

# California History Action

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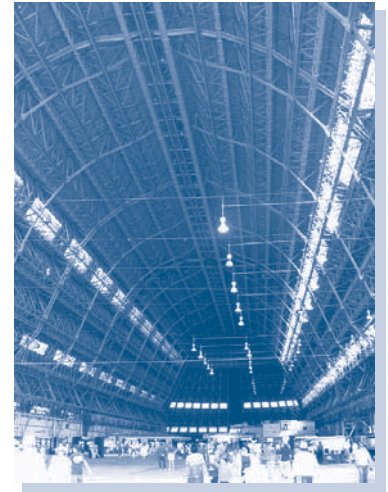
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## Do You Know the Way? . . .

### Then Plan to Meet with CCPH in San Jose October 26-28, 2006

This year's conference program is shaping up to have both the depth and the variety we've come to expect from CCPH conferences, with a real focus on this year's theme—*From Adobe Bricks to Adobe® Bytes: Historical Transformations in California*.

California's new State Archivist, Nancy Zimmelman, as the featured plenary speaker, will discuss archives in the digital age. Breakout sessions include such topics as historically significant road building projects; collections strategies for the 21st century museum; a discussion on the concept of historical contexts; funding for public history projects; the evolution of agricultural landscapes; the transformation of Mexican-American history in California; environmental living programs in California's state parks; the importance of public input into Caltrans projects; a case study on history and archaeology projects at Santa Clara University; a discussion on the influential journal *The Public Historian*; two stories focusing on changes in women's history and public history; the preservation advocacy and work going on in relation to Japantowns in California; and a panel of preservation experts speaking on designing studies of towns, mining sites, and labor camps.



This historic, and monumental, hangar at Moffett Field is one just one of the sights to behold on this optional tour.

Special activities include the traditional opening reception, awards luncheon, and banquet, this year to be followed by music from Article 19, Jim Williams' band (one of CCPH's founding members for those new members among you).

Three optional tours planned during the conference will take conference goers to Moffett Field's wooden blimp hangars, Santa Clara University's archaeological site,



The Twohy Building in downtown San Jose is a marvelous example adaptive reuse

and San Jose's Japantown. Opportunities for experiences on your own are numerous. Plan to take one or more of the many local self-guided walking tours (handouts will be available at the conference registration desk), including one of the downtown area.

We're working on the conference registration packet at the time this newsletter goes to press. You should receive your copy in early August. Or log onto [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph) where we'll post the packet as soon as it's available, as well as an electronic version of the registration form, which you can complete and print/mail or email. ■



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The chapel at Santa Clara University



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A newsletter for history advocacy published by the  
**California Council for the Promotion of History**

*Bridging the Past, Present, and Future*

## San Jose Has Much to Offer the “Culturally” Inclined

from [www.sanjose.org](http://www.sanjose.org)



The San Jose Buddhist Church's Obon Festival draws large crowds to the city's Japantown—the community is a focus of one of the CCPH conference tours.

San Jose is proud of the cultural and ethnic diversity of its population, and the rich cultural identity of its many neighborhoods. The population in San Jose is 27 percent Asian and 30 percent Hispanic. Japantown and the Japanese Friendship Garden are popular tourist stops. Biblioteca Latinoamericana holds one of the largest collections of Spanish language materials in Northern California. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is the largest public library west of the Mississippi and displays artwork on every floor. Home to the largest Vietnamese community outside of Vietnam, San Jose is constructing the nation's first Vietnamese Heritage Garden and Historical Museum. Year-round, San Jose sponsors many cultural festivals and numerous ethnic chambers of

commerce are active in our community.

Where can you find the birds, the bees, and the trees in San Jose? Thousands of visitors come every year to view more than 3,500 rose shrubs at the 5.5-acre Municipal Rose Garden. Picnics and barbecues are perfect in the beautiful lawn areas of Kelley Park. Located inside Kelley Park is the Japanese Friendship Garden. It was patterned after Okayama's world famous Korakuen Park. Minutes from downtown is Alum Rock Park, the city's first and largest park. You can spend the day bicycling, horseback riding, picnicking, or taking a scenic hike. If you visit the Mexican Heritage Plaza, stop by and see the thematic gardens. The cultural center also

has two art galleries celebrating the Latino legacy. The newest addition to the City's 20 plus parks is the Guadalupe River Park—a three-mile ribbon of parkland that runs along the banks of the Guadalupe River in the heart of downtown. You will find tranquility and peacefulness at the transformed six-acre site of the Chinese Cultural Gardens. If sailing, boating, fishing, rollerblading or jogging sound like the perfect day trip, 50 acres of open space await you at Lake Cunningham Park.

Almost 500,000 people a year visit the themed galleries of The Tech Museum of Innovation. The Tech also features an IMAX Dome Theater, Northern California's only domed IMAX screen. Bold colors and an unusual exterior surround the Children's Discovery Museum—a unique environment for children to learn and discover. If viewing 3,000-year-old mummies sounds intriguing, then you will want to visit the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum. The museum houses the largest collection of Egyptian artifacts on the west coast. The Winchester Mystery House, a 160-room Victorian mansion, is one of the oldest and most noted of haunted houses in California. The San Jose History Museum is dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of San Jose. Visit the 14-acre site of History Park and view landmarks that highlight periods of Santa Clara Valley's past. You can also walk through history by visiting the restored Peralta Adobe and Fallon House in San Pedro Square. St. Joseph Cathedral, located in the heart of the downtown, is a “work of art,” designed in the form of a Greek cross, which provides perfect geometry and a floor plan that accommodates centrality for worship and performances. ■

## CCPH Presents Two Awards at California History Day

This year CCPH was proud to be able to give two awards to deserving entries at California History Day. History Day Committee Chair Patricia Ambacher reviewed the submissions for this year's CCPH special award and was able to attend the awards ceremony, which took place on May 14.

One of the awards was presented to a Senior Group Website created by Jordan Franco and Lauren Reynolds. Entitled *John Muir: Exploration of a Path to Preservation*, the website was the first in this category to be given a CCPH award (last year the board passed a motion to allow the CCPH award to be granted to entries in the website category). Both Franco and Reynolds are freshman (now going into their sophomore year) at Selma High School in Fresno County and their sponsor teacher was Francie Caraker. The second CCPH award was granted to a senior historical paper written by Tara Siegel, a senior at Mira Loma High School in Sacramento County—her sponsor teacher was Bruce Lagomarsino. Ms. Siegel's paper, entitled *Taking a Stand: Acts of Courage Towards Japanese-Americans During World War II*, can be read in its entirety on pages 8 through 11 of this newsletter.

CCPH gives a certificate to each winning student and a \$100 award to each winning entry (to be shared if it's a group entry), as well as a complimentary one-year membership for each student and his or her sponsor teacher. Congratulations to the 2006 CCPH History Day award winners, and to all the students who participated in history day activities this year. ■

California History Action

Volume 24, Number 3  
Summer 2006  
ISSN 0882-357X

Published quarterly  
by the  
California Council for the  
Promotion of History

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California History Action

## Amendments Made to California Heritage Corridor Act

The California Heritage Corridor Act, AB 2625, passed out of the Assembly on a vote of 60-19 on May 31. The bill, which seeks to create and define a "heritage corridor" under law and allow for the designation of and signage for this category of cultural resource, was amended a number of times in the Assembly before its floor vote. The version that now awaits a hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing has relocated the California Heritage Corridor Committee it seeks to create from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Parks and Recreation. Amendments also limit the life of the committee to just one year, January 1, 2008, to January 1, 2009. Knowing what most of us do about the speed at which government works, one has to question how much this now seven-member committee (was six) can realistically get done in just one year. The statement that "cities and counties that elect to establish or identify heritage corridors may do so under the criteria adopted by the committee" would imply that the major goal of this short-term committee is to put in place a set of criteria to determine what constitutes, and what is the significance of, a heritage corridor—a goal that does seem far more practical for a one-year committee than the designation of said corridors, a program that would obviously need more time to have an impact. While such an endeavor may be worthwhile, it is disconcerting to some to see the idea being pushed through as legislation rather working through the process for preservation planning in California, which is coordinated by the State Office of Historic Preservation. State agencies, like all responsible organizations, spend considerable amounts of time researching, planning for, and prioritizing projects to be completed in the short and long-term future of their fields. To usurp that process, and undermine that work and expertise, through legislation surely doesn't sit well with many, even if they do support the establishment of heritage corridors. CCPH has not taken a position on this bill. ■

