is non-partisan, voluntary in nature, draws upon community perspectives, and builds on local innovation and citizen entrepreneurship. It is rooted in collaborative decision-making, shared governance, and bottom-up action. It is as straightforward and simple as a landowner working with a single partner to restore habitat, and as complex as a community of tribes, conservation groups, and government agencies working to establish a collaborative framework to achieve landscape-scale goals in Puget Sound, the Great Basin, or the greater Chesapeake Bay region.

ANET JAMES



The conference’s goal was to stimulate idea exchange among participants and to elicit suggestions for action. These discussions resulted in the articulation

of nine major building blocks that would be used to implement cooperative conservation. Following the White House Conference, senior officials from the Departments of Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, and Council on Environmental Quality collaborated on developing a set of actions to implement major recommendations made at the conference. The action framework developed by this team compressed the nine building blocks into four major action areas: workforce capacity building; administrative, regulatory, and legislative improvements; new tools and mechanisms to assist collaborative efforts; and improved communication, outreach, and public education to stimulate increased stakeholder participation in cooperative conservation.

Interdepartmental work groups are being formed to carry out the major recommendations in the action framework. A senior policy team will provide policy guidance to the working groups.

Brian O’Neill, Superintendent

Welcome to the Golden Gate National Parks

Golden Gate National Recreation Area’s mission is to preserve and enhance the natural and cultural resources of the coastal lands north and south of the Golden Gate for the inspiration, education, and recreation of people today, and for future generations. We also work to protect the integrity of our parks’ fragile resources in the challenging context of an urban setting. Finally, we are committed to forging partnerships with the community to strengthen the parks’ relevance to our metropolitan neighbors and to engage the public in stewardship of the parks’ history and lands. We welcome your visit, and encourage you to take advantage of the many recreational opportunities the parklands offer, as well as to become involved as a volunteer at a favorite site.


Brian O’Neill
Superintendent



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Cover

TOP: Sweeney Ridge
LEFT (UPPER): Military bowl
(LOWER): mule deer
LOWER RIGHT: John Muir

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Read *ParkNews* on the Web:
www.nps.gov/goga/parknews

Experience Your America

Your Fee Dollars at Work!

Thanks to fees from visitors like you, Muir Woods now sports a new split-rail fence. The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act allows parks to use 80 percent of the entrance and recreation fees collected at Muir Woods, Alcatraz, and Kirby Cove for projects that have a direct visitor benefit. Work was completed by the Marin Conservation Corps.

Wildflower Photography Contest

Submit your photos—as slides or in digital format—of Headlands wildflowers to the Marin Headlands Visitor Center by September 1. Prizes will be awarded to winners. Contact the visitor center at 331-1540 for more information.

Leave the Driving to Us!

The Muir Woods Shuttle returns, operating on weekends and holidays between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend. Visitors are advised to watch for roadside signs advertising the shuttle and parking conditions, and are also advised to park at the Manzanita Park & Ride lot, near the junction of Highway 101 and Highway 1. Funded by Marin County and operated by Golden Gate Transit, the shuttle is in year two of a three-year pilot program. More information is available on the Muir Woods and GGNRA websites. Call 511 for traffic information for Muir Woods or Stinson Beach.

Marin Headlands-Fort Baker Transportation Management Plan

The park plans to release the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the Marin Headlands-Fort Baker Transportation Management Plan in late summer or early fall. This plan includes proposals for resurfacing many of the existing roadways, increased bus and shuttle service in these two areas of the park, the implementation of parking fees at some locations in these two areas of the park, and bicycle- and pedestrian-access improvements. Please watch for information regarding the dates, times, and location of public meetings to voice comments on this plan.

Your National Parks

Your Heritage, Your Opportunity

John Reynolds, Executive Vice President, National Park Foundation

This country's national parks are my life. I grew up in the parks and then worked for the National Park Service for nearly forty years. I love the national parks, all 390 of them. I love the idea and the spirit embracing the national parks. It is truly an American idea, and it has spread all over the world.

You love Golden Gate National Recreation Area, or you would not be reading this paper. I love it too. Maybe you also love Point Reyes, or Yosemite. Some of you have been to other national parks—Lassen, Redwoods, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, maybe the Statue of Liberty, Independence Hall, Gettysburg, Shiloh, Manassas. A few may even know that twenty parks celebrate our common heritage of the African American experience in the United States and that others document the experience of the American Indian. The variety is as endless as the American experience.

