

Community Research Service Learning  
VPA 317S  
Spring 2001 Semester

Professor Stephanie A. Johnson  
Institute for Visual & Public Art  
California State University Monterey Bay

### ASSIGNMENT 5: Regional and Organizational History

Working in the same teams as you used for the Mapping Assignment, please research the following material:

#### History

Research the history of your assigned city:

- Who “founded” it? When? How?
- Who were the people who lived in the area prior to the “founding”? What, if any, traces of that culture remain in the city?
- What are some of the significant historical dates associated with your city?

#### Recent Demographics

- What are the ethnic, age, and class breakdown of your city by percentage?
- Where does each of these groups live? Is the city ethnically or economically segregated?
- What is the percentage of youth in your city?
- Where do the youth “hang out”?
- What art activities are provided by the city?
- How does your community service organization fit into the picture in terms of its location and the population it serves?

#### Interviews

Interview six people in your city. Identify three people who are over the age of sixty, and three people who are under the age of twenty. As a group, create a set of questions that will fill in some of the information you have not gotten from your statistical research. Make certain that these six people represent diversity in regards to ethnicity, gender, and class. Be creative and sincere.

You will give a presentation of your findings to the class and turn in a written report. Use readings, exercises, and other class materials for reference. Present slides, photos, readings, or newspaper articles as needed to give us a full picture of the city you are researching.