## Children's Museum Eyes Location in Old Sac

To update you on AB 2782, which was first discussed in the last issue of this newsletter, this bill was slightly amended by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water in late June and subsequently, and unanimously, passed out of that the committee to now be referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee, just one step from a floor vote. CCPH has submitted a letter in opposition on this bill, which seeks to allow for the development of a children's museum on the "1848 Scene" in Old Sacramento. In it, CCPH stated, "Second only to Sutter's Fort, the 1849 Scene is the most important site in Sacramento's history of American settlement . . . Today, the rich archaeological evidence of these first buildings remains beneath the grass on the site. It is the birthplace of Sacramento. California State Parks acquired this property forty years ago to preserve and interpret this history, and to protect the archaeological features that survived from the founding era of the city. As you are well aware,

California State Parks has never had sufficient funding to bring about this important project, but this does not reduce or negate the values for which the 1849 Scene was originally preserved—the history is still there, and State Parks' long-term plan for the site deserves to be eventually carried out. There are many potential locations for a children's museum in the Sacramento area, but only one place where the authentic story of the establishment of Sacramento can be told. We urge you to amend the bill to allow State Parks to work more flexibly with the proponents of the children's museum so that a variety of possible sites may be analyzed, not just the 1849 Scene. And we also encourage you, as someone concerned about California's heritage, to support funding for the proper and complete development of the 1849 Scene, as intended by California State Parks." CCPH urges our members to contact your State Senator and Assemblyperson and voice your opposition to this bill, or it may very well quietly become law. ■

## Acquisitions Proposed for Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

In reference to AB 2081, which seeks to acquire additional property for inclusion as part of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, this bill passed unanimously out of the Assembly on May 30 and now awaits a second reading in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water after having been amended in mid-June. The amendments removed the Presidio Golf Course and the Carrillo Adobe from being part of the acquisition. This leaves only the Department of Transportation property at 2829 San Juan Street as part of the legislation, but this property will, even alone, be an asset to California State Parks in its work to interpret the important history this park represents. CCPH has not taken a position on this bill. ■

### Contacting your Representatives

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| California State Assembly      | <a href="http://www.assembly.ca.gov">www.assembly.ca.gov</a> |
| California State Senate        | <a href="http://www.senate.ca.gov">www.senate.ca.gov</a>     |
| U.S. House of Representatives  | <a href="http://www.house.gov">www.house.gov</a>             |
| U.S. Senate                    | <a href="http://www.senate.gov">www.senate.gov</a>           |
| Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger | <a href="http://www.ca.gov">www.ca.gov</a>                   |
| President George W. Bush       | <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov">www.whitehouse.gov</a>   |

### Tracking Legislation

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| California Legislation | <a href="http://www.leginfo.ca.gov">www.leginfo.ca.gov</a> |
| Federal Legislation    | <a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">thomas.loc.gov</a>         |

## NHPRC's Three New Grant Opportunities

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has approved three new grant programs for the next round of applications—"Archives Leadership Institute," "Digitizing Historical Records," and "Historical Documentary Editing Fellowships." Applications for all three programs are due October 2, 2006. Information on all the NHPRC's grant programs is available through their website at [www.archives.gov/nhprc](http://www.archives.gov/nhprc). The following types of institutions, organizations, agencies, and individuals are eligible: Non-profit organizations and institutions, including colleges, universities and other academic institutions; state and local government agencies; and, federally-acknowledged or state-recognized Native American tribes and groups.

For the Archives Leadership Institute, the NHPRC seeks proposals from organizations to design and implement the institute, which is envisioned as a one- to two-week program that will tailor contemporary best practices in leadership skills to issues specific to archives. The grantee will be responsible for all phases, from curriculum design and development through administering the program for archives professionals. Topics for the curricula might include issues in technology, economics, public policy, and constituent relations, along with practical questions of administration, strategic planning, and fundraising. In addition, there should be opportunities for participants to develop solutions to the specific needs of their institutions. To cover these topics and needs, Institute faculty should include experts and educators in public administration, business, and organizational development as well as experienced archival leaders. The Commission expects to make one award for up to three years with the expectation that at least two institutes will take place during that period. The total award will be up to \$250,000.

The Digitizing Historical Records grant program is looking for proposals to test and implement cost-effective methods to scan historical record collections and make digital versions freely available on the Internet. These pilot Digitizing Historical Records projects should develop models that can be used by other archives. Projects must focus on digitizing archival collections or series that consist of nationally-significant materials. The selected materials should already be processed so that projects can use existing information to create metadata for the digitized collection. The selected materials should include enough records to test the feasibility and value of disseminating large quantities of historical sources based on standard archival methods of description and arrangement (most likely using existing Encoded Archival Description finding aids). The Commission intends to allocate one to three awards of up to \$150,000 each, up to half of the total project cost. Each project may be up to three years in duration.

Grants for the Historical Documentary Editing Fellowships program should come from NHPRC-supported publications projects. An application from a prospective host institution should demonstrate the capability to provide strong post-graduate training in documentary editing, including document collection, accessioning, and control; selection; transcription; annotation; proofreading; indexing; and project management. Staff at the host institution will solicit applicants, select the best candidate, and arrange for their hiring by the institution. The Commission provides this funding to ensure that recent History Ph.D.s or advanced graduate students have exposure to historical editing techniques and careers. The host institution may use a limited amount of funds to cover costs of recruiting a fellow and giving the fellow limited travel and educational opportunities. Awards are for one-year grants of \$55,000 each. Depending on the quality of proposals and availability of funding, the Commission expects to fund one to two fellowship projects, each with a single fellow. The Commission requires no cost sharing for Historical Documentary Editing Fellowships. ■

## Readex Completes Early American Newspapers Project Series I



In late June, Readex, which is a website that publishes online historical collections, announced that it has completed Series I of its Early American Newspapers project, covering the years 1690 to 1876. This amazing resource of digitized newspapers features searchable reproductions of nearly 350,000 issues of more than 700 American newspapers. The newspapers are taken primarily from the holdings of the American Antiquarian Society. The project covers newspapers from 23 states and the District of Columbia and is based on Clarence S. Brigham's "History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820" as well as other bibliographic sources. Users of the site can view, magnify, print and save items and have the ability to limit searches to such categories as news/opinion, election returns, letters, poetry, legislative acts or legal proceedings, prices, advertisements, matrimony notices, and death notices. Ellen S. Dunlap, president of the American Antiquarian Society, stated, "The joint effort of Readex and the American Antiquarian Society has led to the creation of a digital historical newspaper collection of unparalleled breadth and depth. We are pleased to see our vast newspaper holdings serve to further contribute to fresh understandings of our nation's past."

Rommel Nunn, Readex Vice President of New Product Development, added, "Now, Web-based access to one of the most valuable sources for 18th- and 19th-century historical research is enabling students and scholars at hundreds of institutions worldwide to explore nearly every aspect of early America." The project is part of Readex's Archive of Americana and shares a common interface with Early American Newspapers, Series II, 1758-1900, and Early American Newspapers, Series III, 1829-1922. For more information, and to view the Archive of Americana, visit [www.readex.com](http://www.readex.com). ■

## The Antiquities Act: A Century of Historic Preservation

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management  
excerpted from [www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/menu/media/history/pdf](http://www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/menu/media/history/pdf)

One hundred years ago President Theodore Roosevelt signed "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities," otherwise known as the Antiquities Act of 1906. This was the first time the United States recognized, in law, that the material remains of our past were a valuable part of our heritage. The Antiquities Act set the stage for a comprehensive body of law and policies that became the foundation for the cultural resource management programs of federal land managing agencies. The Act created criminal sanctions for the destruction of antiquities, provided for permits to authorize study of archaeological sites, and allowed presidential designation of outstanding archaeological, historic and scientific areas as national monuments for long-term preservation. This function of the Act has been used by Presidents throughout the 20th century to establish national monuments preserving nationally important archaeological, historic, and natural areas. The first national monument to be established under the Antiquities Act—Devil's Tower in Wyoming—was proclaimed by President Theodore Roosevelt on September 24, 1906. Before President Roosevelt left office in 1909, he signed proclamations establishing 18 national monuments. Six were created

primarily to preserve historic and prehistoric sites including Montezuma's Castle, Tonto ruins, and Tumacacori in Arizona.

