



The Southern Californian

The Historical Society of Southern California Summer 2010 Volume 22 Number 2

Haynes Recipients at Lummis Home



Haynes Summer Stipends

For the twelfth year, HSSC awarded the "Haynes Summer Research Stipends" to scholars who are engaged in writing about the history and culture of Southern California. The stipends are generously funded by the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation. This year we received applications from across the United States, Europe and the Far East. Finally, 33 applicants were selected to receive stipends. The members of this year's selection committee were: President Pohlmann (who served as chairman), board member Paul Spitzzeri, Becky Nicolaides and Donna Schuele.

Winners and their guests, as well as members of the Historical Society, gathered at a reception at the Lummis Home on July 18th. The recipients accepted their awards and met their fellow scholars. Paul Spitzzeri described the difficult task of the judging committee in choosing from an unusually large pool of applicants. Then awardees spoke about their projects. The winners received a souvenir handbook listing current and past Haynes winners alongside their project titles. HSSC publishes this handbook to facilitate the exchange of ideas in a sizable and growing community of scholars. Many of the early winners listed in the handbook have gone on to complete published articles and books. Ten of these books are on display and may be purchased at the El Alisal book shop.

Haynes at a Glance



1. Renita Lorden accepts Haynes Stipend from John Pohlmann (right) and Paul Spitzzeri (center)

2. Mark Padoongpatt speaks about his dissertation: *Made in Thailand: Empire, Consumption, and Race in Thai Los Angeles, 1945-2008*



3. Elsa Devienne (left) flew in all the way from France to receive her award and research her topic



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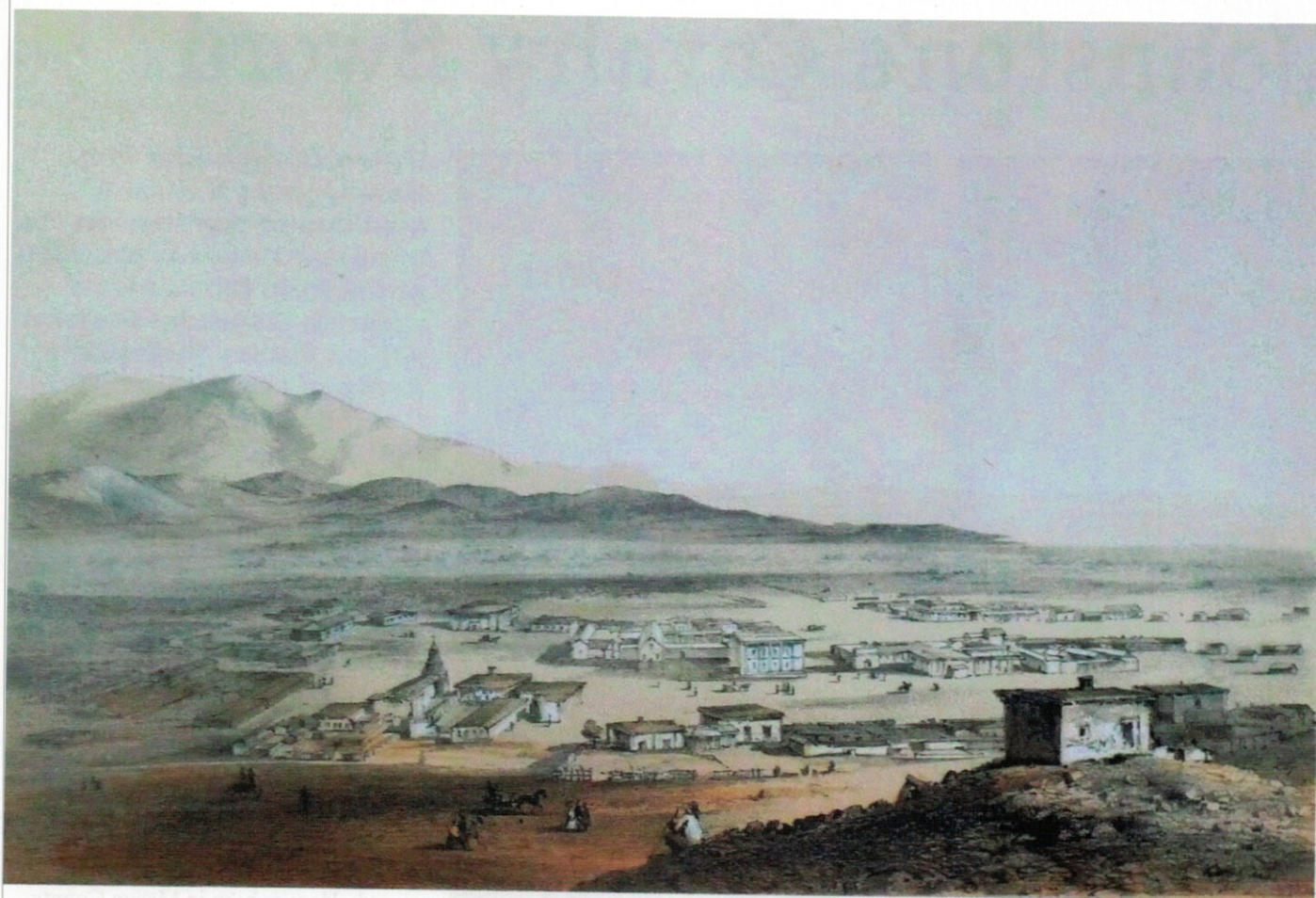
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The Lummis Home is open
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Lithograph containing first printed view of Los Angeles

