

Contributors to, and Supporters of, the Research Which Identifies Drakes Bay as Francis Drake's California Haven

George Vancouver, British explorer.

Vancouver named Drakes Bay after viewing the site and consulting with Spanish officials.

George Davidson, West Coast cartographer and scientist.

"We declare for the second anchorage under the eastern promontory of Point Reyes Head, in latitude 38° 00'." [The first anchorage was off the coast of Oregon.]

Dr. Theodore Treutlein, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of History, San Francisco State University, a specialist in California history.

"I incline rather strongly toward the site which the Drake Navigators Guild have established."

Mr. F. Richard Brace, graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, naval officer, engineer, and deep-sea yachtsman.

"Personal experience on board a salvage ship which entered Drakes Estero showed that the entrance is one of the easiest I have ever made, ... that it would have been an easy entrance for the *Golden Hind*, and that it is a far easier entrance than the Golden Gate or Tomales Bay with their dangerous bars. In the channel just off Drakes Cove we anchored in 35 feet of water. We sailed out just as easily."

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, U.S.N., long associated with the research at Drakes Bay.

"Unless Drake's calculation of latitude be proved wrong; Fletcher's observation of weather conditions be proved fraudulent; the landmark of 'white cliffes' be termed a falsification; the naming of the land 'Nova Albion' be considered a figment of nostalgia; the avowed purpose of the landing be declared a fiction; or the charting of *Portus Novae Albionis* be declared an imaginative invention ...; until then, I take pleasure in presenting ... the cove on the westerly shore of Drake's Estero adjacent to Drakes Bay as the site of Drake's careenage and 36-day encampment in 1579."

Dr. Michael J. Moratto, Ph.D., Professor of Anthropology, San Francisco and Fresno State Universities; archaeologist; authority on California Indians, and on the research on Drake in California.

The absence of sixteenth-century artifacts elsewhere than Drakes Bay is most significant. At Drakes Bay, "77 non-waterworn [Ming porcelain] sherds ... are best ascribed to the *Golden Hind* careenage. These findings -- along with compelling linguistic, ethnographic, navigational, geographic, and archaeological evidence -- establish the Drakes Bay vicinity as the site of Francis Drake's 1579 landfall in California."

Dr. Roger Barnett, Ph.D., Professor of Geography, University of the Pacific.

The Portus shows a small place. "I vote for the landing we saw today [Drake's Cove]."

Mr. Donald Cordray, former quartermaster, U.S. Navy, and coastal yachtsman.

From the north, Point Reyes is very prominent. After rounding the point, Drakes Bay is the natural and obvious refuge. "I have no doubt that Drakes Bay was the choice he made."

Rev. Noel F. Moholy, O.F.M., S.T.D., historian and fifteen year member of the State Historical Resources Commission.

"The reasons adduced for the allegation that Sir Francis Drake 'discovered' the Bay of San Francisco, I find far from persuasive, much less compelling."

Mr. Alex Cumming, Director of the Plymouth City Museums and of Buckland Abbey, Drake's home, retired.

"The most convincing arguments have been put forward by the Drake Navigators Guild who claim the Drake Estero as the most likely place where Drake landed to careen his ship."

Mr. Frank G. Carr, Director of the National Maritime Museum, London, retired, maritime historian and lawyer.

"I arrived at the firm conclusion, beyond all possibility of doubt in my mind that the Point Reyes/Drakes Estero site can be positively identified as the *Portus Nova Albionis* in which Drake refitted his ship. I am convinced that this can now be accepted as a proven fact."

Rear Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison, U.S.N.R., Professor Emeritus of Maritime History, Harvard, the dean of American marine historians and a specialist in explorer research.

"Drakes Bay is the actual place where he stopped for five or six weeks. I feel perfectly confident of that."

Captain Alan Villiers, marine historian, the world's leading commander of historic square-rigged sailing ships.

"That red-whiskered little man knew his stuff. I'm for Drake's Cove. I've been there and in S.F. Bay too." "I hope the officials have the courage to come right out and accept Drakes Bay."

Rear Admiral C. M. Blackman, R.N., D.S.O., (Ret.), researcher and writer on British naval history.

"The ... evidence put forward to justify the claim made by the Drake Navigators Guild I consider to be far and away the most plausible and conclusive solution to the problem."

Dr. John Gordon, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of History, Coastal Carolina College; Lieutenant Commander, U.S.N. (Ret.); maritime historian, and research associate of Admiral Morison.

"I proudly concur ... in the opinion that Francis Drake, knight, did indeed have his ship, *Golden Hind*, together with the bark of Roderigo Tello 'sent' into the Bay now named Drakes Bay, there implanting one of the shortlived seeds which contributed to the ultimate growth of our country."

Dr. Barry M. Gough, Ph. D., Professor of History, Wilfrid Laurier University, the leading scholar of English exploration of the Pacific Coast. "From a point of view of navigation, cartography, hydrography, landscape identification, seasonal conditions, flora and fauna, and anthropology, the case [for Drakes Bay] has been well supported. In my opinion it ... ought to stand on its own as Drake's landing site."

