TOUR DIRECTIONS:

Stop 1 - Building 1133 "White House"

From the San Luis Rey Gate continue northwest on Vandegrift Boulevard toward Mainside. Turn right onto 13th Street and take the first left onto E Street. Travel on E Street for about one-quarter mile and Building 1133 "White House" is located on the right.

Stop 2 – Santa Margarita Ranch House / Village of Topomai

From Stop 1 travel north on E Street for approximately one-quarter mile. Turn left onto 15th Street and take the first right onto Vandegrift Boulevard. Continue north on Vandegrift Boulevard for roughly one-quarter mile and turn left onto 16th Street / Rattlesnake Canyon Road. At the bottom of Rattlesnake Canyon, turn left onto Vandegrift Road. Travel southwest on Vandegrift Road for approximately one mile. Santa Margarita Ranch House / Villiage of Topomai is located on the right, at the east end of the air station, just north of the intersection of Vandegrift Boulevard and Basilone Road.

Stop 3- El Camino Real Commemorative Bell

From Stop 2 continue southwest on Vandegrift Boulevard for roughly 4.5 miles. The commemorative bell is located at El Camino Real's intersection with Vandegrift Road on the left.

Stop 4 – Las Flores Estanica and Abode / Villiage of Uchme

From Stop 3 continue southwest on Vandegrift Boulevard for approximately 2 miles. Turn right onto Stuart Mesa Road and travel northwest about 7 miles. The Las Flores Estancia and Adobe parking lot is located on the left, approximately one-quarter miles south of the Las Pulgas gate/exit.

TOUR DIRECTIONS CONTINUED:

Stop 5 - Los Cristianitos

From Stop 4 take Stuart Mesa Road northwest for approximately 100 meters and veer right onto Las Pulgas Road. Continue northeast on Las Pulgas Road for about 4.5 miles. Turn left onto Basilone Road and travel northwest for another 9 miles. Take a right onto San Mateo Drive and travel another 4 miles. Veer right and merge onto Cristianitos Road. Travel about one-half mile north on Cristianitos Road. The Los Cristianitos gravel parking lot is on the left.

Stop 6 - Camp Talega

From Stop 5 continue north on Cristianitos Road for approximately 1.5 miles to its intersection with Talega Ridge Road. Camp Talega entrance is on the left in 64 Area. Visitors can check in to Building 64385 at the back of the complex and pick up a pamphlet for a self-guided walking tour.

Stop 7 - San Onofre Beach Club

From Stop 6 travel south on Cristianitos Road for about 2 miles. Veer right, staying on Cristianitos Road (leaving the Base). Continue southwest on Cristianitos Road. Travel over I-5 and take the first left onto the I-5 south freeway ramp. Continue on I-5 south / Old Pacific Highway for approximately 1.5 miles after which turn right onto Beach Club Road. Follow Beach Club Road for another one-half mile. San Onofre Beach Club is located on the right within the San Onofre Recreational Beach.

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON



CULTURAL RESOURCES SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Cultural Resources Program Contact:Kelli S. Brasket,
Supervisory Archaeologist
(760) 725-9738



Stop 5 - Los Cristianitos



Los Cristianitos is the reputed location of the first baptism in Alta California. Archaeological investigations at the ste have identified prehistoric lithic tools and evidence of temporary camps, with the site including nearly the entire top of the terrace west of Cristianitos Road. The historic component includes the trail to the steps and the plaque and cistem at the spring, as well as a collapsing rock and cement retaining wall several meters to the south. It is a state historical landmark (CHL-562) and is marked by a plaque and a large white cross.

Stop 4 - Las Flores Estanica and Abode / Villiage of Uchme



The Las Flores Estancia was a Mission Period compound built on the prehistoric/ethnohistoric Native American Luiseño village of Uchme. The estancia was established in approximately 1827 and consisted of a large rectangular-shaped adobe building that included a chapel and hospice used to house travelers between the San Luis Rey and San Juan Capistrano Missions. By the late 1860s, the compound was used as a corral and stables until it was abandoned and fell into ruin. The ruins are located on a small hill approximately 200 yards west of the Las Flores Adobe, and consist of eroded adobe wall stubs and clay roof tiles, as well as scattered prehistoric artifacts and shell concentrations The Las Flores Adobe is an adobe California rancho house built in 1868. The house features three elements: the two-story Monterey Style building, a Hacienda Style building, and a carriage house. The Las Flores Adobe was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1968 and the property and its buildings have also been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since 1991.

Stop 3- El Camino Real Commemorative Bell



El Camino Real is a Spanish mission road segment, originally established in the late 1700s, linking the chain of Franciscan missions throughout southern and central California. El Camino Real is listed as State Historic Landmark #784. The plaque was placed on the 250th anniversary of Padre Junipero Serra's birth to mark the road as he knew it and that he helped to pioneer. Although the plaque is located at Mission San Diego de Alcala, approximately 50 miles south of MCB Camp Pendleton, paved portions of the historic road are still present on MCB Camp Pendleton as well as a modern replica of one of the commemorative bells.

Stop 6 - Camp Talega



Camp Talega, officially known as Area 64, was developed during World War II as a training camp, with the majority of buildings built between 1944 and 1954. Camp Talega consists of several long rows of approximately 70 Quonset huts, miscellaneous support structures, and two medieval-style towers located at its entrance. In 1975, Camp Talega and its surrounding area was used as a temporary camp for thousands of Vietnamese refugees as part of a massive resettlement program following the end of the Vietnam War. In recent years, Camp Talega has served as temporary overflow barracks and deployment processing offices for the Reserve Support Unit/Deployment

Stop 7 - San Onofre Beach Club Building



The Beach Club was designed by master architect Myron Hunt, well known for designing some of Southern California's most iconic architectural structures including: the Rose Bowl, Pasadena's Central Library, and the Huntington Art Gallery. Designed in the Spanish Revival/California style, the Beach Club is one of the first buildings constructed on Camp Pendleton after World War II. From 1946 to 2003 it functioned as a recreational facility for Marines and their families. In 2015 the Beach Club was completely rehabilitated and is currently being used by MCCS as an administrative work space and a venue for special events.



Stop 2 - Santa Margarita Ranch House / Village of Topomai



Rancho Santa Margarita came into existence through Mexican land grants and was initially controlled by the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia. After the collapse of the mission system Don Pio Pico and his brother, Andres, became owners of the property in 1841. While owned by the Pico brothers, the Santa Margarita Ranch was home for many cattle and a successful hide and tallow trade business. In 1942 the military purchased the area. The two buildings built at Rancho Santa Margarita are both eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and they currently function as a museum and church. The prehistoric Luiseño village of Topomai is nearby. Archaeological studies suggest that the major Native American occupation of this location took place immediately prior to and during the early Spanish period. Pre-contact population estimates range from 10,000 to 3,000 persons, while population estimates during the Mission period are between 200 and 100 persons.

Stop 1 - Building 1133 "White House"



Building 1133 was built during the World War II period and designed by master architect Myron Hunt. Constructed in 1943, the building originally served as the headquarters for all Marine Corps divisions on MCB Camp Pendleton. Situated around the building are several memorial plaques and installations commemorating the service of Marines during the conflicts in Vietnam, North Korea, China, Kuwait, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. The building is currently used as office and administration space as the 1st Marine Division Headquarters.