



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Additional photos available upon request

PRESS CONTACT

Christa Clark Jones

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

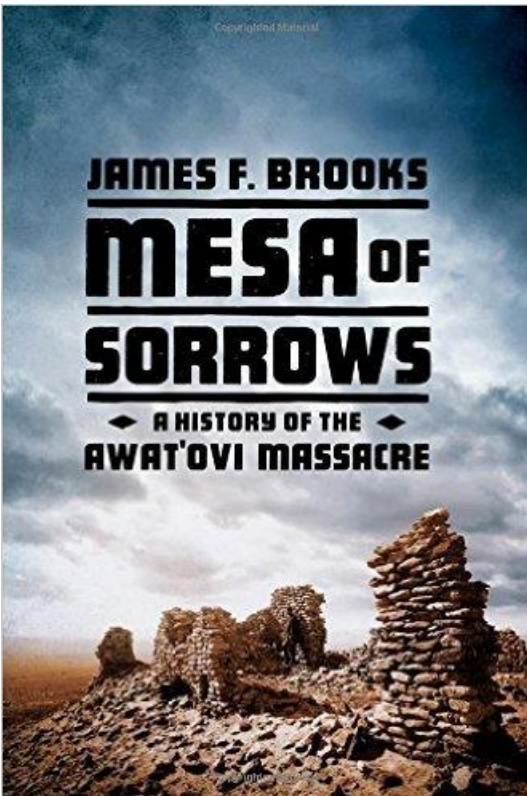
Tel: (805) 966-1279 Fax: (805) 568-1999

E-mail: christa@sbthp.org Website: www.sbthp.org

Blog: sbthp.wordpress.com Facebook: [facebook.com/SBTHP](https://www.facebook.com/SBTHP) Twitter: twitter.com/SBTHP

Mesa of Sorrows: A History of the Awat'ovi Massacre

Lecture by Professor James Brooks



(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) and UCSB History Associates are pleased to present *Mesa of Sorrows: A History of the Awat'ovi Massacre*, a lecture by professor James Brooks on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alhecama Theatre (914 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara).

The Hopi community of Awat'ovi existed peacefully on Arizona's Antelope Mesa for generations until one bleak morning in the fall of 1700 when raiders from nearby Hopi villages descended on Awat'ovi, slaughtering their neighboring men, women, and children. The easternmost town on Antelope Mesa, Awat'ovi was renowned for its martial strength, and had been the gateway to the entire Hopi landscape for centuries. Why did kinsmen target it for destruction? Drawing on oral traditions, archival accounts, and extensive archaeological research, James Brooks unravels the story and its significance. *Mesa of Sorrows* follows the pattern of an archaeological expedition, uncovering layer after layer of evidence and theories. Brooks offers insight into why some were spared--women, mostly, and taken captive--

-and others sacrificed. He argues that a perfect storm of internal and external crises revitalized an ancient cycle of ritual bloodshed and purification.



Dr. James F. Brooks is currently a Professor of History and Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara and Director of the Public History Program at UCSB. He is a specialist in the history of the Southwestern Borderlands and is the author of *Captives and Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands* (2002), which won many awards, including the Frederick Jackson Turner Award (Organization of American Historians), the Bancroft Prize (Columbia University), the Francis Parkman Prize (Society of American Historians), and the W. Turrentine Jackson Award (Western History Association). He received his PhD at the University of California, Davis in 1995. After

holding professorial appointments at the University of Maryland, College Park and UC Santa Barbara he served as President of the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico (2005-2013). He recently completed a ten year term as trustee, three as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Western National Parks Association, which supports research, preservation, and education in 67 National Parks, including Chaco Culture National Historical Park and Channel Islands National Park. Brooks is also a member of the Board of Directors at both the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation and Santa Bárbara Mission Archive-Library.

CALENDAR LISTING

Mesa of Sorrows: A History of the Awat'ovi Massacre

Lecture by Professor James Brooks

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Alhecama Theatre, 914 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Cost: \$10 Admission Non-Members; UCSB History Associates and SBTHP Members Free

####

ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)— For over fifty years the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) has worked to *protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County*. Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park—Santa Barbara's 18th century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks. The State has purchased the building that housed Jimmy's Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara's Asian American community in the Presidio Neighborhood. SBTHP owns and operates Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s

home of Presidio *Comandante* José de la Guerra and his family—the restored home is now a museum featuring original furnishings and rotating exhibits. In 2009, SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to manage and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. In 2011, SBTHP was awarded the Trustees' Emeritus Award for Excellence in the Stewardship of Historic Sites by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County's distinctive history. **Learn more at www.sbthp.org.**

ABOUT UCSB History Associates— The UCSB History Associates was created in 1987 with the dual purpose of bringing members of the community interested in history together with UCSB faculty through an annual program of lunches and lectures, and raising money to support graduate training in History at UCSB.