

# California *History Action*

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## A Message from Our New CCPH President Pam Connors

To Our CCPH Members:

Greetings! It has been a pleasure working with CCPH President Dick Miller for the past two years as his vice president. Those of you who know him well know that he is the original Energizer Bunny. I will endeavor to maintain his pace, his stamina and his dedication to CCPH.

My professional interests center on environmental history, specifically land use history and interpreting its relevance for the public. I'm also interested in the historical footprints on public landscapes left by land management policies over time, and in the significance of those footprints for the present and future.

I'm one of the old hands among CCPHers, having joined in 1980. That was also the year I began my career as a historian in the Forest Service. Since there were no other Forest Service historians in California, I looked to the public history program at UC Santa Barbara for guidance. There I met Professor Carroll Pursell. He not only allowed me to sit-in on several public history classes and student discussions, but he opened his home to me during my visit and talked with me for hours. On the weekend, we stuffed envelopes for a CCPH conference. I went on to finish my MA in History and graduated from UCSB's public history program. In 2006 I retired from the Forest Service after 33 years of federal service.

Through the years, I have enjoyed and benefitted from CCPH's collegial and professionally diverse membership, its newsletters and conferences, its welcoming, stimulating and nurturing spirit, and its promotion of sound, meaningful and accessible history. Working with CCPH has helped me become a better historian.

I'm looking forward to working with you and your talented board of directors in 2010. My goals are to continue CCPH's tradition of fostering history in its many real-world applications, to further diversify our membership, to improve the business aspects of our organization--and to have fun doing it!

*Pam Connors, President  
California Council for the Promotion of  
History*



A newsletter for history advocacy published by the  
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*Bridging the Past, Present, and Future*

# History Action News

## Our New CCPH Vice President, Meta Bunse



Meta Bunse writes, "I'm an historian and architectural historian and partner at JRP Historical Consulting, LLC, where I've worked for the last twenty years. If I didn't visit every county in California during this time, I did as a child, during family trips up and down the Pacific Coast. I grew up in Jamestown, in Tuolumne County, an area thick with iconic California Gold Rush history. It's hard to avoid becoming a historian when you go to high school in Sonora "Queen of the Southern Mines!" Just as I graduated from UC Davis, I got a job at a company then known as JRP Historical Consulting Services, with no idea that it would lead to graduate school at the CSUS Capital Campus Public History program, and a career in cultural resources management consulting. I've evaluated buildings and structures of all stripes during this time, from Italianate houses, to irrigation canals, to a complex where components of the Apollo/Saturn program were constructed. This work has turned out to be a wonderful continuing education, in every sense, and has given me an opportunity to work with terrifically talented people in many disciplines. I've been a board member of CCPH and Chairperson of the CCPH Mini-Grants Committee since 2003, and I'm a CCPH registered professional historian (#566)."

### Wanted: Committee Members

Are you interested in becoming more involved in CCPH? We have opportunities for you to serve on a committee.

**Legislative Action:** Currently the CCPH Board is looking for an individual willing to chair the Legislative Action committee, as well as committee members. The Legislative Action committee tracks legislative bills that potentially affect the public history community and recommends actions to the Board of Directors.

**Technology:** If you are adept with technology we have an opportunity for you. Heather McCummins, chair of the Website Committee, wants to expand the technological tools CCPH uses to communicate with its members and the general public. She is searching for members to serve on this new, soon to be renamed committee.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, please contact Emily Conrado at the CCPH office: [ccph@csus.edu](mailto:ccph@csus.edu) or (916) 273-0317.

## Historic Preservation Takes Major Hit in President Obama's Budget

Adapted from Preservation Action

The President's budget requested the elimination of both the Save America's Treasures (SAT) and Preserve America (PA) programs — representing a \$25 million cut to the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). In the termination language that accompanied the budget, it was stated that the "SAT and PA programs have not demonstrated how they contribute to nationwide historic preservation goals." Further, it was suggested that elimination of these programs would enable the National Park Service to "focus resources on managing national parks and other activities that most closely align with its core mission." Funding for Heritage Areas was also cut by \$9 million. The White House justified this cut by citing the need for the National Park Service to focus on "national parks and lack of management," which further suggests that the Administration believes the management of cultural resources is not in line with the NPS's core mission.

