

MISSION SANTA INES

1760 Mission Drive
Solvang
Santa Barbara County
California

HALS CA-74

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

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MISSION SANTA INES (Santa Inés Virgen y Martír Mission of the Passes)

HALS NO. CA-74

- Location:** 1760 Mission Drive, Solvang, Santa Barbara County, California
Lat: 34.594683 Long: -120.136547 (Northwest corner of the Mission, Google Earth, Simple Cylindrical Projection, WGS84)
- Significance:** Founded September 17, 1804, Mission Santa Ines is the 19th of the 21 California missions founded by the Franciscan Order of Priests. It is the site of the first grist and fulling mill in California. It is perhaps the only mission site to be continuously occupied and used since its founding. This future State Historic District is owned by the Diocese of Los Angeles, the State of California and the City of Solvang.
- Description:** Mission Santa Ines was founded on the level top of a bluff overlooking the broad valley of the Santa Ynez River at the center of a land holding of 35,500 acres. [Note: the name of the river and the Valley are Santa Ynez, the name of the Mission is Santa Ines.] The basic form of the original mission was a large rectangular court, approximately 350 feet on a side, with the mission church and espadana at the northeast corner of the rectangle. Various other facilities and out buildings included a granary, a lavanderia (laundry trough), a water reservoir, a cemetery, a stable and corral, water-driven grist and fulling mills as well as various farm fields and kitchen gardens. The current mission includes the mission church connected to a long two-story building (originally one side of the historic rectangular court), a courtyard garden (planted 1926), a rose garden (planted 1989), a Calvario (a garden with Stations of the Cross), a Community Action Commission Building (religious education and youth ministry), small conference facilities, parking, and service areas with buildings and yards. The original lavanderia, water reservoir, and cemetery still exist on the mission grounds. See plan. The landscape around the mission includes a series of open turf areas, the enclosed courtyard within the mission structures, the Calvario, as well as many views to the larger agricultural landscape to the south and east. Many of the plants on the mission grounds and in the garden are natives or traditional Mediterranean plants and include California pepper trees (Sp. Pirul and originally from Peru), Olives, Canary Island palms, Windmill palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*), Orange trees, Fig trees, Callistemon, Ceanothus, Mexican Fan palms, Prickly pear, Boxwood, and Roses.

Mission Santa Ines will be the center piece of a State Historic Park of approximately 95-acres. Currently, California State Parks owns 39-acres surrounding the site of the Grist and Fulling Mills, donated to the State by the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. A public use plan for this parcel

is currently in progress and, when complete, will permit opening of the Santa Ines Mission Mills Park for public visitation. In addition to this parcel, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles owns 40-acres comprising the mission site. The City of Solvang owns an additional 16-acre site, known as Lot 72, that is leased to the Trust for 50-years. This parcel, located immediately to the south of the Mission property, is an archeological site covering the former Indian housing area during the first years of the mission history.

History: Founded September 17, 1804 by Frs. José Antonio Calzada and Romualdo Gutiérrez near the Rancheria Alajlapu in the present-day Santa Ynez Valley. The surrounding Indian group consisted of Chumash people. The mission suffered an earthquake in 1812 and was rebuilt on a nearby site, which is the current mission location. The current mission church was built in 1817. The mission achieved its highest population level in 1815 with 768 persons. The grist mill was built in 1820 and the fulling mill was built in 1821. Mission Santa Ines saw the start of the 1824 revolt by Indians against the Spanish. The revolt only lasted a week at Mission Santa Ines but continued much longer at Mission Santa Barbara.

Like other missions, Mission Santa Ines was secularized in 1834 but never completely abandoned. In 1844, the mission facilities became the first seminary – Our Lady of Refuge - in the State of California. The mission facilities and land were returned to the Catholic Church in 1862. The Capuchin Fathers assumed responsibility for the Mission in 1924.

Sources: California Mission Resource Center
<http://www.missionscalifornia.com/keyfacts/santa-ines.html> webpage for Mission Santa Ines as part of the website for the California Mission Resource Center

John G. Cleal C.E., Surveyor, Augt. 1854, Survey of Mission Santa Ines; 4364 S792:2S3 Pen-and-ink and watercolor. From: U.S. District Court. California, Southern District. Land case 388 SD. From: U.S. District Court. California, Northern District. Land case 425 ND, page 565; land case map D-916R no. 8 (Bancroft Library). Shows lands and buildings. Contributing Institution: UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library

Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/ca0910.sheet.00009a/> webpage for Library of Congress website; HABS drawings of Mission Buildings; Call Number: HABS CAL,42-SOLV,1- (sheet 9 of 11); Repository: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA; <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Old Mission Santa Ines: <http://www.missionsantaines.org/home.html>

