



# CALIFORNIA ORIGINALS

A Quarterly Newsletter of the California State Archives  
A Division of the Secretary of State's Office  
[www.sos.ca.gov/archives](http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives)

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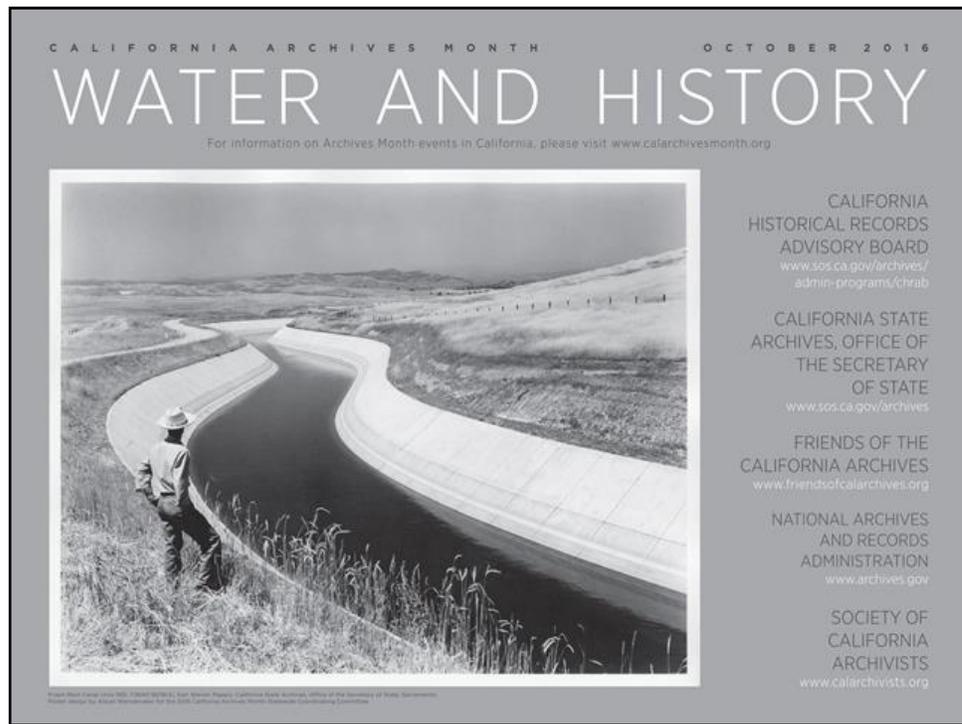
CALIFORNIA  
STATE ARCHIVES

## October is Archives Month!

Come celebrate Archives Month at the sixth annual Sacramento Archives Crawl on Saturday, October 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Public tours, exhibits of historical treasures, and free prizes will be available at the California State Archives, the California State Library, the Center for Sacramento History, and the Sacramento Room of the Sacramento Public Library. This year's theme is "A Thirst for History," and on display at the State Archives will be an assortment of historical trademarks and artifacts relating to beverages. To learn more, visit the [Sacramento Archives Crawl blog](#).



The 2016 California Archives Month poster's theme is "Water and History" and the poster features an image of the Friant-Kern canal in California's Central Valley. Visit the [California Archives Month webpage](#) to download a copy of the poster, to learn about more Archives Month events, and to see other historical California images.