Dr. Theodore Grivas, Ph.D., Professor of History, Sonoma State University, California historian.

"There has been enormous, widespread and penetrating interdisciplinary research completed on the whereabouts of Francis Drake's *Nova Albion*. The work of the Drake Navigators Guild is the most exhaustive and compelling."

Mr. Noel B. Martin, Instructor of History, College of the Sequoias, historian of colonial Latin America, and master mariner.

"Beyond any doubt Francis Drake did what he had to do at Drake's Cove at Drakes Bay."

Dr. W. Michael Mathes, Ph. D., Professor of History, University of San Francisco, the leading scholar of Spanish Pacific Coast exploration.

"My studies lead to the conclusion that Drake's harbor was at Drakes Bay."

Dr. Claude Minard, Ph. D., Professor of Geography, Sonoma State University, whose doctoral dissertation was on the geology of the Point Reyes Peninsula.

"My long studies of the coastal landforms from the viewpoint of hydraulic engineering are completely compatible with the shifting-sandspit studies of the Drake Navigators Guild. The Drake's Cove map correlation is logical."

Dr. David A. Mullen, Ph. D., Professor of Zoology, University of San Francisco.

"Birds laying eggs in late June and July [as described in the English accounts] indicates marine birds along the outer coast."

Mr. Rene Peron, Instructor of Archaeology and Anthropology, Santa Rosa Junior College, and director of archaeology at Drakes Bay.

There is "by far the strongest case for Drakes Bay area as the landing site."

Mr. Roger Verran, fog researcher.

"The fog patterns eliminate Northern San Francisco Bay from consideration as Drake's cold, foggy encampment site. An outer-coast site is required."

Dr. R. Coke Wood, Ph. D., Professor Emeritus of History, University of the Pacific, "Mr. California" (by proclamation of the Governor), and former member of the State Historical Resources Commission.

"My vote ... is for Drakes Bay."

Dr. Rockwell D. Hunt, Ph. D., Dean of the Graduate School, University of Southern California, "Mr. California," and President of the Conference of California Historical Societies.

"It is now well known that the Golden Gate had not been entered, and that the place of shelter sought was what is known to us as Sir Francis Drake Bay."

Dr. John A. Hawgood, M.A., M. Com., Ph. D., D. Lit., Professor of American History, University of Birmingham.

"Nova Albion, in the eyes of Drake and his sovereign lady, constituted a great deal more than the small safe harbour which eventually came to be called Drake's Bay, and its immediate hinterland."

Mr. Clarence Shangraw, Senior Curator, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco.

The early Wan-li porcelains (late 1570s) found at Drakes Bay "must fairly be attributed to Francis Drake's *Golden Hind* visit of 1579."

Dr. Frank Frost, Ph. D., Professor of History, University of California, Santa Barbara.

"When we travel to 38 on the coast and find there a secure harbor with high white cliffs (and a good deal of corroborative evidence) we may be justified in naming that bay 'Drake's Bay' -- which it is today." Regarding the Ming porcelains identified as Drake's, "This is still a circumstantial case, but it is an elegant one."

Mr. Robin F. Wells, Curator, Treganza Anthropology Museum, San Francisco State University.

In regard to the Ming porcelains, "The inference, then, is inescapable: Drake landed in Drakes Bay in 1579 as did Cermeno in 1595."

Dr. Frank A. Norick, Ph. D., Principal Museum Anthropologist, Lowie Museum of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley.

Comment on the monograph *The Drake and Cermeno Expeditions' Chinese Porcelains at Drakes Bay, California*: "Succinct, to-the-point, ... a model of clarity, proper methodology, and a fine interpretative study, and a genuine contribution to archaeology."

Mr. Richard E. Ahlborn, Curator, Department of Social and Cultural History, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

"I ... support this thesis for the deposition of two types of late 16th Century Chinese Ming porcelain [by both Drake and Cermeno] at the Bay." "I do support recognition of Drakes Bay."

Dr. Frank L. Keegan, Ph. D., historian.

"The need for a harbor on the northern California coast was imperative and Cermeno, like Drake before him, found one in Marin. It was the same bay under the same arm of land we now call Point Reyes."

Admiral Sir Simon Cassels, R. N., (Ret.), K.C.B., C.B.E., specialist in navigation and historical research.

"For a mariner, the weight of circumstantial evidence stemming from these three entirely separate and independent lines of investigation -- climatology, astrolabe accuracy and Chinese ceramics -- all bear heavily on only one and the same site for the careenage of the *Golden Hind* -- Drakes Bay."

Mr. Michael Turner, historian, educator and world traveler.

"I have seen at least 95 Drake landfalls, anchorages and inland routes as a result of studying *The World Encompassed* in the field. I have always found the geographical descriptions to be exact." "I find it really difficult to understand why there is not universal and unreserved acceptance that Sir Francis careened in Drake's Estero."