



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

# BANCROFTIANA

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*Hubert H. Bancroft*

## HOMECOMING *Bancroft Library Style*

On May 29, 2008, after months of advance publicity, The Bancroft Library closed its doors to readers so that staff could begin the arduous tasks of preparing for the move back to the Berkeley campus. Considerable planning had begun even before 2005, and continued all through the time we were off campus. Two months later, on July 29, we finally began to return to the Berkeley campus. The move, supported by three separate specialty moving companies, will continue until the middle of November. At this writing, we have not yet scheduled a date for reopening.

The move back to campus has proven to be far more complex than the move away, because we have to merge large collections from several off-campus locations onto our new shelves. In addition, we are moving into a building that is virtually completely new, a state-of-the-art facility with security and environmental controls appropriate for Bancroft's unparalleled collections but that require a level of training and expertise that we simply did not have to deal with previously. For most of us this requires a strikingly different way of thinking and organizing our work. But it has given us the opportunity to provide the collections with specialized and appropriate housing and care. Cases in point are the low-humidity vault (think of the Egyptian desert) for the Tebtunis papyri, the cold room (separated from the already chill collection stacks by an air lock) for delicate and fragile items whose useful life can be prolonged by slowing inherent organic changes, and custom-made storage racks for the safe

hanging of framed items in our Pictorial Collections. The bulk of the book and manuscript collections will be housed on movable shelving units, so that we can store far more than before on conventional fixed shelving.

When Bancroft vacated the Doe Annex in 2005, its operations were relocated to five temporary locations. The Regional Oral History Office moved to Evans Hall north of the Campanile. The Mark Twain Papers and Project took quarters at the corner of Hearst Avenue and Oxford Street. Bancroft's primary library operations moved to 2121 Allston Way in downtown Berkeley. Another part of Bancroft moved to the Marchant building on San Pablo Avenue. A final group of staff worked in the Phase 3

building of the Northern Regional Library Facility in Richmond, California, which served primarily as our temporary warehouse for collections that would eventually return to the new facility on campus.

From our experience with the move of 2005, we recognized that we needed to share out the responsibilities for the aspects of the move back to campus a bit more equitably. A roster of the assignments can only give a hint of how the work devolved on the staff. This has been very definitely an all-hands operation (and the analogy of a ship on a shakedown cruise is apt) for Bancroft and Library staff, the movers, and even the campus police. However, I would like to single out some individuals for

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*Specialist movers returned the unparalleled collections to their remodeled home*



*From the Director*

## “Life Continues”

poet and Cal professor Thom Gunn. We are honored to have them.

Notable acquisitions of rare books include the unpublished *Chroniques* of French historian Enguerrand de Monstrelet in a late-15th-century manuscript; the *Monuments de l’Egypte et de la Nubie* of Jean François Champollion, who deciphered the Rosetta Stone; and the first edition (1812) of the Old High German *Hildebrandslied*, prepared by Jacob Grimm (of the fairy tales). Among significant titles for the history of women were Juan de Espinosa, *Dialogo, en laude de las mugeres* (“Dialog in Praise of Women” [Milan, 1580]), Elizabeth Butler, *Appeal to the People of England, on the Recognition and Superintendence of Prostitution by Governments / by an English Mother* (Nottingham, 1870), Emily Richards, *Republican Catechism Criticised and Amended for the Benefit of the Women of Utah* (Salt Lake City, 1896). For the history of the culinary arts: cookbooks from Mexico (MS, 1807); San Francisco (1879, 1917), Eureka (ca. 1895), Santa Clara (1912), and from the Ladies of the Monticola Club (Susanville, ca. 1915). Other items of interest for California history include a 1772 MS report from Fr. Rafael José Verger to Mexican Viceroy Antonio María de Bucareli; an 1812 letter to Fr. José Seán, President of the California Missions; three Gold Rush diaries, more than a hundred Gold Rush letters, and a Gold Rush snuff box; the ledger of Lucky Rock Gold Mining Co., Tuolumne County, for 1876-77; a broadside containing “Roaration. Delivered before the ancient order of Phorty Phunny Phellows! at Winnemucca, Nev., July 4, 1884”; Joe Blums’s construction photographs of the Carquinez Strait bridge; and Ira Nowinski’s photographs of California Native Americans today.

This past year Bancroft Technical Services began to survey 45,000 lineal feet of unprocessed or partially processed manuscript collections, thanks to \$800,000 in grants from the Mellon and Gilbert Foundations. Once the survey is complete we shall know what must be done to make each collection available for use and can start to set priorities for pro-

cessing. The pictorial archivists rehoused over 1.5 million negatives from the San Francisco *Examiner* photographic archive and prepared a preliminary data base. The California Loyalty Oath Digital Collection, with basic documents, pictures, and speeches (<http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/loyaltyoath.html>) of this controversy over academic freedom (1949-51), won the James Madison Award for Intellectual Freedom from the Society of Professional Journalists.

Our research programs have also moved from success to success. In the fall of 2007 the Mark Twain Project Online (<http://www.marktwainproject.org/>) was launched; it now offers more than 2300 letters by Mark Twain, with more on the way all the time. Last fall also saw the Broadway opening of Mark Twain’s delicious farce, *Is He Dead?*, concerning the efforts of French painter Jean-François Millet and his Bohemian friends to raise the price of Millet’s paintings by pretending he had died. It was produced by Stanford Mark Twain scholar Shelley Fisher Fishkin, who realized its commercial potential when she read the unpublished manuscript in the Mark Twain Papers.

The Regional Oral History Office finished 131 interviews, many of them under the aegis of ongoing projects like the Disability Rights and Independent Living Movement, the Rosie the Riveter / World War II Homefront National Historical Park, the history of Kaiser Permanente, and the wine and food series; among them: Barbara Firestone (Firestone Vineyards), John De Luca, CEO of the Wine Institute, Chinatown entrepreneurs Doris and Ted Lee, Nobelist Paul Berg, Ernest Kuh (Dean of Engineering, UC Berkeley), Cecilia Chang (Mandarin restaurant), Bill Lane (*Sunset* magazine), and San Francisco Supervisor Quentin Kopp.

All in all, a very good year, despite the alarms and excursions. Bancroft’s staff outdid themselves in providing world-class service to our readers and patrons under very difficult circumstances.

Charles B. Faulhaber

*The James D. Hart Director  
The Bancroft Library*

Despite the fact that all Bancroft staff members were heavily engaged in the process of planning for the move back into the Doe Annex Building (see Peter Hanff’s article, p. 1), the ordinary life of this extraordinary institution continued apace last year.

Even in our half-size reading room we managed to serve 6,471 readers, who requested 38,610 individual items—books, manuscripts, photographs, maps.... We made over 60,000 photocopies and digitized 3500 items at the request of users. In addition, with the aid of the Internet Archive and the Open Content Alliance we digitized more than 7500 volumes, including 202 volumes of the provincial archives of Alta California, the basic source for the history of California before 1846. These were kept in the U.S. Surveyor’s Office in the San Francisco City Hall, where Hubert Howe Bancroft’s assistants prepared extracts, abstracts, and copies for Bancroft’s histories. And it is fortunate that he did so, since the originals were destroyed in the 1906 Earthquake and Fire.

