Until the Los Angeles Aqueduct turned the parched San Fernando Valley into a stereotypical paradise of freeways, tracts, and malls, the real scene of southern California suburban action lay to the southeast, in the San Gabriel Valley. Bounded on the west by Pasadena, on the east by Pomona, on the south by Montebello, Whittier, Hacienda Heights, and Rowland Heights and on the north by such foothill communities as Altadena, Monrovia, Sierra Madre, Azusa, and Glendora, today the Valley is home to nearly two million people living in some of the most diverse communities in the nation.

For thousands of years, the Valley’s rich plant and animal life sustained many settlements of the Tongva/Gabrieliño peoples. Complex trade networks crisscrossed the Valley, linking its residents to the coast, the inland San Bernardino Valley, and to the deserts further to the east.

Then, in 1769, came the Europeans. Members of the Portolá Expedition, the first European land-based exploration of Alta California, arrived to find a lush valley, which they initially named San Miguel, watered by the San Gabriel River and its tributaries. Two years later Franciscan missionaries founded San Gabriel, the third California mission, on its banks and extended their control throughout the valley. Forced Indian labor on large cattle, wheat, and corn ranches made San Gabriel one of the most prosperous of the missions, but cost the native population dearly. The catastrophic decline of the Gabrieliño continued into the American era; epidemic disease, alcoholism, violence, and outbound migration reduced the county’s Indian population by 90 percent in the 1860s alone.

In the 1830s secularization opened mission lands to private development. European and American settlers flocked to the Valley, including Benjamin D. Wilson, Henry Dalton, Hugo Reid, William Workman and John Rowland. These early newcomers to Mexican California usually became naturalized Mexicans, married Latina women, and established close ties with the Californios.

By 1849 the conquest of California by the United States and the flood of gold seekers began the process that soon brought an end to pastoral California. The old hide and tallow trade waned as the demand for beef in the gold country brought immense wealth to Valley ranchers. In the 1850s more Americans and Europeans arrived, many of them less willing than their predecessors to assimilate into borderlands culture. During the 1850s cross-currents of ethnic and racial stress, economic and political competition, ongoing litigation over California land claims, and other issues kept the Valley in an uproar. El Monte, founded in 1851 by emigrants from the soon-to-be Confederate states, was particularly violent.

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

Bridging the Past, Present, and Future
The 1860s were a decade of transformation as the end of the gold rush, prolonged litigation over land claims, the dual disasters of flood and drought, and post Civil War immigration signaled a new era in the Valley. Old Spanish and Mexican era ranches were lost and subdivided into smaller farm plots and communities such as Pasadena. By 1870 agriculture became ascendant as grain fields, vineyards, and orange groves replaced open rangeland. Briefly slowed by hard times after 1875, Valley development rebounded during the Boom of the Eighties.

The railroad was a principal engine of the boom. New towns, such as Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Azusa, Covina, and Puente, sprung up amidst the emerging citrus and walnut empire that made the Valley famous. Railroad transportation, the introduction of the refrigerated box car, and aggressive marketing by municipal chambers of commerce and railroad-allied marketing cooperatives like Sunkist and Blue Diamond opened new eastern markets. Americans and Europeans almost exclusively enjoyed the benefits of this market-driven prosperity, while native Californians, Mexicans, and Chinese laborers worked the groves and orchards.

The malingering effects of an economic depression and drought in the 1890s dampened Valley development until after the First World War. In the 1920s, however, the suburbanization of the Valley revived in such residential suburbs as Pasadena, Altadena, South Pasadena, Alhambra and Monterey Park, while the eastern part of the Valley remained largely rural and agricultural. The Great Depression and World War II years brought relatively little change, although El Monte was the site of a 100-unit New Deal housing development for relocated workers, and its civic center remains an impressive monument to WPA-funded civic infrastructure.

Cold War good times built on post war recovery, stimulating another boom that transformed the Valley. Far larger than any before, it was fueled by massive postwar immigration and the demand for cheaper tract housing, Cold War-era middle class prosperity, the growth of the defense industry in the Valley, and huge federally-funded highway development programs and housing loans that force-fed suburban sprawl. As in the railroad-driven 1880s, post-World War II development tracked along the major transportation routes, now Interstate 10 and State Route 60. Suburbs east of the San Gabriel River seemingly sprouted overnight. The demand for residential development spurred annexation battles in Baldwin Park, West Covina, City of Industry, Walnut and elsewhere. Whereas most of the 1950s-era towns were a mix of residential, commercial, and, in some cases, industrial development, the creation of the City of Industry and Irwindale as almost exclusively industrial cities was a significant variation from the prevailing pattern of development.

The Valley’s complexion began to change in the 1960s. The end of racially restrictive deed covenants, economic advances by people of color, and the ferment of the Civil Rights era brought blacks, Latinos, and Asians into the traditionally almost entirely white San Gabriel. Blacks in Pasadena and Alhambra; Latinos in El Monte, La Puente, Baldwin Park, and Azusa; and Asians in Monterey Park, Arcadia, Temple City, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and Walnut found both opportunity and resistance. Though less overtly confrontational than the ethnic and racial clashes of the 1850s, struggles over identity and turf remained central aspects of the Valley’s evolving cultural landscape.

As with many places in the United States, today the San Gabriel Valley is facing a future that both confronts and confounds. Headlong development of open land came to its end by the 1990s. In the new century, redevelopment and infill development, ongoing planning debates over zoning, water quality, traffic, pollution, open space preservation, and the allocation of resources are hot topics of debate as Valley residents confront impending paradigm shifts in land use and quality of life. What remains in this promising, but often challenging, world of increasing racial, ethnic, class, and religious diversity is a conviction that San Gabriel Valley communities remain alluring places to be.
Communities have mattered for a long time. Ancient Grecian Arcadia was so prototypically pastoral and alluring that the very name became synonymous with beautiful rustic surroundings and the proverbial Simple Life. When famed California real estate mogul Elias J. “Lucky” Baldwin sited a town on a portion of Rancho Santa Anita in the 1880s, he capitalized on the old rancho’s idyllic reputation and called the new burg Arcadia, thus invoking a bucolic image of community that he hoped would attract investors and settlers alike.

