THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MORMON HISTORY Association

Sacramento Conference
May 22-25, 2008
Red Lion Hotel

GROWTH AND GATEWAYS:
Mormonism in a Wider World
HOW TO HAVE A PRODUCTIVE AND ENJOYABLE CONFERENCE

SILENCE CELL PHONES AND PAGERS DURING SESSIONS.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO PEOPLE YOU DON’T KNOW.

ASK QUESTIONS.

ARRIVE ON TIME.

LEAVE SESSIONS QUITELY AND ONLY BETWEEN SPEAKERS.

FILL SEATS FROM INSIDE ROWS OUT, NOT OUTSIDE IN, SIT NEXT TO OTHER PEOPLE.

SHARE WITH OTHERS YOUR IDEAS AND MHA EXPERIENCES DURING BREAKS, LUNCHES, AND DINNERS.

SUPPORT CONFERENCE ADVERTISERS AND EXHIBITORS, THEY HELP PAY FOR THE CONFERENCE.

COME EARLY, LEAVE LATE.

DID WE MENTION, SILENCE CELL PHONES AND PAGERS DURING SESSIONS?

Program cover design by Shane Allman, Provo, Utah
Inspired from an engraving of Sutter’s Mill, Coloma, 1884. Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center.
Welcome to the forty-third annual conference of the Mormon History Association. I am delighted to join with you in an extraordinary intellectual feast that includes historic tours, distinguished plenary speakers, and more than a hundred presentations on a dazzling array of intriguing topics.

Every year, the MHA Conference takes us to a different place where we can take a fresh look at Mormon history from a new perspective. Sacramento is a great place to explore this year’s theme, “Growth and Gateways: Mormonism in a Wider World.” Here we are reminded that Mormons played important roles in securing the Pacific Coast for the United States, discovering and mining for gold, and building early businesses and governmental institutions. We also remember that events in California profoundly influenced Mormon settlement in the Great Basin, turning an isolated homeland into a “crossroads of the West.” In the twentieth century, California became a new kind of Mormon frontier, where the largest group of Latter-day Saints outside of Utah encountered the challenges of living as a minority in a secular and culturally diverse world. Many of these topics will be explored on our program.

So many people have contributed to the success of this conference. Our thanks go out to our energetic Program Committee led by Susan Fales and John Murphy, our Local Arrangements Committee chaired by Dylan McDonald, our Awards Committee presided over by Ronald Barney, and our hard-working Executive Directors, Larry and Alene King, Pat Scott, and Linda Thatcher. Sincere thanks are also due to all who are sharing their scholarly research and insights in papers and presentations. It is exciting to be part of this great event.

With all best wishes,

Paul L. Anderson
The Local Arrangements Committee welcomes MHA back to northern California after a forty-year hiatus! Not since the organization’s nascent days has the conference been held near the Golden Gate, and Sacramento is honored to serve as this year’s host city. The region provides a perfect backdrop for the conference theme of “Growth and Gateways: Mormonism in a Wider World,” as Sacramento itself served first as the gateway to the gold fields, and later as the terminus for the Pony Express and the transcontinental telegraph and railroad. As J. S. Holliday so eloquently wrote in his epic on the gold rush, the world indeed rushed into California.

Sacramento’s history is its primary attraction. Throughout its boundaries are the many reminders of the challenges that shaped the city. In Old Sacramento, visitors can take in the historic district with its original and reconstructed buildings and several museums which recall a time when gold drove the economy, steamships plied the Sacramento River, and the Big Four undertook the task of building a railroad to connect the state with the rest of the country. Numerous early fires, floods, and plagues were not enough to doom the plans residents had for their city. In downtown, tourists visit the grounds of the State Capitol Building and the homes of the city’s successful über-capitalists. In midtown, John Sutter’s restored fort pays homage to a man who dreamed of an empire. Evolving from its early days, Sacramento has transformed from a gold and agricultural economy to a governmental and service economy. While many early California towns failed, Sacramento remained indomitable.

Mormonism’s connection to the region is dramatically seen in the Coloma gold discovery of January 1848 and by the skilled promotions of that find by Mormon leader Sam Brannan. Visits to the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, Sutter’s Fort, and Old Sacramento will certainly provide insights into the faith’s role in the wider world.

I would be remiss if I didn’t point out a few insider tips to visiting the city. Take in a Sacramento River Cats game, the reigning Triple-A champions; the Jazz Jubilee, the biggest jazz festival in the West; and try some of our many great restaurants. For mouthwatering Italian meals try Biba’s; for first-rate Mexican, head over to Ernesto’s; for great Chicago-style pizza, try Zelda’s (cash only), and be sure to get a slice of the famous banana cream pie at Frank Fat’s.

If I can be of any help or you’d like further recommendations, the rest of the committee and I would be happy to help. Enjoy your time in the River City!

