

California Missions and More

JB: Okay, people, let's get moving. We've got a movie to film, and we are already behind schedule.

JOHNSON: We're all set, JB. You heard the director. Scene 1 of JB's most brilliant work, California Missions!

JB: Aaaach!

JOHNSON: What's wrong, JB?

JB: I hate that title. California Missions. It's so, so...

JOHNSON: Mundane?

JB: So...

JOHNSON: Boring?

JB: Icky! It's icky. It needs something more. I've got it! Johnson, I'm a genius.

JOHNSON: What is it, JB?

JB: the new title of my movie is now California Missions and More.

JOHNSON: Brilliant, JB!

SONG: California Missions and More

ALL: We're gonna make a movie 'bout the missions

The kind of film our fans will all adore.

Yeah, it's got grit and luster, a holiday blockbuster

California Missions – Missions and more.

Early California – so exciting

There's mountains and there's valleys to explore

A history bonanza, a film extravaganza

California Missions – Missions and more.

Oh yeah, oh yeah, on with the show

Oh yeah, oh yeah, cue the lights and cam'ras here we go.

From Spanish exploration up to statehood

There's tragedy and romance here galore

Let's travel the king's highway

JB: As long as it is my way.

ALL: California Missions – Missions and more.

California Missions – Missions and more.

JOHNSON: Okay, Scene 1. It's the sixteenth century, before the Spanish start exploring California. Where are the Indians?

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Excuse me.

JOHNSON: Oh, you're here. You look great.

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Thanks. But you really shouldn't call us Indians.

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: That's right. There are hundreds of thousands of us throughout the west coast, and we belong to dozens of different tribes.

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: Hey, has anybody seen my acorns? I think I've lost my acorns.

JOHNSON: What?

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: Is that them in the basket over there?

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: Yes! My acorns! I love acorns. Little ones. Big ones. Some of them get these cute little lines on them and look just like they're smiling. See? There are 14 different varieties of acorn in early California. Would you like me to name them?

JOHNSON: No! I mean, we've got to shoot this scene. Are you all so, uh, fond of acorns?

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: No. That's my point. We live in all kinds of places and live all kinds of lives.

SONG:

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Some of us make baskets.

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: Some make great canoes.

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: Some of us wear deerskins.

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Some wear just tattoos. I live in the desert.

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: I live by the sea.

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: I live in the mountains near an acorn tree.

NATIVE AMERICANS: Don't call us Indians; we are not all the same.

Don't call us Indians; we do not know that name.

We're Chumash and we're Yokuts, Miwok and Pomo, too.

Don't call us Indians because it isn't true.

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Some of us pick berries.

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: Some of us catch fish.

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: Some of us find acorns. What a nutty dish!

Acorn paste for breakfast, really tasty goop

Lunch is acorn porridge, dinner's acorn soup. I love acorns!

NATIVE AMERICANS: Don't call us Indians; we are not all the same.

Don't call us Indians; we do not know that name.

We're Chumash and we're Yokuts, Miwok and Pomo, too.

Don't call us Indians because it isn't true.

JB: Cut! Brilliant! Perfect! It's got a message, but it's catchy. And there's the food angle. I'm not a big fan of acorn porridge myself, but I think there may be an untapped audience out there of nut lovers. Johnson, get me on one of those cooking shows for the publicity tour.

JOHNSON: Right, JB. Okay, Scene 2! We need Joseph de Galvez on the stage. Where is the Spanish Visitor-General of Mexico?

GALVEZ: At last my request has been granted from the king. We shall send an expedition to Alta California and colonize it for Spain.

ADMINISTRATOR #1: Excellent, Governor Galvez. But we Spanish have claimed all of California for 200 years. In 1542 Cabrillo sailed to San Diego. And in 1602 Vizcaino charted Monterey Bay. Why send an expedition now in 1769?

GALVEZ: Why now? Because the Russians and British are poking their noses around our territory. Why now? Because for 200 years we have done nothing with Alta California. Why now? Because it will be fun!

ADMINISTRATOR #2: But how will we do it?

GALVEZ: How? How we always do it, of course. We'll follow the 3-step plan to territorial expansion.

ADMINISTRATORS #1 & 2: The 3-step plan?

GALVEZ: Don't they teach you anything in college these days? Your resumes stated that you had taken Imperialism 101 – Introduction to being a colonial power.

