

California *History Action*

A Message from CCPH President Meta Bunse

The CCPH board of directors had a fantastic first meeting of 2011 in Davis at the offices of JRP Historical Consulting, LLC, on February 5. We welcomed some of our new board members and basked in the glow of a good report on fall's conference in Tuolumne County.



Meta Bunse

CCPH Mission Statement

The purpose of CCPH is to foster, facilitate, and coordinate efforts which enhance appreciation of historical heritage, application of history skills in the public and private sectors, and ensure the preservation, interpretation, and management of California's historical resources.

I am very happy to announce that our 2011 conference will be at the fabulous and historic Mission Inn in Riverside. The conference theme, "California Divided," will explore various political, social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges that have sharply divided Californians.

During the past year our previous President **Pam Conners**, her tenacious by-laws committee, and our diligent Treasurer Paul Spitzziere worked successfully with us to improve and modernize our governing documents and accounting procedures. This will allow us to turn to other important issues in the coming year. Thank you all for clearing the way.

One of those important issues is advocacy—it's time to put it back onto our "to do" list. CCPH needs to reach out to history educators and practitioners, and to California law makers. The latter is especially important, and the board is in search of a chairperson for our Public Policy Committee. Are you interested in helping CCPH track history-related issues in the legislature, and in monitoring public policy actions that could affect CCPH and its mission?

In addition to revitalizing our public policy and advocacy activities, we also want to hear from you about what's happening in your community. Has your local government recently enacted a historic preservation ordinance? Are your local schools or colleges offering history programs of note? Is there a new exhibit at the local museum, or a new collection at the local archives? Let us know so that we can keep the action in the California History Action!

Lastly, I want to thank you for the honor of serving as your president this year. I look forward to working with you and hearing from you as we make CCPH the best it can be.

—Meta Bunse

Our New Vice President/ President-Elect: Stephanie George



Stephanie George

Stephanie George earned a BA in American Studies, and MA in History with an emphasis in public history, and a Masters in Library and Information Science. She is currently archivist at the Center for Oral and Public History at CSU Fullerton, where she manages the oral history collection, offers workshops, works with researchers, and teaches community history classes. She also works both as a volunteer and as a paid consultant for local historical societies and for cities. She advises on appropriate collection environments and curates local history exhibits, including *Sowing Dreams, Cultivating Lives: Japanese-American Farmers in Pre-World War II Orange County*. The exhibit garnered awards from the American Association for State and Local History and the Western Museums Association. She also published the exhibition catalog. Finally, she creates outdoor interpretative panels and establishes historical sites.

Stephanie writes, "Not only is the promotion of history what I do as a professional, it's what I tend to do when I'm off the clock as well."

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New Board Members

Heather Lavezzo Downey served as our Administrative Assistant and is a graduate of the Public History program at CSU Sacramento. She currently works as an Interpretative specialist with the Historic Old Sacramento Foundation. She looks forward to helping plan our annual conferences and to managing our website.

Chandra Miller earned a BA in History with honors at Humboldt State and a certificate in Historic Preservation at College of the Redwoods. Currently she is a graduate student in the Public History Department at CSU Sacramento and works as a research assistant with JRP Historical Consulting in nearby Davis. She interned with the California State Parks Capitol District, where she had a hands-on role in restoring the Governor's Mansion and did research regarding the ADA and historic structures.

Oliver Rosales is currently completing his dissertation on multiracial civil rights history in California's Central Valley for the doctoral program at UCSB. He lectures at CSU Bakersfield and at Bakersfield College, and hopes to help expand CCPH's membership and interest in the Southern San Joaquin Valley and to help diversify CCPH's membership and its panel topics.

Ty Smith is a PhD candidate in the joint CSU Sacramento and UCSB public history program. He is also Museum Services Manager at the California State Capitol Museum, a unit of California State Parks. He wants to make our membership more diverse and continue the accessibility and affordability of our annual conferences.

Walt Bethel is co-editor of *California History Action*. He has published articles in *California History* and *Southern California Quarterly*, and has contributed numerous book reviews to various journals. He is professor emeritus at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where he taught philosophy.