There is scant evidence that the Act's criminal provisions had much effect on looting and vandalism. Since 1906 there have only been 18 convictions for violations of the Antiquities Act, and in 1974 the criminal provisions of the Act were effectively nullified by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which held that the term "object of antiquity" was ambiguous and the law was therefore unconstitutional. In 1979 the Antiquities Act was supplanted by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act as a tool for prosecuting looters of archaeological sites.

Despite its modest record in deterring archaeological looters, the Antiquities Act has an outstanding record of preserving archaeological and historic resources through its use as the authority to create national monuments. The preservation of landscapes and the archaeological and historic resources on them is arguably the Act's most important legacy and its greatest strength as a piece of legislation. The Act also established the foundation for federal historic preservation policy and stood for 73 years as the only specific legislation to protect archaeological sites on federal lands. ■

## JRP Historical Consulting Celebrates 25 Years of Business

Davis-based firm, JRP Historical Consulting, announced their 25th anniversary in May. Founding partners Rand F. Herbert and Stephen R. Wee, along with the late UC Davis Professor Emeritus W. Turrentine Jackson, formed the company in 1981. Stephen D. Mikesell, who is now California Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, was a partner for about 10 years, and Rebecca Meta Bunse has been a partner with JRP since 2002.

JRP is one of the oldest operating public history consulting firms in the nation and is located in the University Research Park area of Davis, California. At its founding, JRP specialized in providing clients with archival research, documents, and expert opinions on historical matters relevant to modern day public policy and natural resource management concerns. This work has ranged from studies on the validity of riparian and pre-1914 appropriative water claims, historical water and land use, Native American and federal reserved water rights, historic navigation of inland waters, flooding, and construction of flood control works in the Sacramento Valley and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. With the development of regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act and California Environmental Quality Act, JRP expanded its services through the 1980s to include historic site and building surveys and evaluations, National Register of Historic Places nominations, evaluation of historic properties for the California Register of Historical Resources, and studies of how to manage and preserve historic properties.

State and federal agencies have recognized the high quality of JRP's work in the area of historic resources management with the commission of three statewide thematic studies undertaken by JRP since 1997. These three studies addressed historic water conveyance systems for mining, irrigation, hydroelectric power and flood control; metal truss and concrete arch highway bridges built in California between 1935 and 1960 (more than 500 bridges); and California military installations.

JRP received the 2000 Annual Governor's Award for Historic Preservation, and in 2001 JRP was awarded the California Council for the Promotion of History's Certificate for Meritorious Service. More recently, Caltrans awarded JRP with its prestigious Superior Accomplishment Award (2003). JRP principals and staff are active members of the community in historic preservation, as well as history advocacy and education. JRP has a commitment to public (non-academic) careers in history, and supports students exploring career alternatives to teaching history in traditional settings. To learn more about JRP, visit their website at [www.jrphistorical.com](http://www.jrphistorical.com). ■

Summer 2006



The Gibson Mansion in Woodland, now home to the Yolo County Museum and Historical Society, was a fitting location for JRP's 25th anniversary bash.

## Oral History Pioneer Willa Baum, 1926-2006

excerpted from *UC Berkeley News*



Willa Klug Baum, an internationally respected oral historian and the longtime director of UC Berkeley's oral history program, passed away May 18, following back surgery. She was 79. Her pioneering work in oral history methodology and interview techniques served as the foundation for the establishment and growth of oral history as a unique academic discipline.

Born in Chicago on October 4, 1926, Baum's unconventional childhood included schooling in Germany and Switzerland before settling in Ramona, a small town in southern California. She attended Whittier College, studying history under Professor Paul Smith—who once made the galling (to her) comment that she was his *second*-best student ever, after Richard Nixon. Upon graduation, Baum received a scholarship offer from Mills College in Oakland to study history. After obtaining a master's degree from Mills, she accepted a scholarship from Berkeley to pursue a Ph.D. in U.S. history, making her one of only two women in the program at the time. In graduate school, she married Paul Baum, a fellow doctoral student, and they settled in Berkeley. After the births of the first two of their children, Paul became ill, so Willa began working full-time to support the family, teaching English as a second language and transcribing interviews.

It was around this time that Berkeley's president, Robert Gordon Sproul, agreed to allocate money to capture the stories of individuals who had helped make history—giving birth in 1954 to the oral history project at Berkeley, now known as the Regional Oral History Office (ROHO). The goal was to send out interviewers to record the accounts of those who had shaped the West. Baum was appointed in 1955 as an interviewer and editor specializing in the fields of agriculture and water development. In 1958 she became the project's director, a position she held until her retirement in 2000. Baum loved being involved in oral history, getting to meet people of the highest caliber and interview them about the events and issues

they felt most passionately about. Through her interviews, she got to know Earl Warren, Golda Meir, Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, David Brower, and many others.

Baum was instrumental in establishing oral history as an accepted discipline by working with colleagues from around the country to develop professional standards and methodologies. She was a founding member of the Oral History Association. She published numerous books and anthologies on the topic of oral history; her 1969 publication, *Oral History for the Local Historical Society*, is still considered a fundamental primer on establishing an oral history program. Under Baum's directorship, ROHO amassed more than 1,600 oral histories, filled with first-hand accounts of the participants in significant historical events primarily in California and the West. These permanent eyewitness-accounts of history are on deposit at over 800 libraries worldwide. ROHO established a reputation of being ahead of the curve in identifying and documenting historical movements. Its *Suffragists and Women in Politics* series began in the early 1970s, before most campuses had women's studies programs; its early documentation of the disability-rights movement now provides primary research materials for disability studies. Upon her retirement, Baum was bestowed the Berkeley Citation for her service to the campus, the President's Citation for her contributions to the UC, and the Hubert Howe Bancroft Award for her leadership of ROHO.

Baum is survived by her sister, Gretchen Klug, of Oakland; five children (Marc Baum of San Francisco, Eric Baum of Santa Monica, Rachel Baum Bogard of Nevada, Brandon Baum of Palo Alto and Anya Davis of Los Angeles); seven grandchildren; and her beloved housekeeper and companion, Shirley Williams of Berkeley. She was preceded in death by her son Noah and her former husband, Paul. Donations in Baum's memory may be sent to the Willa K. Baum endowment for oral history, c/o the Regional Oral History Office at the University of California, Berkeley. ■

## Former LA Cultural Affairs Director Kenneth Ross Passes

Kenneth Ross, the founder of the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the man who spearheaded the restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's Hollyhock House and the preservation of the Watts Towers by Simon Rodia, died of natural causes in late February 2006. Ross, who was 95, also assisted with the establishment of the Municipal Art Gallery and the Junior Arts Center that are part of the Hollyhock House complex. He served as director of the city's arts programs from 1949 to the late 1970s and built what began as a one-man operation into a department staffed by more than 35 people. Ross met Frank Lloyd Wright while on a train trip and persuaded him to accept the task of designing an art pavilion at Barnsdall Park, to be placed next to Wright's Hollyhock House, by then under the ownership of the city. The Wright Gallery opened in 1954 but was torn down in 1969 to make way for the Municipal Art Gallery. In subsequent years Ross led efforts to restore Wright's Hollyhock House and establish it as a house museum. The project was completed in 1976. Watts Towers, begun in 1921 and nearly demolished to make way for a restaurant in the early 1970s, came under the care of Ross' department in 1975.