Have you ever stopped for a moment and thought about what all these 390 places mean to you in their totality? What they mean as part of your personal heritage, as citizens or visitors?

In 1872, Yellowstone became the nation's (and the world's) first national park. Several others—including Yosemite, Sequoia, Mount Rainier, and Crater Lake—followed in quick succession. Then, 90 years ago, Congress created the National Park Service to preserve these places “unimpaired” for all time, for “future generations” (you and I and our kids and their kids and

forever) for their “enjoyment.”

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

If I could propose two thoughts, two ideas to consider now and then, this is what they would be:

First, the 390 parks in the National Park System are yours to enjoy and have fun in, places to learn great stories about what we value most in our nation and its land and its people. Visit www.nps.gov for a quick and enticing wander. Look for the differences first. Most of these parks preserve more than our country's great landscapes. Far more often, they are places that reflect our common history and genius. Try on a few of these places in more depth—Weir Farm, Carl Sandburg, Nez Perce, Saugus Iron Works, New Bedford Whaling, Brown v. Board of Education, Manzanar, John Day Fossil Beds, Sleeping Bear, Skagway. How about Congaree, Big South Fork? Or Rosie the Riveter, John Muir, and Eugene O'Neill right here in the East Bay? What a wonderful heritage we share!

Second, sit back and think for a moment about what the national parks mean to you. Maybe you will think about what they might mean

to your children as they grow up. Maybe you will think about the great variety that makes up this country and where you can reliably experience authentic places, places where important things actually happened, where the stories are researched and great care is taken to give you the “real place” where the “real thing” actually happened and where the “real place” is kept “unimpaired” for as long as this nation survives.

The great value of the National Park System is not just visual, though certainly that is part of it. For immediate inspiration, it is hard to beat looking at the Grand Tetons or the Golden Gate, or actually seeing the Liberty Bell or Edison's laboratory. Can you imagine anything more fun than walking or climbing or riding in Yosemite or the Mojave Preserve, or strolling on the grounds where Longfellow lived and worked?

But for sheer value to self and nation, consider the 390 parks as 390 campuses of a great learning system, a system dedicated to engaging you and your kids and your friends in what has made America what it is, and pointing to what America can be. To start, go back again to www.nps.gov to see the

true promise of the National Park System.

Immense change is taking place everywhere around us. We often long for stability, for places that seem to stay the same. Like many of you, I have spent countless hours at Golden Gate. I come here because it exudes quality. It is authentic. The only change that takes place is to make it more authentic, to return it to its natural or historical past, and to make that past our present and our future, and to engage us in it.

YOUR SUPPORT IS CRITICAL

As it is true for Golden Gate, it is true for the rest of the national parks. What kind of help can we give? Most importantly, we can understand the breadth and depth of what it is we all need to have protected and available for future enjoyment. Then we can understand why, in our changing world, it is so essential to have the knowledge and a shared commitment to protect the authenticity of these places, the real touchstones of what America is: its natural world, its history, and, embodied throughout, its dreams and inspiration for the future.

What the national parks need most of all is your support, your commitment to a national expectation that the integrity of these places be maintained and that they be available for you and your children to value and use, and especially to learn about your nation. They need you to want them, and to visit them, even if the only way you may be able to visit is on the internet or through a television program. These places are important to the nation and to you... and are yours, watched over by the wonderful women and men of the National Park Service.

Before joining the National Park Foundation in 2002, John Reynolds had a long career with the National Park Service, which he served as landscape architect, regional director, and deputy director. His innovation, skills, and dedicated service earned him the Department of the Interior's Distinguished and Meritorious Service Awards. His support of environmental and conservation issues within his agency influenced the direction of the NPS.



Beach-walking is a wonderful way to reconnect. The Golden Gate National Parks, with their miles of beaches, are a haven for the Bay Area's city-stressed residents.

On Behalf of the Future

The National Park Service and the Twenty-first Century

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

This summer we join many Americans in celebrating the 90th anniversary of the National Park Service, created by the Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1, 2, 3, and 4). This pioneering legislation, signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson on August 25, 1916, represented the first effort by any country to establish a national system of parks and a management structure to oversee their proper conservation and use. The Organic Act not only created the National Park Service, it also charged it with conserving the parks “unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

At the time the National Park Service was established, Congress had already authorized thirty-five national parks and monuments, starting with Yellowstone National Park in 1872. Today, the system comprises 390 areas encompassing more than 84 million acres in forty-nine states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and the Virgin Islands. The park units are as small as the .02-acre Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Monument in Pennsylvania and as large as the 13.2 million acre Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska.