To read more, visit [www.preservationaction.org](http://www.preservationaction.org).

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## Haynes Grant Applications for Summer, 2010

The Historical Society of Southern California (HSSC) has announced application guidelines for HSSC/Haynes Research Stipends for Summer, 2010. These grants are for a period of one to four weeks at \$400 per week and may be used to supplement other grants. They are intended to cover research expenses for projects related to Los Angeles and/or Southern California. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2010.

Applicants should have the Ph.D. or equivalent, be doctoral candidates at the dissertation stage, or be independent scholars. The HSSC particularly encourages younger scholars, scholars in smaller local institutions, faculty from out-of-state institutions who would benefit from a brief research visit, secondary school faculty, retired scholars who no longer have ties to their former institutions, and unaffiliated scholars. Awards will be announced by May 30, 2010.

Applicants should include: (1) A one page cover sheet including your name, address, e-mail, telephone and fax numbers, your eligibility status (from the list above), the project title, the number of weeks of support requested, and any other financial support received to date. (2) A one-page description of your project, including when and how you would use this grant support. (3) A one-page curriculum vitae including your research, writing, and/or teaching related to this project.

### Mail your application materials to:

#### Historical Society of Southern California

P.O. Box 93487

Pasadena, CA 91109

Attention: Grants Coordinator

E-mail: [administration@socalhistory.org](mailto:administration@socalhistory.org); telephone: 323 460-5632; website: [www.socalhistory.org](http://www.socalhistory.org)

HSSC thanks the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation for recognizing the need for this program.

## ICW History Graduate Student Workshop

The Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West (ICW) is pleased to announce a one-day workshop scheduled for Saturday, May 8, at the Huntington Library. This workshop is designed as an opportunity for selected students to present a short work-in-progress and receive critical feedback by peers and professors in the field. The work must be article length or shorter, and may be a research seminar essay, dissertation prospectus, or journal submission at the revision stage. Accepted students will have their works circulated to all participants. Southern California graduate students working on topics related to the history of the American West (defined quite broadly) must submit a paragraph précis and one-page vita. The précis should describe the work and the extent to which it fits into a larger project.

*Deadline: Monday, March 22 for précis and vita*

*Please submit as attachment to David Iglar ([digler@uci.edu](mailto:digler@uci.edu)) and Stephen Aron ([saron@history.ucla.edu](mailto:saron@history.ucla.edu))*

For details, see <http://college.usc.edu/huntington>.

## Western History Dissertation Workshop

Applications are due March 30th for the fifth annual Western History Dissertation Workshop to be held June 18th at UC Davis. Stipends are available to offset travel expenses for up to five dissertators, who will have the opportunity to present a chapter at the workshop and to receive feedback from other participants and scholars affiliated with the sponsoring institutions.

Sponsoring the event are the Hemispheric Institute of the Americas at the University of California, Davis, the Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders at Yale University, the Bill Lane Center for the Study of the North American West at Stanford University, the Research Division of the Huntington Library, the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, and the Institute for the Study of the American West at the Autry National Center.

To apply, send an electronic version of a cover letter and dissertation abstract (including how much of it has been drafted) to Louis Warren at [westernhistoryconference@gmail.com](mailto:westernhistoryconference@gmail.com). Please also arrange for your dissertation advisor to send a letter of recommendation by email to the same address.

# Libraries

## Nixon Presidential Library Opens 280,000 Pages of New Nixon-Era Materials

Adapted from National Archives News

The Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum opened about 280,000 pages of textual materials, twelve hours of sound recordings, and 7,000 images from the personal collection of White House photographer Oliver F. Atkins at the National Archives College Park, MD, facility and at the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, CA. Materials to be released in Yorba Linda, CA include approximately 40,000 pages of domestic policy materials from the Health, Education and Welfare and White House files of Frederic V. Malek, and approximately 75,000 pages from Mr. Malek's files from the Committee for the Re-Election of the President (CRP), where he served as Deputy Campaign Manager in 1972. The Nixon Library received the CRP files as part of a large 2007 deed of gift of political and campaign materials from the Nixon Foundation, and a small collection of Alexander M. Haig, Jr.'s staff member and office files. Selected documents and photographs will also be made available online at [www.nixonlibrary.gov](http://www.nixonlibrary.gov).

