A New Old Map for Bancroft

The Bancroft Library recently acquired a pen-and-ink and watercolor manuscript map of San Francisco Bay drawn in 1776 by José de Cañizares. It is a large (16- by 21-inch) and handsome chart colored in shades of blue-green, gray, tan, and yellow. However, its significance is historical rather than aesthetic.

The first exploration by Europeans of San Francisco Bay was made in 1775 by the Spanish navigator Juan Manuel de Ayala, captain of the San Carlos, whose party had sailed from Monterey. The ship arrived outside the Golden Gate on the morning of August 5th. Ayala's pilot, Cañizares, and ten men were sent through the Gate in a launch to gather information. Later that day, the San Carlos entered the Bay on an incoming tide and anchored for the night off what is now Sausalito. Later it moved to Angel Island.

Using the launch, Cañizares made several excursions into the Bay, including one trip through Carquinez Strait. He and Ayala gave
names to many physical features of the area, except for Angel and Alcatraz Islands the names did not stick, and the latter was originally applied to the present Yerba Buena Island. In October, the San Carlos sailed back to Monterey. It returned the next year, without Ayala, but again with Cañizares, for further explorations of the Bay.

The findings of these first systematic explorations were recorded in three distinct versions of a chart of the Bay made by Cañizares. Two nearly identical manuscript copies of the first chart, made in 1775, are to be found in the collections of the Archivo General de Indias in Seville and in the Museo Naval in Madrid. The second chart of the Bay, probably prepared in October of the following year, is that acquired by the Bancroft. It is an improvement upon the 1775 map for it is based upon the reexamination of the Bay and the exploration of the rivers and the Delta area made in 1776 by a land party of soldiers as well as by Cañizares. The Bancroft map is the first to show both the Presidio and San Francisco's Sophisticated and attractive style than the 1775 version, enhanced in appearance and readability by the addition of color. A third Cañizares map was drawn later in 1776 and is housed in the Ministerio de Guerra in Madrid. It contains some additional details for the Delta region not found on the Bancroft version, it is uncolored. Unlike the Bancroft map, it shows tree symbols crudely lined up in rows as in an orchard rather than being distributed randomly as in nature. The first (and apparently the only contemporary) printed version of a Cañizares map was issued in Mexico City in 1781 by Manuel Villa-
flying that Mrs. Heller's wishes could be carried out with so little difficulty. The star item coming to Bancroft is certainly the manuscript Book of Hours written and illuminated in England in about 1450. The "Heller Hours," for so it will be known in the scholarly literature, is significant for its illumination and for its binding. It contains twenty-seven full-page miniatures of outstanding quality. To date, the artist has not been associated with any other work and is tentatively identified as "the Master of the Heller Hours." The binding, only slightly younger than the manuscript, bears the blind-stamped "WC" device of William Caxton, England's first printer, as well as the only recorded example of a stamp depicting the Annunciation. When Edward H. Heller bought the manuscript from Maggs Brothers in London in 1942, G. D. Hobson speculated that it had once belonged to Wynken de Worde, Caxton's successor.

It is hardly possible here to detail all of the splendid books that have come to Bancroft through Mrs. Heller's bequest. Of course, her Grabhorn collection is a major addition. Proceeding of this portion of the bequest will continue for some time, requiring a detailed analysis of the ephemera of which we hope to produce a checklist. Her complete Galsworthy collection has come to us. We were also fortunate to receive Nicholas Jenson's 1472 printing of Pliny's Natural History, one of the finest printed books of the 15th century. This important early edition complements the extensive collection of Pliny recently transferred to Bancroft from the Biology Library (see Bancroftiana, no. 96).

As in any large collection of books, there are always a few curiosities. One particularly interesting one is a biography of Marie-Louise of Austria, Napoleon's second wife. Printed in 1797, this large volume was nicely bound in full blue morocco by Zaehnsdorf but didn't appear especially noteworthy until a handwritten inscription on a flyleaf was deciphered. "To dear Nicky from his affectionate uncle Edward R. Xmas, 1901." Nicky was, of course, Czar Nicholas II of Russia and Edward R. was Edward Rex [i.e., Imperator], King Edward VII of England. One can only speculate as to how the Czar's Christmas present came to Atherton, perhaps as a wedding present to the Hellers.