Theresa Salazar (p. 4) discusses the recent acquisition of a confirmation register from Baja California, but there have been many more acquisitions of note. A partial list of manuscript collections includes the papers of Sacramento Congressman Robert Matsui, who spent his infancy in the Tule Lake War Relocation camp, and of San Mateo Congressman George Lantos, a survivor of the Holocaust; the papers of Beat poet Philip Lamantia and of Jack Hirschman, Poet Laureate of San Francisco; the family papers of pioneer California historian Theodore Hittell (1830-1917); additions to the papers of poets George Sterling and Lawrence Ferlinghetti and English writer John Mortimer (author of *Rumpole of the Bailey*); and correspondence of the late

HOMEcomings *continued from page 1*

special recognition. Randy Brandt, normally Bancroft's Principal Cataloger, accepted the pivotal role of Bancroft Move Coordinator, but wisely indicated in advance that he needed to share the responsibilities closely with other Bancrofters. For the purpose Iris Donovan is serving as Destination Captain, making sure that items moved from one location will fit in their new home and will mesh properly with all the collections surrounding them. Rachel Rosenfeld, as Origin Captain, is making sure that the quantities of rare books, manuscripts, and other materials, are properly identified where they stand, so that they can be moved to campus safely and completely (the old slogan of 2005, "No Book Left Behind" remains a crucial model for the move of 2008). Susan Snyder has taken on the almost impossible task of scheduling the myriad staff assignments to monitor the move, watch for possible dangers to personnel and collections, and maintain close electronic communication throughout the process of wrapping collections, loading them on carts, hoisting them onto moving vans, and transporting them through the passage ways into their new home. Many



*The move was carefully scheduled and monitored by Bancroft staff to protect the collections*

of the individual assignments reflect special areas of expertise of those assigned, but everyone involved expanded their responsibilities as needed to make sure everything moves safely and properly.

James Eason, Liz Gardner, Lorna Kirwan, Lee Anne Kolker, Teresa Mora (Backup Captain), Neda Salem (Mark Twain Project), and Diana Vergil-

Bolling are among other Bancrofters with central supervisory roles throughout the great move. Many other staff also serve as location monitors at both ends of the each route.

So complex a project involves specialists beyond Bancroft's own staff, and we are ably assisted by Ann Lindsey (Library Conservation Dept.); Fred Yasaki, Sukhjit Johal, Jeff Johnson (Library Space Planning); Valerie Zylla and Jim Wert (Capital Projects); Miguel Labon, Gary Bland, and Nome Khamnouane (Library Security); Tasha Dowdakin (Moving Services); and, from Nor-Cal Moving



*Joe Rheinor, Rich Margie, Al Keobo, and Maurice Rivas took the director's bookcase apart to fit it through the door and then reassembled it inside his office*

Services, Rich Margie (Project Manager) and Dave Konecny (Vice-President/Account Manager). A listing of this sort cannot be adequate or complete, because many others have stepped forward to facilitate, but to identify everyone who did so would be a virtual roster of the entire staff.

As I write, most of us have just returned to our new quarters on campus, and the movers are rapidly bringing to our areas the hundreds of containers we will need to open and place back in drawers and on shelves. There is considerable excitement about the opportunities the new building offers us, and the esprit de corps of both the staff of The Bancroft Library and of the professional moving teams is amazingly upbeat. Yes, there are details and other issues we need to correct, but we all recognize what a monumentally large project our new building was to design and construct. We see progress on every front, and I think that for all of us being back on campus is almost its own reward.

A future piece in *Bancroftiana* will detail some of the remarkable features that now support staff, the collections, and the readers who make use of The Bancroft Library.

Peter E. Hanff  
*Deputy Director, The Bancroft Library*



## The Bancroft Library Acquires Rare Baja California Mission Confirmation Register

The Bancroft Library successfully bid at auction last spring for a unique Baja California Confirmation register, dated 1755-1768, from Mission Santa Gertrudis. One of a total of 18 missions and two *visitas* (visiting stations) founded by the Jesuits in Baja California, Santa Gertrudis, established by Jesuit missionary Jorge Retz in 1751 about halfway down the peninsula, near the town of Santa Gertrudis, served as a religious outpost to convert the Cochimi Indians as well as to strengthen the frontier settlements of Spain's vast colonial empire. It was a challenge to establish, build, and maintain missions along this harsh peninsula because of the scarcity of resources and the distance from the viceregal capital of Mexico City, let alone Spain. In addition, the missions, precarious institutions at best, inadvertently and unfortunately undermined the very survival of those they intended to convert and protect by the introduction of deadly diseases such as smallpox and measles.

The Santa Gertrudis Mission Confirmation Register, wrapped in a recycled leather binding, includes many pages documenting the Christianized neophytes of the Cochimi

tribe, listed mostly by their Christian surnames. Signed by several Jesuit priests, starting with Father Retz, it includes annotations in Spanish as well as Latin.

The title page, noting the authorization of Pope Benedict XIV (1740-1758), grants the Jesuit missionaries permission to confirm the native

population. Since Confirmation is normally an episcopal privilege, a special license was required in order for someone other than a bishop or his designee to perform it. Perhaps the Jesuits were allowed this unusual concession because of the remoteness of these Baja missions (the nearest bishopric was in Durango, over 400 miles away, across the Sea of Cortez). Nevertheless, this papal grace was short-lived. The final entry in the register is a single paragraph dated in January of 1768. Within a month the Jesuits would be expelled from the Baja missions, as they were from all of Spain's possessions, and forced to leave the colony. The following year Father Junípero Serra and his fellow Franciscans would take up their missionary activities, filling the void left by the exiled Jesuits.

Adding significance to the document is the fact that almost all of the confirmations list a name along with the parents and the *padrino* (sponsor of the initiate), rather than simply a note that on a certain date a number of Indians were confirmed. Thus, the register contains valuable information not typically captured concerning Native Americans in the region.

Mission registers are important research documents—beyond the basic demographic information, they give us

much social and cultural information about the missions. This confirmation register is particularly important, because it is very unusual; more typical are the baptism, marriage, and death registers found at missions throughout Baja and Alta California. Thus this register serves to amplify information available about the Baja California missions found in official reports, correspondence, and other sources.

The Huntington Library has recently mounted on the Web the "Early California Population Project" database ([www.huntington.org/Information/ECPPmain.htm](http://www.huntington.org/Information/ECPPmain.htm)), which gathers information from registers like this, as well as other documents, to compile a comprehensive prosopography of the indigenous peoples of Alta California. Bancroft's new register provides an important supplement, just as the Franciscans were about to expand the mission enterprise to Alta California, and will allow historians to study in greater detail the populations who settled in the missions, the movement in and out of them, and the practice of Catholicism and the administrative practices of the Catholic Church in the California missions of the 18th century.

Theresa Salazar

*Curator of the Bancroft Collection,  
Western and Latin Americana*

As *Bancroftiana* went to press, we acquired another important colonial Mexican manuscript, an unknown autograph report, dated January 25, 1688, from Jesuit Father Eusebio Kino on his first mission to what is now northern Mexico and southern Arizona. This *Breve relación* narrates the first ten months of his missionary activities in Sonora and the Pimería Alta.

## MENCHES UNVEILED

*Bancroftiana* has often featured articles about The Bancroft Library's great holdings of the Tebtunis papyrus (over 30,000 fragments, Egypt, ca. 300 BC – 300 AD). There is one person we keep encountering in working with this collection, and his name is Menches (pronounced Men'-kees). He was the official scribe for the area around Tebtunis, about 60 miles SSW of Cairo, circa 120-110 BC.

In planning for our newly renovated building, it seemed that the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri needed a signature sculpture to announce its presence. Crocodiles came to mind, since nearly a third of the Tebtunis papyri were recovered from crocodile mummies. But then there was the looming figure of Menches. What to do?

Serendipity intervened. On a visit to the home of Beat poet Michael McClure a year or so ago, I met for the first time his wife, Amy Evans McClure, whose wonderful sculptures populate their living space with gods, demons, and improbable beasts. I hazarded the comment that her work seemed rather classical, expecting to be slapped, and was relieved that she appreciated the

observation.

Then there came what I call a "late-night epiphany." Remembering the famous sculpture in the Louvre of the "seated scribe," I proposed to Amy that she do her version—not a copy—of that sculpture. She considered this proposal for several seconds and said "Yes!" Of course, we would call him Menches.