## County of Los Angeles Library's Californiana Collection Moves to Norwalk

The County of Los Angeles Library's extensive Californiana Collection, long housed at the Rosemead Branch Library, soon will be relocated to more accessible facilities at the Norwalk Regional Library according to Library Administrator Robert Seal. "The Norwalk Regional Library is larger and offers more staff and longer hours of operation," he told us. He emphasized that this move will not involve any dispersal, discarding, or elimination of any part of the collection. He hopes that the move will be complete by the end of June, 2010. In the meantime, interested researchers should call the County Library's References Services Department at 562 868-4003 to find out about the availability of the materials they want to use. You don't need a library card to use the collection, but you will need to make an appointment; stacks are closed and you can use the materials only in the library. Some items from the Californiana Collection might be made available by advance arrangement for use at other County of Los Angeles Library sites on a case-by-case basis.

The Collection of about 20,000 items includes California Census Schedules from 1850 to 1910, files of the Alta California and other Gold Rush era newspapers, the Los Angeles Times, Examiner, Herald, and Express newspapers and City Directories extending back to the 19th and early 20th centuries, Los Angeles County Annual Reports from the 19th century, local histories, and Sanborn fire insurance maps of Los Angeles and San Francisco. There are also materials on the Gold Rush era, the westward movement, historical fiction, and literary figures such as Mark Twain, Jack London, and Robinson Jeffers.

In addition, the County Library maintains ethnic resource centers. Unlike the Los Angeles City Library, the Los Angeles County Library system doesn't have a central library facility so these centers are housed at various of the system's 85 libraries within the 3,000 square mile service area. There is an American Indian Resource Center at the Huntington Park Library, a Black Resource Center at the AC Bilbrew Library, an Asian-Pacific Resource Center at the Montebello Regional Library, and Chicano Resource Center at the East Los Angeles Library. You can find out more by visiting the website at [www.colapublib.org](http://www.colapublib.org).

## Repository Spotlight: Blog Project Underway at Stanford University

Adapted From California Society of California Archivists (<http://www.calarchivists.org>)

For more than ninety years the Hoover Institution Library and Archives have been collecting historical materials relating to war, revolution, and peace in the twentieth century. What began as a collection within the Stanford Library focused on World War I has grown into one of the largest and most diverse collections in the world on modern political and social history. To expand outreach efforts and help patrons and the general public better understand what goes on behind the scenes in the Hoover Library and Archives, they have launched Hoover Archivist's Musings, a blog about the most interesting aspects of their institution. The subjects covered run the gamut from the preservation of fragile materials to the digitization of audio and video materials, as well as unexpected reference questions and reflections on historical anniversaries with highlights from our collections. Visit their blog at <http://hooverinstitutionla.blogspot.com>.

## Apply for a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant

Adapted from California State Library Blog

Applications for three 2010/2011 federally-funded Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant programs are now being accepted by the California State Library. These grant programs include the Local History Digital Resources Project, Out-of-School Time Online Homework Help Program, and the Public Library Staff Education Program. For information and applications, please visit the CSL Library Services and Technology Act webpage at [www.library.ca.gov/grants/lsta/apply.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/lsta/apply.html).

## Grant Opens Up Digital Environmental History Collections

Adapted from the Society of California Archivists

Researchers worldwide soon will have access to previously inaccessible collections of documents, photographs and other rich archival materials related to California's environmental history. The California Digital Library (CDL), in partnership with the following nine California institutions, has been awarded a Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives Program grant administered by the Council for Library and Information Resources (CLIR): CSU Chico; CSU Fresno; Humboldt State University, UC Berkeley; UC Davis; UC Irvine; UCLA; UC Riverside; and University of Southern California. Partners were identified through a survey of all Online Archive of California (OAC) contributors to select relevant collections within the scope of the project. The grant, which totals \$446,817, will fund the processing of 33 collections (817 linear feet) documenting a range of issues, including irrigation, mining, forestry, agriculture, industry, land use, activism and research in California. Until now, these collections have been effectively invisible to researchers who have not known of their existence or contents.

