The Spanish and Mexican Influences on California, 1769-1884

An NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop for K-12 Teachers

July 25-29, 2011 and August 1-5, 2011

Letter from the Director, Dr. Josh Sides,
Whitsett Professor of California History
Director of the Center for Southern California Studies
California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

“We Americans have yet to really learn our antecedents . . .
We tacitly abandon ourselves to the notion that our United States have been fashion’d from the British Island only . . . which is a very grave mistake.”

Walt Whitman (1883)

DEAR COLLEAGUE: Thank you for your interest in the Spanish and Mexican history and culture that shaped California and changed the nation. The History Department at CSU Northridge is delighted to host an NEH Landmarks in American History and Culture Workshop “The Spanish and Mexican Influences on California, 1769-1884,” in the Summer of 2011. Teachers and librarians, grades K-12, from throughout the United States are invited to apply for this workshop, which will feature internationally known scholars, historical tours, and in-depth study of this critical period in the history of Latin America, the United States, and the American West. Successful applicants will assume the title of NEH Summer Scholar. The workshop will be offered twice and applicants may apply to one, but not both, workshops. The first is the week of July 25-29, 2011 and the second is the week of August 1-5, 2011.

WORKSHOP OVERVIEW: When the United States acquired California at the conclusion of the Mexican War in 1848, most Americans assumed the land was empty territory. “In the hands of an enterprising people,” American travel writer Richard Henry Dana wrote, “what a country this might be.” In fact, that “country” has more than 10,000 years of human history, more than fifty years of Spanish dominance, and another twenty years of Mexican ownership. During these periods, the Native Californians, Spanish, and
Mexicans grafted their own ideas and ideologies onto the landscape of California. After the acquisition California, arriving Americans simultaneously challenged and adopted these historic arrangements. The outcome of that process of cooption, cooperation, and conflict, was modern California. NEH Summer Scholars will explore the dynamics of this process through intensive readings, lectures, and site visits.

Although the topic of both the Mexican War and the annexation of California are given relatively short shrift in popular textbooks, those events exercised a profound influence over subsequent United States history. Not only did the United States acquire the largest landmass since the Louisiana Purchase, it also absorbed territories with rich histories of their own. The Spanish and Mexican influences on California were many and complex, but NEH Summer Scholars will develop a close and critical understanding of five (5) specific ones: land use, religion, architecture, ethnic conflict, and historical memory. Each day will be organized around one of these themes. The thematic approach of this workshop will not only benefit NEH Summer Scholars from a wide array of disciplines by providing them with new humanities-based interpretive tools for their own teaching, but will also allow them to make strong contributions to the workshops’ discussions during their weeklong tenure.

ARCHIVAL MATERIALS AND READINGS

NEH Summer Scholars will develop a sophisticated understanding of the Spanish and Mexican influences on California and the nation by visiting historic sites, attending lectures by top historians, completing assigned readings prior to the workshop, and engaging in close-readings of primary documents either on loan or duplicated from premier research archives in California. From the Bancroft Library, for example, NEH Summer Scholars will look at original documents from the John D. Gilchriese Collection, detailing construction of a hotel by one of the most prominent Mexican Californians of the nineteenth century; from the CSUN Special Collections, NEH Summer Scholars will study a rare book published in 1758, A Natural and Civil History of California by Manuel Vegas; From The Huntington Library, NEH Summer Scholars will read original accounts of the “Battle of Chino.”; From the Archives of the Archdiocese, NEH Summer Scholars will study birth, death, and baptismal records, gaining unique insight into the process of conquering and converting the indigenous people of California. In addition to receiving hard copies of these documents to use during the workshop, NEH Summer Scholars will have access to high-quality scans of these materials through the Google Group: http://groups.google.com/group/spanish-and-mexican-california

Prior to the workshop, NEH Summer Scholars will read the books below, all of which can be purchased in either new or used condition on Amazon and other book websites. It is recommended that you order the Timbrook, Chumash Ethnobotany book from http://www.heydaybooks.com/ rather than through Amazon.