Dylan McDonald
2008 SACRAMENTO CONFERENCE
Program Committee

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Susan L. Fales
Curator of Digital Historical Collections
Brigham Young University,
Provo, Utah

John M. Murphy
Curator of the 20th and 21st Century
Western and Mormon Experience,
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Church History Department
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
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Senior Curator,
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Salt Lake City, Utah

W. Paul Reeve
Assistant Professor of History
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
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<td>2006-2007 Ronald K. Esplin</td>
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<td>2004-2005 Donald Q. Cannon</td>
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<td>2002-2003 Larry Foster</td>
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<td>2001-2002 Dean L. May (dec.)</td>
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<td>2000-2001 William G. Hartley</td>
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<td>1999-2000 Newell G. Bringhurst</td>
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<td>1998-1999 Jill Mulvay Derr</td>
<td>1999 34th Ogden, Utah</td>
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<td>1996-1997 Linda K. King Newell</td>
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<td>1993-1994 Roger D. Launius</td>
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<td>1990-1991 Richard P. Howard</td>
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<td>1989-1990 Carol Cornwall Madsen</td>
<td>1990 25th Laie, Hawaii</td>
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<td>1985-1986 Richard L. Bushman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982-1983 William D. Russell</td>
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<td>1981-1982 Melvin T. Smith</td>
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<td>1978-1979 Milton Backman Jr.</td>
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<td>1975-1976 Charles S. Peterson</td>
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<td>1974-1975 Thomas Alexander</td>
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<td>1972-1973 James B. Allen</td>
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<td>1971-1972 Davis Bitton (dec.)</td>
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<td>1969-1970 S. George Ellsworth (dec.)</td>
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<td>1968-1969 T. Edgar Lyon (dec.)</td>
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<td>1967-1968 Eugene E. Campbell (dec.)</td>
<td>1968 3rd Santa Clara, California</td>
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<td>1965 (Dec 28) San Francisco</td>
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Amand Mauss
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Newell G. Bringhurst

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A drawing of Sacramento by Emil Lehman in August 1852, three months before a devastating fire destroyed seven-eights of the city. Courtesy Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center
MHA AWARDS

The Mormon History Association presents each year the following awards to encourage and foster the highest ideals in scholarly research and publication.

Leonard J. Arrington Award
Awarded for distinguished and meritorious service to Mormon history.

Named and given in memory and recognition of a founding father of the Mormon History Association, and a premier mentor and promoter of Mormon history.

MHA Best Book Award – $2,000
Awarded for the best published book on Mormon history.
Given to honor and encourage the sense of purpose, dedication, excellence of study, research, and scholarship in the field of Mormon history.
The award is funded by Gregory P. Christofferson and Curt Bench

Smith-Pettit Best First Book Award – $1,200
Awarded for the best first published book on Mormon history.
The award is funded in support of scholarly Mormon studies, by the Smith-Pettit Foundation, a private foundation.

Ella Turner–Ella Bergera Best Biography Award – $1,000
Awarded for the best published biography in the field of Mormon history.
Ella Larsen Turner was a published historian and genealogist. After her death, family members honored her by encouraging scholarship in the field of biography.

Steven F. Christensen Best Documentary Award – $1,000
Awarded for the best published documentary or bibliography on Mormon history.

Steven F. Christensen’s interest in Mormon history and documents was cut short in 1985 by his tragic death. Members of his beloved family created this award in his honor.

Geraldine McBride Woodward Award – $750
Awarded for the best publication about international LDS history
To honor an outstanding woman who promoted her great love of Mormon history among her family, friends, and students. Her family funds this award to honor Geraldine’s interest in advancing and perpetuating this remarkable heritage and her enduring service.

Thomas Rice King Family History Award – $500
Awarded for the best narrated and most thoroughly researched family or community history, published commercially or privately, which is deeply involved in the Mormon experience, including the impact of Mormonism on it, or its impact on Mormonism.
This award is funded by Larry and Alene King in honor of Larry’s second great-grandfather who stands at the head of a numerous posterity.
T. Edgar Lyon Award for the Best Article of the Year – $500
Awarded for the best published article on Mormon history.

An Institute of Religion teacher at the University of Utah, Lyon was well known as an expert on Nauvoo. He worked for years with Nauvoo Restoration, Inc., and was MHA’s third president in 1968-69. This award was created and funded by members of his family.

J. Talmage Jones Awards of Excellence – $350 each
Awarded to two outstanding published articles on Mormon history.

Funded by the Jones Family Trust as a tribute to their father, who embodied many Christian values.

Gerald E. Jones Dissertation Award – $800
Gerald E. Jones served for many years as an administrator and instructor for the LDS Church Educational System. This award is presented in the honor and memory of the many students he influenced.

Lester E. Bush Award for Two Best Theses – $400 each
Lester E. Bush served for five years as Associate Editor of Dialogue and wrote many articles and one book. His most noteworthy achievement was a Dialogue article, published in 1973, on blacks and the priesthood. He spent his career as a physician working for the federal government and is now retired.

Juanita Brooks Award for the Best Graduate Paper – $400
Awarded to a university or college graduate student for the best paper on Mormon history.

Juanita Brooks Award for the Best Undergraduate Paper – $300
Awarded to a university or college undergraduate student for the best paper on Mormon history.

Both student awards are funded by Lola Van Wagenen to honor Juanita Brooks for her life of dedication and scholarship, and for the courage with which she led the way in an honest and professional approach to the study of the Mormon past.

Certificate of Merit – $200
Awarded to a Brigham Young University student at the Annual Religious Education Student Symposium

For a selected research paper on LDS Church history.

