

# Agenda Item 7:



## FRIENDS OF THE COWELL LIME WORKS HISTORIC DISTRICT

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ



Lime played a vital role in California history from the Mission era into the early 1900s. As the principal ingredient of mortar, plaster, and stucco, lime was critical to the development of California's cities and towns. Historic lime kilns, quiet reminders of the lime industry, remain standing in many areas of the state, some of them in parks.



Workers preparing to load lime barrels for shipment. (Special Collections, University Library, UC Santa Cruz)

The Friends of the Cowell Lime Works Historic District, UC Santa Cruz, is proud to host the first-ever conference on the history of lime and lime making in California. Profits from the conference will benefit restoration projects in the Historic District, at one time the site of California's largest lime works. The conference is open to anyone interested in California history.

### SPEAKERS AND TOPICS (SATURDAY)

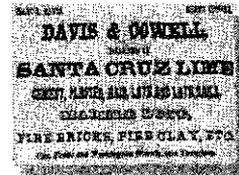
**FRANK PERRY. WELCOME AND BRIEF OVERVIEW OF LIME AND ITS IMPORTANCE.**

**KARIN L. GOETTER. WILLIAM GWYNN AND THE HISTORY OF LIME MAKING IN BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.**

Though not well known today, William Gwynn was a fascinating character and a pioneer California lime manufacturer. Gwynn began his operations in the Sierra foothills during the 1850s, eventually teaming up with his brother-in-law, Henry Holmes.

**SALLY MORGAN. LIFE AT THE LIME KILNS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE COWELL LIME WORKS HISTORIC DISTRICT.**

Recent excavations by archaeologists unearthed a treasure chest of historical artifacts, including farm tools, coins, sea shells, animal bones, and a variety of bottles—even an opium bottle. Combined with oral histories, old newspaper stories, and historical photographs, these artifacts help flesh out what it was like to live and work here in the late 1800s and early 1900s.



**ROBERT W. PIWARZYK. LIME KILN INTERPRETATIONS: PERSPECTIVES FROM A DOCENT/HISTORIAN.** Long-time docent Bob Piwarzyk will share some of his experiences as a tour guide and explain how he has met the challenge of explaining lime and lime kilns to people of all ages. Bob may even introduce us to his alter ego, a lime worker named Emil.

### DATES AND TIMES:

Saturday, August 8th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lectures, exhibits, includes hot lunch and refreshments

Sunday, August 9th, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Field trip, includes Continental breakfast

### LOCATION:

Saturday, Horticulture II building, UC Santa Cruz, Arboretum

Sunday, Carlett House (Women's Center), Cowell Lime Works Historic District, UC Santa Cruz

### HOSTED BY:

Friends of the Cowell Lime Works Historic District, UC Santa Cruz  
<http://limeworks.ucsc.edu/>

### SPONSORS:

Agricultural History Project  
City of Santa Cruz, Historic Preservation Commission  
Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks  
Mountain Parks Foundation  
The Museum of Art & History  
Pajaro Valley Historical Association  
Santa Cruz Archaeological Society

### FEES:

**Saturday & Sunday:** \$60 for members of the host & sponsoring organizations; \$75.00 for non-members (includes lectures, Saturday lunch, Continental breakfast & field trip on Sunday)

**Saturday Only:** \$45 for members of the host & sponsoring organization; \$55 for non-members (includes lectures & lunch)

**Sunday Only:** \$15 for members of the host & sponsoring organization; \$20 for non-members (includes field trip, lectures & Continental breakfast)

### REGISTRATION:

To register please go to:  
<http://limeworks.ucsc.edu/>  
Deadline for registration is July 31, 2009. No refunds after that date.

### ABOUT THE COWELL LIME WORKS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Read the brief history of the Cowell Lime Works and get a copy of our latest newsletter at:  
<http://limeworks.ucsc.edu/>

### EXHIBITS: (SATURDAY ONLY)

PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARTWORK from the book *Lime Kiln Legacies*

PHOTOS of historic California lime kilns by David Dawson

ARTIFACTS from the Cowell Lime Works Historic District



Days & Cowell Lime Works, 1866  
Photo by Lawrence & Houseworth of San Francisco

### TOM SCHREINER. CONTEMPORARY LIME MAKING IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA: CLUES FOR INTERPRETING EARLY-DAY CALIFORNIA KILNS.

In parts of Latin America people continue the tradition of manufacturing lime in stone kilns with wood for fuel. Such methods disappeared in the United States in the early 1900s. Study of these methods today can help us better understand some of the details of how California's historic lime kilns operated.

### FRANK PERRY. THE LIME KILNS OF POGONIP: A CASE STUDY IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

The story of these kilns, including who operated them and when, was nearly lost. Frank will share the detective story of how their surprising history was uncovered through dogged research, luck, and serendipity.

### JULIA G. COSTELLO. LIME PROCESSING AND USE IN SPANISH AND MEXICAN CALIFORNIA.

Lime was essential to the Spanish and Mexicans and was used at all missions, presidios and pueblos. It was not only used in construction but also to process corn and to prepare animal hides for making leather.

### PATRICIA PARAMOURE. HENRY COWELL, LIME BARON OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY: HIS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE.



Courtesy, The Museum of Art & History

Better known today for the state park that bears his name, Henry Cowell was best known in the late 1800s for his lime company. He owned plants in several parts of northern California and in Washington. Through recent investigations, the story of this enigmatic and very private person is slowly coming to light.

### FIELD TRIP (SUNDAY, 9:30-12:30)

Frank Perry will lead a tour of the Cowell Lime Works Historic District and explain how the two kinds of kilns operated, how barrels were made, and how the lime was hauled to market. We'll peek inside the historic workers' cabins and learn the story behind the 1864 Cardiff House from historian Judy Steen. Time permitting, we will then visit two 1850s lime kilns on the upper campus, including a "mystery kiln" about which little is known. Some hiking involved, mostly level, but one steep hill. Meet at Cardiff House (Women's Center).



Cardiff House

PLEASE JOIN US AUGUST 8 & 9 FOR AN INFORMATIVE AND INSIGHTFUL PEEK INTO THIS SIGNIFICANT ERA IN CALIFORNIA AND SANTA CRUZ HISTORY! PLEASE VISIT US AT [HTTP:// LIMWORKS.UCSC.EDU/](http://limeworks.ucsc.edu/) TO SEE HOW WE'RE WORKING TO PRESERVE AND RESTORE THIS HISTORY!