

RESUME

Personal Information

Name: Robert S. McPherson
Address: 1372 Blue Mountain Road
Blanding, Utah 84511
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(435) 678-2201 Ext. 140 (W)

Experience

1965-69 Attended Norwich University, Vermont; graduated with a B.A. English, minor in history.

1969-73 Officer in U.S. Army, Vietnam veteran.

1974-76 Attended Brigham Young University; graduated with an M.A. Humanities (specialized in Native American Studies).

1977 Taught Southwest Indian Humanities for Navajo Community College.

Winter 1978 Guest lecturer at Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, Canada.

1976-77 Curriculum specialist for the Utah Navajo Development Council in Blanding, Utah.

1977-78 Adult Education Supervisor (UNDC)—included administration and supervision of eight learning centers on the Navajo and Ute reservations.

1978 Received Secondary Teaching Certificate as English Instructor for High School.

1978-82 Instructor for College of Eastern Utah - San Juan Campus.

Spring 1981 Part-time consultant for the American Indian Resource Center's work in Kayenta School District.

1983 Received graduate certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language.

June 1982-
April 1985 Doctoral student, Brigham Young University.
Major: United States History
Colonial Latin American History
Minor: Anthropology

Dissertation: The Northern Navajo Frontier, 1860-1900: Expansion Through Adversity

April 1987 Awarded Doctoral Degree from Brigham Young University.

Fall 1985- Instructor for College of Eastern Utah - San Juan Campus.
Fall2002

January 2003- Vice President College of Eastern - San Juan Campus
June 2007

July 2007 Instructor for College of Eastern Utah - San Juan Campus
to present

Publications

Book: Comb Ridge and Its People: The Ethnohistory of a Rock, accepted for publication, Utah State University Press, 2009.

Monograph: Staff Ride Handbook for the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 25-27 June 1876, South Dakota National Guard, December 2007.

Book: Along Navajo Trails: Recollections of a Trader, 1898-1948, co-authored with Susan Woods, published by Utah State University Press, Spring 2005

Book: A Navajo Legacy: The Life and Teachings of John Holiday published by University of Oklahoma Press, Spring 2005.

Book: Navajo Land, Navajo Culture: The Utah Experience in the Twentieth Century, published by University of Oklahoma Press, Fall 2001.

Book: River Flowing from the Sunrise: An Environmental History of the Lower San Juan, co-authored with James Aton, published by Utah State University Press, December 2000.

Book: The Journey of Navajo Oshley: An Autobiography and Life History, published by Utah State University Press, May 2000.

Monograph: Staff Ride Handbook for the Battle of Bear River, 29 January 1863, Utah National Guard, May 2000.

Monograph: Together ... The Building of a Community College, published by College of Eastern Utah--San Juan Campus, October 1997.

Book: A History of San Juan County, In the Palm of Time, published by Utah State Historical Society, November 1995.

Book: Sacred Land, Sacred View: Navajo Perceptions of the Four Corners Region, published by the Charles Redd Center of Western Study, Monograph Series Number 19, Brigham Young University Press, February 1992.

Book: The Northern Navajo Frontier, 1860-1900: Expansion through Adversity, published by the University of New Mexico Press, October 1988; republished by Utah State University Press, Fall 2001.

Chapter: “Naalyehe Ba Hooghan—‘House of Merchandise’: The Navajo Trading Post as an Institution of Cultural Change, 1900-1930,” published in American Nations: Encounters in Indian Country--1850 to the Present by Frederick E. Hoxie, Peter C. Mancall, and James H. Merrell, editors, 2001.

Chapter: “Murder, Mayhem, and Mormons,” co-authored with Thomas Austin in Utah’s Lawless Fringes: Stories of True Crime, published by Signature Books, 2001.

Chapter: “‘He Stood for Us Strongly’: Father H. Baxter Liebler’s Mission to the Navajo,” forthcoming in Episcopalians in the Land of Zion.

Chapter: “Introduction: Native America Revisited,” in A History of Utah’s American Indians, published by the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, November 2000.

Chapter: “Conclusion: From Past to Present and into the Future: The Status of Utah Indians,” in A History of Utah’s American Indians, published by Utah Division of Indian Affairs, November 2000.

Chapter: “It was as if the Land owned Us: A Brief History of the White Mesa Utes of Southeastern Utah,” in A History of Utah’s American Indians, published by Utah Division of Indian Affairs, November 2000.

