

Disassembling the guns during "Operation Blowtorch" in 1948

Swords to Plowshares

The U.S. Army acquired these bluffs in 1900 to add a link in the chain of coastal artillery batteries lining the Golden Gate. The fort is named for Major General Frederick Funston, famed for organizing relief efforts after the 1906 Earthquake. The guns of Battery Richmond Davis (1938) could fire a shell 25 miles. Nike anti-aircraft missiles stood guard here from the 1950's until the fort's closure in 1963. Transferred to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1974, Fort Funston now preserves military history, wildlife habitat and open space. The missile-mens' barracks house the Ranger Station and Environmental Science Center, and the Nike Missile magazines lie below the main parking area.

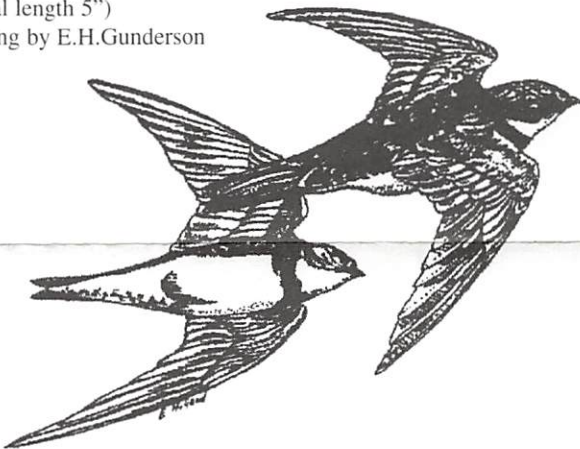
Preserving the Dunes

Sand dune habitat once dominated San Francisco's west side. Fort Funston preserves some of the area's last natural dune systems. Exotic plants like Iceplant threaten this habitat by displacing the native plants upon which wildlife depend. Volunteers and park staff have begun restoring habitat for Bank Swallows and other wildlife by removing exotic species, working in our native plant nursery and planting native vegetation. Join us!



Native wildflowers of the dunes

(Actual length 5")
Drawing by E.H.Gunderson



Bank Swallows: Life of the Edge

These dunes are home to Bank Swallows, which build their nests in the steep, sandy banks of rivers or coastal cliffs. Once abundant, Bank Swallow habitat has swindled due to coastal development and riverbank reinforcement, and in 1988 the State of California listed Bank Swallows as a threatened species. Bank Swallows nest here from April to July, and you can see their burrows year round from the beach below Fort Funston's northern cliffs.

Protect Your Park and Yourself!

Watching Hang Gliders: Best views are from observation deck. Avoid launch and landing areas.

Hiking Funston's Trails: Stay on designated trails; sandstone cliffs crumble easily.

Beachcombing: Please do not remove kelp or other natural debris, as shorebirds forage on it.

