



Photo: Peter Mendenhall

Four recipients of the HSSC/Haynes Foundation Research Stipend share a moment in the Lumis Garden. Left to right: Nancy Quam-Wickham, Peter Reich, Elisabeth Orr and Arthur Verge.

## Lucky 13

Grants underwritten by the Haynes Foundation have been awarded by HSSC to 13 researchers working on a broad range of subjects within the scope of local history.

The Historical Society of Southern California joins with the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation in congratulating the 13 recipients of the HSSC/Haynes Research Stipend for their outstanding research projects on the history of Los Angeles and Southern California.

Initiated six months ago, the stipend is the result of HSSC's recognition of the critical need by many scholars of local history for short-term research support. HSSC assessed these needs and brought them to the attention of the Haynes Foundation which generously addressed them with a \$10,000 grant.

From Ph.D. candidates to tenured faculty, independent scholars to museum curators, the academic, institutional, and professional range of the recipients is impressive. In all, 52 ap-

plicants from across California and the country submitted proposals for consideration by a HSSC committee of five.

The average grant awarded to each of the 13 is \$750 and will help defray much of the immediate costs of doing research. The recipients are:

Eric Avila: "Reinventing Los Angeles: Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight, 1940-1965."

Clark Davis: "Managing Society: Women and Club Life in Corporate Los Angeles, 1891-1930."

Michael Dawson: "South of Point Lobos: The Cross Currents of Photographic Practice in Southern California, 1900-1940."

## HSSC Is a Beneficiary of the Hay Family Trust

After Florence Hay died in September of 1996, following her husband's death in 1994, HSSC learned it was one of the beneficiaries of the Hay Family Trust.

Before Raymond Hay's health declined, the Hays unfailingly attended Society events and HSSC members may remember seeing the cheerful duo at Holiday Open Houses.

In 1947 Ray founded REHCO, a company which manufactured food service equipment for restaurants, hotels and other institutions. High standards of quality and service coupled with Ray's technical innovations account for the company's success.

From the beginning, Florence served as secretary and treasurer of REHCO.

In 1951 Ray founded the Metal Equipment Corporation in Oakland, California to produce and install stainless steel cafeteria counters for the U.S. Army. It, too, flourished.

Together the two shared a love of boats and travel. HSSC will miss them.

Raymond and Florence Hay



Photo courtesy of Michael Maddox

## GENTLE READER



HISTORY SHOULD NEVER lose its AWEfulness, its ability to astonish, to delight as well as to inform. Because history matters, it should be accurate, it should be well-written, and it should reach a wide audience.

As you read the volumes in our Sesquicentennial Series, listed in the next column—or earlier books we have published—I hope you will come to appreciate the commitment HSSC has made to achieve these goals.

As the 20th Century ends we are concerned about historical illiteracy, cultural amnesia, and a heightened sense of presentism. That is one side of the coin. On the other side, there is a powerful sense of the presence of history in films, museums, and theme parks.

Taken together, the two sides reinforce the fact that history matters, that it should be taken seriously, that it has the power to inform, enlighten, and instruct the individual who maintains historical consciousness.

At HSSC we attempt to involve both academic historians and the broader historical awareness outside academic halls. We take seriously the charge that history is inclusive and not the sole preserve of any one constituency.

Our goal is to listen to the layering of voices that constitutes the historical field, and to be attentive to the ways people receive historical information.

Our concern today is not that people have forgotten the past, but that they have misremembered it too well. Our goal is to feed and nourish the collective memory so that it can discriminate among the intersecting, overlapping, and contradictory accounts that will carry us into the 21st Century.

# Sesquicentennial Celebration Begins

Californians will celebrate 150 years of history over the next 33 months, marking a period from the discovery of gold to statehood.

HSSC's O'Flaherty Teaching Award recipient Bill Coate and his students helped kick off the celebrations in Coloma. (See photos on page 3.)

Coate received the award in 1994 for developing an innovative teaching program dubbed the Madera Method by the late author Irving Stone.

Using primary documents, Coate's students dig deep into local history. Once the research is complete the students, with the help of HSSC members John Osborne and Jean Stone, write and publish the story they've uncovered. The work of these mostly sixth graders is impressive.

## HSSC Contributes to Celebration

Meanwhile, HSSC is celebrating the Sesquicentennial with a series of books on local history. They include:

No. 1 *Angels Flight: A History of Bunker Hill's Incline Railway* by Virginia Comer. (1996)

No. 2 *Griffith Park: A Centennial History* by Mike Eberts. (1996)

No. 3 *Painting With Light: A Centennial History of the Judson Studios* by Jane Apostol. (1997)

No. 4 *Mission San Fernando, Rey de España: A Bicentennial Tribute*, edited by Doyce Nunis. (1997)

No. 5 *Three Southern California Pioneers of 1841: The Lives and Times of John Rowland, William Workman and F.P.F. Temple* by Donald Rowland. (1998)

Look for announcements of the last two publications coming soon.

THE SOUTHERN  
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# O'Flaherty Award Winner and Students Help Kick Off Sesquicentennial Celebration in Coloma

BILL COATE, 1994 O'FLAHERTY TEACHING AWARD RECIPIENT, and his students helped kick off California's sesquicentennial celebration when they arrived in Coloma by wagon train on January 24.

With the help of mule skinnners and wranglers, the students drove the wagon train to Sutter's Mill where gold was discovered by John Marshall in 1848.

The trek for the 14 sixth graders began in Madera on January 5. They traveled 200 miles in 20 days following old wagon roads near highways 48 and 49. Along the way the students were fed and cheered by the historic Gold Rush communities.

An estimated 6,000 people join the celebration at Marshall Gold Discovery State Park in Coloma including Governor and Mrs. Pete Wilson, State Librarian Kevin Starr, HSSC Executive Director Tom Andrews and HSSC Director John Osborne.



Photos: Tom Andrews

Bill Coate's students traveled in covered wagons after studying diaries and journals of miners and immigrants and becoming thoroughly immersed in California's history.



The replica of Sutter's Mill on the American River near the students' encampment helps modern day Californians to appreciate the primitive environment of early California.



Authentically costumed mountain men march into camp.



**1998**  
**A**  
**Year**  
**Full**  
**of**  
**Programs**  
**for**  
**HSSC**  
**Members**  
**and**  
**Guests**

**TOUR  
OF THE  
LA ATHLETIC CLUB'S  
ART COLLECTION**

---

**Saturday  
May 2**

Members of the Society's premiere support group, the President's Circle, will join art historian and curator Patricia Trenton for lunch and a private tour of the Los Angeles Athletic Club's art collection.

One of LA's hidden art treasures, it includes work by traditional western artists Reginald Marsh & Peter Hurd, and contemporary California realists Carolyn Lord & Steve Huston.

For more information about this program, the President's Circle and how to join, call Peter Mendenhall at (213) 222-0546.

**MUSEUMS  
OF THE  
ARROYO  
DAY**

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**Sunday  
May 17**

Five museums along the arroyo in Los Angeles and Pasadena offer special programs and free admission

from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Free shuttle buses will take you between museums and from

Pasadena to Los Angeles and vice versa.

Museums participating are:

(in Los Angeles)

El Alisal

Heritage Square Museum  
Southwest Museum

(in Pasadena)

The Gamble House  
Pasadena Historical Museum

Each has planned a program highlighting its collections and special character.

Museums of the Arroyo Day is a great way to introduce your family and friends to the Arroyo.

## BUS TOUR OF JUDSON STUDIOS STAINED GLASS

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**Saturday  
June 6**

Walter and Karen Judson, descendants of plein aire artist and founder of the studio William Lees Judson, will take guests to several sites depicting a variety of stained glass styles including Mountain View's Radiance Corridor, the Hollyhock House, and the turn-of-the-century Coxhead-designed church, Church of the Angels.

To top off this exclusive showing, guests will enjoy a scrumptious lunch on the lawn and tour the historic studio located at the edge of the Arroyo.

## HIKE TO SWITZER'S FALLS WITH JOHN ROBINSON

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**Fall 1998  
Date to be Announced**

Author and modern-day literary mountain man John Robinson will lead a tour to Switzer Falls in the San Gabriel Mountains.

John is the author of award-winning books on the surrounding mountains and is highly regarded for his keen knowledge of them.

Two buses are planned with several options for the hike including an easy hike for the less adventurous.

Look for details coming this summer.

Robinson's Books:  
*The San Bernardinos* (1989)  
*The San Gabriels* (1991)  
*The San Jacintos* (1993)

## TRANSPORTATION HISTORY TOUR WITH THE WILKMANS

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**November 1998  
Date to be Announced**

Nancy and Jon Wilkman will lead a tour exploring the history and present impact of transportation on the growth of Southern California.

Highlights include:  
A lecture by a renowned authority on transportation who will show vintage films of red cars and other trains.

