

2022 CMF CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

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THEME SELECTED FOR 2022 CMF VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

The California Missions Studies Committee of CMF has selected the theme for the 2022 CMF California Missions and Presidios Conference slated for February 18-19 virtually:

“The Advent of Mexican California”

2022 would be the 200th anniversary of California shifting over to being a Mexican Province in 1822. (Mexico’s independence occurred on September 16, 1821, but the new republic and its changes took until 2022 to reach Alta California).

The Committee said that the theme doesn’t rule out other presentations, but a large focus of the conference would be on the changes and events of 2021 and 2022 as Alta California shifted from Spanish governance to Mexican sovereignty.

The theme of *“The Advent of Mexican California”* should be considered broadly. Scholars from various disciplines can explore events leading up to 1821, events in 1822, and events after 1822.

According to CMF Board Member Dr. Glenn Farris, “There are a number of interesting aspects of this, such as: the shift from Mercantile Trade to a Free-trade policy (in which ships from other countries than the Spanish empire could come into the California ports); the arrival of a number of English and American merchants (starting with William Hartnell) who became citizens and landowners in California; the abortive promise raised by the Mexican government of citizenship status of the mission Indians leading to the secularization of the missions; the shift from a mission dominated society to one of land-wealthy rancheros; the development of a Californio society that increasingly chafed at being ruled by Mexico; etc.”

Added CMF Board Member Dr. Robert Hoover: “Mercantilism had begun to crumble in the 1790s under Carlos III, and the Mexican Republic speeded it on its way. The initial year of Mexican independence was under the Emperor Agustin de Iturbide and Alta California seems to have been so much on the fringe that it only felt the change in government policy a year after it occurred under a rapidly changing series of unstable governments of mission tolerant centralists and mission hostile federalists.”

For the 2022 California Missions Conference, the California Missions Foundation's Paper and Publications Committee invites paper and panel

proposals that explore the events of 1821 and 1822 in the mission and presidio lands of California. After millennia of sovereign land occupation by California Indian groups, the Spanish attempted to colonize Alta California beginning in 1769 with the establishment of its first Mission, and continuing with the establishment of its fifth mission at San Luis Obispo in 1722, and ultimately 20 missions and four presidios. The 21st mission at Sonoma was established following Mexico's independence from Spain in 1823.

If you would like to submit a presentation for consideration for the upcoming 2022 California Missions Conference, please send the following via email to Conference@californiamissionsfoundation.org: 1. An abstract of 100 to 200 words. Please Indicate if it is a single presentation (20 min including questions), or a panel session (60 min.) 2. Names of all presenters, affiliation(s), contact information (including e-mail) 3. Audio-visual requirements. Abstracts are due via email by January 5, 2022 to the attention of the California Missions Conference Program Coordinators: conference@californiamissionsfoundation.org.

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