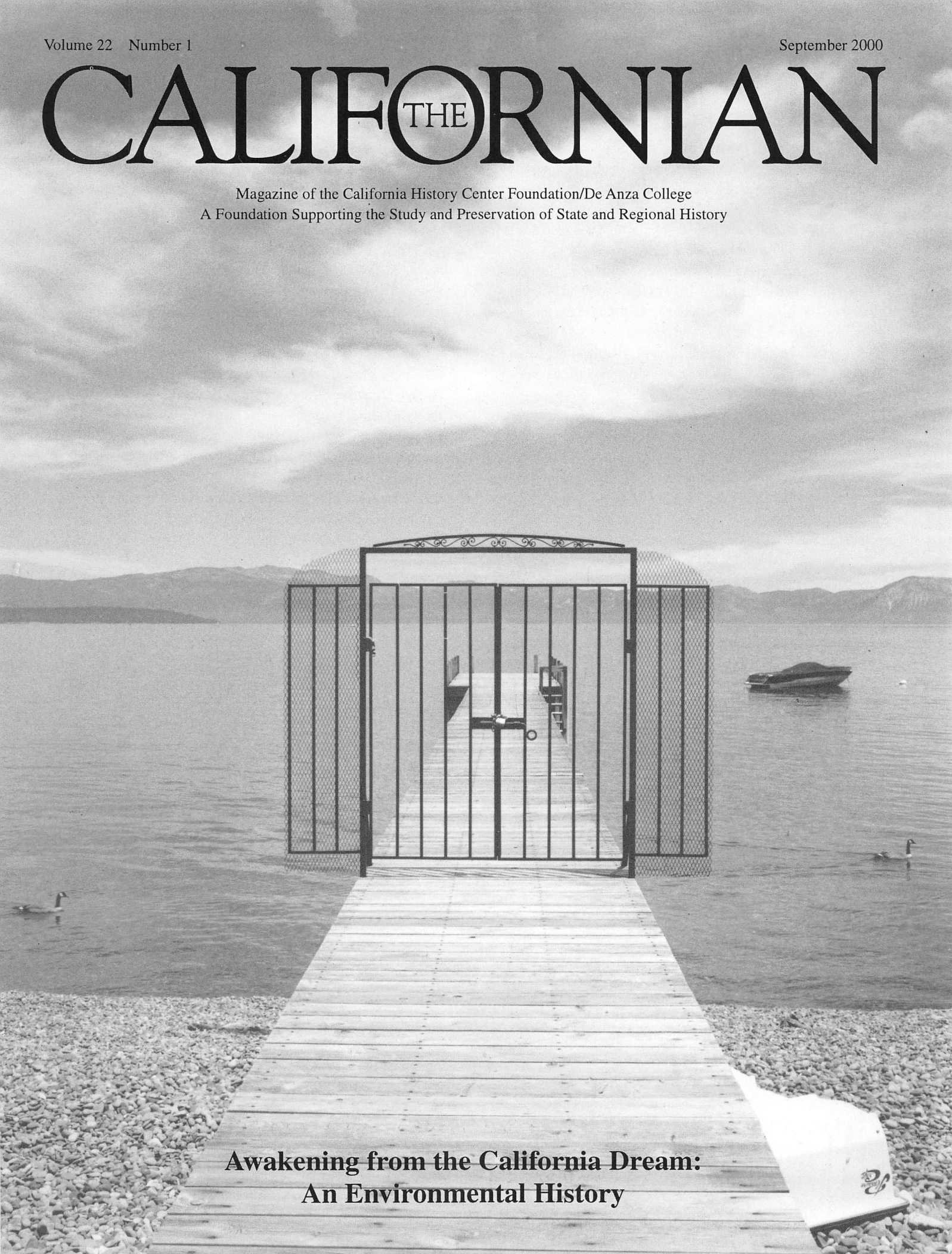


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CALIFORNIA THE FORNIAN

Magazine of the California History Center Foundation/De Anza College
A Foundation Supporting the Study and Preservation of State and Regional History



**Awakening from the California Dream:
An Environmental History**



A Director's Fond Farewell

This is probably one of the most difficult and bittersweet writing assignments I will ever experience but the time has arrived! I mentioned at the end of the March director's report that after 23 years I was going to be retiring from the California History Center on June 30th. So by the time you read this in late summer I will be gone from the CHC.

What memories I take with me though. I remember coming up to De Anza in the fall of 1977 to talk with Walt Warren, Seonaid McArthur, and Sharen Metz (Bolich at the time) about my journalism background and how my writing skills might be put to use at the history center. The program was housed in Cottage Two and still in the throes of fundraising to complete the restoration of the building.

Ah, what fun and what parties in those years of cultivating support and raising restoration monies! We moved into the building in 1979 and got down to the serious work of mounting exhibits, developing the library and archive collection, writing new curriculum, and bringing a more professional approach to our book publishing. David Rickman, Daphne O'Lenick, and later Lesley McCortney became integral members of the staff.

Seonaid moved on, Jim Williams became director with Janet Brynjolfsson, Helen Kikoshima and I rounding out the staff. Lisa Christiansen took over from Shirley Clements as librarian in the late 80s and Tom Izu replaced Janet when she left in 1994.

Relationships, community—people I have worked with over the years, people who all played a role in helping me become the person I am—that's what I am going to miss when I am gone.

And I can't even begin to mention the volunteers, trustees and CHC members who have meant so much to me and to the California History Center Foundation over the years. All of you are the 30-year story of the California History Center and Foundation—the people who have believed in its mission and vision and been willing to give so generously for so many years. For this I thank you.

I look back on my seven years as director and feel really good about where the center is today—alive, strong, back on

its feet. We are headed down a path of California Studies, which I believe will continue to bring exciting and thought-provoking programming to our activities. And, in fact, I would be remiss if I didn't mention several of the activities already on tap for next year.

The year kicks off with our second annual vintage celebration on Saturday, September 23rd. Our guest speaker is private vintner T.J. Rodgers and, in fact, you should have already received your invitation in the mail by the time you read this director's message.

We will be hosting the photo exhibit, *Awakening from the California Dream: An Environmental History*, from mid-October through December. The exhibit, based upon the book *Farewell Promised Land: Waking from the California Dream* by photographer Robert Dawson and historical geographer-writer Grey Brechin, was designed and curated by the Oakland Museum.

On Friday, November 3rd, Bob Dawson and Grey Brechin will be the featured keynote presenters at our fifth annual California Studies conference. We are extremely excited to be able to give you this incredible exhibit and conference experience.

We are also hoping to mount another photo exhibit in the spring 2001 based on the 30-year career of a local aerial photographer. We anticipate a book project of our own working with this local family and the wonderful collection of aerial photographs from 1949-79.

All of this exciting and important programming makes it difficult to leave, and yet I truly feel it is time. Time for me to take my life and activities into uncharted waters, and time for the organization to look to the 21st century with a new set of eyes.

Thank you for all of the support, understanding and commitment over the years. Neither the California History Center Foundation nor I would be who or what we are without you.

Kathleen Peregrin,
Director (retired)



COVER: Private Property, Lake Tahoe, California from the upcoming photography exhibit titled *Awakening from the California Dream: An Environmental History* (see page 11).