Thomas L. Kane Award
Presented to a person outside the Mormon community who has made a significant contribution to Mormon history.

In the grand tradition of Thomas L. Kane, the Pennsylvania native, who in 1857 put his reputation on the line in behalf of compromise and peace.

Special Citations
Presented to persons or institutions who make a significant contribution to Mormon history.
THE TANNER LECTURE

Dr. Philip Jenkins
Saturday, May 24

Dr. Jenkins was educated at Cambridge University, where he obtained his doctorate in history. Since 1980, he has taught at Penn State University and currently holds the rank of Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Humanities. He has published twenty books, including *Decade of Nightmares: The End of the Sixties and the Making of Eighties America* (2006); *The New Faces of Christianity: Believing the Bible in the Global South* (2006), and *God’s Continent: Christianity, Islam and Europe’s Religious Crisis* (2007), all from Oxford University Press. Since 1980 Dr. Jenkins has delivered over one hundred papers to scholarly gatherings and professional associations, including the American Society of Criminology, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Organization of American Historians, and Popular Cultural Association.

OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Speaker

Dr. Kenneth N. Owens
Friday, May 23

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Dr. Owens is an emeritus professor of history at California State University, Sacramento. During his academic career, he specialized in the history of the American West and also became the founder of the CSUS graduate program in public history. His publications as author and editor include *John Sutter and a Wider West* (1994), *Riches for All: The California Gold Rush and the World* (2002), and *Gold Rush Saints: California Mormons and the Great Rush for Riches* (2004). With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, he is currently completing a book-length study of Alexander Baranov and the formative era in Russian America, a collaborative work with Dr. Alexander Petrov of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Pursuing a different interest, Owens has also published a series of articles on the history of fly fishing in the American West. His distinctions include the CSUS Alumni Distinguished Faculty Award, the Western History Association’s Award of Merit, the Outstanding Achievement Award of the California Council for the Promotion of History, and most recently the Montana Historical Society’s Paladin Award.
Ronald E. Romig

Ronald E. Romig is the Community of Christ Archivist, often referred to as “Emma’s church,” with world headquarters in Independence, Missouri. The Archives of the Community of Christ administers a sampling of Smith Family papers and early Church artifacts. As part of the Heritage Preservation Team, the Archives are located in the Library-Archives, in the Community of Christ Temple complex. Ron is a past president of the John Whitmer Historical Association. In addition, Ron is an active participant in the Mormon History Association, having served as a council member and the 2003 Program Chair. He also serves as Vice President of the Missouri Mormon Frontier Foundation, a non-sectarian historical organization working to preserve the local Mormon experience in Missouri. Ron has devoted a lifetime of study to the rich documents underpinning the history of the Latter Day Saint movement. He is editor of two John Whitmer Books, Martin Harris’s Kirtland and Emma’s Nauvoo and is the author of a forthcoming biography of John Whitmer. He has also published many articles in the Journal of Mormon History, the John Whitmer Historical Association Journal, Mormon Historic Studies, Restoration Studies and other academic journals.
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PROGRAM

Wednesday, May 21, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting Comstock I
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Registration Main Lobby

Thursday, May 22, 2008
7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Registration Main Lobby
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pre-conference Tour: Discovering Historic Sacramento Buses leave from front of hotel
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Exhibitor Displays Setup Yosemite Room

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mormon History Research Fair — Upper Pool Deck

Exhibitors/ Presenters:
• California State Archives
  Stephanie Hamashin, Archivist II
• Sacramento Archives & Museum Collection Center
  Dylan McDonald, Archivist
• The University of California, Berkeley
  The Bancroft Library
  Theresa Salazar, Curator of the Bancroft Collection, Western Americana

Opening Reception — Lower Pool Area
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by the Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; the L. Tom Perry Special Collections, and the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University. Music by the California Mormon Pioneer Brass Band.

8:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Plenary Session Martinique Ballroom


Scott Tiffany
Friday, May 23, 2008

6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.  Newcomers Breakfast  Comstock I & 11
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  Registration  Main Lobby
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  Exhibits  Yosemite Room

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  Opening Plenary Session — Martinique Room

Conducting:  Paul L. Anderson, MHA President
“Not Quite Zion: California’s Gold Rush Saints”
Kenneth N. Owens, California State University, Sacramento

Respondent: David L. Bigler, Roseville, CA
Respondent: E. Leo Lyman, Silver Reef, UT

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  Concurrent Session I

Session 1A.  Mormons and Concepts of Transnational Identity
COMSTOCK I
Chair: Kathryn Daynes, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1. “Anglo-Mormons in the Mexican Civil Registration, 1885-1912: Developing a Transnational Identity”
   George R. Ryskamp, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

2. “Maintenance of Welsh Identity in Nineteenth-Century Mormonism”
   Ronald D. Dennis, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

3. “The Billie Forrest Fotheringham Story: The Role of a Multinational Corporate Executive in the Development of the LDS Church and LDS Transnational Identity in Chile, Puerto Rico, and Spain”
   Faustino Lopez-Requena, CES Institute of Religion Madrid-Spain

