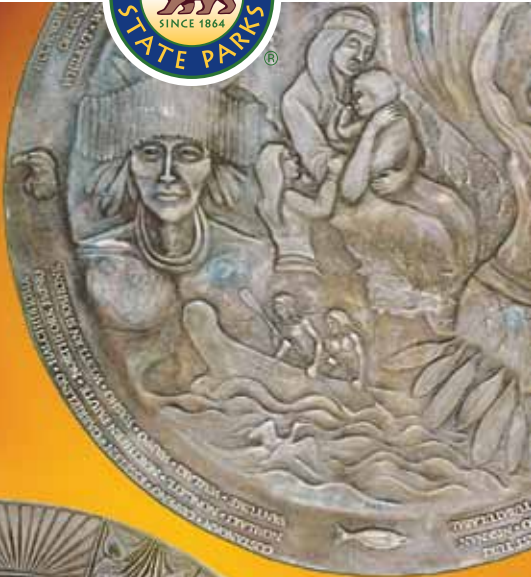


The Commemorative Seals of the State Capitol



Our Mission

The mission of California State Parks is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.



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Discover the many states of California.™

A cooperative effort of the Native American Heritage Commission, the California Latino Legislative Caucus, and California State Parks (State Museum Resource Center and State Capitol Museum)

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The idea of recognizing California's history prior to statehood originated with Larry Myers, the Executive Secretary of the Native American Heritage Commission. With State Librarian Kevin Starr, Secretary Myers approached Assemblyman Robert M. Hertzberg, who supported the idea and carried legislation making the vision a reality.

The six-foot diameter bronze seals, inset on either side of the Great Seal of California on the west steps of the State Capitol, honor California Indians and California's Spanish-Mexican heritage.

A special dedication of the seals on May 28, 2002 included groups from each of the cultures representing their customs and ceremonies.

Participants join in the dedication of the commemorative seals at the State Capitol.



The Commemorative Seals Exhibit

The exhibit presented by California State Parks, in collaboration with the Native American Heritage Commission and the California Latino Legislative Caucus, illustrates the significance of the commemorative seals and the contributions made by the California Indian and Spanish-Mexican people.

Artifacts from the museum collections of the State Museum Resource Center are featured. These objects reflect the designs in the seals.

The California Indian exhibit includes baskets, hunting and cooking implements, regalia, an elk hide that represents an important source of food and clothing, and a tribal map of California. The Spanish-Mexican exhibit includes a charro costume, a United Farm Workers flag, an unusual mission roof tile, pottery, basketry, and a rare antique blanket. Photographic murals depict the continuing traditions and celebrations of the California Indian and Spanish-Mexican cultures in California.



CALIFORNIA INDIAN SEAL

Artist Robert Freeman, a Luiseño Indian born on the Rincón Indian Reservation in San Diego County, designed this circular bronze seal.

The California Indian Seal commemorates the contributions, history, and continuing sovereignty of generations of California Indians. Indian people lived throughout what is now California when the first Spanish settlement was founded in 1769. At that time more than 100 different Native American languages were in use, with at least as many cultural forms of religion and custom. The names of 68 California Indian tribes inscribed along the border represent the historically significant linguistic and regional tribes in California.

An Indian woman, with infant and child, symbolizes the importance of family unity and cultural continuity. A basket, an oak tree, a dancer holding wands, and a man wearing a flicker quill headdress and a clamshell necklace reflect diverse aspects of Indian culture. Two figures journeying by boat represent coastal Indian tribes. Three military jets, arcing towards the top of the seal, portray the military experiences that many Indians have in common.



SPANISH-MEXICAN SEAL

Artists Donna Billick and Susan Shelton, who was born in Mexico City, designed this circular bronze seal.

The Spanish-Mexican Seal commemorates the contributions and history of Spanish-Mexican California. From the first Spanish settlement in 1769 until 1848, when Mexico transferred California to the United States, the Spanish presence and Mexican influence flourished. The symbols on the seal portray the dynamic Spanish and Mexican traditions that continue in California today.

A Spaniard's profile and the frontal view of an indigenous person are depicted in the center of the seal. A third face emerges when the viewer's eye combines the images. This central image contains the meaning of the entire seal as it captures the melding of the cultures.

The other images in the seal follow the first encounter of the two cultures and chronicle the ensuing transformations. The three rings around the central figure contain powerful symbols and icons representing the Spanish, Mexican, and Spanish-Mexican-Californian periods.

California State Parks interprets the many facets of California's dynamic Indian and Spanish-Mexican history throughout its 273 parks. This wealth of history is represented at the parks listed below.