LEFT: Outgoing CHC Director Kathi Peregrin assisted with installation of the center's successful spring exhibit, *Rock and Roll Revolution: Northern California, 1963-73.*

CALENDAR

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| <p>9/5 California History Center opens to the public. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, closed from noon to 1 p.m.</p> <p>9/23 Second Annual Vintage Celebration at CHC, 7 to 10 p.m. A benefit wine tasting and silent auction featuring T.J. Rodgers, Silicon Valley CEO and renowned home vintner.</p> <p>9/25 De Anza College classes begin.</p> <p>10/23-12/21 “Awakening from the California Dream: An Environmental History” exhibit opens at center. The first major photography exhibition to document and explore environmental changes in California. Featuring the work of writer Gray Brechin and photographer Robert Dawson.</p> | <p>11/3 5th Annual California Studies Conference, featuring presentations by historical geographer and writer Gray Brechin and photographer Robert Dawson as well as a discussion of California environmental issues. Exhibit reception to follow morning conference.</p> <p>11/13 Veterans Day Holiday observed. De Anza College classes do not meet.</p> <p>11/23, 24 Thanksgiving Holiday observed. CHC is closed. De Anza College classes do not meet.</p> <p>12/15 Fall quarter ends</p> |
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Meet Tom Izu—New CHC Director

Tom Izu, CHC administrative associate for the last six years, has been named the history center’s new executive director. Commenting on his appointment, Izu said, “I look forward to meeting the many challenges that will face us in the years to come. The CHC has always been a unique organization. I believe its uniqueness gives us the opportunity to play a major role in setting a new direction for both community-based heritage groups and educational institutions that are confronting the many issues facing our state.” He urges CHC members to contact him regarding concerns or ideas they may have. Izu came to the CHC with 12 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, having worked in various social service and advocacy organizations. He holds a B.A. degree in sociology from UC Santa Cruz and has done graduate work in urban planning at San Jose State University. At De Anza, he is the past co-chair of the college’s Asian Pacific American Staff Association and past chair of the Asian



Pacific American Heritage Month Planning Committee. Seattle-born, he has lived in Santa Clara County since early childhood and attended Homestead High School. Izu replaces CHC Director Kathi Peregrin, who retired in June after a 23-year affiliation with the center.

EDUCATION

State and Regional History

The following courses will be offered fall quarter through the California History Center. Please see the California History Center class listings section of the De Anza Schedule of Classes for detailed information (i.e., course ID#, call #, and units.) For additional course information, call the center at (408) 864-8712.

***And don't forget, as a benefit of being a history center member you can register for history center classes (CHC classes only, not other De Anza classes) at the Trianon building.*

Robert Louis Stevenson in California: *Chatham Forbes*

In 1879, a young writer from a staid Scottish family rode the transcontinental railroad to California in pursuit of Mrs. Fannie Osbourne. The lovers were reunited in Monterey, married in San Francisco, then honeymooned on Mount St. Helena. Later they sailed out the Golden Gate to settle in Western Samoa. Robert Louis Stevenson's writing about California comprises an invaluable first-hand account of early rail and ship travel and the people, landscape and communities of Monterey and the greater Bay Area in the late 19th century. Field trips included.

Lectures: Thurs. Oct. 26, Nov. 9. Field trips: Sat. Nov. 4, 18.

Classic East Bay: *Betty Hirsch*

The East Bay cities are a microcosm containing all the elements of a modern community educationally, culturally, spiritually, governmentally, industrially and recreationally. This course gives an overview of these elements and illustrates with examples both in the Oakland and Walnut Creek areas. Some of the sites will include: Dunsmuir House, Pardee House, Oakland City Hall, Bonsai Display Garden in Lakeside Park, Walnut Creek Center for the Performing Arts, Lindsey Museum, Eugene O'Neill's Tao House and St Mary's College.

Lectures: Thurs. Nov. 2, 16. Field Trips: Sat. Nov. 11, Dec. 9.

Days of '49—Mining the Mother Lode: *Chatham Forbes*

Certainly the most dynamic event of 19th century California was the Sierra Nevada gold rush of 1848-49. Overwhelming population growth brought fundamental and irreversible changes to the Pacific frontier. Movement towards statehood was accelerated as the need for civil infrastructure became acute. The class will study the diverse effects of the mining boom on California, in the classroom and on a weekend field study trip to the Mother Lode.

Lectures: Thurs. Oct. 5, 19. Field trip: Sat./Sun. Oct 14-15.

Stanford University—Cradle of Silicon Valley: *Betty Hirsch*

The idea of a university as a memorial to his son came to Leland Stanford in a dream. And Leland and Jane Stanford said, "And the children of California shall be our children." Thus came the roots of Stanford University. The university was built on the Stanford Farm lands from a master plan designed by landscape planner Frederick Law Olmstead and architect Charles Coolidge. With David Starr Jordan as its founding president and a strong faculty, the university grew and prospered. Through Professor Frederick Terman and Stanford's outstanding engineering school came the roots of Silicon Valley with students such as William Hewlett, David Packard and Sigurd Varian. And through the years the university has nurtured and helped talented students develop their ideas, which metamorphosed into various Silicon Valley firms. Field trip to Stanford included.

Lecture: Thurs. Oct. 12. Field trip: Sat. Oct. 21.

Threatened California: *Kristin Jensen-Sullivan*

Threatened California explores the wonders of the beautiful state of California through the study of and visit to a variety of California's ecosystems including the coastal redwood forest, marshlands, Pacific tide pools and the rugged and spectacular mountain regions of the Diablo range. Students will discuss the many environmental factors that threaten California's flora and fauna including global warming, overpopulation, pollution, ozone depletion, deforestation and the biodiversity crisis. A major focus of the class will be sustainable use of California's varied resources.

Lecture/Orientation: Tues. October 24. Field trips: Sat. & Sun. Oct. 28 and 29.

Dates to Remember

Envisioning California Conference Planned For September 21-22 in Sacramento

The substantial growth of democracies throughout the world in the past half century is due, in no small part, to the explosion of electronic communication. From television to the Internet, citizens of all nations now have unprecedented access to the world marketplace of facts and ideas. Inevitably, this electronic information age will in varying degrees impact all of our society's activities, as did the Industrial Revolution.

In the 12th annual Envisioning California Conference, "E-Democracy, Initiatives and Education: The Future of the California Republic," attendees will examine how the new electronic technologies will alter life in California. The conference, presented by the Center for California Studies of CSU, Sacramento, will be at the Capitol Sept. 21-22.

Recruited to reflect California's social, economic and ethnic diversity, the panelists will examine how California's problems may be resolved or redefined by the information age.

For more information on the conference, call the Center for California Studies at (916) 278-6906.

Second Annual Vintage Celebration To Be Held Saturday, Sept. 23

Join us for the second annual Vintage Celebration—a benefit wine tasting and silent auction—to be held at the California History Center on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 7 to 10 p.m.

The event will feature wine from the Santa Clara Valley's renowned vintners, as well as non-alcoholic beverages and hors d'oeuvres. There also will be live music, a silent auction and prizes for the best costumes (come as your favorite character from California's past).