Highlights from the collections include the corporate records of Unocal, a major oil company; the papers of Frank Sherwood Rowland, the Nobel prize-winning scientist who discovered the effects of CFCs on the ozone layer; the records of prominent California leaders in the Sierra Club and other activist groups; and materials on the state's tidelands controversy, with a complete environmental profile of Los Angeles Harbor.

The project is particularly exciting because it is a collaborative effort across universities to uncover a bulk of thematically-related material. While each institution will undertake its own processing work, CDL will provide training, tools, and technical support, as well as facilitate communication to promote the cross-sharing of effective processing approaches and strategies. All of the resulting finding aids will be made available online in

## National Archives Joins the Flickr Commons: Shares Its Photograph Collection

Adapted from National Archives News

The National Archives and Records Administration is now a member of the Flickr Commons, a Web site for cultural institutions to share their photograph collections with the public. In the Commons, the National Archives joins the New York Public Library, the Smithsonian, the Library of Congress, and many other archives, libraries, and museums world-wide. To mark the opening of its photostream in the Commons, the National Archives posted a new photo set containing more than 200 photographs of the American West by renowned American photographer Ansel Adams. The photographs, taken between 1941 and 1942 as part of a Department of the Interior mural project, feature the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier and Zion national parks, in addition to Death Valley, Saguero, and Canyon de Chelly national monuments.

The Ansel Adams photographs join a larger selection of more than 3,000 National Archives images that are part of the National Archives' Flickr photostream. The photostream contains a variety of images from some of the National Archives' most popular collections, including images of the Civil War, images from the Environmental Protection Agency's 1970s photo-documentary project DOCUMERICA, images from the Records of the Women's Bureau depicting women in the war labor effort during World War II, and a grouping of favorite photos and documents from the National Archives. Visit Flickr Commons at <http://www.flickr.com/commons>, and visit the National Archives photostream at: [www.flickr.com/usnationalarchives](http://www.flickr.com/usnationalarchives).

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by The U.S. National Archives

The U.S. National Archives' photostream  
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children  
internment  
coat  
tag  
hat  
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Lange  
1942

**Original Caption:** Hayward, California. Two children of the Mochida family who, with their parents, are awaiting evacuation bus. The youngster on the right holds a sandwich given her by one of a group of women who were present from a local church. The family unit is kept intact during evacuation and at War Relocation Authority centers where evacuees of Japanese ancestry will be housed for the duration.

**U.S. National Archives' Local Identifier:** NWDNS-210-G-C155

**From:** Series: Central Photographic File of the War Relocation Authority, compiled 1942 - 1945 (Record Group 210)

**Created by:** Department of the Interior: War Relocation Authority. (0218/1944 - 09/30/1946)

One of 4,350 items on the National Archives' Flickr Photostream  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives/3679508964/>

# Upcoming Events

The **Academic Impressions Online Webcast**, "Libraries and Copyright in the Digital Age," will be **March 30, 2010**. For details, see [www.academicimpressions.com/web\\_conferences/0310-libraries.php?q=4532v274891yT](http://www.academicimpressions.com/web_conferences/0310-libraries.php?q=4532v274891yT).

The digital film festival "**Diversity of Places: Digital films on Places and Placemaking**," will be held **April 2, 2010** in Honolulu Hawaii. For details, see [diversityinplace.org](http://diversityinplace.org).

The **National Association of Interpretation International Conference** will be in Townsville, Queensland, Australia from **Apr. 13–17, 2010**. The focus will be on how changing climates are affecting heritage resources all over the world. For more, see, [www.interpnet.com/ic](http://www.interpnet.com/ic).

**Conference of Centre for Tourism and Culture Management, Copenhagen Business School & Centre for Tourism, and Cultural Change, Leeds Metropolitan University**, "Journeys of Expression VIII: Celebrating through Times of Crisis: Prospects and Potentials for Tourism, Festivals and Cultural Events," will be held **April 20-21, 2010** in Copenhagen, Denmark. For details, see [www.tourism-culture.com/pop\\_up/forthcoming\\_conferences.html?PAGE=2](http://www.tourism-culture.com/pop_up/forthcoming_conferences.html?PAGE=2).

**Society of Architectural Historians 63rd Annual Meeting** will be held **April 21-25, 2010** in Chicago, IL. For details, see [www.sah.org](http://www.sah.org).