A VIP tour of LA's new subway including Hollywood stations due to open in 1999.

Additional stops include the Taylor Yard and MTA's central electronic control center, a tour of the renovated Union Station and its modern additions.

Look for more information in the late summer.



# William Worton & Police Reform

by Christopher Morales

In the post-war era, no American city grew faster than Los Angeles. By 1949, the population had soared to 2 million. To keep the peace the Los Angeles Police Department quickly expanded to 4,500 officers, many of whom were returning veterans.

However, some officers crossed the “thin blue line.” In June, a Grand Jury investigation revealed police involvement in gambling and prostitution rings, forcing the resignation of Chief C.B. Horrall. Morale was low and the public outraged. Mayor Fletcher Bowron needed a chief; someone capable of cleaning house and restoring confidence and order. He selected a man who had never worn a badge or made an arrest—someone who would have a tremendous impact on the future of the L.A.P.D. He selected retired Marine Major General William A. Worton.

Honest and direct, Worton was a man of action. “If I don’t know something,” he pledged, “I’ll tell you I don’t know, but mark you, I’ll find out and we’ll go from there.”

A Boston native, Worton joined the Marine Corps in 1917. He spent years in China, becoming fluent in Chinese and an authority on Chinese politics and economics. During World War II, he was Chief of Staff of the 5th Marine Division.

Worton was ideally suited for the chief’s job. At heart, he was a reformer with progressive ideas and the courage to implement them. He met with the



Photo: Los Angeles Police Historical Society

*Interim police chief William Worton*

Black and Hispanic communities and gave his personal assurance that he would not tolerate police brutality or racism. “(Minorities) are American citizens,” he declared, “and as such are entitled to all of the rights, privileges, and protections enjoyed by other Americans.”

During his 13 months as interim chief, he doubled training time, expanded bureaus, met with the rank and file, and instituted large scale personnel transfers, “breaking up cliques, cutting off ties, and taking heat from a lot of outraged, calcified people,” according to author Joe Domanick.

At that time, the few Black and Hispanic officers were never partnered with Whites. One of the Chief’s goals was to end the de facto segregation. Unfortunately, Worton’s term ended before he could integrate the department.

Worton’s most outstanding reform was creating the Internal Affairs Bu-

reau to investigate police misconduct. He intended it to be part of a dramatic reform, placing the department under civilian control, headed by a commissioner appointed by the mayor, with council approval. The commissioner would oversee all facets of the department, except daily law enforcement which would remain the Chief’s responsibility. Worton believed that his model would instill accountability and minimize misconduct.

This proposal proved Worton’s undoing. Department brass and the Police Protective League protested that the plan violated the city charter, thereby pressuring the mayor to name a permanent chief from within the department. There was no tolerance within the L.A.P.D. to replace autonomy with civilian control.

Aware that his time was up, Worton asked the mayor to relieve him, and in August 1950, Inspector William H. Parker was appointed chief. Parker served for 16 years. Worton served on the police commission before retiring to private life. He died in 1973. He always stood by the L.A.P.D., saying that he felt that “97 percent of the police force of this City are capable, honest men.”



*Christopher Morales is a freelance journalist based in Santa Barbara.*



# Alice Millard & La Miniatura

by Ward Ritchie

*Before his death Ward Ritchie wrote this article on Alice Millard for publication in the Southern Californian's series on women of the Arroyo.*

**O**n the east bank of the Arroyo Seco in Pasadena, opposite to where the Rose Bowl now stands is a small ravine. In the ravine is the house of Alice Persons Millard.

Alice was somewhat of a latecomer in the Arroyo culture but endowed the area with an appreciation of great books. She had been an art teacher in Chicago, becoming interested in the work of the Pre-Raphaelites including William Morris, Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Edward Burne-Jones.

She wandered one day into McClurg's Book Store looking for some books on the subject. She was fortunate in being served by the elderly and elegant George Madison Millard.

He was the doyen of the "Saints and Sinners Corner," so dubbed by Eugene Field. It was the gathering place for writers, artists and book collectors of the region.

Millard made yearly book-buying trips abroad and had become a friend of William Morris and his family, and the Thomas James Cobden-Sandersons among other printers, bookbinders and dealers.

He was pleased to help this attractive young woman who had interests similar to his own. He sold her a copy of William Mackail's *The Life of William Morris*. She returned many times.