The evening will include a presentation by T.J. Rodgers, founding president/CEO of Cypress Semiconductor Corp. and renowned home vintner.

Vintage Celebration, underwritten by Pitch and Cathie Johnson, is dedicated to the memory of Ward Winslow, the California History Center's longtime board member, advocate, benefactor and friend who died July 7 (see story on page 13).

Members should have received their invitations in mid-August. For more information, call the CHC, (408) 864-8712.

*T.J. Rodgers,
Silicon Valley
CEO And
Home Vintner*



FEATURE

Farewell, Promised Land: Waking From the California Dream

Story and Photos by Robert Dawson

The following is the preface from Farewell, Promised Land: Waking From the California Dream by Robert Dawson and Gray Brechin (University of California Press, 1999). The authors, a photographer and geographer-writer, respectively, criss-crossed California for more than five years to write the book, which is an environmental history of the state. The book provided the vast majority of the photographic and written materials that the Oakland Museum of California organized into an exhibit, "Awakening From the California Dream: An Environmental History." That exhibit opens at the California History Center on Oct. 23. (See story on page 11.)

Driving toward Stanford University, I listen to a new song by Bruce Springsteen About my childhood home in California's Central Valley. As I pass the Stanford Equestrian Center the ballad plays:

*Word was out some men in from Sinaloa were looking for hands
Well deep in Fresno County there was a deserted chicken ranch
There in a small tin shack on the edge of a ravine
Miguel and Louis stood cooking methamphetamine*

I think back three months, when Gray Brechin and I were working on this project in the San Joaquin Valley. We read in the local newspaper that the San Joaquin had become the meth capital of the country and about out-of-the-way farm shacks accidentally exploding during illegal drug production. We talked much about the

desperation of the people caught up in this illicit drug world and the poverty that we saw every time we got off the freeways.

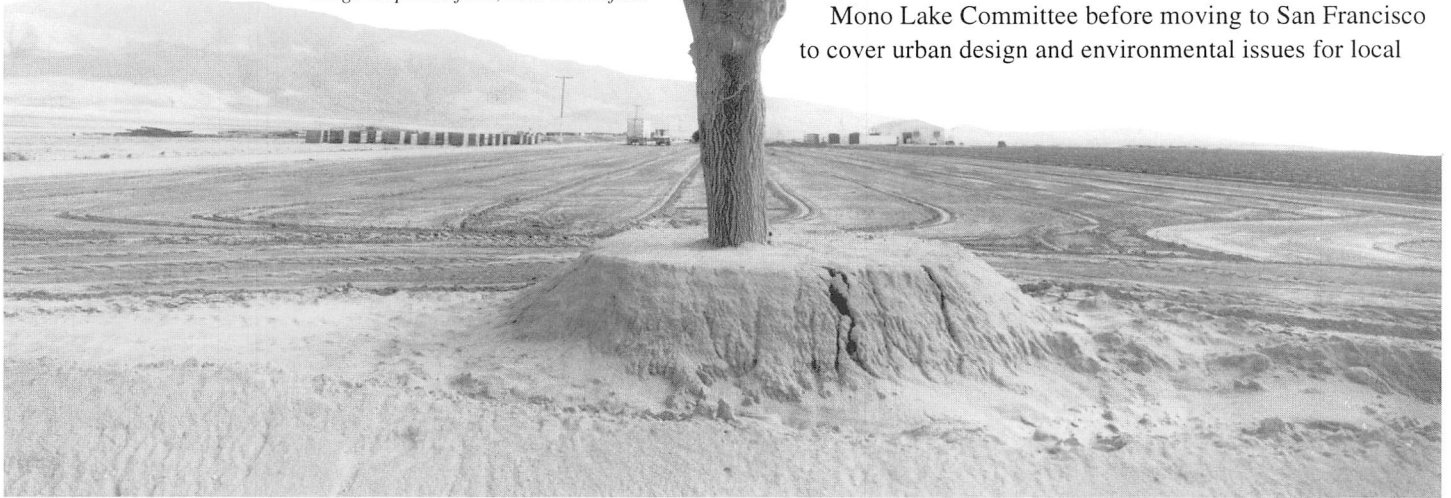
*It was early one winter evening as Miguel stood watch outside
When the shack exploded lighting up the valley night
Miguel carried Louis's body over his shoulder down a swale
To the creekside and there in the tall grass Louis Rosales died¹*

Passing by the Stanford Golf Course, I weave through the slim joggers and determined mountain bikers who dominate the campus on this warm winter day. I think back to the California of my childhood and I am astonished at how dramatically this place has changed during my forty-five years in the Promised Land.

In 1991, Gray and I received the Dorothea Lange-Paul Taylor Prize from the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University. We had talked about doing a book and exhibition on California's environment for years and were delighted that we had won the prize but horrified that now we would have to get to work.

Indirectly, we had been working on this project for a long time. Both of us were involved in the early effort to save eastern California's endangered Mono Lake, and had, in fact, met at a camp-ground overlooking it. I went on to do a book with Gerald Haslam and Stephen Johnson on California's equally threatened agricultural heartland, the Great Central Valley. Later my wife, Ellen Manchester, and I confounded a large collaborative photographic project called Water in the West that continues to look at water as a critical component of life throughout the arid West. Around 1989, Lonny Shavelson and I photographed toxic waste sites throughout California. Gray was a cofounder of the Mono Lake Committee before moving to San Francisco to cover urban design and environmental issues for local

Large corporate farm, near Bakersfield





Scientists discussing the demise and restoration of California's salmon, near the Sacramento River, California

magazines and television stations. In 1983 he helped to break the story of the poisoning of Kesterson National Wildlife Refuge.

Attending the University of California in the late 1960s and early 1970s, we were both shaped by the idealism of that time. *The Destruction of California* by Ray Dasmann (1965) helped both of us to understand the radical environmental transformation taking place around us. Dasmann's book was to California what Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962) was to the nation. It stuck with us both, becoming more relevant as the decades passed. We wanted to update it, but also to search the past for the explanations for California's continuing decline.

The way in which the United States came to occupy this land still affects the character of California society today. The California Gold Rush of 1849 was one of the largest mass migrations in human history and had enormous consequences for

our environment and native life. Miner Thomas Swain wrote in 1851, "Large cities have sprung into existence almost in a day... It has generally been the emigration of individuals, not of families. The people have been to each other strangers in a strange land.... Their hearts have been left at home. They have considered that as this is but a temporary stopping place for them, they have not been called upon to do anything for California but all for themselves". Another miner wrote, "Money is our only stimulus and getting of it our only pleasure", while Henry David Thoreau declared in 1862, "the rush to California.... reflects the greatest disgrace on mankind. That many are ready to live by luck and so get the means of commanding the labor of others less lucky, without contributing any value to society—and that's called enterprise!" If only they could see us now.²

The visible changes in California's environment are there to



Aerial view of gold dredging and tailings, near Merced

see for all who can remember. The writer Joan Didion recalled growing up in Sacramento by noting: "All that is constant about the California of my childhood is the rate at which it disappears."³ I, too, have spent a lifetime watching new homes spread over once open land. Air quality has improved over parts of the state because of federal legislation in the 1970s, but the continued choking smog over southern California and parts of the Central Valley, the growing gridlocked traffic, and the fear that our state's population could double in twenty-five years fuels a persistent, underlying anxiety over California's future. The list of environmental disasters is long, and it is questionable whether our successes can be sustained over time, as more people demand more of the land.