The **Western Roundup 2010 Inter-regional Meeting**, the second joint meeting of the Northwest Archivists, the Society of California Archivists, the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, and the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, will be held at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle from **Apr. 28 to May 1, 2010**. For more, see, [www.calarchivists.org](http://www.calarchivists.org).

The **Conference on Intellectual Property** will be held **April 30, 2010** at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York. For details, see [www.iona.edu/cip](http://www.iona.edu/cip).

**USC Institute on California and the West History Graduate Student Workshop**. Institute on California and the West will have a one-day workshop **Saturday, May 8, 2010**, at the Huntington Library. Deadline: Monday, March 22 for précis and vita. For details, visit [college.usc.edu/huntington](http://college.usc.edu/huntington). See page 3 for additional details.

**Western History Dissertation Workshop, June 18, 2010** at UC Davis. See page 3 for additional details.

The **Canadian Museums Association Conference**, "Evolving Boundaries: Linking People, Place and Meaning," will be held **May 10-15, 2010** in St. John's, NL, Canada. For details, see [www.museums.ca/stjohns2010/en](http://www.museums.ca/stjohns2010/en).

The 2010 **California Preservation Conference**, "The Sierra Nevada – Preserving a Sense of Place" will be from **May 12-15, 2010**. For more, see, [www.californiapreservation.org](http://www.californiapreservation.org).

The **Western Association of Women Historians** conference, **May 20-23, 2010**, at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. See, [www.wawh.org](http://www.wawh.org).

**American Association of Museums Annual Meeting** will be from **May 23-26, 2010** in Los Angeles. This year's theme, Museums Without Borders, will explore the connections between cultures from around the world and in our own backyards. For more, see, [www.aam-us.org](http://www.aam-us.org).

The Columbia University Oral History Research Office **2010 Oral History Summer Institute**, "Oral History from the Ground Up: Space, Place and Memory," will be held from **June 7- June 18, 2010**. For details, see [www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/oral/summer/2010.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/oral/summer/2010.html).

**Annual Meeting of the Agricultural History Society** will be held **June 10-12, 2010** in Winter Park, FL. For details, see [www.aghistorysociety.org](http://www.aghistorysociety.org).

**Association of Art Historians Conference**, "Architectural Objects: Discussing Spatial Form across Art Histories," will be held **June 24-25, 2010**, in Leeds, UK. For details, see [www.aah.org.uk/page/2883](http://www.aah.org.uk/page/2883).

**Aberystwyth University's Conference**, "Recycling Myths, Inventing Nations," will be held **July 14-16, 2010** in Newtown, Powys, UK. For details, see [www.aber.ac.uk/myth2010](http://www.aber.ac.uk/myth2010).

**Joint Annual Meeting of the Council of State Archivists, the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, and the Society of American Archivists** will be held **August 10-15, 2010** in Washington, DC. For details, see [www.archivists.org/conference/dc2010/index.asp](http://www.archivists.org/conference/dc2010/index.asp).

**Regional Oral History Office Summer Institute**, will take place at The Bancroft Library on the Berkeley campus from **August 16-20, 2010**. See [bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO](http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO) for details.

## May is California Museums Month

Adapted from the California Association of Museums Enews

The California Association of Museums (CAM) is championing this celebratory month by sponsoring California Museums Advocacy Day in Sacramento on Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

CAM has tools and resources to help museum professionals connect their May events and programs with California Museums Month. If you are interested in participating in Advocacy Day or in learning more about CAM and California Museums Month, visit <http://www.calmuseums.org/>

## "Teaching American History" Program Faces Uncertain Future

Adapted from the National Coalition for History

President Obama's fiscal year 2011 budget request to Congress for the Department of Education has created uncertainty about future funding for the Teaching American History grants program, at least as it is currently structured. The Obama administration has proposed consolidating 38 existing K-12 education programs into 11 new programs. As a result, the Teaching American History Program is no longer listed as a separate line item in the budget, calling into question whether the program will continue to receive the approximately \$119 million in funding it has had in recent years. Under the Administration's budget request, the Teaching American History grants would now be part of a new program called "Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education." The administration is proposing \$265 million in funding for the new initiative. Funds would support competitive grants to States and "high-need school districts" to improve teaching and learning in the arts, foreign languages, civics and government, history, geography, economics and financial literacy.

