

## USS *San Francisco* Memorial

The USS *San Francisco* Memorial commemorates the 106 seamen killed and 131 wounded in the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, the most brutal close-quarters naval battle of WWII.

In November 1942 the cruiser USS *San Francisco* attacked a vastly superior Japanese force off the coast of Guadalcanal. The USS *San Francisco* took 45 direct hits and sustained heavy damage while sinking one Japanese ship and seriously damaging two others (including a battleship). Despite its poor condition the *San Francisco* safely made it back to port. The USS *San Francisco* Memorial is oriented toward Guadalcanal, and features a section of the ship's bridge damaged in the battle. The shell-ridden bridge is a tangible reminder of the awful violence of that day.

More information about the ship and its crew can be found at <http://www.ussanfrancisco.org/index.htm>.



Nathan H. Hall 2012



Image courtesy of San Francisco History Center

*Top:* Modern view of the USS *San Francisco* Memorial near the Lands End Trail parking lot; *Bottom:* Dr. George Lynch, Mrs. Jean C. Witter and Captain T.R. Wirth at the U.S.S. *San Francisco* Memorial, 1950.