

# SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA ARCHIVISTS NEWSLETTER

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## JOIN US IN YOSEMITE!



[Yosemite Valley in winter] by George Fiske, General Subjects Photographers Collection, PC-GS, California Historical Society, CHS2014.1605

The Program and Local Arrangements Committees are looking forward to hosting you all at the Annual General Program April 11-13 at the Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite in Fish Camp, California.

Join us for two days of sessions, an opening reception at Tenaya Lodge, and numerous opportunities to network and mingle at the Yosemite Archives Crawl, vendor exhibits, and a new member happy hour. Two pre-conference workshops will also be offered: *How to Tame Your Dragon: Learning to Befriend your Backlog through Efficient*

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*Processing Strategies and Get Hands On: Improving Descriptive Practices for Born-Digital Material in an Archival Context.*

We have a great program planned, including sessions centered on the unique place that Yosemite holds in the history and culture of California as well as exciting new developments in the archival profession. In hopes of allowing attendees some more down time to explore the area and meet informally with colleagues we've adjusted the usual schedule somewhat as well. Registrants will be treated to a Plenary Dinner, freeing up Thursday morning for hikes or breakfast with friends. We're also introducing a new item to the program, an AGM-version of the Los Angeles Archivists Collective Book Club to be held Thursday evening.

The Kitchen Sisters will give the plenary address, speaking about their new NPR and podcast series, *The Keepers*, which features stories of activist archivists, rogue librarians, curators, collectors and historians. Friday's Awards Luncheon speaker, Steve Bumgardner, will discuss his work as a filmmaker and producer of *Yosemite Nature Notes*, a web series in which he shares his 20 years of explorations of California's Sierra

Nevada.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Alex Post and Tanya Hollis, SCA Local Arrangements Co Chairs*

*Teresa Mora, Program Committee Chair*

### **Carpooling Site Online for the Annual General Meeting**

If you are planning on driving to the AGM and would like some company, or are looking for a ride, visit <https://www.groupcarpool.com/t/jbwa9g> to sign up!



## **Get together with local colleagues at Member-Initiated Events!**

**Let SCA support your next speaker presentation,  
webinar viewing, open house, or networking social hour**

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<http://www.calarchivists.org/MemberEvents>





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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy spring everyone, though where I live there was barely a whisper of a winter. So how about that new website? I have been advocating for this change for some time, and I am so excited that it has finally happened! Special thanks to our webmaster, Kelsi Evans, who took the plunge on this, despite the fact that Wild Apricot forced us to go live with the new site before all the bugs and kinks had been worked out. Even though it has been up for a couple months now, in time to facilitate our AGM registration, to me it still has that new car smell.

Speaking of taking the plunge, SCA finally hired a bookkeeper. This has been a long time coming—it was on my wish list back when I was still Treasurer—but with our increasing reliance upon online transactions and new revenue streams, it has become obvious that the duties of the Treasurer position were becoming unsustainable for a volunteer position. The Treasurer will still write the checks, and oversee all of the society's financial affairs, but the bookkeeping company will manage our day-to-day income and balance our checking account. SCA will also still maintain our separate accountant to file our taxes and provide additional oversight. Future SCA Treasurers owe their eternal gratitude to Kate Tasker, who did the heavy lifting on this even though she will barely reap the benefits.

Hopefully most of you have received a request to participate in a survey regarding the SAA 2019 meeting in Austin, TX. This was an effort by us to gather a little more information for our ongoing dialogue with SAA about the possibility of bringing SAA programming to California in 2019. SCA Vice President Teresa Mora, California State Archivist Nancy Lenoil, SAA Council Member Audra Eagle Yun, and I have another conference call scheduled with SAA Executive Director Nancy Beaumont about this in the coming weeks. In the meantime, I really appreciate all of you who took the time to participate in our survey.

I am absolutely counting the days until Yosemite. Make sure to attend the Members Meeting as we will have some exciting announcements about future SCA partnerships and endeavors, as well as the opportunity to engage with fellow members about their involvement in the society. I would also highly encourage you all to attend the Thursday lunch-time forum held by the Task Force on Professional Ethics and Inclusion. And oh, the flashlight hikes and Kitchen Sisters sound like a pretty good idea as well... This AGM has been in the planning for a long time, and I am just thrilled that it is actually almost here—and thanks to the hard work of the Local Arrangements and Program Committees it looks like it will exceed my already lofty expectations.

This is the last newsletter of my term, and in closing I would just like to thank our membership for giving me this opportunity, the committee chairs for all their great ideas and hard work, and my fellow members of the board for their dedication and support. We are a volunteer society and rely heavily on the already overextended to extend themselves further. I have found it extremely gratifying to be able to contribute to so many worthy efforts and work with so many fantastic people. It has been a great honor to serve you, and I hope to continue to do so in many other roles.

*David Uhlich*  
*SCA President*





The *Journal of Western Archives* is a peer-reviewed, open access journal sponsored by Western regional archival organizations. The journal focuses on contemporary issues and developments in the archival and curatorial fields, particularly as they affect Western archives and manuscript repositories.

### Journal Contents

The *Journal of Western Archives* gives archivists, manuscript curators, and graduate students in the American West a place to publish on topics of particular interest and relevance to them. The journal features research articles, case studies, and review essays on regional topics. These include:

- Important Western regional issues in archives and manuscript repositories;
- Unique archival developments in the western United States;
- Technological innovations and their effect on archival theory and practice;
- The history and development of the archival and curatorial professions in the American West;
- Collaborative efforts and projects between various cultural institutions.

### Contributing to the Journal

If you are interested in contributing to the journal or serving as a peer reviewer for journal content, please contact the managing editor, John Murphy ([john\\_m\\_murphy@byu.edu](mailto:john_m_murphy@byu.edu)). Article submissions may also be made online at the journal website.

# JWA

<http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/westernarchives/>

## THE SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA ARCHIVISTS, INC.

The Society of California Archivists, Inc. exists to support and develop those who collect, care for, and provide access to the documentary heritage of California and adjoining areas.

To this end it:

1. acts as a vehicle for dissemination of information about archival collections, issues, and methodology to the profession and the public;
2. provides a forum for the discussion of matters related to the creation, preservation, and use of historical documents;
3. develops, offers and supports archival education programs;
4. cooperates with individuals and organizations on matters of common concern; and
5. advocates the identification, collection, preservation, use, and appreciation of historical records and manuscripts.

The SCA Newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. All submissions, advertisements for e newsletter should be directed to the Editors of the Newsletter:

**Newsletter Editors**  
**The Bancroft Library**  
**University of California, Berkeley**  
**Berkeley, California 94720-6000**  
**Email(s): [newsletter@calarchivists.org](mailto:newsletter@calarchivists.org)**

Copy Deadlines: September 1, December 1, March 1, & June 1

Format for Submissions:  
 Articles and other items submitted for consideration should be sent via e-mail attachment.

Newsletter editors and layout designers: Steve Kutay, Nicole Shibata and Emily Vigor.

[www.calarchivists.org](http://www.calarchivists.org) ©2016

## COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

PACIFIC PRIDE IN SANTA  
BARBARA

Heart+Sole, AIDS Walk in Santa Barbara, October 26, 1991. A Benefit for AIDS CAP. Pacific Pride Foundation Records, Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library.

