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# HIDDEN NATURE

How History Informs Ecological Restoration in Presidio



Presidio  
Trust

Lew Stringer

Associate Director of Natural Resources

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# A NATIONAL PARK AT THE GOLDEN GATE

## THE PRESIDIO TODAY

1,491 acres

433 historic buildings

991 acres of open space

300 acre forest planted by the U.S. Army

24 miles of trails

330 native plant species

7,000  
people living and working in the park

200+ tenant organizations





1816





Courtesy of the San Mateo County Historical Association



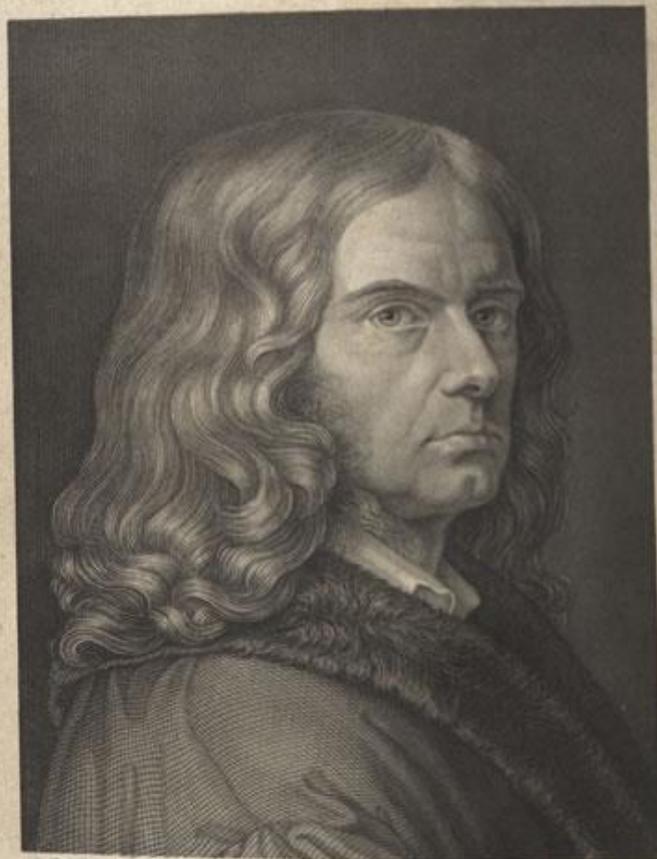




How do we know what was here?

# Rurik-Expedition 1816





*Adelbert von Chamisso.*

*J. Grasmann.*

Adelbert von Chamisso's

**W e r k e.**

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Erster Band.

Reise um die Welt, erster Theil.

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Leipzig,

Weidmann'sche Buchhandlung

1836.

Tab. XVI  
UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA



*Eschscholzia californica*. Ch.

Thos. F. Worswold and Paul J. Smith



*Eschscholzia californica* Cham.  
? Possibly TYPE collection  
Determined by W. R. Ernst 1967

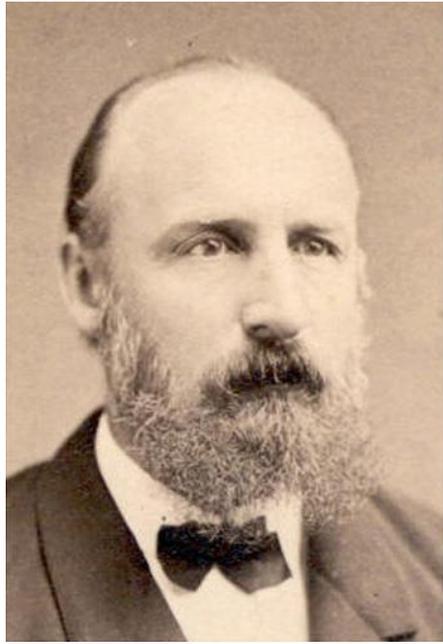
Herbarium Rensselaer  
*Eschscholzia californica*  
Ch. & Cham.

ISOTYPE

Herbier Muséum Paris  
P00759151

HERBIER E. DRAKE

HERB. MUS. PARIS



THE PLANTS  
GROWING  
IN THE VICINITY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

BY  
HENRY N. BOLANDER,

*(Late State Botanist.)*

SAN FRANCISCO:  
A. ROMAN & CO., PUBLISHERS,  
Nos. 117 and 119 MONTGOMERY STREET

NEW YORK: 27 HOWARD STREET

1870.