Phoebe Kropp, California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006)

Jan Timbrook, Chumash Ethnobotany: Plant Knowledge among the Chumash People of Southern California (Berkeley: Heyday Press, 2007)


**ELIGIBILITY:** Full-time and part-time classroom teachers and librarians in public, charter, independent, and religiously affiliated schools, and home-schooling parents in the United States -- as well as Americans teaching in foreign schools where at least 50 percent of the students are American nationals -- are eligible to participate. Applicants must be United States citizens, residents of U.S. jurisdictions, or foreign nationals who have been residing in the United States or its territories for at least three years immediately preceding the application deadline. Foreign nationals teaching abroad at non-U.S. chartered institutions are not eligible to apply.

**STIPEND, TRAVEL, AND COSTS:** NEH Summer Scholars will receive a stipend of $1200 on the last day of the workshop. NEH Summer Scholars are required to attend all scheduled meetings and to engage fully as professionals in all project activities. Participants who do not complete the full tenure of the project will receive a reduced stipend. In most cases, the stipend should cover virtually all costs associated with the Landmarks Workshop. From the stipend, NEH Summer Scholars will pay for airfare, lodging, travel from either Burbank Airport (BUR) or Los Angeles (LAX) and lodging at the Conference Services Complex on the CSUN Campus. Those participants planning on driving can purchase daily parking passes for $6.00/day. Amenities included in each residence include air conditioning, wireless and plug-in Internet access, swimming pool, computer lab, and laundry facilities. Participants will be given linens and will share rooms with one other guest in a suite format at the rate of $31.00/night. Private rooms are also available for $45.00/night. For dinners, participants may purchase “dining dollar cards” ($10.95 for all you can eat) at Geronimo’s Food Court in the Campus Conference Services complex.

A typical cost breakdown might look like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airfare</td>
<td>$550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing and Dinner/Breakfast Cards</td>
<td>$60/night x 6 nights = $360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuttle Service to and From LAX or BUR</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books on Amazon.com</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEH Summer Scholars will have access to the Google Group [http://groups.google.com/group/spanish-and-mexican-california](http://groups.google.com/group/spanish-and-mexican-california) prior to the workshop, and Scholars are encouraged to share their travel plans with others to cut costs and build
camaraderie. Finally, participants should be aware that stipends are subject to both state and federal taxes.

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

**NEH Summer Scholars Opening Reception:** NEH Summer Scholars should plan on arriving at CSUN no later than 5:00PM on Sunday night before their workshop. A wine and cheese reception will be held for all Scholars at 6:00PM, in the Whitsett Room (SH 451), a short walk from the Conference Services Complex (campus maps will be provided upon arrival).

**Day 1: LAND USE**

During the 18th and 19th centuries, California’s physical landscape changed dramatically as a rapid succession of groups envisioned and implemented new land use policies. To explore the theme of land use – and particularly the abrupt shift from subsistence foraging to intensive commercial agriculture -- NEH Summer scholars will visit Rancho Los Cerritos, 44 miles from CSUN in the City of Long Beach.

9:00AM-10:00AM: NEH Summer Scholars will board our bus at Conference Services Complex and head Rancho Los Cerritos. On the bus, NEH Summer scholars will watch a short documentary video, *Gabrieleno/Tongva Culture* (Native American Public Telecommunications, 1991) and Dr. Sides will lead an introductory discussion on land use in California history.

10:00AM-10:15AM: Break

10:15-11:15: Dr. Natale (Nat) Zappia of Whittier College will lead a walking tour of the grounds, exploring the rich history and heritage of the site.

11:15AM-12:00PM: To understand the nature of subsistence living, NEH Summer Scholars will prepare a rudimentary meal in the fashion of the Tataviums, using traditional indigenous tools and native vegetation.