Amy visited the scribe in Paris and has been working on her version of the piece for many months. Now the scribe is finished, ready to be installed in a niche on the fourth floor of the newly renovated Bancroft. We will have an official unveiling this year, on October 24, as part of the formal rededication of Bancroft.

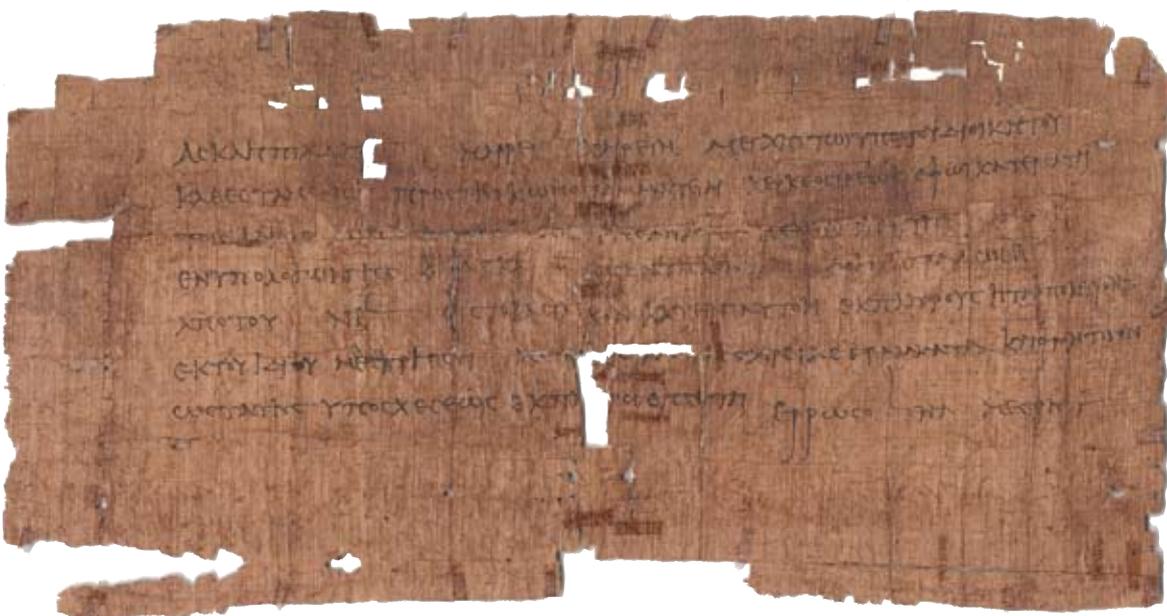


*Design for the plinth and statue of Menches (Amy Evans McClure)*

Amy's proposed installation is illustrated here, as is the document in our collection (whose date translates to August 20, 119 BC ) reappointing Menches as the official scribe of the region. Amy has been wonderful to work with; her talent is inspiring, and her enthusiasm for this project has been a joy to behold.

For many years, I have been plagued with the question "what do you actually do at Bancroft?" I have a stock answer for this: "Everything from Pharaohs to Beatniks." Now, with Amy Evans McClure's stature of Menches, I have tangible proof of that statement.

Anthony S. Bliss  
*Curator, Rare Books  
and Manuscripts*



*Reappointment of Menches as scribe, August 20, 119 BC*

## OUR MAN IN THE BANCROFT

As the Bancroft Library returns from its Babylonian Captivity on Allston Way to the beautifully redesigned and seismically secure space in the Doe Annex building, readers are counting the days until they can get back to work on materials that have been inaccessible during the retrofit. They anticipate just as eagerly the return to regular duty of the remarkable Bancroft staff. These treasures who keep the treasures have shouldered much of the burden of the reconstruction campaign—advising on design, accomplishing two extraordinarily complex moves, and arranging security for the collections—as they kept most of the materials available for researchers. As frequent users of The Bancroft Library, my students and I are particularly glad to see “our man in the Bancroft” back on campus, installed in his new office, and back to his accustomed activities. For years we have depended on and benefited from the quiet erudition, generosity, and droll humor of Anthony Bliss, Curator of Rare Books and Literary Manuscripts for The Bancroft Library.

### *A bookman for all seasons*

It's not clear to me whether great bookmen are born or made. But whether by nature or nurture, or a bit of both, Tony Bliss is one of them. For more than a quarter of a century his learning, imaginative and principled acquisitions strategies, expertise in the book arts, and wide association in academic circles and the rare book trade have helped shape the collections of The Bancroft Library for the benefit of present and future Californians. As his title “Curator” suggests, Bliss *cares* for rare materials in the full sense of the word. During his years at Bancroft he has located, acquired, analyzed, and exhibited hundreds of unique items; and he's taught thousands of visitors to the reading room the responsible way to handle everyday and priceless treasures. (Very carefully.) He looks out for the physical well-being and security of these artifacts, and pays close attention to the rare company they keep.

One could argue that Bliss comes by this acumen naturally, since he is a third-generation rare books librarian who, like

his father and grandfather before him, got his start with the Huntington Library collection. But if his curiosity about rare books and passion for collecting and preserving them began as a family affair, it has also been enhanced by years of study and work in the field. He studied French literature at Williams College, the Sorbonne, and UCLA (with a preference for things medieval) and library and information science at UCLA (with a specialization in manuscripts and rare books). On the commercial side of the book trade, he gained experience working for antiquarian dealers in Paris and Los Angeles before becoming Head of the Rare Book Department at Northern Illinois University, which was his last stop before joining The Bancroft Library in 1980. He has expert knowledge of—among other things—fine bindings, parchment, vellum, and rag, and letterpress printing, as well as a soft spot for all things French. Reared in Southern California, he is also steeped in California history and American popular culture. He has collected for Bancroft in each of these areas. In his off hours he consults for a number of local institutions, including the California Historical Society, the San Francisco Public Library, and the Silverado Museum, on whose board he serves.

### *Collecting with vision*

Among the many visionaries at Berkeley, the ones who work in our libraries are often overlooked because they make their contribution to the research potential of the institution long (decades, lifetimes) before later scholars discover the gems that these unsung heroes have acquired for campus collections. At the Eureka moment, happy discoverers tend to think about the Easter eggs they've found rather than the bunny that hid them. Collecting is a major part of Bliss's job, and he does it with great sensitivity for the Bancroft's dual role as a working research institution and a repository of California's treasure and tradition. Janus-like, he is always looking backward and forward at the same time, selecting items that the Bancroft collections have been missing, looking for contemporary materials that will become part of

California's history, purchasing items to support the present and future research agendas of faculty and students, and recognizing serendipitous opportunities to enhance the cultural and material value of the collections. Of course, buying rare things is not just a matter of having the authority and the funding. It entails determining what will enhance the collections, where these items are to be found, which ones are priorities, what Bancroft can and should pay for them, and how to fund the occasional opportunity of a lifetime that was not foreseen in the budget. Over the years I've watched Bliss make wonderful purchases for The Bancroft Library and seen his theory of collecting in practice.

Bliss generally buys “interesting” artifacts rather than those that are simply expensive and sought-after. Although he has acquired some of the latter for the Bancroft too, his principle is not to buy rare “coffee-table” books unless they have additional features that make them distinctive. An interesting book by Bliss's definition is one that implies a cultural context, evokes a story beyond its covers, or poses a problem. It may be a second rather than a first edition, a pirated rather than an authorized one; it may be incomplete rather than perfect. One such example is UCB MS 167, a late 15th-century book of hours from Angers, which Bliss acquired for the Bancroft a few years ago. It includes several unfinished miniatures that were sketched but never painted. These very rare leaves reveal more about the process of manuscript illumination in early modern France than do other fully illustrated examples in the collection. Bliss once described the acquisitions part of his job as “laying down track for the academic engines to run on.” Many a thesis and scholarly article has been produced at Bancroft based on materials Bliss had the foresight to buy. Not long ago a Ph.D. candidate was hard at work in the reading room on her dissertation subject, Sebastian Franck's 1538 *Germaniae chronicon*, the first history of all the German lands, which Bliss had purchased a few years earlier. When she noticed him staring at the volume in her hands, she quickly ran through a mental checklist of things that can attract adverse attention in Bancroft (rough treatment of a tight binding, an undetected pen, an extended conversation). But Bliss leaned over with a smile and said, “Well, I'm glad some-

one's reading the thing. You know we have the second edition, too." Another of Bliss's curatorial principles is to "build on strengths" in the existing collections and on the university faculty. He looks for items to complement existing Bancroft collections and support curricular emphases, sometimes also with the research directions of individual scholars in mind. (When Tony says, "I picked up a little something at the Antiquarian Book Fair that might interest you," we all drop what we're doing and dash to the Bancroft.) This collection strategy makes it possible for Bancroft specialists and Berkeley faculty to join forces in training the next generation of scholars right here in California, using authentic materials from around the world.

