

CGLHS 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Early California Landscapes and Gardens: Romance and Reality October 4-6, Lompoc and La Purisima Concepcion Mission

Selected Bibliography

Mission La Purísima Concepción

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Making Romance and Myth: Charles Fletcher Lummis

As an energetic and eccentric Los Angeles journalist and activist, Charles Lummis wrote of California and the Southwest as distinctive cultures within the nation, shaped by a romantic Spanish and Mexican past and home to traditions, arts and architecture worthy of preservation. He championed the rights of Native Americans and founded the Southwest Society which evolved into the Southwest Museum of the American Indian. To preserve California missions and other historical sites, he founded the Landmarks Club in 1885.

Edwin R. Bingham, *Charles F. Lummis: Editor of the Southwest*. San Marino, Calif.: Huntington Library, 1955.

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Making Romance and Myth: Helen Hunt Jackson's Ramona

Helen Hunt Jackson followed a hard-hitting book on the nation's poor treatment of Native Americans with *Ramona*, the first novel set in Southern California. This fictional treatment of the plight of indigenous Californians was intended, like *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, to stimulate sympathy and raise public consciousness. Ironically, her novel fueled a romanticized view of the post-mission era and launched a "Ramona" tourist boom. California's popularity soared but the civil and land rights of the Indian population did not receive the protection for which she campaigned.

Helen Hunt Jackson. *Ramona. A Story*. Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1884. [Reissued in many editions, including New York: Modern Library, 2005.]

Dydia DeLyser. *Ramona Memories, Tourism and the Shaping of Southern California*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2005.

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Ramona Pageant Association. *Annual Outdoor Pageant-Play Ramona*. Hemet, Calif.: Hemet News, [1928].

Since 1923 the Ramona Pageant, based on Helen Hunt Jackson's novel, has annually been performed in a valley near Hemet in Riverside County. Interrupted only by the Great Depression and World War II, it is the longest running outdoor play in the United States and since 1993 has been California's official State Outdoor Play.

Christopher Reynolds, "On the Trail of 'Ramona," Los Angeles Times (January 11, 2009): Travel L1, L7.

Other Sources

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Dedicated to preserving California Missions and associated historical and cultural resources for the benefit of the pubic, the Foundation dates to 1998. In recent years it merged with the scholarly research group, the California Mission Studies Association.

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