The UC Santa Barbara Library Department of Special Research Collections is happy to announce its acquisition of the Pacific Pride Foundation Records. These records document the activities of the organization, founded in Santa Barbara in 1976, as the Western Addiction Services Program (WASP), a drug and alcohol counselling center for gay men and lesbians.

Responding to the AIDS crisis in the 1980s, the Western

Addiction Services Program extended its mission with the AIDS Counseling and Assistance Program (AIDS CAP). Services included free HIV testing, and AIDS education and prevention programs. A free food pantry and household items service for HIV-positive individuals—The Necessities of Life Project (NOLP)—was established in 1991. The organization changed its name to the Gay & Lesbian Resource Center (GLRC) in 1991, then to the Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF) in 1994. From its beginnings in the late 1970s, The Pacific Pride Foundation has provided critical health and social services to California's Central Coast LGBTQ+ communities with offices in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria.

While covering the administrative history of the Pacific Pride Foundation through board minutes, meeting notes, planning documents, bylaws, correspondence and reports, these records also contain a large number of photographs providing comprehensive visual documentation of its activities, including food drives, galas, youth retreats, the Pacific Pride Foundation Youth Drop-In Center, AIDS and Pride walks, National Coming Out Day, and the LGBTQ+ Film Festival OUTrageous Santa Barbara.

Publications include issues of the Pacific Pride *Bulletin* from the 1990s through the early 2000s, issues of *The Advocate* from the late 1960s to the 1980s, as well as a number of smaller, less well known newsletters and bulletins. The records contain audiovisual items, and a large number of posters, flyers and other promotional materials which we will be delivering to our digital production services department for transfer. The records also contain born digital materials to be captured for long term preservation.

These records came to us as a donation from the Pacific Pride Foundation as it was moving to a new office. This was a meeting of interests, as Pacific Pride Executive Director Collette Schabram was seeking a home for the records just as we were working to identify materials covering local LGBTQ+ history. To be sure, there are collections of this kind documenting LGBTQ+ activism elsewhere in California and the United States, but none covering Santa Barbara specifically, whose LGBTQ+ community has a particularly strong record of civic engagement. Our aim in acquiring these records was to fill a gap in our collections (and a gap in the historical

record) with materials that could support exhibits and education, as well as scholarly research on LGBTQ+ history in Santa Barbara County, both taken alone and as a point of comparison with similar organizations in other communities.

Our processing strategy was to work quickly and publish a finding aid in a timely manner, in coordination with outreach staff. The publication of the finding aid on the Online Archive of California coincided with press releases about the records. This approach succeeded. Soon after the press releases and publication of the finding aid, we received two important additions from local donors, including rare newsletters from the Foundation's early days as the Western Addiction Services Program (WASP).

It should be noted that this is not the end of our collecting in this area, but the beginning. We see the Pacific Pride Foundation Records as the cornerstone for more collections to come as we document and preserve the history of the LGBTQ+ community in our region for future generations of students, scholars, researchers and educators.

Finding aid ARK: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8gt5tfs/>

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## GEORGE MOSCONE: MOTIVATED BY IDEALISM



Top photo: George Moscone and Willie Brown at a Luncheon;

Bottom photo: George Moscone riding a merry-go-round.

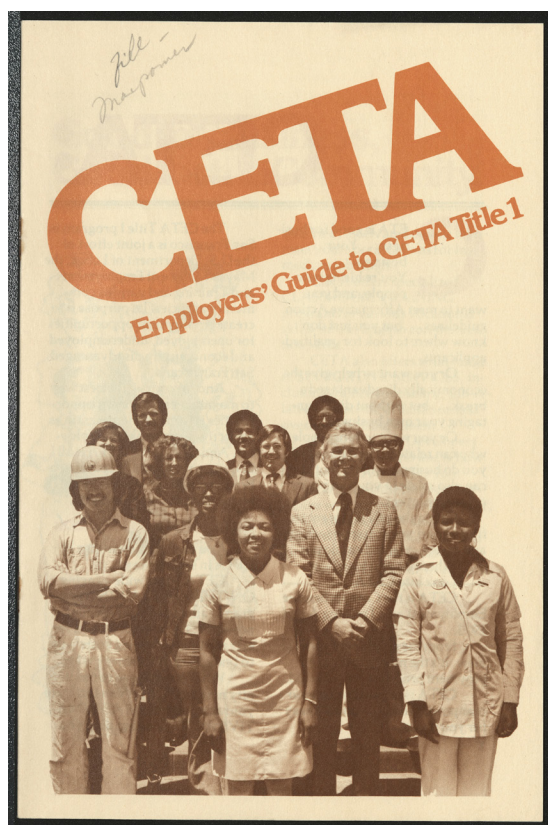
“I hope that those who are today motivated by idealism never lose it. I hope that they are not overwhelmed by the crass world of materialism or the pervasive philosophy of ‘get-it-while-you-can.’ I hope that they remember that behind every ‘self-made-man’ there is a long line of those who helped and shared, who loved and cared.”

These are the words of George Moscone when

he addressed the class of 1970 at John O’Connell Vocational High School. Most people when they first think of George Moscone conjure his horrific assassination along with Harvey Milk at San Francisco City Hall in 1978. However after having the privilege of processing his collection, a fuller picture has developed for me of who George Moscone was: a caring and true progressive idealist.

The Moscone Collection, now housed here at the University of the Pacific (his alma mater), consists primarily of his senate and mayoral papers. But each series and sub-series reveal more of who Moscone was as a politician and person. In the California State Senate he sponsored bills on school lunches for low-income children, collective bargaining, bilingual education, and marijuana decriminalization. As mayor of San Francisco he worked for a more inclusive and representative Board of Supervisors, the health and well-being of marginalized citizens (including the elderly), a community orientated police force, and youth employment. Even his correspondence illustrates how progressive he was for the time. When an angry constituent penned a slur-filled letter decrying the Gay-Pride Parade, Moscone responded with, “I am sorry that you object so violently to this parade . . . there are over 100,000 gay men and women in this city who live here, work here, and pay taxes here. . . . [T]he beauty of our nation is that its laws are designed to be enforced for all law-abiding citizens, and not just a select few. I hope this letter clarifies my position on this issue.”

While George Moscone may have been an idealist, his papers however were housed in less than ideal conditions. The boxes they came in lacked clear chronology, while many folders were stored in plastic bins that allowed moisture and mold to develop. Thus we worked to rectify both challenges. Since it was difficult to ascertain an original order, much thought went into developing an arrangement scheme that made organizational sense while promoting easy accessibility. Meanwhile many of the boxes included in the collection belonged with the Joseph Alioto Papers in San Francisco, so what started as 85 boxes got shrunk down to 64. Personally I vacillated between the ideas of organizing his subject files alphabetically or chronologically. At one point I even tried combining the ideas and imagined alphabetizing the subject files for each individual year, only to abandon the scheme after considering the perspective of potential researchers. In



Pamphlet on the benefits of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA)

the end I decided that alphabetizing all the subject files regardless of year made the most organizational sense. Lastly, with a little effort and a lot of patience, we were able to preserve Moscone's speeches and other papers from further decay.

One lesson I learned from this process is the importance of giving archivists the independence to make their own organizational judgements. Developing the ability to discern the best course of action for a collection is only gained through independent experience. Secondly, I learned how beneficial grants can be to this profession. Thanks to a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) we are able to make the Moscone Collection accessible to the public and foster a new archivist in the profession.