Plans for Los Angeles Historic Park Cut Back

Adapted from Bob Poole, *Los Angeles Times*, December 8, 2010

California's budget deficit is forcing State Parks administrators to scale down plans to develop a state historic park atop a 32-acre former railroad yard between Broadway and Spring Street near Chinatown in downtown Los Angeles.

The new plan calls for a modest main entryway, a scaled-down visitor's center, and a 16-foot-high graded-berm walkway that would overlook an archeological dig that is slowly unearthing the railroad roundhouse that served the train yard in the late 1800s. The plan also includes parking for 150 cars, a campfire storytelling area, a ranger station, restrooms, and an area for food trucks. The new plan will cost about \$18 million instead of \$100 million for the completed park as originally planned.

"We have the \$18 million," said Sean Woods, superintendent of the State Department of Parks and Recreation's Los Angeles sector. "This will get us going." Construction of the facilities and park features should begin in late 2013 and take about 18 months to complete, Woods said, adding that parks officials are moving ahead with the scaled-back project so they do not lose \$18 million from Proposition 40, a \$2.6-billion statewide parks bond approved by voters in 2002.

After being abandoned as a rail yard, the site was targeted for redevelopment with industrial buildings before the state acquired it for \$32 million in 2001, according to Warren Westrup, a parks real estate manager involved in the acquisition.

C-SPAN Launches American History TV

Adapted from History News Network, <http://hnn.us>

C-SPAN, cable's public affairs network, is expanding its offerings with 48 hours of new history-based programming airing week-ends on C-SPAN3. Launched January 8, 2011, American History TV (AHTV) programming includes key political archives of historic speeches of former presidents and other leaders, classes, lectures and seminars given by some leading historians, exclusive eyewitness accounts of events that have shaped our nation, intimate tours of historic sites, museums, and private collections, and discussions of recent books.

(Continued on the next page.)

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Key programs each weekend on AHTV will include: "American Artifacts" on Sundays at 5 a.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m.; "Lectures in History" on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., and on Sundays at 11 p.m.; "The Civil War" on Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., and on Sundays at 8 a.m.; "The Presidency" on Sundays at 5:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.; "Oral Histories" on Saturdays at 5 a.m., Sundays at 12 p.m., and Mondays 1 a.m.; "History Bookshelf" on Saturdays at 9 a.m. and on Sundays at 2 a.m. and 10 p.m. (The schedules are listed here in Pacific Time.)

Co-executive producers Susan Bundock and Luke Nichter, who received a Ph.D. in History from Bowling Green State University, say, "American History TV will serve viewers of all ages and interests. There's nothing else quite like it, and we do it each weekend on C-SPAN 3."

Proposed Tour of Sites Relating to Hitler Causes Controversy

Adapted from History News Network, <http://hnn.us>

Historians are divided over plans for a proposed £2,000, eight-day package tour called "Face of Evil: The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich," scheduled for June, 2011. The tour would visit sites relating to the life and career of Adolf Hitler, including the Munich beer cellar where the future Führer launched his ill-fated 1923 putsch, Berchtesgaden, where Hitler had a mountain chalet, and the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin, the city where Hitler committed suicide. British historians Nigel Jones, author of *Countdown to Valkyrie*, and Roger Moorhouse, author of *Killing Hitler*, will lead the tour. They emphasize that this is to be a study tour, aimed at people with a serious interest in Nazi history, and that they intend to ensure that tour members are not Nazi sympathizers or neo-Nazi activists.



Adolph Hitler.
Library of Congress

But prominent British historian David Cesarani, a Research Professor of Jewish History at Royal Holloway College, University of London, objects to the tour: "German historians have confronted the Nazi past with seriousness. But there is a danger of sensationalism when it is incorporated in what I'd call a holiday tour. If you focus on the sites most pertinent to Hitler, you are concentrating on the cult of that personality. The trip in effect becomes a perverse pilgrimage."

Obama Signs IMLS Authorization Bill

Adapted from the National Coalition for History, <http://historycoalition.org>

On December 22, 2010 President Barack Obama signed into law S. 3984, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2010. The bill authorizes funding for fiscal years 2011-2016 for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Americans visit libraries more than 1.3 billion times and checkout more than 2.1 billion items each year. Additionally, there are nearly 850 million visits per year to American museums, which employ as many as 500,000 people and contribute approximately \$20.7 billion to the economy each year.