In its early days, though, “arcadian” hardly described the place, then best known for its number of saloons and a level of drunkenness, gambling and debauchery out of all proportion to its population. Gradually, the town morphed out of a post-World War II upscale suburb proud of its renowned Santa Anita racetrack and the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. In recent years Arcadian demography has undergone a significant transformation as large numbers of Asian immigrants, mainly Taiwanese and mainland Chinese, have settled in San Gabriel Valley communities.

Railroad boom towns with grandiose names, questionable early origins, post-World War II suburban explosions, recent profound demographic shifts—all these characteristics apply to most San Gabriel Valley communities and lay at the heart of what makes them the way they are. Arcadia is a particularly revealing setting for exploring the varied historic roles of community here and elsewhere in California.

During two days of sessions, you’ll have the opportunity to see and hear about some of the communities—geographical, vocational, racial, ethnic, and generational—that make up our state. Presenters will discuss topics relating to ethnic communities in the Los Angeles area; communities in the agriculture and oil industries; how undergraduate history outreach efforts are serving various communities; the role of historical publications in keeping the past vibrant in the present; the idea of cultural agencies as cooperative communities; an update on a fascinating project documenting New Deal-era sites in California; and the unusual communities in the mountains above the San Gabriel Valley. We will have thought-provoking addresses by William Deverell, Professor of History at USC and Director of the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, and by Thomas Hines, Professor Emeritus of History, Architecture, and Urban Design at UCLA.

On Thursday, the California State Archives will offer a pre-conference workshop, “The Basics of Archives,” to area historical organizations, hosted by the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum in City of Industry. There will be field trips on Saturday to visit the Huntington Library’s wonderful new facility, and to join noted local historian John Robinson on an interpretive hike in Big Santa Anita Canyon. Conference packets will include a variety of self-guided tour brochures as well.

This will be a great conference with interesting and informative sessions in a fabulously “arcadian” location. We hope you will join us in exploring the rich historical landscapes of California!

So Cal New Member Drive

In conjunction with this year’s annual meeting in Arcadia, CCPH is offering southern California residents new to CCPH a complimentary one-year membership, free with your conference registration. Residents of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Kern, and San Bernardino Counties, and all counties to the south qualify for this opportunity to become involved in California’s leading statewide public history advocacy organization. If you are eligible for this offering, write in the name of the county in which you reside on the membership form when you return it with your conference registration.

2007 CCPH Mini-Grant Awardees Announced

This year CCPH awarded two mini-grants for projects that promote quality historical experiences and high standards for historical research and presentation.

The Museum of the San Ramon Valley was awarded $750 for its exhibit project entitled, “Quilts: History in the Making.” The application reviewers felt that the interpretive aspects of the project, combined with workshops and hands-on activities, met the grant requirements for educational activities related to California history. The Museum of the San Ramon Valley is dedicated to preserving and celebrating our rich history and heritage. The collections and exhibits reflect our human experiences, institutions and cultures that were shaped by the valley’s landscape, environment and early settlers. The Museum is housed in the restored 1891 Southern Pacific Depot in Danville on Railroad Avenue at Prospect. Docents are on duty when the museum is open. School and other tours can be scheduled ahead by calling 925 937-3750. For more information about the museum, visit www.museumsrv.org.

The California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA) was awarded $750 for a traveling exhibition project entitled “Bear in Mind: The Story of the California Grizzly,” a project that appears to fit well with CCPH’s mini-grant program goal of promoting quality professional preservation and historical experiences for the public. We are especially encouraged by the incorporation of information regarding the history of the California grizzly bear based on archival material from the Bancroft Library. CERA is a non-profit organization created by and for small museums to provide a broad range of engaging, high quality traveling exhibitions at affordable fees. For more information about CERA, visit www.ceraexhibits.org.
“Traveling Through California” During This Year’s Archives Month

Jointly sponsored by the California Historical Records Advisory Board, the Society of California Archivists, and the California State Archives, Archives Month will be observed throughout the state of California during October 2007. Archives Month is an opportunity for libraries, museums, government archives, historical societies, corporate archives, and related institutions to plan public programs to highlight the importance and value of historic records and archival materials. The theme for the 2007 California Archives Month will be “Traveling Through California.” While the primary intent of Archives Month is to raise public awareness of the value and importance of archival materials, we encourage event planners to find creative ways to incorporate this year’s theme into their activities. California Archives Month is the perfect time to promote your archives and demonstrate California’s rich and varied history through one-of-a-kind documentary materials in your collections. Visit the Archives Month website at www.archivesmonth.org for more information.

Basics of Archives Workshop to be Held at Workman-Temple Homestead Museum

The Basics of Archives Workshop is a free, practical, one-day workshop for those who work with historical records but are not trained archivists. The workshop is for people who work or volunteer in organizations that deal with the past—whether it’s a museum, historical society, local government office, local library history room, or a college archives. You’ll get practical advice, sample forms and policies, and learn basic practices for collecting, organizing, protecting, and helping people use the treasures in your care. To register, send your name, title, organization name, complete mailing address, phone number, and email address to Sherrie Lujan, California State Archives, at slujan@sos.ca.gov; (916) 653-7134 fax; or Basics of Archives Workshop, California State Archives, 1020 “O” Street, Sacramento CA 95814. Registration will be limited to the first 30 people. Registrations must be received by October 18, 2007. For more information, contact Laren Metzer, California State Archives, at lmetzer@sos.ca.gov or (916) 653-3834.