GIFT OF LITHOGRAPHS

Ruth Lippitt, longtime member of HSSC and patron of our 1991 Centennial History publication, has gifted a set of five rare 1856 lithographs to the society. The lithographs were collected and framed as a suite by her late husband, Henry F. Lippitt, II, treasurer of HSSC in 1987. He was instrumental in establishing our publications fund named in honor of Dr. Doyce B. Nunis, Jr., who was then celebrating his 25th year as editor of the Quarterly. Among the set of lithographs is the first printed view of Los Angeles, sketched by artist Charles Koppel. Looking east from Fort Hill, the old Mexican jail is visible in the bottom right foreground of the lithograph.

Beyond that is a rectangular group of buildings that formed the plaza of the original pueblo in 1856. The church shown near the center of the picture is on the site to which it was moved after the flood of 1820. It serves to anchor the plaza to this day. Just beyond the church is the house of Vincent Lugo. Other lithographs include a view of "Mission San Diego" with a large palm tree, and a panorama of the "Mission and Plain of San Fernando" showing Indians gathering pear cactus in the foreground. The lithographs predate photographic views and show California in the early years of statehood. The Historical Society of Southern California thanks Ruth Lippitt for her generous gift.

HSSC needs back issues of the quarterly. We are in the process of digitizing SCQ and find that certain volumes are missing from our collection.

1946 Vol. 28

1947 Vol. 29

1948 Vol. 30

If you can help us complete our collection, please call the business office at (323) 460-5632 or e-mail us at hssc@socalhistory.org

Johnston's Cavalry Sword



Union commander Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, planning to advance on the important railway junction at Corinth, Miss., met a surprise attack by General Albert Sidney Johnston's Army of Mississippi. The Confederates pushed the Federals back steadily during the first day's fighting, in spite of Johnston's death that afternoon.

in Germany and not easily available to the French. The lack of a serial number on the blade suggests it was not part of a government consignment but rather purchased independently.

We have not yet discovered where and when General Johnston acquired the sword. He was born in Mason County, Kentucky, in 1803, and attended the United States Military Academy at West Point. After graduating in 1826, he was assigned to the Second Infantry with the rank of brevet Second Lieutenant. He may have purchased the sword at that time.