12:00PM-1:00PM: During a working lunch, NEH Summer Scholars will break into four groups to analyze two documents, excerpts from Miguel Venegas, *A Natural and Civil History of California*, first published in Madrid in 1758 and translated in 1759, and Cynthia Null, *Natives Plants as used by Southern California Indians* (Pasadena: Eaton Canyon County Park, 1982). Preceptors will work with each group to identify the salient themes and trends presented in the documents.

1:00-1:15: Break
1:15PM-3:15PM: Dr. Zappia will deliver a formal lecture on the history of agriculture in native, Spanish, Mexican, and American California, paying particular attention to the social consequences of changing land-use patterns.

3:15-3:45: Q and A with Dr. Zappia

3:45-4:45: NEH Summer Scholars will travel back to CSUN. On the bus, they will watch the short documentary video, *The Chumash* (Native American Public Telecommunications, 1991).

4:45-5:00: Break

5:00-6:00: Dr. Sides will moderate a discussion, with the assistance the preceptors, on Jan Timbrook’s, *Chumash Ethnobotany: Plant Knowledge among the Chumash People of Southern California* (Berkeley: Heyday Press, 2007).

**Day 2: RELIGION**

When the Spanish introduced Catholicism to California in 1769, they permanently transformed both the religion and the political organization of California. There is no better historic landmark at which to explore these transformations than Mission San Fernando. Established in September of 1797, the San Fernando Mission quickly grew to become one of California’s largest due to its location in the geographic center of Chumash country. Mission priests are estimated to have conducted more than one thousand baptisms there, and today it serves as the archival center for the archdiocese of the City of Los Angeles.

9:00AM-9:30AM: NEH Summer Scholars will board our bus at Conference Services Complex and head for Mission San Fernando, located 6 miles from the CSUN campus, arriving at

9:30AM-10:30AM: An archivist for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles will give a tour of the physical site and show NEH Summer Scholars how to access and use baptismal records.

10:30-10:45AM: Break

10:45AM-12:00PM, NEH Summer Scholars will work in groups in the Reading Room of the Archdiocese archives to record data from those documents to be discussed during the working lunch.

12:00PM-12:45PM: During a working lunch, NEH Summer Scholars will break into four groups to analyze and discuss baptismal records. Preceptors will work with each group to identify the salient themes and trends presented in the documents.

12:45-1:15: Dr. Steven Hackel of the University of California, Riverside, will moderate a discussion with the entire group on the uses of primary sources generally, and baptismal records specifically, in writing the history of early California.

1:15-1:30: Break
1:30-3:30: Dr. Steven Hackel will present a lecture on Indian efforts to retain their traditional customs and beliefs during a period of harrowing depopulation.

3:30-4:00: Q and A with Dr. Hackel

4:00-4:30: Return to Conference Services Complex

4:30-5:00: Break

5:00-6:00: Dr. Sides will moderate a discussion, with the assistance of the preceptors of four primary documents that NEH Summer Scholars will have read in advance of the workshop: “Three Worlds of the Chumash” (translated, circa 1820s); “Captain Alejandro Malaspina Praises the Beneficial Impact of the Spanish Missions” (1792); “Father Geronimo Boscana Describes the San Juan Capistrano Indians” (1832); “Pablo Tac Approves of his Tribe’s Conversion” (1835).

Day 3: ARCHITECTURE

One of the most visible legacies of the Spanish and Mexican period is the architectural influence on the built environment. Throughout California, historic sites reveal a combination of indigenous, Spanish, Moorish, and Mexican influences, but few sites are as architecturally rich and diverse as the Los Angeles Plaza. Founded in 1781, and relocated to its current site after a flood in 1815, the Plaza became the hub of transportation, communication, and culture even as residents of the growing Spanish pueblo fanned out across the flood plain of the Los Angeles River in the mid-nineteenth century. Today, the Plaza retains its vital function as a gathering place for Latin American immigrants, particularly on Sundays when overflow crowds attend mass at the historic Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles.

