

### A History of Healing

Originally acquired by José Quintín Ortega and Ignacio María Ortega in 1865, then by George Roop in 1866, Gilroy Hot Springs was known as a place of healing. Until 2003, the elderly, the sick, and even vacationers traveled from near and far to relax in – and drink-- the soothing mineral waters.



During its heyday in the 1880s through the 1920s, the resort attracted San Francisco Bay area business and civic leaders as a destination retreat from their demanding lives. The large hotel, the Lick House sleeping annex, the Club House, the individual cabins, and the soaking tubs hosted up to 500 guests with fine dining, dancing, gaming, and relaxation. Its extensive grounds provided close connection to nature.

### Cultural Diversity

The transfer of ownership to H.K. Sakata in 1938 injected new life into the aging resort. With many improvements, the resort became a respite for the Japanese and

Japanese Americans as “a place of our own” to heal from the stress of the hard work and provided respite from a discriminating society.

After World War II, the Gilroy Hot Springs provided a different kind of shelter for about 60 families who had been displaced by the wartime removal of the Japanese from the West Coast. Having lost their homes through forced relocation, Mr. Sakata generously offered his resort as a transitional shelter, thus providing community, nature, and the mineral waters, all of which helped sooth the physical, emotional, and spiritual scars.



Time has been the greatest detriment. Aging structures, new regulations, and changes in society lead to the condemnation of unsafe buildings, overstressed plumbing and electrical systems, and increased maintenance expenses. Disuse, vandalism, decay, and plant overgrowth have impacted this as a place of health and healing.



### New Hope

Gilroy Hot Springs, now part of Henry W. Coe State Park, is a State Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Descendents and former residents and guests have formed *Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs*, a non-profit group working with State Parks to re-define and renew public access.

We embrace the challenges and excitement of sharing this hope with the world. Among the tasks are: providing security from damage by nature and man, documenting its history, preserving structures, and creating visitor friendly experiences.

Please join us!

**Friends Of Gilroy Hot Springs  
PO BOX 1745  
GILROY CA 95020-1745**

[www.friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org](http://www.friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org)  
email:  
[info@friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org](mailto:info@friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org)



**Friends Of Gilroy Hot Springs  
PO Box 1745  
Gilroy, CA 95020-1745**

**Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs**  
(FOGHS\*)

**Please Join Us!**

- New FOGHS Membership
- Existing PRA Member
- Donate\*\* to FOGHS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Individual \$35
- Family (dual) \$50
- Senior (62+) \$15
- Senior Family \$35
- Life \$600
- Life family \$1,000

**DONATIONS:**

- Corporate\*\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_
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(\*\*These donations are tax deductible)

Mail form and payment to:

FOGHS  
PO BOX 1745  
GILROY, CA 95020-1745

**Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs**

**Benefits of Membership**

- Free passes to regularly scheduled tours of Gilroy Hot Springs
- A subscription to *The Ponderosa* newsletter containing interesting articles about Henry W. Coe State Park and information about upcoming park and association activities
- A Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs decal
- Voting rights for election of the board of directors
- Invitations to special events and special outings in the backcountry
- A 15 percent discount on most of the items in the PRA museum store
- The satisfaction of preserving the state and national historic landmark
- Tax deductions for membership and charitable donations

\*FOGHS is a sub-group of the **Pine Ridge Association (PRA)**. **Gilroy Hot Springs** is also known as **Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs**.

Make checks payable to PINE RIDGE ASSOCIATION, and add a bottom MEMO: FOGHS MEMBERSHIP

**Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs**

**Goals**

- Protect and secure the grounds from damage by nature and vandalism
- Reestablish public use
  - Preserve historic structures
  - Re-install utilities
  - Document and interpret the story of the Gilroy Hot Springs

Tours:

Escorted tours available by appointment, subject to volunteer availability.

Email:

[info@friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org](mailto:info@friendsofgilroyhotsprings.org)

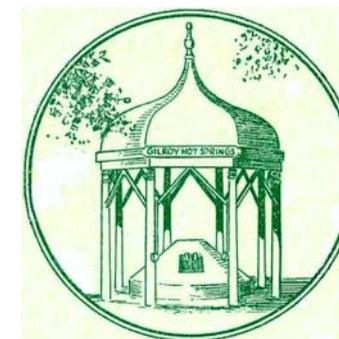
Or call:

**408-314-7185**

Mail:

**FOGHS**  
**PO BOX 1745**  
**GILROY, CA 95020-1745**

# Gilroy Hot Springs



Since 1865

*Help Heal a  
Place of Healing*

