



**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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Additional photos available upon request

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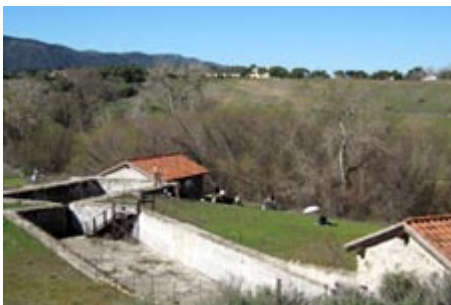
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Help Make History at the Santa Inés Mission Mills

Volunteer Day offers the public a chance to visit historic site and give something back

Event coincides with annual Santa Ynez Valley FREE Museum Day



(Santa Barbara, CA)—The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) will host a community **Volunteer Day at the Santa Inés Mission Mills in Solvang on Saturday, March 6 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** (weather permitting). Lend a hand at the Mills complex and learn about the history of this historic site and future home of a new State Historic Park. The 39 acres of land, adjacent to Old Mission Santa Inés, is part of the Mission Santa Inés National Historic Landmark District and includes an historic grist mill and a fulling mill. **Volunteer opportunities include olive tree planting, maintenance of the 190-year old Mill buildings and reservoirs and much more!**

SBTHP staff will lead an informational tour of the Mills at 12:00 PM. Volunteers are encouraged to meet and park at the Santa Barbara Bank & Trust rear parking lot (2010 Mission Drive, corner of Mission Drive and Alamo Pintado Road) and wear comfortable shoes and clothes they don't mind getting dirty. Hat, sunglasses and gloves are advised. SBTHP will provide all tools and equipment, as well as light

refreshments. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP in advance at (805) 965-0093 or email

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In late 2008, SBTHP sold the Santa Inés Mission Mills complex to California State Parks, taking the first step towards creating a new State Park in Solvang. SBTHP has agreed to continue planning and managing the property on behalf of State Parks and is working to develop community partnerships to plan for future public access, enhancement of educational opportunities and protection of park resources. **Access to the park land is currently permitted by pre-arranged appointment only, which makes the Volunteer Day an exciting opportunity for community members to visit this unique site. Added SBTHP Executive Director Jarrell Jackman, “We’re thrilled to give the public a chance to visit the Mills and experience this cultural treasure firsthand. This may be the first opportunity for many to see the site for themselves, ask questions and offer their input for future park planning.”** For more information about the Santa Inés Mission Mills visit www.sbthp.org/millshistory.html.

Also on Saturday, March 6 is the third annual Santa Ynez Valley FREE Museum Day sponsored by the Santa Ynez Valley Visitors Association (SYVVA). Seven museums located in the Santa Ynez Valley will offer FREE admission for all ages for the entire day. Participating museums include: Wildling Art Museum (2928 San Marcos Avenue, Los Olivos), Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum & Carriage House (3596 Sagunto Street, Santa Ynez), Old Mission Santa Inés Museum (1760 Mission Drive, Solvang), Los Alamos Historical Display (Bell (Hwy 135) & Helena Streets, Los Alamos), Hans Christian Andersen Museum (1680 Mission Drive, Solvang), Elverhoj Museum of History & Art (1624 Elverhoy Way, Solvang), and the Buellton Historical Society History Room (376 Avenue of Flags, Buellton). For more information visit www.SantaYnezValleyVisit.com.

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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