Inspired collecting is a cooperative venture that takes focus, contacts, and lots of patience. About 20 years ago I asked Bliss to look around for a copy of Emperor Maximilian's *Theuerdank* that the Bancroft could afford. This richly illustrated *roman à clef* (Augsburg 1517) is a monument of early German printing that interests historians, art historians, literary scholars, and especially historians of the book. Since elaborate copies of this work had been auctioned in recent years for six or seven figures, and lesser ones for four or five, *Theuerdank* remained a running joke between Tony and me for some years. Then one morning about 10 years ago, an e-mail arrived from Tony. He just had located not one but

two copies of *Theuerdank* in a London auction. Was I still interested? If so, he'd tap a British colleague to examine the books and, depending on condition, bid on the better one. The rest is history. The Bancroft now has a *Theuerdank*. It's a 1519 second edition, an "interesting" unauthorized imprint, virtually complete, and just waiting for one of those research "engines" to tell its story.

### *Sharing the tradition*

Like most of Bancroft's curators, Bliss spends a lot of time teaching. His main constituencies are the public, a devoted following on the Berkeley faculty, and Berkeley students at all levels, whose courses require them to use materials from the Bancroft collections. He has designed dozens of major public exhibits at the library on subjects ranging from "The Mexican Heritage of the Far West" and "The Bible through 800 Years" to "Feringhetti and the Beats of San Francisco" and "The Tebtunis Papyri in Context." Last spring he arranged an exhibit and fiesta to celebrate the late California cartoonist and creator of the comic strip *Gordo*, Gus Arriola, whose archive Bliss secured for Bancroft. In the reading room, you are likely to see him show a first-time visitor how to find his way into a set of early California documents, a pamphlet from the French Revolution, or a stiff 17th-century folio that needs a lot of support. For the faculty whose research draws them into Bliss's domain,

working with him is like taking a master class. Many of us who study the materials Bliss "keeps" are not formally trained in the book arts. We come to these unique artifacts from other directions and fields of study, usually with a better sense of their historical or intellectual significance than of their material qualities. Bliss helps us to see and think about what we are actually looking at—a watermark, a made-up copy, a scrap of manuscript used to bind a printed book. And he shows us how his own sleuthing tools—from linen testers to auction catalogues—can be used to improve the quality of our scholarship. But it is with Berkeley classes that Bliss is most in his element. He loves to introduce

students to *real* materials of all sizes and shapes, from Bancroft's four 17th-century Shakespeare folios to the records of the Sierra Club. Rapping with his knuckles on the wooden boards of a 15th-century Bible, he encourages students to use (almost) all their senses to understand an old book: "Look at it, smell it, listen to the way it sounds, pay attention to the way it feels in your hand—but *don't* taste it." A "Bancroft session" with Bliss is a featured attraction that students look forward to in many Berkeley humanities courses. But in History 200, "The Hand Printed Book in its Historical Context," he plays a more demanding role as judge and jury for the students' semester project. Each year this hands-on class, which is taught in The Bancroft Library Press Room—now the James D. Hart Press Room, in honor of Bancroft's former director, who established the course—publishes a previously unpublished document from the one of the Bancroft collections. A perfect copy of the new rare edition is due on Bliss's desk, without spot, blemish, or typo, on the last day of the term. Last fall it was the speech that Isabel Allende gave when she accepted the Hubert Howe Bancroft Award in 2007.

### *Pure bliss*

Bliss's wide-ranging background makes him the go-to guy for a host of problems arising in the Berkeley community, Bay Area book worlds, and beyond. Need to figure out the right way to move a mummy across campus? Ask Tony. Need a contact at the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris, at Quaritch's in London, or the Houghton, Beinecke, or Huntington? Tony can provide. Can't tell whether your manuscript is a medieval codex or a fabulous 20th-century fake? Tony has unraveled many such mysteries and once even used a cyclotron to do it. If you have problems like these, Tony Bliss is definitely your man. You can make an appointment to see him in his office. Or on any given afternoon you may spot him just outside the Bancroft door in a tweed jacket and a fragrant cloud of tobacco smoke, taking a quick break. He's the one with the brown-eyed twinkle and the wry turn of phrase, who's always ready to help.

Elaine C. Tennant  
*Professor of German*



## Malcolm Margolin Awarded Hubert Howe Bancroft Award for 2008

A large celebratory crowd of Friends of The Bancroft Library met for the 61st Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 17, on the terrace of the Faculty Club on the Berkeley campus before lunching inside. The Bancroft Library awarded Malcolm Margolin, publisher of Heyday Books, the Hubert Howe Bancroft Award for 2008.

In presenting the Award, Director Charles Faulhaber read the framed resolution and inscription, "Presented to Malcolm Margolin, Consummate Bookman, Whose Heyday Books Continue to Teach Us What it Means to Be a Californian." Margolin accepted the award, saying, "The Bancroft Library has the deepest voice of California." He also gave the Library a pack of pencils to replace those that had mysteriously wound up in his possession during all his years of researching at Bancroft.

Faulhaber thanked Richard Otter, current Chair of the Council of Friends, for his two terms of service and for serving as the "glue of the community." Otter and the several Committee Chairs reported on the Library's excellent progress over the past year, nominated new Council members, and announced the formation of a new committee designed to invite younger members to the Friends.

The Friends heard that the Library would close May 23 and reopen in the



Bob Brower, Susan Snyder, Beth Weber, and Professor Elaine Tennant enjoy The Faculty Club before the annual meeting

fall of 2008. The staff moved out of temporary quarters into the new building in mid July, and the collections will transfer throughout the summer and early fall. The formal rededication of the building is scheduled for October 24, 2008, at 3 p.m. Faulhaber reminded all those gathered that, as outstanding as the newly reconfigured and updated Bancroft building is, the real Library is the collection inside the building.

Among the accomplishments of the past year, the director mentioned the Strategic Planning Retreat held in January, which focused on the next five

years: planning for the retirement of baby boomer staff members and the impact of new technology. New acquisitions included the Gus Arriola collection of *Gordo* cartoons and the papers of Congressman Tom Lantos. Bancroft received several grants, including a gift of \$400,000 from the Mellon Foundation

and matching funds from the Gilbert Foundation for a comprehensive survey of its archival collections.

In 2009 Bancroft will join the Google-funded digitization project, building on the 28,000 books digitized so far by the Internet Archive. All back issues of *Sunset* magazine will be available online, thanks to an agreement with the magazine.

The Mark Twain Project went online in fall 2007, and The Regional Oral History Office has started an ambitious project, "The Origins of Venture Capitalism in the Bay Area."

Because Bancroft was in temporary quarters for the past three years, two major exhibitions were held in other locations: "Past Tents" was cohosted by the California Historical Society in San Francisco (March 2007 - January 2008), and "The Chinese of California: A Struggle for Community" was cohosted by both The Chinese Historical Society of America and the California Historical Society (February–August 2008). Bancroft also hosted seven monthly "Roundtables" at the Faculty Club and other lectures and presentations from Stockton to the UC Berkeley campus.