## President Requests \$460M for National Archives FY11 Budget

Adapted from National Archives News

President Barack Obama has sent Congress a proposed Fiscal Year 2011 budget request for the Federal Government that calls for \$460,287,000 for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). This amount is a two per cent decrease from the FY 2010 appropriated funding levels of \$469,870,000. "Given the tight fiscal constraints the Federal Government is under, we are pleased that the President recognizes our vital mission to preserve the nation's most important records and to make them accessible to the public as soon as possible," said Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero. Although the President is requesting decreased overall funding for NARA, he is seeking increased Operating Expenses (OE) funding of \$348,689,000, up from this year's appropriated level of \$339,770,000, or a 2.6 per cent increase. The OE base increase will fund the increased costs for staff, energy, security, building operations, and information technology requirements. It will also allow NARA to hire 57 new full-time staff members to support a variety of programs. The President is also recommending a 3.7 per cent increase in the budget for NARA's Inspector General to hire one additional auditor. For continued development and deployment of the Electronic Records Archives (ERA), the President is seeking \$85,500,000. The ERA is NARA's response to the rapidly increasing numbers of electronic records being created by the Federal Government, and will preserve these important records so that they can be viewed by anyone, anywhere, at any time. For Repairs and Restoration (R&R) to NARA-owned buildings, the President is seeking \$11,848,000, a decrease of 57 per cent from the current year's level. For the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the grant-making arm of the National Archives, the President is seeking \$10,000,000.

## Obama Executive Order Issued To Expedite Declassification

Adapted from National Coalition for History

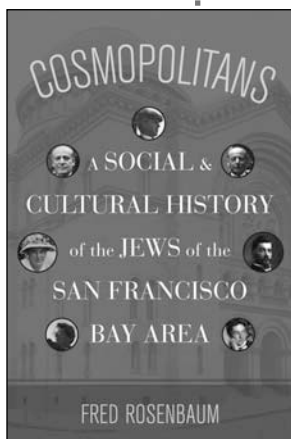
On December 29, President Obama issued a new executive order (EO 13526) that would dramatically change the way the executive branch handles classified material, reduce over-classification, and expedite the release of formerly classified materials to the public. Federal agencies would be required to eliminate a 400 million page backlog of materials awaiting declassification by December 31, 2013. The President issued a memorandum to heads of departments and agencies that directs additional steps agencies should take to implement the order. The White House also released a Presidential order entitled "Original Classification Authority." This order designates those agency heads and officials having the authority to classify information as "Top Secret" or "Secret" under the executive order.

Among the major changes resulting from EO 13526 and implementation memorandum are the following: It establishes a National Declassification Center at the National Archives to centralize and streamline agency reviews of classified materials; for the first time, it establishes the principle that no records may remain classified indefinitely and provides enforceable deadlines for declassifying information exempted from automatic declassification at 25 years; for the first time, it requires agencies to conduct fundamental classification guidance reviews to ensure that classification guides are up-to-date and that they do not require unnecessary classification; it eliminates an Intelligence Community veto of declassification decisions made by the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel established by the Bush administration; it directs that information not be classified (or be classified at a lower level) when "significant doubt" exists about the need to classify it; and it significantly tightens restrictions on reclassification of information after its declassification. An in-depth summary of the Executive Order and Implementation Memorandum is available at the [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov).

## Cosmopolitans:

### A Social & Cultural History of the Jews of the San Francisco Bay Area.

By Fred Rosenbaum  
Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2009, xviii+439 pp.; illus., notes, references, index, \$39.95, hardback.



In *Cosmopolitans: A Social & Cultural History of the Jews of the San Francisco Bay Area*, Fred Rosenbaum presents a thoughtful and well-researched study of Jewish society in the Bay Area, set against the larger backdrop of California's own history and including a narration of the city's architectural gems that would be the perfect accompaniment to a walking tour of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Like the evolution of the Jewish synagogues that Rosenbaum so succinctly describes, the larger story of Jewish society in the San Francisco Bay area unfolds into a fascinating tapestry that involves race relations, relations between Jews of different ethnicities and economic backgrounds, and Jews' relations with city, state and federal governments. The chapters are organized chronologically with titles such as "Boomtown: Tumult and Triumph in Gold Rush San Francisco," "Woven into the Fabric: The Confident Community of the Gilded Age," and "With a Yiddish Accent: East European Jewish Neighborhoods."

