

VESTIGES of *Lands End*

Fort Miley

In 1893, the US Army bought 54 acres of Golden Gate Cemetery to be used as the site of coastal defense fortifications. Construction could not begin on the Point Lobos Military Reservation, as it was originally named, until 1897, after the graves were exhumed and the remains reinterred elsewhere.

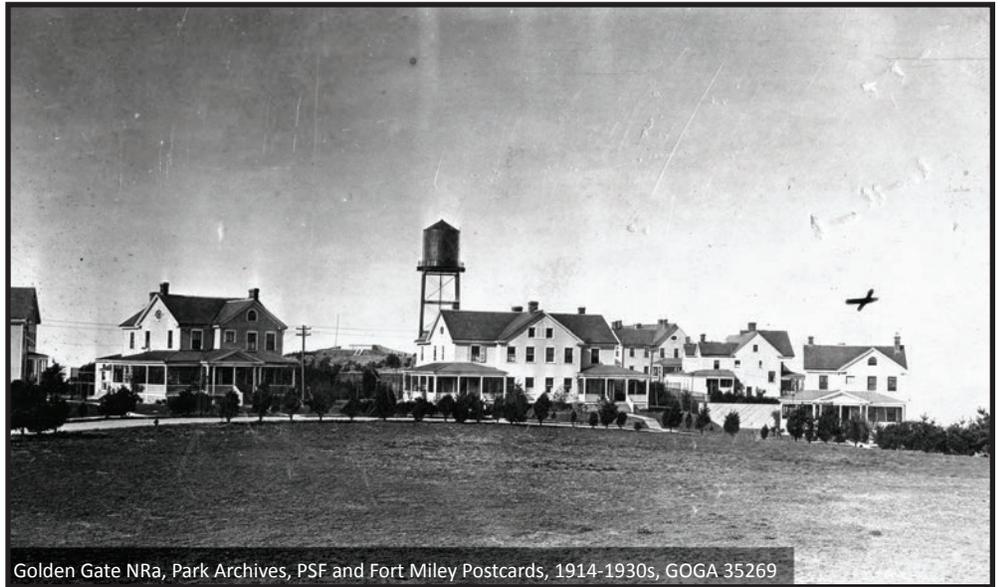
The fortification would eventually include wood frame barracks, storage buildings, an officers' club, administrative buildings, and four batteries--Chester, LaRhett, Livingston, and Anton Springer. The reservation was renamed Fort Miley in 1900 to honor Lieutenant Colonel John D. Miley, who had been recently killed in the Philippines. Fort Miley was completed by 1902 and garrisoned as a subpost of Fort Winfield Scott at the Presidio of San Francisco.

The Veterans Administration acquired 29 acres of the Fort in 1932 for the new veterans' medical center, which is still in operation today. To build the medical center, ten barracks, a mess hall, officers' club, stables, and storage facilities were demolished in 1934. The rest of Fort Miley operated as a battery until 1937, when it was decommissioned.

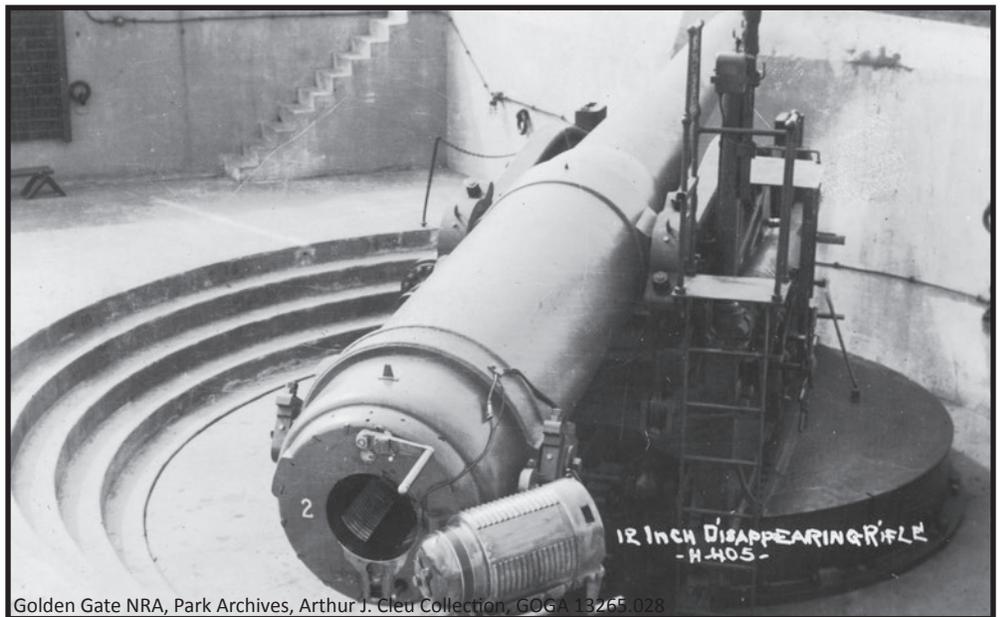
The deactivated gun batteries were briefly put back into commission in 1941 on the eve of Pearl Harbor. Fort Miley played an important role in coastal defense until 1950 when its last guns were removed.



Golden Gate NRA, Park Archives, Crissy Field History Study Collection, GOGA 35363



Golden Gate NRA, Park Archives, PSF and Fort Miley Postcards, 1914-1930s, GOGA 35269



Golden Gate NRA, Park Archives, Arthur J. Cleu Collection, GOGA 13265.028

Top: Aerial view of Fort Miley and El Camino del Mar, ca. 1924-1955; *Center:* Fort Miley postcard, 1915; *Bottom:* 12 inch disappearing rifle at Fort Miley, ca. 1941-1943.