CARING FOR NATURE AND CULTURE

The system includes many of our country's most magnificent landscapes, a rich diversity of plant and animal life, some of the finest examples of American culture and historic artifacts, and places that reflect the most important events in US history. While many Americans associate the National Park Service with the preservation of pristine natural places, the reality is that almost two-thirds of the national park sites are designated specifically to preserve an important aspect or moment in our nation's history—places like Gettysburg National

Military Park, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Women's Rights National Historical Park, and Tuskegee Army Airman National Historic Site.

The system also reflects remarkable diversity in terms of ownership and management structure. In some areas, the Service owns and manages all of the acreage within the designated boundary. In others, like Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, the Service works in partnership with public and private organizations and does not own land.

PRESERVING OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE

In many respects, the National Park Service is our nation's Department of Heritage. The system of parks represents a cumulative expression of a single national legacy. The national park system also has been called “America's greatest university without walls,” with each unit representing a campus containing powerful resources offering unique, place-based learning opportunities.

Over the years, the role of the National Park Service has greatly expanded. Today, it is at work in communities across the US, helping local citizens

preserve their own heritage, open space, and recreation resources. Grants and assistance are offered to register, record, and save historic places; to create state and community parks, trails, and greenways; and to build local recreation facilities. The Service also consults with other countries as they establish and operate their parks and protected areas.



Yellow Bush Lupine

Perhaps the fastest-growing area of engagement by the National Park Service is with national heritage areas. This relatively new variation of the park concept focuses on conserving nationally important living landscapes and cultures through cooperation and collaboration with a wide variety of public and private stakeholders within a given heritage corridor. To date, Congress has designated twenty-seven national heritage areas, with an additional fifteen now under consideration. The currently designated areas represent an impressive part of our culture and range from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor in New York (commemorating the most successful and influential human-made waterway in North America) to the Cane River National Heritage Area in Louisiana (celebrat-

ing the rural Creole culture) and the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area in Pennsylvania (commemorating the critical role steel production played in the development of the US).

ONGOING SUPPORT IS CRITICAL

It is important to take time to pause and give thanks to all Americans who have been responsible for helping establish and steward the special places we know as our national park sites. Congratulations and thanks to each of you for contributing—in ways small and large—your time, expertise, money, and/or advocacy to make the national park system what it is today. Looking to the future, we will need to further grow and broaden this support as we tackle the many challenges facing the system.

The National Park System Advisory Board spoke to these challenges in its excellent report, *Rethinking the National Parks for the 21st Century*, which noted that “the National Park Service has a twenty-first century responsibility of great importance. It is to proclaim anew the meaning and value of parks, conservation, and recreation; to expand the learning and research occurring in parks and share that knowledge broadly; and to encourage all Americans to experience these special places. As a people, our quality of life—our very health and well-being—depends in the most basic way on the protection of nature, the accessibility of open space and recreation opportunities, and the preservation of landmarks that illustrate our historic continuity. By caring for the parks and conveying the park ethic, we care for ourselves and act on behalf of the future. The larger purpose of this mission is to build a citizenry that is committed to conserving its heritage and its home on earth.”

At Golden Gate, we hope that each of you will work with us to fulfill this responsibility and promise.



Long before the Golden Gate Bridge was built, Fort Point stood watch over the southern edge of the entrance to San Francisco Bay. Today, this national historic site keeps alive the stories of California's early days and its role in the Civil War.

PARKS CONSERVANCY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SUPPORT TO THE PARK

Greg Moore, Executive Director, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

On behalf of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, I extend our congratulations to the National Park Service for 90 years of service to our country. Here in the Bay Area, the Parks Conservancy is also celebrating a milestone as it marks 25 years of support to the Golden Gate National Parks.

Over the last quarter-century, we have worked closely with the National Park Service to ensure that the Golden Gate National Parks are preserved for the future and enjoyed today. Our efforts have concentrated not only on restoring and improving park landscapes but also on connecting people to the parks through education and volunteer service programs, tours, publications, and special events. Equally important, we have established a community of members, donors, and friends dedicated to investing in the future of our parks.

