

2010 GOVERNOR'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

Chris Brewer



Chris Brewer at the Exeter Museum opening in 2008

Chris Brewer is a writer, publisher, and served as an architectural historian with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Central Region, involved in the planning of major highway projects in the San Joaquin Valley. Over the years, Mr. Brewer has been involved with numerous projects to preserve historic resources, both in his capacity as a private citizen and through his work with Caltrans. He owns and operates Bear State Books, publishing books on California history; he has himself authored numerous articles as well as several books, including photographic albums of local history. Bear State Books, in conjunction with Coyote Press, reissued the expanded version of *Handbook of Yokuts Indians*, by Frank Latta, originally published in 1977 and considered one of the most thorough studies of the Yokuts culture.

In 2004, Mr. Brewer began a personal quest to design and stock a history museum in the City of Exeter, California. Not only was he responsible for the design of the museum, he also provided the majority of the museum's artifacts and collections from his personal historical archives. The museum opened its doors in 2008 in the city's historic 1913 Southern California Edison building.

In addition to his museum and publishing work, Chris Brewer operates an archive of California and local historical material rivaling the special collections of larger public libraries. For Chris it is all about sharing the love and importance of history with others.

Learn more about Chris Brewer and the Exeter Historical Museum:

<http://www.thesungazette.com/article/news/2008/05/28/exeter-historical-museum-opens-its-doors-on-june-1/>