Selected State Parks that Interpret Native American Culture

Antelope Valley Indian Museum

Exhibit on Great Basin Native Americans; collections emphasize Southwestern California and Great Basin Indian tradition. Lancaster, CA (661) 942-0662

Clear Lake State Park

Self-guided Indian Nature Trail through the site of what was once a Pomo village. Kelseyville, CA (707) 279-4293

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

Native American culture; Indian residence in area extends back at least 7,000 years; bedrock mortars. Descanso, CA (760) 765-0755

Fort Humboldt State Historic Park

Interpretation of the Yurok, Karok, Tolowa, Hupa, Wiyot, Wintun, Yuki and Shasta tribes, including the impact that miners and settlers had on their world and the army's attempt to resolve conflicts. Eureka, CA (707) 445-6567

Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park

Chaw'se Regional Indian Museum features a variety of exhibits and an outstanding

collection of Sierra Nevada Indian artifacts—includes Northern, Central and Southern Miwok, Maidu, Konkow, Monache, Nisenan, Tubatulabal, Washo and Foothill Yokut; a Miwok village complete with roundhouse and bedrock mortars and petroglyphs. Pine Grove, CA (209) 296-7488



*Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park
Left: Chaw'se Roundhouse
Above: Artisan at the annual gathering of the California Indian Basketweavers Association*

Lake Oroville State Recreation Area

Displays on Maidu culture and lifestyles. Two movies are available, including *Ishi*, *The Last Yahi*. Self-guided nature trail explains uses of local plants by the Konkow. Oroville, CA (530) 538-2200

Lake Perris State Recreation Area

Ya' Heki' Regional Indian Museum; Mojave Desert groups culture—Serrano, Cahuilla, Cupeño, Vanyume, Luiseño and Chemehuevi. Perris, CA (909) 657-0676

Patrick's Point State Park

Sumêg Village with traditional style family houses, currently used by the local Yuroks for education of their youth and to share their culture. Native American Plant Garden represents the plants used for medicinal, basketry, subsistence and ceremonial purposes. Trinidad, CA (707) 677-3570

Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park

1824 row-type mission Indian housing; only surviving Indian housing of its type among the California Missions. Santa Cruz, CA (831) 425-5849

State Indian Museum

Artifacts include basketry, beadwork, clothing and exhibits about the ongoing traditions of various California Native Americans; emphasis on Central Valley groups: Yana, Yokuts, Patwin, Wintu and Nomlaki. Display about Ishi, the last of the Yahi Indians. Sacramento, CA (916) 324-0971

Wassama Round House State Historic Park

Historic site used as a ceremonial meeting place by local Native Americans; today the reconstructed dance house is used for Miwok and Yokut celebrations. Friant, CA (209) 742-7625

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park

Interpretive topics: 1782-1850 government, military, Spanish era, Mexican era, archaeology, adobe architecture.
Santa Barbara, CA (805) 965-0093



Casa de Estudillo, Old Town San Diego SHP

La Purísima Mission State Historic Park

Misión la Purísima Concepción de María Santísima, founded in 1787; largest and most authentic mission restoration project in the American west.

Lompoc, CA (805) 733-3713

Los Encinos State Historic Park

Five-acre early California rancho with an original nine-room adobe, the restored 1849 home of Don Vicente de la Osa.

Encino, CA (818) 784-4849

Monterey State Historic Park

Capitol of Alta California under Spain and Mexico; ten buildings, including the Custom

House, built in 1827; California's first theater (1846-47); several residences (which are now museums) built in the 1830s.

Monterey, CA (831) 649-7118

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

Early Mexican-era pueblo represented in its transition to an American-era town; museums, buildings, stores and restaurants interpret the community in historic restoration.

San Diego, CA (619) 220-5422

Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park

Adobe headquarters of Rancho Petaluma, the 66,000-acre agricultural empire of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, one of the most powerful men in the Mexican province of Alta California from 1834 to 1846.

Petaluma, CA (707) 762-4871

Pío Pico State Historic Park

Thirteen-room restored adobe home of Pío Pico, last Governor of Mexican California. The park site was once the headquarters of Pico's 8,891-acre ranch.

Whittier, CA (562) 695-1217

San Juan Bautista State Historic Park

Several 1800s structures, including the Castro-Breen Adobe (1843), used briefly as headquarters of the Mexican government. Exhibits show California life at the mission, Mexican and early American periods.

San Juan Bautista, CA (831) 623-4526



Barracks courtyard, Sonoma State Historic Park

San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park

Site of the Battle of San Pasqual where U.S. and California forces fought on December 6, 1846, in the midst of the Mexican-American War.

Escondido, CA (760) 737-2201

Sonoma State Historic Park

1840 Mexican Army barracks and Lachryma Montis, the partially restored two-story home of General Mariano Vallejo and his family.

Sonoma, CA (707) 938-9559

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

The headquarters for John Augustus Sutter's nearly 50,000-acre Mexican land grant, established in 1839. The Mexican flag is still flown at the fort today.

Sacramento, CA (916) 445-4422

To learn more about these parks, visit the California State Parks' Web site at www.parks.ca.gov.