25 YEARS OF GRATITUDE AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

We express our gratitude to each of our supporters and to the Golden Gate National Parks staff for their commitment to our work. Listed below are highlights of our collective accomplishments over 25 years. For more information on our activities, please visit us on the web at www.parksconservancy.org.

- More than \$100 million of support provided to park projects and programs.
- \$34.5 million raised for the restoration of Crissy Field with support from 2,435 donors.
- \$19 million of private and public funds raised for *Trails Forever* initiative.
- More than 15 million visitors served by the Alcatraz audio tour.
- More than 5 million visitors to the restored Crissy Field.
- More than 4 million hours of volunteer time dedicated by over 150,000 volunteers.
- More than 1 million native plants grown at 5 native plant nurseries and installed in 100 different restoration sites.
- More than 750,000 visitors served in the Alcatraz evening program.
- More than 450,000 birds of prey counted and nearly 25,000 raptors banded through the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory.
- More than 300,000 people served through the Crissy Field Center.
- More than 100,000 school kids reached through “Parks as Classroom” program.
- More than 12,000 members giving annually to the Parks Conservancy.
- 1,491 splendid acres of open space,



Crissy Field Center program

- natural areas, and historic buildings saved as a national park at the Presidio of San Francisco.
- 335 acres of Fort Baker preserved as a national park with 46 historic buildings.
- More than 300 interpretive guides, books, and materials produced for park visitors.
- 34 new park entrance signs designed and installed.
- 29 unique park images designed by artist Michael Schwab to build community support for our parks.
- 27 Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders serving their environment and community through the Crissy Field Center.
- 17 miles of park trails improved,
- built, or planned for enhancement.
- 7 Native American stories told and sites preserved.
- 7 endangered and threatened species habitat areas restored and improved.
- 5 wetland and 4 coastal dune habitats, 2 creeks, and 1 lake enhanced or restored.
- 5 park watersheds adopted by the Site Stewardship teams.
- 4 park visitor centers designed, funded, and built.
- 2 classic overlooks constructed at the Presidio (Inspiration Point and Immigrant Point).
- 1 Parks Conservancy dedicated to Parks For All Forever.

Do You Enjoy the Parks? **JOIN US!**

More than ever before, the Golden Gate National Parks need the support of people like you. By joining the Conservancy—the parks’ nonprofit partner—you’ll become part of the effort to preserve the national parks at the Golden Gate.

Your support helps restore native habitats, maintain miles of trails, preserve historic landmarks, and develop park education programs for young people.

JOIN THE PARKS CONSERVANCY AND YOU’LL RECEIVE:

- Two membership cards plus a special gift.
- *Gateways*, the quarterly membership newsletter filled with news of the parks and tips on special places.
- *Park Adventures*, the quarterly calendar of NPS and special membership programs and events, delivered to your home.
- Free monthly e-mail newsletter.
- Invitations to members-only walks, talks, and excursions.
- Discounts at park bookstores.
- Free use of the Alcatraz and Fort Point audio tours.

Yes, I would like to join the Parks Conservancy. Enclosed is my membership contribution of:

- \$35 Park Partner — Receive all benefits of membership
- \$50 Park Sponsor — Receive the award-winning book, *Guide to the Parks*
- \$100 Park Steward — Receive a Mount Tamalpais sweatshirt

Donations are tax-deductible. For information, or to join online, visit our website www.parksconservancy.org. To join by phone, call the Parks Conservancy at (415) 4R-PARKS.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL _____

DAY PHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE) _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
 Charge to: Visa Mastercard AmEx Discovery

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Mail this coupon with payment to:
 Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY—OUR MISSION

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is a nonprofit membership organization created to preserve the Golden Gate National Parks, enhance the experiences of park visitors, and build a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future.

We seek private contributions to augment federal funds for the parks, and work in collaboration with the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust to improve park sites, enlist volunteers in restoration projects, provide services and education programs for visitors and local communities, and engage diverse audiences in the national parks at the Golden Gate.



Interpretation and the Park Experience

A New Role for Interpretation and Education in the National Park Service

Howard Levitt, Chief, Division of Interpretation, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

National parks preserve for present and future generations of Americans—and for all the people of the world—the natural and historic heritage of our nation. All national park sites have significance and meaning. They often speak so eloquently for themselves that park rangers have to be careful not to intrude on the visitors' personal experience with too much additional intervention or interpretation.

