

The 2011 Call for Papers

Semi-Centennial Conference of the Western History Association

Oakland, California, October 13-16, 2011

“Modern Histories of Ancient Places: The Western History Association, 1961-2011”

Submission Deadline: September 1, 2010

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Program Committee for the 2011 Meeting of the Western History Association invites proposals for panels, papers, and workshops for “Modern Histories of Ancient Places: The Western History Association, 1961-2011.”

In 1961, a group of historians and enthusiasts of the American West convened a conference in Santa Fe. Out of this first meeting emerged an organization committed to the study of western history. Formal organization of the Western History Association took place one year later. And today, we honor this milestone by continuing the work of producing histories of the West that speak to the contemporary world. Our theme invokes the modern West so visible in Oakland and the greater Bay Area, where finance, manufacturing, agriculture, education, shipping, and technology have made this one of the world’s most dynamic and influential metropolitan centers. This racially and ethnically diverse place has shaped politics and life in the United States and far beyond, most notably through its social movements, from the founding of the Sierra Club to the New Left, Black and Red Power, and gay liberation. At the same time, it is an ancient place, marked from time immemorial by its Native peoples and the centuries of colonization and migration that washed across it from all corners of the globe.

We seek historical work, including discussions of public history and teaching, that speaks to the most important ways in which the West shaped the history of Native America, colonial North America, the nation-states of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, and the larger world. We are open to the entire range of methodologies represented in the contemporary historical profession, from cultural approaches, to social and political history, to more material forms of analysis such as environmental and economic history. The semicentennial of the WHA also provides a particularly compelling opportunity to assess the ways that the organization and field of study have developed over time.

Submissions are encouraged for roundtable discussions, entire sessions, and working groups (limited-size seminars that use pre-circulated papers to explore a subject of shared concern). Single papers will be considered, but the organizers strongly encourage full panel submissions. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract that outlines the purpose of the session and designate one participant as the contact person. Each paper proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one- paragraph abstract and a one-page c.v.,

including address, phone, and email address for each participant. Indicate equipment needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Email each submission, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to: wha2011call@gmail.com or send by mail service to: Benjamin Johnson, Clements Dept. of History, PO Box 750176, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275. Electronic submissions are preferred.

SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2010. The 2011 Program Committee Co-chairs: Benjamin Johnson, Southern Methodist University, and Patti Loughlin, University of Central Oklahoma.