We are currently developing plans for how the collection can be imbued into the curriculum of various classes so that future generations can understand why George Moscone is so influential to California and our current culture. We also plan to digitize and publish selected items for online collections and exhibits. As of this writing, students are working with the producers of a

documentary about George Moscone and they plan to use sources from the Moscone Collection in the film.

Many political collections are often about more than just whose name is in the title. Broader topics such as political representation, changing demographics, civil rights, affirmative action, gentrification, and the evolution of San Francisco's current zeitgeist are all present in the Moscone Collection. We at Holt-Atherton Special Collections are excited about all the emerging interest and are honored to make the Moscone Collection accessible to students, researchers, and the general public.

*Joseph Olson*

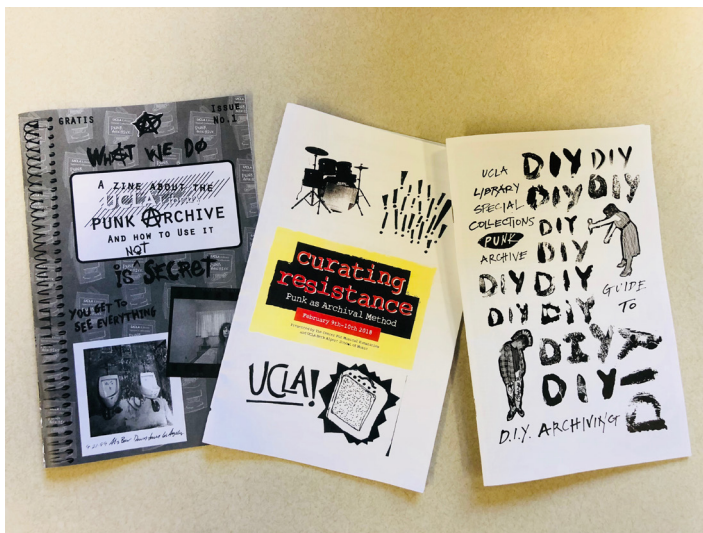
*Project Archivist for the Moscone Collection*

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## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UCLA LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS PUNK ARCHIVE HELPS CURATE RESISTANCE!



Staff-created zines and conference program

UCLA Library Special Collections was excited to participate in the two-day conference *Curating Resistance: Punk as Archival Method* held on campus February 9 - 10 and presented by UCLA's Center for Musical Humanities and Herb Alpert School of Music. The conference provided Library Special Collections





Punk items on display for Library Special Collections tour and show-and-tell.

## DIGITIZING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES



Students visit the Metropolitan Water District

with a great opportunity to highlight its Punk Archive, which consists of archival collections, zines and other publications, and ephemera relating to the Los Angeles and Southern California punk scenes from the 1970s to the present. We mounted several small exhibits of material from the collections, hosted tours with show-and-tells, and conducted DIY Archives 101 workshops. Library Special Collections also distributed staff-made fanzines about our punk collections and DIY archives, as well as stickers, buttons, and guitar picks. Conference-goers expressed excitement for our Punk Archive collections and engaged staff in numerous enthusiastic conversations over the two-day event.

For more info about the UCLA Library Special Collections Punk Archive, see our research guide at: <http://guides.library.ucla.edu/special-collections-los-angeles-punk/>

Melissa Haley and Courtney Dean, Archivists  
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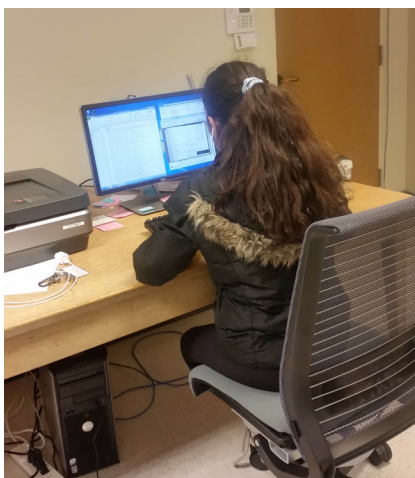
February 2018 marked the completion of the first year of work on the *Digitizing Southern California Water Resources* Project, also known as the CLIRWater Project, a 3-year collaborative preservation and dissemination project that was awarded a Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) grant.

This project is a partnership between The Claremont Colleges Library, A.K. Smiley Public Library, California State University Northridge (CSUN) Oviatt Library, California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) Water Resources Institute, the National Archives and Records Administration at Riverside, Ontario City Library, and Upland Public Library.

Students from The Claremont Colleges, working as CLIR CCEPS (Claremont Center for Engagement with Primary Sources) Fellows, as well as students from CSUN and CSUSB have been digitizing and describing reports, maps, blueprints, photographs, and other material found in water-related archival collections.

The materials come from a variety of sources such as federal, state, and local governments, water companies, local agencies, engineers, and other individuals involved in water development in the region from the 19th through the 20th centuries. The digitized collections provide a foundation for a “distributed”





Student works on materials from the Ontario City Library

digital water resource archive, as well as facilitate and support digital scholarship for researchers. The items that have been digitized can be found in the [California Water Documents](#) collection in The Claremont Colleges Digital Library (CCDL).

In spring/summer 2017, the first CLIR CCEPS Fellows began work on the project. The CCEPS program provides professional archival training to undergraduate and graduate students while also promoting special collections and services as integral to the research, teaching, and learning mission of The Claremont Colleges Library. Visit the CCEPS blog, [Out of the Box](#) to read about the students' experiences.

The first fellows included two graduating seniors and two graduate students. Raemi Thomas, a Politics major (Scripps '17), used the fellowship as an opportunity to explore her career options. "My ultimate goal is to become a librarian and I feel like this fellowship is a great introduction into the process of digital archives and contributing to a database of knowledge and history."

The fellowship also gave an opportunity for students to learn about themselves and their interests. Michelle Hahn, a Master's student in History at Claremont Graduate University (CGU) said, "I've learned that I am more interested in environmental history than I first expected. As I look over the documents I'm scanning, I may not be able to understand all of the technical data or the engineering jargon, but I can get a sense of some of the issues at hand through the Imperial Valley Records." Erika Nassirinia, an English major (Pomona

'17), also made some discoveries about herself. "I've learned that I have a good eye for arranging items so they are straight, that I'm handy with tools and taking apart staples, and that I can actually use the camera and take pictures!"

Aside from making discoveries about themselves, there was also time to consider the materials. When Myles Mikulic, a PhD student in History at CGU was asked to name an item that he found interesting, he said, "A letter from the LA County District Attorney's office missing the upper left hand corner. The only piece of correspondence I've come across, and no idea who it's from."

A highlight for some of the fellows was a visit to the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). While there, the fellows had the opportunity to view two exhibits and hear about the MWD's social media campaign around its "Turning on the Tap: 75 Years of Water Delivery to Southern California" celebration.

In December 2017, the inaugural cohort as well as fellows from the fall 2017 semester shared their culminating presentations. Alfonso Casares, an undergraduate student at Pomona College discussed his work on materials from the Ontario City Library. Alfonso's focus was on George and William Chaffey and their establishment of a model colony in the Inland Empire. Kiera Peacock, a CGU Master's degree student in Cultural Studies discussed how social media can enhance projects done by libraries, special collections, and archives.

In addition to the work the students did, four of the seven partner institutions worked on a panel proposal that was accepted for the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) conference in Riverside.