NAT. PARK SERV  
Presidio Natural Resources  
~~665-4374~~  
415-561-2857

A FLORA OF  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA

By  
JOHN THOMAS HOWELL  
PETER H. RAVEN  
PETER RUBTZOFF

Published by  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO**  
San Francisco, California

1958

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# POST TO PARK

- 
- 1972: The Golden Gate National Recreation Area is created with the stipulation that the Presidio will join if the Army leaves
  - 1994: U.S. Army lowers its flag
  - 1996: Bipartisan legislation creating the Presidio Trust is approved by Congress and signed by President Bill Clinton









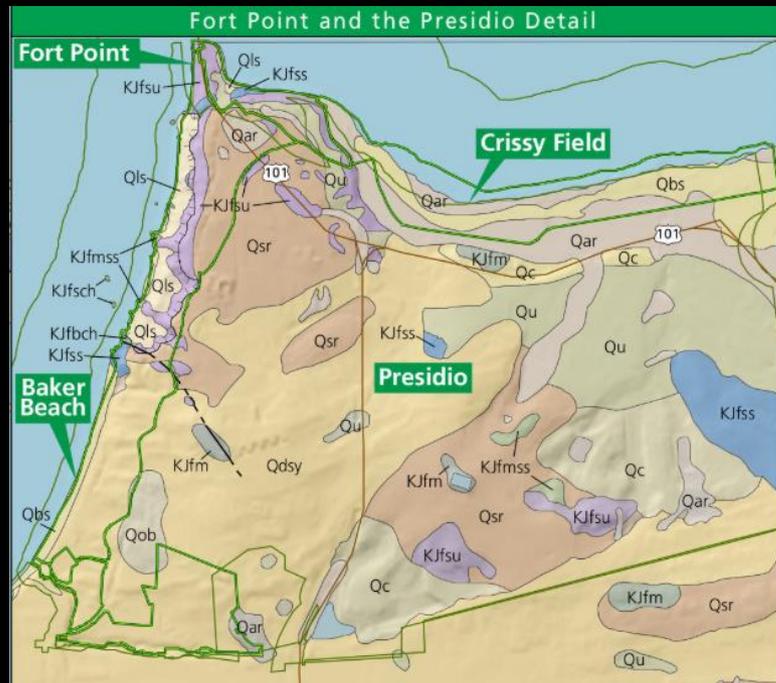


# THE PRESIDIO

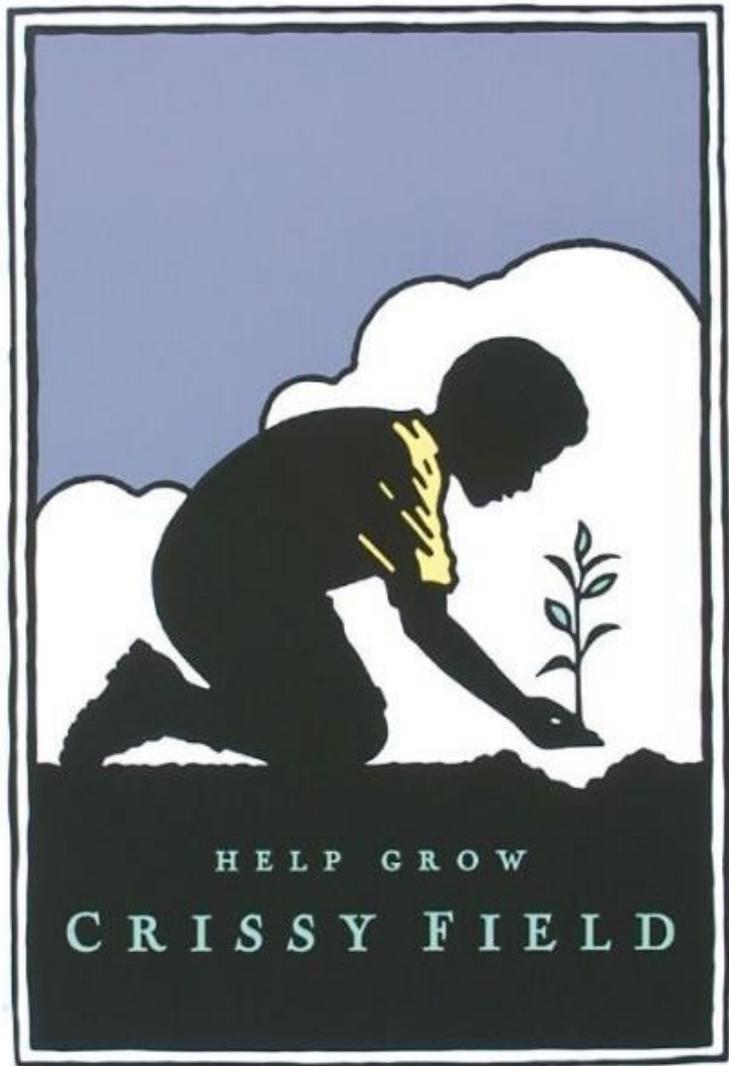
FROM POST TO PARK

OCTOBER 1, 1994









*no. 3. 1. 1992*



# Crissy Field





11-23 '97





Fort Pt.



Black Pt.

U.S. Reserve

U.S. Reserve

Presidio







The Presidio contains some of the best remnants of San Francisco's former dune scape.