9:00AM-10:00AM: NEH Summer Scholars will board our bus at Conference Services Complex and head to the Los Angeles Plaza. During the drive to the Plaza, NEH Summer Scholars will study a packet of primary documents from the Special Collection library at CSUN, including selections from Msgr. Francis Weber’s document collection from Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles church.

10:00AM-10:15AM: Break

10:15AM-12:00PM: Dr. Merry Ovnick of California State University, Northridge, will lead a walking historical tour of Nuestra Señora church, the Pico House, Olvera Street, and the Plaza center.

12:00-1:00: During a working lunch, NEH Summer Scholars will break into four groups to analyze and discuss a series of photographs, duplicated from Arthur M. Ellis Collection of Photographic Negatives at the Huntington Library. Preceptors will work with each group to identify the salient themes of the photographs, and compare the historic images of the Plaza with its contemporary uses.

1:00PM-1:15PM: Break
1:15PM-3:15PM: Dr. Merry Ovnick will present a lecture on the impact of indigenous, Spanish, Moorish and Mexican architectural styles on Southern California architecture.

3:15-3:45: Q and A with Dr. Ovnick

3:45-4:45: NEH Summer Scholars will board the bus, at which time they will watch a short documentary video on Boyle Heights, the district located East of the Plaza.

5:00-6:00: Preceptors will moderate a discussion among NEH Summer Scholars using a series of hand-written correspondences, duplicated from the collections of the Bancroft Library between Pio Pico and business associates about the construction of Pico House.

Day 4: ETHNIC AND RACIAL CONFLICT

The conflict between the United States and Mexico during the Mexican War was not simply a military one; locally, it was also an ethnic and racial conflict, with new American arrivals hoping to superimpose a regime of white supremacy on a land that was once ethnically and racially diverse. An ideal site in which to explore this conflict is the Yorba-Slaughter Adobe in the City of Chino, 65 miles from the CSUN campus. The site is historically significant because the land grant upon which the adobe sits was approximately 80,000 acres. Because of its size, it represented a great potential agricultural treasure for early Americans arriving to California. One of those was a man named Isaac Williams, who settled near the Yorba Adobe. Williams’ house became the site of one of the few battles in California during the Mexican War, the “Battle of Chino.”

9:00AM-10:00AM: NEH Summer Scholars will board the bus and watch the first half of the PBS video “The US-Mexican War” which effectively introduces scholars to the dynamics of the Mexican War.

10:15AM-12:00PM, Dr. Daniel Lewis of California Polytechnic University, Pomona, will deliver an historic walking tour of both the Yorba-Slaughter Adobe and the neighboring battlefield.

12:00PM-1:00PM: During a working lunch, Dr. Daniel Lewis will moderate a discussion of selections from a rare book from CSUN Special Collections, A Naval Campaign in the Californias, 1846-1849: The Journal of Lieutenant Tunis Augustus Macdonough Craven

1:00PM-1:15PM: Break

1:15PM-2:30PM: Dr. Daniel Lewis will provide an historical reenactment of General Mariano Vallejo, during which NEH Summer Scholars will engage in extensive discussion with Vallejo on the nature of the Mexican conflict in California.

2:30PM-3:30PM: NEH Summer Scholars will watch the second half of “The US-Mexican War” on the drive back to CSUN.

3:30PM-3:15PM: Break
3:15PM-5:00: Dr. Josh Sides will moderate a discussion, with the assistance of the preceptors, of 3 sets of primary documents. The first set of documents comes from the George William and Helen Pruitt Beattie Collection at the Huntington Library and contains five first-hand accounts of the Battle of Chino, which detail the escalating racial tension between Mexicans and white Americans. The second document is Libro de Avaluos del ano de 1854, a Los Angeles assessor’s book written by the last Mexican Governor of California, Pio Pico. CSUN’s Oviatt Special Collections possesses the only known copy of this book and will furnish participants with duplicated excerpts. These excerpts reveal the extent to which property owners in Los Angeles remained almost exclusively Spanish or Mexican even six years after the conclusion of the Mexican American war. The final document from the Oviatt, which is also believed to be the sole copy in existence, is the “Title Deed Abstract and Taxation Records to part of the Rancho Los Feliz, 1845-1900.” This document reveals the painful process by which Mexican owners were divested of their land claims at a quickening pace in the 1860s.