To learn more about the CLIRWater project, visit its [Facebook](#) page.

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*The Claremont Colleges Library*  
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## NHPRC SUPPORTS PROCESSING ENVIRONMENTAL COLLECTION AT THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

The Bancroft Library is currently engaged in a two-year NHPRC-funded project to process a range of archival collections relating to environmental movements in the West. A leading repository in documenting U.S. environmental movements, The Bancroft Library is home to the records of many significant environmental organizations and the papers of a range of environmental activists. Among the library's holdings are the records of the Sierra Club, including correspondence of naturalist and Club founder John Muir, the records of the Save-the-Redwoods League, and the records of Save the Bay. Among the collections already made available to researchers in this current NHPRC-funded project are the records of the Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, the records of the Small Wilderness Area Preservation group, the papers of environmental lawyer Thomas J. Graff, and the records of California-based Trustees for Conservation. Collections scheduled to be processed in the next eighteen months include the records of such major environmental organizations as Friends of the River, Friends of the Earth, the Rainforest Action Network, and the Earth Island Institute.

*Lara Michels, Head of Archival Processing  
The Bancroft Library  
University of California, Berkeley*

## JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES PROJECT AT THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

The Bancroft Library is pleased to announce the addition of nearly 150,000 digital captures to its offerings of scholarly research material to the Online Archive of California and Calisphere. The project titled, *Voices in Confinement* is the result of the second National Park Service grant awarded to The Bancroft Library. Completed in the Fall of 2017, *Voices in Confinement* provides online access to materials from over 74 collections allowing researchers to explore these primary source materials using textual searches and analysis. Scholars and the general public alike will have access to the historical records documenting the

lives of over 120,000 Japanese Americans, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens, who were forcefully relocated to camps by the U.S. government between the years of 1941 and 1945 during World War II.

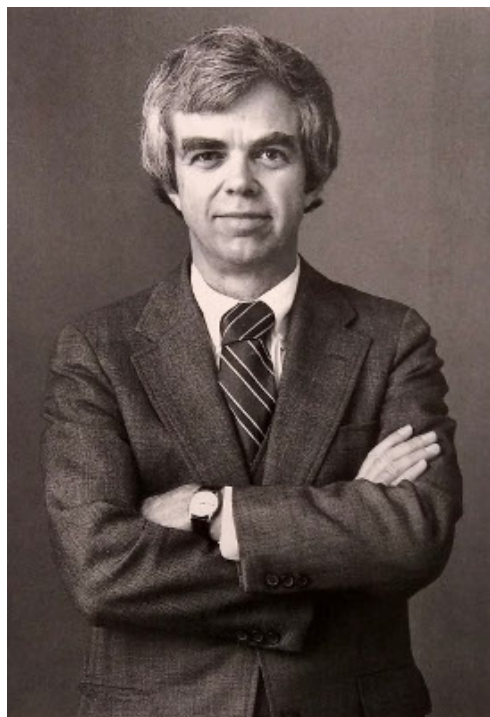
The Bancroft Library is a leading repository for documenting Japanese American Evacuation & Resettlement. In 1945, the War Relocation Authority (WRA) designated the University of California, Berkeley Library as the prime custodians for WRA records outside the National Archives. These documents were combined with the records of the Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement Study conducted at the University of California, Berkeley to create the Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement Records (BANC MSS 67/14 c). With the addition personal records, Bancroft's holdings provide an unprecedented picture of the Japanese American community, who demonstrated strength and resilience throughout their displacement and internment during World War II.

Highlights from the *Voices in Confinement* collections include papers, maps and photographs from two California Attorney Generals, the Farm Security Administration and War Relocation Authority. Among the personal archival materials are letters, photographs, oral histories, camp publications, poetry, artworks, daily journals, life histories, and secondary research materials.

*For more information please visit the Japanese American Evacuation & Resettlement Digital Archive Website: <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/jacs>*

*Julie Musson, Digital Collections Archivist  
The Bancroft Library*

## PROCESSING UNDERWAY ON PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR'S PAPERS



Processing of the Martin Anderson papers is underway at the Hoover Institution Library and Archives. [Anderson](#) was an advisor to presidents Reagan and Nixon, an economist, author, scholar and fellow of the Hoover Institution from 1971 until his passing in 2015.

[Reminiscing](#) about a meeting with Nixon in 1970, Anderson remembers Nixon saying that, “The mark of a real leader is to keep aloof from all the details, to keep your eye on the main things. [...] The only thing you will have to look back on is whether you accomplished something major” (Martin Anderson, *Revolution: The Reagan Legacy* [Stanford, Calif : Hoover Institution Press, 1990], 207). Anderson’s “major things” included getting Richard Nixon elected president in 1968, abolishing the draft, getting Ronald Reagan elected president in 1980, and transforming supply side economics from theory to policy.

The seven-hundred linear foot collection will be processed using MPLP metrics. Stored in seven locations spanning three buildings and only partially accessioned, processing challenges should keep project archivist, Emily Gibson, busy for the two-year duration of the project, which is scheduled to end in winter of

2019. We are fortunate to have the guidance and insight of Martin Anderson’s widow, Dr. Annelise Anderson, an economist, author, scholar and fellow of the Hoover Institution, [who also worked with Reagan](#) and Nixon.

Although it’s too early to write the scope and content note, the collection promises outstanding highlights, including internal White House correspondence; documents outlining the plan to end the Vietnam War; files pertaining to the Strategic Defense Initiative (“Star Wars”); and records created by the President’s Economic Policy Advisory Board, or, as Anderson described it, the “board of directors for the development of Reaganomics.” Follow our progress on Twitter at [#CatalogingMarty](#).

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## CAL POLY BEGINS WORK ON NHPRC PROJECT



Rob Strauss, Project Archivist at Cal Poly Pomona

Last October, Cal Poly Pomona Special Collections and Archives began an 18-month project to process 600 linear feet of archival materials and create or enhance 53 finding aids. The project is made possible thanks to a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The materials that will be processed during the grant represent all four of



Cal Poly Pomona's collecting areas: University Archives, Southern California Wine and Wine Industry Collection, Pomona Valley History Collection, and the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Library.

I was hired as the project archivist and have been working with several student workers to make the materials available to researchers.

The first collection that we tackled as part of the project was the John Lyle Papers, a 70-linear feet collection made up of materials from a former Professor of Landscape Architecture at Cal Poly Pomona. Lyle has a center named after him on the Pomona campus: The Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies. He died in 1998 and his wife donated his materials to Cal Poly last year.

The papers include designs and photographs of his architectural and design projects, including the Center for Regenerative Studies. They also include drafts and illustrations from three books that he authored. One was a novel that Lyle wrote under a pseudonym.

Several other collections are also in progress, including the records of the League of Women Voters of East San Gabriel Valley and the Thomas Pinney Papers. Pinney is the author of wine history books and is an Emeritus Professor of English at Pomona College in Claremont. The collection includes his research papers and many wine materials, including wine labels he collected from around the world. Many of the labels include Pinney's handwritten commentaries.

Two Arabian horse collections have already been added to the Online Archive of California during the past several months. They include the records of McKinstry Arabians, a breeder of Arabian horses in Colorado. The McKinstry's horses descended from the Arabians bred at the Kellogg Ranch, which cereal mogul W.K. Kellogg donated to the state in 1933 and is today the site of the Cal Poly Pomona campus.