The first chapter, "Boomtown," gives an in-depth account of Jews who, like many other people from all over the world, came to Gold Rush San Francisco intending to start their lives anew, unencumbered by the exclusive societies of long-established cities. California during the Gold Rush offered a unique opportunity for those who were willing to leave their old lives behind and forge ahead, hoping to make money either in mining or in the many ancillary businesses that appeared as a result of such a large movement of people into the land. Rosenbaum includes stories of Gold Rush merchants who lost their shops to fires that regularly burned the city and had to start over, of the different rabbis who came to stay (or quickly left), and of the multi-ethnic Jews who had to live and work together. Rosenbaum expertly maps out this complex story of the development of the Jewish community without hurrying the reader.

A social and cultural history of San Francisco's Jewish community invites the question: "How does the 1906 earthquake fit into this narrative?" Readers who take their time to read the book closely will be captivated by the story of how the San Francisco earthquake not only destroyed much of the city and disrupted the lives of its citizens but also uncovered an intolerable level of corruption that hampered the city's progress in rebuilding. The earthquake seemed to amplify everything that was politically wrong with the city. And here, as in the rest of his book, Rosenbaum unflinchingly shows his audience the role of corrupt Jews such as Abraham Ruef as well as the constructive roles of those in the Jewish community who desperately needed to rebuild their synagogues and their lives.

An aspect of this book that stands out is the chapter entitled "Rooted Cosmopolitans." This chapter is particularly entertaining as Rosenbaum moves his audience away from the inner workings of Jewish society of the late 19th- and early 20th-century Bay Area and introduces us to such cultural luminaries as the author Gertrude Stein (as well as her siblings who foresaw the brilliance of artists such as Picasso), actress Adah Isaacs Menken (her personal life was a source of gossip that, along with her acting talent, drew audiences to her performances) and Rube Goldberg, a cartoonist whose famous drawings of manic inventions were almost suppressed by his father who urged him to enroll in Berkley's College of Mining and Engineering. Many of these personalities will appear again later in the book but this jewel of a chapter definitely leaves the reader wanting more. There is enough material here for another book. Rosenbaum definitively shows his readers the permanent and lasting presence of Jewish society in the Bay Area, exemplified by the beautiful synagogues that dot the city and which the author describes in colorful and loving detail. As they crowded into the city during the Gold Rush period, Jews brought with them the entrepreneurial skills and social cohesiveness that enabled them to make new lives in a new home, working hard to achieve their goals and creating a new community in the process.

*Joanna Gorman is a history graduate student at CSU, San Marcos.*

## Obituary: Bess Lomax Hawes

Adapted from the Los Angeles Times, November 30, 2009.

Anthropologist, musician and folklorist Bessie Lomax Hawes passed away in Portland, Oregon, on November 28, 2009, of natural causes, aged 88. Ms. Hawes directed folk and traditional arts programs at the National Endowment for the Arts from 1977 to 1992 and served as head of the Anthropology Department at what is now CSU Northridge. CSUN now houses the Bessie Lomax Hawes Student Folklore Archive, a collection of student research projects that Hawes directed.

In the 1930s Hawes assisted her father John Lomax, and brother, Alan Lomax, in compiling the folk song archive at the Library of Congress. In 1952 she moved to California where she performed folk music and taught guitar, mandolin, banjo, folk singing and, later, ethnomusicology, earning an MA in folklore at UCB. The Kingston Trio made her song, "MTA," famous. Hawes's three children pursued careers in teaching, anthropology, and folk music. She is also survived by six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



## Placing Memory: A Photographic Exploration of Japanese American Internment.

By Todd Stewart. Essays by Natasha Egan and Karen J. Leong. Afterword by John Tateishi.  
Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2008. 127 pp. \$34.95 cloth.

In this book, volume 3 in the Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography in the American West, Todd Stewart offers full-color photographs of the current appearance of World War II Japanese-American internment sites which the book puts into an overlapping mélange of contexts. In his introduction, Stewart poses the question that led him to photograph the ten federal concentration camps that imprisoned people of Japanese descent during World War II: “Does place hold memory?” (page 3). Clearly it does, as this beautifully-produced book demonstrates. But what memories does it hold? For whom? Why? The construction of this book leads from scholarly considerations to visceral reactions.

