



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

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

To preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High resolution images available upon request

PRESS CONTACT

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Santa Barbara Turns 228 with “Founding Day” at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

Presidio Comes Alive with Annual Living History Event



(SANTA BARBARA, CA)—Celebrate Santa Barbara’s 228th birthday with “Founding Day” on Saturday, April 17 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street). Step into the past and watch the Presidio come alive with Early California music and dance, pottery and adobe brick making, Chumash storytelling, archaeological excavations, authentic foods and tortilla making, calligraphy and Presidio birthday cake!

This free celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a traditional mass and reenactment of the April 21, 1782, founding ceremony at the Santa Barbara Presidio, presented by *Los Soldados de Cuera* (soldiers of the Royal Presidio), along with a tribute to Saint Barbara (the city’s patron saint), and an Early California dance performance by *Las Fiesteras*.



Following the ceremony, visit with costumed demonstrators and experience life in Santa Barbara during the late-1700s. Join master

potter Ruben Reyes as he shares the art of pottery making, meet the fort's uniformed soldiers, cook tortillas like Santa Barbara's early settlers and learn about Early California agriculture.

This project is funded in part by the COMMUNITY EVENTS & FESTIVALS Program using funds provided by the City of Santa Barbara in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission.

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CALENDAR LISTING

FOUNDING DAY

Saturday, April 17, 2010

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Refreshments Served

FREE Admission

For more information (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Celebrate Santa Barbara's 228th birthday with "Founding Day" at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park. Bring the entire family and watch the Presidio come to life with Early California music and dance, food, pottery and adobe brick making, Chumash storytelling, archaeology and birthday cake!

ABOUT the 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 18th 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.

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