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ALTA CALIFORNIA 250
The Historical AMERICA 250 Edition
www.altacalifornia250.com

The Premiere Edition of Alta California, Touchstone of Architectural Heritage and Native Culture

There has been renewed interest in the legends and mysteries surrounding the founding of Spanish California. As a author previously of five historical works on the subject, my newest release planned for September 2026 commemorates the Alta California 250th anniversary, depicted within a pictorial monograph. The book recounts the many historical experiences of California Native Americans of the eighteenth century and founding days laboring in construction of these mission structures, at the crossroads of California's architectural history and Indigenous culture. Alta California 250, traces back to the monumental structures and first Spanish colonial settlements, marking a significant historical change. The Franciscan mission churches and settlements are completely restored along El Camino Real, on the 600-mile mission trails of California history. Recovered vintage glass plate photographs unveil the historical proportion and size of these immense churches. The descriptions of Native lives and customs are accompanied by the author's annotations documenting Alta California's earliest years of resistance and turbulence.

The premiere of the WPA collection of photographs from the 1920s and 1930s, illustrates the scale and size of the buildings at the intersection of European and California Native culture. The book provides the outline of Alta California's first days in vivid detail describing the Indigenous experience of well-known chieftains. Today's visitors and residents exploring California's coastal harbors and presidios, tour the 24 original landmark settlements nearby. Visitations at all the early Spanish Alta California buildings combined statewide totals millions of trips each year. They step back in time, through the influences of Spanish, Mexican, American, and Native American cultures during an important intersection of history. The founding days of Alta California during the 1770s, presents a significant chapter to the origin story to our present-day cities including, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, and Sonoma. By honoring Native laborers in the tens of thousands founding of Alta California under the Spanish colonial system, an enduring presence represents histories of generational losses to the California Native culture. In recognition of Native freedom fighters of 1776, a particularly relevant event becomes even more appropriate during the 2026 AMERICA 250 commemoration.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss potential partnership opportunities and next steps for editing and publishing this high-quality work. Please visit our flagship website: www.AltaCalifornia250.com for a complete presentation of the proposed book and marketing plan for a successful launch in 2026.

Yours truly,
Robert A. Bellezza
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