Kim Bancroft, great-great-granddaughter of Hubert Howe Bancroft, congratulates Malcolm Margolin

The Bancroft Library will participate in Cal's \$3 billion capital campaign, The Campaign for Berkeley, raising \$15 million for desperately needed endowment funds for the Mark Twain Project, ROHO, and the Center for Tebtunis Papyri.

Two undergraduates received Bancroft prizes: Andrina Tran received the 2008 William Reese Fellowship for her proposal to study the history of the American cookbook from 1796 to 1950 through Bancroft's well-balanced cookbook collection. The 2008 Hill-Shumate Award for undergraduate book collections went to Rhae Lynn Barnes for her collection on the Print Culture of American Amateur Min-



*Pete Bancroft, Midge Zischke, and Jeanne Ware, members of the Council of the Friends, listen to Charlie Chin*



*Andrina Tran won the William Reese Fellowship*

strely, Blackface Plays, and Dialect in Black Literature (circa 1890s-1940s). Barnes went on to win the 2008 Collegiate Book-Collecting Championship, given by *Fine Books & Collections* magazine to the best student collectors in America. The second and third prizes went to students from Yale and Swarthmore.

The afternoon ended with an entertaining and informative Chautauqua presentation by Charlie Chin, artist-in-residence at the Chinese

Historical Society of America, titled "Guest of the Flower Flag: The Chinese American Experience in the 20th Century." Taking on the role of an immigrant and speaking in the first person of his experiences, the actor showed what it was like to be Chinese, newly arrived in the United States, and detained on Angel Island.

Camilla Smith  
Editor, *Bancroftiana*



*After the Annual Meeting, Friends of the Bancroft Library gather in the new Valley Rotunda*

*A New Documentary from the Regional Oral History Office*

## PROHIBITION AND THE CALIFORNIA WINE INDUSTRY

For the first time in its history, The Bancroft Library's Regional Oral History Office has embarked on a project to produce a documentary film. This first-of-its-kind project features and expands the California Wine Industry Oral History Collection, bringing together ROHO staff with journalists, filmmakers, and other professionals to produce "America's Wine: The Legacy of Prohibition." Scholarly oral histories and Bancroft archival materials, augmented with photographs and film clips from numerous other collections, provide an historical overview of Prohibition in America, 1920–1933. The documentary also examines the impact of the continuing legacy of Prohibition on the wine industry and the everyday lives of many Americans.

Scheduled to be completed this fall, in time for the 75th anniversary of the repeal of Prohibition, the two-hour program will offer an historical perspective on topical issues that continue to shape and influence legal, policy, and entrepreneurial decisions related to wine; e.g., the direct shipping of wine to consumers across state lines, scientific research on wine and health, and competitiveness in today's global economy. The program also shows how two constitutional amendments—the 18th and 21st—uniquely affected the production, distribution, and commerce of alcoholic beverages throughout the 50 states and overseas. More importantly, it underscores the ongoing struggle between those who see wine as a wonderful enhancement to everyday living and those

who worry about its negative effects.

"More than 40 people from inside and outside the wine industry have been interviewed, including historians, authors, legal scholars, public policy experts, and of course, winemakers, including internationally renowned winemakers Robert Mondavi and Brother Timothy in what are their last on-camera interviews before they passed away," says Vic Geraci, ROHO's Food and Wine Historian, who serves as the project's historical consultant.

Others interviewed for the documentary include Kevin Starr, California historian and State Librarian Emeritus; Abe Buchman, an attorney who worked with wineries after Repeal; Dan Turrentine, a San Francisco journalist during Prohibition; Zelma Long, owner and head winemaker at Vilafonte Vineyards; Dawnine Dyer, of Dyer Vineyards; the late Tom Shelton, former President and CEO of Joseph Phelps Vineyards; California Congressmen Mike Thompson (D–Napa) and George Radanovich (R–Fresno), co-chairs of the Congressional Wine Caucus; Leon Panetta, White House Chief of Staff during the Clinton Administration; John De Luca, past President and CEO of the Wine Institute; and Kathleen Sullivan, former Dean of the Stanford University Law School, who successfully argued *Grainholm v. Heald*, the historic U.S. Supreme Court case regarding the direct shipping of alcoholic beverages across state lines.

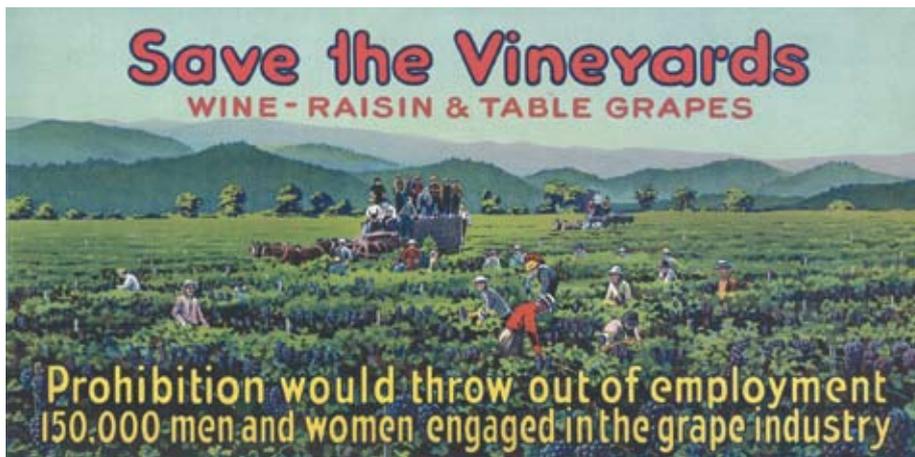
The documentary will also feature a range of archival and current video

and still images from Bancroft, various University of California departments and libraries, private collections, and organizations throughout the country. Also included will be recorded footage from the Wine Institute's 70th Anniversary of Repeal Luncheon (February 20, 2003) and the celebration of Brother Timothy's 75 years as a Christian Brother (May 17, 2003). Attendees at the latter, including Ernest Gallo, Robert Mondavi, and Brother Timothy himself, reflected on their careers and the early efforts to rebuild the wine industry after Repeal. John De Luca has referred to these winemakers as part of the "Phoenix Generation" that, he says, "rebuilt the California wine industry from the ashes of Prohibition."

In addition to the documentary, the complete transcribed interviews and video footage will become part of Bancroft's California Wine Industry Collection and made accessible to students, historians, journalists, and others.

"It has been an exciting privilege to work with so many groups, the University, and wine families to review their special collections of archival photographs and recorded material for inclusion in this program," says Carla De Luca Worfolk, the documentary's director and producer. "Viewers will be able to see and hear wine industry leaders from past decades, and, like the original recordings from the Regional Oral History Collection, much of the material we've gathered has never been seen, heard, or published before."

A former CNN producer, Worfolk has produced and written the documentary with her former colleague, Larry Woods, a 20-year CNN veteran correspondent, and Kari Birdseye, also a former CNN producer. All three were on the Emmy-winning team that covered the Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta, Georgia, during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. Professional editing is being completed by Beyond Pix studios in San Francisco. A first screening of the film will be held on October 23 as part of Bancroft's rededication ceremony the following day.



Anti-prohibition poster supporting the California grape industry, 1919 (BANC PIC 1977.101-C)

## MISSING MAXIMS RETURNED TO THE MARK TWAIN PAPERS

It has often seemed to me a minor miracle that the hundreds of thousands of manuscript pages in the Mark Twain Papers were not sold to the four winds before they ever came to Berkeley in 1949. Partly this miracle was engineered by Clemens himself, who made it impossible for his daughter Clara to transfer ownership of the papers except through her own last will and testament. In other words, neither she nor her husband Jacques Samossoud could sell them or even give them to a library.