The bill authorizes nearly \$300 million in federal assistance to museums and libraries nationwide in 2011. Besides authorizing funding, the bill also seeks to enhance training and professional development for librarians and ensure the development of a diverse library workforce. The bill also funds the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian program, which previously has been funded through annual appropriations, strengthens conservation and preservation efforts, and requires IMLS to improve coordination and collaboration with other federal agencies that work for the improvement of museums, libraries, and information services.

Former California State Librarian Confirmed as New IMLS Director

Adapted from Institute of Museum and Library Services, <http://www.ims.gov>

On December 22, 2010, the United States Senate unanimously confirmed President Barack Obama's nomination of Susan Hildreth to a four-year term as Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS, an independent United States government agency, is the primary conduit of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. "I cannot imagine a more exciting and challenging responsibility than helping to create strong libraries and museums that sustain our heritage and culture and connect people to information and new ways of thinking," said Hildreth. The directorship of the Institute alternates between individuals from the museum and library communities.

Former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Hildreth California's State Librarian (2004-2009). Prior to that she served as Deputy Director and City Librarian at the San Francisco Public Library. She also served for five years as Deputy Library Director at the Sacramento Public Library, several years as Placer County's Head Librarian, and four years as Library Director for the Benicia Public Library, all in California. (She began her career as a branch librarian at the Edison Township Library in New Jersey).

Museums and Archives

National Archives Unveils New Archives.gov Web site

Adapted from the National Coalition for History, <http://historycoalition.org>

On December 13, 2010, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) launched a redesigned web site,



Screenshot from <http://www.archives.gov/>

www.archives.gov, as part of its Open Government Initiative. The public and National Archives staff participated jointly in the redesign process that used a “multi-faceted participatory approach” that included “online card sorts, voting on home page designs, and usability testing.” The new Web site includes an interactive “Our Locations” map of NARA’s facilities nationwide. The site also offers streamlined access to historical documents and military service

records, which 81% of Archives.gov visitors seek. Both casual browsers and professional researchers will find topically organized sections designed to meet their needs. The site includes easy links to National Archives’ social media sites, including Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, the Archivist’s AOTUS blog, and other National Archives blogs.

NHPRC Awards Include Three Grants for California Projects

Adapted from the National Coalition for History, <http://historycoalition.org>

At its December 2010 meeting, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) awarded \$100,790 to the Getty Research Institute’s two-year project, “Living the American Dream: Housing and Urban Development in Los Angeles, 1936-1997,” which is to digitize and make available online approximately 60,500 images from the Leonard Nadel Papers and the Julius Shulman Photography Archive.

NHPRC also awarded Stanford University Press \$10,000 to help them publish *Emma Goldman: A Documentary History of the American Years, Volume 3: Light and Shadows, 1910-1916*, and another \$10,000 to help them publish *Emma Goldman: A Documentary History of the American Years, Volume 4: The War Years, 1917-1919*.

To view a full list of grant awards, see the NHPRC press release available at <http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2011/nr11-38.html>.



Emma Goldman
Library of Congress

Universal Declaration on Archives Adopted by ICA

Adapted from the Society of American Archivists, <http://www2.archivists.org>

The International Council on Archives approved the text of the Universal Declaration on Archives (UDA) at its annual general meeting in Oslo, Norway in September 2010. The Council based the text of the UDA on the Déclaration québécoise sur des archives and worked to create a concisely-written document that can be understood by non-archivists and that will give archivist-advocates some useful talking points. Its opening mission statement declares what archives are and why they are valuable. The declaration also sets out management requirements for providing ongoing access to archival records. The Declaration is available in 11 languages; for the English version, visit <http://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/UDA.pdf>.

Workshops, Seminars and Webinars

Workshop on Preserving Collections while Reducing Energy Costs

On April 26-27, 2011, the Image Preservation Institute will offer a two-day, no-cost workshop at UCLA. Participants will acquire information and tools that will enable them to make informed decisions about how to avoid risks to collections while pursuing opportunities for energy-cost reduction. Typically optimizing the preservation environment yields a 10- to 20-percent cost reduction using existing equipment and systems while avoiding risks to collections. There will be a follow-up webinar on June 15. Directors, curators, librarians, facilities administrators, collections-care professionals, and HVAC technicians interested in energy-reduction and cost-saving should consider attending.