ADMINISTRATOR #2: Uh, I think I may have missed a couple of those classes.

GALVEZ: The 3-step plan of expansion is quite simple. Repeat after me. Missions.

ADMINISTRATORS 1 & 2: Missions.

GALVEZ: Presidios.

ADMINISTRATOR #1: Presidios?

GALVEZ: Presidios are forts. And the third step is pueblos. Pueblos are cities.

ADMINISTRATOR #2: Pueblos.

GALVEZ: All together now.

ADMINISTRATORS 1 & 2: Missions, presidios, and pueblos. Missions, presidios, and pueblos. Missions, presidios, and pueblos. Rah!

SONG:

GALVEZ: The first step towards our ambition is to build ourselves a mission

And then turn the natives Christian. It's really for the best.

Then we'll fortify that mission with presidios positioned

To discourage opposition to our California quest.

GALVEZ & ADMINISTRATORS: Missions, presidios, and pueblos, a 3-step plan to stretch our Spanish rule.

Missions, presidios, and pueblos, the new world will be ours, the new world will be ours

The new world will be ours, and that's so cool.

ADMINISTRATOR #1: For step 3 we'll build a city, though this pueblo won't be pretty

A few families tough and gritty will ranch and farm the land.

ADMINISTRATOR #2: You might call it colonizing, but we're really globalizing,

Though the natives are down-sizing; in the end they'll like the plan!

GALVEZ & ADMINISTRATORS: Missions, presidios, and pueblos, a 3-step plan to stretch our Spanish rule.

Missions, presidios, and pueblos, the new world will be ours, the new world will be ours

The new world will be ours, and that's so cool.

JB: I love it! It's got pathos. I don't even know what pathos is, but I know that scene's got it. Keep rolling. Cue Junipero Serra!

PORTOLA: Father Serra, the mission here in San Diego is really beginning to take shape.

SERRA: It is a miracle, Captain Portola. I thought our overland trip here from Mexico was difficult, but it was even harder for the ships. We are lucky that more of us did not die.

PORTOLA: True. But we have now established a Spanish presence in San Diego and Monterey.

SERRA: And someday we will have missions and pueblos up and down California along El Camino Real, the King's Highway.

PORTOLA: Perhaps you too will be famous one day. Children will study Father Serra and his missions.

SERRA: Ya think? Naaaah. Wouldn't that be boring? I am just a humble Franciscan friar doing my best to serve as I can.

PORTOLA: The mission is almost finished. Soon we will hang up the bells.

SERRA: Ah, I love the bells. They have traveled a long distance to become part of our little mission. Our building is modest now, but someday it will rise up with tall brick walls. The ringing of the bells means our work has just begun.

SONG: Hear the Bells

SERRA & PORTOLA: Hear the bells, cheer the bells,
These lovely bells gonna ring away.
Hear the bells, San Diego to Monterey.

SERRA: I love the smell of adobe drying in the sun.
The walls are rising, let's start baptizing.
Our mission has begun.

SERRA & PORTOLA: Hear the bells, cheer the bells,
These lovely bells gonna ring away.
Hear the bells, San Diego to Monterey.

PORTOLA: I love the sight of a cornfield, furrows deep and straight'
The grain is rising, so civilizing.
Our mission's taking shape.

SERRA & PORTOLA & NATIVE AMERICANS: Hear the bells, Ding dong, cheer the bells,
These lovely bells gonna ring away. Ding dong
Ding dong, San Diego to Monterey.
These lovely bells gonna ring away. Ding dong
Ding dong, San Diego to Monterey.

JB: Excellent! Excellent! Things are moving along nicely.

JOHNSON: Right, JB. Now, in the next scene...

JB: Aaaach! Johnson, what is that?

JOHNSON: That? That's the mission set, JB. It's exactly like the Father Serra built in 1769.

JB: That? That thing?

JOHNSON: What's wrong with it, JB?

JB: Well, it's... well, it's dull. It just sits there. It's got no pizzazz.

JOHNSON: It's a mission, JB.

JB: It's not just a mission, Johnson. It's my mission. It has to shine. It has to sparkle. It has to sing and dance!

JOHNSON: Right, JB. Where's the set designer?

SET DESIGNER: What? What is it now?

JOHNSON: JB wants a mission that sparkles.

SET DESIGNER: Sparkles? Are you sure?

JB: Sparkles!

SET DESIGNER: We could put some glitter on it.

JB: It's not a birthday cake.

SET DESIGNER: How about a laser show?

JOHNSON: It's the 18th century. They don't have lasers. They don't have electricity.

SET DESIGNER: We could use dry ice.

JB: Wait a minute! I've got it!

JOHNSON: Everybody back! Give him room. JB's got another idea.

JB: Fantastic! So simple, so eternally perfect. Any 4th grader would think of it.

SONG:

JB: Oh man, I am a genius! My brain cannot be beat. Yeah, I smell an Oscar; it's gonna taste so sweet.

I know what we are needing, so listen up dudes. We gotta build a mission out of sugar cubes!

JOHNSON: So bring in tons of sugar by ship and truck and crate. Go and get the phone, crew, and ring up C & H.

We'll also need a couple of boatloads of glue, we're gonna build a mission out of sugar cubes.

JB, JOHNSON, & SET DESIGNER: Concrete's too flat, wood quickly fades; a sugar cub shines and biodegrades.

Concrete's too flat, wood quickly fades; a sugar cub shines and biodegrades.

SET DESIGNER: A giant sparkling structure that always will remain like pyramids in Egypt. I hope it doesn't rain.

JB, JOHNSON, & SET DESIGNER: We learned back in 4th grade that it's not just for food.

We're gonna build a mission out of sugar cubes!

JB, JOHNSON, & SET DESIGNER: Gonna build a mission!

NATIVE AMERICANS: Sugar cubes.

Repeat last two 7 times.

GIRL: Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula!

JB: What was that?

JOHNSON: I'm not sure, JB, but I think it's the full name of the pueblo that later became known as Los Angeles.

JB: I won't have that kind of language on my set. Get her!

NATIVE AMERICAN #4: Eventually 21 missions were built throughout California.

NATIVE AMERICAN #5: More than 80,000 of us Native Americans were brought into the mission system one way or another.

NATIVE AMERICAN #4: By the 1820's, Mexico broke away from Spain and formed its own republic.

NATIVE AMERICAN #5: The mission lands were supposed to be returned to us. But instead, the missions and surrounding lands were sold off to wealthy Californios for cattle ranches.

NATIVE AMERICAN #4: Some of us worked on those ranches.

NATIVE AMERICAN #5: But many of us were forced to leave the lands completely.

SONG:

NATIVE AMERICANS: Where? Tell us where? Where do we go?

NATIVE AMERICAN #4: You gave us shoes and taught us to plow. But all the land belongs to you now.

NATIVE AMERICANS: Why? Tell us why? Why must we go?

NATIVE AMERICAN #5: For 60 years this mission was home. And now you say we're all on our own.

NATIVE AMERICANS: What? Tell us what? What do we do?

NATIVE AMERICAN #4: We've lost the skills to hunt and to track.

NATIVE AMERICAN #5: Too late to learn, too late to turn back.

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Some of us made baskets,

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: some made great canoes.

NATIVE AMERICAN #3: Some of us wore deerskins,

NATIVE AMERICAN #1: Some wore just tattoos. Some lived in the desert,

NATIVE AMERICAN #2: Some lived by the sea.

NATIVE AMERICAN #4 & 5: We lived in a mission. What will come of me?

COSTUME DESIGNER: It's just awful!

JOHNSON: I know! I had no idea how much the Native American's suffered.

COSTUME DESIGNER: Not that! JB, you must do something. I cannot work under these circumstances. The stress is making my hair curl. Or maybe it's the humidity.

JB: The stress is making the humidity?

COSTUME DESIGNER: I am an artiste. When I design clothes for movies, I create a world within a world. My costumes are designed to capture the flavor of an era, the essence of a world long past.

JB: Essence? Johnson!

JOHNSON: Yes, JB?

JB: What is she talking about? Is she still worried about the humidity?

COSTUME DESIGNER: Listen to me, JB. I've designed the most dashing outfits for the rancheros. These Californio cowboys will look muy magnifico as they gallop across the range of their ranchos.

JOHNSON: So what's the problem?

COSTUME DESIGNER: It's the wives. The rancheros' wives refuse to buy into my romantic vision of life on the hacienda. They're not working with me. What I'm going for is a muscular machismo, an elegant effect.

JB: Johnson!

JOHNSON: Yes, JB?

JB: I don't understand a word she is saying. Does she want the air conditioning turned up or something?

COSTUME DESIGNER: Oh no, here they are. You see what I mean?

WIFE #1: We are not going to promote that silly notion of romance on the range.

WIFE #2: You think we just sat around all day in our finest dresses waiting for our husbands to return all spic-and-span in a little vest?

WIFE #3: Life on the ranchos isn't everything the history books say it is.

SONG:

WIVES: Our husbands went riding; they're branding the steers
Though they love the round-up, it brings us to tears.
'Cause when they return, they smell just like their saddle.
Frankly, we're tired of cattle.
Beef tallow for cooking, for candles and soap.
Beef jerky for breakfast, we're giving up hope.
If they want a steak, then prepare for a battle.
Frankly, we're tired of cattle.
We want a fandango, let's dress up and tango, With no barbecuing of anything mooing
We want a fandango, let's dress up and tango, With no barbecuing of anything mooing
There are cowhides for blankets and cowhide for shoes
There're cowhides for curtains, they're warping our views
There's more to this life than one-thousand-pound chattel
Frankly, we're tired of cattle. Frankly, we're tired of cattle.

FARMER MAN: How come you get to play President Polk and I got stuck being a farmer?

POLK: It was type-casting. I look presidential. Besides, what's wrong with being a farmer?

FARMER MAN: I should have been cast as the president. I had a guest spot on a soap opera once as a corrupt senator. I was very convincing. Nobody would loan me a nickel for months.

FARMER WOMAN: I saw that! You were very good. It is an honor to be in the same film with you.

FARMER MAN: Oh. Why thank you.

FARMER WOMAN: I didn't mean it. I was just practicing. I'm supposed to be your faithful wife.

JEDEDIAH: Say, that was good acting.

FARMER WOMAN: Thank you. Who are you?

JEDEDIAH: I am playing Jedediah Smith, famous trapper and explorer. I just hope they don't make me wear this leather thing very long. It's giving me a rash.

JOHNSON: Okay, Yankees. Get ready to shoot your scene.

JEDEDIAH: Well, we'd better get into that pioneer spirit.

FARMER WOMAN: That's right. We're all playing Americans who see California as a place of golden opportunity.

FARMER MAN: And I don't think the Californios, or the administrators in Mexico City, were all that happy to see us coming in.

JOHNSON: Okay, Yankees. You're on!

SONG:

FARMER MAN: Oh, I'm a Yankee farmer with my child and wife. We crossed the high Sierra for a brand new life.

FARMER WOMAN: The locals call us squatters and they want us banned,
But nothing's gonna move us from this promised land.

ALL 4: Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees come most ev'ry day
Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees here and here to stay.

JEDEDIAH: My name is Jedediah, I'm a trapping man.
I'm tracking down those beaver pelts throughout the land.
Of all the beaver hunting grounds I've ever seen,
There's never been a valley like the San Joaquin.

ALL 4: Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees come most ev'ry day
Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees here and here to stay.

POLK: Well, I'm the U.S. President, my name is Polk. I sure would like some land for our expanding folk.
And California's looking mighty nice to me, another place to manifest our destiny.

ALL 4: Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees come most ev'ry day
Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees here and here to stay.
Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees come most ev'ry day
Here we come, here we come, here we come, Yankees here and here to stay.

JOHNSON: What about the war scenes, JB?

JB: We'll shoot them later on location. Get Sutter and Marshall.

JOHNSON: I don't know, JB> I saw Sutter try to run over Marshall in the parking lot.

JB: These men are supposed to be professionals. It's been 165 years! Can't Sutter let it go?

JOHNSON: I hope so, JB. John Sutter! James Marshall! You're on!

SUTTER: You were supposed to be building a sawmill on my property. Is that too much to ask? But nooooo. You had to find gold. That discovery ruined everything.

Marshall; For Pete's sake, Mr. Sutter. I've apologized enough.

JB: Do we have to bring all that up again? What about the war between Mexico and the United States? Didn't we skip that?

SUTTER: Don't try to change the subject, Marshall. It wasn't much of a war here in California. Mostly a set of skirmishes between the Californios and the Yanks. It lasted less than a year and was over by January of 1847.

MARSHALL: But it was part of the Mexican War. The treaty with Mexico in 1848 gave all of California, and a whole lot more, to the U.S.

SUTTER: Don't think I don't see what you're doing. 1848 may have been the year of the treaty, but it was also the year you were supposed to build that sawmill. Instead, you ruined my life. I had a dream!

MARSHALL: Oh no, here we go again.

SUTTER: For a decade I was building my 50,000-acre empire in the Sacramento Valley. New Helvitia, I called it.

MARSHALL: Velveeta? Like the cheese?

SUTTER: Helvetia, you moron! Things were going so well. I'll never forget those days.

SONG:

SUTTER: I had horse and cattle driving, golden wheatfields were surviving. I had workshops that were thriving.⁴
'Til gold was found one day.

MARSHALL: Well I tried to keep it quiet, but the papers wouldn't buy it. Now there's zillions running riot,
And they won't go away.

SUTTER & MARSHALL: Gold. Don't say gold. It gives me heartburn.
Some 50,000 acres I controlled.
Gold. Don't say gold. It gives me heartburn.
Yeah, I was rich until, yeah, I was rich until, yeah I was rich until I found that gold.

SUTTER: I don't mean to be a whiner, but just look at all these miners. There's a mess o' 49ers; they're digging up my land.
Wagon trains and ocean streamers bring in fortune-hunting dreamers. I got merchants, I got schemers,
And all my plans got panned.

SUTTER & MARSHALL: Gold. Don't say gold. It gives me heartburn.
Some 50,000 acres I controlled.
Gold. Don't say gold. It gives me heartburn.
Yeah, I was rich until, yeah, I was rich until, yeah I was rich until I found that gold.

JB: Johnson!

JOHNSON: Yes, JB?

JB: Remind me to hire happy Californians from now on.

JOHNSON: You're in luck, JB. Our next scene has some really happy Californians. They're celebrating the admission of the state into the union.

JB: Well bring them on, Johnson. Bring them on. I want my movie to make people smile. I want them dancing in the aisles. I want them buying the merchandise. I want them fighting to get all the little plastic figurines at fast-food restaurants.

JOHNSON: I've already got my Father Serra action figure. I got it in my kids meal! Collect them all!

JB: Good work, Johnson. Now get me those peppy Californians.

CALIFORNIAN #1: I thought we'd never become a state.

CALIFORNIAN #2: Yeah. What took us so long anyway? By 1850, we had one hundred thousand people in the state.

CALIFORNIAN #3: The biggest problem was slavery. The Compromise of 1850 allowed California to enter the Union as a free state.

CALIFORNIAN #1: We were never even a territory. But Congress finally made up its mind. And now we are a state!

CALIFORNIAN #2: What's so great about state?

CALIFORNIAN #2: Are you kidding? Finally, after all these years, after being subject to Spain, then Mexico, and then being in limbo, finally we get to have a state nickname!

CALIFORNIANS: The Golden State!

CALIFORNIAN #1: And a state reptile.

CALIFORNIANS: The desert tortoise.

CALIFORNIAN #2: Cool!

CALIFORNIAN #3: We got a state motto and everything!

SONG:

CALIFORNIANS: Eureka! I've found it! And it's been worth the wait. Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! We did it! And we are feeling great, Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state.

CALIFORNIAN #1: A grizzly's on our flag.

CALIFORNIAN #2: A redwood is our tree.

CALIFORNIAN #3: Minerva's on our seal

CALIFORNIANS: And that's just fine with me. Eureka! I've found it! And it's been worth the wait.

Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! We did it! And we are feeling great, Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state.

CALIFORNIAN #1: The poppy is our flower. I love when they pop out.

CALIFORNIAN #2: I hug the valley quail.

CALIFORNIAN #3: I kiss the golden trout.

CALIFORNIANS: Eureka! I've found it! And it's been worth the wait. Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! We did it! And we are feeling great, Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! We did it! And we are feeling great, Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state. Eureka! We did it! And we are feeling great, Eureka! I've found it, This is the golden state.

JB: Cut! Print! That's a wrap!

JOHNSON: Brilliant, JB!

JB: Okay, people, cast party in the mission! Pizza for everyone. And all the sugar you can carry!

SONG:

ALL: We're gonna make a movie 'bout the missions
The kind of film our fans will all adore.
Yeah, it's got grit and luster, a holiday blockbuster
California Missions – Missions and more.
Early California – so exciting
There's mountains and there's valleys to explore
A history bonanza, a film extravaganza
California Missions – Missions and more.
California Missions – Missions and more.