

PATTERNS OF MEMORY (LAPSES) AND SURGES OF NOSTALGIA IN AMERICAN CULTURE

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***Abstract.** This essay is a survey of types and sites of memory related to the last two centuries of American history and culture. Distinctions between artificial and authentic sites, genuine and false nostalgia, or illustrations of political commemoration and personal remembrance are used in order to show the uses and abuses of the past into the present.*

***Key words:** sites of memory, nostalgia, memory repression, phasing, fusion, civic religion.*

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