However unlikely, a romance ensued. A couple of years passed and in 1901 she accompanied him on his

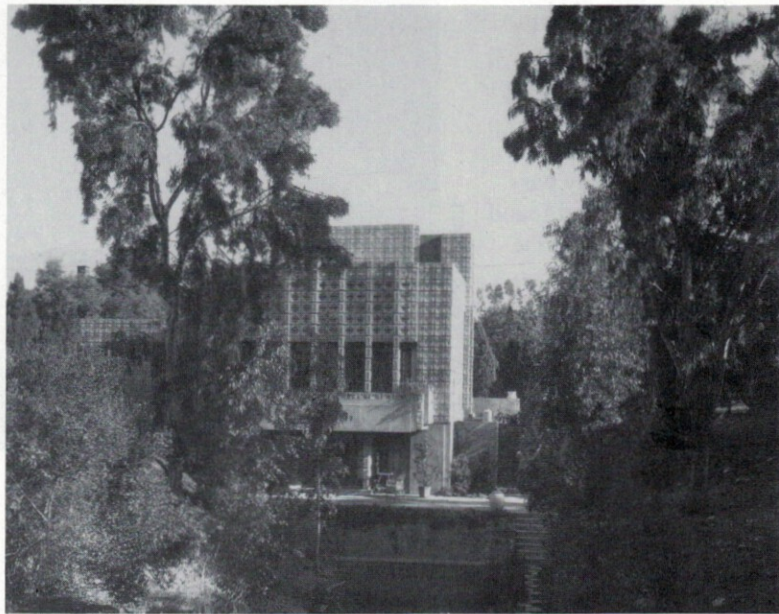


Photo: The Huntington Library

*The rear of the Millard House as seen from Rosemont Avenue.*

book-buying trip to England and they were married in the Wren-designed church of St. Brides in London. She was then twenty-eight and he, fifty-five.

She was small, delicate, assured and somewhat aggressive. She knew what she wanted and usually got it. Blue was her color and she always wore it. In later years as her hair, which was her crowning glory, turned white she added a hint of blue to it which was eye-catching spectacular.

She was an apt pupil of her husband, whom she affectionately called "Daddy," and soon was almost as knowledgeable as he in the field of rare books and fine printing.

They had a young architect named Frank Lloyd Wright build a house for them in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park and lived there until 1917 when George decided to retire. He was then over seventy years old. They decided to seek the sunshine and moved

to California.

They found and converted a bungalow on Huntington Drive in South Pasadena into a charming book salon. It was only a short distance from where Lawrence Clark Powell and I were growing up and getting our introduction to books at the local library.

The books offered by the Millards were a revelation to most California collectors and they enriched the collection of the Crockers, the Clarks and the Gundts with books from the private presses and early rarities.

"Daddy" died a couple of years after coming to California, but Alice successfully continued the business, making yearly visits to Europe to return with new treasures.

She added antique furniture which she found all over Europe. Eventually she filled a whole loft at the Oneonta Transfer and Storage building in South

Pasadena with her purchases as well as most of the mansions of Pasadena.

She was so successful that she felt she needed a more impressive place in which to entertain her customers and show her wares. She asked her old friend Frank Lloyd Wright if he would be willing to plan a suitable house for her. At the time he was doing the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo and was happy to undertake her house between trips to Japan.

Wright was not interested in doing a traditional house on the traditional flat lot in a respectable neighborhood which Alice Millard had already purchased. He searched the area and found a tree-covered ravine leading into the Arroyo which he persuaded Alice to buy. He snugly fit the house therein.

She originally asked Wright to design a house for her with an old world atmosphere. In addition Wright later wrote in his *Autobiography*, she wanted

an unusually large living room with a great fireplace, a beautiful balcony over it from which her own sleeping room might open. That bedroom should be roomy too, with dressing room, a balcony in that too and a bath, of course. One for the balcony would be nice to have. Then there should be a good-sized guest room that might be an office when not in use otherwise, and two baths, of course. And dining room, not so small either (little parties) with pantry, kitchen, servants' bedroom, storerooms and baths.

But Alice Millard had only \$10,000, so the plans had to be somewhat modified.

He achieved the old world, almost medieval, feeling by building the house of the then lowly concrete block, quite a daring innovation in those days. To relieve their chilly drabness he had



Photo: The Huntington Library

In later years as her hair, which was her crowning glory, turned white Alice Millard added a hint of blue to it which was eye-catching spectacular.

them cast with a decorative Greek cross. Some were sandwiched with glass inside so that light could filter through the cross and make patterns on the opposite wall.

