



# Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

*El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra  
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens*

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2010

**Additional photos available upon request**

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## Experience the Dawn of the Winter Solstice at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park



(Santa Barbara, CA)— The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) will celebrate the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year, at the Presidio Chapel at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park on Tuesday, December 21 at 6:45 AM. **Experience a unique and inspiring moment as the winter solstice "meridian" aligns and illuminates the main altar and tabernacle.** Learn how the Presidio Chapel's architectural design accommodates the winter solstice event and its historical significance. SBTHP staff to present research from Dr. Rubén G. Mendoza, archaeologist and professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at CSU Monterey Bay. Coffee and light refreshments provided.

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## CALENDAR LISTING

### ***Dawn of Winter Solstice***

Tuesday, December 21 at 6:45 AM

Presidio Chapel at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara

Free admission

For more information [www.sbthp.org](http://www.sbthp.org)

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**ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)**—The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) works to *protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County*. Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park—Santa Barbara’s 18<sup>th</sup> century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks and recently purchased the neighboring building that housed Jimmy’s Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara’s Asian American community in the Presidio Neighborhood. SBTHP owns and operates Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s home of Presidio Comandante José de la Guerra and his family—the restored home is now a museum featuring original furnishings and rotating exhibits. Recently, SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to manage and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County’s distinct history. Learn more at [www.sbthp.org](http://www.sbthp.org).

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