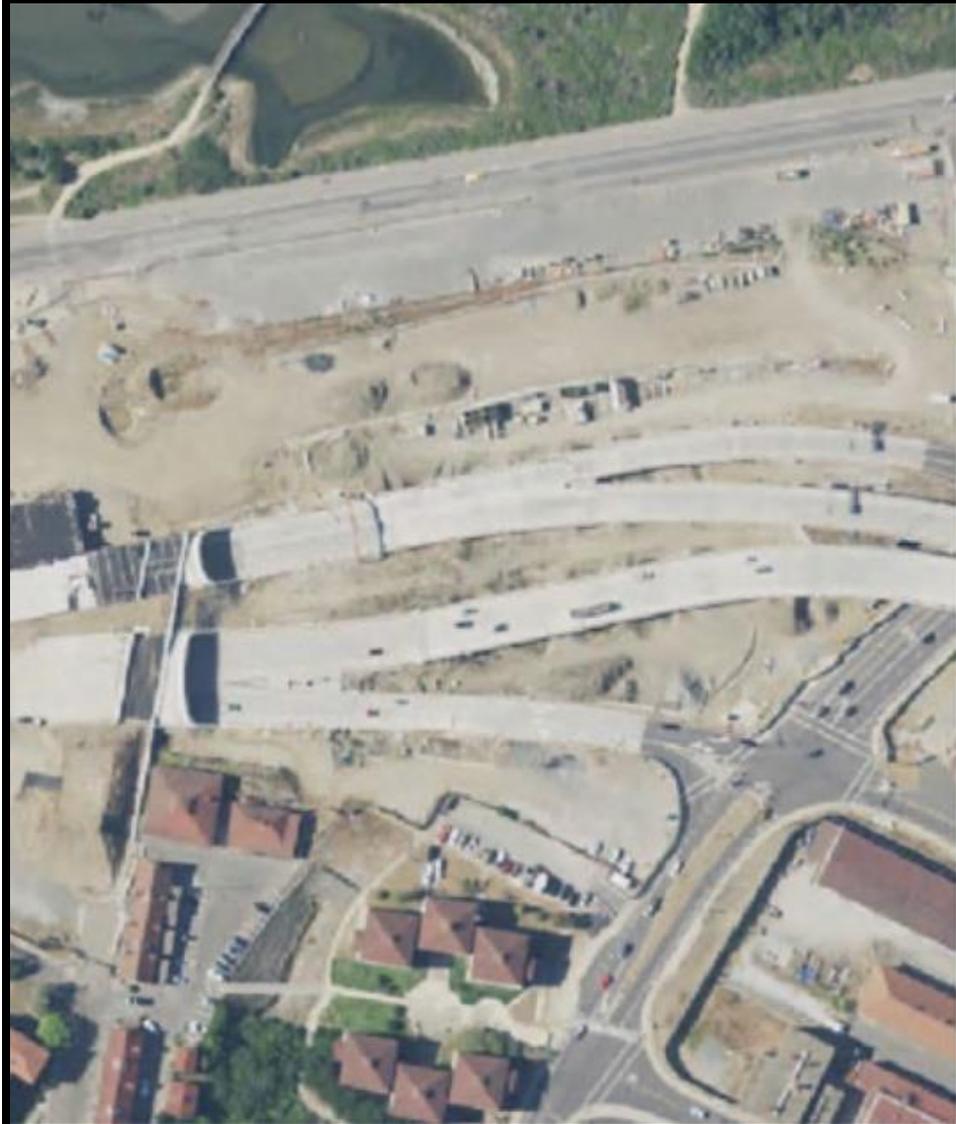




Photo Alan Hopkins

# Quartermaster Reach





2016



Future

# Olympia oysters (*Ostrea lurida*)



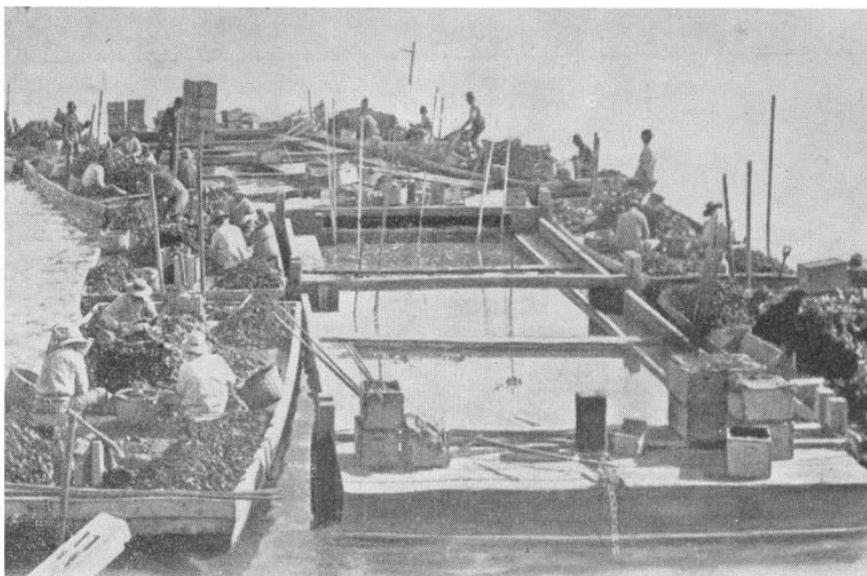


