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*Quintard Taylor* is professor of history and head of the Department of History at the University of Oregon where his primary teaching area is African American history in the United States West. The preeminent scholar of African American western history, Taylor is the author of *The Forging of a Black Community: A History of Seattle's Central District from 1870 Through the Civil Rights Era* (1994) and *In Search of the Racial Frontier: African Americans in the American West, 1529-1990* (1998).

*Forging* is the fifth book selected since 1968 for the Emil and Kathleen Sick Series in Western History and Biography. *In Search of the Racial Frontier* is only the second book (and the first in two decades) that examines the African American population in this region. He is also the author of more than forty articles on African American, Afro-Brazilian and comparative ethnic studies as well as numerous other book chapters and publications.

Taylor holds a doctorate from the University of Minnesota, and has taught at Washington State University and California Polytechnic State University. He is on the editorial boards of the *Western Historical Quarterly* and the *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* and is currently a consultant to the Oregon Council for the Humanities and the Rockefeller Institutional Grant for the Northwest Center for Comparative American Cultures and Race Relations, Washington State University.