The two-day workshop is from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. both days. For more information or to register, visit <http://ipisus-tainability.org>

These events are part of a two-year series of regional workshops and webinars funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities Education and Teaching Grant Program and co-sponsored by UCLA's Charles E. Young Research Library.

Free Workshops throughout California on Protecting Cultural Collections

Adapted from the California Association of Museums' CAM ENEWS, www.calmuseums.org.

The Californians Connecting to Collections Project, a statewide preservation project that provides information, education, and training to California heritage institutions, is holding a free two-part workshop called "Protecting Cultural Collections: Disaster Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery."

By the end of the workshop participants will have completed disaster response and collection salvage plans. These plans will include pre- and post- disaster action-priorities for collections, and will demonstrate an understanding of the practical decision-making skills needed during an emergency.

For 2011, locations for free workshops are at Santa Barbara on February 24 and May 12, at Pasadena on March 2, at San Francisco on March 8 and May 10, and at Paso Robles on May 13 and June 10. Additional locations and dates are to be announced soon. For more information or registration assistance contact Sarah Post at admin@calmuseums.org.



"After the earthquake—frame houses tumbled from their foundations, San Francisco Disaster, U.S.A." (1906)
Library of Congress

Instruction in Archival Practices Offered

The 25th Annual Western Archives Institute, co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists and California State Archives, will be held at U. C. Berkeley in Berkeley, CA on July 10-22, 2011. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills but who have little or no previous archives education, those who have expanding responsibility for archival materials, those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction, and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

A faculty of leading archival educators will teach a curriculum that includes the history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management and preservation administration, collections acquisition, appraisal, description, arrangement, reference and access, photographs, archives and the law, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions. The program also includes site visits to historical records repositories.

Tuition is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees include program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner and lunch at the closing program. Housing and meal plans are available at extra cost. The application deadline is April 1, 2011. For more information, application forms, and a program guide, see <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/wai> or contact Administrator, Western Archives Institute, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, telephone 916-653-7715.

A newsletter for history advocacy published by the
California Council for the Promotion of History
Bridging the Past, Present, and Future

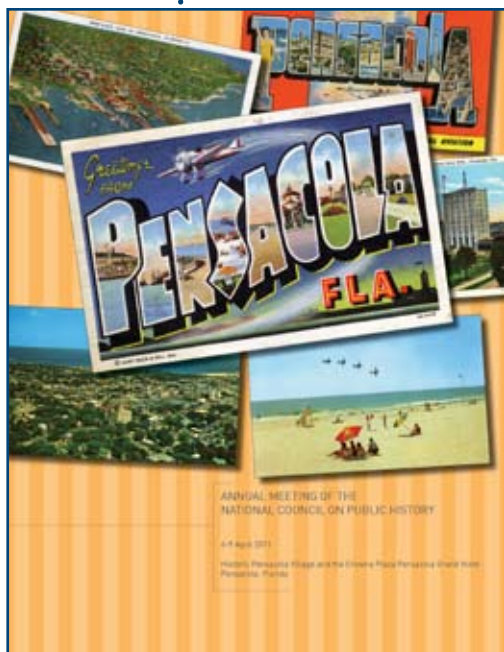
Conferences and Meetings

Conferences and Other Educational Opportunities

The University of California, Riverside is hosting a conference, **“Inscriptions: The Material Contours of Knowledge”** on March 10-11, 2011, that will explore the material dimensions of inscribed knowledge across modern disciplinary lines. The conference will feature talks by scholars in history, literature, digital humanities, geography, music and art history. For more information, visit the University’s special Web page at http://ideasandsociety.ucr.edu/disorder_of_things/inscriptions.html.

