Dry Creek Historical Society
Internship Projects/Opportunities

1) The property consists of a 2-acre 19th Century Farmstead and some of the associated agricultural outbuildings that date to at least the late 19th Century. The Farmhouse itself was renovated and restored in 2006, and is in good shape for its age; however, until now, none of the outbuildings have had any restoration work performed on them.

We are intending for that to change in 2018, as we are raising funds for the restoration of the granary--the most at-risk structure on the site. We would like very much to have this restoration project documented in photos, text, and videos to the degree possible (and given the state of 21st Century technology, perhaps 3D models as well), and think that this might be an opportunity for a team of history interns who are interested in following the project from start to finish.

2) Before Highway 55 was built, the main route between Boise and points north was Cartwright Road--part of which still exists as a main road into the Dry Creek Valley, and part of which is on privately-held property and is not much more than a jeep trail. The northern extents of this road were originally part of the Rossi (later Healy) Toll Road, which connected the gold boom towns of the Boise Basin (Pioneerville, Placerville, Quartzburg, Centerville, etc.) with Boise and Silver City. Where two branches of this toll road met in the hills between Boise and Horseshoe Bend is a small flat habitable area known simply as Toll Gate. At the turn of the 20th Century this spot was on land owned by Colin McLeod's Spring Valley Ranch; currently it is owned by the Avimor community, and none of the toll buildings there survive. The author of the book, From the Shadows of Coyote Mountain to the Base of Mount Diablo (the first 16 chapters of which detail the author’s childhood at Toll Gate) has expressed his desire to come back to our area and hike an abandoned stretch of Cartwright Road and his former home at Toll Gate. If this hike happens, it will be in the spring and early summer of this year, and it should certainly be documented by a video crew that has some degree of expertise, as it would be an invaluable chronicle of an irreplaceable piece of Idaho history.