The construction was beset with many problems and an untrustworthy contractor, in addition to Wright often having to work from his home base in Wisconsin and Alice Millard spending months away in Europe finding treasures to sell and help pay the cost which had far exceeded her \$10,000.

When the house was finally completed she was happy, and Wright was said to have remarked that "I'd rather have built this little house than St. Peter's in Rome."

Wright had hoped that he could design furniture for this "modern-medieval" house he had created, but Alice Millard was of a different mind. She furnished it with the beautiful old pieces she had brought from abroad and warmed the austere walls with books and tapestries.

Wright had misjudged California weather. When it occasionally rains it can easily become a downpour. He had built the house blocking the natural

watercourse down the ravine to the Arroyo. He had put a six-inch drain under the house which he thought would be sufficient. With the first severe rain it soon clogged and the house soon dammed a considerable lake. In time the water burst through the kitchen and made its way down to the Arroyo.

Aside from that and a perpetually leaking flat roof I am told that Wright, in eliminating many of her original ideas in order to meet her budget, had inadvertently also eliminated her bedroom. I do know that she slept on a daybed in the room she called her office.

Alice Millard only wrote a few catalogues of exhibits of books which she arranged for the collectors of those early days and for school children who she wished to teach the history of the books and an appreciation of the book as an object of beauty.

*Ward Ritchie incorporated this essay into a larger work, A Southland Bohemia, which was published after his death.*



The Lummis Home Centennial,  
1898 - 1998



## HSSC Has a New Look

El Alisal Book Shop volunteers have for some time wanted stylish bags to help customers carry away their treasures. In celebration of the Lummis Home centennial beginning on Museums of the Arroyo Day, May 17, the bookstore has brand new, crisp white bags with special commemorative labels. Graced with a representation of John Feeley's line drawing of the house, the labels also bear HSSC's name, address and phone number.

The Historical Society also has brand new membership cards. The cards detach from a special message and is the perfect size for a wallet.

## 1998 History Conference: A Success

More than 150 attended HSSC's third annual history conference January 18 at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage.

This year's theme **THE ARTS: THE SOUL OF THE CITY** brought the history of Los Angeles art to center stage.

Included in the the conference were movie clips of Hollywood Bowl seats under construction shown by Carol Merrill Mirsky, curator of the Hollywood Bowl Museum; slides of the work of local artists from 1900 to the avant garde and ethnic art of 1998, which accompanied Nancy Moure's presentation; a rollicking challenge to the conference concept from Robert Winter; and many other highlights.

The 1999 conference will be scheduled later in January or early in February, once again at the Autry Museum. Be sure to watch for your Save the Date postcard to be mailed in September and make sure to mark your calendar.



## Meet Peter Mendenhall

Peter Mendenhall comes to HSSC from The Huntington Library where he was a member of the financial development office.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Peter lives in Pasadena with his wife Kris, an attorney, and their children, two-year-old Michael and three-month-old Laura.

Peter's responsibilities at HSSC include overseeing membership processing and maintenance and assisting with several programs including those where his interest in art will be tapped.

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LUCKY 13 Continued from page 1

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Elisabeth Orr: "Living Along the Fault Line: Community, Ethnicity and Suburbia in Garden Grove and Westminster, California, 1945-1995."

Jared Orsi: "City of a Thousand Rivers": Floods, Ecology, and the Metropolis in Southern California, 1884-1997."

Nancy Quam-Wickham: "The Natural and Social Worlds of the Los Angeles Harbor Area, 1900-1930."

Peter Reich: "Reviving the Pueblo: Hispanic Municipal Land Rights in California Courts Since 1850."

Paul Sabin: "Petroleum Polity: Law, Politics, and the California Oil Economy, 1910-1940."

Michael Sanborn: "Phineas Banning's Legislative Battle for Los Angeles's First Railroad."

Arthur Verge: "Mightily Ye Shall Rise: Rev. Clayton Russell and the Rise of the Double 'V' Movement in World War II Los Angeles."

Jennifer Watts: "Our Italy in Southern California: The Photography of Marian Osgood Hooker."

Andrew Wiese: "African American Suburbanization in Pasadena, California, Prior to World War II."

Ronald Woolsey: "Biographical study of William Thrall."

The review process presented the Committee with a unique window of opportunity to see the current and future direction of scholarship of Los Angeles and Southern California history. That the competition was intense is a good sign. The Committee's analysis revealed the shaping of our history is and will be ambitious in its scope, dynamic in its perspectives, and significant in its discoveries.