“Nostalgia & Amnesia: Avenues of Remembering and Forgetting,” a conference hosted by the Graduate Student History Association at Claremont College in Claremont, CA, will be held March 25-26, 2011. The conference will focus on nostalgia and amnesia as guiding themes for understanding how the past has been idealized, commodified, re-presented, and consumed, while often simultaneously being forgotten, sanitized, or anesthetized. For more information, visit <http://www.cgu.edu/pages/8624.asp>.

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the **National Council on Public History** will be held April 6-10, 2011, at Historic Pensacola Village and the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Pensacola, FL. The conference theme is **“Crossing Borders/Building Communities—Real and Imagined.”** This theme includes the movement of peoples, ideas, technologies, and institutions across national boundaries, the interrelationships of divergent peoples, cultures, races, and ethnic groups, and the memory of these themes in many societies and nations. To learn more, peruse the program, or register, visit the Council’s Web site at <http://ncph.org/cms>.



The Tenth Anniversary **Underground Railroad Public History Conference, “Abolishing Slavery in the Atlantic World: The ‘Underground Railroad’ in the Americas, Africa, and Europe,”** will be held April 8-10, 2011, at Russell Sage College, Troy, NY. The conference will explore the 19th-century international Underground Railroad resistance movement that developed on continents bordering the Atlantic in response to the Transatlantic Slave Trade and examines its legacy for us today. The conference is sponsored by the Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, Inc. For more information, visit the conference Web site at http://ugrworkshop.com/?page_id=483.

The **Society of California Archivists** (SCA) annual meeting and 40th Anniversary celebration will be held at the Sainte Claire Hotel in downtown San Jose, CA from April 28-30, 2011. For more information, see the society’s Web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org>.

The SCA also awards scholarships each year, including some to assist eligible candidates with travel and registration. Scholarship applications are due by March 10, 2011, and can be found on the society’s Web site as well.

The **Society of American Archivists’** 75th annual meeting and anniversary celebration, **“Archives 360°,”** will be held August 22-27, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, IL. The meeting is billed as a place for archives, records, and IT professionals to learn about products and services and ask vendors questions. The meeting includes a wide selection of informative education sessions, pre-conference programs, tours of local repositories, special events, exhibits, and networking opportunities. To learn more, visit the Association’s Web site at <http://www2.archivists.org>.

The **2011 California Preservation Conference, “Preservation on the Edge,”** will be held May 15-May 18, 2011 at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and Bungalows in Santa Monica, CA. There will be more than 30 sessions, tours, and workshops on issues involving California’s historic, cultural and natural resources. (Continuing education units are available.) There will also be tours emphasizing Santa Monica’s architecture, landscapes, history, culture, as well as special events at some of Santa Monica’s most historic and architecturally significant venues. To learn more, see http://www.californiapreservation.org/about_2011.shtml.

The **American Association of Museums Annual Meeting and Museum Expo, “The Museums of Tomorrow,”** will be held May 22-25, 2011, in Houston, TX. The meeting, titled will showcase the best thinking from both practitioners and visionaries about the major issues confronting museums and the communities they serve. To learn more about the meeting and peruse the program, see the Association’s Web site at <http://www.aam-us.org/am11>.

“Materiality, Memory and Cultural Heritage,” organized by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Istanbul Technical University and the Department of Anthropology, Yeditepe University in Istanbul, Turkey on will be held on May 25-29, 2011. The conference will discuss the use of ancient sites, monuments and objects at both local and global levels in different social settings such as houses, ritual spaces, museums, netscape tourism, media, ethnoscapas, and nation-states. For more information, visit <http://www.materialitymemoryculturalheritage.com>.

Golden Gate: The Life and Times of America's Greatest Bridge

By Kevin Starr

New York, NY: Bloomsbury, 2010, 216 pp.; illus., references, index, \$23, hardback.

This isn't just an academic history. Starr presents the Golden Gate Bridge as a public artifact, a feat of engineering, and an objet d'art; something to be celebrated and to be understood from a variety of perspectives; something to be experienced as well as studied.

