



SANTA INÉS MISSION MILLS Map and Guide

WELCOME! In late 2008, California State Parks purchased the Santa Inés Mission Mills complex from the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, taking the first step toward creating a new state park in Solvang. The 39 acres adjacent to Old Mission Santa Inés is part of the Mission Santa Inés National Historic Landmark District and includes a historic grist, fulling mills and two associated reservoirs. The next step in park planning is for the California State Park and Recreation Commission to approve the proposed naming and classification of the park. State Parks continues to plan for future public access as well as the interpretation of the cultural and natural resources within the park and the Mission Santa Inés National Historic Landmark District.



Santa Inés Mission Mills
Alamo Pintado Road
Solvang, CA 93463



Park Hours
Sunrise to sunset



Day-Use Parking:

No fees. Parking available on Alamo Pintado Road or Old Mission Santa Inés.



No fees. There are no public restrooms or potable water available.



805-585-1869

711, TTY Relay Service

parks.ca.gov/MissionMills



California State Parks supports equal access. For accommodation requests, including alternative formats, please contact ChannelCoastInfo@parks.ca.gov. For information about accessible features, visit parks.ca.gov/AccessibleFeatures.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Mission Mills is the largest and most complete remaining milling and reservoir complex of any mission in the western United States. Mission Santa Inés was constructed in 1806 on the ancestral lands of the Chumash people. The Spanish established missions to support their colonization efforts, which included the religious instruction and forced labor of California Native American tribes. Missions engaged in agricultural and light industrial production to support the populations within and beyond the mission, including soldiers and colonists.

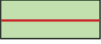
Mission Mills was constructed beginning in 1819 to increase the wealth and agricultural production of Mission Santa Inés. A water-powered grist mill, fed by two stone reservoirs, processed the grain grown in the surrounding area by Chumash laborers and local farmers. The mill ground wheat, oats and barley into flour and corn into meal. Water was supplied by an earthen ditch or *zanja*, which diverted water from Zanja de Cota Creek more than three miles away.

A fulling mill for the processing of woolen cloth was added to the upper end of the large reservoir by 1821. It used machinery that pounded woolen cloth while it soaked in an abrasive solution. The fulling process tightened the weave of the cloth by removing excess natural oils and forcing the wool fibers to interlock, making it more water resistant and durable.

Violence and suppression of the Chumash people by priests and soldiers resulted in the Chumash Revolt of 1824, the largest uprising of California Native American tribes during the Spanish and Mexican periods. After the uprising, agricultural production and processing slowed and ended at Mission Mills by 1836, when the Mission was secularized by the Mexican government. The Chumash continue to care for the land today, as they have since time immemorial.



Sources: NextMap, Caltrans, Hexagon, USGS

-  Major Road
-  Local Road
-  Trail: Multiuse
Hike/Bike/Horse
-  Locked Gate
-  Parking

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