HP and MIT Support D-Space Users For Digital Archiving

Hewlett Packard (HP) and the MIT Libraries have announced the formation of the DSpace Foundation, a non-profit organization that will provide support to the growing community of institutions that use DSpace, an open source software solution for accessing, managing, and preserving scholarly works in a digital archive. Jointly developed by HP and the MIT Libraries beginning in 2002, today more than 200 projects worldwide are using the software to digitally capture, preserve, and share their artifacts, documents, collections, and research data. To read more about this announcement, see the HP press release at www.hp.com/hpinfo/newsroom/press/2007/070717a.html.

WebWise Proceedings, Papers, and Podcasts Now Available

For the first time, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is offering a publication highlighting proceedings of its signature WebWise conference. The publication is available on the IMLS website at www.imls.gov/pdf/WebWiseProceedings2007.pdf and in print form by emailing imlsinfo@imls.gov. It contains summaries of each session, keynote speeches, project demonstrations, and brief biographies of the speakers. Also available are MP3 Podcasts of each conference session. “Each year, WebWise brings together the nation’s brightest minds in the museum, library and technology fields, but we recognize that not everyone has the means or time to attend. With that in mind, we have published the proceedings of this year’s WebWise, so that anyone interested can have access to the extraordinarily valuable information coming out of this conference,” said IMLS Director Anne-Imelda Radice, PhD. More than 400 participants, representing all types of museums and libraries nationwide, attended the February 28 - March 2 meeting in Washington, DC. The meeting, “Stewardship in the Digital Age, Managing Museum and Library Collections for Preservation and Use,” was co-sponsored by the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and the J. Paul Getty Trust. The Institute has also provided links to additional materials at www.imls.gov/news/events/webwise07.shtml. Full-text papers and Podcasts of many of the presentations appear in the July issue of the online journal First Monday (www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue12_7), which has published WebWise papers in a special issue each year since the first conference in 2000. The PowerPoint slides from many of the presentations are available for download.
Summer 2007

2007 List of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places Issued

America’s priceless heritage is at risk—from the storied waterfronts of Brooklyn to the neon-clad mom-and-pop motels of Route 66—some of America’s most irreplaceable landmarks are threatened. In Idaho the hallowed remnants of a World War II-era internment camp are at risk due to planned expansion of an adjacent large-scale animal feeding operation, while in New Mexico a pristine portion of the 16th century El Camino Real—the oldest Euro-American trade route in the United States—faces a very 21st century threat; the proposed development of a Spaceport. Meanwhile, budget cutbacks are also wreaking havoc on historic resources across the country: In Missouri, shortfalls at the U.S. Forest Service have imperiled more than 70 historic structures at Mark Twain National Forest, and in California, sacred structures at Stewart’s Point Rancheria—home to the Kashia Pomo Indians—are

Children’s Museum Bill Amended—In the Right Direction

Right at the end of the legislative session, AB 1219, which was discussed in the last two issues of this newsletter and had sailed through and out of the Assembly on a 72-0 vote in May, was amended in the direction proposed by CCPH and other organizations in our opposition to the bill. The bill originally would have authorized, but not required, California State Parks to enter into an agreement with a non-profit organization to construct and operate a children’s museum on the property known as the 1849 Scene in Old Sacramento State Historic Park. The site is a sloping open space currently covered in grass, and for this reason it’s a favorite lunch spot for the thousands of schoolchildren who visit the California State Railroad Museum adjacent to the site. But what most people have no idea about as they use and view the site is that below the grass is a true treasure trove of history dating from the earliest days of Sacramento and the gold rush. It holds unique and irreplaceable archaeological resources. Some people may remember the site as a half-block open pit. After preliminary excavations revealed the wealth of material culture the site contained, California State Parks chose to bury the site rather than risk its loss to scavengers and looters. It sits waiting, as the technology and knowledge base with which to retrieve and analyze the precious data improves with each passing year. Thus, rather than look to build a children’s museum on this site, CCPH recommended that other sites be explored and analyzed. Additionally, we took umbrage at the exceptionally offensive language, at least to us public historians, about the site not being suitable for carrying out any other core State mission. We argued that the best thing to be done with the site is to specifically identify funding to allow State Parks to research and prepare a thorough and comprehensive plan for the management and interpretation of the site. While this final request was—surprise!—not achieved, the bill’s author, Dave Jones (D-9th), did amend the legislation to remove specific mention of the 1849 Scene, and instead it now references an exploration of sites within Old Sacramento. Additionally, the language about the site not being suitable for carrying out any other core State mission was stricken from the bill. CCPH was also represented at a meeting with a member of Jones’ staff, where it was mentioned that the costs of environmental review and then excavation of the site (if the environmental review were successful, which would be doubtful) would most likely offset any cost savings achieved by this being public (in other words “free”) property. As of the day this newsletter goes to print (September 6), the amended bill had passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9-7.

Chavez Study Act Passes House

The Cesar Estrada Chavez Study Act (HR 359) has passed the House and now is in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which is where its companion bill (S 327) has been awaiting a hearing. The legislation, first discussed in the last issue of this newsletter, authorizes a resource study on sites significant to the life of Cesar Chavez and the farm labor movement in the western US. In addition to studying whether any of the sites meets the criteria for listing in the National Register or designation as a National Historic Landmark, the legislation has been amended to also direct consideration as to whether any sites merit inclusion in the National Park System and requires consultation with pertinent labor and historical organizations.
sliding into disrepair due to chronic funding inadequacies at federal Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. These are just some of the 11 sites the National Trust for Historic Preservation today named to its 2007 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

“The sites on this year’s list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places embody the diversity and complexity of America’s story, and the variety of threats that endanger it,” said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

“The places on this year’s list span the continent and encompass the breadth of the American experience. Each one is enormously important to our understanding of who we are as a nation and a people.” Sites on the 2007 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places that are located in California and the west include:

- **El Camino Real National Historic Trail, New Mexico**—The earliest Euro-American trade route in the United States, the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, known for its austere physical beauty, rural solitude and remote isolation, is threatened by a $225 million commercial Spaceport, a venture planned adjacent to one of the most pristine and sacred segments of the trail.