Born in El Paso, Ross, as a toddler, moved with his two sisters to Pasadena to be raised by an aunt after their mother died. He graduated from Polytechnic Institute in Pasadena and attended several local art schools before going to study art in Europe. There he helped found the Euston Road Art School in London in 1938. Ross is survived by four children and two grandsons. Before becoming director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Ross headed the Pasadena Museum of Art and wrote as an art critic for the Pasadena Star-News. ■

## National Archives and Records Administration Faces Drastic Cutbacks

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is facing an operational shortfall of \$12 million in the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 07/08. Additionally, the House of Representatives has proposed cutting NARA's funding by \$8 million more to help pay for a drug interdiction initiative. Although Transportation/Treasury Appropriation Subcommittee Chairman Joseph Knollenberg (R-MI) argued to defeat the proposed amendment, a majority of the members of the House supported it, apparently not wanting to appear soft on crime in an election year. To top it off, NARA is now facing \$2 million in damage at its Washington, D.C., main archives facility as a result of recent flooding. NARA officials have indicated that unless they can come up with \$22 million in additional funding, they may be required to reduce the hours of operation of the rotunda at the main archives and at its research rooms throughout the country; cancel shuttle service between the main archives and the College Park, Maryland, facility; stop creating compilations of the public papers of presidents, which are used by many researchers; furloughing staff; and zeroing out funding for overtime and employee bonuses. Public history advocates are being urged to call their individual senators' offices to urge for an augmentation of NARA's budget by \$22 million. For more information, visit [www.h-net.org/~nch/](http://www.h-net.org/~nch/). ■

## Joshua Tree National Park's Todd Swain Honored as Top Ranger for 2006

Todd Swain, Park Ranger and Special Agent at Joshua Tree National Park in California, is this year's recipient of the Harry Yount National Park Ranger Award for excellence in "rangering." The peer-nominated award not only seeks to recognize and honor outstanding rangers, but to encourage high standards of performance, foster an especially responsive attitude toward public service, enhance the public's appreciation of the Park Ranger profession, and further the art and science of "rangering." According to the award nomination, "Without exception, Park Ranger and Special Agent Todd Swain walks among the legendary professionals in resource protection, search and rescue, and ranger skills, not only within the NPS, not only within the Department of Interior, but among resource protection professionals internationally." Swain's park ranger career progressed from Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota to Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming and on to Joshua Tree National Park in California. As a climbing ranger, Todd's rescue skills and personal expertise are legendary. He teaches other rangers and volunteer rescue teams, and established the first rock rescue seminars held an-

nually at Joshua Tree. A true "Renaissance Ranger," Todd put his teaching skills to further use through his invaluable contribution to rescue journals, climbing guides, and training manuals. For more than a decade, Todd has been the highest rated instructor of resource protection courses for archeologists, paleontologists, tactical teams, superintendents, U.S. Attorneys, and park rangers in basic and advanced courses. He created an Advanced Resource Protection course that brings together professional disciplines within land management agencies to protect natural and cultural resources. Todd has been one of the principle developers and leaders in the partnership between the Department of Justice and the NPS course "Overview of Resource Protection Crimes." This course has been invaluable in gaining support for resource protection from the U.S. Attorneys nationwide. Todd has frequently been requested to instruct or provide counsel to the FBI's Art Crimes Team. It is during his instruction, casework, court testimony, media interviews, and day to day interactions with the public that Todd constantly presents the highest standards of professionalism that reflect so proudly on the park ranger profession. ■

## Landscape Restoration One Goal of New National Park Bill

Representative Steve Pearce (R-NM) introduced legislation in mid-May to establish a "demonstration program to facilitate landscape restorations within certain units of the National Park System established by law to preserve and interpret resources associated with American history." The bill, HR 5411, directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish the program within those units that preserve and interpret "resources associated with American military history." The bill would allow the 24 National Battlefields and other NPS-administered battlefields to keep funds provided by receipts from the sale of timber to fund a variety of activities, including landscape restoration, interpretation, invasive species eradication, and fuel load reduction. The legislation was drafted with substantial input from several environmental organizations, including National Parks Conservation Association, which is supportive of the bill "as introduced." On June 21 the House Committee on Resources held a mark-up session and ordered the bill be reported by unanimous consent. The committee has also requested official comment from the Interior department. ■

## Taking a Stand: Acts of Courage Towards Japanese-Americans During World War II

by Tara Siegel for 2006 History Day in California

From February 1942 through October 1946, the American government confined over 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry to internment camps. Under military supervision, all Pacific-Coast Japanese-Americans were required to leave their homes and businesses to relocate to 13 rural detention centers scattered between the Sierra Nevada and the Mississippi River. A majority of the internees were American citizens.

Modern historical analyses commonly characterize the internment as heavily supported by non-Japanese-Americans. Research regarding internment opponents typically focuses on a limited number of institutions (including the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union and the Fair Play Committee), religious leaders, and artists (such as Ansel Adams and Dorothea Lange).<sup>1</sup> Previous research, however, has not explored actions taken by the minority of “everyday” (that is, non-elite) Americans who opposed the internment. Did internment opponents aid Japanese-Americans? What was the nature of their support? What motivated these individuals? To investigate these questions, this paper examines the actions of internment opponents living in or near a county with a significant Japanese-American population: Sacramento, California.

### Background

The attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, prompted a backlash against Japanese-Americans. Rumors spread fears of Japanese-American sabotage. One rumor, planted by an FBI agent, claimed Japanese-American farmers were sending smoke signals to Japan.<sup>2</sup> Public fears triggered restrictions upon Japanese-Americans, including curfews and shop window signs that declared “No Japs Allowed.”<sup>3</sup> Kiyoo Sato, a Sacramento student recalled: “My friends at City College stopped talking to me the day after the Pearl Harbor attack . . . The newspapers were all talking about putting us all in concentration camps or throwing us out into the desert.”<sup>4</sup> “Emotional propagandists” called for an internment of all Japanese-Americans.<sup>5</sup> Initially, Lieutenant Army General J. L. DeWitt opposed the concept of internment.<sup>6</sup> The rising support for the internment, however, eventually swayed him; General DeWitt supported Executive Order 9066,<sup>7</sup> under which Americans of Japanese ancestry were confined to internment camps.<sup>8</sup>

The Japanese-American internment enjoyed strong public support. A *San Francisco News* editorial entitled “The best way to prove their loyalty” published on March 6, 1942, argued that the internment would not only root out saboteurs, but benefit loyal Japanese-American citizens: “[The internment] presents an opportunity to the people of an enemy race to prove their spirit of co-operation.”<sup>9</sup> Moreover, the editorial argued that the internment would be the most effective way to keep Japanese-Americans safe; while integrated, Japanese-Americans were at risk of race riots.<sup>10</sup> Following the evacuation of Japanese-Americans, a *San Francisco News* article estimated “about 90 per cent of the people . . . seem to be profoundly relieved that the Army-directed evacuation of the Japanese is at last getting under way.”<sup>11</sup> Even some Japa-

nese-Americans supported the internment. Mary Tsukamoto wrote letters on behalf of the Japanese American Citizens League to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, General DeWitt, the California Governor, senators, and congressman to thank them for their kindness.<sup>12</sup> Tsukamoto recalls feeling “something had to be done,” but, in retrospect, she wishes that she had not supported the internment.<sup>13</sup>

Despite its popular support, the internment violated the United States Constitution. The Fifth Amendment guarantees “No person shall . . . be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.”<sup>14</sup> Japanese-American internees were not tried for crimes. Thirty-four years after President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, President Gerald Ford issued a proclamation condemning the internment and rescinding the Executive Order. Ford labeled the internment a “setback to American principles,” and added “We now know what we should have known then—not only was that evacuation wrong, but Japanese-Americans were and are loyal Americans.”<sup>15</sup>

### Why Sacramento?

The actions of ordinary, non-elite individuals are seldom well documented in books, photographs, or newspaper articles. Researching the actions of everyday people during the internment, therefore, proves difficult. To undertake research, this paper focuses on one county with a significant Japanese-American population and a wealth of locally preserved primary documents: Sacramento County, California.

According to the 1940 United States census, 78.3 percent of all Japanese-Americans lived in the State of California.<sup>16</sup> Sacramento was the seventh most populous county in California and its racial, urban/rural, and other characteristics generally matched California’s average.<sup>17</sup>

This paper primarily draws from eleven oral history interviews conducted by the Sacramento County-based Florin Japanese-American Citizens League (JACL) and from one personal interview conducted by the author. The JACL has transcribed more than 80 oral histories, most of which detail Japanese-American experiences during the internment. Eleven interviews, however, were conducted with non-Japanese-Americans who aided Japanese-Americans. These sources provided evidence of a small group of people typically omitted from historical publications: non-elite internment opponents. The transcripts, however, are inherently limited due to flawed human memories, ambiguous communication, and any “modesty” or “boastfulness” of the interviewees. Consequently, the author corroborated and supplemented the transcripts with historical analyses and contemporaneous newspaper articles, letters, essays, and legal documents.