In February, 1989, we will open an exhibition to honor the memory of Elinor Raas Heller and her many contributions to The Bancroft Library. Material on display will range from the Heller Hours of the 15th century to fine printing and binding of the 18th century, drawing not only on her bequest but on books and manuscripts acquired with her assistance over many years. We urge all the Friends of The Bancroft Library to watch for the announcement of the Heller Exhibit and to see this testimonial to the taste, vision, and dedication of a remarkable woman.

Anthony S. Bliss

Manuscripts Documenting the Mexican Heritage of the American Far West

In the past two years the major exhibition opened on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association in Washington. In turning to the archives, this exhibit focused on contributions made by various ethnic groups to the history of the Far West, especially California. Such a broad theme provides a special opportunity for staff members to gain an in-depth knowledge of particular segments of the collections.

This was certainly true for me when I selected manuscripts for the exhibition, "The Mexican Heritage of the American Far West." As a relative newcomer to Bancroft, I found the work of uncovering pertinent materials a particularly challenging and enlightening experience.

After preliminary background research I compiled a roster of key persons, a chronology of significant events and periods, and a list of subjects of particular importance. I quickly discovered that the manuscripts catalog would lead me to only a portion of the relevant source materials since many manuscripts, contained within collections, rarely appeared as separate entries. Therefore I had to sift through collections, document by document, to locate material that could be used effectively to illustrate a particular topic or event.

In return, I was rewarded by my first opportunity to probe in depth Bancroft's phenomenal range of material covering California's period of Mexican rule. The sheer volume of documentation made evaluation and selection a formidable, but ultimately enjoyable, task. Historical, aesthetic and practical considerations, such as size of items, all had to be considered before a final selection could be made. A magnificent but overly large broadside printed in Dona Ana in 1870, last Mexican governor of California, warning the populace of an impending American invasion, regretfully, had to be returned to the shelf. But the disappointment was compensated for by the discovery of a handsome and comprehensive census of California's population from 1830, which could be exhibited.

Locating materials illustrating later periods of Mexican-American history presented a different challenge. To highlight features of the period of Mexican rule I was able to rely heavily on personal and family papers and other groups of California documents, many collected by Hubert Howe Bancroft himself. But such collections proved far less rich for the latter years of the 19th century and for the 20th century since Mr. Bancroft had been mainly interested in documenting the past history rather than his contemporaries. In turning to the archives, collections obtained after Mr. Bancroft's time I used the U.S. District Court Land Claims files as a great source for material on the projected battle over Nicolas Berreyesa's claim to the Rancho Las Múlpitas, one of the most controversial of the Mexican land grant cases. Other collections yielded small but useful caches of correspondence, providing background on individual Californios including Romualdo Pacheco, the only Hispanic governor of American California, and subsequently a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the papers of José Marcos Mugarreta, Mexican Consul in San Francisco from 1859-1861, which contained records of the Sociedad Patriótica Mexican a de San Francisco, an organization of expatriate Mexicans and others who opposed the regime of the Emperor Maximilian.

The Library's resources turned out to be considerably less extensive on the recent history of the Mexican-American community. This discovery led to the formation of a committee given the charge to determine what and how to collect twentieth-century material. Such collecting will amplify the strengths suggested by manuscripts displayed in the exhibition, which included selections from the papers of Silvestre Terrazas, journalist and spokesperson for the Mexican exiles at the time of the Mexican Revolution, and the manuscript of Carey McWilliams' North from Mexico, an important early contribution to the history of the Spanish-speaking peoples of the United States. The research files of Paul Taylor, long a picket professional and a scholar of agricultural labor in the Southwest, were also an especially rich source of documentation. They contained, among other things, a representative sampling of pamphlets from various Mexican community groups and mutual aid societies, which effectively demonstrated the prominence of such associations within the Mexican-American community in the early decades of the twentieth century. Taylor's papers also contained evidence of Mexican-American folk culture, in the way of texts of "corridos," a traditional form of Mexican narrative ballad introduced to the Southwest in the mid-nineteenth century.

The Library's own Social Protest Collection provided a colorful array of fliers collected during the height of the United Farm Workers movement of the 1960s. A particularly interesting collection is the emerging Chicanismo movement of the 1970s. Still more useful material was found in the records of the California Association for Civic Unity.

While the primary purpose of mounting special exhibitions in The Bancroft Library is to make the extent of our collections known and thus highlight potential areas of research, the selection of items to exhibit assists the staff in learning the strengths and weaknesses of our holdings.