The Haynes Foundation happily concurs and has initiated an additional grant of \$10,000 for a second round in late spring of the HSSC/Haynes Research Stipends.



# President's Circle

**P**resident's Circle members are individuals and families whose annual, unrestricted support of \$1,000 or more ensures the longevity and quality of the Society's most prestigious programs including the *Southern California Quarterly*, the FELOWS Award, educational programs and books published by the Society. The Society thanks those who support HSSC at this significant level with an association that is socially stimulating and intellectually invigorating. Members receive advance copies of Society publications and have opportunities to meet with HSSC FELLOWS, noted scholars and community leaders.

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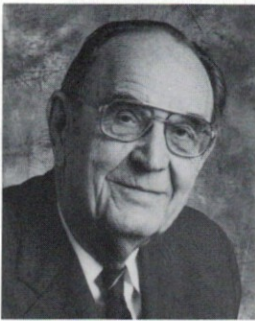
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TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS



The Historical Society of Southern California mourns the loss of three friends who died on the same day.



R. Stanton Avery

R Stanton Avery, founder, chairman emeritus of Pasadena-based Avery Dennison Corporation, died of a stroke on December 12, 1997. He was 90 years old.

Avery was an entrepreneur in the most American sense of the term. His determination to create the world's first self-adhesive label during the depths of the Great Depression in the 1930s, without funding or precedent, triumphed against the odds. In the process, he founded a company and established a new technology and a new industry.

Equally notable was the legacy he left to the Southern California community through his many philanthropic and civic activities.

In 1990 David Clark's history of Avery won the Donald Pflueger Local History Award. Avery's support of history and culture will be missed.

Walt Wheelock

Walt Wheelock, a long-time member of HSSC and founder of La Siesta Press died December 12, 1997. He was 81.

In 1935 he was one of the first to receive a bachelor of arts degree in astronomy from UCLA, later contributing many articles to scientific journals.

For 27 years he was a member of the Glendale Police Department and for the last 15 served as commander in the detective bureau.

Wheelock became an authority on Baja California and Sonora and produced more than 60 books on the west. For many years the basic guide to Baja California was a book he first published in 1956.

Publishing, writing and editing books on the west was Wheelock's avocation. His presence and enthusiasm for the west will be missed by his friends.

Norman Neuerburg

Norman Neuerburg, scholar, conservationist and friend of California's missions died on December 12.

Perhaps best known for his research and implementation of the decorative details of the Malibu Getty Museum, Neuerburg was ever the historian as detective in his quest for the scholarly details of antiquity.

He was also completely involved in the world of California missions. Neuerburg remembered visiting the San Fernando Mission when he was 6 years old. At age 14 he began visiting the mission regularly and was offered a job giving tours when he was only 15.

Eventually his knowledge was regularly called upon to correct the oversimplifications of unwary interpreters.

Neuerburg's erudition will be missed by all those who, like him, have a passion for a deeper understanding of the missions.

FOR LOVE OF HISTORY

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## SAVE THESE DATES

### May 2

President's Circle members will be treated to lunch and a tour of the art collection of the Los Angeles Athletic Club. For information on becoming a President's Circle member, call (213) 222-0546

### May 17

Celebrate National Museums Day with free admission to El Alisal, the Gamble House, Heritage Square, the Pasadena Historical Museum and the Southwest Museum. Free shuttle buses provided by the cities of Pasadena and Los Angeles.

### June 6

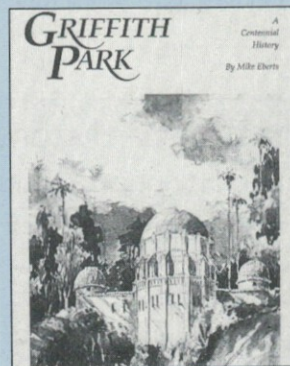
Judson Studios Stained Glass Bus Tour

Join members of the Judson family as they take guests to their favorite stained glass installations in the greater Los Angeles area. Enjoy lunch on the lawn of the studio, where the USC College of Fine Arts was founded.

### September 26

HSSC Awards Luncheon  
The University Club, Pasadena  
Plan to attend this luncheon to honor four outstanding Southern California teachers and the authors of four exceptional books on local history. Look for invitations in August.

## HSSC Books Appear on Vroman's Bestseller List



**Congratulations** to Mike Eberts and Virginia Comer whose books, *Griffith Park: A Centennial History* and *Angels Flight: A History of Bunker Hill's Incline Railway*, published by the Historical Society of Southern California, are on Vroman's list of bestselling books of regional history.