Starr begins by sketching the geological history of San Francisco Bay and its strait, then populates the bay shore with its first inhabitants, brings in the Spanish explorers, by sea and by land, and the mission-founding Franciscans. The American explorer John C. Frémont named the Golden Gate--Chrysopylae in Greek--in an allusion to Constantinople's Golden Horn, and anticipated the strait's future as a funnel for Pacific Coast commerce, a commerce that began with a forest of masts and yards in the Gold Rush. The setting is ideal for Starr's sweeping, lyrical prose:

Here it is, then, framed by the Golden Gate and its Bridge, the plenum mundi, the fullness of the world: Bay, ships, cities, island, ... bridges, great universities, hills and headlands everywhere, all of it vibrant with present-tense energy and rich associations from a storied past.

Starr describes everything about the bridge that spans Frémont's strait on an epic scale: the powerful personalities who designed and built it, the engineering and aesthetic decisions they made, the political and economic struggle to implement what they had designed, the grandeur of the finished work and its place in the cityscape. He sees the bridge as an urban icon, a symbol of San Francisco as well as something integral to it.

But Starr also notes that the bridge's purpose was always pragmatic: by the 1920s automobile-oriented San Franciscans had overwhelmed the existing network of auto ferries that connected the City with North Bay destinations, creating lengthy traffic delays and limiting North Bay development. City Engineer Michael O'Shaughnessy and Chicago bascule bridge engineer Joseph Strauss, who would become the Golden Gate Bridge's messianic chief engineer, proposed a lumpy cantilever-suspension hybrid as early as 1921. By 1926 an association of North Bay counties led by Santa Rosa banker Frank Doyle overcame court challenges to form the state-authorized autonomous Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District, which would be the political arm of bridge construction and, later, of bridge operation. Civic-minded Bank of America founder A. P. Giannini took the entire first bond issue in 1931, during the Great Depression. (The Golden Gate Bridge never received any federal assistance, though the Bay Bridge did.)

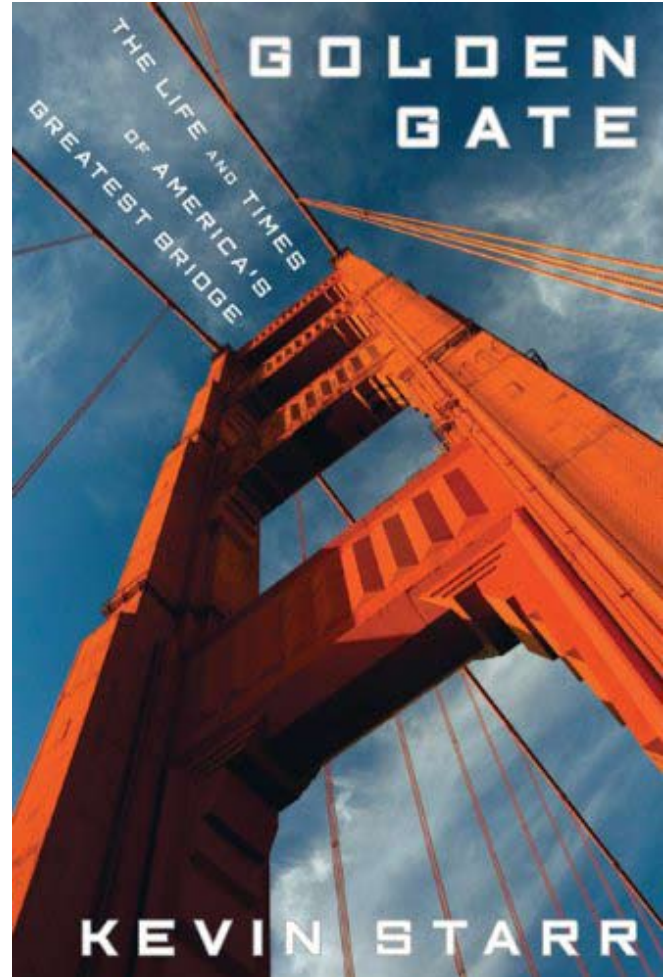
Starr finds connections among a wide range of ideas and events. He links Chicago architect Daniel Burnham's City Beautiful plan for San Francisco to the idealized urban forms of the Panama-Pacific Exposition and the grandeur of the Golden Gate Bridge. He sees the bridge as embodying the Progressive belief in engineering solutions to urban problems and the public works response to the Great Depression. He describes the bridge as art as well as engineering: Maynard Dixon took an early interest in envisioning the bridge in artistic terms, the architect who created the dramatic stepped-back styling of the towers had designed movie palaces, and sculptor Beniamino Bufano promoted the bridge's international orange color. (The military had wanted contrasting stripes.)