First, one learns how to “read” photographs through the long lens of historical landscape photography, as explained by Natasha Egan in the opening essay, “Unearthing History.” Although some wartime photographers, such as Ansel Adams, inherited this legacy, they also recoiled at the injustice they saw around them. Their works were censored as a result. As Egan explains, the thirty-five historical black-and-white photos included here with their full, original captions managed to escape government censorship. Egan also highlights Japanese American photographer Toyo Miyatake, photographed by Adams (13), whose images from camp (after he persuaded the administrator to allow him to take photographs) are among the most famous.

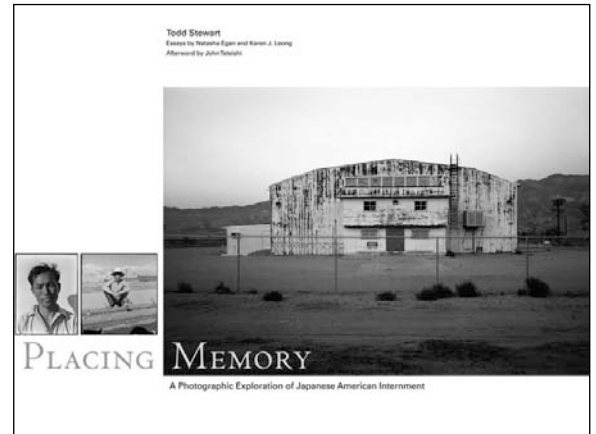
Next, Karen Leong reminds the reader in “Envisioning a Usable Past” of the long-buried history of the Japanese American incarceration, both literally and figuratively. Events and contemporary photographs disappeared from public consciousness and nature swept the crumbling sites under brush and dirt, erasing the man-made boundaries of imprisonment. Only after the redress movement began around 1980 were wartime memories publicly resurrected. With well-researched history, Leong contextualizes the work of Dorothea Lange, Francis Stewart, and others who had to answer to the War Relocation Authority, and the history of the camps themselves, the impetus for Stewart’s photographic explorations.

Then Stewart provides dozens of contemporary views, shot from 1999 to 2002, which both uncover and recover much that has been lost. He records sweeping landscapes, some with two or three fold-out color pages; medium distance views of weathered barracks, foundations, and vegetation; and close-ups of provocative remains such as the child’s grave at Manzanar (35). While several of these full-color photographs are juxtaposed against the afore-mentioned historic works (like the two garden shots from different camps on pp. 60-61), most of Stewart’s work stands alone. There has been no attempt to revisit the exact same spot where the historic photo was taken. Instead, just as the World War II photographs were meant to convey a propagandistic sense of “real” Americans (albeit living without their Constitutional rights), the current work is meant to evoke the sense of what remains of this arbitrary imprisonment. One is reminded that the government picked the most desolate sites available. In short, this is a book with a message.

To underscore this fact, John Tateishi, a child internee at Manzanar, former National Redress Director and National Executive Director of the Japanese American Citizens League, provides the final essay. With rich historical background, he personalizes the internment experience, the barbed wire, the guard towers, and the lasting sense of a life changed forever just because of one’s ancestry. As he points out, the feeling of anguish and abandonment by one’s country can never truly be expressed in words. To a degree, however, the feelings emerge thorough these pictures.

Official maps of the ten camps are included at the end, so clearly we know where the work is centered. But what does it mean? Each reader will likely come away with a different answer. For a historian, this book holds most value when used in conjunction with the many fine histories of the internment. For the general reader, however, it could stand alone: a poignant reminder of places that should remain in memory, so that the injustice behind them is never forgotten.

*Nancy J. Taniguchi, Professor of History, California State University, Stanislaus*



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*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, with submission deadlines at the first of the month of February, May, August, and November. Material must be received prior to the deadline to be printed in the current issue and should be submitted directly to the editors 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 by mail. Please send book review submissions to Walt Bethel at [acwbethel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:acwbethel@sbcglobal.net). All other submissions may be sent to Paul Sandul at [sandulpj@sfasu.edu](mailto:sandulpj@sfasu.edu), or

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