Our challenge was not only to depict the obvious crisis in our state but to remind people how we arrived here. What could we learn from our past to help us understand our present and redirect our future? Certain pivotal questions began to emerge.

Why has California allowed so much of its native plant and wildlife to be all but wiped out?

Can we really expect technology and chemically intensive agriculture to sustain us after we pave over the best of our farm land?

During the largely unknown nineteenth-century genocide of California's Indians, were we establishing an attitude of ownership, free of all constraints, which continues today on our land and among disenfranchised people?

ANNUAL REPORT

1999-2000

Dear California History Center Foundation Members and Supporters:

1999-2000 was another banner year for the California History Center, packed with memorable educational activities and cultural events as well as a time of important transitions.

One important accomplishment was De Anza College Curriculum Committee approval of an "Introduction to California Studies" course, an interdisciplinary look at all things Californian (environment, history, art, music, literature, etc.) This new course will be the core course in a general California Studies program to complement our existing courses and program in California History. It's a great step forward for the center.

One of my favorite center activities this year was the elegant fall Vintage Celebration evening; it was such a hit we're having a second Vintage evening on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2000—you should have received your invitation in the mail by now. If not, give the center a call.

The CHC activities this last year which I found personally most enjoyable centered around the 1999-2000 topical theme, "Music as a Reflection of Culture, Time and Place." Last November's California Studies Conference on this top was just marvelous, featuring talks—and demonstrations!—of various Californian musical traditions as well as emerging musical styles. The June reception at the center for foundation members and some of the artists in the exhibit titled "Rock and Roll Revolution: Northern California, 1963-73" was graced by a performance by County Joe McDonald.



Country Joe MacDonald was a crowd favorite at the June reception for the "Rock and Roll Revolution" exhibit.



A visitor enjoys the CHC's popular winter/spring exhibit titled Rock and Roll Revolution: Northern California, 1963-73.

Everyone had great fun looking at all the psychedelic posters and other exhibit items—I believe all the attendees enjoyed the exhibit—not just aging baby boomers, like myself!

I must play a blues note now, however, colored with sadness: Ward Winslow, longtime CHC Foundation and board member, died this summer. We gratefully remember his many valuable contributions. We will miss him a lot.

I also wish to thank and commend Center Director Kathi Peregrin for her years of dynamic leadership and outstanding service. We congratulate her on her recent retirement, and we welcome aboard new Director (but experienced center staff member) Tom Izu, who will capably lead us, no doubt, to ever-greater horizons.

Sincerely to All,

David Howard-Pitney
President, Board of Trustees

Stockmeir Library and Archives

This was “a year that was.” In fall 1999, history center staff hit the ground at full gallop with the Vintage Celebration, then got to work on the “rock and roll revolution” exhibit and Marjorie Pierce’s Martin Murphy book (an upcoming local history study). The May teleconference on the Japanese American internment camps during World War II was followed by a flurry of activity around the retirement of the wonderful Kathi Peregrin from her CHC directorship position.

Our small staff barely took a breath between projects. What does that have to do with the Stockmeir Library/Archives year? The library is part of a larger entity which sometimes needs all hands to accomplish its goals. Just as library and archives materials are used in a variety of history center projects, sometimes, so is the librarian. It was a privilege to work collaboratively on a number of these projects, and the library had a good year, as well.

Donating to the library/archives in 1999-2000 were:

Aubrey Abramson, many dozens of antiquarian books, journals, and ephemeral items;

Lennart Ahlkvist, several of Sharon Giacomazzi’s recent columns “Romancing the Sierra” from the *Yosemite Highway Herald*;

Ann Alder, *California Register 1962, Saddleback Ancestors, Tully Knoles of the Pacific, Who’s Who in the West, 1954*;

Cliff Brautigam, a Santa Clara County wooden prune box;

Yvonne Jacobson, a large collection of bank documents from members of the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc., during Santa Clara County’s agricultural period; N.C. Nelson’s “Shellmounds of the San Francisco Bay Region” (Berkeley: The University Press, December, 1909); a facsimile reprint from *American Archaeology and Ethnology*, Volume 7, Number 4; a framed 8” x 10” photo of Mildred Worswick doing Navy work; and Pat Jacobsen’s *Millennium Guide to Fruit Crate Labels*;

William Kaufman, *Reminiscences* by James Murray Luck, 1999;

Art Kompolt, *California Historical Society Quarterly*;

Jean Libby, *Trees of Palo Alto*, American Revolution Bicentennial Edition (City of Palo Alto, 1976) with photographic contributions of the donor;

Beverley McChesney, video on South Los Altos wine-growing in which Beverley interviews Charles Sullivan;

Ron Olmstead, his own manuscript “New England Moves West” and “Memories of a Santa Clara Valley Boy Who Never Left, 1908-1991,” rev. Oct. 1991, by Rixford K. Snyder;

Eloy Rogers, 10 issues of the *San Antonio Valley Historical Association Newsletter*;

Eileen Snider, hundreds of California and local subject slides taken by the donor;

Tisa Abshire Walker, *It All Happened Right Here* by Vinson Brown (Stanford University Press, 1954);

Jim Williams, a book by Jay Brigham, *Empowering the West: Electrical Politics before FDR*, Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1998;

People who used the library for research came from institutions such as:

Blach Intermediate School
Campbell Historical Museum
Los Altos History House Museum
Oregon State University
Sunnyvale Public Library

Students from outside De Anza College who used the library/archives for research came from:

Cabrillo College
San Jose State University
Stanford University

Also using the history center library were independent historians, journalists, authors, archeologists.

Most of our patrons are students from De Anza College. This year they came from courses such as:

Anthropology 5	History 10
Anthropology 55	History 17A
Archeology	History 100W
Art	ICS 5
Biology 10	ICS 7
English 1A	Science
English 1B	Speech
English as a Second Language	

Volunteers Nancy Bratman, Elizabeth Archambeault, Janet Ilacqua, Helen Riisberg and Trudy Frank continued the work of the library, pursuing individual projects as needed. We had the pleasure of seeing our volunteer-on-hiatus, Maureen Kelley, at Kathi’s “Happy Trails” retirement party.

The first pass of the Stockmeir book collection inventory was finally completed with the wonderful direction and help of Carole Chapman and Mireya Arteaga of Learning Center Technical Services. Copying of audiotapes for preservation and access purposes was accomplished by Alicia Rivera and Nghia Van Nguyen in the Open Media Lab.

Now, with summertime behind us, we will take a breath and get ready for another big year!