### Did anyone take actions to aid Japanese-Americans?

While most everyday Americans supported the internment, a few took a stand against the internment by aiding Japanese-Americans. This paper found evidence of 13 non-Japanese-Americans in the greater Sacramento area who helped Japanese-Americans. Given the nature of their actions, perhaps up to 300 Japanese-Americans benefited from these acts of kindness.

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Sacramento residents supported Japanese-Americans by watching over their farms, storing belongings, and teaching at internment schools. These actions were legal and anticipated an eventual re-integration of Japanese-Americans into the community. The following are examples of non-Japanese-Americans who took a stand against the internment.

Margaret Tiessen Waegell, a 54-year-old resident of Florin, California, was the mother of a large farming family. Waegell expressed her disagreement with the internment by writing letters to legislators and the editor of *The Sacramento Bee*.<sup>18</sup> During the relocation process, Waegell and her children helped transport Japanese-Americans and their belongings to relocation centers.<sup>19</sup> During the internment, Waegell stored Japanese-Americans' possessions—a significant gesture, as government officials in charge of storage frequently pilfered unprotected belongings.<sup>20</sup> Waegell maintained correspondence with multiple Japanese-Americans in internment camps, to whom she provided hats, fruit, and emotional support.<sup>21</sup>

Robert Fletcher, another Florin resident, abandoned his well-paying job as a farm inspector to care for three Japanese-American grape and strawberry farms.<sup>22</sup> When Al Tsukamoto (a Japanese-American farmer) approached Fletcher about overseeing his farm, Tsukamoto offered Fletcher 100 percent of the farm's revenue.<sup>23</sup> Fletcher protested, and instead saved one-half of the profit for the farms' owners.<sup>24</sup>

Vivian and Jerry Kara, farmers and owners of Kara's Drive-In Store, also cared for three Japanese-American farms during the internment.<sup>25</sup> The Karas further supported their Japanese-American neighbors by sending them letters and storing furniture.<sup>26</sup>

Francis Cumpston, a 28-year-old from Elk Grove, came to the train depot to see off the Japanese-American families when they departed.<sup>27</sup>

Several educators, disturbed by the plight of their Japanese-Americans students, left their jobs to teach at their students' internment schools. For example, Margaret Crosby Gunderson, a 39-year-old high school teacher, moved from her home in Oakland to Tule Lake Internment Camp with her husband, Wayne Fields, and her daughter, Margery Fields.<sup>28</sup> In her new classroom, Gunderson praised diversity and stressed that America, while based upon noble principles, was committing a grave error.<sup>29</sup>

Similarly, Robert W. Coombs, a 24-year-old from Visalia, lived and taught at the Minidoka Relocation Center.<sup>30</sup> Coombs coped with cold winters, dust storms, and lava dust allergies to teach at the camp.<sup>31</sup> He taught English, public speaking, and history in overcrowded classrooms equipped with picnic benches and butcher paper, instead of desks and blackboards.<sup>32</sup>

Kindness expressed towards Japanese-Americans was met with harsh criticism. When Coombs told the Superintendent of the Sacramento City Unified School District that he found a job at an internment camp, the Superintendent exclaimed, "Don't you ever come back and ask for a job here in Sacramento."<sup>33</sup> Later, Coombs summarized the reactions of his friends and neighbors to his new job: "It was not always a bed of roses whenever I came home to Sacramento."<sup>34</sup> Margery Fields recalls ostracism. As a teenager, Fields lived

just outside of the Tule Lake internment camp, where her parents taught at a Japanese-American school.<sup>35</sup> Fields' new high school gave her a "cold reception"<sup>36</sup> and the community labeled her family "Jap lovers."<sup>37</sup> Fields' father, Wayne, received angry letters from his relatives, including one from Aunt Anna, who fumed, "How could you be comforting the enemy? I'll never forgive you."<sup>38</sup>

## Why did internment opponents aid Japanese-Americans?

When asked "What did you do different that a lot of other people didn't do?" Robert Fletcher responded, "I don't think I did anything."<sup>39</sup> On the contrary, Fletcher gave up his job as a fruit and vegetable inspector to manage three Japanese-Americans' family farms while the families were interned.) Other internment opponents cited moral justifications. Coombs explained "I could not live with myself . . . if I had decided not to go [teach at the internment camp]."<sup>40</sup>

These responses mirror the attitudes of righteous gentiles, individuals who aided Jews in Nazi Germany. Righteous gentiles aided Jews, knowing that—if discovered—they would suffer for their actions. Nevertheless, when questioned about their actions, righteous gentiles typically asserted that they did "what everybody normally should be doing . . . It is common sense" or "It's pretty near impossible not to help."<sup>41</sup> Upon reviewing the "righteous gentile phenomenon," historian Andrew Flescher concluded, "Rescuing becomes one's duty, strictly obligatory as all moral duties are, only for those who have the *requisite amount of virtue* to be able to perceive it as such."<sup>42</sup> Consequently, the question shifts from "Why did these people aid Japanese-Americans?" to "What convinced Sacramento non-Japanese-Americans that they were morally obligated to aid Japanese-Americans?"

In an attempt to answer this question, this paper looked for attributes shared by these individuals. While it is impossible to retrospectively match a person's motives with his or her actions, exploring why these people took unpopular, but principled, actions provides clues as to the range of political beliefs and social thought during the internment era. This investigation of oral history interviews, historical analyses, and various primary source documents revealed that most non-Japanese-Americans who aided Japanese-Americans shared three attributes: (1) Close personal interactions with Japanese-Americans; (2) An affinity for America's democratic foundation; and (3) A higher level of education.

### Close interactions with Japanese-Americans

Non-Japanese-Americans who helped Japanese-Americans generally had positive interactions with Japanese-Americans prior to the internment. When interviewed, these people recalled their Japanese-Americans schoolmates and friends. Margaret Grant Waegell, for example, explained that while she did not always understand Japanese-American customs, she had many fond childhood memories of Japanese-Americans.<sup>43</sup> Waegell attended Elk Grove High School where there were many Japanese-Americans students.<sup>44</sup> She recalls: "We got along quite well . . . I like[d] them myself because they were studious."<sup>45</sup> Coombs likewise remembered interactions with Japanese-Americans. During the Depression, a Japanese-American farmer donated food to Coombs' school so that he and other students could have a hot lunch every day.<sup>46</sup> More-

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over, as adults, many non-Japanese-Americans came into contact with Japanese-Americans in professional and personal settings. Robert Fletcher inspected Japanese-Americans' farms. Margaret Gunderson taught Japanese-American pupils. The Waegell family farmed near Japanese-American farmers.

While discussing her grandmother's aid to Japanese-Americans, Barbara Holland asserted that her grandmother was a racist.<sup>47</sup> Nevertheless, Holland added, once her grandmother got to know an African-American or Japanese-American, she no longer viewed them as an "African-American" or "Japanese-American," but as "people."<sup>48</sup> Holland's grandmother's experience offers an explanation as to why many non-Japanese-Americans helped Japanese-Americans. Perhaps growing up and working with Japanese-Americans altered these individuals' perceptions of Japanese-Americans. Instead of viewing Japanese-Americans as members of an "enemy race," internment opponents identified Japanese-Americans as friends, individuals, and Americans.

### An affinity for America's democratic foundation

"My attitude was that this was what I could do as my contribution to the war effort and nobody could take it away from me," explained Coombs, regarding his aid to Japanese-Americans.<sup>49</sup> Prior to the internment, Coombs worked as a teacher at Sacramento High School.<sup>50</sup> The evacuation of Japanese-American students, however, left Sacramento High 300 students short and, as a result, in need of fewer teachers.<sup>51</sup> Consequently, Coombs was laid off.<sup>52</sup> Initially, Coombs applied for jobs with the Army and the Red Cross, but a thyroid disorder prevented him from obtaining these positions.<sup>53</sup> Instead, he accepted a job as a teacher in the Minidoka Relocation Center in 1942.<sup>54</sup> Coombs' response to his nation's call for internment camp teachers upheld his value of taking an active role in his country's wartime operations. While Coombs did not support the internment, he considered his actions patriotic.<sup>55</sup>

Similar to Coombs, many non-Japanese-Americans aided Japanese-Americans in order to support America. While they vehemently opposed the internment, these individuals identified with the American ideals of freedom, opportunity, and strength through diversity. Margaret Gunderson, a teacher who moved to Tule Lake Relocation Center, taught her Japanese-American students that America was a flawed country based upon noble ideals.<sup>56</sup> She informed her students that the government had violated their rights, yet she maintained faith in her country, proclaiming America "the last best hope of the world—the Land of Promise."<sup>57</sup> By aiding Japanese-Americans, dissidents such as Gunderson supported America's broad principles while protesting specific American policies.