Comments: William G. Hartley, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Session 1B.  The Bay Area: Mormon Growth and Diversity in Microcosm
CAMELLIA ROOM
Chair and Commentator: Matthew K. Heiss, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1. “Ethnic Mormons in Oakland, California”
   Jessie L. Embry, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

2. “The Diverse Cultural Units in the Bay Area”
   Robert G. Larsen and Sharyn H. Larsen, Moraga, CA

Session 1C.  Pilgrimage in Mormon Tradition
COMSTOCK II
Chair: Jana Riess, Publishers Weekly, Cincinnati, OH
1. “The Role of Religious Tourism in the Development of Mormon Cultural Identities”
   Sarah Bill Schott, Loyola University, Chicago, IL

2. “Pilgrims at Kirtland Temple: Cooperation and Contestation among Latter Day Saint Denominations”
   David J. Howlett, University of Iowa, Iowa City

Comments: Keith A. Erekson, Indiana University, Bloomington
Session 1D. Massacres and Misinformation: The Attack on John Tobin and the Mountain Meadows Massacre
SIERRA A
Chair: J. Michael Hunter, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

1. “Wrong Place, Wrong Time: A Look at the Tobin ‘Massacre’”
   Chad O. Foulger, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

   Chad M. Orton, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

3. “Lost, Suppressed, or Destroyed: Provenance of Selected Mountain Meadows Massacre Documents”
   Brian D. Reeves, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments: Ardis E. Parshall, Salt Lake City, UT

Session 1E. The Public and Private Voice: New Perspectives on the Poems of Eliza R. Snow
COMSTOCK III
Chair: Sheree Maxwell Bench, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

   Edward Whitley, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

2. “‘Not My Wish to Appear in Print’: Unknowns and Ironies in the Poems of Eliza R. Snow”
   Karen Lynn Davidson, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
   Jill Mulvay Derr, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

3. “Poetry and Paradox of Eliza R. Snow: A Film”
   Sharon Lee Swenson, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Comments: Claudia L. Bushman, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

Session 1F. Connections and Influences of Other Traditions on Early Mormonism
SIERRA B
Chair: Sherman Feher, Englewood, CO

1. “‘We Latter-day Saints Are Methodists’: Methodist Influences on Early Mormonism”
   Christopher C. Jones, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

   Benjamin E. Park, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

3. “Schools of the Prophets: An Early American Tradition”
   Joseph F. Darowski, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments: Steven C. Harper, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.  Luncheon/Plenary Session  Martinique Room

“California Provided the Answer”
Elder John K. Carmack, Director of the Perpetual Education Fund,
Former Executive Director of the LDS Church Historical Department
and Los Angeles Stake President

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions II

Session 2A.  Three Influential “Mormon” Personalities in
Early California
CAMERILIA ROOM
Chair:  Brent Briggs, Sacramento, CA
1. “John Horner: His Contributions to California
Agriculture”
   Lorin K. Hansen, Fremont, CA
2. “Ina Coolbrith: Niece and Stepdaughter of Prophet Joseph
   Smith and First Poet Laureate of California”
   Camilla Miner Smith, San Francisco, CA
   President of the California Bear Flag Republic”
   Richard K. Behrens, Brentwood, CA

Comments:  E. Leo Lyman, Silver Reef, UT

Session 2B.  Documenting Aspects of Joseph Smith
COMSTOCK II
Chair:  Jeffrey G. Cannon, Church History Department, Church of
   Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1. “The Development of Mormon Record Keeping”
   Robin Scott Jensen, Joseph Smith Papers, Church of Jesus
   Christ of Latter-day Saints
2. “A Friendly Correspondent: James Arlington Bennett’s Relations with Joseph Smith and the Church in Nauvoo”
   Alex D. Smith, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3. “Joseph Smith, Willard Richards, and the Boston Bee”
   Jeffrey O. Johnson, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments:  James B. Allen, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Session 2C.  Comparative Experiences of LDS Men and Women on the American Frontier
COMSTOCK I
Chair:  Karen Ann Griggs, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1. “The Kearny/Fremont Feud and the Mormon Battalion”
   Sherman L. Fleek, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC
2. “Poetry and Songs of the Utah War”
   Kenneth L. Alford, National Defense University, Washington, DC
3. “Replenishing Faith: The Experience of Female Converts on the American Frontier 1820-1860”
   Katherine Sarah Massoth, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Comments:  Susan S. Rugh, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
Session 2D. Designing the Modern Church: Communication and Culture in a Widening World

COMSTOCK III

Chair and Commentator: Philip Barlow, Utah State University, Logan

1. “Annual Tours of the Settlements: The Visible Hand of Brigham Young”
   Brent A. Haslam, Utah State University, Logan

2. “Architectural Integration: Cultural Traditions to National Trends”
   Jami J. Van Huss, Utah State University, Logan

   Kelly Jones, Utah State University, Logan

4. “Picturing a Worldwide Church: Latter-day Messages to Mormons”
   Lafe Conner, Utah State University, Logan

Session 2E. Words of Life: Women’s Oral Histories

SIERRA B

Chair: Connie Lamb, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

1. “Creating an Archive of Southeast Idaho Oral Histories”
   Andrea G. Radke-Moss, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Rexburg

2. “Preserving the Cultural History of LDS Women in the Bahamas”
   Julia Holton Todd, Worthington, OH