Lisa Christiansen

Librarian

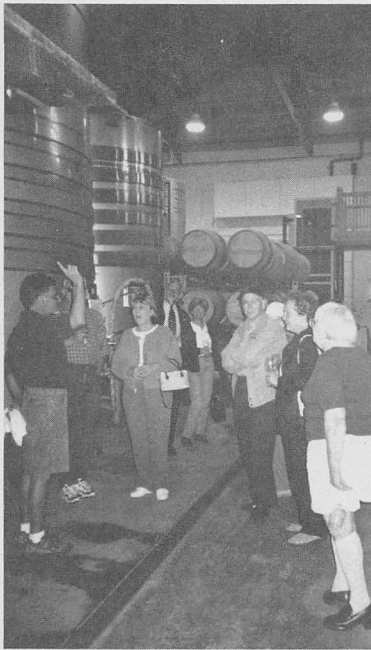
Volunteers Critical to CHC Success

Without volunteers, the history center and its small staff would be hard pressed to undertake the wide range of events and programs offered every year.

The history center would like to acknowledge the following volunteers who have given their time to make our programs and activities possible during 1999-2000. Thanks to all our volunteers who gave more than 940 hours of time to the history center.

- ** Elizabeth Archambeault, Library
 - ** Nancy Bratman, Library
 - ** Trudy Frank, Office
 - * Janet Hoffman, Office
 - * Janet Ilacqua, Library
 - ** Betty Petersen, Office
 - * Helen Riisberg, Library
- * Over 40 hours
** Over 100 hours

Volunteers as well as CHC board members were acknowledged for their service to the history center in June with a tour and picnic at the Byington Winery in Los Gatos.



CHC volunteers and board members enjoyed a tour of the Byington Winery in Los Gatos in June. The end-of-the-year gathering also included a picnic on the winery grounds.



Want to be a Volunteer?

Volunteers are an integral part of everything we do at the CHC. If you are interested in participating in any of the following areas, please call us at (408) 864-8712:

- LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES—volunteers assist in reference work, help maintain the archival and library records, and assist with special research projects.
- EXHIBIT PROGRAM—volunteers help organize, plan and install exhibits.
- DOCENT PROGRAM—volunteers are trained to lead tours of the Trianon building, De Anza campus, and exhibits at the center.
- SPECIAL EVENTS—volunteers assist with CHC conferences, lectures and fundraising events.
- OFFICE MANAGEMENT—volunteers greet visitors, answer phones, maintain membership records, and work on various administrative projects.



Trudy Frank is one of several CHC volunteers who provide valuable assistance with the day-to-day operation of the history center.

Financial Summary: 1999–2000

Revenue Category Definitions

Membership – new and renewing memberships

Donations – general donations; library donations; endowment donations

Publications – books/resale; sale/CHC books; restricted publications

Exhibits – exhibits; restricted exhibit funds

Donated facilities and services – facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College and volunteers

Miscellaneous – subscriptions; library/photo fees; library endowments; interest

Expenditure Category Definitions

Administration – general printing; postage; telephone; salaries; equipment repair; cost of goods sold

Donated facilities and services – facilities, services, salaries and benefits provided by De Anza College, private corporations and volunteers

Publications – *The Californian*; printing; restricted publications; salaries; design

Exhibits – design; fabrication; openings; printing; salaries

Library – library supplies; books & photos; periodicals; salaries

ASSETS

Cash	\$149,567
* Market Rate Account	20,453
Inventory	32,540
Trust Fund	214,397
Endowment Fund	51,020
Fixed Assets	45,342
Accounts Receivable	5,136
TOTAL ASSETS	\$518,456

* Includes revenue for projects in progress

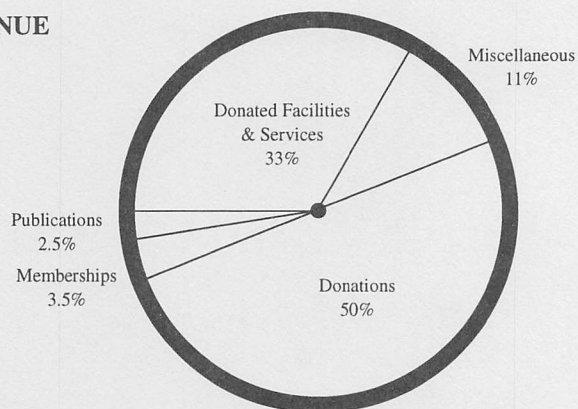
REVENUE

Memberships	\$11,543
Donations	165,736
Publications	8,429
Donated Facilities and Services	107,312
Miscellaneous	36,183
TOTAL	\$329,203

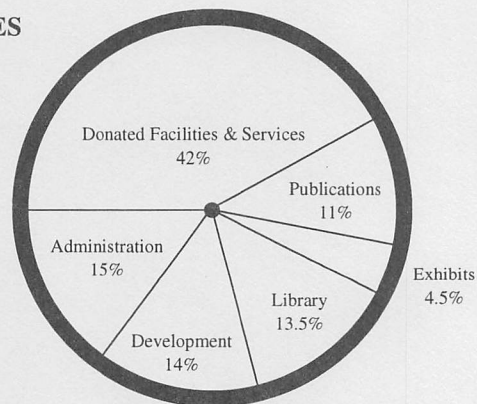
EXPENDITURES

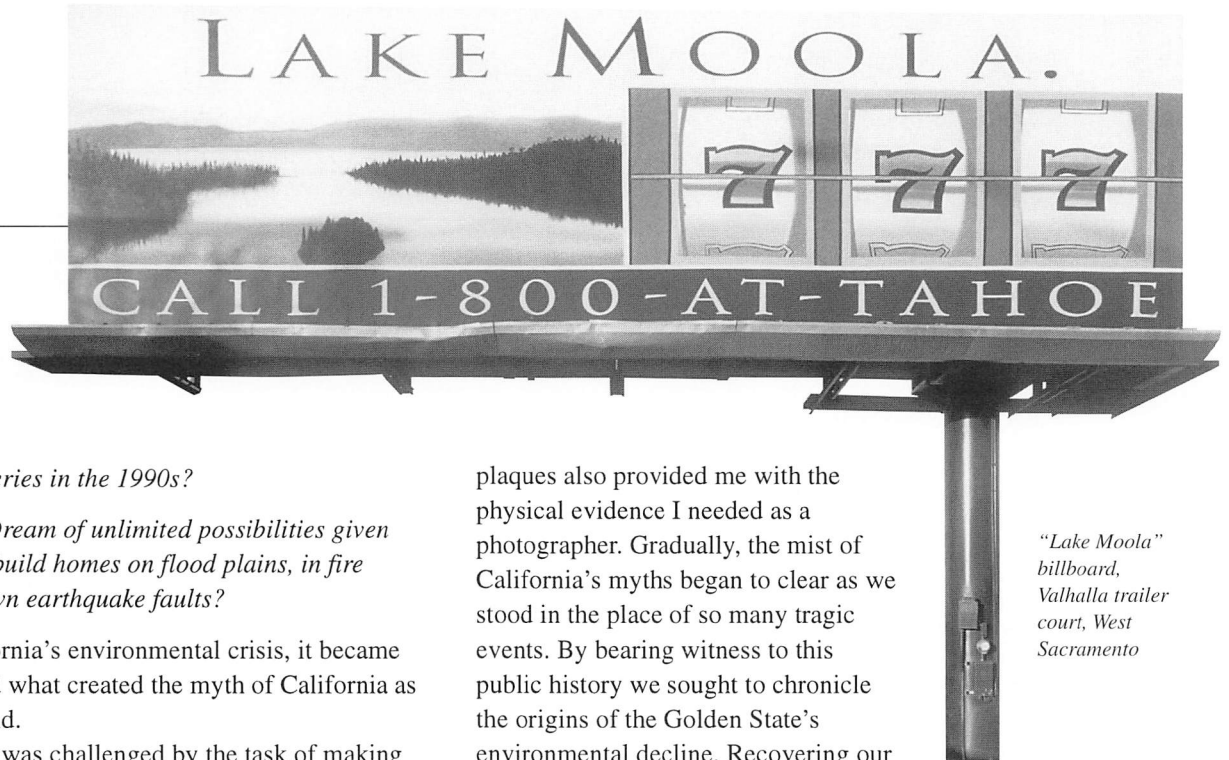
Administration	\$ 37,610
Donated Facilities and Services	107,312
Publications	27,403
Exhibits	12,121
Library	34,759
Development	36,607
TOTAL	\$255,812