### A higher level of education

Education may have played a role in an individual's choice to oppose the internment. Of the eight internment opponents who provided data on their educational levels, four held a university or college degree, and three were high school graduates. While none of the individuals interviewed claimed that their level of education influenced their decision to aid Japanese-Americans, their overall educational level was strikingly above the state and county averages. According to

the 1940 census, only eight percent of Californian males and five percent of Californian females over 25 had attended four or more years of college.<sup>58</sup> Similarly, in Sacramento County, six percent of males and five percent of females over 25 had four or more years of a college education.<sup>59</sup>

While the Japanese-American internment enjoyed popular support during the 1940s, this paper found that some low-profile non-Japanese-Americans took a stand against the internment by aiding the internees. Sacramento residents cared for farms, taught at internment camps, stored belongings, and wrote letters to Japanese-Americans. Moreover, this analysis of Sacramento residents who aided the internees found that internment opponents generally shared three characteristics: a history of close interactions with Japanese-Americans; a deep belief in America's democratic principles; and a high level of education.

Often, governmental policies and majority opinions mask a nation's range of perspectives. When the Japanese-American internment is considered without reference to the internment opponents, it may appear as though all of America had temporarily detached itself from its constitutional principles. The stories of people who aided Japanese-Americans, however, indicate otherwise. The actions of these individuals softened the impact of the internment and demonstrated some diversity of opinion in America during World War II.

**Notes** (for complete citations, see annotated bibliography included with this paper at [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph))

- 1 The Northern California American Civil Liberties Union brought pro bono cases to the Supreme Court on behalf of Japanese-Americans; religious leaders from Quaker, Jewish, Christian, and other faiths spoke out against the internment or aided Japanese-Americans; Ansel Adams and Dorothea Lange recorded the internment through pictures and subsequent publications.
- 2 Karen Alonso, *Korematsu v. United States*, p. 19.
- 3 Margaret Gunderson, "Relocation," pp. 8-10.
- 4 Ken Kaji, "Internment and the Church," p. 2.
- 5 Gunderson, p. 10 (relocation).
- 6 Alonso, pp. 19-37.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 David Wu, "Congressman Wu Calls for Official Recognition of Japanese Internment," p. 1.
- 9 *The San Francisco News*, "Their Best Way to Show Loyalty," p. 1.
- 10 Ibid.
- 11 E.A. Evans, "Mass Exodus of Japs Begun," p. 2.
- 12 Oral History Interview with Mary Tsukamoto, pp. 2-24.
- 13 Tsukamoto, pp. 2-24.
- 14 Amendment V, the Constitution of the United States of America
- 15 Gerald R. Ford, "An American Promise," p. 1.
- 16 "Historical Census Browser." Data drawn directly from historical volumes of the U.S. Census of Population and Housing.
- 17 Ibid.
- 18 Oral History Interview with Waegell Family, pp. 1-16.
- 19 Ibid., pp. 1-22.
- 20 Ibid.
- 21 Letters to Mrs. Waegell.
- 22 Oral History Interview with Robert Fletcher, p. i.
- 23 Tsukamoto, pp. 2-32.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 Oral History Interview with Vivian Kara, pp. iv, 8.
- 26 Ibid.
- 27 Oral History Interview with Francis Cumpston, p. 16.
- 28 Oral History Interview with Margaret Crosby Gunderson, p. ii.
- 29 Ibid., p. 25.
- 30 Oral History Interview with Robert W. Coombs, p. ii.
- 31 Ibid., p. 14.
- 32 Ibid., p. 7.

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*Sunset Limited: The Southern Pacific Railroad and the Development of the American West, 1850-1930.* Richard J. Orsi. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005. 615 pp.; b/w photographs, illustrations, maps, notes with references, index; \$29.95.

What would the popular image of the Southern Pacific Railroad be today if a writer had woven their narrative around the story of how the railroad had worked to save Lake Tahoe from serving as a reservoir for a federal irrigation project? Or, what if a story line had centered on an alliance that was forged between the same railroad and John Muir to protect Yosemite Park? Of course, these Southern Pacific chronicles are not widely known. Instead, author Frank Norris used an event known as the "Battle of Mussel Slough" as the source for his 1901 novel, *The Octopus*, in which Central Valley wheat growers are violently pitted against a mean-spirited, monopolistic railroad.

In his meticulously researched and gracefully written book, *Sunset Limited*, Richard Orsi deflates this myth, and many others, which have portrayed the Southern Pacific uniformly in a negative light. He looks beyond the customary perspectives and writings on the Southern Pacific, which have long been framed by the dark shadow cast by "The Big Four," and have reflected, by and large, a simplistic, anti-railroad bias. Starting with a clean slate and an open mind, and having had unique access to Southern Pacific corporate archival materials, Orsi carefully lays out his evidence to show how the railroad made numerous positive contributions to Western history, especially in California, in the broad areas of land development, water policy, agriculture, and natural resources conservation.

The author takes a page (with proper credit given) from economic historian Alfred Chandler's landmark book, *The Invisible Hand*—that is, to focus not exclusively on the elite at the very top of a corporate pyramid but to look at its managerial ranks. In spotlighting the Southern Pacific's William H. Mills, Julius Kruttschnitt, Birdsall McAllister, and Benjamin Redding, among others, Orsi discovers middle-level leaders did not embrace a quick-to-exploit, turn-a-profit philosophy. Instead, such men applied long-term scientific management and conservation principles in their decision-making. Though the Southern Pacific did not always act in the best public interest, the book provides strong evidence that the railroad came to quickly understand that what furthered its interests best were practices that did.

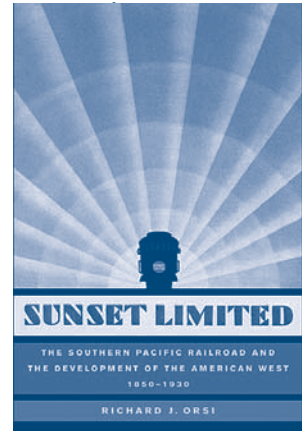
So Orsi discovered that the railroad took actions to discourage hydraulic mining, sustain watersheds and protect scenic vistas, adopt scientific forestry practices, establish and financially support small farms, encourage the formation of granges and growers' cooperatives, and pioneer innovative technology to properly irrigate land. Moreover, in the absence of strong government leadership, the Southern Pacific collected and shared important regional data concerning weather, soil conditions, pest control measures, and the results of its experimentation with trees and crops. For many years in the early twentieth century, the railroad brought to remote rural outposts what might be called a "university extension on wheels" to disseminate the latest scientific agricultural expertise among the local populace. The Southern Pacific helped to market California's (as well as other western states') agricultural products to the midwest and east coast by physically transporting exhibits to fairs, and in dozens of other ways helped to grow California's economic engine. Moreover, in the context of its time, while railroading was an extremely dangerous venture, the Southern Pacific went beyond other employers in establishing a nascent health care system and opening company-owned hospitals. The book provides a firm and convincing foundation for all these arguments, and many more too numerous to detail here.

Orsi is not blind to the monumental environmental degradation induced by railroads as they plunged through wilderness areas, and his cogent treatment serves as a prelude to the discussion on the Southern Pacific's conservation record. Nor did everything with which Southern Pacific experiment turn out right, and readers will find such fascinating vignettes as those involving the railroad's attempts to bring a Russian colony, the Doukhobars, to California, or how a program to eradicate ground squirrels failed, as did the establishment of eucalyptus tree farms.

The book is enhanced by the inclusion of many photos from the author's personal collection. And historians, who generally take as much pleasure in reading the content of footnotes as the main body of text, will be delighted to see nearly 200 pages of contextual notes.