Day 5: HISTORICAL MEMORY

A lasting legacy of the Spanish and Mexican period was the promulgation – primarily among non-Hispanic whites in California – of a “fantasy past” in place of a rigorous historical research. The result was a highly romanticized myth of California – best embodied in the 1884 novel Ramona – as a land of gentle and peaceable inhabitants whose idyllic existence was destroyed by marauding Yankees. But a close examination of Rancho Camulos, the ostensible setting of Ramona, reveals a very different story.

9:00AM-10:00AM: NEH Summer Scholars will watch D.W. Griffith’s historic film adaptation, Ramona (1910) during the bus ride.

10:00AM-10:15AM: Break

10:15AM-12:00PM: Dr. Phoebe Kropp of the University of Colorado, Boulder, will lead an historical walking tour of the site.

12:00PM-1:15PM: During a working lunch NEH Summer Scholars will break into groups according to the grades they teach, and read, analyze and discuss 3 sets of primary documents. The first document is an excerpt from Helen Hunt Jackson’s novel Ramona: Then, in order to emphasize the disparity between actual conditions at Rancho Camulos and Helen Hunt Jackson’s romantic portrayal, participants will study the photographs of Carleton Watkins, William H. Fletcher, and J.C. Brewster. Watkins, widely regarded as the premier photographer of the early American era in California, documented the decrepit conditions of Rancho Camulos and its indigenous labor force. By contrast, the photographs of Fletcher and Brewster – printed after the publication of Ramona in 1884 – featured hand-colored and elaborately staged “ranch scenes.” Finally, participants will read excerpts from Los Angeles City Council meetings concerning the planning of Olvera Street, the Spanish/Mexican themed tourist trap created in the 1920s. In these transcripts participants can see the confusion that emerged in modern Los Angeles about the origins
of the city, with councilmen trying to sort out the terms “Spanish,” “Mexican,” “Latin Americans,” and “Mediterranean.”

1:15-1:30: Break

1:30-3:15: Dr. Phoebe Kropp will present a lecture on Rancho Camulos and the making and re-making of a “fantasy past.”

3:15-3:45: Q and A with Dr. Kropp

3:45PM-4:45PM: NEH Summer Scholars will watch a short documentary “Ramona: Passion and Protest” on the drive back to CSUN.

4:45PM-6:00PM: NEH Summer Scholars will be given instructions on accessing all primary documents from the week and preceptors will lead the group in discussing curricular applications of the week’s materials.

6:00PM-7:00PM: Break

NEH Summer Scholars Closing Reception

At 7:00PM, Dr. Sides will lead a culminating discussion at a wine and cheese reception in the Whitsett Room and NEH Summer Scholars will have a chance to reflect on their week through discussion and the completion of a survey. We will adjourn at 8:30PM.

VISITING SCHOLARS AND STAFF: We have assembled an extraordinary team of visiting scholars to deliver lectures and conduct curriculum-building activities for NEH Summer Scholars:

Dr. Josh Sides, Director, holds the Whitsett endowed professorship in California history at CSUN, the only such endowed position in the state of California. He is also the Director of the Center for Southern California Studies, where he directs research and programming. He is the author of numerous articles and the books: L.A. City Limits: African American Los Angeles from the Great Depression to the Present (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004); Erotic City: Sexual Revolutions and the Making of Modern San Francisco (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009); and editor of Post-Ghetto: Reimagining South Los Angeles (forthcoming)

Dr. Steven Hackel is an Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Riverside. He is the author of Children of Coyote, Missionaries of Saint Francis, which won the five major book awards. He is currently writing Father Junipero Serra: California’ Founding Father (forthcoming, Hill and Wang) and editing the anthology, Alta California: Peoples in Motion, Identities in Formation, 1769-1850 (forthcoming, Huntington Library and University of California Press).