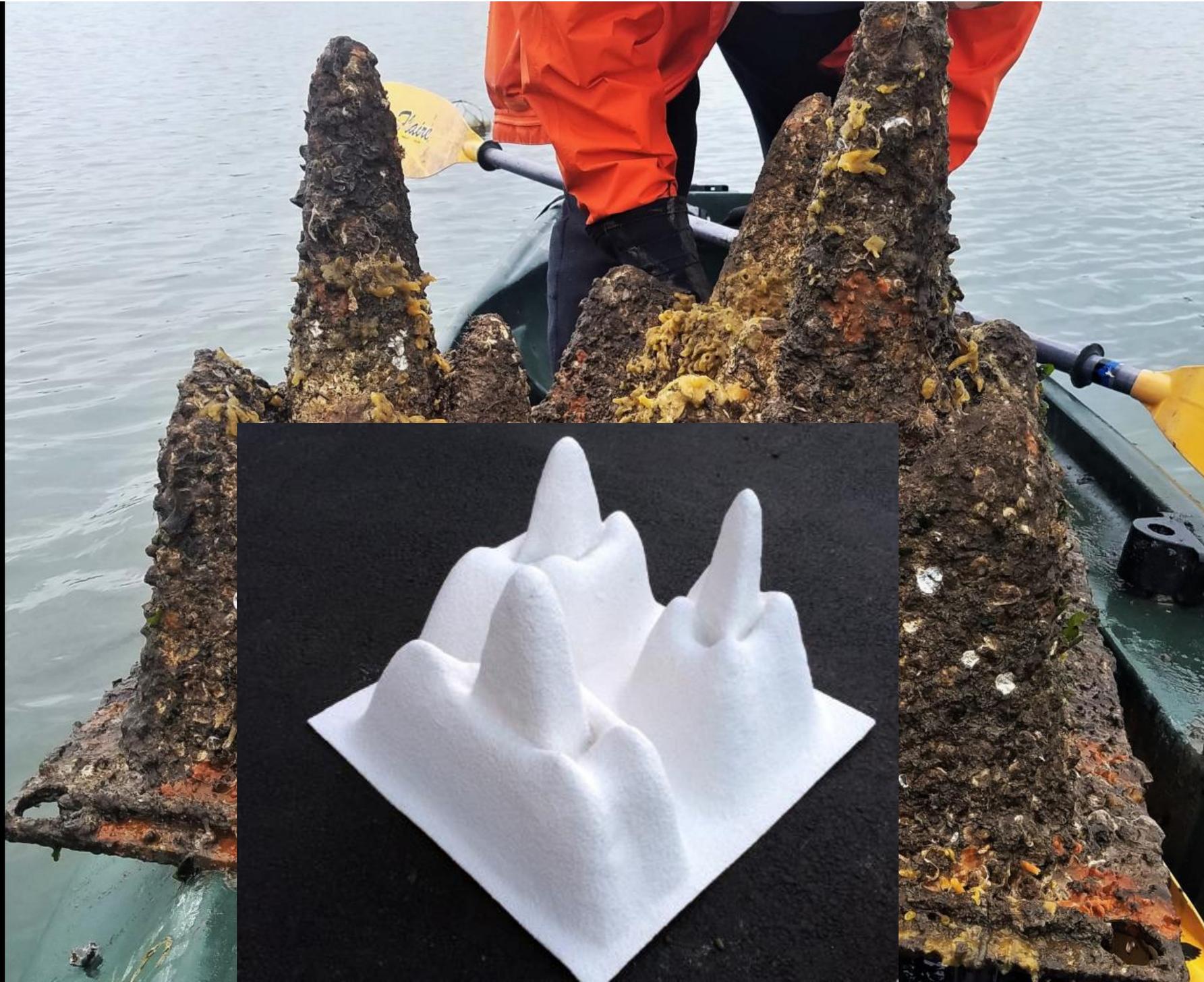
FIGURE 26. Workers on oyster floats, Millbrae beds, south San Francisco Bay, 1890's.  
*From Townsend, 1893.*