Because of the wide range of topics addressed, this outstanding book will not only be of particular interest to those wanting to specifically learn more about what was once the world's largest transportation company, but also for those who want to have a better understanding of the development of California and western America, as well.

*Greg King is Chief of the Cultural and Community Studies Office, California Department of Transportation in Sacramento and is adjunct professor of history at California State University, Sacramento.* ■



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| 33 Ibid., p.17.                        | 41 Andrew Flescher, "Characterizing the | 51 Ibid., p. 4.                                     |
| 34 Ibid.                               | Acts of Righteous Gentiles,"p.4.        | 52 Ibid.  |
| 35 Oral History Interview with Margery | 42 Ibid., p.6.                          | 53 Ibid., p. 17.                                    |
| G. Fields, p. 11.                      | 43 Waegell, pp. 1-25.                   | 54 Ibid., p. ii.                                    |
| 36 Ibid., p. 14.                       | 44 Ibid., pp. 1-2.                      | 55 Ibid., p. 35.                                    |
| 37 Ibid., p. 18.                       | 45 Ibid.                                | 56 Margaret Gunderson, "Yellow Peril Essay," p. ii. |
| 38 Ibid.                               | 46 Coombs, p.2.                         | 57 Gunderson, p. 25.                                |
| 39 Oral History Interview with Robert  | 47 Barbara Holland, personal interview. | 58 "Historical Census Browser." Data drawn di-      |
| Fletcher, p. 54.                       | 48 Ibid.                                | rectly from historical volumes of the U.S. Cen-     |
| 40 Coombs, p. 28.                      | 49 Coombs, p. 17.                       | sus of Population and Housing.                      |
|  | 50 Ibid., p. 2.                         | 59 Ibid. ■  |

## Ken Bernstein Named New Los Angeles Preservation Director

The Los Angeles Planning Department has selected Ken Bernstein, Director of Preservation Issues at the Los Angeles Conservancy, as the City's new Director of Historic Resources. Bernstein was chosen from a pool of 24 applicants in a national search to fill the newly created position, which will be charged with protecting the city's cultural and historic resources. A graduate of Yale University, Bernstein was a planning deputy for former City Councilwoman Laura Chick and is an adjunct urban studies and planning professor at California State University. Bernstein said of the position, "Though I will greatly miss being part of the Conservancy family, I am tremendously excited to be returning to City government to lead this new office. I see this as an opportunity to help create the truly comprehensive and effective City preservation program that Los Angeles has long deserved. I will be overseeing the historic preservation functions of the department, including the important multi-year effort, supported by the Getty Conservation Institute and the Getty Foundation, to conduct a citywide historic resources survey for Los Angeles." For more information, and to read the full job description visit [www.preservela.com/archives/000798.html](http://www.preservela.com/archives/000798.html). ■

## National Endowment for the Humanities Grants Announced

In early June the National Endowment for the Humanities announced it will disburse more than \$24 million in grants and offers of matching funds for projects designed to advance humanities research and prepare scholarly editions, provide high quality public programming on television and in libraries, support projects in U.S. history and culture offered by state humanities councils, preserve and stabilize significant humanities collections, and support long-term plans for strengthening humanities programming at cultural institutions. Fifty-four of the successful grants are designated as *We the People* projects, a special recognition by the NEH for model projects that advance the study, teaching, and understanding of American history and culture. "The humanities convey important stories of our world, and today's NEH grant recipients are deeply engaged in advancing those stories through scholarly research, increased efforts to preserve our cultural heritage, and new public programs that engage our minds and broaden our understanding of human history," said NEH Chairman Bruce Cole. "NEH supports projects that are rigorous, wide-ranging, and substantial in their examination and illumination of the great events and

great ideas of the past in our own nation and throughout the world." In this award cycle, scholars and institutions in 43 states and the District of Columbia received support from the NEH. All the awards can be found on the NEH website at [www.humanities.gov](http://www.humanities.gov).

Grants for projects related to California history include: \$67,379 to the Caticus Corporation for scripting of a 90-minute documentary film on designers Charles and Ray Eames and their impact on visual vernacular culture in 20th century America; \$100,000 to UC Berkeley for a project to complete an electronic online edition of Mark Twain's letters and editorial work and XML decoding of Twain's autobiographical writings; \$100,000 to the Fort Ross Interpretive Association for preparation of a book entitled "The Coast of Colonial California Through the Eyes of Russian Mariners: Fresh Perspectives from Russian Naval Archives" with translations of Russian accounts of travels in early California; and, \$89,467 to History San Jose to purchase storage furniture and supplies to rehouse 5,000 linear feet of archival and manuscript collections related to the history of the Santa Clara Valley from 1777 to the present. ■

## Report from Commission on Future of Higher Education Causes Concern

In late June the Commission on the Future of Higher Education held a meeting to analyze the findings and recommendations made in a draft report prepared by its staff. An earlier posting by the Chronicle on Higher Education noted that members of the commission were not happy with the "substance and tone of the preliminary report," and reports of the meeting itself did show that while the discussions were "cordial and constructive," it was clear that some of the recommendations were not to the commissioners' liking. The Commission on the Future of Higher Education was appointed in April to draft a "comprehensive national strategy" on the future of higher education. Most of the issues the commission has addressed focus on federal student aid, accreditation systems, and the transferring of credits from one institution to another. But a few of the recommendations in the report could impact how college and university professors and instructors perform their jobs in the future. Some of the recommendations made in the report include a major overhaul of K-12 teacher preparation, creation of a federal fund to provide incentives for effective teaching, a call for more to be done with distance learning programs, and a proposal to establish a nationwide program for Lifelong Learning Accounts established through tax credits that would benefit employees and adult students who want to upgrade their skills. There are also recommendations calling for increased accountability of higher education institutions and the students who attend them. To view both the first and second drafts of the report, visit [www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/reports.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/reports.html). ■

## Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities

The **American Association for State and Local History** will hold its annual conference **September 13-16, 2006**, in Phoenix, Arizona. The conference will have the theme "History's Enduring Voices," focusing on history makers in our communities and in our field. For more information, visit [www.aaslh.org](http://www.aaslh.org).

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation** will hold its annual conference—themed "Making History Work!"—**October 5-11, 2006**, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information, visit [www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org).

The 45th annual conference of the **Western History Association** will take place **October 11-14, 2006**, in St. Louis, Missouri. The conference will have the theme "Western Traditions and Transitions: Cultural Diversity and Demographic Change." For more information, visit [www.unm.edu/~wha](http://www.unm.edu/~wha),

The **Western Museums Association** will hold its 2006 Annual Meeting in Boise, Idaho, **October 11-16, 2006**. The meeting, which will take place at the Grove Hotel, will focus on the theme "Frontier Without Limits: High Desert Rendezvous." For more information, visit [www.westmuse.org](http://www.westmuse.org).

The **Oral History Association** will hold its annual meeting—themed "Generational Links: Confronting the Past, Understanding the Present, Planning the Future"—in Little Rock, Arizona, **October 25-29, 2006**. For more information, visit [www.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha](http://www.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha).

San Jose, the epicenter of Silicon Valley, is a fitting venue for this year's **California Council for the Promotion of History** conference, to take place **October 26-28, 2006**. The conference will explore the changing character of California through time. *From Adobe Bricks to Adobe® Bytes: Historical Transformations in California* interprets its theme broadly to include transforming circumstances, events, groups and individuals from all periods both before and after European contact. For more information, visit [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph).



Courtesy History San Jose

The historic St. Claire Hotel will be the site of the 2006 CCPh conference.

The **National Preservation Conference** will take place **October 31 to November 5, 2006**, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference will have the theme "Making Preservation Work." For more information, visit [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org).

The **National Interpreters Workshop**—themed "Sharing Stories Along the Way"—will take place **November 7-11, 2006**, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. For more information, visit [www.interpnet.com](http://www.interpnet.com).

The **California Association of Museums** will hold its 2007 conference in Long Beach, California, **February 21-23, 2007**. Visit [www.calmuseums.org](http://www.calmuseums.org) for more information.

The **Society for California Archaeology** will hold its annual meeting **March 23-25, 2007**, at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, California. For more information, visit [www.scahome.org](http://www.scahome.org).