Despite that condition, we have long known that the integrity of the collection was by no means perfect. For example, before she gave the papers to Berkeley, Clara was in the habit of satisfying requests for her father's autograph by sending off a random page of manuscript, often one plucked from an 1885 unfinished work called "Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer among the Indians." As a result, there are about a dozen pages missing from that manuscript, unlikely ever to be found. We know Clara dispensed them in this way because occasionally one turns up (along with her letter of transmittal) in a library or local historical society, bequeathed to it by its original recipients or their children.

And there have been even larger pieces of Mark Twain's original archive that wandered away from it before 1949. His biographer, Albert Bigelow Paine, held on to a number of manuscripts and books that have since appeared on the market, been given to Bancroft, or in some cases been purchased by Bancroft. Fifteen years ago the library helped us purchase two dozen pages from the manuscript of Mark Twain's very first lecture on the Sandwich Islands (1866 in San Francisco). As a result they rejoined the 100 or so pages of the same manuscript that had been in the Papers since Mark Twain died in 1910.

It's not surprising that Clara and Paine both took a fairly casual view of such things: after all, what could one or two pages matter out of a collection approaching a million or so pages altogether?

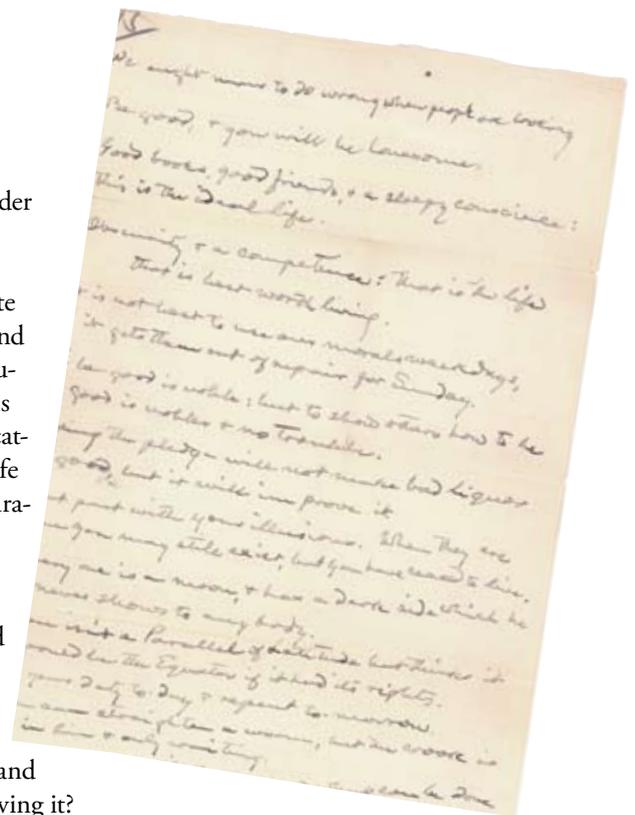
But I was nevertheless surprised a year ago to hear from Arthur W. (Win) Bowron II that he had a single page of Mark Twain manuscript that from his description must originally have been in the Mark Twain

Papers. How did it manage to wander away in the first place?

Mr. Bowron explained that in the process of going through his late mother's safety deposit box, he found an envelope with this page of manuscript folded up inside, and with his father's notes on the envelope indicating that it had been given to his wife Lucy "by Bernard DeVoto, then curator of all the Mark Twain papers." Win Bowron (the son) explained that his parents met DeVoto in Cambridge while his father studied for his Ph.D. at Harvard. He wrote me about it because he had two questions: what was such a document worth (at least \$1,500), and would Bancroft be interested in having it? He added that both he and his late father were Cal alumni, and he would welcome the chance to give something back to the university. I am delighted to say that last October 12th he and his wife Mimi came to the Papers and gave that page to us. It is now safely housed with other manuscripts like it, back where it started.

Is it plausible that Bernard DeVoto, who was in charge of the Mark Twain Papers at Harvard from 1938 to 1946, actually gave the wife of a graduate student a piece of original Mark Twain manuscript? Unfortunately, it is. In fact we already knew of at least one other recipient of such largesse, who explained to us that DeVoto seemed to be generally in the habit of giving his dinner guests a small sample from the archive—a sort of party favor extraordinaire. Win and Mimi Bowron were happy to have that bit of light shed on their document and enthusiastic about returning it, and I want to thank them again here for doing so.

What is this document, one side of which is reproduced here? It is a series of aphorisms or maxims (as Mark Twain called them), most written sometime in the last decade of his life. Five of them were published as chapter headings in *Following the Equator* (1897), but the rest were left unpublished. All but three of those have since been published posthumously by Merle Johnson in a little book he called *More Maxims of Mark*, privately



printed in 1927.

Before seeing this manuscript page, we had not seen the source for those aphorisms and their authenticity remained slightly in doubt. This manuscript clearly settled that question.

Three of the maxims listed were unknown to us in any form, published or unpublished:

*Don't endorse for him—give him your blood.*

*We ought never to do wrong when people are looking.*

*It is more satisfactory to be pretty than right.*

What, really, does it matter that we have one more piece of manuscript added to this vast collection? We are very glad to have it back in place, not because we were short of maxims, or because we lacked holograph manuscripts in general, but because long experience has shown us that every piece of the puzzle, no matter how seemingly insignificant, is capable of contributing to our understanding in ways that cannot be foreseen. Anything that helps to make that picture more complete and more accurate is therefore welcome. As Mark Twain says here, "It is wiser & safer to find out than to suppose."

Robert H. Hirst

*Curator, Mark Twain Papers, and  
General Editor, Mark Twain Project*

# INA DONNA COOLBRITH

## *Poetess of the Golden Gate*

Ina Coolbrith, born in Nauvoo, Illinois, on March 10, 1841, had a most eventful life from any perspective. She personified the western movement and the opportunities and obstacles afforded a woman who was unattached and had experienced enough trouble in her life to be fearless in her pursuit of a livelihood. She became the first poet laureate of California and was known here and abroad as Poetess of the Golden Gate.

The Bancroft Library's many boxes of Ina Coolbrith's letters and papers tell a rich story of a woman who made her way in a world where women who worked were not considered genteel and where the literary world was dominated by men.

What is not commonly known is that Ina was the daughter of Don Carlos Smith, younger brother of Joseph Smith, Jr., founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, known as Mormons. At birth she was named Josephine Donna Smith after her famous uncle and her father. Her father ran the printing press for the fledgling religious community but died of pneumonia (malarial fever?) in 1841 at the age of 25. After her husband's death, her mother, Agnes Coolbrith Smith, briefly became a polygamous wife of the Prophet Joseph; but, when he was murdered by a mob, she stayed behind in Illinois while the main body of the church moved west, first into Iowa and in 1847 to Salt Lake City.

Agnes declined to move west with the Brigham Young Mormons and stayed in Nauvoo with her children. There she was befriended by William Pickett, who helped Agnes and her two young daughters move to St. Louis and eventually married her. After Agnes gave birth to twin boys, the family moved to Salt Lake City to join the Mormon community there. But they felt poorly treated in Utah, and William Pickett, like thousands of others in 1851, decided to move his family and

seek his fortune in the gold fields of northern California.

Before reaching the Sierra, the immigrants met Jim Beckwourth, the African-American mountain man, who had located and improved the route through the eponymous Beckwourth Pass north of Reno. Beckwourth led this first wagon train through the pass. He put 10-year-old Ina on his horse and rode ahead of the group, telling her she was the first white child through the pass. She remembered later that he said, "There, little girl, there is California! There is your kingdom!"

Ina later recalled the painful winter months the family spent near the gold claim that William had named after her. Pickett finally returned to the family and worked as a printer in Marysville before they moved to San Francisco. But the little house he built for them near Mission Dolores was burglarized and then burned by the burglar, trying to hide his tracks. Soured on San Francisco, Pickett moved his family by steamship to the small settlement of Los Angeles in 1855. Here Ina had three years of her first real education in high school and began to publish poetry in the local newspaper.