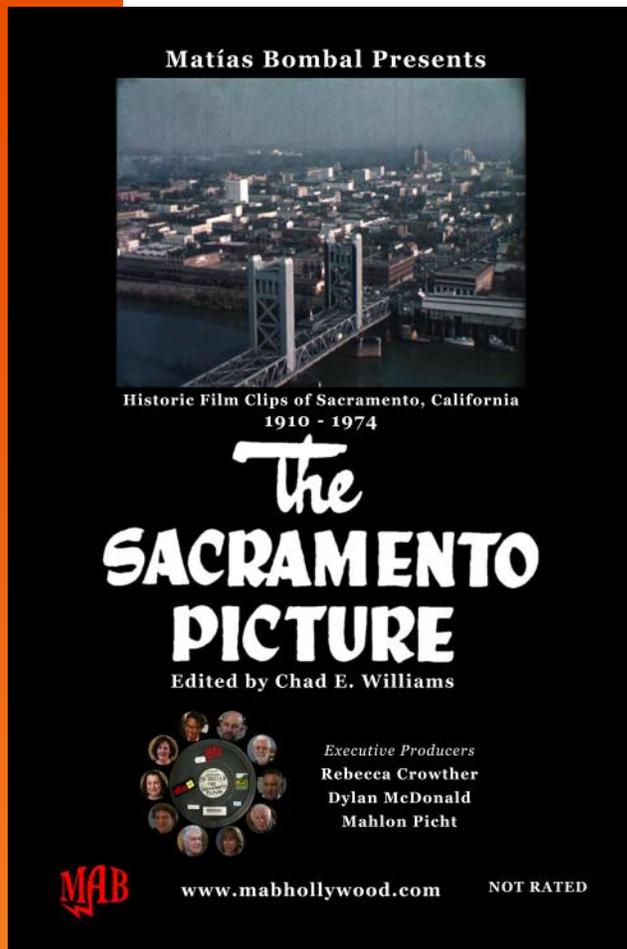


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*Sebastian Nelson and Melissa Tyler,  
Archivists and Archives Month Committee Members*

*"Preserving and Promoting the History of California"*



## 1st Annual Archives Crawl Film Festival

The State Archives, in conjunction with Matias Bombal, is proud to present *The Sacramento Picture* as part of the Annual Archives Crawl at the California State Archives on October 8th, 2016. There will be two showings of the film: 10:30 am and 1:45 pm, with a special introduction by Mr. Bombal himself at the 10:30 screening. The film was made in conjunction with the Center for Sacramento History, using materials the Center digitized through the California Audiovisual Preservation Project and is the centerpiece of the 1st Annual Archives Crawl Film Festival.

To reserve your seats for the 10:30 am showing of the film with Matias Bombal, please use our [Eventbrite page](#). Additional seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the event.

*Chris Garmire, A/V Archivist*



*Questions? Contact us at [ArchivesEvents@sos.ca.gov](mailto:ArchivesEvents@sos.ca.gov)*

## From the State Archivist

I recently attended the 80<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Atlanta, Georgia. I first became a member of the Society while studying archives administration in graduate school and attended my first Society meeting in Chicago in 1986. Attending this year's meeting prompted thoughts on how the archival profession has changed in thirty years. At the 1986 meeting, sessions centered around new computer technologies and what new media and formats would mean for records preservation and control. Other sessions focused on topics such as using simple databases for archives administration, standardizing formats for description of records, and creating finding aids using word processing software rather than typewriters. Now, thirty years later, archivists are routinely collecting, managing, preserving, and providing access to electronic records -- both "born digital" and those digitized from the original paper. A number of electronic resource management systems are now available to manage this vast volume of digital archives and every aspect of the Archives' workflow. Now and as we move forward, the use of cloud storage, the internet, and social media will make archival records readily available to entirely new audiences. With that in mind, please visit and "like" the State Archives' new [Facebook page](#). Watch for news about the Archives and upcoming Archives Month activities on our page.

*Nancy Zimmerman Lenoil*

**CALIFORNIA STATE ARCHIVES**  
The California State Archives is now on Facebook!  
Like us for our latest collection highlights, updates, and events  
@CaliforniaArchives  
Like



## *Staff Favorites - The A/V Corner*



*Screenshots from the Motion Picture Film "Lake Tahoe - A Special Report"*

*From the Records of the Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, Region VI-Lahontan [ID 2007-021]*

The theme for this year's Sacramento Archives Crawl is "A Thirst for History." The scenes pictured above are from a film entitled *Lake Tahoe - A Special Report*. The film, from the records of the Water Resources Control Board - Region VI, is narrated by Governor Ronald Reagan and details the ongoing efforts by both California and Nevada to sustain the quality and the clarity of the waters of Lake Tahoe. The narrative also identifies environmental issues that both states seek to address with long term agreements. The film shows the efforts made to create new pipelines that direct treated wastewater away from the lake. It also discusses the problems of increased siltation and fertilizer runoff due to increased airport, home, casino, and golf course construction.

While the film is undated, it provides enough information to give us clues as to its creation date. References to two recently signed state compacts indicate the film was likely shot about 1969-1970. The compacts outline efforts to deal with land-use planning within the context of environmental concerns around the lake and an agreement between the two states as to appropriation rights of water from Lake Tahoe as well as surrounding water sources.