The **National Council on Public History** will hold its annual meeting **April 12-15, 2007**, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. With the theme "Many Histories, Many Publics—Common Ground?," the conference will take place at the 1922 La Fonda Hotel. Santa Fe's unique historical position provides the setting for an exploration into this common ground that public historians occupy in the contemporary world. NCPH is currently inviting proposals for presentations, to be submitted by September 1, 2006. For more information, visit [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

The **Southwestern Oral History Association** will hold its annual conference **April 20-22, 2007**, at California State University, Fullerton. For more information, visit [soha.fullerton.edu](http://soha.fullerton.edu).

The **Western Association of Women Historians** will hold its annual conference **May 4-6, 2007**, at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego. WAWH is currently accepting proposals for papers and sessions—deadline for submissions is November 1, 2006. For more information, visit [www.wawh.org](http://www.wawh.org).

The **American Association of Museums** will hold its Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo™ **May 13-17, 2007**, in Chicago, Illinois. Session proposals for the meeting, which has the theme "Why Museums Matter," are due by August 31, 2006. Specifically, proposals for sessions that demonstrate how you measure and communicate your value—educational, social, creative, financial—in your communities are being requested. For more information, visit [www.aamus.org](http://www.aamus.org).

The **Society of California Archivists** will hold its annual general meeting **May 16-19, 2007**, in Long Beach, California. For more information, visit [www.calarchivists.org](http://www.calarchivists.org).

The Program Committee for the 47th annual conference of the **Western History Association** invites proposals for panels and papers for "Crossroads of the West: Meetings and Exchanges, Old and New," which will take place **October 3-6, 2007**, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Submissions for papers or sessions should be postmarked by August 31, 2006. For more information visit [www.unm.edu/~wha](http://www.unm.edu/~wha).

The **Western Museums Association** will hold its annual conference **October 10-14, 2007**, in Oakland, California. With the theme "Shake It Up: Museums Activate and Innovate," the conference will take place the Oakland Marriott City Center hotel. WMA is currently accepting session and workshop proposals—deadline for submissions is November 1, 2006. For more information, visit [www.westmuse.org](http://www.westmuse.org). ■

## CCPH Liaisons

The following is a list of CCPH liaisons with state and national heritage organizations. This list of representatives has been established so that liaisons can supply important information to the CCPH membership and so members will have an appropriate contact should the need arise. Are you a member of a state or national association and want to serve as a CCPH liaison? Contact us at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu) or 916 278-4296.

- American Association of Museums (AAM)**  
Open
- American Assoc. for State and Local History (AASLH)**  
Mike Bennett
- California Association of Museums (CAM)**  
Carola Rupert Enriquez, 805 861-2132
- California Historical Society (CHS)**  
Dick Orsi, [rorsi@csuhayward.edu](mailto:rorsi@csuhayward.edu)
- California Mission Studies Association (CMSA)**  
Linn McLaurin, 619 435-7394
- California Preservation Foundation (CPF)**  
Anthea Hartig, 909 683-1573
- Conference of California Historical Societies (CCHS)**  
Nan Hauser Cotton, 916 644-2610
- National Council on Public History (NCPH)**  
David Byrd, [dbyrd@parks.ca.gov](mailto:dbyrd@parks.ca.gov)
- Society for California Archaeology (SCA)**  
Steve Mikesell, [smike@parks.ca.gov](mailto:smike@parks.ca.gov), 916 757-2521
- Society of California Archivists (SCA)**  
Patricia Johnson, [pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:pjohnson@cityofsacramento.org)
- Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA)**  
Susan Douglass Yates, [syates@coh.org](mailto:syates@coh.org)
- Southwest Mission Research Center (SMRC)**  
Linn McLaurin, 619 435-7394
- Western History Association (WHA)**  
Ken Owens, [owensk@csus.edu](mailto:owensk@csus.edu)
- Western Museums Association (WMA)**  
Rebecca Carruthers

CCPH encourages the reprinting of articles published in this newsletter. To do so, use the credit line – Reprinted from *California History Action*, the newsletter of the California Council for the Promotion of History. To inquire about using photographs, contact the CHA editor.

## CCPH Leadership

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Paul Spitzzeri, City of Industry  
[p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org](mailto:p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org)

#### Vice-President/President-Elect

Howard S. Miller, Morro Bay  
[slomiller@aol.com](mailto:slomiller@aol.com)

#### Immediate Past-President

Jenan Saunders, Sacramento  
[californiahistoryaction@hotmail.com](mailto:californiahistoryaction@hotmail.com)

#### Recording Secretary/Admin. Assistant

Barbara Eychaner, Sacramento  
[ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu)

#### Treasurer

Madeline Bowen, Sacramento  
[madlanz@yahoo.com](mailto:madlanz@yahoo.com)

### Executive Committee

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| Madeline Bowen       | Howard S. Miller |
| Mark Bowen           | Rick Moss        |
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## California History Action Editorial Information

*California History Action* is the official publication of the California Council for the Promotion of History. Its purpose is to disseminate news to the membership. The organization's numerous committee chairs provide much of the information herein. It is the responsibility of the general membership to provide input to the newsletter. This sharing of information is critical to the well-being of the organization.

Issues will be produced quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Deadlines are the first of the month of publication. This late deadline is designed to provide information to the membership in the most timely manner. Material must be received prior to the deadline to be

printed in the current issue and should be submitted directly to the editor at the address below.

It is preferred that articles and other material be submitted electronically by email (either in the text of the message or as an attachment). However, typewritten printed material is also accepted via fax or mail.

Views expressed herein are solely those of their authors. Their publication does not constitute an endorsement by CCPH.

**Jenan Saunders, Editor**  
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phone: 916 456-4115  
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CCPH is always looking for volunteers to assist with our many worthwhile programs. Interested? If so, contact the CCPH office at [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu) or email the chair of the committee you'd like to help.

## CCPH Committees

### Awards

Donna Harris ([harrisdl@earthlink.net](mailto:harrisdl@earthlink.net))

### California History Day

Patricia Ambacher ([pambacher@parks.ca.gov](mailto:pambacher@parks.ca.gov))

### Standing Conference Committee

Chuck Wilson ([cwilson@library.ucla.edu](mailto:cwilson@library.ucla.edu))

### Conference 2006 – San Jose

Lesle Masunaga ([lmasunaga@juno.com](mailto:lmasunaga@juno.com))

### Conference 2007 – San Gabriel Valley

Paul Spitzzeri ([p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org](mailto:p.spitzzeri@homesteadmuseum.org))

### Keeper of the Register

Leslie Fryman ([archaeo44@yahoo.com](mailto:archaeo44@yahoo.com))

### Legislative Action

Jenan Saunders ([jsaunders@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jsaunders@parks.ca.gov))

### Membership

Leslie Fryman ([archaeo44@yahoo.com](mailto:archaeo44@yahoo.com))

### Mini-Grants

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### Nominations

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### Public Sector CRM

Janet Hansen ([janet.hansen@lsa-assoc.com](mailto:janet.hansen@lsa-assoc.com))

### Publications/Newsletter

Jenan Saunders ([californiahistoryaction@hotmail.com](mailto:californiahistoryaction@hotmail.com))

### Standards and Professional Register

Chuck Wilson ([cwilson@library.ucla.edu](mailto:cwilson@library.ucla.edu))

### Website

Heather McCummins ([irishlass\\_99@hotmail.com](mailto:irishlass_99@hotmail.com))

## Join the California Council for the Promotion of History

All members receive issues of *California History Action*, the CCPH newsletter for history advocacy, notices of CCPH conferences and workshops, and other CCPH publications. Corporate and Institutional members also receive membership rates for two individuals at conferences and other events. Annual dues are due January 1; those received from new members after August 1 will be credited to the next year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership Categories:     Patron \$100                       Colleague/Corporate \$50

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All dues and contributions are tax-deductible. Send this form and payment to CCPH, CSU Sacramento, Department of History, 6000 J St, Sacramento CA 95819-6059. For more information contact 916 278-4295, [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu), [www.csus.edu/org/ccph](http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph).

Summer 2006

# Welcome New Members!

Francie Caraker, Selma CA  
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Bruce Lagomarsino, Sacramento CA  
Ginny M Magan, Tomales CA  
Rachel Purdie, Sacramento CA  
Nancy Zimmelman, Sacramento CA  
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