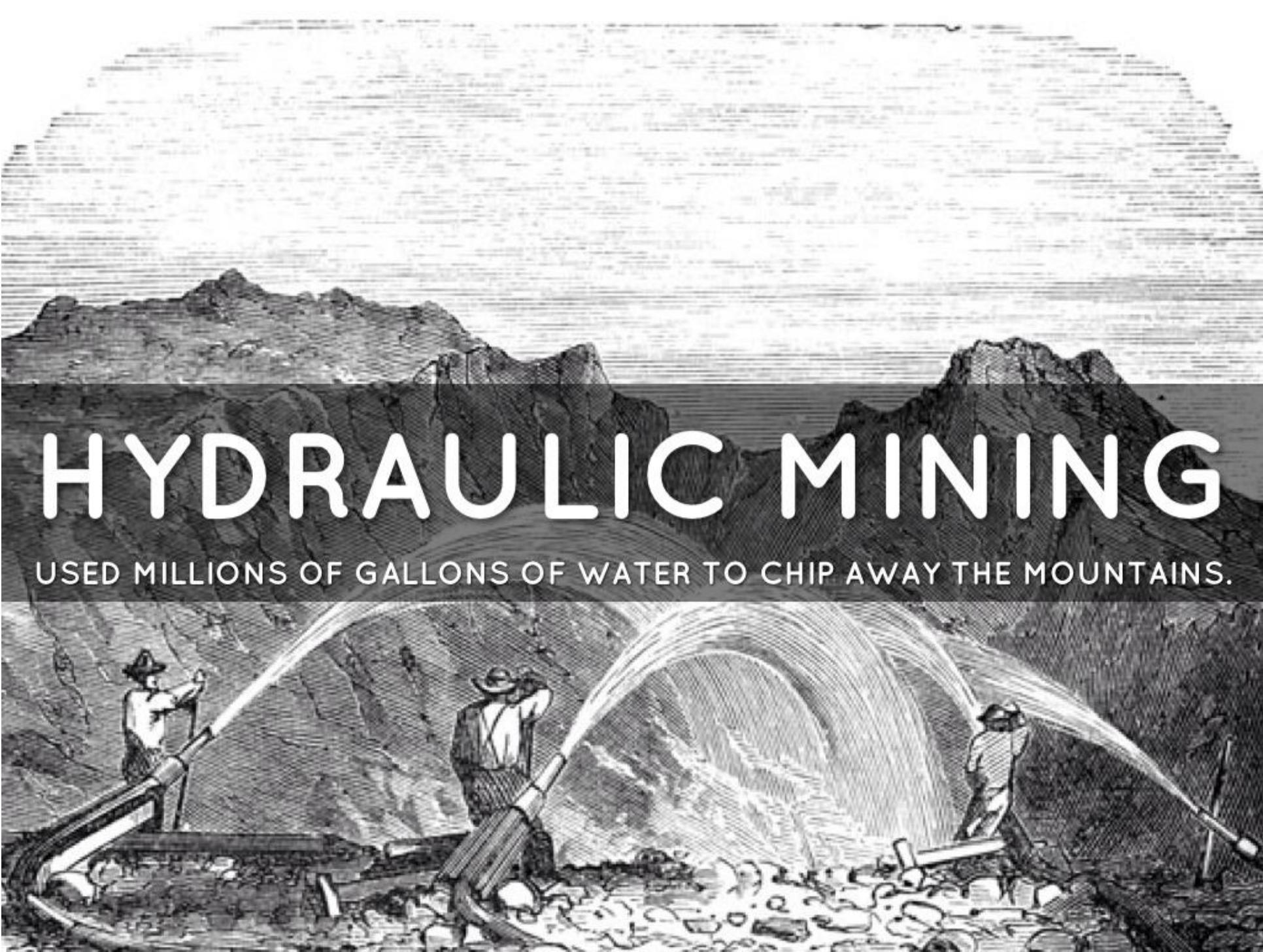
FIGURE 24. Eastern oysters on fenced beds, south San Francisco Bay.  
*From Townsend, 1893.*