Nicole Bouché

The Ernest Peixotto Collection

The published works of San Francisco artist and author, Ernest E. Peixotto (1869-1940), are well-known to scholars of western American art and to rare book collectors who value his original art work as well as the long series of handsome books which he wrote and illustrated between 1897 and 1939. Over a dozen of these titles are represented in The Bancroft Library collections, including issues of the San Francisco little magazine, The Lark (1895-1897), to which Peixotto contributed fifteen illustrations; Our Hispanic Southwest (1916), and three editions of his most popular work, Romantic California (1910, 1912, & 1927).
Evidently, Peixotto was a grateful patron of our Library, for in 1910 he acknowledged "the custodians of the Bancroft Library" for assistance in the preparation of *Romantic California*; and in his 1916 preface to *Our Hispanic Southwest* he expressed his gratitude to the Director of The Bancroft Library, "Professor Herbert E. Bolton, who, more perhaps than anyone else, has led the new historic research of the region." But during the last few years our interest in Peixotto's career has come to focus increasingly on his youthful participation in the cultural and literary community of fin-de-siècle San Francisco—a time when he was known locally as a painter and illustrator. It is his involvement with *Les Jeunes*, and with their light-hearted publication, *The Lark*, which led to our recent acquisition of the Ernest Peixotto papers.

After many years of collecting, the Library has acquired major holdings of papers and pictorial materials documenting the careers of several major participants in *Les Jeunes*, including their ring-leader, Gerett Burgess, Porter Garnett, and Bruce Porter. When it was decided to present an exhibition, *Les Jeunes*, in February 1980, General Ernest Peixotto, nephew of the artist, agreed to loan thirty items from the Peixotto family archive to the exhibition; and these materials, including portraits and a large banquet poster, were subsequently given to The Bancroft Library. This cooperative effort of eight years ago has now led to the donation of the entire remaining archive of the Ernest Peixotto papers. The fifteen sketchbooks, from all periods of his career, are particularly impressive. Even on small pages and in hasty jottings, one can see what a fine draftsman Ernest Peixotto was. Two albums of photographs cast new light on his travels and provide the basic motifs for a number of his published illustrations. An album of correspondence provides very interesting and informative research material that will be useful not only to those concerned with Peixotto himself but to those scholars who are interested in his correspondents such as Frank Norris and Maxfield Parrish. We are especially pleased to have some thirty-five years, worth of appointment diaries and to have his personal teaching collections of lantern slides and lecture notes. Our thanks go to General Peixotto and to the Peixotto family for their generosity in placing these papers here where they can be studied in the context of Peixotto's boyhood and early professional experience.

A photograph from one of the recently-acquired photo albums showing a commonplace street of Angel's Camp as it appeared in the early years of this century (upper left) has been transformed, in Peixotto's original illustration for *Romantic California*, into the Angel's Camp of Bret Harte's stories (lower right), where "John Oakhurst wandered, [as did] Jack Hamlin, with his 'pale Greek face and Homeric gravity.'" — Lawrence Dinnean
Political Science, James Gregory of History, husband Paul Ogden. In addition, each Fellow shares in the bounty of a generously established as a memorial by her Council member Kenneth E. Hill. The Wilma Seavey Ogden purse of $1,000 and his wife Dorothy V. Hill. Each Fellowship is completed by our 25 fellowships to undertake a year of research in The Bancroft Library on subjects whose source materials are to be found there.

The four new Bancroft Fellows are: Satish Deshpande, who received his earlier education at universities in Delhi and is now a graduate student of sociology at the University of California at Santa Cruz, whose dissertation work concerns Hindu migrant farm workers in California; Randall T. Miliken, a graduate student in anthropology on the Berkeley campus who is completing his doctoral dissertation titled "Aboriginal Centrality California"; Victoria Alice Saker, studying for her Ph.D. at Berkeley in the area of jurisprudence and social policy, whose dissertation will deal with governmental promotion and regulation of the timber industry in the West and South, 1900-1945; and Kristin Ann Webb, of the History Department of the University of California at San Diego, whose doctoral thesis will deal with the California women's suffrage movement, 1890-1911.

Mr. Deshpande and Ms. Saker are the recipients of the Hill Fellowship.