   Dave Hall, California State University Fullerton

4. “Making a Difference through Preserving Community History”
   Judy Shell Busk, Richfield, UT

Comments: The Audience

Session 2F. Conflict and Cooperation: The Interrelationship of Religious Traditions

SIERRA A

Chair: Richard G. Oman, Museum of Church History and Art, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. “Murderous Mormons and Meek Methodists—A Study of Attitudes from the Journals of J.D. Gillilan”
   C. Brid Nicholson, Kean University, Union, NJ

2. “Kalaupapa: Uncommon Service on Common Ground”
   Fred E. Woods, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

3. “Benito Juarez and the Mormon Connection of the Nineteenth Century”
   Fernando R. Gomez, Museo de Historia del Mormonismo en Mexico, Mexico, D.F.

Comments: Gary Topping, Roman Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  Concurrent Session III

Session 3A.  Residual Footprints of Early California Mormons, Virtual Tours  
CAM EL LIA ROOM
Chair:  Michael N. Landon, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1.  “From Paper to Podcast and Beyond: Creating a Virtual Experience of the San Francisco Mormon History  
    Walking Tour”
    Miriam A. Smith, San Francisco State University and William E. Homer, San Jose, CA

2.  “San Francisco Bay Area”
    Lila Brin hurst, Fremont, CA

    S. Dennis Holland, Placerville, CA and
    Kathryn Miller Marshall, Woodbridge, CA

Comments:  The Audience

Session 3B.  Images and Experiences of Early Black Mormons  
COM ST OCK I
Chair:  Jessie L. Embry, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1.  “Early Black Mormons and Dilemmas of Identification”
    Patrick Arthur Polk, University of California, Los Angeles

2.  “The Life and Murder of Thomas Coleman, A Mormon Slave”
    Connell O’Donovan, Santa Cruz, CA

3.  “California Law, Slavery, and the Case of Biddy Mason”
    Vickie Hodge, Moorpark, CA

Comments:  Newell G. Bringhurst, Visalia, CA

Session 3C.  Material Culture Studies and Mormon History  
SIERR A A
Chair:  John M. Murphy, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1.  “Nineteenth-Century Mormon Hair Art as Relic”
    Josh E. Probert, University of Delaware/Winterthur Museum, Newark, DE

2.  “Representative Women of Deseret: A Study of Mormon Material Culture”
    Jennifer Reeder, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

    Richard G. Oman, Museum of Church History and Art, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments:  Richard L. Bushman, Columbia University, New York
Session 3D. Adventures in Teaching Mormon History

Chair: Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

1. “Sweetwater Revisited, Sour Notes, and the Ways of Learning”
   John C. Thomas, Brigham Young University–Idaho, Rexburg, ID

2. “An Outsider’s Experience Teaching Mormon History in Utah”
   Mark Edwin Miller, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

3. “Documentary Editing as Epistemological Exercise”
   Steven C. Harper, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Comments: Kathleen Flake, Vanderbilt, University, Nashville, TN

Session 3E. Gathered in Zion and Scattered Abroad: How Social Context Affects Latter-day Saint Religious Vitality

Chair: Patrick Dunshee, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. “Seeking the ‘Second Harvest’: Controlling the Costs of Latter-day Saint Membership in Europe”
   Armand L. Mauss, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

   Rick Phillips, University of North Florida, Jacksonville

Comments: Kahlile B. Mehr, Family History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Session 3F. Courts, Jails, and Temples: Mormons and the Law in the Mid-Nineteenth Century

Chair: Chad O. Foulger, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. “A Change of Venue: Joseph Smith’s Release from Liberty”
   Jeffrey N. Walker, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

2. “Kidnapping at Palestine Grove: Missouri’s Third Attempt to Extradite Joseph Smith”
   Morris A. Thurston, Latham & Watkins; J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

3. “Preaching in the Courthouse and Judging in the Temple”
   Nathan B. Oman, William & Mary Law School, Williamsburg, VA

Comments: John W. Welch, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

This earliest known daguerreotype taken in Sacramento shows the arrival of the Steamboat New World at the Embarcadero in 1850.
Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center

Truckee River near Reno
Courtesy of the Special Collections, University of Nevada-Reno Library
Friday/Saturday May 23/24 2008

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Awards Banquet Martinique Ballroom

9:15 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Leonard J. Arrington Student Reception - Comstock I

Hosted by Keith A. Erekson

Saturday, May 24, 2008

6:30 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. Mormon Women’s History Initiative Breakfast Comstock I & II
This year’s breakfast feature a readers’ theater by Heather Sundahl based on oral histories.