REVENUE



EXPENDITURES





*"Lake Moola"
billboard,
Valhalla trailer
court, West
Sacramento*

Did James Marshall and the Gold Rush of 1849 lead to the cutting of the last old-growth forests and the death of our fisheries in the 1990s?

Has the California Dream of unlimited possibilities given us the propensity to build homes on flood plains, in fire zones, and over known earthquake faults?

To understand California's environmental crisis, it became imperative to understand what created the myth of California as America's Promised Land.

As a photographer, I was challenged by the task of making images of things that, in many cases, no longer exist. As we sought to understand the California Dream, I frequently encountered the question, how does one photograph history? Monuments, and the lack of them, gave us our cue. Early in the project we came upon a monument in the impoverished Sacramento / San Joaquin Delta town of Pittsburg. It depicted an old Italian fisherman gathering his nets and was dedicated to the last commercial fisherman in the Delta. On the coast, a hand-painted sign near Half Moon Bay perfectly conveyed the complex relationship between rapacious logging and California's all-but-extinct salmon runs. Near Los Angeles, we found a house-size section of the St. Francis Dam a mile downstream from its original site. The dam collapsed in 1928, taking hundreds of lives. No official monument exists marking this tragic event, yet this mass of concrete and rebar unofficially speaks volumes about what is often left out of history and why. Farther north, a private monument on a wind-swept, sun-baked plain in the Sacramento Valley spoke of how soldiers there controlled most of northern California's "militant" starving Indians in the 1850s. Never did we visit a more sorrowful place.

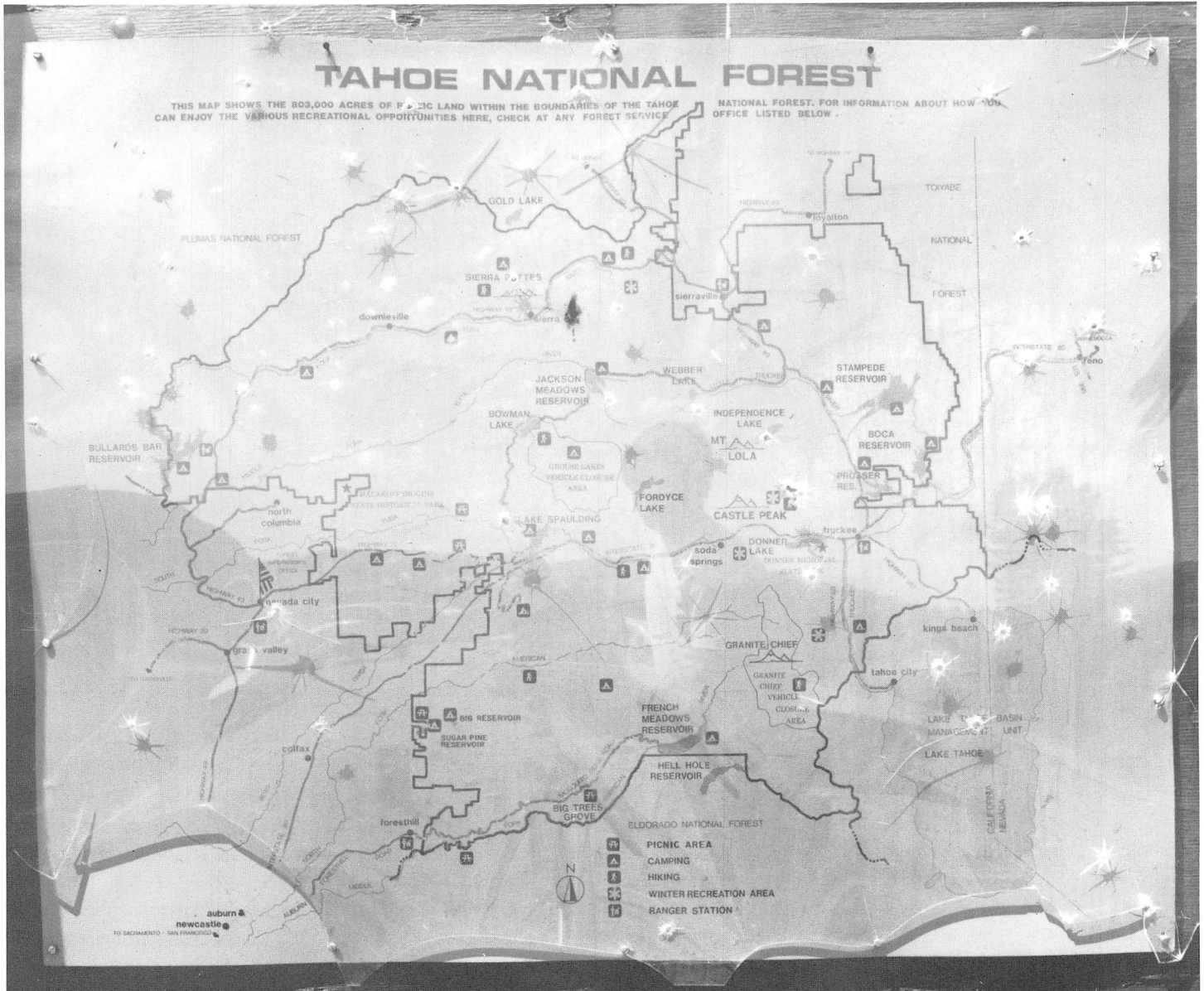
History began to emerge from plaques placed like epitaphs on our state's lonely monuments and memorials. Some bear official accounts erected by government or private groups. Some convey unofficial messages from concerned individuals. Other important sites, like the dam, have no monument at all. What has been commemorated and what has been left out prove to be revealing of our selective process of writing history. These

plaques also provided me with the physical evidence I needed as a photographer. Gradually, the mist of California's myths began to clear as we stood in the place of so many tragic events. By bearing witness to this public history we sought to chronicle the origins of the Golden State's environmental decline. Recovering our dim memory of California's transformation became a central feature of our collaboration.

Gray and I worked well together, and the final project is greater than the sum of our individual efforts. As we shared our perspectives over meals, and while driving over long stretches of highway and back roads, we played off one another. Gray wrote to my photography and my photographs were informed by his thoughts. Traveling together through California's landscape, and visiting its archives, was a continual process of revelation, interpretation, and reexamination of a land in which we have spent our lives. Our project succeeded because we informed, motivated, and challenged each other in our effort to understand the familiar geography of our native state.