However, though most national parks have an inherent emotional power—a “power of place,” it has been called—visitors often benefit from help in understanding the deeper meanings of a park site. The role of interpretation and education in the National Park Service (NPS) is to facilitate emotional and intellectual connections between park visitors and park resources. In the earliest years of the National Park Service, a cadre of park ranger/educators arose to help visitors learn and think about park resources.

Succeeding generations of park interpretive rangers have carried that work into the present day. For many, a love of national parks began with a ranger-led interpretive walk or a campfire program; NPS interpreter/educators have been changing lives for nine decades.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

As the National Park Service approaches its centennial, an exciting new movement—Civic Engagement—is taking shape, one that promises to place interpretation and education at the center of a remarkable new role for national park areas.

On its website, the NPS defines Civic Engagement this way: A continuous, dynamic conversation with the public on many levels that reinforces public commitment to the preservation of heritage resources, both cultural and natural, and strengthens public understanding of the full meaning and contemporary relevance of these resources. The foundation of civic engagement is a commitment to building and sustaining relationships with neighbors and communities of interest.

Civic Engagement is predicated on the idea that parks are where the historical events that made us the country we are took place, and where natural systems and processes can best be studied, discussed, and understood. Civic Engagement suggests that parks are uniquely positioned to help elevate civic literacy and foster civic participation through genuine interactive conversations with and among park visitors that spring from the meanings derived from the

resources of the parks.

What does Civic Engagement portend for the Golden Gate National Parks? Golden Gate abounds with sites that have “full meaning and contemporary relevance,” and that present park visitors with opportunities for marvelous learning experiences.

Consider these examples.

- Muir Woods is more than a breathtaking old-growth redwood forest. As one of the earliest important land gifts to the nation (see the article on p. 7 for details), it is also an example of the difference one person can make in preserving the natural legacy of the nation. The role of the individual in preserving natural areas and historic sites certainly has contemporary relevance and would be an interesting and important concept for children and adults to discuss. Muir Woods might be the perfect place to initiate that discussion.

- Between 1955 and 1974, Battery Bravo/Nike Missile Site SF-88 in the Marin Headlands was on constant readiness, prepared to launch missiles far out over the ocean to intercept incoming Soviet aircraft and repel a nuclear attack on the United States. Although the Cold War ended less than a quarter of a century ago, and was arguably the defining featuring of world affairs in the last half of the 20th century, it is largely unknown to the generation born after 1970. The Nike site and the Cold War bring up issues that are as relevant today as they were during the “duck and cover” period in which today’s Baby Boomers grew up. There is a wide spectrum of viewpoints on the Cold War and on nuclear weapons, and the park could facilitate a very dynamic discussion on these and other issues raised by the Nike Site.

- Within months of the December 1941 Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, General John DeWitt, commander of the US Sixth Army and headquartered in Building 35 at the Presidio, directed implementation of Executive Order 9066, which



Schoolchildren get the scoop on the Nike Missile Site from a ranger well-versed in its history. NPS interpretive rangers have inspired generations of visitors to learn more about their national heritage.

ordered the relocation of Japanese-Americans into internment camps. At the time the executive order was issued, a small group of young Japanese-American men were being trained by the army for duty as translators and interrogators in the Pacific Theater; the top-secret training was conducted in Building 640 at the Presidio, less than a half-mile from Building 35. The families of some of these young men were sent to internment camps throughout the West and Southwest, and some of those internment camps are now National Historic Sites. This ironic and poignant confluence of historic events clearly has deeper meaning and contemporary relevance, and the Presidio could be the ideal place for a public discussion on many important related issues, such as civil liberties during a time of war.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW CHALLENGES

For park interpreters and educators at Golden Gate, new challenges accompany the exciting opportunities of Civic Engagement. We will have to deepen our own scholarship and also connect more closely with outside scholars and experts to know our

subjects even more fully. We will have to learn techniques for facilitating public conversations on issues that are often emotionally loaded and sometimes highly controversial without directing the outcome of the conversation. We will have to broaden our audiences by reaching out to communities that are often not considered to be traditional national park users so that the public dialogue that takes place in parks is rich and multifaceted. We will have to uncover and tell stories that are often untold in school texts, because the deeper meanings of our sites can be found in these untold stories.