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration Main Lobby

8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Exhibitor Displays Yosemite Room

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Plenary Session - Martinique Ballroom

Session: Obert C. and Grace A. Tanner Lecture

“Letting Go: Understanding Mormon Growth in Africa”
Dr. Philip Jenkins
Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Humanities
Department of History and Religious Studies
Pennsylvania State University

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Session IV

Session 4A. Getting By or Getting Through in the Golden State: The Mormon Presence during California’s First Decade
CAMELLIA ROOM
Chair: Pauline K. Musig, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1. “Documenting the Transformation of the Golden State: Mormons in California in the 1850s”
   Michael N. Landon, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2. “Jefferson Hunt: California’s First Mormon Politician”
   Tom Sutak, Danville, CA
3. “Mormon Trails and Travel Corridors in California”
   Melvin L. Bashore, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments: David L. Bigler, Roseville, CA

Session 4B. Lessons Learned: Mountain Meadows Massacre
COMSTOCK II
Chair: David J. Whitaker, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1. “Historians, Memory, and Digging at the Truth”
   Ronald W. Walker, Salt Lake City, UT
2. “Brigham Young and the Mountain Meadows Massacre”
   Richard E. Turley Jr., Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments: Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Session 4C. On the Banks of the Susquehanna: Joseph Smith and the Setting for Restoration Events at Harmony, Pennsylvania

Chair: Emily Utt, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

   Mark L. Staker, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

2. “Translating the Book of Mormon: Unfolding the Concepts of Covenant and Church”
   Donald L. Enders, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

3. “Remembering Harmony”
   Jennifer L. Lund, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Comments: Larry C. Porter, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Session 4D. What Do We Do Now That ‘New Mormon History’ Is Old?

Facilitators:
Keith Erekson, Indiana University, Bloomington
Rachel Cope, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Discussion and commentary from the audience based on the following readings:

Session 4E. Expanding Perceptions of Mormon Women: LDS Women in an International Context

Chair: Claudia L. Bushman, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

1. “Zion in Asia, Asia in Zion: The Lives of Mormon Women from East and Southeast Asia”
   Melissa Wei-Tsing Inouye, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2. “Finding Common Ground: Understanding Gender and Religion through the Eyes of Muslim Converts to Mormonism”
   Katie Clark Blakesley, Alexandria, VA

Comments: Amy Hoyt, Elk Grove, CA

Session 4F. Four LDS Presidential Candidates: Religion and Politics in the Twenty and Twenty-First Centuries

Chair and Commentator: Thomas G. Alexander, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

   Newell G. Bringhurst, Visalia, California

2. “Mitt Romney and the ‘Mormon Question’”
   Craig L. Foster, Family History Library, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Mormon Bar, North Fork of the American River
Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center
11:45 to 1:15  Annual Membership Luncheon – Martinique Ballroom

Speaker: Ronald E. Romig
The Community of Christ Archivist
“The RLDS on the Pacific Slope”

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  Concurrent Session V

Session 5A. Mormons and the California Gold Rush
CAMERLLA ROOM
Chair: Melvin L. Bashore, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
   E. Leo Lyman, Silver Reef, Utah
2. “Melvin L. Gruwell: California Gold Seeker, Idaho Bishop, Mexican Colonist”
   Jay G. Burrup, West Valley City, UT and Blaine R. Bake, Brigham Young University–Idaho, Rexburg
3. “Rhode Island’s Albert King Thurber: From Gentile 49er to Mormon Gold Mining Missionary”
   William G. Hartley, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Comments: Kenneth N. Owens, University of California, Sacramento

Session 5B. The Forging of Regional, National, and International LDS Identity in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries
SIERRA A
Chair: Alex D. Smith, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
1. “Appropriating the Secular: Mormonism and the World Columbian Exposition of 1893”
   Konden R. Smith, Arizona State University, Tempe
2. “From Theocratic Separatism to Shared Dreams of Global Empire: LDS Political Thought 1890-1925”
   Stuart Parker, University of Toronto, Canada
3. “Joseph F. Merrill and the Seminary Crisis of 1930”
   Casey Paul Griffiths, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Comments: Ethan Yorgason, Brigham Young University–Hawaii, Laie

Session 5C. Text, Narrative, and Religion Making: Three Mormon Examples
COMSTOCK I
Chair and Commentator: J. Spencer Fluhman, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1. “Joseph Smith and Charles Buck: Heresy and the Textual Witness of History”
   Samuel Brown, Salt Lake City, UT
2. “Reconstructing Kirtland: the Prophet Matthew Phillip Gill and the British Reconstitution of the Mormon Foundational Narrative”
   Jacob T. Baker, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA

Nathan Hawk (1823-1910) carried the message of the “gold strike” from Sam Brannan east. Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center

Nathan Hawk (1823-1910) carried the message of the “gold strike” from Sam Brannan east. Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center

City Wharf and Warehouse on Front Street between M and N Streets (ca. 1902). Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center

City Wharf and Warehouse on Front Street between M and N Streets (ca. 1902). Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center
Matthew Bowman, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Session 5D. Joseph Smith the Jurist and the Development of the Church as a Corporation
COMSTOCK III
Chair: Noel A. Carmack, Utah State University, Logan
1. “Joseph Smith the Jurist”
Ryan R. Brady, William and Mary School of Law, Williamsburg, VA
2. “An Evaluation of Joseph Smith’s Use of Legal Authority through Dana v. Brink & A Brief Corporate History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints”
Jesse St. Cyr, William and Mary School of Law, Williamsburg, VA