The state created this film as a way to update people on how it was addressing the environmental issues surrounding Lake Tahoe. It now provides historians and environmentalists with a rich resource from which to analyze the environmental status of the lake, governmental communications with constituencies, and the community's history.

This motion picture film was digitized as part of the State Archives' participation in the ongoing California Audiovisual Preservation Project (CAVPP). CAVPP gathers best archival practices for moving image and sound preservation and establishes low-cost, practical standards to help collecting organizations move from the analog age to the digital age. Access to the digitized audiovisual materials for teaching, research, and study is provided by the [Internet Archive](#).

*Chris Garmire, A/V Archivist*



## Records in the Spotlight

### No Drought in Records

Water is a precious resource and during a prolonged drought, rights to it become even more important. Water is not “owned” by any one person or entity – rather, it is the right to use it that is the issue. California’s convoluted history of water rights makes the issue even murkier.

Water rights in California come from two very different legal approaches: *riparian rights* and *appropriative rights*. The riparian doctrine states that the right to use water belongs to the person whose land borders the body of water. Riparian owners are permitted to make “reasonable use” of this water, provided it does not interfere with the reasonable use by others with riparian rights. The appropriative doctrine states that water rights are determined by priority of “beneficial use”; this means that the first person to use water or divert water for a beneficial use or purpose can acquire individual rights to the water. *Ground water rights* (the “reasonable use” provision that governs other types of water rights also applies to ground water) prevent the unregulated pumping of aquifers. Additionally, there are *reserved rights* (water set aside by the federal government when it reserves land for the public domain) and *pueblo rights* (a municipal right based on Spanish and Mexican law).

The California State Archives houses records that detail many of the legal maneuverings and precedents used to determine who has what rights to water. California Supreme Court records include case files for:

*Irwin v. Phillips* – upheld the doctrine of prior appropriations, “first-in-use, first-in-rights”  
(No. 582, ID no. WPA809; 1855)

*Lux v. Haggin* – determined that appropriative rights are inferior in priority to riparian rights  
(Nos. 8587 and 8588, ID no. WPA26018; 1886)

*Katz v. Walkinshaw* – relative to ground water, held that all overlying landowners have correlative rights to the “safe yield” of an aquifer (LA967; 1903)

*Herminghaus v. Southern California Edison* – stated the doctrine of reasonable use was inapplicable because riparian rights were categorically superior to appropriative rights  
(No. 11630, ID no. WPA25814; 1925)

Some of the cases include transcripts from the lower courts, others contain only the opinion and/or a few briefs.

As reported in a previous issue of *California Originals* (Vol. I, no. 1), the Archives houses the records of the Dept. of Water Resources (DWR). At nearly 2,000 cubic feet of records, the DWR record group is the largest water-related collection in the Archives. In addition to the DWR records, the Archives has records from the Water Rights Board and State Engineer William Hammond Hall, as well as selected formal applications and complaints filed with the Public Utilities Commission, and articles of incorporation/association for many irrigation districts formed over the years.

So, while there is a drought with regard to water, there is no shortage of records!

*Linda Johnson, Archivist*

*Top left: Approach to tunnel number 4, Cuyamaca Water Co. (circa 1915)  
[ID F3725:1612(7)]*

*Lower left: Installation of Stony Creek Movable Dam (undated)  
[ID F3725:792]*

*Photographs from the Records of the Public Utilities Commission*





## Speaker Series



Join us on October 20 at 5:15 pm for our next Speaker Series, co-sponsored by the [Friends of the California Archives](#).

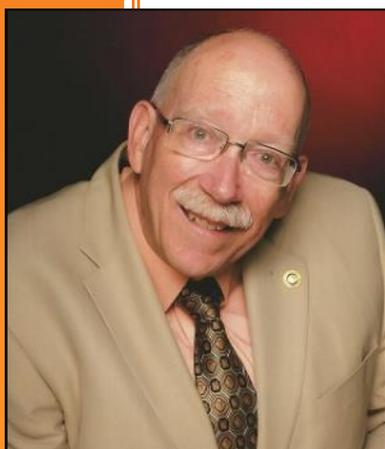
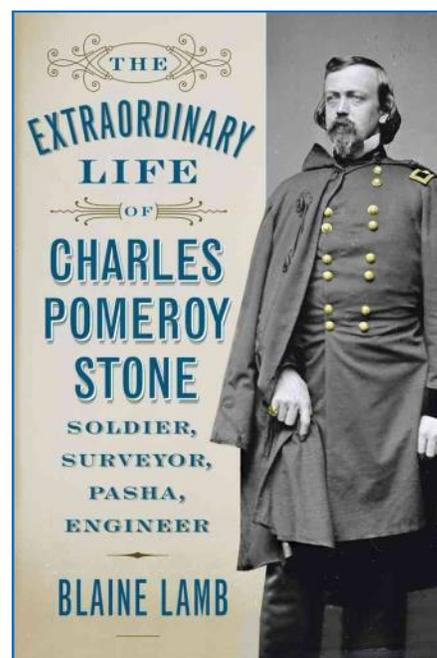
California State Archives  
1020 O Street, 4th Floor, Sacramento

### “Soldier, Surveyor, Pasha, Engineer: Writing an Extraordinary Life”

*presented by Dr. Blaine Lamb*

As the secession crisis came to a head in the winter of 1861, an obscure military engineer, Charles Pomeroy Stone, emerged as the rallying point for the defense of Washington, D.C. He was protector of the president and right hand man of the army’s commanding general. Nevertheless, just a year later, this same hero sat in prison branded as an incompetent soldier and likely traitor.

Readers of Civil War history know Stone best for his disgrace and imprisonment. His story, however, goes far beyond this unfortunate occurrence – all the way from the Halls of the Montezumas to Gold Rush California, and from the pyramids of Egypt to the Statue of Liberty. In his book, *The Extraordinary Life of Charles Pomeroy Stone*, historian Blaine Lamb weaves a narrative of adventure, exploration, war, and intrigue that involves a cast of characters ranging from the dour William Tecumseh Sherman to the flamboyant Ismail the Magnificent. But piecing together this account was not easy, since the protagonist left no collection of letters, diaries, or reminiscences. In his presentation, Dr. Lamb explores Stone’s “Extraordinary Life” and the convoluted, and at times frustrating, path he followed in bringing the story to light.



### *About the Speaker*

A native of San Diego, California, Blaine Lamb obtained his BA and MA degrees in history from the University of San Diego. He then moved to Tempe, Arizona, and entered the doctoral program in history at Arizona State University, receiving his PhD in 1982. Dr. Lamb returned to California and joined staff of the State Railroad Museum as an archivist and later became a senior archivist at the California State Archives. In 2007, he took the position of Chief of the Archaeology, History and Museums Division of California State Parks, where he remained until his retirement in 2012. Since retirement, he completed work on his biography of General Charles Pomeroy Stone, which was published in 2016. In addition to the Stone biography, Dr. Lamb’s publications include articles and reviews in *California History*, *Journal of Arizona History*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Journal of America’s Military Past*, *Journal of the West*, and *Overland Journal*.

***While this is a free event, tickets are required for planning purposes. Click on the ticket to reserve seats (links to the [Archives’ Eventbrite page](#)). If you have questions, please contact us via email at [ArchivesEvents@sos.ca.gov](mailto:ArchivesEvents@sos.ca.gov)***

***The presentation is scheduled to begin at 5:15, at which time the doors will be closed.***

**RESERVE SEATS**



## California Digital Archives

The California Digital Archives highlights exhibits from our 4th Floor Gallery and provides access to digitized records. New content is added regularly, so check in often!



## Upcoming Events

September 30, October 28	Monthly Public Tours of the California State Archives, Sacramento	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/tours/">www.sos.ca.gov/archives/tours/</a>
October 8	6th Annual Sacramento Archives Crawl	<a href="http://www.sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com/">www.sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com/</a>
October 8	1st Annual Archives Crawl Film Festival, featuring "The Sacramento Picture"	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/archives-crawl/">www.sos.ca.gov/archives/archives-crawl/</a>
October 20	Speaker Series with Dr. Blaine Lamb presents "Soldier, Surveyor, Pasha, Engineer: Writing an Extraordinary Life"	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/public-events/">www.sos.ca.gov/archives/public-events/</a>

**California State Archives**  
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Visit us on the web at [www.sos.ca.gov/archives/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/)

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