- **Historic Route 66 Motels, Illinois to California**—Affectionately called “The Mother Road,” Route 66 is known for quirky roadside attractions and unique mom-and-pop motels, constructed between the late 1920s and late 1950s and often clad in neon. In recent years, Route 66 motels in hot real-estate markets have been torn down at record rates, while in cold real estate markets motels languish and are being reclaimed by the forces of nature.

- **Minidoka Internment National Monument, Jerome County, Idaho**—From 1942 to 1945 thousands of Nikkei (Japanese American citizens and immigrants of Japanese ancestry) were sent to south central Idaho to live in camps under armed guard at the Minidoka Relocation Center. Today a National Monument, the site, which once contained more than 600 buildings, offers scant visitor services or interpretive information, is routinely looted of artifacts and is threatened by insensitive local land-use planning, including the proposed siting of a massive animal feed operation just over a mile away.

- **Pinon Canyon, Colorado**—In Southeastern Colorado, under uninterrupted blue skies, Pinon Canyon is an area of scenic buttes, river valleys, family ranches and historic and archeological sites that span 11,000 years. The area is threatened by the U.S. Army’s plans to expand its maneuver training ground by as much as 408,000 acres, a move that could lead to forced condemnation of private lands and damage or destroy historic Santa Fe Trail monuments, ranches, and historic prehistoric archeological sites.

- **Stewart’s Point Rancheria, Sonoma County, California**—The Kashia Pomo Indians have inhabited this northern California land for thousands of years. But because a federal program to protect tribal historic resources is seriously underfunded, the Kashia, like many tribes, are losing their sacred and historic sites to looters, vandals and the elements.

View the entire 20th listing of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places at www.nationaltrust.org.

America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places has identified 189 threatened and unique historic treasures since 1988. While a listing does not ensure the protection of a site or guarantee funding, the designation has been a powerful tool for raising awareness and rallying resources to save endangered sites in every region of the country. Whether these sites are urban districts or rural landscapes, Native American landmarks or 20th-century sports arenas, entire communities or single buildings, the list that are threatened by neglect, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. Recent 11 Most Successes: The Ennis House, the grandest of Frank Lloyd Wright’s textile-block houses, was damaged by an earthquake in 1994. But after an 11 Most Endangered listing last year, the Ennis House Foundation was able to embark upon the first phase of renovation. Finca Vigía, Ernest Hemingway’s beloved home in Cuba, received national attention when American preservationists ventured to the island to help their Cuban counterparts craft strategies for the restoration of the American author’s estate. Ten months after being named one of the National Trust’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places last year, Congressman Frank Wolf sponsored legislation that would establish the “Journey through Hallowed Ground” Corridor as a National Heritage Area.
AHA Releases Report on Education of Future History Teachers

Recognizing that many Americans learn about the past, and how to think about it, during their K-12 years, many historians have worked to strengthen the bonds between historians and history teachers. Historians have long been active in their communities, in workshops with teachers, and in national organizations. One important locus of activity, however, has been neglected: history departments themselves. A national conference at the University of Virginia and Monticello in the summer of 2006, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, considered the issues involved in the task of preparing students who hope to become history teachers. The alliance formed at that conference—historians from a broad range of higher education institutions, master teachers from high schools, representatives from leading professional organizations, and specialists in the teaching and learning of history—have prepared a recently released report, “The Next Generation of History Teachers: A Challenge to Departments of History at American Colleges and Universities,” to suggest strategies to make history departments more effective in the important work of teacher training. Roundtables at the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the National Council on History Education annual meetings in 2007 have carried the conversation forward.

Because departments of history vary widely in size, context, mission, and capacity, the report presents a range of strategies that have worked in different kinds of departments. The goal is that the report provide a starting point for historians to decide how they might best serve the future teachers who look to them for knowledge, example, and inspiration. Several assumptions underlie the report’s message. It reinforces that the changes historians undertake should be departmentally focused, institutionally tailored, and community minded. The report does not suggest that historians need to revolutionize their teaching, their departments, or their institutions to accomplish these things, but instead that they need to approach this part of their work in a more self-aware and coordinated way. One assumption underlies all the others: historians are uniquely qualified to assist prospective teachers in developing the habits of mind and instructional strategies necessary to teach effectively about the past. Long experience suggests that if historians do not assert responsibility for preparing future history teachers, others will. For more information, visit www.historians.org/pubs/Free/historyteaching/index.htm.

$116 Million Awarded for 122 Grants to Improve Teaching of American History

The US Department of Education announced the award of $116 million for 122 new grants to improve the quality of American history education. The grants are being awarded to school districts in 40 states nationwide. The Teaching American History discretionary grant program supports three-year projects to improve teachers’ knowledge and understanding of traditional American history through intensive, on-going professional development. Grantees must work in partnership with one or more organizations that have extensive knowledge of American history, including libraries, museums, nonprofit history or humanities organizations and higher education institutions. History is one of the core academic subjects under the landmark No Child Left Behind Act; however, the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, which is commonly known as the “Nation’s Report Card,” shows that less than one-quarter of America’s students in grades 4, 8, and 12 are proficient in American history. To improve student achievement, the Teaching American History grant program will immerse history teachers in American history content and research-based teaching strategies, to help them teach American history in an exciting and engaging way. More information about Teaching American History grants program is available at www.ed.gov/programs/teachinghistory/index.html. Teaching American History Grants awarded in California are as follows: Placer County Office of Education, $999,506; City of Industry, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, $998,761; Del Norte Unified School District, $998,157; Downey, Los Angeles County Office of Education, $1,410,613; Fresno County Office of Education, $1,986,781; Long Beach Unified School District, $986,640; Los Angeles Unified School District, $963,485; McKinleyville, Northern Humboldt Union High School District, $499,720; Borrego Springs, San Diego County Office of Education, $929,898.