Chapter: “A Brief History of the Utah Navajos,” in Willow Stories: Utah Navajo Baskets, published by Utah Arts Council, 1996.

Article: “Soldiering in the Corner, Living on the Fringe: Military Operations in Southeastern Utah, 1880-1890,” submitted for review.

Article: “‘Too Much Noise in that Bunch across the River:’ Ba’ál7lee and the 1907 Brawl,” Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 2009.

Article: “Seeing is Believing: The Odyssey of the Pectol Shields,” co-authored with John Fahey, Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 2008.

Article: “The Fight at Soldier Crossing, 1884: Military Considerations in Canyon Country,” Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 2002.

Article: “Cowboys, Indians, and Conflict: The Pinhook Draw--Little Castle Valley Fight, 1881,” Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 2001.

Article: “He Stood for Us Strongly: Father H. Baxter Liebler’s Mission to the Navajo,” American Indian Culture and Research Journal, August 1999.

Article: “Of Papers and Perception: Navajos and Utes in Journalistic Media, 1900-1930,” Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 1999.

Article: "Much Ado About Nothing: The San Juan River Gold Rush, 1892-1893," Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1999.

Article: "Of Metaphors and Learning: Navajo Teachings for Today's Youth," American Indian Quarterly, Fall 1998.

Article: "Navajo Livestock Reduction in Southeastern Utah, 1933-1946: History Repeats Itself," American Indian Quarterly, Winter/Spring 1998.

Article: "Divine Duty: Hannah Sorensen and Midwifery in Southeastern Utah," co-authored with Mary Lou Mueller, Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 1997.

Article: "Poverty, Politics, and Petroleum: The Utah Navajo and the Aneth Oil Field," American Indian Quarterly, Summer 1997.

Article: "Howard R. Antes and the Navajo Faith Mission: Evangelist of Southeastern Utah," Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1997.

Article: "Soldiers, Savers, Slackers and Spies: Southeastern Utah's Response to World War I," co-authored with Marcia Black, Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1995.

Article: "From Dezba to 'John': The Changing Role of Navajo Women in Southeastern Utah," American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Fall 1994.

Entries: Thirteen articles published in Utah History Encyclopedia, by Utah Centennial Committee, 1994.

Article: "From Dezba to 'John': The Changing Role of Navajo Women in Southeastern Utah," accepted for publication in 7th Annual Navajo Studies Conference Proceeding, Navajo Community College Press, pending.

Article: "Naalye'he' Ba Hooghan—'House of Merchandise': Navajo Trading Posts as an Institution of Cultural Change, 1900-1930," American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Winter 1992.

Report: "History of the Montezuma Creek-Aneth Region" in Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluative Testing Along SR-62 Utah-Colorado State Line in Montezuma Creek, Navajo Nation Lands, San Juan County, Utah by Mark C. Bond, William E. Davis, Winston B. Hurst and Deborah Westfall (Bluff: Abajo Archaeology, 1992).

Article: "Canyons, Cows and Conflict: A Native American History of Montezuma Canyon," Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 1992.

Article: "Teaching Social Sciences in Southeastern Utah," Focus, October 1991.

Article: "Sacred Land, Sacred Views: Navajo Thoughts of Canyon Country," From the Canyons, Summer 1990.

Article: "The Influenza Epidemic of 1918: A Cultural Response," Utah Historical Quarterly, Spring 1990.

Article: "'Practically Free from the Taint of the Bootlegger': A Closer Look at Prohibition in Southeastern Utah," co-authored with Jody Bailey, Utah Historical Quarterly, Spring 1989.

Article: "Boundaries, Bonanzas and Bickering - Northern Navajo Frontier," New Mexico Historical Review, April 1987.

Article: "Murder, Mayhem and Mormons," co-authored with Thomas Austin, Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1987.

Article: "Navajos, Mormons, and Henry L. Mitchell," Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1987.

Article: "Ricos and Pobres: Wealth Distribution on the Navajo Reservation in 1915," New Mexico Historical Review, Fall 1985.

Article: "Paiute Posey and the Last White Uprising," Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 1985.

Informational Calendar: for Salt River Project, Phoenix, 1987.

Reviews

Review: Patterns of Exchange: Navajo Weavers and Traders published in Utah Historical Quarterly, forthcoming.

Review: Wolfkiller: Wisdom from a Nineteenth-Century Navajo Shepherd published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Spring 2008.