Another collection that will be processed soon as part of the grant is the congressional papers of former California Congresswoman Hilda Solis. In addition to the Online Archive of California, the finding aids are also being made available via the university library's catalog and on ArchiveGrid.

As part of the project, Alexis Adkins, Archivist for Special Collections and Archives, has also been working with Katie Richardson, the head of Special Collections and Archives, to revamp the department's processing manual. The goal is to eventually make the manual available online to other repositories.

*Rob Strauss*

*Project Archivist*

*Cal Poly Pomona Special Collections and Archives,  
Pomona, CA.*

## COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE ARCHIVES COMMISSION CELEBRATES

The County of Riverside Archives Commission recently celebrated 20 years of service. The Commission was established September 23, 1997, with the official duty of the Commissioners being to "advise and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the development of the County Archives, the preservation of County historical records, documents and objects."

Two Commissioners are appointed from each of Riverside County's 5 Supervisorial Districts. The County encompasses an area greater than 7400 square miles, and it was originally formed from parts of San Bernardino and San Diego counties. A representative from the County of Riverside Historical Commission also attends the quarterly Archives Commission meetings, which are held at various venues throughout the Supervisorial Districts.

The primary objective of the Commissioners is to provide oversight that documentary holdings are correctly preserved and made available to the public by a knowledgeable and accommodating staff. The Robert J. Fitch Archives site is where the County Archives are primarily stored.

Another key component of the County of Riverside Archives Commissioners' mission is working to broaden exposure and awareness of the County Archives, which serve as a valuable resource depository, especially for students, researchers, genealogists, historic preservationists, writers, etc.

A special project undertaken by the Commissioners for Archives Month, which is celebrated annually in October, is the design and distribution of bookmarks to libraries, genealogical societies, and historical organizations. For several years the bookmarks focused on early cattle brands recorded at the County Archives, along with a brief explanation on the reverse about the originator of the brand, many of whom were founding ranchers and businessmen in the County.

The emphasis of this year's bookmark celebrates the upcoming 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the County of Riverside's incorporation on May 9, 1893, which will be highlighted throughout 2018.

The Riverside County Supervisors acknowledged the work of the Archives Commission and celebrated Archives Month with a proclamation at the October 24, 2017 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Further information about the County of Riverside Archives Commission is available at <http://archives.asrclrec.com/ArchivesCommision.asp>

The County of Riverside Robert J. Fitch Archives are open to the public by appointment during open hours 9:00am – 12:00pm. Tuesday – Thursday (Except County Holidays). You may contact the Archives to request appointments by sending an [email to: CountyofRiversideArchives@asrclrec.com](mailto:CountyofRiversideArchives@asrclrec.com)

*Sherry Parkos-Martinez*

*Vice Chair-Riverside County Archives Commission  
2724 Gateway Dr., Riverside, CA 92507  
(760) 413-7375*

## AS TOLD TO...

### MY LIFE AS IT RELATES TO ARCHIVES

By Berlin Loa, as told to Dee Dee Kramer

I grew up between Salinas and Greenfield. People are usually familiar with Salinas; it has a horrible reputation right now. Greenfield is a small, rural ag town about 30 miles inland from Salinas. Growing up, we spent all of our time at beaches: Moss Landing Beach, beaches in Carmel, beaches in Monterey.

Then I spent my late teens and twenties in Oakland, so that was where I grew into adulthood and formulated my living style. Then from the Bay Area, I moved to Tucson.

Tucson is very active and vibrant now, but at the time that I moved there, it felt like a very small town; moving from the Bay Area was sort of a shock. But the funny thing is that since living in Tucson, I've been travelling

4 x 6 **inches** to 4 x 6 **feet**...  
...photos to maps!

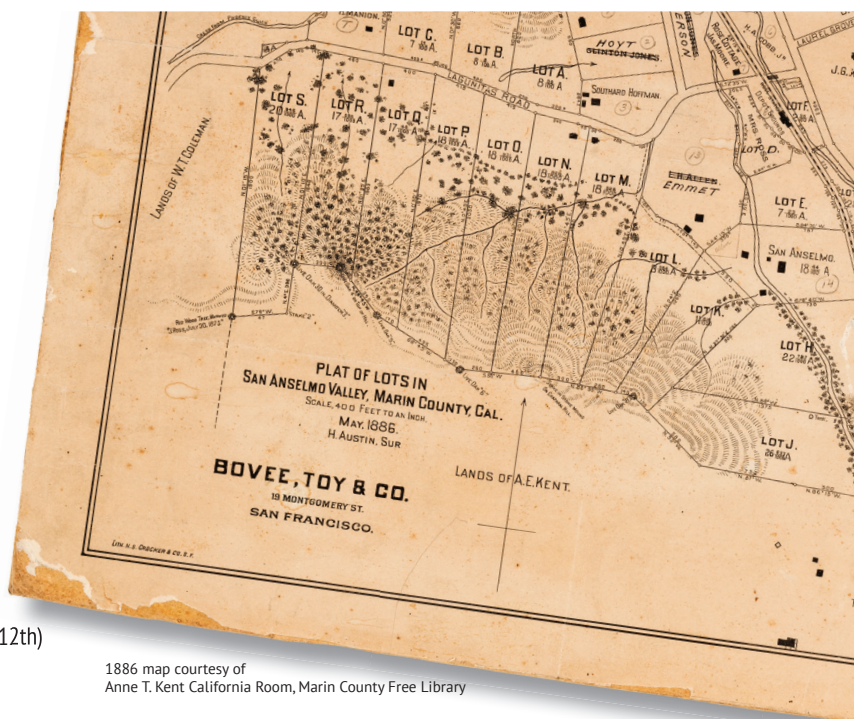
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1886 map courtesy of  
Anne T. Kent California Room, Marin County Free Library



Berlin Loa

among positions in rural areas, so maybe it's my thing; I don't know.

Before I came to Cal Poly, I was the Director of a small historical museum in Arizona, Casa Grande Valley Historical Society. It was a very small staff of two, with a group of about 50 volunteers, many of whom had been there long before I arrived and are there still.

It's a big move from Arizona to San Luis Obispo County. Geographically it's different, but there are some similarities. Like San Luis Obispo, Casa Grande is a rural area, very much focused on agriculture, mostly cattle and cotton. When I moved here to Cal Poly (some people call it Cow Poly), there were cows as far as the eye could see. Cows and farming. There's no cotton here like there is in Casa Grande, but it's still farming; it's the same concept.

I love new environments. Conversation around the office every Thursday or Friday is "What are you doing this weekend?" and my answer is always, "Whatever it is, it's going to be outside." I love finding the local trails. Anytime I can find a new landscape to explore, I'm happy.

I sort of feel the same way with moving to new cities; I want to experience different styles. We moved quite a bit when I was a kid, so maybe that's part of my blood now, moving house. I love the activity of moving. I

love the packing up and the planning.

A lot of what I do at work is to try to make better use of space. We have very limited storage here at this archives and we're bursting at the seams; we really have no room for growth. I love the Tetris of it, trying to fit 5,000 square feet of material into 40,000 square feet of space. We're in the planning stage, but we're going through a renovation soon, so it'll be a big part of my job to plan moving everything out and then moving everything back in.