Dr. Phoebe Kropp is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She is the author of numerous articles on California and the American West, and the book California Vieja: Culture and Memory in a Modern American Place (Berkeley:
University of California Press, 2006). In addition to winning multiple academic awards and prizes, Dr. Kropp has presented her work to diverse audiences from the Huntington Library to the United States Air Force Academy.

Dr. Daniel Lewis is the Chair of the Department of History at California Polytechnic University, Pomona, and a prolific scholar of Latin American history. He has authored numerous articles and the books *The History of Argentina* (New York: Greenwood Press, 2001) and *A South American Frontier: The Tri-Border Region* (New York: Chelsea House Publishers, 2006). He is also a renowned Chautauqua performer and a past contributor to workshops for K-12 teachers in Southern California.

Dr. Merry Ovnick is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at CSUN. She is the author the book *Los Angeles: The End of the Rainbow* (Los Angeles: Balcony Press, 1994) which won the Pflueger Award for Distinguished Research and Writing by the Historical Society of Southern California. She is the editor of the *Southern California Quarterly*, the past president of the Southern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, and currently serves on the Peer Review Panel of the California Cultural and Historical Endowment. She is also the author of numerous articles, most recently, “The Mark of Zorro: Silent Film’s Impact on 1920s Architecture in Los Angeles,” *California History* 86:1 (2008): 28-59.

Dr. Natale (Nat) Zappia is an Assistant Professor of History at Whittier College. He is the co-author of *The Many Faces of Edward Sherriff Curtis: A Collection of Portraits and Stories from Native North America* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2006) and the author of “The Interior World: Trading and Raiding in Native California,” his Ph.D. dissertation which he is currently revising for publication. Zappia is also a Master Gardener and the former Executive Director of the Garden School Foundation, a Santa Monica-based non-profit which supports garden-based learning initiatives in low-income schools in Los Angeles.

Mark Elinson is a curriculum consultant and workshop leader at the International Institute at UCLA. Mr. Elinson was a social studies teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District from 1969 to 2003, during which time he was the recipient of multiple teaching awards, including the Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award, given by the California Council for Social Studies, and the O’Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award, given by the Historical Society of Southern California.

Mary Miller is the Co-Director of the UCLA History-Geography Project. In her thirty-nine years as a teacher a Middle School teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District, Ms. Miller won numerous awards, including Teacher of the Year (1989), Distinguished Geography Teaching Award of Merit (1991), and the Johns Hopkins University award for Outstanding Educator (1995). She currently co-directs TAH grants with the Glendale Unified School District and the Los Angeles Unified School District, while maintaining an active academic profile, presenting her work on curricular-development at annual meetings of the American Historical Association, the California Council for Social Studies, and the Huntington Library, among many others.
Natalie Klasky, Administrative Assistant: Ms. Klasky is an undergraduate student at CSUN, majoring in Political Science. She will oversee administrative duties in the month prior to the workshops and will assist on-site during the workshops.

FAMILIES: NEH policy does not allow for the participation of partners, spouses, or children in NEH workshops. Additionally, our Conference Service housing facility cannot accommodate families. NEH Summer Scholars desirous of travelling with families may stay at alternate facilities and may use their stipend to pay for those facilities. We recommend the Extended Stay America Efficiency Studios, Northridge: http://www.extendedstayamerica.com/hotels/los-angeles-northridge.html

WEATHER ADVISORY: Applicants should be aware that both CSUN, and the historic sites we plan to visit, are located in areas in which July and August temperatures are generally in the high 90’s and often in the triple digits. All CSUN facilities and busses are air-conditioned, and walking in such heat will be limited, but there may be short periods of triple digit heat during our landmark visits.