Situated in the center of a metropolitan area of 7 million residents, at the center of a destination for millions of visitors each year from around the nation and the world, Golden Gate is a remarkable national park. The variety of the park’s resources and stories is exceptional. Embracing the principles and best practices of Civic Engagement, Golden Gate interpreters and educators look forward to facilitating an exhilarating new level of public discourse as we enter the run-up to the 2016 centennial of the National Park Service.



Be It Enacted

The Antiquities Act and the Making of a National Monument

Jim MacDonald, Interpretive Park Ranger, Muir Woods National Monument

Beginning in the mid-19th century, the attention of scientists, writers, artists, and others focused increasingly on this country's wild lands. As the century drew to a close, it was becoming evident to many that the resources of the nation were not infinite. Those committed to the well-being of the wild found an ally in President Theodore Roosevelt, who, as a sickly young man, had restored himself to health while "roughing it" in the American West. With his help, the American Antiquities Act of 1906 came into being.

This year marks the centennial of the Antiquities Act, one of the most important pieces of preservation legislation enacted by congress. Signed into law by President Roosevelt on June 8, 1906, the act gave the president of the United States the power to preserve cultural and scientific features on public lands for future generations.

During TR's term, the first ten national monuments were created (today, there are seventy-four, each unique in character). Muir Woods, the seventh to be established—and the first to protect land donated by a private individual—barely escaped being logged and turned into a reservoir.

VISION LEADS TO ACTION

William Kent, the man who donated the area we now know as Muir Woods, had a vision for a national park located in Marin County and consisting of Mount Tamalpais and the land surrounding it. The Tamalpais Forestry Association was created to advance the idea; Kent, serving as its president, presided over the September 12, 1903,

meeting attended by Gifford Pinchot, chief of the United States Forest Service (USFS). At this meeting, a formal proposal was put forth to create a 12,000-acre public park. As Morrison Pixley, a local resident, noted, "There is in Marin County, an opportunity for San Francisco to obtain a seaside park with giant redwoods and Mount Tamalpais in one enclosure and within one hour's travel time from the foot of Market Street."

The first step in bringing this vision to reality was the creation of Muir Woods National Monument. Land known as Redwood Canyon was owned by the Tamalpais Land and Water Company. Early in the 20th century, the company began divesting itself of its holdings, and approached William Kent as a potential buyer for Redwood Canyon. Elizabeth Thatcher Kent, his wife, was reportedly leery of the purchase; they were having financial problems, and she felt they should not take on further debt. Kent's perspective? "If we lost all the money we have and saved those trees, it would be worthwhile, wouldn't it?" So, in the

summer of 1905, he agreed to purchase 612 acres for \$45,000.

DISASTER SPURS THREAT TO FOREST

However, the canyon was imperiled by both nature and the area's burgeoning population. After the 1906 earthquake and fire, timber was needed to rebuild the devastated city, and the North Coast Water Company, which owned 600 acres north of Kent's property, wanted to take advantage of Redwood Creek and its northern tributaries by damming the creek to furnish water to Mill Valley. On December 2, 1907, they filed condemnation proceedings to obtain 47 acres of William Kent's land, much of which was covered by some of the canyon's largest and oldest trees.

Kent immediately wired Pinchot in Washington, D. C., informing him of his intent to give the land to the United States government. As he wrote, "You may rest assured that I shall leave no stone unturned to save these trees, and I call upon you as one in distress, to help me out." He then met with Frederick E. Olmsted of the USFS San Francisco field office.

Olmsted realized that Kent's desire to put Redwood Canyon under the jurisdiction of the USFS would not necessarily protect it, as the agency's policy stressed the use of forests, which usually meant logging. He then pointed Kent to the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Kent felt he would be served condemnation papers by January 10, 1908. He knew that if he could transfer the land to the federal government by that date, it would stop the process. The clock was ticking—if he didn't act immediately, the forest would be lost forever. Kent sent the deed for 298 acres as a gift from him and his wife Elizabeth, along with a report completed by Olmsted, which contained the rationale for the national monument, focusing on its scientific and educational value.

Olmsted had written that the property was "of extraordinary scientific interest because of the primeval and virgin character of the forest and the age and size of the trees. Its influence as an educational factor is immense because it offers what may some day be one of the few vestiges of an ancient giant forest, so situated as to make its enjoyment by the people a matter of course." Secretary of Interior James R. Garfield signed the deed transferring the property to federal ownership, and on January 8, 1908, Theodore Roosevelt issued the presidential proclamation that created Muir Woods National Monument.