As a kid, I loved going to thrift stores. I still love thrift stores. They're full of things that, at one time, were vitally important to people: a coffee cup that someone once used every day or a favorite sweater. And now those things are in a thrift store. Why do some things end up in a thrift store and others in a museum? What determines that fate? Between my love of thrift stores and my college major in English Literature and Anthropology, I think it's natural that I'm now working in museums and archives.

I miss being in a museum almost every day. I miss working with objects as opposed to documents; I miss the tactile experience that I have when I'm working with physical objects. At one site where I worked, I helped to prepare a textile exhibit of indigenous woven rugs, and there's a way in which you work with that type of material that you can't experience with a document; a document is very much a two-dimensional, flat experience, compared with a woven rug or a prehistoric ceramic. So I miss it terribly. But what the written text and objects have in common is that in a larger sense, it's all discourse; it's all a relationship between humans and the environment: the built environment, the creative environment, the artistic environment, the textual environment.

And so it's very similar with that thrift store coffee cup; I mean, that coffee cup might have some quirky text on it, but also, the person it belonged to drank from it right-handed or left-handed. There's art on it. To me, our interactions with objects are sort of a text, and other people are reading us the way they might read our diary. It's how we communicate with each other.

*Berlin Loa is an Archivist & Project Coordinator at CSU San Luis Obispo Special Collections and Archives.*



*"As Told To" is a column by Dee Dee Kramer of the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center, San Francisco Public Library. It is written in collaboration with SCA member archivists. If you'd like to be the next subject / autobiographer, please contact her at [wendy.kramer@sfppl.org](mailto:wendy.kramer@sfppl.org).*

## EXCLUSIVES

### PARTNERSHIP FOR ACCESS THROUGH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES



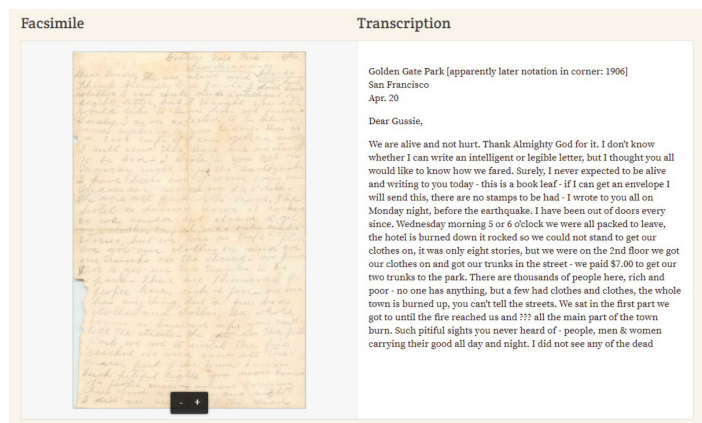
Eadweard Muybridge, Stanford Library Archives

important topics. As a step towards resolving this issue, we developed a partnership with [FromThePage](#) (FTP) to facilitate volunteer online transcription by Stanford community members. The Stanford Letters project [soft launched](#) in late fall 2017. We've been very pleased with the level of user activity and the feedback so far. Our next steps involve expanding our outreach efforts to attract more users.

***Tell us about your integration plans. How is IIIF a part of this project?***

One of our motivations for partnering with FTP was their commitment to [International Image Interoperability Framework](#) (IIIF) support and integrations. The IIIF is a set of shared application programming interface specifications for interoperable functionality in digital image repositories. Since Stanford Libraries is pioneering IIIF, we are using The Stanford Letters Project to test the round tripping of IIIF manifests from content in the [Stanford Digital Repository](#) to FTP and back with annotations contributed by humans. We hope to fine-tune this workflow for use in online exhibits utilizing the [Spotlight](#) platform to provide full-text searching of the transcriptions created with FTP.

We're impressed with how FTP has recently extended IIIF support to include links to all relevant export formats at both the document (e.g. single item) and work (e.g. series) level. Given the size of some of our collections, we worked with the FTP team to expand functional support for importing and exporting robust IIIF manifests for collections with several thousand items. The enhanced functionality of FTP as a result of our partnership efforts are now available to all users.



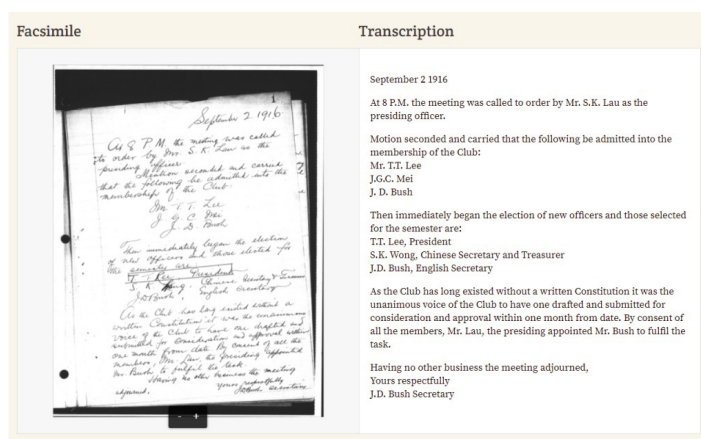
Jennie Tiwena 1906 Earthquake, Stanford Library Archives

*Interview with Daniel Hartwig, Josh Schneider and Jenny Johnson, Stanford University Libraries, Special Collections & University Archives.*

***Tell us about the project. What are your goals?***

Stanford University Archives has launched The Stanford Letters Project, an online crowdsourcing initiative to transcribe handwritten documents within our holdings, accessible at <https://www.fromthepage.com/stanforduniversityarchives>.

Our institution is committed to providing broad public access to our collections, however, the fact that some of our most important historical materials are handwritten has proven to be problematic. Though we've digitized many of these documents, the scans aren't machine readable; they can't be keyword searched, and are difficult for users to discover online and parse for



Stanford Chinese Club minutes, 1916, Stanford Library Archives

### ***Tell us about the documents in the Stanford Letters Project collections.***

Our collections include hundreds of thousands of handwritten documents and photographs. We're focusing our crowdsourced transcription efforts on some of our flagship collections including the letters of our founders, [Jane Lathrop Stanford](#) and [Leland Stanford](#), and the letters of their son and the university's namesake, [Leland Stanford, Jr.](#) Correspondence and related materials from other prominent individuals, including Sarah Winchester and Eadweard Muybridge, are also featured, as is a groundbreaking [survey of women's sexual habits and activities](#) conducted by faculty member Clelia Mosher in 1892 -- over five decades before similar work undertaken by Alfred Kinsey.

We're especially interested in enabling access to handwritten materials representative of Stanford women, communities of color, LGBTQIA individuals, and activists, aligning with the Stanford Archives' [ongoing initiative](#) to make accessible and promote materials generated by these communities. Two collections in the works include the Richard William Weiland papers and the Charles Howard Durham diaries. Weiland was Microsoft's 3rd employee who retired in 1988 to pursue full-time philanthropy, where his interests were education; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights; health and human services; and the environment. Durham's diaries chronicle his relationship with Stanford University Classicist, Samuel Walter Miller, from 1883-1896.

Students and alumni represent two of our primary

constituencies for this project, and so we are also using this opportunity to feature handwritten letters documenting the student experience of major 20th century events, such as the [1906 SF Earthquake](#), [WWI](#), and [WII](#), as well as other handwritten materials relating to [student groups](#), such as the minutes of Chinese Club, and Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MEChA).

