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Fort Ross & Salt Point News November 2012

Fort Ross Conservancy

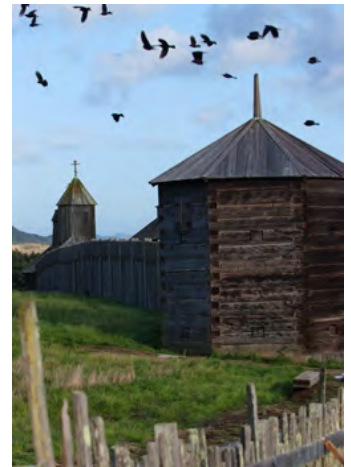
A California State Park Cooperating Association

Seasonal Park Hours

Service reductions are still in effect at Fort Ross and surrounding parks. Fort Ross is only open on Saturdays and Sundays, but please note the following exceptions based on the upcoming holidays:

- Closed November 22, Thanksgiving
- Open Friday November 23
- Closed December 25, Christmas
- Open December 26 through January 1st.

Park grounds are open from sunrise to sunset; the parking lot, visitor center and the fort buildings are open from 10AM to 4:30PM.



Service reductions at Salt Point State Park:

- Woodside Campground - Closed
- Fisk Mill Day Use - Closed
- Stump Beach Day Use - Closed
- Gerstle Cove - Open



Saturday, December 8:

FRC Board Meeting, followed by Community Potluck and FRC/CSP Volunteer Awards



Please join us at the Fort Ross Visitor Center auditorium for our annual community potluck where we'll show our appreciation for both our Fort Ross Conservancy and California State Parks volunteers. Enjoy live music, good food, and a slide-show retrospective of our historic bicentennial year.

The FRC board meeting runs from 10:30am -- 12:30pm; the community is welcome to attend.

The potluck starts at 12:45pm. We will provide several main meat entrees, so please bring sides, salads, and beverages to share.

Fort Ross Gift Shop - New Books from Local Authors

In addition to a wide range of seasonal items, we have two new books in our store that we're very excited about.

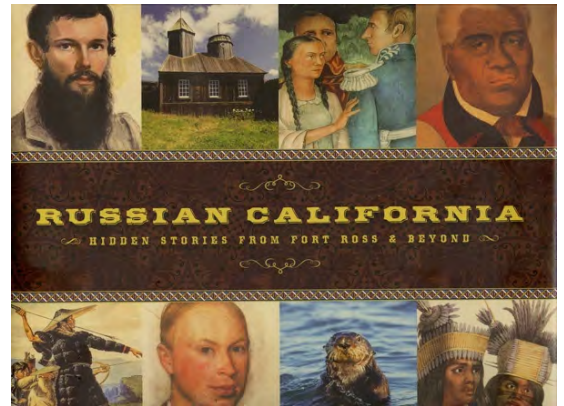


Glenn J. Farris, retired Senior State Archaeologist for the California State Parks and current Fort Ross Conservancy board member, has published *So Far From Home, by Heyday*. By presenting historical documents and first-hand accounts--many recently discovered in Russian naval archives and translated for the first time into English--this long-awaited reader introduces us to a unique and provocative period. Comprised of a vibrant mix of journal entries, excerpts from novels, government documents, personal correspondence, and cartoons, this collection abounds in remarkable experiences that provide fresh insight into California before the Gold Rush.

Russian California: Hidden Stories from Fort Ross and Beyond

The book, based on the free Apple app of the same name, is based on the many Hidden Stories that were discussed at the 2011 California State Parks Foundation conference.

This bilingual hardcover book tells the colorful stories of the early years of Russian settlement, incorporating striking photos and paintings, short essays, and letters. You'll read the tale of a Russian deserter who helped lead the Chumash Indian revolt in Santa Barbara, along with the story of St. Peter the Aleut, an Alaskan native hunter who was tortured and killed by a Spanish priest for refusing to renounce his adopted Russian Orthodox faith. You'll also read about the Californian and Alaskan natives whose skill and courage were critical to the survival of these early Russian settlers.



It then follows the trials and joys of the many Russians who came to California to escape war and revolution in the early 20th century; many were processed at the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay, including a favorite daughter of novelist Leon Tolstoy, and the celebrated composer of Peter and the Wolf, Sergei Prokofiev, whose sarcastic retorts to immigration officials are recorded here.

This book explores the myriad ways that Russian trade, immigration and culture shaped California's early history. Published by the California State Parks Foundation and produced by Sol Editions with Wild Blue Studios, this rousing story of California's early Russian adventures was sponsored by the Renova Fort Ross Foundation.

January 1, 2013: First Day Hike



Show solidarity with state park enthusiasts across the country by participating in the Fort Ross First Day Hike on Tuesday, Jan 1. We'll get outside the walls of the fort as we explore a bit of our neighbor to the north - Salt Point State Park. For more information, please email us at info@fortross.org.

Also note that in 2013, Fort Ross Conservancy and State Parks will be holding four trail maintenance days, thanks to the support of the California State Parks Foundation.

We will be doing trail and maintenance work at both Fort Ross and Salt Point parks. Our first event will be on March 23, with a work day at Salt Point's Gerstle Cove/Woodside, where we'll focus on brush clearing along trails leading from the campgrounds to the day use areas/visitor center.

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