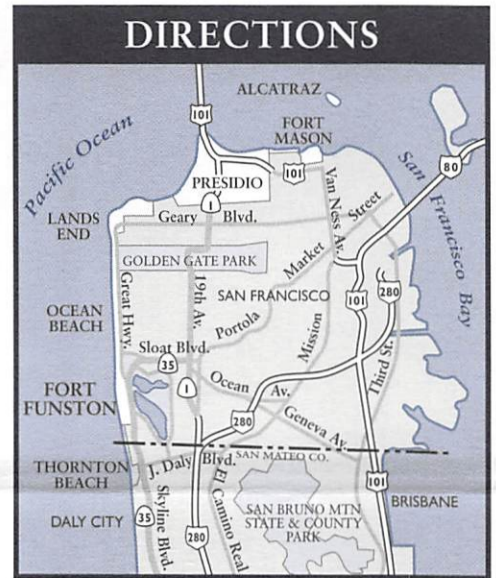
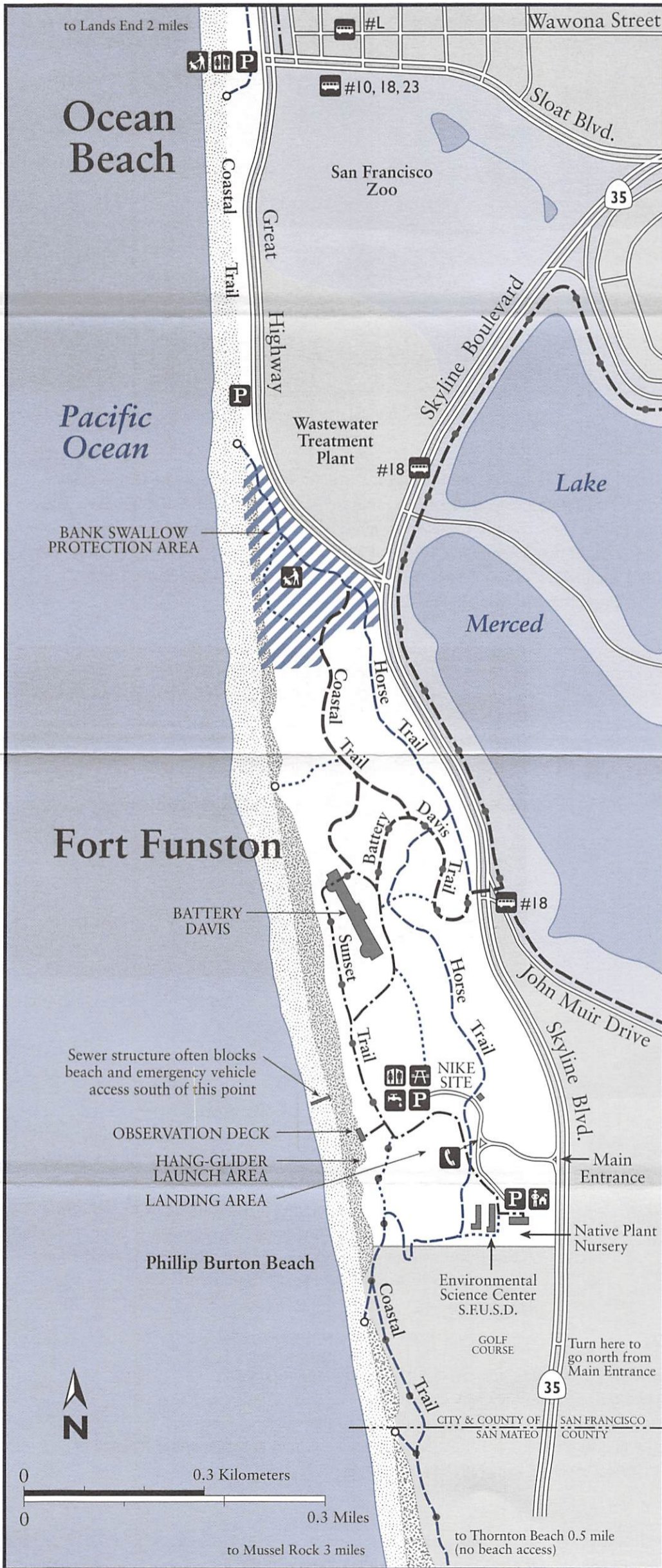
Walking your dog: Dogs must be leashed while in the Bank Swallow Site. Elsewhere, they must be either leashed or under voice control at all times. You must carry a leash. Always pick up dog litter.

If you see any disturbance, call Park Dispatch at (415) 561-5505. For more information about Fort Funston, call (415) 239-2366.

If you'd like to volunteer in the GGNRA, call (415) 561-4325.

Fort Funston

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
National Park Service



Fort Funston is located in the southwest corner of San Francisco. From the City, follow Highway 35 west on Sloat Boulevard then south on Skyline Boulevard. The main entrance is 1/4 mile south of John Muir Drive, on the west side of Hwy 35.

From San Mateo County follow Hwy. 35 north to John Muir Drive, make a U-turn from the left-turn lane, and return south on Hwy. 35 to the main entrance.

MUNI #18 bus stops near Fort Funston's Battery Davis Trail. Or ride MUNI #L, 10, or 23, and walk 1/2 mile south on Ocean Beach and the Coastal Trail to Fort Funston.

LEGEND

- Ranger Station
- Restrooms
- MUNI Stop
- Picnic Tables
- Parking
- Drinking Water
- Telephone
- Pets on Leash

- Roads and Highways
- Disabled Access Trails
- Multi-Use Trails
- Horse Trails
- Hiking Trails
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Beach Access (subject to trail conditions)

- Golden Gate National Recreation Area Lands
- Private and Urban Lands
- Adjacent Parklands
- Beaches
- Cliffs — Stay Away from Edge
- Water

PRODUCED COURTESY OF