He was posted to Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis where he met and married his first wife, Henrietta, daughter of Major William Preston of Virginia. By 1832 Johnston was in the thick of the Black Hawk War as adjutant to the commander of the U. S. forces sent to put down the rising of the plains Indians. Incidentally, the day book kept by Johnston provides the basic resource for the history of that campaign.

Johnston resigned his commission to care for his ailing wife and after she died in 1835, he joined the forces in Texas besieged by the Mexican militias.

Spring housecleaning at the Lummis Home brought to light an old sword hidden in a closet on the second floor. A bit of research identified it, a well used and still sharp cavalry sword, as a gift from Edward A. Dickson, President of the Historical Society of Southern California, 1948 - 1950. According to a reference to the gift in the society's Quarterly, Vol. XXXI, General Albert Sidney Johnston (1803-1861), who was in command of the United States forces in California at the outbreak of the Civil War, was the owner of the sword. It was displayed in the rotunda of the Los Angeles City Library in 1949 as part of the Historical Society of Southern

California's contribution to the statewide '49er centennial celebration.

[Los Angeles Times, Sept. 8, 1949]
Apparently it has been stored in the Lummis Home since 1965, when HSSC established its headquarters there.

The maker's mark on the sword shows that it was manufactured in France at the Klingenthal Blade Manufactory between 1823 and 1832. The mark, etched on a gilt background, reads "Coulaux Frères" on the face and "à Klingenthal" on the reverse. The company was established during the reign of Louis XVI to provide an alternative to the famous Solingen blades that were manufactured

The Alamo had fallen, the new recruits were untrained and poorly supplied, but the United States had just recognized their independence from Mexico. Johnston offered his services, and may have acquired the sword while traveling through New Orleans to reach Sam Huston's headquarters.

Johnston was welcomed into the army of the Texas Republic, characterized at that time as the tumultuario of the Mississippi Valley. He led the Texas troops against wave after wave of insurgents under Mexican General Ampudia. In 1839, after the Battle of Monterey, he was named Texas Secretary of War.

When Franklin Pierce gained the presidency of the United States he appointed General Jefferson Davis as his secretary of war and Davis, in turn, chose his Texas comrade, Johnston, to lead the newly created the 2nd Regiment of Cavalry (later the 5th). Johnston's second-in-command was Colonel Robert E. Lee.

In 1858 Johnston commanded a difficult and dangerous expedition against the Mormons, achieving the Nation's objectives with diplomacy and averting the threatened bloodshed. He was rewarded with the brevet of Brigadier-General in command of the U. S. Army Pacific Department, stationed in San Francisco.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he resigned his commission and moved

his second wife and their children to Pasadena, entrusting their care to his wife's brother, Dr. John S. Griffin. After spending a few months in the strongly pro-secessionist turmoil of Los Angeles, he made his way along the southern immigrant trail via the Yuma Crossing to offer his services to Jefferson Davis and the Confederacy.

He was immediately assigned to command the long line from the Mississippi to the Alleghany Mountains with the rank of full General. Forced back almost at once by the Union volunteers he marched to join the main Confederate force in Mississippi and from there took the offensive against Grant's Army at the Battle of Shiloh. Johnston led a charge on the Union

position and was in the full tide of success when he was mortally wounded. He died in the corner of the battlefield known as the peach orchard. The date was April 6, 1861.

John W. Robinson, *Los Angeles in Civil War Days, 1860-1865*, Los Angeles, Dawson's Book Shop, 1977, is available in the HSSC bookstore at the Lummis Home and on-line at <http://www.socalhistory.org>.

William Preston Johnston, *The Life of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston*, New York, D. Appleton and Company, 1878, is available on-line at <http://books.google.com>

Board member Cecilia Rasmussen and Lummis Home Curator Ariel van Zandweghe contributed to the research for this article



O'Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award

Louise O'Flaherty was guest of honor at the "Celebrate Our Scholars" reception for the presentation of the award she created in memory of her late husband, Joseph S. O'Flaherty, who served as President of HSSC in 1989-90 and 1990-91.