# HYDRAULIC MINING

USED MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF WATER TO CHIP AWAY THE MOUNTAINS.



1



The Ecology and Natural History of  
**San Francisco: Wild in the City**  
 1750 and before      today 1990's



Purple Shore

San Francisco Bay

*Ke ikaheka ake  
 Ke ma ikaheka  
 ake ake  
 ake ake  
 ake ake*

*I dream jump  
 I you dream of  
 ake  
 ake  
 ake*

*What's the way  
 in an Ohlone story*

	sand dune		Ohlone village*
	grassland		Ohlone seasonal camp/depot*
	coastal scrub		native habitat now protected
	freshwater creek		native habitat unprotected
	saltwater marsh		topography for visitors

San Francisco remains the home of many kinds of wildlife, including wildflowers, butterflies, mammals, reptiles and birds, many of which are now rare and endangered. You can help protect and restore their threatened natural habitats. Changing recreational offers an understanding of many sites throughout the city. So look your best, contact:

*If Habitat Restoration Workshops: 415/752-0893 Greg Gambler Egg  
 Habitat Restoration Team, OCS&R, 1430/ 754-6893 Greg Archard  
 Native Plant Nursery at San Francisco: 415/56-5070 Mary Perillo*

*Also for your information:  
 SF Natural History Group: 415/224-4444, 50/ CA 94133  
 SF Historical Photo: 415/752-0893 Greg Carr  
 CA Native Plant Society: 159-15th Avenue, SF, CA 94118*

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This poster was made possible by the generous contributions of the San Francisco Foundation, the City Landmarks Trust and the Mayor's Advisory Neighborhood Council. It was sponsored by Planet Green Foundation. The Ohlone song appears courtesy of Bay Area Land Watch. The Ohlone leader and audience were drawn from photos by Dr. Dennis Washburn, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Printed on recycled paper. For permission, contact Wild in the City, a City of San Francisco, CA 94102.

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# A BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT AT THE GOLDEN GATE

## THE PRESIDIO TODAY

>300 Native Plant Species

12 Native Plant Communities

6 Endangered Plant Species

323 Bird Species

21 Land Mammal Species

5 Reptile Species

4 Amphibian Species

28 Butterfly Species

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# Renewing the Landscape



# Measuring Our Success



# Engaging the Community



# Educating Kids





The Presidio Time Machine invites you to explore the park's past and present using re-photography — a process that blends historic and contemporary images. Using the green arrows to scroll across each image, visualize how the land has transformed over time.