DISABILITIES: CSUN is uniquely well equipped to accommodate most physical disabilities. The university has a long and impressive history of involvement in many different aspects of disability. This history extends back as far as 1961, preceding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In 1983, the University officially approved the creation of the Center on Disabilities which has been growing and expanding since that time. The Center has advanced to the stage of conducting the longest running and largest annual university sponsored conference on technology and persons with disabilities. Upon notification of their acceptance, NEH Summer Scholars should advise the Director of any physical limitations in advance of travel so that proper accommodations can be made.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops are offered by the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide K-12 educators with the opportunity to engage in intensive study and discussion of important topics and issues in American history and culture, while providing them with direct experiences in the interpretation of significant historical and cultural sites and the use of archival and other primary evidence.

NEH Landmarks workshops will allow 40 teachers at a time to collaborate with core faculty and visiting scholars. The workshops are designed to present the best available scholarship on a specific landmark or related cluster of landmarks, while enabling participants to gain a sense of the importance of historical and cultural places, to make connections between the workshop content and what they teach, and to develop individual teaching and/or research materials.

Applicants must complete the NEH application cover sheet http://www.neh.gov/online/education/participants/ and provide all the information
requested below to be considered eligible. Please fill it out online as directed by the prompts. When you are finished, be sure to click on the “submit” button. Print out the cover sheet and add it to your application package. At this point you will be asked if you want to fill out a cover sheet for another project. If you do, follow the prompts and select another project and then print out the cover sheet for that project as well. Note that filling out a cover sheet is not the same as applying, so there is no penalty for changing your mind and filling out a cover sheet for several projects. A full application consists of the items listed below, as sent to the project director. Applicants must mail materials to the address below no later than March 1, 2011.

Dr. Josh Sides
Department of History
18111 Nordhoff Street
Northridge, CA
91330

1. Professional Resume: Please submit a 2-page professional resume

2. Essay: The most important part of the completed application is an essay of up to one double-spaced page. This essay should include information about your professional background and interest in the subject of the workshop; your special perspectives, skills, or experiences that would contribute to the workshop; and how the experience would enhance your teaching or school service.

3. Letter of Recommendation from the principal or department head of your teaching institution.

SELECTION CRITERIA: A selection committee (consisting in most cases of the project director, one of the project scholars, and a veteran teacher) will read and evaluate all properly completed applications. Special consideration is given to the likelihood that an applicant will benefit professionally and personally from the workshop experience. It is important, therefore, to address each of the following factors in the application essay:

1) your professional background;
2) your interest in the subject of the workshop;
3) your special perspectives, skills, or experiences that would contribute to the workshop; and
4) how the experience would enhance your teaching or school service.

When choices must be made among equally qualified candidates, several additional factors are considered. Preference is given to applicants who have not previously
participated in an NEH Landmarks Workshop, NEH Summer Seminar, or NEH Summer Institute, or who significantly contribute to the diversity of the workshop.

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST:** A completed application consists of **three** copies of the following **collated** items:

- the completed application cover sheet,
- a résumé or short biography, and
- an application essay (no longer than one double-spaced page)
- letter of recommendation

Successful applicants will be notified of their selection on April 1, 2011, and they will have until April 5, 2011 to accept or decline the offer.

Once you have accepted an offer to attend any NEH Summer Program (NEH Landmarks Workshops, NEH Summer Seminars, or NEH Summer Institutes), you may not accept an additional offer or withdraw in order to accept a different offer.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT:** NEH programs do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. For further information, write to NEH Equal Opportunity Officer, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506. TDD: 202/606-82
NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops:

The Spanish and Mexican Influences on California, 1769–1884

Project Director: Dr. Josh Sides, Department of History, CSUN