Starr tells us about the men who created the bridge: Joseph Strauss, an often difficult but energetic chief, assembled an impressive team of engineers whose competence and imagination exceeded Strauss's own, while Strauss kept a high public profile. Equally talented were the hands-on construction engineers who managed the teams of highly skilled (and highly paid) men who did the often dangerous work.

Starr brings the story up to date: engineers later strengthened the bridge truss in light of experience with high winds, and the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District now operates buses and ferryboats to reduce traffic congestion.

Starr brings the story up to date: engineers later strengthened the bridge truss in light of experience with high winds, and the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District now operates buses and ferryboats to reduce traffic congestion.

(Continued on next page.)



Reviews

(Continued from the previous page.)

In celebration of the Bridge's 50th anniversary, enthusiastic pedestrians overwhelmed crowd control measures, and though they remained well-behaved, they loaded the bridge more heavily than vehicles ever had. Starr devotes a short chapter to the sad topic of bridge suicides then ends with an upbeat chapter about the bridge's role in literature and the visual arts, including movies.

Starr makes a few minor errors that don't affect his argument: he asserts that there were no electric interurban trains in Marin County when in fact the Northwestern Pacific operated them from Sausalito to San Raphael and Mill Valley, for example. But that doesn't matter much: this book is an enjoyable read, and packed with information that will enhance your experience of the bridge itself.

A. C. W. Bethel is professor (emeritus) at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Gifts from the Celestial Kingdom: A shipwrecked cargo for Gold Rush California.

By Thomas N. Layton

Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA. 2002. 269 pp.; illus, notes, bibliography, index, \$5.00 paperback. ISBN 0-8047-4691-5.

What started out as a standard excavation of a pre-historic Pomo Indian site for archaeologist Thomas Layton turned into a fascinating adventure into California Gold Rush history. Layton unexpectedly found some Chinese porcelain potsherds and, as part of their identification, uncovered the story of the Frolic, a brig filled with trade goods from China that sank off the Mendocino coast in 1850.

For the interesting twist is that Layton took all this information and imagined how the people involved lived, thought, reacted, and planned. He skillfully interweaves the narrative of his research with a well-written historical novel. The characters are engaging, the story unfolds a little at a time, and knowing in advance that the ship will be wrecked makes it even more intriguing as he describes the characters' anticipation for making a large profit from their cargo.

Enter John Hurd Everett, the man sent to China charged with the duty of selecting the items that would sell best in a young San Francisco. The Gold Rush was growing the town, bringing in people with a desire for the finer things in life and money to pay for it. Everett had experience in trade goods along the California coast as well as knowledge of a recent shipment from China on the Frolic's sister ship, the Eveline. His goal was to obtain items that had previously made at least 300 percent profit.

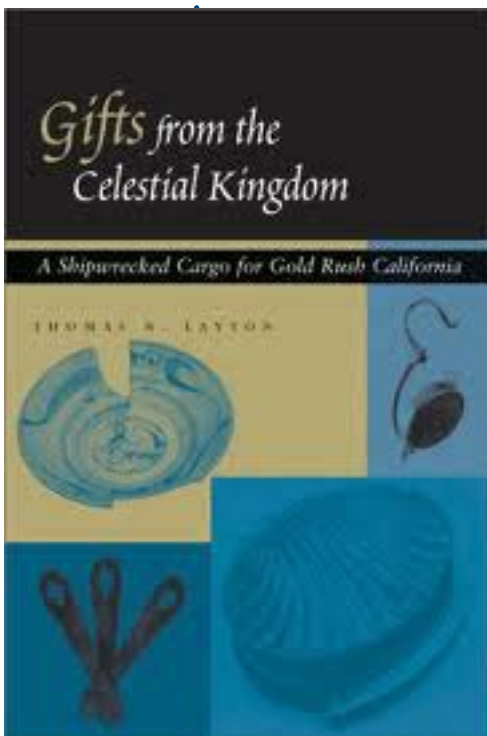
Layton treats us to a colorful story of Everett's skillful acquisition of those items through negotiation, diplomacy, and establishing long-term relationships with the Chinese merchants. We even get a glimpse into the murky world of the opium trade and the arguments both for and against it that were offered at the time.

