

CASSP

Help preserve the past

Heritage Hike to Old Mission Dam October 19, 2025, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Water is critical in California. According to Wikipedia, there are over 1,300 named reservoirs in the State. One of the first ones was built in the early 1800s for the Mission San Diego. And it still stands.

You are invited to visit this dam on Sunday, October 19, on a Heritage Hike sponsored by the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) and the Society for California Archaeology (SCA). We will visit the Old Mission Dam in Mission Trails Regional Park in the City of San Diego. You can hike a moderately level trail in bright sun for about 2 miles round trip from the East Fontana Staging Area parking lot at the Mast Blvd. exit from Hwy 52. Or, you can skip the hike, and drive directly to the Old Mission Dam on the Father Junipero Serra Trail (a paved road). Bring water and snacks, wear appropriate clothing and shoes, and follow recommended safety protocols listed at https://mtrp.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/MTRP_Trail_Map_2025-07-14.pdf.

If you're hiking, meet Beth and Chris at the East Fontana Staging Area at 9:00. If you're not hiking, meet Karen and Michael at the Old Mission Dam at 10:00 (small parking lot). Everyone will meet at the dam at 10:00. Parking is free. There's no cost and we welcome anyone interested in heritage resources. Please register by sending an email to bpadon@sitestewardship.org so that we can contact you in the unlikely event that the hike is cancelled. Please indicate whether you are hiking or not.

CASSP and the SCA organized this hike to promote greater understanding of historical and archaeological sites. We will talk about the Old Mission Dam site as a cultural landscape, and why it's important to preserve sites like this.



Two free heritage events will be held at the Los Penasquitos Ranch House, 12122 Canyonside Park Drive, San Diego, CA 92129, on Saturday, October 18. Starting at 3:00, the SCA is presenting its Southern Data Sharing Meeting, a mini-conference on archaeology and history. From 10:00 to 3:00, the San Diego County Archaeological Society is holding its Arch in the Park event with activities and information tables about archaeology. Parking is free. You may register for the SCA Data Sharing meeting at <https://scahome.org/event-6299846>, and you may learn more about the Arch in the Park at <https://sdcas.org/arch-in-the-park>.