

## Nomination for Lifetime Achievement Award, Society for California Archaeology

Submitted by Rebecca Allen

More than any other researcher that I know, Dr. Kent G. Lightfoot eloquently works to frame archaeology as an anthropological field of study. At our best, if archaeologists look at ourselves from the inside out, we seem to accomplish the most when we behave as anthropologists working to study the past. The past's influence on the present should always be at our research forefront, and Kent's ability to teach that concept as well as his ability to bring the past to life make him very worthy of the David A. Fredrickson Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Dr. Lightfoot's published works emphasize the involvement of community in archaeology, brush broad pictures of human behavior and patterns over time, and connects humans with the environment in ways that make other scholars reassess their knowledge of the landscape of California. Since joining the faculty in the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Lightfoot's research has emphasized the collaboration of working with Native Americans in the greater San Francisco Bay Area to bring the past to light, and to make it relevant to today's indigenous populations and archaeologists. Kent also writes well, with an engaging voice that captures the general public's attention. Even former Governor Jerry Brown is a fan of Kent's research and storytelling abilities.

Kent's book publications on California summarize the breadth of his research, while bringing depth to the San Francisco region (it would be far too long a nomination to also list his articles):

- with Thomas Wake and Ann Schiff, *The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Fort Ross, California, Volume 1. Introduction*. Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Research Facility No. 49, 1991
- with Thomas Wake and Ann Schiff (editors), *The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Fort Ross, California. Volume 2, The Native Alaskan Neighborhood: A Multiethnic Community at Colony Ross*. Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Research Facility No. 55, 1997. And more in this series!
- *Indians, Missionaries, and Merchants: The Legacy of Colonial Encounters on the California Frontiers*. University of California Press, Berkeley.
- with McManamon, Francis (General Editor), Linda S. Cordell, and George Milner (Editorial Board), *Archaeology in America: An Encyclopedia. Volume 1: Northeast and Southeast. Volume 2: Midwest and Great Plains/Rocky Mountains. Volume 3: Southwest and Great Basin/Plateau. Volume 4: West Coast and Arctic/Subarctic*. Greenwood Press, Santa Barbara, California, 2009.
- with Otis Parrish, *California Indians and their Environment: An Introduction*. University of California Press, Berkeley, 2009.
- with Sara L. Gonzalez, *Metini Village: An Archaeological Study of Sustained Colonialism. Volume 3, The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Fort Ross, California*. Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Facility Archaeological Research Facility, Berkeley, California, in press.

Dr. Lightfoot's is well-known for his graduate students, many of whom are Native American, and their proliferation across California's and the west coast's academic landscape. As I compiled this list, I realize what an impressive group Kent has coached, influenced, and importantly, sent on their way to do impressive research. California archaeology is richer because Kent taught:

- Dr. Rob Cuthrell, Post Graduate Fellow of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley
- Dr. Sara Gonzalez, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Washington
- Dr. Kathleen Hull, Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Merced

- Dr. Antoinette Martinez, Professor of Anthropology Emeritus, California State University, Chico
- Dr. Peter Nelson, Assistant Professor of American Indian Studies, San Diego State University
- Dr. Lee Panich, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Santa Clara University
- Dr. Tsim Schneider, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz
- Dr. Stephen Silliman, Professor of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- Dr. Chuck Striplen, Environmental Scientist, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Dr. Barbara Voss, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University
- Dr. Thomas Wake, Director, Zooarchaeology Lab, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, and Adjunct Professor, UCLA Anthropology

Kent and his students (now professors, and I am sure that I have missed some) are often seen at the Society for California Archaeology's annual meetings. Kent and his wife and research partner Roberta Jewett are two of the Society's regular contributors and monetary supporters.

Kent's encouragement of other California scholars and indigenous community is equally as impressive. His several partnerships with the California Department of Parks and Recreation have created many opportunities to better understand California's past and relevance to the future. His coordination with State Parks Archaeologist Mark Hylkema at Año Nuevo State Park and Quiroste Valley helped to further Kent's grasp of the past and present of indigenous traditional burning has transformed scholar's view of California's northern coastlands and helped to revitalize cultural knowledge of the Amah Mutsun. Kent's coordination with Breck Parkman at State Parks, encouragement of his Native students (particularly Tsim Schneider and Peter Nelson) and partnership with elders (particularly Nick Tipon) has expanded the role of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in reclaiming and promoting their own Tribal histories. Kent's longtime research-partnership with Glenn Farris (DPR State Archaeologist) and others resulted in an extraordinary understanding of the complicated colonial history of Fort Ross State Historic Park.

I consider myself fortunate to have many enlightening conversations with Kent that have informed and expanded my own research, as well as my writings on California's mission and indigenous histories. Every California archaeologist should be so fortunate to spend time with the good Dr. Lightfoot.