Comments: Morris A. Thurston, Latham & Watkins, J. Reuben Clark Law School and Joseph I. Bentley, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Session 5E. The Mormons in Asia and the Pacific
SIERRA B
Chair: Susan L. Fales, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
1. “Turning the Key that Unlocked the Door: David O. McKay’s 1921 Apostolic Dedication of the Chinese Realm”
Reid L. Neilson, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
2. “Religious Identity ‘Construction’ among New Zealand Maori Mormons”
Grant Underwood, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
3. “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Indonesia: Challenges and Successes”
Chad F. Emmett, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Comments: Gregory A. Prince, Rockville, MD

Session 5F. Mormon Biography and Autobiography
COMSTOCK II
Chair: Polly Aird, Seattle, WA
1. “The Short Happy Life and Tragic Death of Louie Wells”
Kenneth L. Cannon II, Salt Lake City, UT
2. “Overcoming Odds: George Albert Smith’s Struggles with Physical and Emotional Limitations”
Mary Jane Woodger, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
3. “Wallace Stegner, Leonard Arrington, and the Writing of (A) Biography”
Gary Topping, Roman Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, UT
4. “Awakening a Sleeping Giant: A Personal Odyssey with California Mormon History”
William E. Homer, San Jose, CA

Comments: The Audience
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions VI

Session 6A. Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Mormons and Wars, Mobs, and Millennialism

SIERRA A

Chair: Jeffrey O. Johnson, Church History Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. “Handcarts in Zion: Millennialism and Philanthropy in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints”
   Colleen Marion, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

   Debra J. Marsh, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

3. “Utahns, Mormons, and the Japanese during World War II”
   Ryan Wimmer, Magna, UT

4. “Melissa Burton Coray Kimball: Washing Her Way West”
   Janet Burton Seegmiller, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

Comments: The Audience

Session 6B. California’s Role in the Utah War: The Confrontation as Regional Conflict

SIERRA B

Chair: Edwina Jo Snow, Honolulu, HI

1. “A Second Front for the Utah War: Winfield Scott, California, and the Problematic Pincers Concept”
   William P. MacKinnon, Santa Barbara, CA

2. “Sealing the Borders: The Mormon Return to Utah at the Beginning of the War”
   Ardis E. Parshall, Salt Lake City, UT

3. “Presentation of Winning Entries for Utah War Sesquicentennial Commemoration Poster/Essay Contest”
   Ardis E. Parshall, Salt Lake City, UT

Comments: Richard W. Sadler, Weber State University, Ogden, UT

Session 6C. Comparative “Restoration Movement” Missiology in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

COMSTOCK III

Chair: R. Jean Addams, Woodinville, WA

1. “Patterns of Missionary Work and Emigration in Buckinghamshire, England, 1837-1877”
   Ronald E. Bartholomew, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

   Jason R. Smith, Duncan, OK

3. “Hervey Green: Articulate Convert to the Faith and Eventual President of the Northern California Slope for the RLDS Church”
   Lynn G. Hodge, Moorpark, CA

   Blair G. Van Dyke, Church Educational System, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, UT

Comments: The Audience

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The Sacramento River was an important transportation corridor. In 1852, the harbormaster recorded the arrival of 363 sailing ships and 238 riverboats. Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center
Session 6D. Early Mormon History in Northern California: From Sacramento to San Francisco
CAMELLIA ROOM
Chair: Dylan McDonald, Sacramento Archives & Museum Collection Center
1. “The Influence of the Ship Brooklyn Pioneers on Early Western History and Their Migrations in Zion”
   Richard H. Bullock, Sandy, UT
2. “Mormon Travel on California Steamers, 1849-1857”
   Brandon J. Metcalf, Utah State Archives, Salt Lake City
3. “Defending the Gateway: George Q. Cannon vs. the Sacramento Newspapers”
   Roger Robin Ekins and Helen Leonard Ekins, Butte College, Oroville, CA

Comments: Rick Fish, Utah Valley State College, Orem, UT

Session 6E. Scientific Mormonism: Evolution, Monism, and Mormon Thought
COMSTOCK I
Chair: Tory D. Swim, University of California, Santa Barbara
   Jordan Watkins, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA
2. “Marginal Dialogues: B. H. Roberts’ Reading of Science and Philosophy”
   Stanley J. Thayne, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT
   John Dulin, Whittier, CA

Comments: Matthew Bowman, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Session 6F. Mormons and the Environment
COMSTOCK II
Chair: Debbie Poulsen, California State University, Sacramento
1. “Interrogating Faith: Conviction and Critique in Terry Tempest Williams’ Leap”
   Nancy Menning, University of Iowa, Iowa City
2. “God’s Machinery: Brigham Young and Nature”
   Bryan Wallis, University of Utah, Salt Lake City

Comments: Thomas G. Alexander, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Exhibitors and Book Signing — Yosemite Room
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.    Presidential Banquet — Martinique Ballroom

Paul L. Anderson, Presidential Address
“A Style of Their Own: Transforming Mormon Architecture for California”

9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.      Closing Reception -  Comstock I, II, & III

Coloma’s Emmanuel Church was completed in 1856.
It is the site of Sunday’s devotional.
Courtesy of the Sacramento Archives
and Museum Collection Center
Sunday, May 27, 2008

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  Devotional - Emmanuel Church - Coloma

The Emmanuel Church is located in the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma, one hour from Sacramento.

The devotional will include a readers theater of excerpts from gold rush diaries and journals.

