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Vintage Camping Exhibit at Museum

Past Tents: The Way We Camped is a humorous excursion through one of our favorite pastimes, exploring camping in California from post-Gold Rush times to the mid-1900s. The exhibit includes contemporary prints of rare historic photographs and objects from the collections of the California Historical Society and the Bancroft Library. Replica tents burst with curious vintage gear and long-lost camping tips suggest simple remedies for sore feet (as long as you pack along some tallow!)

Early camping was an enterprise of independence, simplicity, and conviviality and offered a change of pace, the splendor of scenery, and an opportunity to be close to nature, escaping the trappings of society for a time. Camping still offers this respite and rejuvenation, and *Past Tents* encourages visitors to pack up the tent and sleeping bags and enjoy the beauty of California's natural environment.

Susan Snyder of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, will present a program about the exhibit and the book, *Past Tents*, on which the exhibit is based and which she authored. The program is Friday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Memorial Museum. It is free and open to the public.

The exhibit runs through March 14, 2010 at the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County. The museum is located at 1333 Butte House Road in Yuba City. Open hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Past Tents: The Way We Camped was produced by the California Historical Society and The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. The traveling tour was organized by the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA).