

## AASLH/ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD BOOK PROPOSAL OUTLINE

The Editorial Board will have these questions about your book. Anything you can do to help us answer these questions well will strengthen your proposal:

- 1. Why is the book needed? Who will want to buy it and why? How is it different from other books on the same topic (what's unique about your idea)?
- 2. Imagine that your book is in our next catalog. Begin with a title that captures the tone and spirit of your book. What would the ideal catalog copy be? Emphasize special features or sections using bullets points where appropriate.
- 3. Identify titles on the same topic published in the last past 5-7 years. These will be your book's competition. Can you give us a sentence or two that would make us want to publish your book even though those other titles are out there?
- 4. Provide a 1- to 3-paragraph biographical statement. Emphasize your education and experience relevant to this book topic. Please include other articles or books you have published related to this topic. The point here is to position you as an expert in this area.
- 5. What is your tentative table of contents? Include page number estimates for each chapter. Also include for each chapter an estimated number of photographs, figures, tables, or other graphic elements you think you would want to include in the chapter.
- 6. What is your target date for completing the manuscript?
- 7. AASLH embraces the History Relevance Campaign identification of <u>seven ways history is essential</u>. In your opinion, which (if any) of these key tenets would your proposed book further (please check one or more as you see applicable)?

  History is essential:
  - To Ourselves:
    - o Identity. History nurtures personal identity in an intercultural world
    - o Critical Skills. History teaches critical 21<sup>st</sup>-century skills and independent thinking.
  - To Our Communities:
    - Vital Places to Live and Work. History lays the groundwork for strong, resilient communities.
    - Economic Development. History is a catalyst for economic growth. People are drawn to communities that have preserved a strong sense of historical identity and character.
  - To Our Future:
    - o Engaged Citizens. History helps people craft better solutions.

- Leadership. History provides leaders with inspiration and role models for meeting the complex challenges that face our communities, nation, and the world.
- Legacy. History, saved and preserved, is the foundation for future generations.
   History is crucial to preserving democracy for the future by explaining our shared past.

Please direct questions to Charles Harmon at <a href="mailto:charmon@rowman.com">charmon@rowman.com</a> or Bob Beatty <a href="mailto:beatty@aaslh.org">beatty@aaslh.org</a>.

Submit final proposals to Charles and cc: Bob.