Meanwhile, Sam Brannan had arrived in San Francisco Bay on July 31, 1846, with approximately 250 Mormon saints on the ship *Brooklyn*, having sailed around Cape Horn from New York. Before they left for Los Angeles, Ina and her older sister, Charlotte, attractive young women in this San Francisco frontier community, were invited to sing and play music in the homes of their Mormon compatriots. Caroline Crosby's pioneer diaries mention Ina's voice and wit admiringly: "They are very modest amiable girls, I admired their appearances much. The youngest [Josephine] plays the accordion, and is a very good singer."

Ina had a close relationship with her first cousin, Joseph F. Smith, son



of Hyrum, Joseph Smith, Jr.'s brother, who was murdered with him in 1844. In 1852, Joseph F. was sent on a four-year mission to the Hawaiian Islands at the tender age of 15 because he had been expelled from school for beating up his teacher in Salt Lake City. Before heading to Hawaii, he spent several months in San Francisco, where he and Ina shared a deep friendship which lasted at least until he was 76, two years before his death, as extant letters show. He wrote to her throughout his life and sent money for holidays. Ina, three years younger, returned his affection, although, especially in later years, she could not understand his deep devotion to the Mormon church.

Joseph F. Smith served as counselor to four presidents of the church before becoming president himself in 1901. He spent many years trying to convince Ina to join the main body of the church in Utah, attempting at the same time to prove to her that polygamy was a true tenet of God's church. Equally convinced of the contrary, she tried to dissuade him. Nevertheless, despite all those years supporting polygamy, Joseph F. was with President Wilford Woodruff when the latter issued the Manifesto against polygamy in 1890.

While the family was living in Los Angeles, Ina married Robert Carsley, an attractive sometime actor and metal worker, when she was 17 years old.

They had a child who died in infancy and Carsley became insanely jealous, without cause, and attacked Ina with knives and guns. A well-publicized divorce followed and Ina became a single woman at the age of 20, in 1861.

Ina, no longer comfortable in the small town of Los Angeles, decided to move back to San Francisco along with her parents and stepbrothers. In San Francisco she reinvented herself. Few people knew of her early marriage, and she never remarried. She changed her name from Ina Smith Carsley to Ina Donna Coolbrith, taking her mother's maiden name and the pen name, Ina, that she had used in the poems she published in Los Angeles. In San Francisco she contributed poetry to the *Californian*, and her stepfather and her stepbrother William became printers there. Her other stepbrother, Don, became a clerk for Hubert Howe Bancroft.

When the *Californian* ceased publication in 1868, she sent her poems back east to the *Galaxy* and *Harper's Weekly*. It was in her drawing room on Taylor Street that same year that Bret Harte founded a new magazine, *The Overland Monthly*. Charles Warren Stoddard was a regular contributor, as was Ina. Together the three were called the Golden Gate Trinity. The Bancroft Library holds many letters of these writers. Stoddard wrote fondly of this period and the gatherings in Ina's home:

Ina D. Coolbrith, although a native of Illinois, and of New England parentage, passed her childhood and early youth in Los Angeles, California, when that old Spanish settlement was worthy of the name. She might easily have been mistaken for a daughter of Spain; the dark eyes, the luxuriant dark hair, the pure olive skin flushed with the ripe glow of the pomegranates; even the rich contralto voice, the mellifluous tongue and the well-worn guitar were hers—everything, in fact, save only the stiletto and the cigarette. Those were halcyon days: she was singing her full-throated songs—perhaps too often touched

with a gentle melancholy, but this also is Spanish and semi-tropical—and the world was listening to catch the far-off strain from California. She was a constant contributor to the *Overland Monthly*, and she frequently appeared in the *Californian*, *Galaxy*, *Harper's*, and other leading periodicals. Her muse was speedily and cordially recognized in the best quarters, and, in later years when on a flying visit to the Atlantic sea-board, Whittier and many another master singer welcomed her fraternally.

But a great family tragedy made it necessary for Ina to seek more money than poetry could provide. The death of her sister Charlotte's husband, in Los Angeles, followed soon after by Charlotte's as well, left two children for Ina and her family to care for. By this time her alcoholic stepfather had left permanently for Oregon, and she became the sole provider for the family. Ina wrote of him to a friend, Adele T. Jones:

Because my stepfather, a man of splendid physique, brain and education, was a victim of intemperance, I was condemned to abject poverty and social isolation, and compelled when a young girl to take his place in the chief maintenance of the family.

With the free public library movement that began in the 1870s, Oakland established one of the first public libraries in the state, and Ina became its librarian in 1878. At first she had no assistance but a janitor for a 12-hour work day at a salary of \$175 a month. She especially enjoyed, however, working with students, suggesting books, and guiding their reading. Jack London was one of those students who remembered her influence on him. Her feelings about her job were ambivalent. She wrote to a friend of this period:

At the time my widowed sister died, I had the chance of going abroad under auspices that would have changed all my fortunes: instead, to

meet the added care of her children, I entered my library prison, a daily grind from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., for 20 years. During that time, I knew only the path that led from my door to that of my prison.

Ina became Honorary Librarian of the Bohemian Club in San Francisco in 1899, and also undertook special projects for the club. (She had helped make curtains for the clubhouse.) It was understood that she was the only woman with entrée to the all-male club, where she was revered as a poet, editor, and librarian; but she always came and went discreetly by the side door. She depended on the help of club members after her home was destroyed during the earthquake and fire of 1906.

California became the first state to have a Poet Laureate when Ina Donna Coolbrith was appointed by Governor Hiram Johnson on June 30, 1915. She was confirmed in that position April 26, 1919, by the State Senate and held it until her death in 1928 at the age of 87. The story of her life is a story of the American movement west and the opportunity the new land offered for reinvention, whether man or woman, for respectability rising out of scandal.

Camilla Miner Smith  
Editor, *Bancroftiana*



# Undergraduate Research at The Bancroft Library

One of the many rich academic experiences offered to undergraduates on the Berkeley campus is the opportunity to conduct research at The Bancroft Library, where students are given access to Bancroft's vast collections of personal papers, correspondence, diaries, oral histories, pictorial images, laboratory notebooks, faculty papers, first editions, illuminated manuscripts, and even papyri.

In the fall semester of 1997, we instituted a seminar designed to introduce undergraduates to The Bancroft Library early in their academic career. Our educational goal was straightforward: to teach students—most of whom had never been in a research library before—how to identify, locate, study, evaluate, and use primary sources for original research. Our Freshman/Sophomore Seminar, under its current title, Undergraduate and Interdisciplinary Studies (UGIS) 39B, "Archival Research: Working with Primary Sources in the Humanities, Sciences, and Engineering," enables undergraduates to carry out research on a subject of their own choosing and to create a narrative based on primary materials.

Each of us three coinstructors has his own favorite parts of Bancroft's collections. Casey, fascinated by the history of mathematics, physics, engineering, and architecture, likes to lecture on the work of the artist-engineers of the Italian Renaissance, such as Filippo Brunelleschi and Leonardo da Vinci, on the cosmic views of 16th-century occultists such as Robert Fludd, and on the crowning achievements of Galileo, Torricelli, Pascal, Boyle, and Newton in the 17th-century. Another Bancroft favorite of his is the T. Y. Lin archive, which contains the designs and writings of Berkeley's renowned structural engineering professor and bridge designer, who died at the age of 91 in 2003. Lin came to regard the bridge as a material symbol for joining disparate cultures together, and in 1959, at the height of the Cold

War, proposed an "Intercontinental Peace Bridge" that would connect the United States to the Soviet Union across the Bering Strait.