Review: Reclaiming Diné History: The Legacies of Navajo Chief Manuelito and Juanita published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 2008.

Review: The Navajo People and Uranium Mining published in American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Fall 2008.

Review: Working the Navajo Way: Labor and Culture in the Twentieth Century published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 2006.

Review: Ordeal of Change: The Southern Utes and Their Neighbors published in American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Spring 2005.

Review: The Anguish of Snails: Native American Folklore in the West published

in Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 2004.

Review: Legacy: History of the Utah National Guard published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 2004.

Review: Diné: A History of the Navajos published in Montana: The Magazine of Western History, Spring 2003.

Review: Navajo Trading: The End of an Era published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Spring 2002.

Review: Kit Carson and the Indians published in Great Plains Quarterly, Winter 2002.

Review: Navajo Places: History, Legend, and Landscape published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 2000.

Review: Rainbow Bridge: An Illustrated History published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Spring 2000.

Review: On the Padre's Trail published in American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Spring 2000.

Review: In the Beginning: The Navajo Genesis published in Pacific Historical Review, November 1999.

Review: Glen Canyon and the San Juan Country published in Pacific Historical Review, May 1999.

Review: White Man's Medicine published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 1998.

Review: Kit Carson: Indian Fighter or Indian Killer published in Great Plains Quarterly, Spring, 1998.

Review: Corbett Mack: The Life of a Northern Paiute, published in American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Winter, 1998.

Review: Chiefs, Agents and Soldiers: Conflict on the Navajo Frontier, 1868-1882 published in Western Historical Quarterly, Summer 1995.

Review: Manitou: The Sacred Landscape of New England's Native Civilization published in Forest and Conservation History, January 1994.

Review: One House, One Voice, One Heart: Native American Education at the Santa Fe Indian School published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 1991.

Review: New Hope for the Indians: The Grant Peace Policy and the Navajos in

the 1870s published in New Mexico Historical Review, July 1991.

Review: To No Privileged Class: The Rationalization of Homesteading and Rural Life in Early Twentieth-Century American West published in New Mexico Historical Review, April 1990.

Review: Stokes Carson: Twentieth Century Trading on the Navajo Reservation published in New Mexico Historical Review, January 1988.

Review: Navajo Trader published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Summer 1987.

Review: A History of the Navajo published in Western Historical Quarterly, July 1987.

Review: Navajo Land Use and Between Sacred Mountains published in Journal of Forest History, July 1987.

Review: A Zuni Atlas published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Fall 1986.

Review: Between Sacred Mountains published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Winter 1985.

Papers and Presentations

Address: "The Fight at Soldier Crossing," Utah Military Heritage Conference, October 2002

Speakers Bureau: Utah Humanities Council, 2000-2001

Address: "Of Metaphors and Learning: Navajo Teachings for Today's Youth," Seventh Annual Heritage Language Conference, April 2001.

Address: "Little Known Names of Well-known Places: John Holiday Speaks," Utah Humanities Council (Blanding and Monument Valley), November 2000.

Address: "An Outsider's View of Inside: Writing Navajo Life History," Great Salt Lake Book Festival, September 2000.

Address: "He Stood for Us Strongly: Father H. Baxter Liebler's Mission to the Navajo," Navajo Studies Conference, September 2000.

Address: "Seeing as Believing: Navajo and Anglo Perception of Tourism in Southeastern Utah, 1910-1990," Navajo Studies Conference, October 1998.

Address: "Navajo Perception of the Anasazi," Anthropology Department Weber State University, May, 1997.

Address: "Navajo Sacred Geography," Crow Canyon Archaeological Field

School, April, 1997.

Address: Guest Speaker at three events, North Carolina State University, April, 1997.

Address: "Teaching and Learning in Navajo Life History Research," Navajo Studies Conference, April 1997.

Address: "Learning of the People," Utah State University, October 1996.

Address: "Indians Playing Indians," Navajo Studies Conference, April 1996.

Speaker's Bureau: "Indians Playing Indians: Navajos and the Film Industry in Monument Valley," Utah Humanities Council, 1995-96.

Address: "Ute History," Crow Canyon Archaeological Field School, September 1995, 1996.

Address: "Digging the Bones of Ye'iiitsoh: Navajos in the Uranium Industry of Southeastern Utah," Utah Humanities Council, May and June 1994.

Address: "Navajo Sacred Geography of Southeastern Utah," Crow Canyon Archaeological Field School, May 1994.

