

“As I recall, the discussion and processes leading to the adoption of the Presidio Trust Management Plan assumed that the Main Post would be the site for visitor orientation to the Park. A number of us urged that this could be accomplished most ably by a vivid presentation of the history of the Presidio and both its military importance and how it symbolizes the development of the American West.

I fear that this idea is being jettisoned in favor of undertakings primarily designed to attract visitors to support commercial activities at the Main Post with little attention paid to the basic purposes of this National Park.

It is very tempting to go primarily with the economic flow, but if this pressure displaces the responsibility of the Trust to present a coherent historical picture of the Presidio in a prime location for visitors, a fundamental mistake is being made.”

- Ira Michael Heyman, Chancellor Emeritus-UC Berkeley

Secretary Emeritus- The Smithsonian Institution

Former Presidio Trust Board Member

“A center for history ‘where visitors discover how the West helped shape the nation’ would be a major asset to the Presidio. It could present aspects of American, Western, and military history within a National Historic Landmark District where some of these events took place. It would help fulfill a portion of the legislative mandate for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area: preservation for public use and enjoyment of outstanding historic values and provision of educational opportunities. It could increase the Presidio’s importance to a broader spectrum of park visitors. I warmly recommend that this idea be fully reviewed by the Presidio Trust, and that a central location be sought for a history center.

- Amy Meyer, Former Presidio Trust Board member

Co-Chair, People For a Golden Gate National Recreation Area