### ***Where did the funding for your project come from?***

Funding for this project was secured through an internal grant encouraging innovative projects by Stanford Libraries staff, named for a late Stanford Professor of History and longtime friend of the library, [Payson J. Treat](#).

### ***How are you recruiting volunteers?***

By highlighting handwritten materials representing a broad cross section of authors, topics, and interests, we're trying to engage a wide variety of participants, including undergraduate and graduate alumni, as well as others within and beyond the Stanford community, who are drawn to both the specific content as well as its connection to Stanford and California history.

*Sherri Kelly*

*San Jose State University MLIS*

## **NEW APPROACHES TO DONOR STORIES**

Krystal Tribbett, Curator for Orange County Regional History, and Kelly Spring, Archivist for Special Collections, both at UCI are experimenting with collecting contextual information about archival collections using oral history techniques.

Like many good ideas, this came out of sharing a coffee break. A few weeks prior, they sat with donors in Newport Beach and, as is common, began the visit with the following prompt, "Tell us about your collection." The family offered a lively story about decades of activism to preserve the Upper Newport Bay. The donors described their first recognition of the changing ecology of the Bay and subsequent canvassing efforts to inform the community.

As Krystal and Kelly sat outside the coffee shop, they agreed that, even though the notes they took inform the finding aid, they didn't capture the stories as told by the donors. They wondered if they could audio record this donor's story and add it to the archival collection?

There were two challenges. First, the donors already shared their story and the next appointment was to pack the collection. Second, a workflow was needed for including audio in finding aids. Krystal created a plan to solicit an audio recording from the donors, and Kelly reached out to CDL regarding best practices.

### *DIY oral history*

Collecting traditional oral histories can be time-consuming and costly. Do-it-yourself oral histories like StoryCorps, though, have potential for allowing archivists to gain first-person contextual accounts. Drawing from her experience as an oral historian, Krystal modified the systematic and disciplined approach typically used in collecting oral histories to develop a set of questions that donors could follow on their own time. Because the team would suggest donors use readily available technology to record, Krystal also mapped out specific iPhone and Android directions for donors to follow.

Meanwhile, Kelly investigated how to include audio files as digital components in collections. Pointing to digital content in XML is straightforward. But, since UCI Special Collections manages digital access copies through the CDL DAMS, Kelly is working with Adrian Turner and Brian Tingle to determine the best approach. The idea is to make audio files clickable directly through the finding aid. For those that have accompanying digital content, a new collection registry will be made. Those without will reside in an administrative registry with collection information available in the item-level metadata.

### *Case Studies*

On the second visit to the Newport Beach donors, Krystal explained the pilot project and asked if the donors would participate. She gave them a set of questions, instructions, and a consent form which permits preservation and public access to the story. This will test the DIY approach.

A visit to a new donor in Laguna Beach was arranged, providing another opportunity to test the project. In this case, the donor was asked ahead of time about being recorded, "similar to an oral history." He declined. Yet, while on-site to pack the papers, Krystal simply asked if she could record him talking about specific items. He agreed. It turned out that the secret was in the phrasing. An oral history sounded too formal and overwhelming, and really wasn't the right description for the project.

While Krystal facilitated the recording, Kelly focused on evaluating the collection. The team approach worked well because it's difficult to record when you're trying to pack a collection, and it's equally difficult to pack a collection when you're recording a story.

This second experience provided the team with further logistical considerations. These included: deciding when a consent form is needed, audio file-naming, photographing items the donor discusses, regulating outside noise, and, once back in the office, creating a folder structure to accommodate the files.

### *Summary*

Krystal and Kelly hope that audio contextual additions will enhance collections and provide an additional dimension to the traditional text-based finding aid by adding depth and emotion to the archival description. Frequently, the donor knows more about the material than the archivist or curator will and the goal is to honor the why and wherefore found in their first-hand stories just as much as preserving the collections themselves.

It is also their hope that this has been a fun and interesting read! They will continue to journal about progress and plan to share an update in a future newsletter.

*Krystal Tribbett*

*Curator for Orange County Regional History*

*University of California, Irvine*

[ktribbet@uci.edu](mailto:ktribbet@uci.edu)

*Kelly Spring*

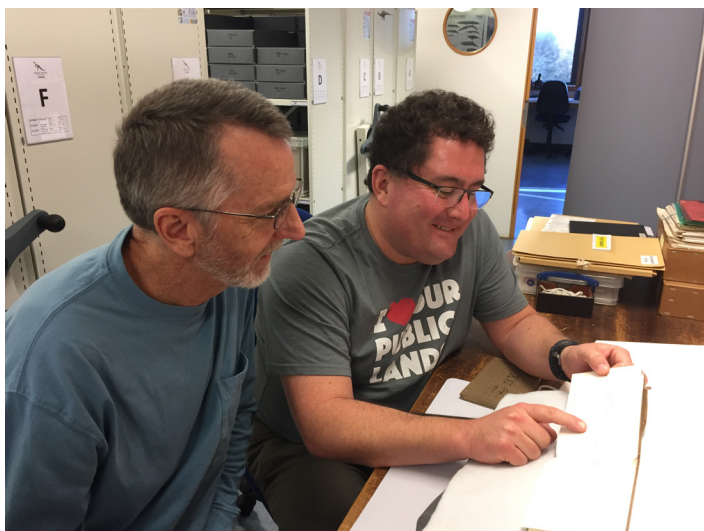
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## AN ARCHIVIST AND A GEOLOGIST WALK INTO A PUB...



Archivist Wurtz and geologist Burmeister (with clean hands) inspect the 127-year-old geological notes of the Grand Canyon at Cambridge University during a research trip to the UK to discover the history of geological thought.

The University of the Pacific archives (led by me) and geology departments (led by Dr. Kurtis Burmeister) have been working together for years to have archival resources used on field trips in California, the Canyonlands of Utah and Arizona, and Scotland. We include reproductions of John Muir's journals, Internment Camp newsletters, historic maps, and other archival and library resources in the field guidebooks to connect students to the landscape and improve observational skills. Surveys of the students conducted before and after the trips have indicated success.

During these field trips, I have been drawn to the history of geology and I have learned that the Scots have been the bedrock of geological thought. James Hutton was the first scientist to theorize that the earth had to be older than Bible indicated 6000 years, and other Scots have developed seminal theories on volcanism and plate tectonics. On a history/geology trip to Scotland in 2017, we included archival documents into the students' field guides so they could look at them in the very places where early geologists first understood the earth themselves.

When preparing for the Scotland trip, we quickly learned that much of Scotland's history is preserved

in London's archives, libraries, and museums. So, we wrote an internal grant to send us to London to find those resources. We ended up visiting the British Library, the Geological Society, the University of Birmingham's Lapworth Museum of Geology, the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, and the Cambridge University Sedgwick Museum of Earth Science.

All three museums had robust archival collections that were branches of the curatorial collections (where the rocks and bones are kept). None appeared to be directly affiliated with universities' main library or archives, nor did they have separate reading rooms for researchers. Oxford's was part of the administrative offices, Cambridge's was in the collections room, and Birmingham's was in an unused classroom. They all had created some online access to either boutique collections or basic finding aids; and all were starting digitization projects to make available on larger networks of resources like Calisphere.