Address: "Indians Playing Indians: Navajos and the Film Industry in Monument Valley, 1938-64," Utah Humanities Council, April 1994 (twice).

Address: "Common Ground for Uncommon People: Writing Holistic Local History," Utah State History Convention, October 1993.

Address: "Navajo Women - Their Own Story," Navajo Studies Conference, October 1993.

Address: "Learning of the People," Southern Utah University, April 1993.

Address: "Man and the Environment," LDS Public Information Series, November 1992.

Address: "Red, White, and Yellow: Navajos and Utes in the Journalistic Media, 1900-1930," Utah State Historical Society, Edge of the Cedars Museum, and Utah Statewide Archaeological Society, in January, March and April 1992.

Address: "Traditional Navajo Deer Hunting," Navajo Studies Conference, March 1992.

Address: "The Chidi and Flying Metal Come to the Navajo: Thoughts concerning Technology and Culture Change," Utah Humanities Council, October 1991 and January 1992.

Address: "Learning of the People--Older Navajo Women Speak," Utah State Historical Society, Edge of the Cedars Museum, Utah Statewide Archaeological Society, and Brigham Young University, in November and December 1991, March and April 1992.

Address: "Julius Caesar: His Life and Times," Utah Humanities Council, Blanding, March 1991.

Address: "'Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood'--Teaching Social Sciences in Rural Utah," Community College Conference, April 1991.

Address: Navajo History and Culture teacher inservice, Moab School District, September 1991.

Address: "Navajo Use of Anasazi Sites," Pecos Conference, August 1990.

Speaker's Bureau: "Navajo Sacred Geography" and "Navajo Perception of the Anasazi," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, January 1, 1989 to April 29, 1992 (20 presentations).

Address: "Role of Trading and Trading Posts in Navajo Cultural Interaction," Navajo American Culture Symposium, Sponsored by Redd Center for Western Studies, May 1990.

Address: "Navajo and Ute Relations, 1857-70," Navajo Studies Conference, October 1989.

Address: "A Native American History of Montezuma Canyon, 1860-1933," Edge of the Cedars Museum, October 1989.

Interpretive Tour: Four day lecture series on Navajo History and Culture, Four Corners School of Outdoor Recreation, July 1989; again in August 1990.

Address: "Navajo Sacred Geography," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, April 1989; again at Anasazi Heritage Center, Colorado, June 1989.

Address: "Posey: Man, Myth or Martyr," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, Blanding, March 18; and again, Colorado Historical Society, July 11, 1989.

Address: "Navajo Perception of the Anasazi," Navajo Studies Conference, November 1988.

Address: Lecture/discussion leader for "Way to Rainy Mountain," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, September 1988.

Address: "Navajo Perception of the Anasazi," University of Colorado, July 1988.

Address: "Weave of Time" (film discussion), Utah Endowment for the Humanities, May 1988.

Address: "Mormon Expansion in Southern Utah," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, April 1988.

Address: "Navajo Culture and Sacred Geography," Members of the Royal Geographic Society, April 1988.

Address: "Navajo Religious/Medicinal Practices," in-service workshop for San Juan County Hospital staff, April 1988.

Address: "Early Trading Posts along the San Juan River," Utah Endowment for the Humanities, September 1987.

Address: "Monster Slayer Meets the Mormons," Navajo Studies Conference, February 1987.

Address: "Monster Slayer Meets the Mormons," Arizona Historical Society, May 1987.

Address: "Changing Role of Navajo Women," Interagency Committee Utah Division of Social Services, December 1986.

Address: "Navajos, Mormons, and H.L. Mitchell," Utah State Historical Society, August 1986.

Address: "Changing Role of Navajo Women," CEU Women's Resource Center, April 1986.

Address: "Navajo Sacred Geography and History," White Mesa Institute in conjunction with the Denver Museum of Natural History, April 1986.

Address: "Navajos, Utes, and the Paiute Connection," Navajo Studies Conference, February 1986.

Address: "Navajos and Utes in Southeastern Utah," anthropology staff and faculty of Nancy Patterson Project, Summer 1986; again in 1986.

Address: "Mormon/Navajo Relations in San Juan County During the 1880s," Mormon History Association, Spring 1984.

Projects and Recognition

Contract: White Mesa Ute Council to write the tribal history of members in southeastern Utah.

Contract: University of Colorado—Boulder to write the ethnohistory of Comb Ridge as part of a five year project.

