



Testimonios: Early California through the Eyes of Women, 1815–1848

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When in the early 1870s historian Hubert Howe Bancroft sent interviewers out to gather oral histories from the pre-statehood gentry of California, he didn't count on one thing: the women. When the men weren't available, the interviewers collected the stories of the women of the household—sometimes almost as an afterthought. These interviews were eventually archived at the University of California, though many were all but forgotten. *Testimonios* presents thirteen women's firsthand accounts from the days when California was part of Spain and Mexico. Having lived through the gold rush and seen their country change so drastically, these women understood the need to tell the full story of the people and the places that were their California.

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Review

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“[Beebe and Senkewicz’s] combination of linguistic excellence and historical context has produced the best translations of important manuscripts from original documents recorded in provincial eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Spanish.”—

Reviews in American History

From the Publisher

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Robert M. Senkewicz is Professor of History at Santa Clara University. Together they have authored and edited numerous books, including *The History of Alta California: A Memoir of Mexican California*; *Lands of Promise and Despair: Chronicles of Early California, 1535–1846*; *Testimonios: Early California through the Eyes of Women, 1815–1848*; and “*To Toil in That Vineyard of the Lord*”: *Contemporary Scholarship on Junípero Serra*.

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