But this book is more than just details and story-telling. Layton takes the opportunity to reflect on the work he has done and how it has affected him and his life.

For me, the need to explain the blue-and-white potsherds we had excavated at Three Chop Village opened the door to a bigger story. That story transcended the Pomo, the shipwreck, and the cargo to explain part of a world system: the spread of Western culture through commerce. In this enterprise, the artifacts ... have provided me with the opportunity not only to describe that system but also to connect it to a human scale of people, places, and things. That process is historical archaeology's contribution to the study of humanity.

Overall, the book is a good read. The details of the historical archaeological research are fascinating for anyone who enjoys such things but can also be skimmed over without too much loss. The historical fiction parts bring color and depth and Layton's interactions with modern day people connected to the wreck complete the book by giving us recent perspective.

Tracy Johnston teaches mathematics at Palomar College.



CCPH Liaisons

The following is a list of CCPH liaisons with state and national heritage organizations. This list of representatives has been established so that liaisons can supply important information to the CCPH membership and so members will have an appropriate contact should the need arise. Are you a member of a state or national association and want to serve as a CCPH liaison? Contact us at ccph@csus.edu or (916) 798-5099.

American Association of Museums (AAM)

Open

American Assoc. for State and Local History (AASLH)

Mike Bennett, michaelbennett@sanjoaquin.org

California Association of Museums (CAM)

Carola Rupert Enriquez, caenriquez@kern.org

California Historical Records Advisory Board

Chuck Wilson, chuckw@ucr.edu

California Historical Society (CHS)

Dick Orsi, richard.orsi@csueastbay.edu

California Mission Studies Association (CMSA)

Linn McLaurin

California Preservation Foundation (CPF)

Anthea Hartig

Conference of California Historical Societies (CCHS)

Ben Wirick, info@californiahistorian.com

National Council on Public History (NCPH)

Darlene Roth, darlene@darleneroth.com

Society for California Archaeology (SCA)

Steve Mikesell

Society of California Archivists (SCA)

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Southwest Mission Research Center (SMRC)

Linn McLaurin

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Rebecca Carruthers, rcarruthers@cityofsacramento.org

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California History Action Editorial Information

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

Issues are produced quarterly, with submission deadlines on the first of March, June, September, and December. 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 sub-

mitted 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. All other submissions may be sent to Paul Sandul at sandulpj@sfasu.edu, or:

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

Passages

Marian Gibbons, Co-Founder of Hollywood Heritage

Adapted from Dennis McLellan, *Los Angeles Times*, December 12, 2010

Ohio native Marian Gibbons became fascinated by Hollywood on a 1949 visit, but she found its history and character in decay when she returned in 1978 and joined in creating the nonprofit Hollywood Heritage in 1980 to preserve the landmarks of the golden age of film. "There are two Hollywoods," she said, "the geographic and the fantasy. The future of geographic Hollywood hinges on the Boulevard, cleaning it and getting in commercial developments. The fantasy? Well, the tourists come here looking for it, something to remind them of what they think Hollywood was. . . .They have to have something to see." She served as Hollywood Heritage founding president and always remained committed to preserving old Hollywood for visitors and Angelenos. She passed away at age 89.

Doyce Nunis, USC Historian and Southern California Quarterly Editor

Adapted from the *Los Angeles Times*, February 2, 2011

Doyce Blackman Nunis Jr., 86, an educator, author and historian who edited the Historical Society of Southern California's respected journal *Southern California Quarterly* for 43 years and wrote or edited more than 40 books, died January 22 at Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center from complications after abdominal surgery, the Society announced.

Professor Nunis earned a bachelor's degree from UCLA in 1947 and a doctorate in history from USC in the 1950s. He taught history at UCLA until the 1960s when he joined the history faculty at USC. He started working with the Historical Society in 1962 and retired as editor of its *Quarterly* in 2005. "History is like an artist standing before a canvas," Nunis said. "Every little bit you fill in helps, every article fits into the mosaic eventually."

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