“Teaching American History” Grant Funding Passes House

The Labor, Health, and Human Services and Education budget bill for the 07/08 federal fiscal year (HR 3043) passed the House on July 19 by a vote of 276 to 140. It was received in the Senate on July 23 where it was read twice and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. This is also where the Senate’s own version of this bill (S 1710) was placed on June 27. The house bill includes close to $120 million for the Teaching American History grants program administered by the US Department of Education, the same amount as the 06/07 fiscal year. The Senate bill includes an additional $210,000 for the program. The President had requested close to $70 million less than last year for the program.
Museums

Urban Institute to Investigate Public Funding Mechanisms for Museums

In a new cooperative agreement with the US Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Urban Institute, a non-partisan economic and social policy research organization based in Washington, DC, will study the mechanisms of public support for museums in the United States and possible alternative funding methods. The goal of the project is to identify the mechanisms currently used to deliver public funding to museums from federal and state governments in selected states; the purposes for which public funds are allocated to museums in those states; the impact of delivery mechanisms on the quality of services and possible service gaps left by those mechanisms; and alternative funding models, such as a population-based state grant, and their potential impact on gaps in museum services. After the study’s completion, IMLS will host regional hearings to collect opinions and perspectives museum professionals, community leaders, educators, public officials, and representatives of regional, state, and local organizations. In 2008 the findings of the study and the results of the regional hearings will be published and widely disseminated in a final report. The report will include a discussion of the degree to which museums are able to fulfill their missions and serve their publics through available funding sources, the expectations and needs of communities and the museum-going public, and recommendations for further action.

National Conservation Summit Connects Collections Professionals from Across the Country

On June 27 and 28 the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Heritage Preservation convened “Connecting to Collections: The National Conservation Summit,” bringing more than 300 museum, library, and archives professionals together. In a series of presentations and discussions, a standing-room only crowd of summit participants exchanged ideas about how to improve the care of their collections by working with outside experts, new technologies, the public, and funding sources.

Four representatives from each state—two from libraries and two from museums—were invited to attend the summit. They were joined by representatives of granting agencies, conservation organizations, and others knowledgeable about the preservation of collections. The summit launched IMLS’ Connecting to Collections initiative, which also includes four forums in cities across the nation during 2008 and 2009; the IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf comprising books, bibliographies, a guide to on-line resources, and DVDs; and planning grants to each state, commonwealth, and territory for the purpose of creating conservation plans to address the Heritage Health Index recommendations. For more about the initiative, visit www.imls.gov/about/collections.shtml.

Participants were urged to take home what they learned to help others in their states understand better ways to publicize and address the challenges of collections care. For information on the summit, visit www.imls.gov/news/events/CtoCsummit.shtml.

IMLS Calls for 2008 Conservation Project Support Grant Applications

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is accepting grant applications to the agency’s FY 2008 Conservation Project Support (CPS) program. The Heritage Health Index, published in 2005, made clear that our collections of objects, documents, digital material, and living collections are not only essential to America’s cultural health, but that they are imperiled and in need of swift action. Through the CPS program, the Institute awards matching grants to help museums identify their conservation needs and priorities and to help them ensure the safekeeping of their collections by implementing sound conservation practices. There are six categories of Conservation Project Support activities: General conservation survey; detailed conservation survey; environmental survey; environmental improvements; treatment; and training. Applicants may also apply for up to an additional $10,000 to educate the general public about their project. Conservation education activities may include lectures, workshops and symposia, CD-ROM/audiovisuals, staff consultants, materials/supplies, publications, and exhibits.

Please note that the Institute will only accept applications submitted through Grants.gov, the federal government’s online application system. All applicants who are using Grants.gov must register with Grants.gov before submitting their application. Applicants who are not already registered should allow at least two weeks to complete this one-time process. Please direct any questions about the CPS program to Christine Henry, 202-653-4674, chenry@imls.gov. The deadline for application is October 1, 2007. For more information, visit www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/conservProject.shtml.

Museums
Announces $17.4 million in Museums for America Grants

Museums of all types, from art to zoos, 158 in all, will share $17.4 million in grant funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Recipients will match the federal funds with an additional $30.1 million. Nationwide, 414 museums—urban and rural, large and small—competed for grants, requesting over $41.9 million. Museums request funding to support lifelong learning, sustain cultural heritage, or serve as centers of community engagement. Museums for America grants help museums serve the public more effectively by supporting high priority activities that advance the organization’s mission and strategic goals. The following are examples of how the 2007 Museums for America recipients in California will use the grants for history-related projects:

Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust (grant: $86,983; match: $104,423)—The Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust will hire an archivist to thoroughly assess its archive and complete the first inventory of thousands of artifacts and documents covering the period 1933-1945. The archives will be searchable by all record groups, titles, collection titles, personal and geographic names and publications.

Computer History Museum, Mountain View (grant: $144,359; match: $161,646)—The goal of the Computer History Museum Collection Cataloging and Reconciliation Project is to inventory, catalog, and photograph 20,000 pieces of computer hardware and ephemera. The catalog will be used to develop new object-based exhibitions and plan collections growth.

Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, Oakland (grant: $149,249; matching: $149,380)—The six-acre Peralta Hacienda Historical Park is on the site of the former headquarters of the 45,000-acre Peralta rancho in Fruitvale, on the east side of the San Francisco Bay. Its history spans the mission, rancho, and gold rush periods, making it an ideal learning environment. The Coordinated Program Plan includes the Fourth Grade School Field Trips program for classes studying the state-mandated California history curriculum; the Community Docent program, in which elders—many from Asia, Latin America, or the American South—tell their stories as tour guides; and the Community Leaders Stewardship program, in which youth who live near the park learn about history and other cultures as they grow, cook, and share produce.

City of Roseville (grant: $150,000; match: $225,969)—In response to changing demographics and community requests for augmentation of cultural learning opportunities in Placer County, the City of Roseville will use its grant to provide museum exhibits at its Maidu Interpretive Center that will stimulate lifelong learning in visitors of all ages. The exhibits will teach new skills, offer new perspectives, and encourage involvement in family and traditional cultural heritage of the area.

New Standard for Facilities and Risk Management

The Board of Directors of the American Association of Museums (AAM) recently approved the first national museum standard on facilities and risk management in museums. “AAM Standards for U.S. Museums Regarding Facilities and Risk Management” outlines the basic responsibilities of any museum in caring for people, collections, buildings, and grounds. As with all AAM standards, it is broad, describing desirable outcomes that a museum can achieve using methods appropriate to its mission and resources.

Over 17,500 museums serve the American public as stewards of artistic, cultural, and scientific resources. It is incumbent upon museums to provide for the safety of their visitors and staff, and ensure the preservation of their collections, structures, and grounds. A 2005 survey of collecting institutions conducted by Heritage Preservation revealed the challenges in achieving this—fewer than 20 percent of museums have an emergency preparedness plan, with staff trained and practiced in implementing it. The new AAM standard can help museums assess their performance against national expectations for facilities and risk management, identify areas for improvement, and seek resources to support their needs for planning, training, and implementation of emergency preparedness. Compliance with national museum standards is voluntary. Those museums that have achieved accreditation by the AAM will be assessed against this new standard in subsequent accreditation reviews.

“AAM serves the museum community by fostering discussion and dissemination of standards and best practices, tools critical to helping museums fulfill their responsibilities as public institutions,” said Ford W. Bell, president of the AAM. “In addition, AAM standards help policy makers, the media, philanthropic organizations, donors and members of the public better understand and recognize the achievements and service of museums nationwide.” Visit www.aam-us.org/aboutmuseums/standards/index.cfm to read the complete standard on facilities and risk management and other standards and best practices for museums.
Growing up on the East Coast, I pictured Southern California as the land of sun-soaked beaches where Gidget surfed the waves. Oil came from Texas and the Ewing family. At most, hillbillies moved to Beverly Hills only after discovering bubbling crude (oil, that is) in the Ozarks. Paul Sabin's *Crude Politics* corrects this erroneous picture by examining the oil industry in the San Joaquin Valley and Los Angeles area from the late nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century. Apparently, sitcoms and soap operas are not the best sources of historical information.

Sabin sets out to expose the ideal of free enterprise as a myth by demonstrating how politics shaped California's oil industry. For instance, much of California's oil was located beneath state and federal lands and producers wanted access. To lobby their cause in Washington and Sacramento during the 1910s the Oil Industry Association of California enlisted former U.S. Senator Charles Towne and former Governor and U.S. Representative James Gillett, while Standard Oil hired former U.S. Secretary of State Francis Loomis and former Lieutenant Governor John Eshelman. In other words, oil producers actively sought out "government interference," as long as it interfered on their behalf.

Companies also wanted controls set on the production of their volatile commodity, because neat property lines did not align with subterranean oil fields. Like a glass of soda with multiple straws in it, once one producer began sucking up oil from a common field, other producers felt pressed to up their operations in order to maximize their share of the limited wealth. Unfortunately, this race to the bottom did not reflect demand and drove down prices by flooding the market with excess oil. Since antitrust laws thwarted using monopoly as a means toward stabilizing the market, in 1929 producers, supported by Governor Clement Young, voluntarily set up statewide "oil umpires" in an attempt to match supply to demand.

The success of the oil industry in currying official favor eventually reshaped the political landscape. Much like taking on the Southern Pacific "octopus" landed Hiram Johnson in the Governor's office during the Progressive Era, raising the cry against the oil industry's influence over the state's Republican Party helped Democrat Culbert Olson dethrone incumbent Frank Merriam during the Great Depression in 1938. For example, Olson railed against Merriam's settling for a mere $518,628 from Standard Oil to make amends for their having pumped over $5 million worth of oil out of state owned fields off of Huntington Beach without permission.

Those interested in political and environmental history will want to read *Crude Politics*. Sabin's thorough investigation into the California oil industry is comparable to Arthur McEvoy's study of the state's fisheries in *The Fisherman's Problem*. In addition, the book bridges the gap between the more familiar histories of the railroad boom of postbellum period and the automobile boom of the postwar era.

Finally, it is worth noting that the California's beach image does owe something to the oil industry after all. For instance, thanks to the State Lands Act of 1938, California bankrolled the creation of numerous beaches and parks with royalties paid to it by producers tapping oil on state land. Meanwhile, motor vehicle registration fees and gasoline taxes, created during the twenties and thirties, channeled state funds into highway and road construction. Oil politics enabled Gidget and Moon Doggie to drive their surfboards to the beach, leaving those reliant on the neglected public transport system stranded.

*Padraic Benson is a graduate student in history at UC Davis.*

(continued from previous page)
John James Audubon and the Birds of America: A Visionary Achievement in Ornithological Illustration.
By Lee A. Veddar. San Marino: Huntington Library Press, 2006. 91 pages, including plate illustrations, photographs, and endnotes; 6” x 9”, $24.95, hardcover.