The book *California Historical Landmarks*, produced by the state's Office of Historic Preservation, provided invaluable assistance in helping us locate landscapes of historical environmental significance. The Federal Writers' Project's classic *WPA Guide to California* offered insight into the 1930s California landscape, and Stanford University Press's *Historic Spots in California* also gave us a map to follow history. The Nature Conservancy's *California Wild Lands* described and located the conservancy's remnant natural landscapes and gave us a glimpse of the remains of what once was California. DeLorme's road maps showed us the way.

It quickly became clear to us that depicting only devastation would invite cynicism and detachment. I felt it was essential to go beyond showing our failures by calling attention to individual



Bullet riddled sign, Tahoe National Forest

and collective efforts to restore and sustain our home. People involved in preserving California are engaged in a struggle that agriculturist Wes Jackson once described as “becoming native” to a place. Jackson argues that our culture has settled on the American landscape but that we have yet to become native to

that place we call home. That process of becoming native motivates many of the people and organizations in our book. In undertaking this project, we too were searching for a way to come home.

We spent most of 1995 traveling to every region of the

Environmental Photo Exhibit Opens Oct. 23

The first major photography exhibition to document and explore environmental changes in California, *Awakening from the California Dream: An Environmental History*, opens at the California History Center on Monday, Oct. 23, and runs through Dec. 21.

From lyrical, 19th century images extolling the state's pristine natural beauty, through haunting scenes of damage inflicted by careless overuse, to photographs pointing toward environmental renewal, the exhibition charts the ups and downs in California's environment over the past 150 years.

Combining historical images with the dramatic, artful photographs of nationally recognized photographer Robert Dawson and the written insights of geographer/historian Gray Brechin, the exhibition surrounds the visitor with a powerful and moving examination of environmental change.

Awakening from the California Dream is based on five years of research by Brechin and Dawson. Supported by the Dorothea Lange-Paul Taylor Prize for Documentary Studies, the pair crisscrossed California, visiting parts of the state most people never see.

The resulting exhibition encourages Californians to reflect upon the historical events and attitudes that led to the degradation of the state's environment. It serves as a poignant footnote to California sesquicentennial commemoration. And it is a springboard for dialogue on pertinent environmental issues facing California today. At the same time, the exhibition portrays how shifting attitudes can change the course of history and positively affect events here and elsewhere in the state of California.

The traveling exhibition is accompanied by a 15-minute video documentary exploring both historical and contemporary environmental issues.

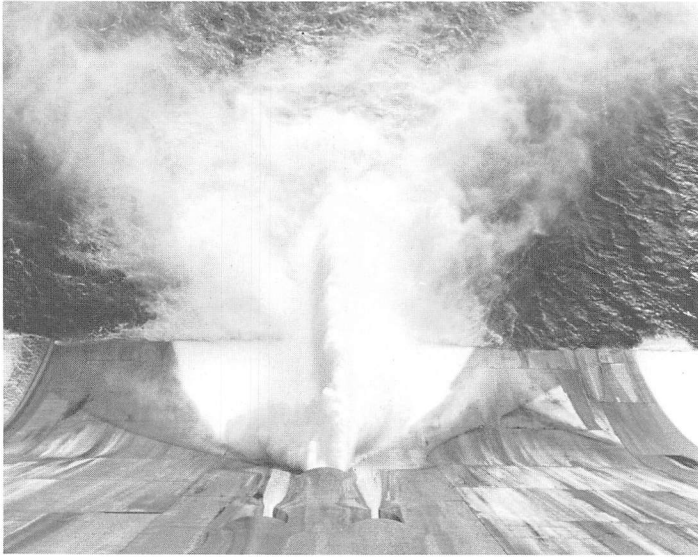
Awakening from the California Dream was organized and funded by the California Council for the Humanities in concert with the Oakland Museum of California.



Aerial view of clear-cut logging on federal lands traded to lumber companies to create Redwood National Park, North California Coast

state. During that time it occurred to us to include a chapter depicting “alternative courses,” as we discovered a rich history of Californians trying to create communities outside the mainstream. Utopian communities such as socialist Llano del Rio and Kaweah tried and ultimately failed to redefine our basic economic system. A nineteenth-century community of former slaves in Tulare County, now identified as Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, attempted to provide a place for disenfranchised blacks to join the Central Valley's farm economy. The early twentieth-century town of Runnymede (now east Palo alto) bore the motto “One Acre and Independence.” A few years ago it became the “murder capital of the country.” Yet Trevor Burrowes worked with residents there to grow commercially valuable organic vegetables on the original one-acre lots to break the cycle of poverty. Contemporary alternative communities continue to seek paths away from our apparent environmental suicide.

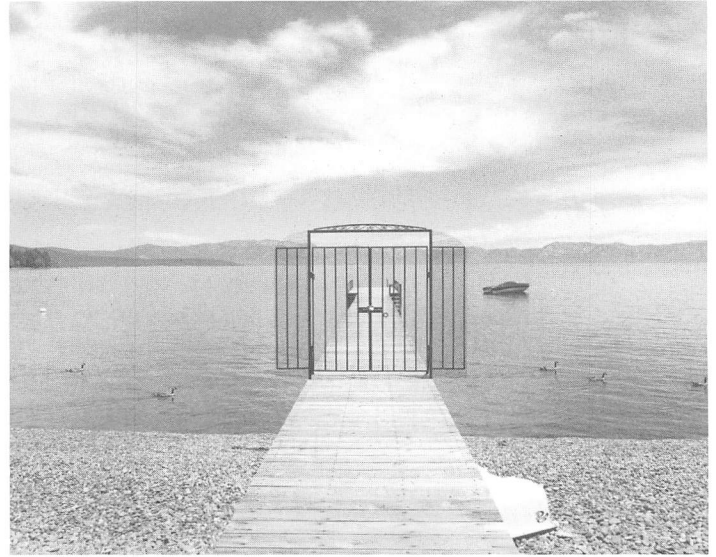
Amid all the bad news we found signs of hope in individuals and organizations actively engaged in the task of restoring where they live. From river restoration in Los Angeles to community restoration in San Francisco, we discovered Californians who have dedicated their lives to rehabilitating their communities and



Looking down on spray, Shasta Dam, California

preserving a sense of unique place against the onslaught of development. As wealth becomes increasingly concentrated, many people feel increasingly insignificant and powerless, but those we interviewed proved that individual efforts can still make a difference.

I also photographed remnant natural landscapes to remind us of what we have lost. Several of these sites were lands purchased by the Nature Conservancy, including remnants of the Central Valley natural landscape such as the Vina Plains Preserve, the Kaweah Oaks Preserve, the Pixley Vernal Pools Preserve, and the Jepson Prairie Preserve. The Carrizo Plain, just west of the San Joaquin Valley, has been called “California’s Serengeti” because of its remaining prairie and wildlife. The Tule Elk State Reserve, west of Bakersfield, is attempting to bring back the once-abundant tule elk to its native home. The San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is the largest urban wildlife refuge in the country. Meanwhile, the Eastern Mojave continues to be a battleground over public versus private ownership of California’s desert. The California State University system and the University



Private Property, Lake Tahoe

of California are trying to retain a semblance of the original desert through their desert research stations in the Eastern Mojave.

