

# California Spanish/Mexican Land Grants and the U.S. Homestead Act

- ◆ **Introduction**

- ◆ **California Original Inhabitants**

  - Pre-contact lifestyle and land use concepts

  - European post contact changes

- ◆ **Spanish Era 1776-1821**

  - Mission Control

  - Early settlements

  - Lifestyle, challenges and conflicts

  - Land Grant motivation and approval process

  - Foreign trade, commerce and challenges

- ◆ **Mexican Era 1821-1846**

  - Local Land Grants and key Grantees

  - Culture, political and immigration changes

  - Financial burdens

- ◆ **Gold Rush Era Impact-1848**

  - Economic, political, cultural issues

- ◆ **USA Control 1846-1862**

  - Population, Immigrants, financial

  - Legal Grant patent/validation process

- ◆ **Civil War 1861-1865**

  - Financial Needs and benefits

  - Political split and military problems

- ◆ **USA Homestead Act of 1862**

  - Qualification and benefit process

  - Cultural, economic, and immigration impact

**Mark Davidson, SAR**  
**California Heritage Art**

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