Although William Kent's dream of Mount Tamalpais National Park did not come to fruition, his gift saved the last stand of old-growth coastal redwoods in the San Francisco Bay Area. His vision of national parklands undiminished, Kent was elected to congress by the citizens of Marin County, and on August 25, 1916, introduced the Organic Act, legislation that created the National Park Service. Olmsted's opinion has been amply validated in the decades since the creation of Muir Woods National Monument, which continues to be a source of "enjoyment the the people," more than a million a year at last count.



Thanks to the generosity of William and Elizabeth Kent and the power of the 1906 Antiquities Act, towering old-growth redwoods such as these escaped being logged and having their valley home flooded.

The National Parks at the Golden Gate



Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA)

This 75,500-acre national park is located where the Pacific Ocean meets San Francisco Bay. Extending north and south of the Golden Gate, the park offers a spectacular blend of natural beauty, historic features, open space, and urban development as well as a vast coastal preserve along its shoreline. Muir Woods National Monument, Fort Point National Historic Site, and the Presidio of San Francisco are within GGNRA's boundaries and are managed as part of GGNRA.

EMERGENCY (POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE).....911

Park Visitor/Information Centers (area code 415 unless otherwise noted)

Crissy Field	561-7761 (Center) or 561-3040 (Warming Hut)
Fort Funston	239-2366
Fort Mason/GGNRA Headquarters (Monday-Friday)	561-4700
TDD/V	556-2766
Fort Point	556-1693
TDD	561-4399
Marin Headlands	331-1540
Muir Woods	388-2596
Pacifica	(650) 355-4122
Presidio	561-4323
TTY	561-4314

If the park destination you wish to visit or learn more about does not have a corresponding phone number listed on this page, please phone GGNRA Headquarters at 561-4700 (Monday through Friday) and park staff will assist you.

ADDITIONAL USEFUL NUMBERS

(area code 415 unless otherwise noted)

Alcatraz Program Information	561-4900
Beach Chalet Visitor Center, Golden Gate Park	751-2766
Camping Reservations	331-1540 (backcountry sites) or 800-365-2267 (Kirby Cove)
Crissy Field Center (main)	561-7690
Fort Mason Center	441-3400
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy	561-3000
Golden Gate Raptor Observatory	331-0730
Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	561-6625
NPS Volunteer Information	561-4755
Nike Missile Site	331-1453
Ocean Beach Fire Hotline	561-4741
Park Archives and Records Center	561-4807
Point Reyes National Seashore	464-5100
Presidio Habitat Restoration Team	561-4848

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Maritime Museum	561-7100
Visitor Center	447-5000
Special Park Uses Group	561-4300
Stinson Beach Weather	868-1922

NATIONAL PARKS ON THE INTERNET

Golden Gate National Recreation Area	www.nps.gov/goga
Alcatraz	www.nps.gov/alcatraz
.....	www.nps.gov/alca/index.htm
Fort Point	www.nps.gov/fopo
Marin Headlands	www.nps.gov/goga/mahe
Muir Woods	www.nps.gov/muwo
Nike Missile Site	www.nps.gov/goga/mahe/nimi
Presidio	www.nps.gov/prsf

ADDITIONAL PARK-RELATED SITES

Crissy Field Center	www.crissyfield.org
Fort Mason Center	www.fortmason.org
Golden Gate Club	www.presidio.gov/venues
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy	www.parksconservancy.org
Golden Gate Raptor Observatory	www.ggro.org

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

.....	www.farallones.org
Presidio Trust	www.presidio.gov
San Francisco NMHP	www.nps.gov/safr

The National Park Service Web page at www.nps.gov includes ParkNet, an online magazine providing natural and cultural history, travel and tourism information, and basic information on all national park sites.

GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

The sanctuary comprises 948 square nautical miles of the Pacific Ocean off the California coast, west and north of San Francisco and includes the Gulf of the Farallones and the nearshore waters of Bodega, Tomales, and Drakes bays, Estero de San Antonio, Estero Americano, Duxbury Reef, and Bolinas Lagoon. It is managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and provides special protection and management for marine areas of national significance, for the benefit of the public and the world's oceans.

Read ParkNews on the Web:
www.nps.gov/goga/parknews