Sam Brannan in Hawaii

At an auction held not at Sotheby's or Christie's but by a smaller house located in Wethersfield, Connecticut, during this past summer, thanks to income available from the Joseph Z. and Hatherly B. Todd Fund, the Library was able to acquire the broadside here reproduced. This rather scruffy leaf adds a new page to the life of one of California's most colorful pioneers, Samuel Brannan. A biography published in 1953 grandiloquently declares "Sam Brannan's influence on western America's history was colossal; his deeds formed a pageant of spectacularly important events..." In some senses this is true enough, for he and his 238 Mormon colonists in late July 1846 put into the harbor of Yerba Buena, thus enormously swelling the population of the un-San Francisco settlement in its earliest days. Before long Brannan established California's first flour mill and then on January 9, 1847, founded San Francisco's first newspaper, The California Star, a lively weekly. He was a dynamic opportunist, who deserted the Mormon faith after five years of membership and the use of the sect's funds for his own purposes. That action led to another first: his trial for embezzlement before California's first jury. It was unable to reach a decision and he got off to try his hand at other ventures. Brannan is best remembered today as the dashing figure who dramatically revealed in San Francisco the news of the discovery of gold on the American River, previously having, it is said, stocked his store at Sutter's Fort with necessities for miners.

Late in 1851 the San Francisco Daily Evening Pictograph reported that Brannan, leading "a party of restless young bloods," was ready to sail to Hawaii on filibustering expedition. He hoped to persuade Kamehameha III to abdicate in favor of a lifetime amnesty from a new Governor General, Samuel Brannan. If that plan failed, Brannan hoped that the King would at least cede substantial lands to him for a colonizing scheme. The story of the bootless Hawaiian expedition is well known and, although not included in the two biographies published in the 1950s, is the fact that Brannan was suspected of rifting a ship's mailbag in order to destroy letters that gave information about his shady activities in California. But the broadside which has more details about his skullduggery has not been used to provide information to any scholar or biographer. It is certainly very rare, and may even be a unique remnant. Such ephemera printed for the purposes of posting around town soon disappear. It is here reprinted for the first time to provide new and vivid information about a colorful but obviously disputable California pioneer.

James D. Hart

1852 Hawaiian broadside describing Sam Brannan's skullduggery aboard the ship "Game Cock."
Medical Research and Nuclear Safety

One of the most vexing problems of the late 20th century—one of significance for national defense, public health, environmental protection, science policy, and industrial development—is that of nuclear safety. The varied career of John W. Gofman, chemist, physician, and vigorous advocate of more stringent standards for radiation safety, reflects the complexity of this product of the nuclear age. So too does the large collection of Dr. Gofman's correspondence and papers, part of the documentary resources assembled by the History of Science and Technology Program at The Bancroft Library. The Gofman Papers are complemented by a lively oral history interview, one in a series conducted by Sally Smith Hughes and focused on the development of medical physics at Berkeley.

John Gofman entered medical school in 1939, the same year that the principle of nuclear fission was discovered by Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch. Gofman shortly transferred to the University of California, Berkeley, to begin graduate study in chemistry. He chose to work with a young nuclear chemist on the Berkeley faculty—Glenn Seaborg. Gofman was interested in nuclear chemistry as a bridge between chemistry and medicine, and in the 1950s the Radiation Laboratory at Berkeley had pioneered in the production of radioactive tracers for diagnostic and research use in medicine.

He set to work on a problem in nuclear chemistry suggested by Seaborg. Neutrons produced by the sixty-inch cyclotron, which had been constructed for medical research at Berkeley, were used to bombard the element thorium. As the bombarded thorium decayed, it produced protactinium, which then decayed to uranium-233, one of the isotopes of uranium. Gofman's task was to separate the protactinium and then to measure the half-life of uranium-233.

By the time he had completed work on this project, the discovery of the first transuranic elements, neptunium and plutonium, had opened up new avenues of research at just the time when American science prepared for war. Gofman turned to the study of plutonium chemistry, a topic of considerable military significance after the new element had been shown to be fissionable. Eventually Gofman and his colleagues moved from experiments using standard laboratory beakers up to industrial processes consuming tons of raw materials: their objective was to produce usable amounts of plutonium for research in the Manhattan Project. Research notebooks and correspondence from this period, now declassified, are included in the Gofman Papers at the Bancroft.

In the oral history interview Gofman recalled conditions at the Berkeley Radiation Laboratory during the work on plutonium chemistry: "[we were] dumbbells, really dumb. . . . We could have made the job much less hazardous if we had let [these substances] cool another month so all the short-lived radioactivities would die away. But time was of the essence, so we handled it not too long after it came off the cyclotron. We all got a good dose; I don't know how much." A chief health officer had the responsibility of overseeing the work of the Manhattan Project at Berkeley, but, Gofman remembered, the officer seemed more concerned about tall stacks of empty cartons than about "red-hot uranium nitrate."