In this short biography of John James Audubon, author Lee A. Veddar describes Audubon’s passionate and often arduous journey of documenting through writing and painting, a comprehensive catalog of North American birds. John James Audubon (1785-1851) achieved worldwide fame for his double-elephant folio print edition of The Birds of America published over an eleven-year period in London from 1827 to 1838. Mr. Veddar outlines Audubon’s life through Audubon’s own words, his sketches and portraits of birds and his own research. His primary focus is centered on Audubon’s development as an artist and naturalist, rather than the more personal aspects of his life. It is a fascinating introduction to any reader interested in this famous artist and naturalist, a man driven by his love of the natural world and his desire to record it through vivid images.

Audubon’s passion for the natural world began in childhood. He was the illegitimate son of a chambermaid and a French sea captain and plantation owner. We are not given information beyond this regarding his mother, but fortunately for Audubon, he was adopted by his father and moved to the French countryside near Nantes. Here James was free to wander the fields, fully absorbed and in awe of the plants and animals around him, especially birds. Around the age of ten he began to sketch and study birds, spending hours in the field observing their habits.

When Audubon turned eighteen, he was sent to manage his father’s estate in Pennsylvania. At Mill Grove he lived the life of a country gentleman, attending balls, parties, and skating matches. He met and fell in love with Lucy Blakewell (1788-1874) and they were married in 1808. Despite his continually improving mastery at sketching birds, Audubon was plagued by business failures. After losing two of his children to disease in 1817 and 1819, the Audubon’s were forced to declare bankruptcy and John James spent several months in debtor’s prison. Devastated and without assets, Audubon moved his family to Kentucky and later to Cincinnati, Ohio where he worked as a portrait artist and opened a drawing school.

Though burdened by financial difficulties and emotional pain, Audubon continued to draw, exhibit his art, and make connections with well-known ornithologists and artists. It was through his contact in 1810 with Alexander Wilson, the leading ornithologist in America, that he began to pursue what he called his “Great Idea”. This “idea” was the goal of illustrating every bird species in the North American continent. In order to fulfill this, James had to travel the country, sketching, collecting, and writing which often meant leaving his family for months at a time. During an expedition to New Orleans and the southern part of North America, Audubon produced some of his finest work.

Audubon’s unique approach to illustrating birds was dynamically different from other illustrators, which Mr. Veddar clearly describes. Instead of sticking to the standardized two-dimensional approach to drawing birds, Audubon birds were sketched with aspects of their feeding and nesting habits as part of the background. He often mounted his birds with wire and string to make them appear three-dimensional, a completely unique approach.

The final pages of this engaging book are devoted to Audubon’s search for a publisher and market for his 1,065 life-size birds representing 489 species. At completion in 1839, a full set of prints sold for $1,050 dollars. By comparison, in 2000 a complete bound original double-elephant folio print edition sold in an auction at Christie’s in New York for $8, 802,500.

In conclusion, I recommend this book to anyone interested in Mr. Audubon’s life, but especially to those who desire more information about his unique artistic approach to documenting birds and their habitats. This book provides excellent information about the maturation of an incredible artist and naturalist. The illustrations are excellent reproductions and Audubon’s field notes are compelling reading. In general, this book is a good start to any reader desiring more information about John James Audubon, the foremost ornithologist of his time and an artist whose documentation of birds are visually and historically without equal.

Amy Brewster is a graduate student in United States History at San Jose State University. She is a member of the Monterey Historical Society and especially interested in both labor and women’s history.
AMERICAN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (AMA) and the Leader to Leader Institute have announced a new scholarship program for nonprofit leaders. AMA has allocated funding for seventy-five scholarships to be administered by the Leader to Leader Institute. Scholarship benefits include one management education and professional development seminar offered by AMA; one year of individual AMA member benefits; and a one-year membership with the Leader to Leader Institute, including subscription to Leader to Leader Journal and discounts on the institute’s publications and services. The deadline to apply is November 15. For details, visit www.leadertoleader.org/collaboration/ama/index.html.

The American Association of Museums (AAM) has been a partner in the Nonprofit Listening Post project sponsored by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies. The Listening Post is an ongoing study of major developments in the nonprofit sector, with nearly a thousand participants drawn from a variety of different fields: children and family services, elderly housing and services, community and economic development, theaters and museums. AAM is inviting institutions to apply to be represented in the National Archives as a part of the project. Participating institutions will receive early briefings on the results of this and future studies. More information about the project is available at www.jhu.edu/listeningpost. Interested organizations should contact Phil Katz at AAM (pkatz@aam-us.org or 202 218-7687) or Nicole Feldhaus at Johns Hopkins University (nfeldhaus@jhu.edu or 410 516-4363).

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A final rule published in the Federal Register August 17, 2007, amends the fees for reproduction of archival materials in National Archives facilities nationwide. In addition to Federal records, this includes donated historical materials, Presidential records, and records filed with the Office of the Federal Register. This rule will become effective on Monday, October 1, 2007. The fees are being changed to reflect current costs of providing the reproductions. The National Archives current fees were established in October 2000 based on a 1999 cost study. As a result of a cost study conducted in 2006, fees for copying records must increase to recover costs. This is the first fee increase in seven years.

As of October 1, 2007, fixed-fee reproductions of commonly-requested genealogical records using the National Archives order forms will be: Passenger Arrival Lists, NATF Form 81, $25.00; Federal Census Requests, NATF Form 82, $25.00; Eastern Cherokee Applications to the Court of Claims, NATF Form 83, $25.00; Land Entry Records, NATF Form 84, $40.00; Full Pension File more than 75 years old (Civil War and after), up to 100 pages, NATF Form 85, $75.00; Full pension file (pre-Civil War), NATF Form 85, $50.00; Pension Documents Packet (selected records), NATF Form 85, $25.00; Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, NATF Form 85, $25.00; Military service files more than 75 years old, NATF Form 86, $25.00. Self-service copies will be $0.25 per page in the Washington, DC, area, and $0.20 per page at regional archives and Presidential libraries. NARA-made copies will be $0.75 per page.