## Welcome to the Presidio Time Machine

### Landscape Change

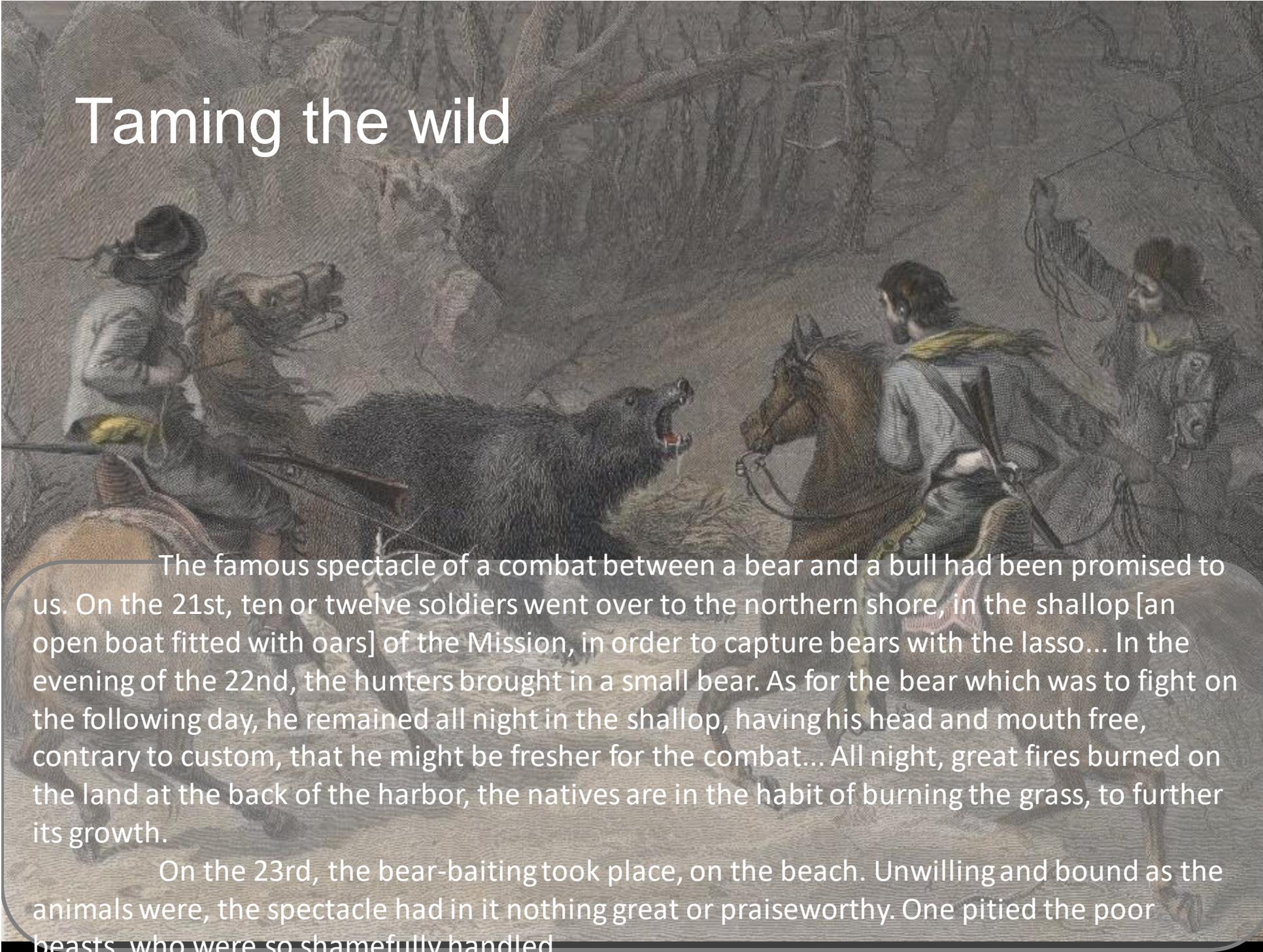
The Presidio has a long, layered history. From the Ohlone who made their home here for generations to the three nations (Spain, Mexico, and the United States) who used the land as a military installation, the landscape has been constantly shifting.