As far as seeing cool stuff, our expectations were wildly exceeded! We saw and captured nearly 1000 images including the first geological map ever drawn -- a beautifully colored 1807 map of Bath, England by William Smith, who later drew the first geological map of a country and was the subject of Simon Winchester's 2001 *The Map That Changed the World*. We were also struck by the 1891 notebooks from British geologist Alfred Harker's tour of the US West. Harker made observations of the exact locations that we take students. Clearly, we found plenty of materials that will enrich the experience of our students on field trips.

The British Library had extremely high security, but an extremely liberal reproduction policy - just don't hurt the books and maps, or disturb other patrons. Tip for "library lovers:" figure out an old book you want to see and contact these libraries well in advance to determine access. Like most modern libraries, books are hard to find or encased in glass, and rare books are rarely a matter of walking in and asking. A year earlier, I jumped through the hoops to see a book from Ireland's Trinity Library's Long Room and just getting to the "Early Printed Books" reading room was a worthwhile odyssey.

Even with all the preparation, most of the archivists we visited were still a bit hesitant to help us at first. But once we got the archivist interested, they bent over



The transition from archivist to researcher is painless and rewarding when you are in the British Library and you get to roll out an early 18th century geologic map of Scotland.

backwards to find the coolest stuff. This was especially so at the Geological Society. Although they had the strictest policies (including a fee to walk in the door), the now-interested archivists would top themselves with each new box of geological treasures that beat everything we intended to see. All the people at the museums were wonderful, and excitedly reminded us upon departure that if we need anything else, let them know.

The trip was an excellent opportunity to see how geological and English archives work, study the history of geological thought, find outstanding examples of observations that can be shared with students, and foster continued opportunities to work with teaching faculty. None of this would have happened if it weren't for the connection with the geology department at the University of the Pacific. I'm quite fortunate to have a colleague like Kurt Burmeister to shepherd, mentor, and work with me to get our archives into the classroom.

*Mike Wurtz*

*Assistant Professor*

*Head of Holt-Atherton Special Collections and University Archives at the University of the Pacific*

## WHITE PAPERS

### MOVE OVER GOOGLE! MARIN COUNTY IS DOING SOME SERIOUS MAPPING!



Jeff Hurn and team( or ACT3 team) setting up a large map for multiple images and stitching using a 4' x 6' sliding magnetic surface.

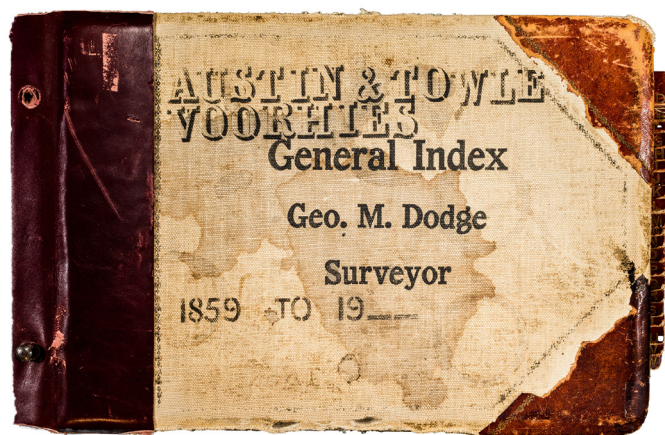
Act 3 Partners just completed the initial phases of a digital capture project for the Marin County Free Library involving a treasure trove of historical maps.

The Anne T. Kent California Room at the Marin County Library is an archive dedicated to collecting and preserving information on local, regional, and state history with a strong emphasis on the history and culture of Marin County. Resources include photographs, oral histories, maps, books, voter registers, local newspaper clippings, documents and ephemera.

"We are dedicated to making these historic assets accessible to the public. Our portal is expanding with 32,000 digital files and growing!"

Laurie Thompson, Librarian, Ann T. Kent California Room





Top: 1879 map of San Rafael by Hiram Austin, surveyor;  
Bottom: Index book cover 1859 George Dodge, surveyor

Thompson, the Librarian of the California Room, we offered to demonstrate our “Raw Rapid Capture” photographic approach and provide test captures to evaluate.

Pleased with the results of our tests, the Library asked us to begin the digitization in two initial phases. We started with a set of 2100 Index maps dating back to the mid 1800’s. These maps are in constant use at the library by surveyors and contractors, the wear and tear of physical handling a concern to library staff. We captured each 12” x 16” map in a 24 megapixel RAW format image and then applied a contrast and sharpening tweak that enhanced the readability of the fine line work. These maps are now available for surveyors and the public to pore over online - instead of pawing over them physically in the library!

For the second phase of the project we brought our capture rig to the California Room Annex and set up for a four day session. Many of the maps to be captured in this phase were very large and some were in a very fragile and tattered state. Our strategy for assets like this involves a sliding 4 x 6 foot white metal surface which allows us to use small magnets to gently hold the bent maps flat and pin torn sections into position. We make sure to position the magnets in blank image areas and retouch them out later. For medium-sized maps we use a 50 megapixel camera in a single shot.

Recently the Library came into possession of almost 30,000 unrecorded local land surveys dating back to the Gold Rush. The collection had been passed down by a succession of private surveyors over the last 150 years. William Schroeder, the last owner of the collection, felt strongly that the collection should be available to the public and preserved for future generations.

“Our goal is to give the end-user, surveyors and non-surveyors alike, access to a searchable site where they can view, zoom in, download, and print these beautiful, oversized, mostly hand-drawn maps, all for free, from any computer or mobile device.”

Carol Acquaviva, Librarian/Digital Archivist

The library’s challenge was finding an efficient way to digitize the maps with sufficient resolution to capture their fine detail while handling the fragile items with appropriate care. In response to an inquiry from Laurie

Many of the most interesting maps were very large, over four or five feet long. One even stretched out to more than ten feet! For these, even a 50 megapixel shot is not enough to reproduce fine detail to the level we require. Multiple shots of each map, carefully aligned, are then “stitched” into a seamless composite using Adobe Lightroom or Photoshop. The resulting images have exquisite resolution with file sizes up to 500 Mb!

At the end of our four day session we had captured over 2000 maps, a figure made possible by the efficient teamwork of the library staff and volunteers. At our suggestion they had organized the maps into groups by size which greatly reduces the need to move the camera between shots. On top of that they had organized themselves into an energetic assembly line, passing us maps and putting them away so we could focus on the photography.

Back in our own studio we run a post-production



pass over each image. Cropping and straightening. Sharpening and enhancing. Retouching out magnets and imperfections. Because we shoot RAW-formatted images and process them with an Adobe workflow all edits are non-destructive and reversible.

At the time of this writing, more than 2700 pages of the index maps and 100 of the oversized maps are available on the Library portal, with more added every day!

<http://contentdm.marinlibrary.org/digital>

For more information about Rapid Raw Capture, visit <http://www.act3partners.com>

*Jeff Hurn*

*Jack Schaeffer*

*[jack@act3partners.com](mailto:jack@act3partners.com)*

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## CALENDAR



**April 10 - 13, 2018**  
**Annual General Meeting 2018**  
Yosemite, CA

**April 27, 2018**  
**ArchivesNOW 2018 conference**  
UCLA Library  
Los Angeles, CA

**June 10-22, 2018**  
**32nd Annual Western Archives Institute**  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA

Society of California Archivists  
c/o California State Archives  
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