The Heritage Emergency National Task Force has developed a new collection of tools designed especially for libraries, archives, museums, historic sites, and historic preservation and arts organizations. The tools are the result of the Task Force’s “Lessons Applied” initiative to develop practical applications for the lessons from Hurricane Katrina and other major storms, such as helping cultural institutions apply for disaster aid and developing relationships with emergency responders. The new tools are available as free downloads at www.heritageemergency.org.

Since 2004 the American Association of Museums (AAM) has been a partner in the Nonprofit Listening Post project sponsored by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies. The Listening Post is an ongoing study of major developments in the nonprofit sector, with nearly a thousand participants drawn from a variety of different fields: children and family services, elderly housing and services, community and economic development, theaters and museums. AAM is inviting institutions to represent the museum field as a “Listening Post.” As a participant, an institution will be asked to respond to periodic “soundings” (short, on-line questionnaires) on topics such as community partnerships, governance, and financial health. Participating museums will receive early briefings on the results of this and future studies. More information about the project is available at www.jhu.edu/listeningpost. Interested organizations should contact Phil Katz at AAM (pkatz@aam-us.org or 202 218-7687) or Nicole Feldhaus at Johns Hopkins University (nfeldhaus@jhu.edu or 410 516-4363).
Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities

The Conference of California Historical Societies’ Fall Symposium will be held October 4-6, 2007, in San Pedro. For more information as it becomes available, visit www.californiahistorian.com.

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.” For more information, visit www.westmuse.org.

The Oral History Association will hold its annual meeting October 23-28, 2007, in Oakland, California. The meeting will have the theme “The Revolutionary Ideal: Transforming Community through Oral History.” For more information, visit alpha.dickinson.edu/oha/.

The California Council for the Promotion of History’s 27th annual conference will take place October 25-27, 2007, in Arcadia. The conference’s theme is “History and Community in California.” For more information about the conference, visit www.csus.edu/org/cph/conference.

The National Association for Interpretation’s National Workshop will take place November 6-10, 2007, in Wichita, Kansas. The workshop has the theme, Broadening Horizons. For more information when it becomes available, visit www.interpret.com.

The annual meeting of the American Historical Association, with the theme “Uneven Developments,” will be held January 3-6, 2008, in Washington, DC. For more information, visit www.historians.org.

The next annual conference of the California Association of Museums will take place February 25-27, 2008, in Fresno. Join CAM in the heart of California to share strategies and ideas for strengthening the future of museums. For more information, visit www.calmuseums.org.

Popular Art, Architecture and Design, has announced a call for proposals for the 2008 National Pop/Am Culture Association Annual Conference at the San Francisco Marriott, San Francisco, March 19-22, 2008. The deadline for abstracts is November 15. For more information, visit www.pcaaca.org.


The Organization of American Historians will hold its annual meeting in New York City March 28-31, 2008. The theme of the 2008 meeting will be “Bringing Us All Together: The One-Hundred First Meeting of OAH.” For more information, visit www.oah.org/meetings.

The National Council for History Education will hold its national conference, with the theme “Leadership in History,” April 3-5, 2008, in Louisville, Kentucky. Proposals for sessions are being accepted until October 1, 2007. For more information, visit www.nche.net.

The National Council on Public History will hold its annual meeting, with the theme “Public Histories of Union and Disunion,” to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, April 10-13, 2008. For more information, visit www.ncph.org.

The Society for California Archaeology’s Committee for Advanced Annual Meeting Planning has contracts in place for their next annual meeting to take place in Burbank, at the Hilton Burbank Airport and Convention Center, April 17 to 20, 2008. For more information, visit www.scahome.org.

The 2008 California Preservation Conference, “Balance and Complexity: The Vineyard and Beyond,” will be held in Napa April 23-26, 2008. For more information, visit www.california-preservation.org.

The American Association of Museums will hold its annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, April 27 to May 1, 2008. For more information, visit www.aam-us.org.

The Society of California Archivists’ Annual General Meeting will be held April 30-May 3, 2008, in Monterey. For more information, visit www.calarchivists.org.

The Vernacular Architecture Forum invites paper proposals for its annual meeting in Fresno, May 7-10, 2008. The conference theme is “In the Garden of the Sun: California’s San Joaquin Valley.” Proposals are due by October 1, 2007. For more information, visit vernaculararchitectureforum.org.


Loyola Marymount University (LMU) invites submission of papers for a conference on water and politics in southern California, “Water and Politics in Southern California: A Retrospective on the Centennial of the Los Angeles Aqueduct.” The conference will take place on October 4, 2008, at LMU. The deadline for proposals is January 31, 2008. For more information, visit shotnews.net/?p=181.

On October 22-25, 2008, the Western History Association will gather in Salt Lake City for its 48th annual conference. For more information, visit www.umsl.edu/~wha.

The Society of American Archivists is offering two Professional Education Offering in California in the near future. The first, “Becoming a Film-Friendly Archivist,” will be held November 5, 2007, at Loma Linda University. The second, “Business Archives...Establishing and Managing an Archives,” will be held December 7, 2007, in San Francisco at the Gap, Inc. Corporate Archives. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.
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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.

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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, www.csus.edu/org/ccph.
To:

Be sure to register for this year’s CCPH Conference in Arcadia October 25-27, 2007

Registration packets were mailed to all members in early August.

And check out our special offers for students and new professionals, and for new members in southern California.

For more information, visit www.csus.edu/org/ccph/conference.