As atomic bomb research accelerated, so did academic progress. Gofman earned his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1943, and in 1944 returned to the study of medicine, which he preferred to the "large-scale cookery" of the plutonium project. He earned his M.D. at the University of California, San Francisco, in 1946, then returned to Berkeley as a faculty member in medical physics; he retired from the department in 1974.

At Berkeley's Donner Laboratory he launched a major research project in physical biochemistry. As a way to understand coronary heart disease, Gofman studied the binding of cholesterol in fat and blood. He built on this research in the early 1950s in a large-scale cooperative study of the relationship of lipoproteins and atherosclerosis, then turned to the investigation of the whole range of trace elements in blood. Among the results of this later work, which enjoyed partial support from the Atomic Energy Commission, was the discovery that the levels of lead in blood were appreciably higher than had previously been assumed.

Questions of radiation safety engaged Gofman's attention beginning in late 1953, when Ernest O. Lawrence, founder of the Radiation Laboratory, asked Gofman to check conditions at what is now Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. In the three years he held this part-time position, Gofman frequently "raised hell" about unsafe practices at Livermore, including the chemists' habit of leaving their film badges, designed to record exposure to radiation, on their desk drawers. But in 1957 he found himself disputing the dire warnings of Linus Pauling concerning effects of low-level radiation. In this controversy, Gofman took what he later termed "the most magnificently stupid position of my life, when I said [if] you don't know [the actual radiation levels and associated risks], you just go ahead and you don't interfere with progress." Gofman returned to Livermore in 1963 as associate director for biology and medicine, a post he held until 1969. There he headed a project entitled "Implications of All Nuclear Energy Programs upon Man in the Biosphere." The project grew out of public concern in 1962 over levels of radioactive iodine in milk following atmospheric nuclear tests. By late 1969 uneasy relations between Gofman and the Atomic Energy Commission reached a breaking point, in the controversy engendered by the Gofman-Tamplin study relating low-level radiation, chromosome abnormalities, and cancer.

Gofman's warnings about the dangers of radiation at levels considered safe by many other researchers began to reach a larger audience in 1970 when he testified on air and water pollution at Senator Muskie's hearings on environmental pollution. He was asked to chair the new Committee on Nuclear Responsibility in 1971. Records both of his Senate testimony and of his activities on behalf of the Committee on Nuclear Responsibility are contained in the Gofman Papers at The Bancroft Library, together with documents concerning his testimony in the Karen Silkwood case, the Utah fallout case, and other court cases on questions of nuclear safety.

The collection also contains research notes, manuscripts, and correspondence for his many publications, including his books on Coronary Heart Disease, Poisoned Power (about the dangers posed by nuclear power), Radiation and Human Health, and X-rays: Health Effects of Common Exams. This last book, co-authored with Egan O'Connor, was published in 1985 by the Sierra Club.

The Gofman Papers are closely connected with a number of other manuscript collections at The Bancroft Library, including the records of the Sierra Club and the correspondence and papers of Ernest O. Lawrence and many of his colleagues in nuclear physics, chemistry, and medicine. The collection, like John Gofman's career, highlights the close, if sometimes uncomfortable, relationship between academic science and military, political, environmental, and health issues of broad significance.

Robin E. Rider

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Desiderata

Bancroftiana from time to time publishes lists of books that the Library needs. We would be particularly pleased to receive gifts of any of the books listed here. Please telephone Patricia Howard, Head of our Acquisitions Division (642-1320) or write her a note if you can help us.


Bancroftiana list in the last issue of First 25 Years, 1929-1954, of the Limited Editions Club was received in response to the desiderata in the last issue of Bancroftiana.

Thanks to the generosity of John Tuteur, Sr., Quarto-Millenary: the First 250 Publications and the First 25 Years, 1929-1954, of the Limited Editions Club was received in response to the desiderata list in the last issue of Bancroftiana.

[12]
The Writing of My Uncle Dudley by Wright Morris, $5.00.
The Weber Era in Stockton History by George P. Hammond, $35.00.
Four Hundred Years of English Diet & Cookery: A Selection of Books Printed Between 1541 & 1939 by Dr. and Mrs. John C. Craig, $15.00.
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