Appointment: Member of Utah State History Board, 2007-2011.

Award: Delmont R. Oswald Research Fellowship, 2007-2008 by Utah Humanities Council.

Award: Dale L. Morgan Award for best scholarly article in the Utah Historical Quarterly for 2001—“Cowboys, Indians, and Conflict: The Pinhook Draw--Little Castle Valley Fight, 1881,” co-author Rusty Salmon.

Award: Finalist in Utah Center for the Book Award for River Flowing from the Sunrise, November 2001.

Award: Norris and Carol Hundley Award of Pacific Coast Branch of the American History Association for River Flowing from the Sunrise, co-author Jim Aton, Fall 2001.

Award: Evans Handcart Award for best biography given for The Journey of Navajo Oshley: An Autobiography and Life History by the Mountain West Center (Utah State University), April 2001.

Award: Best Article about Utah Not Published in the Utah Historical Quarterly presented by Utah State Historical Society, August 2000.

Seminar: Attended West Point Summer Seminar in Military History, 1-27 June 2000.

Proposal: “John Holiday: The Making of a Medicine Man,” research funded by the Utah Humanities Council, 1999.

Proposal: Utes and Navajos in the Twentieth Century, research funded by the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, 1999.

Proposal: “Navajo Mountain, Navajo Lands: Facing Diversity in the Twentieth Century,” research funded by the Utah Humanities Council, 1993.

Award: Utah Humanities Council Merit Award for lecture series – “Learning of the People,” November 1992.

Proposal: “Learning of the People,” research funded by Utah Humanities Council, 1991.

Proposal: Research funds for writing history of San Juan County, County Commission, 1991.

Award: Utah Humanities Council, Research Fellowship, 1991.

“Looking Around Corners: Navajo/Ute Perception of S.E. Utah,” research funded by Utah Humanities Council, 1991.

Award: Certificate of Commendation for Blue Mountain Shadows Publication from the American Association for State and Local History, Fall 1990.

Proposal: “The Weeminuche Band of Southern Utes: An Interpretive History,” research funded by National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Association for State and Local History, Fall 1988.

Editor of Blue Mountain Shadows Volumes 1-6, 8, 10, 17, 22, 1988-2000.

Award: Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award, CEU-San Juan Campus, Spring 1988.

Scholar-in-Residence, Blue Mountain Shadows Oral History Project funded by Utah Endowment for the Humanities, Summer 1987.

Editorial Board: Utah Historical Quarterly, appointed for period 1987-90; reappointed 1990-93; reappointed 1993-96; reappointed 1996-99; reappointed 1999-2001; reappointed 2001-2004; reappointed 2005-2007.

Reader: Utah Historical Quarterly, New Mexico Historical Review, Journal of Forest History, Western Historical Quarterly and American Indian Culture and Research Journal, American Indian Quarterly, Pacific Historical Review provided articles to review for publication, 1986 to present.

President: Academic Affairs Committee for San Juan Campus, elected for 1986-88 school years.

Proposal: “Navajo Women: Their Own Story,” research funded by the Women=s Research Institute, Fall 1985.

Award: Russell B. Swenson Best Graduate Student in History Award, Winter 1985.

Award: William J. Snow Award for the best graduate paper in Western History, Winter 1985.

Proposal: Funded to write a history of the Utes and Navajos in Montezuma Canyon for the Nancy Patterson Village Consortium, starting Summer 1985.

Award: First Place in BYU Anthropology Dept. “Best Papers Contest 1983-84,” Spring, 1984.

Award: William J. Snow Research Award, Spring 1984.

Proposal: "The Changing Role of Navajo Women," research funded by the Associated Students of BYU, Winter 1984.

Proposal: "The Changing Role of Navajo Women," research funded by the Women's Research Institute, Winter 1984.

Award: Helen Carter Warr Award, Spring 1983.

Project Proposal for Title IV Part C
UTAH NAVAJO ADULT LEARNING CENTERS
Funded-\$102,000, Winter 1977.

Professional Association

Editorial Board Utah Historical Quarterly 1987 to present
Member: Epsilon Tau Sigma, Norwich University 1966-69
Member: Phi Alpha Theta, Brigham Young University 1984-85
Member: Phi Kappa Phi, Brigham Young University 1986-87
Member: Utah State Historical Society 1984-2007
Member: Western History Association 1985-89
Member: Organization of American History 1987-94
Member: Military Heritage Council, 2002