<https://timemachine.presidio.gov/>

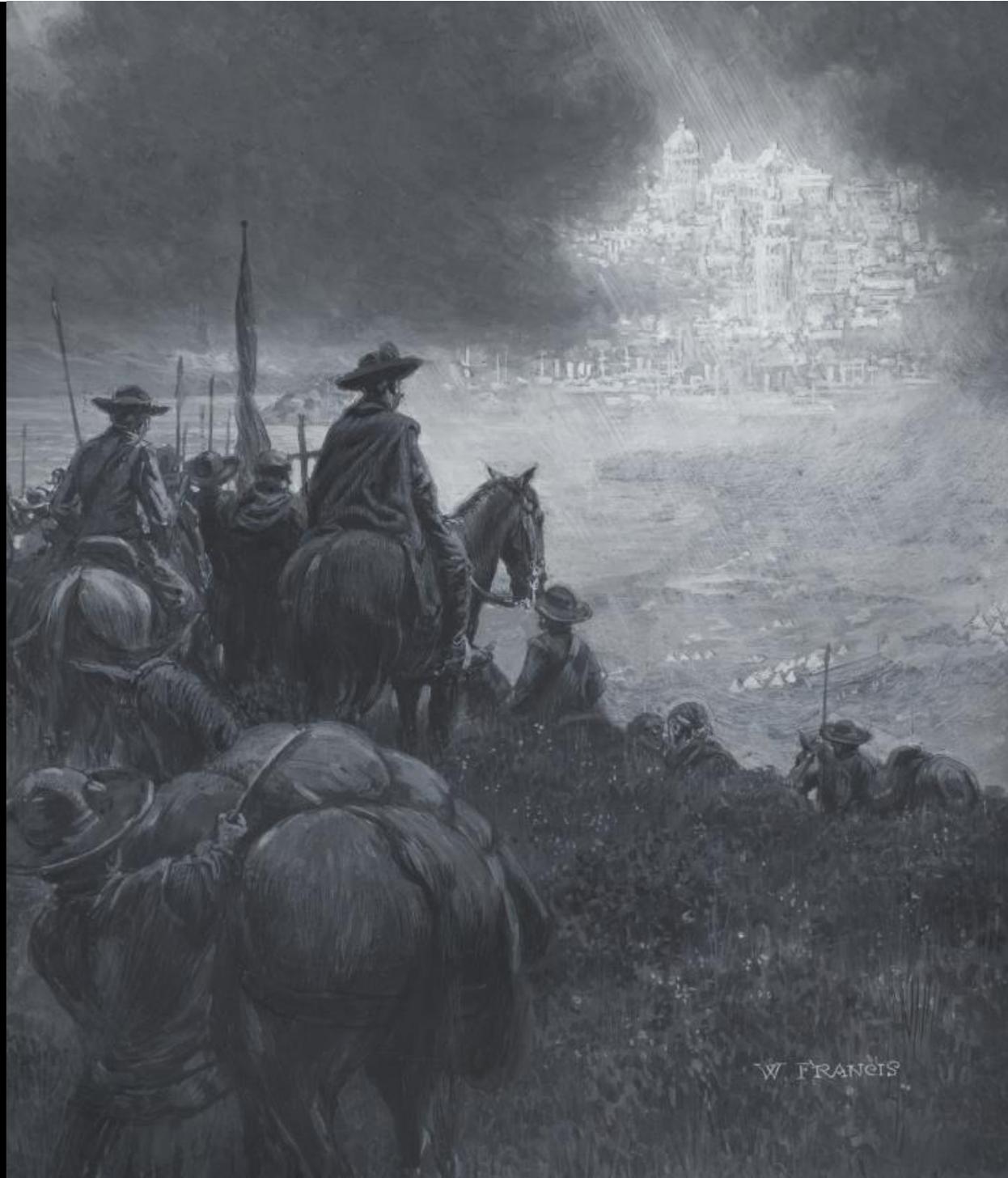
1

# Taming the wild

A historical illustration depicting a scene of bear taming. In the center, a large, dark bear stands on its hind legs, roaring with its mouth wide open. To the left, a man in a dark coat and hat sits on a horse, holding a long pole or spear. To the right, another man in a light-colored coat and hat sits on a horse, also holding a long pole. In the background, a third man is visible, holding a rope. The scene is set in a wooded area with trees and a rocky ground.

The famous spectacle of a combat between a bear and a bull had been promised to us. On the 21st, ten or twelve soldiers went over to the northern shore, in the shallop [an open boat fitted with oars] of the Mission, in order to capture bears with the lasso... In the evening of the 22nd, the hunters brought in a small bear. As for the bear which was to fight on the following day, he remained all night in the shallop, having his head and mouth free, contrary to custom, that he might be fresher for the combat... All night, great fires burned on the land at the back of the harbor, the natives are in the habit of burning the grass, to further its growth.

On the 23rd, the bear-baiting took place, on the beach. Unwilling and bound as the animals were, the spectacle had in it nothing great or praiseworthy. One pitied the poor beasts who were so shamefully handled



W. FRANCIS