



Heritage Discovery Center, Inc. has been providing educational and historic preservation and conservation programs focusing on California’s natural resources and colonial history since its founding in 1992 as a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation. HDC features the use of rare breed period animals, and highlights the versatility of the Colonial Spanish horse. The Heritage Discovery Center presents experiences and visions of diverse cultures, with emphasis on historical developments in natural environments, and a variety of educational settings.

**Mission**

HDC mission is to create a 'living history museum' which preserves and presents the Natural and Cultural Colonial California heritage.

**Vision Statement**

Through preservation, education and demonstration, the Heritage Discovery Center 'Living History Museum' will foster an understanding of the impact of history on one of the most unique socio-economic and ecological systems in the world – California. As stewards of the state’s colonial history as well as the natural resources of the land, HDC can provide critical links between our past, present and future, encouraging public support for principles and activities which will preserve our natural heritage and resources in perpetuity.



**Purpose**

The Heritage Discovery Center is designed to:

- Present the history of the “West” and early California in the period from around 1700’s to 1800’s in a live setting which recreates the human and natural elements of colonial California
- Preserve the natural history and diverse ecosystems of the land on which the Living History Museum resides
- Reconstruct and re-enact the lifestyles representative of the period: Native American, ranching, agriculture, mission, equine, maritime and military
- Create interactive programs and activities - which will invite the visitor to engage through participation in authentic historical experiences
- Establish a historical, educational and cultural center that will become the primary repository for California colonial history. It will be developed to provide resources to school groups, visitors, academicians, and eventually host/house a digital-distance learning center accessible word-wide.