Hanff, an aficionado of children's literature and an astute student of language, is an expert on the bibliography of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and also that of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, written by L. Frank Baum and illustrated by W.W. Denslow. He discusses the various editions of these books in the seminar, helping students understand the significance of these popular classics. He also engages the students in his presentations on the evolution of English and American words, making use of Bancroft's first editions of Samuel Johnson's *A Dictionary of the English Language* (1755) and Noah Webster's *An American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828).

As University Archivist, Farrell brings the history of the University of California vividly to life in his seminar presentations, on, for example, the Loyalty Oath controversy, or the rise and fall of the School of Criminology. A favorite topic of his is President John F. Kennedy's historic visit to Berkeley on Charter Day, 23 March 1962.

Arriving from Washington at Alameda Naval Air Station at 11:00 am, the President rode in an open limousine through Alameda, Oakland, and Berkeley, welcomed by cheering thousands lined along the sidewalks. His first stop was the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, where he was greeted by leading nuclear scientists, including Nobel Laureates Glenn Seaborg and Edwin McMillan. After lunch at University House, the President was driven to Memorial Stadium for the Charter Day ceremonies, where he was scheduled to deliver a major speech.

It was a bright sunny afternoon. The stadium was over-flowing with over 88,000 people, the largest audience President Kennedy had yet addressed, and the largest ever to attend an event in Memorial Stadium. He spoke about the inevitability of democracy's ultimate triumph over communism. On the conciliatory side, he strongly urged for cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union on space exploration. It is both inspiring and poignant to watch the videotape of the young President's prophetic speech. It is also moving for us and our students to hold the hand-edited copy of the President's typescript, kept in a favorite old U.S. Navy ring-binder that he had used for many years. In places, the typescript differs significantly from the spoken version (an audio-recording and transcript of the speech may be found at <http://www.jfklibrary.org/Historical+Resources/Archives/Reference+Desk/Speeches/JFK/003POF03Berkeley03231962.htm>). Later in the afternoon, the President flew to Vandenberg Air Force Base to observe the launch of an intercontinental ballistic Atlas missile.

We encourage each of our students to delve into a collection that matches some interest of her or his own, and we expect each of them to



President John F. Kennedy spoke at Memorial Stadium on Charter Day 1962 (courtesy Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory)



POEMS FROM 'RUSSIAN WINTER JOURNAL'

Recipe for Happiness in Khabarovsk or Anyplace:

One grand boulevard with trees  
with one grand café in sun  
with strong black coffee in very small cups

One not necessarily very beautiful  
man or woman who loves you

One fine day

—Lawrence Ferlinghetti, *Open Eye, Open Heart*,  
New Directions, 1973

Lawrence Ferlinghetti admires statue of Dmitri Mendeleev in Khabarovsk, February 1967 (Photo: Heiner Bastian)

discover something new. Quite miraculously, by the middle of each semester, all students have embarked on unique research projects. Some projects avail themselves of the resources of other specialized research libraries, such as the Environmental Design Archives and the Water Resources Center Archives. An oral presentation and final draft of the research paper is due at the end of the semester.

In order to provide additional insight into Bancroft's collections and how to use them for research, each semester we invite two or three guests to make presentations in their area of expertise. Bancroft staff have been especially generous with their time and expertise, particularly Tony Bliss, Curator of Rare Books and Literary Manuscripts; Lauren Lassleben, Appraisal and Preliminary Processing Archivist; Jack von Euw, Curator of Pictorial Collections; James Eason, Principal Pictorial Archivist; Sally Hughes, Historian of Science; Theresa Salazar, Curator of Western Americana; and Kathi Neal, Associate University Archivist. Other experts have also graciously contributed to the seminar: Stephen Tobriner, Professor of Architectural History and author of *Bracing for Disaster: Earthquake-Resistant Architecture and Engineering in San Francisco, 1838-1933*; Steven Shackley, of the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology; Karen Lewis, archivist for Hewlett-Packard; Constance Reid, author of

several popular books on mathematics and biographer of modern mathematicians; and the late Michael Rossman, Berkeley writer, activist, science teacher, and collector of political posters—see the website for the AOUON (“All Of Us Or None”) Archive.

Among the many topics that students have written about are: hydraulic mining during the California Gold Rush; Annie Bidwell and her involvement with indigenous tribes at Rancho Chico in the late 19th century; the Hearst Medical Papyri; Karl F. Meyer's work on botulism and on the plague in California; the Golden Gate Bridge; the Victorian three-volume novel and private circulating libraries; Cyril Elwell and the Poulsen Arc Generator; John Galen Howard's designs for Sather Gate; the Doble brothers' steam automobile, manufactured in Emeryville in the 1920s; Nazism in America in the 1930s; the Salton Sea; the redevelopment of Chavez Ravine and Bunker Hill in downtown Los Angeles; Reuben (“Rube”) Goldberg; Berkeley's police chief August Vollmer and his influence on the reform of China's police system in the 1930s and 1940s; student protests on the Berkeley campus; the photography of Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams at the Manzanar relocation center for Japanese Americans; Professors John and Joseph Le Conte; UC President Clark Kerr; mathematician and activist Stephen Smale; the underground comics of R. Crumb; and

the travels and writings of Lawrence Ferlinghetti.

Despite the wide range of topics, our students become engaged in the progress of one another's research projects and participate actively during the weekly updates. We have sometimes considered confining projects to thematic areas, but the students actually prefer the complete freedom to pursue their own individual interests. What keeps the seminar unified is a common research method and a focus on primary materials. On two occasions, in 2006 and 2008, students from our seminar won the prestigious Library Prize for Undergraduate Research for their research papers.

Students leave UGIS 39B with a knowledge of how to use a premier research library, with a sense of achievement and confidence in their own ability to conduct original research and write about it effectively, and having experienced the intense pleasure of developing research questions, pursuing leads, and discovering new knowledge. As instructors, it brings us much joy to be in the presence of these enthusiastic undergraduates as they develop into independently minded young researchers. Additionally, each semester, we ourselves learn more about the breadth and depth of Bancroft's magnificent collections.

Jim Casey  
*Professor, Departments of Mechanical  
Engineering and Bioengineering*

David Farrell  
*Curator of History of Science and Technology  
Program and University Archivist*

Peter Hanff  
*Deputy Director of The Bancroft Library*



One of John Galen Howard's studies for Sather Gate (1908) (Environmental Design Archives)

# FALL 2008 CALENDAR

## EXHIBITIONS

**25 YEARS IN BLACK AND WHITE:  
NEGATIVES FROM THE FANG  
FAMILY SAN FRANCISCO EXAM-  
INER PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVE,  
1935–1960**

*September 15, 2008 – February 28, 2009*  
Bernice Layne Brown Gallery  
Doe Library

**MARK TWAIN AT PLAY**

*December 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009*  
Reception: *December 2, 2008*  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
Bancroft Exhibition Gallery

**THE MUSEUM OF VERTEBRATE  
ZOOLOGY: A CENTURY OF  
INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND  
TEACHING**

*October 24, 2008 – April 30, 2009*  
University Archives Display Cases  
The Bancroft Library

BANCROFTIANA IS MADE WITH 10% RECYCLED  
POST-CONSUMER WASTE

## EVENTS

**Documentary Film**

**“AMERICA’S WINE: THE  
LEGACY OF PROHIBITION”**

*October 23, 2008*

Reception: 5:30 pm • Screening: 7:00 pm  
155 Dwinelle Hall

**REDEDICATION OF  
THE BANCROFT LIBRARY**

*October 24, 2008 • 3:00 – 5:00 pm*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**THE BANCROFT LIBRARY IS CLOSED  
UNTIL WINTER**

The Bancroft library is returning to its original location, the Doe Library Annex, after three years of off-campus exile. During the move of the staff and collections back to campus, the library will remain closed. As we go to press, we still do not have a firm date for reopening. For more information and updates about the move, please visit the Bancroft website at <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/info/move> or call (510) 642-3781.

## *The Council of the Friends of The Bancroft Library*

2008–2009

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