

Norris C. Hundley Jr. (1935-)



Norris C. Hundley Jr. served as the 34th President of the Western History Association. Renowned scholar of water rights in the West, Hundley was on the faculty at the University of California at Los Angeles for 30 years. As editor of the *Pacific Historical Review* for almost as long, Hundley has been instrumental in shaping the field of the American West as well as the Pacific Rim.

Born October 26, 1935, in Houston, Texas, Hundley graduated from Mount San Antonio College in 1956 and from Whittier College in 1958. After receiving his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1963, he taught at the University of Houston for a year before returning to UCLA in 1964. In 1994 Hundley retired as emeritus professor of History.

Best known for his scholarship about western water rights, Hundley published *Dividing the Waters: A Century of Controversy between the United States and Mexico* (1966, trans. Spanish, 2000), *Water and the West: The Colorado River Compact and the Politics of Water in the American West* (1975), and *The Great Thirst: Californians and Water, 1770s-1990s* (1992, rev. 2001). He has authored more than a dozen scholarly articles (two of which merited the *Western Historical Quarterly's* Oscar A. Winther Prize) and book chapters and many book reviews. He also edited several collections about ethnicity in the West. His research has been acknowledged by grants from the Ford Foundation Award, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Graduate students and contributors to *Pacific Historical Review* could ask for no better mentor. His superb writing skills make him an excellent editor and his determination to make every paragraph stronger brings out the best in any writer. To honor this commitment, "The Norris and Carol Hundley Award" (conferred annually by the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association) provides a prize for the "most distinguished book" written by a scholar residing in the trans-Mississippi West and western Canada.

Hundley has served on various boards including the executive committees of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association and the Institute of American Culture, and on the editorial board of the California Historical Association. Professor Hundley resides in Santa Barbara, with his wife Carol.

Sources:

"Norris (Cecil) Hundley, Jr.," *Contemporary Authors Online* (Detroit: Gale, 2001); Literature Resource Center, Web. 5 Dec. 2011; http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?action=interpret&id=GALE|H1000048236&v=2.1&u=lom_gvalleysu&it=r&p=LitRC&sw=w&authCount=1

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