Narrator: John Huntington, an award-winning musical theater artist who lives in California. He is a descendent of Oliver B. Huntington, who was sent by Brigham Young to California in 1857 to call the Saints home to Zion as Johnston’s Army approached Utah.

Reader: Edward Leo Lyman, emeritus professor of History at Victor Valley College, Victorville, California, and award-winning historian. He is a descendent of LDS Apostle Amasa M. Lyman, who led the first Mormon colonists to San Bernadino in 1851.

Reader: Richard Lyman Bushman is Gouverneur Morris Professor of History Emeritus at Columbia University. He was recently appointed the Howard W. Hunter Visiting Professor in Mormon Studies at Claremont University and holds a Huntington Library fellowship in Pasadena. He has published eleven books, received a Bancroft Prize, and the Phi Alpha Theta Award. Dr. Bushman is a descendent from Saints who sailed aboard the Brooklyn and arrived in California in 1846.

Reader: Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Pulitzer-Prize winning historian and Harvard professor. She is a descendent of Hezekiah Thatcher, who left Utah for the gold fields in 1849, returned to Utah a very wealthy man in 1857, and provided much-needed financial support to the LDS Church.

Post-Conference Tour Information
Sunday, May 25, 2008

7:00 a.m.  California Gold Country Tour departs from the Red Lion Hotel

3:00 p.m.  Gold Country Tour buses drop off attendees at the Sacramento International Airport and Red Lion Hotel

MHA ITEMS
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*Journal of Mormon History* DVD, from the first issue in 1971 to the final issue of 2004. This DVD can be purchased for $40.00 at the registration desk.

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SUNSTONE
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The skeleton in Grandpa’s barn, and other stories of growing up in Utah

Stanford J. Layton, Editor

The loft of Grandpa’s barn in Salt Lake City was “off limits,” the trap door padlocked. But for boys like Zack Lund and his cousins, Grandpa might as well have hung out a “welcome” sign inviting them to break in and see what was there. Nevada Driggs remembers growing up in Parowan and hearing that John C. Fremont had slept in her grandma’s bed. Eventually she decided to find out for herself. Fae Decker Dix, also from Parowan, tells about the time her father refused the church’s newly censored version of an old hymn. To her embarrassment, her father belted the hellfire original lyrics to O Ye Mountains High in the presence of a visiting dignitary. All told, this anthology features sixteen stories: some quirky and fun, others informative and serious, but all engaging—nostalgic for when Utah was little more than a wide spot in the road or, as Robert Mikkel- sen suggests in his essay, when both sides of the tracks were the wrong side.
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Those words have guided our organization since 1962. In order to realize our purpose, we offer our members two excellent journals (Western Historical Quarterly and Montana The Magazine of Western History) as well as a newsletter. We also provide several distinguished awards in the field and we hold annual conferences featuring cutting-edge scholarship in a friendly environment. Come and join us!

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2009 Springfield Illinois Conference
Call for Papers
Mormonism and the Land of Lincoln:
Intersections, Crosscurrents, and Dispersions

The forty-fourth annual conference of the Mormon History Association will be held May 21–24, 2009, in Springfield, Illinois, at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel located in the historic center of Springfield. It has been nearly two decades since the last MHA conference was held in Illinois.

The MHA executive board selected Springfield as the location for the conference to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865). Corresponding with this historic anniversary, the theme of the 2009 conference will be “Mormonism and the Land of Lincoln: Intersections, Crosscurrents, and Dispersions,” a theme which encourages studies of Mormonism within broad historical contexts.

In October 1830, the first Mormons passed through Illinois on their way to preach to the Indian tribes west of Missouri. During the 1830s Illinois became a major thoroughfare for Mormons traveling between Missouri and Ohio and other points further east, and as early as 1835 the first branches were established in the state. With the expulsion of the Latter-day Saints from Missouri in 1839, Nauvoo served as the main place of Mormon gathering until 1846. However, by this time, hundreds of Mormons were living in numerous branches established in other counties throughout the state. After the main body of the Church departed under Brigham Young, those Saints who chose to remain look to others for leadership and established Restoration churches and communities which continue to the present.

Place and time connect Mormonism with Lincoln. Significantly, in March 1830, about the time Joseph Smith organized the Church of Christ in New York, twenty-one-year-old Abraham Lincoln settled in Illinois. He then began his political career, first in New Salem and later in Springfield. By 1840, as Nauvoo was rising on the banks of the Mississippi, Lincoln had distinguished himself as a skillful lawyer, a member of the Illinois state legislature, and a leading figure in the state's Whig Party. In addition, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives the month before the last Saints still residing in the City of Joseph were expelled following the “Battle of Nauvoo.”

The 2009 program committee invites interested historians, scholars, and individuals to submit proposals for papers, panel discussions, or presentations for the conference. We especially encourage proposals related to the conference theme. However, proposals on other Mormon topics and themes are also welcome. All proposals must be submitted in electronic format. Proposals should be directed to: Alexander L. Baugh, Associate Professor, Church History and Doctrine, BYU, alex_baugh@byu.edu. Deadline for submission is October 1, 2008. Notification for acceptance or rejection will be made by January 15, 2009. Additional instructions for submitting proposals will be available on the MHA website at http://www.mhahome.org.

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