The Joseph S. O'Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award recognizes creative excellence in the teaching of history in grades K-12. It carries an honorarium of \$1,000 and is the highest honor the Historical Society of Southern California can bestow on a K-12 teacher of history. The 2010 winner is Dennis Hagen-Smith, a Fifth Grade teacher at Toluca Lake Elementary School. He has been teaching in the Los Angeles Unified School District for the past 22 years, using a wide range of special projects, field trips, and writing activities to immerse students in the curriculum. He believes that his role as a teacher is to build a love of learning within each individual student.



Louise O'Flaherty with the 2010 Joseph S. O'Flaherty Distinguished Teaching Award winner Dennis Hagen-Smith

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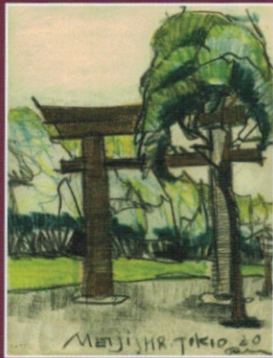
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FALL
2010
Quarterly
Articles

HISTORICAL
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY

FALL 2010 (vol. 92, no. 3)

A Preview

NEUTRA: FROM JAPAN IN 1930 TO HIS EUROPEAN AUDIENCES AND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORK
BY BARBARA LAMPRECHT

THE CONSCIENCE OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: LOS ANGELES MAYOR
FLETCHER BOWRON AND JAPANESE REMOVAL
BY ABRAHAM HOFFMAN

“OBEY THE RULES OR GET OUT”: RONALD REAGAN’S 1966
GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN AND THE “TROUBLE IN BERKELEY”
BY MICHELLE REEVES

THE HISTORIAN’S EYE: WHAT DOES A HISTORIAN SEE IN A PICTURE
FROM THE PAST?

Barbara Lamprecht is currently Senior Architectural Historian at ICF International, an environmental consulting firm. She is the author of two books on Richard Neutra, *Richard Neutra—Complete Works* and *Neutra—Selected Projects* (Taschen, 2000, 2004). She earned her B.A. in History at Bucknell University and her M.A. from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She is currently completing her Ph.D at the University of Liverpool with a dissertation entitled “The Nature of Neutra.” Lamprecht has practiced architecture and writes about it for publications including *The Architectural Review*, *Wallpaper*, and *Dwell*, and is completing a third book, *Why Ornament Matters*.

Abraham Hoffman, an adjunct instructor at Los Angeles Valley College, is the recipient of three awards from the Historical Society of Southern California: the Donald H. Pflueger Award for his book *Vision or Villainy: Origins of the Owens Valley-Los Angeles Water Controversy* (Texas A&M, 1981), the Frank M. Wheat Award, and an Outstanding Teacher award. Dr. Hoffman earned a Ph.D in History from UCLA in 1970. His dissertation was published as “Unwanted Mexican Americans in the Great Depression: Repatriation Pressures, 1929–1939” (Arizona, 1974). This article is his ninth to appear in the *Southern California Quarterly*.

Michelle Reeves earned her M.A. in history at California State University, Northridge. Her master’s thesis explored the intersections of the War on Drugs and the Cold War during the Reagan and Bush presidential administrations. She is currently a Ph.D candidate at the University of Texas at Austin, where she is focusing on Soviet Cold War intentions and interventions in Latin America.

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TO LEARN MORE about the history
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On it you will find articles covering events and
people that marked the history of the area.

In addition you'll find more information about:

- our publications
- programs and events
- the Lummis Home
- our awards program
- membership
- and historical resources.

The redesign was underwritten partially
with funds from the Dorothy Dumke Elliot
Endowment.

Save The Date

September 9

Admission Day at The Old Mill

The Old Mill Foundation and HSSC invite you
to join them for a gala celebration of the
160th Anniversary of the State of
California's admission to the Union.

November 7

Dunning Lecture

Bill Boyarsky and *Inventing Los Angeles*