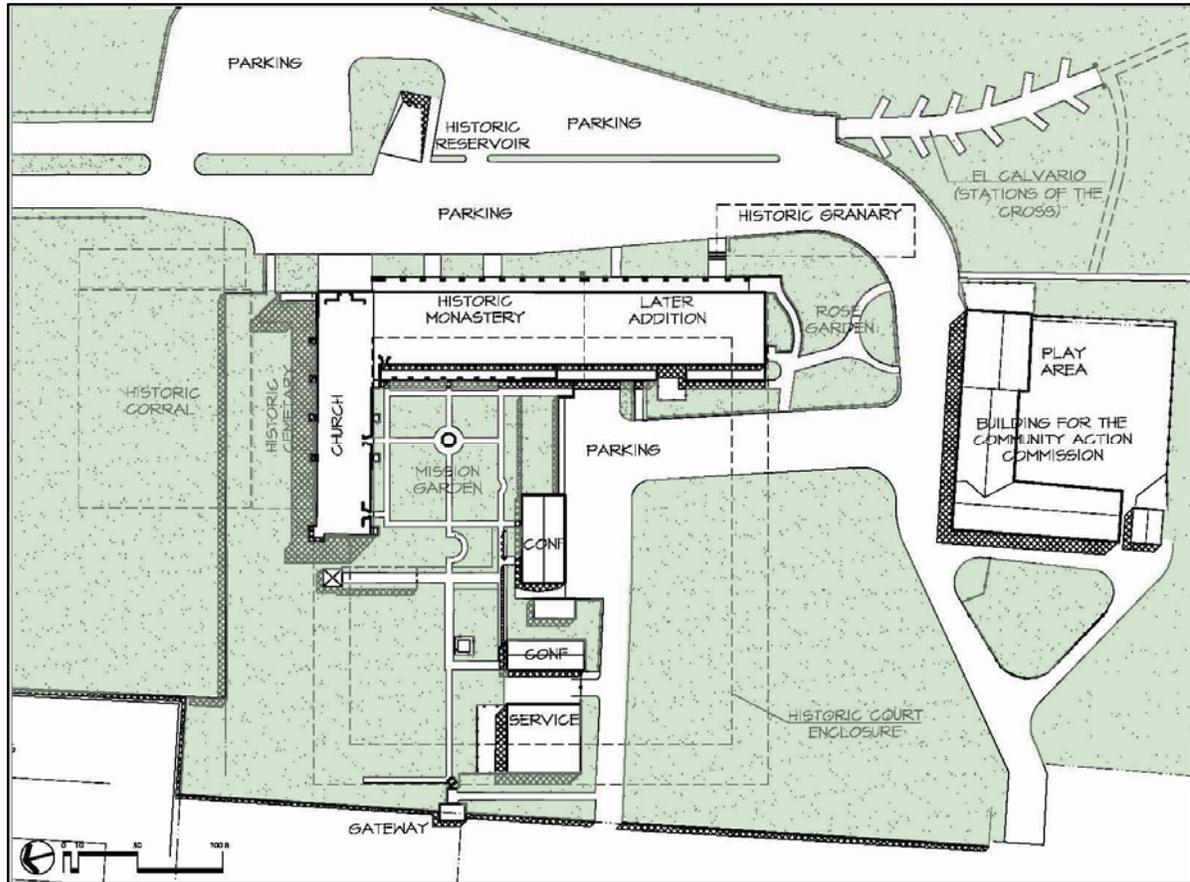
Olmstead, Cresencia and Dale, 1995, Mission Santa Ines – The Hidden Gem;
Pub By Mission Santa Ines.

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation: <http://www.sbthp.org/mills.htm>
Webpage for the Grist and Fulling Mills

Wayne Sherman, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. Personal
communication, May 2012.

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This HALS report was completed May 8, 2012.



Plan of Areas Around Mission Santa Ines, Solvang, California, March 2012

Map by Reed Dillingham. Map sources include: a) 1854 Survey by John G. Cleal, b) HABS Drawings in Library of Congress; c) Aerial photography available on-line from Google Maps; d) On-site observations from the author. See *Sources*, above.



Exterior of Mission Church, Looking West (Reed Dillingham, March 2012).



Entry to Calvario, Looking South (Reed Dillingham, March 2012).



View of Mission Courtyard Garden, Looking North (Reed Dillingham, March 2012).



View of Historic Cemetery, Looking East (Reed Dillingham, March 2012).