None of these preserves would exist without the work of people who loved a particular place, or who had a larger vision of what California and its cities might become if nurtured with human wisdom. People continue to make a difference in their efforts to become native to California. We who have had the privilege to see the state whole hope that this book may serve as a window for other Californians, that they may be inspired to strive to turn the land we inhabit into home.

1. From “*Sinaloa Cowboys*,” copyright 1995 Bruce Springsteen (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Lyrics reprinted by permission.
2. Quotes are from J.S. Holliday, *The World Rushed In: The California Gold Rush Experience* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1981), pp. 369, 401, and 458.
3. Joan Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1968), p. 176.

FOUNDATION NOTES

Death Claims CHC Supporters

The California History Center lost several staunch supporters over the past several months, including **Ward Winslow**, a member of the center's board of trustees for more than 16 years.

Ward died July 7. He had been fighting auto-immune hepatitis since May and died from a variety of complications.

Tom Isu, CHC executive director, said: "As we share in the sorrow of Ward's death, we also recognize that we have lost a true friend of the California History Center. And what is even more difficult is the realization that, as our longtime members pass away one by one, a little piece of the history center dies with them. The only comfort is knowing that they have made a major contribution to the success and viability of the center for years to come, and what more can any of us ask of our lives other than we have made a difference?"

A lifelong resident of the Palo Alto area, Ward had witnessed the Santa Clara Valley's transformation from a soft-fruit-growing haven to the world-renowned Silicon Valley. He graduated from the University of Colorado and did graduate work at Stanford University, then worked for 35 years in the newspaper business for the *Palo Alto Times* and its successor, the *Peninsula Times Tribune*, retiring in 1984 as managing editor. He was the author of books on the history of Palo Alto and Silicon Valley.

Ward's family generously designated the CHC Foundation as the recipient of memorial donations.

The CHC also was saddened with the news of the deaths of longtime CHC members and supporters Shirley Clements, Therone Fox and Hazel Lester.

Shirley Clements, 71, who was the CHC's librarian in the mid-1980s, died April 22. A native of Berkeley, she most recently was a librarian for the Sunnyvale Public Library. Shirley was the wife of retired Foothill College President Tom Clements.

Therone Fox, 94, a CHC member and supporter for many years, died Feb. 17. A native of San Jose, he was a founding member of the San Jose Historical Museum.

Hazel Lester, 75, a longtime member and advocate of the CHC, died March 2. She and her late husband, Will, raised their family in the Santa Clara Valley and operated the Lester family orchard business. Will was a CHC board member for nine years.

A Shift in Board and Staff

Two board members, Marion Grimm and Jennifer Bohrnstedt, completed terms in June and will not be returning. Marion had served on the board for 10 years, and Jennifer for three.

In addition, Trustee Michael Kimball, who had been on a leave from the board, has decided to resign. He is in the process of writing a book and felt he could not give the CHC the time it deserved.

Development Director Evelyn Miller has also decided to step down from the history center.

There is, however, good news to report as well on the trustee front. Former CHC Director Jim Williams has joined the board and will bring an insider's knowledge and understanding to the organization. He also is serving as chair of De Anza's history department, which will provide an important link between the center and the college's history faculty.

In addition, there are several good board "potentials" that the center is looking to recruit. Bring the board up to full strength will be a top priority over the next several months, according to President David Howard-Pitney.

Scholarship Winner Named

The recipient of this year's Directors' Scholarship is Amanda Holt, a recent De Anza College graduate.

Amanda, who served in student government, was president of the campus chapter of Amnesty International and had an excellent academic record. Last spring she was a panel member for the CHC's teleconference on the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

She is a business major at UC Berkeley this fall.

The \$500 Directors' Scholarship was established in honor of the current and past directors of the CHCF to recognize students who have demonstrated involvement in the social and intellectual issues facing California.

Saying Goodbye to Kathi

Members, friends, and supporters gathered at the center on June 16 for a “hoe-down” celebration, honoring Kathi Peregrin on her retirement and marking the end of an illustrious 23-year career with CHC and the college. There was much food, music, and sharing of memories.

During the presentation portion of the event, Tim Hodson, director of the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento, presented a proclamation to Kathi from the state assembly, authored by Assemblyman Mike Honda.

The proclamation recognized Kathi’s dedication and commitment to the promotion of California Studies and her role in strengthening and invigorating the center during her seven-year tenure as the CHCF Executive Director.

Board president David Howard-Pitney serenaded the group with his own rendition of “Red River Valley,” modifying the lyrics to fit the occasion. Many guests presented tributes and fond recollections of working with Kathi and benefiting from her vision and leadership.

Well-wishers also donated generously to the CHCF Directors’ scholarship in Kathi’s honor, contributing more than enough to fund next year’s scholarship award.

Farewell Kathi and best wishes for your new life as a retiree! We will miss you!

CHCF Directors’ Scholarship Donations Made in Honor of Kathi Peregrin

Skip Barnes
Janet Brynjolfsson
Trudy Frank
Betty Hirsch
David Howard-Pitney
Yvonne and William Jacobson
Leslie Masunaga
Walter and Elsie Matt
Katherine Peterson
James Williams

Civil Liberties Teleconference a Success

The CHC’s May 23 teleconference on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II—and the issues of civil liberties and scapegoating—was a resounding success.

The live broadcast via satellite was aimed at community college students throughout the state.

Preparation began in the summer of 1999 to present and broadcast a town hall meeting for college students similar to the LegisSchool Town Hall meetings offered for high school students by our grant partner, the Center for California Studies at CSU, Sacramento. The original purpose of the town hall was to bring together students and legislators to discuss Japanese internment issues as well as the current concerns regarding scapegoating and civil liberties.

As the planning progressed our program evolved to incorporate former internees and college staff on a six-person panel, and we billed the program as an intergenerational dialog.

Three options were provided for viewing and participating in the live broadcast: free downlink to any institution with satellite capability; broadcast over cable television on the statewide California Channel; or live on the Internet via two web sites.

Approximately 500 students, faculty, staff and community residents watched the live broadcast at De Anza. Many of our viewers watched on the California Channel, and telephone calls came in from all over state. At least four community colleges also tapped into the program.

According to CHC Executive Director Tom Izu, “We wanted students and others viewing the teleconference to be able to recognize political and social scapegoating, and to see the need for protecting individual civil liberties.”

Videotapes of the broadcast are available from the CHC. Call (408) 864-8712.

Special Gifts

In Memory of Mariam Stelling

Hazel B. Lester

In Memory of Hazel Lester

Martha Kanter—
President, De Anza College
Bill and Barbara Hyland
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Doris Knutson

Passing Farms

Donations for reprinting *Passing Farms, Enduring Values: California's Santa Clara Valley*, first published in 1984.

Don Hordness
Nancy P. Weston
Dorothy Lyddon—
Seven Springs Foundation
Robert and Audrey Butcher
Kay and Keith Peterson
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In addition, a \$100,000 donation to the CHCF endowment from longtime CHC member and valley pioneer Burrel Leonard

Stockmeir Library and Archives

Community Foundation of Silicon Valley
Robert and Marion Grimm

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