

I'm pleased to welcome you to the new version of our magazine! Overhauling its design has been a hope of mine for several years. The layout this one replaces was first introduced in 1997, and though serviceable, it had become dated. Although we at FHS love old things, it was time for a redesign—especially in light of recent events at FHS. We launched a new website a few years ago that is both more robust and easier to use on a mobile device. At that time we also unveiled a new logo. And last year we moved into our new building. Everything was new, which made the magazine look that much more out of step.

Updating the magazine's design is in many ways as important as the new website and building. *Forest History Today* is frequently the first item from the Society that people encounter. We hand out the magazine at conferences and meetings and to visitors to the new building. A few months after publication, the entire issue is made available to all through the website for free. (You'll find every issue on the magazine's homepage, at www.foresthistorytoday.org.)

Along with the new website and logo, we have a style guide that defines what fonts and colors to use in our publications and website. Our publications designer, Kathy Hart of Zubigraphics, used the guide as her starting point and inspiration for the magazine redesign. The various colors used throughout the issue—in caption boxes, ribbons, and fonts—are from the palette. Kathy has been designing our books, magazines, and other materials for more than twenty years and knows our aesthetics and sensibilities as well as anyone. She's also very easy to work with, which made this task, which could have been challenging or frustrating, enjoyable.

The first article Kathy redesigned and showed me is the first feature of this issue, an article about the Idaho ski resort Sun Valley. When you see how she laid out the opening photograph, I think you'll react as I did: "Wow! I want to go there!" I felt as if I was going to tumble down that snowy hill.

I'd also like to thank Sally Atwater for her feedback on the design of this issue, and her many years of stellar editing work. When I took over as editor in 2007, I knew my time and limited editing skills would best be spent on developmental editing. I wanted a copy editor whose familiarity with forestry and forest conservation would complement my history background. Like Kathy, Sally had done a great job on my first book two years before I took over editorship, and also like Kathy, she had worked on several of our books and knew us well. She does much more than copyediting, and that's why her title is Editorial Consultant. Hiring Sally was the smartest move I've made as magazine editor.

The smartest move I've made in my life was marrying Dianne Timblin. When we married in 1999, neither of us knew, of course, that seven years later I'd become a magazine editor. An editor and marketing writer herself, she has been an invaluable sounding board about articles, ads, and more for the magazine since day one, providing countless hours of free editorial consultation. She even contributed an article about wood paving blocks that, in my opinion, showed that the history field had lost a really good historian to the marketing world.

Naturally, Dianne has been involved with this redesign. For example, I wanted to change the column titles "Books of Interest," "Biographical Portrait," and "History on the Road." As I shared with her my ideas, she listened and quietly



considered them. "Simpler is better," she advised. "And you want to be consistent here, just like with the other parts of the magazine we've discussed." Further discussion led me back to the beginning, to "Media," "Portrait," and "Places," respectively.

Incidentally, "Books of Interest" is now "Media" because I will include reviews for forest history-related websites and museum exhibits along with books and films. If you know of ones to include, please email me at james.lewis@foresthistory.org.

Of course, without the many authors whose work you're about to enjoy, there would be no issue for you to read! James Skillen, Michael Childers, and Thomas and Patricia Straka each make returns to these pages. In 2009, Skillen wrote about Congress and the next Public Land Commission. Childers wrote about the riots in Yosemite in 1970 for us in 2016. The Strakas frequently contribute to the Places column. We've published biography entries produced by the World Forestry Center before, too.

New contributors are Angela Aleiss, L. Anders Sandberg and Peter Clancy, David N. Cole, and Jean Mansavage. Thank you one and all.