



3rd Annual Historical Symposium
“HISTORY AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT”

MODERATOR

Marion Mitchell-Wilson, Executive Director, Inlandia Institute

Marion has been in working in public administration and non-profit management for over 35 years to preserve our historic, architectural, cultural and artistic heritage. Her career in literary arts and cultural preservation began in 1974 when she was the Director of Orchard House the National Historic Landmark home of Louisa May Alcott and The Concord School of Philosophy in Massachusetts. Prior to coming to Riverside in 1989, Marion worked in the California Office of Historic Preservation for 14 years, serving as the deputy and acting State Historic Preservation Officer. In 1984, she accepted an adjunct position in the Program in Historic Resource Management (now Public History) at the University of California Riverside. She and her family moved to Riverside's historic Wood Street's when she became a Historic Preservation Redevelopment Project Manager and then the Preservation Officer for the City. After writing the city's first historic preservation element to the general plan and restructuring its venerable historic preservation ordinance and program to meet the federal and state Certified Local Government requirements, she returned to her love of the literary arts as the Fund Development and Cultural Program's Manager for the Riverside Public Library. She left the city on December 19, 2008 and the next day began establishing the Inlandia Institute, a non-profit literary center which was incorporated in June 2009. She continues as its executive director. She has served on the board of the California Preservation Foundation three times and is currently a member of both the Riverside Cultural Consortium and the Heritage Consortium of Inland Southern California. She is also on the Board of the Riverside Land Conservancy and a member of the Riverside East Rotary Club.

InlandiaInstitute.org

SPEAKERS

Betty Leake Bouris, Co-Author, "Images of America", Menifee Valley, CA



"I first saw our beautiful Menifee Valley, in 1947, when I came to Perris as a junior at Perris High School. One of the girls in our class invited me to visit at her house in the country. Following directions, I drove south on Murrieta Road for what seemed endless miles of empty fields, finally came to Newport Road, turned east, and continued to the only house that was visible in any direction. It turned out to be the old Newport Ranch. Driving up the long dirt drive that was bordered on both sides by tall eucalyptus trees, I was surprised to see a very big, impressive, unpainted, frame one-story house that was surrounded by barns and outbuildings. My friend's father was the foreman on the ranch, which had long been vacated by the owner, George Newport. Her family lived in this old house".

Betty's family has farmed in the Menifee Valley for 85 years. She has been a resident of this community since 1950. During this time, she has managed leases and paid rents to 350 land owners in the area as part of her family's farming enterprises. She has been an active member of numerous civic organizations and committees including the Mother's Club, the Antelope/Menifee Women's Club, the Menifee Valley Historical Association, the Sun City / Menifee Community Planning Committee, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and the Menifee Municipal Advisory Council, where she served as Chairman. She presently serves as a member of the General Plan Advisory Council for the City of Menifee. The book "[Images of America, Menifee Valley](#)" by Elinor Martin and Betty Bouris was published in 2006.

Robert Lacoss, Principal, PDS West



Bob Lacoss has over 30 years experience as a land planner, urban designer, recreation planner and landscape architect. An emphasis in all of his work has been creating a sense of place that reflects the character, history and physical setting of the site and region in which each project occurs. His firm, PDS (Planning and Design Solutions) West is recognized for the high quality of its design and accurate and compelling graphic communications.

Bob has received awards from the American Planning Association (APA) for his urban planning work, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) for his urban design work, the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS), for his park and recreation work, and the Pacific Coast Builders Conference (PCBC) for his master planned community work. He taught Landscape Architectural Design for 3 years at the University of Oregon and lectured in the Urban Design and Recreation Departments. Samples of his work can found at www.pds-west.com

Christopher Pardell, Sculptor



“The Great Net” is a fountain for entrance to the Temecula City Hall in Temecula, California. Using a traditional Luiseño basket design, Pardell Design has tied the history of Temecula’s past with its future. The water spillways represent the location of the site where two creeks meet to form one. Much as many cultures have contributed to Temecula’s rich and varied history.

Born in Oakland, California, in 1957, Christopher Pardell has made his living in sculpture and design since the age of 21. His experience and expertise is varied and practical and ranges from a mastery of old world technique, to the cutting edge of modern digital technology as applied to the design and production of art. Long active in supporting and participating in local artist’s communities, Christopher currently has his studio at Art Campus located at the Fallbrook School of the Arts where he employs and trains full time apprentices and regularly collaborates with other local artists on various projects. His clientele ranges from industrial clients, architects, and individual commissions. He also provides skillful assistance to some of the most important names in fine art today.

Christopher strives to expand the scope and impact of his work. Beginning in 2003, Mr. Pardell began to shift his career focus to include larger, public artworks and sculpturally relevant public spaces. He won the first public art commission he ever applied for, with his design for the Veteran’s Monument for the City of Temecula... a distinctively reflective and evocative installation that was very well received by the community. He is currently working on a large commission for a sculptural shade structure for the new Fallbrook Public Library. www.pardelldesign.com

Erin Gettis, Historic Preservation Officer, City of Riverside, CA



Erin Gettis has a BA in Architecture, a Certificate in Historic Preservation and a Master of Architecture, all from the University of Washington. Erin worked as a Project Coordinator and Manager for architectural firms in Seattle, Madison, San Diego and Laguna Hills for 10 years before turning to public service. In those positions she worked on numerous public projects, including the restoration of two State capitols, as well as a variety of preservation and adaptive reuse projects, often serving as in-house preservation specialist. Erin has previously served as the first Historic Preservation Manager for the City of San Juan Capistrano, the Historic Preservation Officer for the County of Riverside and has been the City Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Riverside for over four years. Recently, Erin taught the Historic Preservation practicum in University of California Riverside’s History Department

for a combined 14 years experience in historic preservation related professions. Erin was named to the National Alliance for Preservation Commission’s Board of Directors in 2009. Erin lives in Riverside with her husband and two children in the North Hill Historic District, and designated their home, a 1927 Post- Medieval English revival style house designed by locally renowned architect Henry Jekel, as a City Landmark.

www.riversideca.gov/historic

Keith Herron, Historic Preservation Officer, Riverside County, CA



Keith Herron serves as the Historic Preservation Officer for Riverside County. As an employee with Riverside County Parks, Keith also works with the Park District Interpretive Staff for historic sites and nature centers. Before coming to California three years ago, Keith Herron worked for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency as the Assistant Division Manager for State Historic Sites. Keith attended Eastern Illinois University and has a M.A. in history. He now serves as the Historic Preservation Officer for Riverside County. As an employee with Riverside County Parks, Keith also works with the Park District Interpretive Staff for historic sites and nature centers. In concert with Riverside County Archaeologist, Leslie Mouriquand, Keith reviews development projects for cultural impacts, with Keith’s emphasis being the built environment. The County HPO also works directly with the

Riverside County Historical Commission and its County Landmarks program.

www.riversidecountyparks.org

Dave Stuart, Planning Commissioner, City of Perris, CA

Mr. Stuart currently serves as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Perris, CA. He has been an instrumental force in the historic preservation movement in this city. He is an active member of many civic organizations including the Orange Empire Railway Museum, the Perris Valley Historical & Museum Association, the American Planning Association and the National Space Society.

Mr. Stuart holds a Doctorate of Science in Aerospace Systems from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is fluent in French, is an avid reader, an occasional wind tunnel flyer and a pretty good cook!

www.cityofperris.org/about/history