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Hubert H. Bancroft

Curating the Grandeur of a Great Labor

In 1938 The Bancroft Library became the official repository of the records of the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition (PPIE). At the time it was one of the largest accessions ever received by the Library, consisting of nearly 300 linear feet of records documenting the promotion, planning, and execution of the world's fair that reintroduced San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire. One hundred years later, in celebration of the centennial of the "Jewel City," the Bancroft Gallery presented *The Grandeur of a Great Labor: The Building of the Panama Canal and the Panama-Pacific International Exposition*, an exhibition commemorating the PPIE and its impact on the city.

Blessed with an embarrassment of riches, the exhibition curators scoured the official records of the PPIE for a year before selecting the more than 150 pieces that were included in the show. One of the goals of *The Grandeur of a Great Labor* was to highlight how the PPIE records complement other Bancroft holdings, particularly its exceptional Latin Americana collections that document the event that spurred the Exposition: the completion of the Panama Canal. Both these remarkable undertakings afforded ample opportunity for display of contemporary perceptions of American ingenuity and destiny. As historians of the American West, the curators were drawn to the expressions of imperialism rampant in promotional materials for both the Panama Canal and the Exposition—from editorial cartoons depicting Uncle Sam and Teddy Roosevelt as the only individuals capable of completing the canal, to the ubiquitous image of Hercules parting the continents used to advertise the fair. The topics of labor, invention, and an unwavering confidence announced themselves early on to the curators as the themes of the story.

The United States was still a young country in 1915. Its successful completion of the Panama Canal (an endeavor in which other countries had tried and failed) marked the nation's coming of age, just as the rebuilding of San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire marked a renaissance for the city. Referred to as "two great American achievements," both events were used to promote the United States and the West as new players for a new century.

The imagery the curators discovered as they surveyed potential exhibit materials was evocative and illustrative of the time and atmosphere in which it was created. The citizenry banded together to bring the exposition to San Francisco in an effort to secure the city's reputation as a thriving metropolis. Rising to the challenge of supporting the endeavor, Bay Area citizens responded with an assured civic pride that resulted in their raising record amounts of money

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Promotional artwork for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, California, ca. 1913-1915, BANC PIC 1939 014--F



On the first of September, Senator Barbara Boxer announced to a delighted audience in the Heller Reading Room that she is giving her papers to The Bancroft Library. To complement the arrival of the papers, Bancroft and the Institute of Governmental Studies are jointly sponsoring the new Barbara Boxer Lecture Series, which will emphasize women in leadership roles and begin in 2017.

Sharing the podium with Senator Boxer were Berkeley's Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Carol Christ, University of California President, Janet Napolitano, and the senator's son, Douglas Boxer.

Both he and the senator discussed how she had decided to place her papers at Berkeley. Doug Boxer, who is a Cal alum (Political Economy, 1988), spoke movingly of the impact that his Berkeley years have had on his life and relationships. This experience, he said, had caused him to urge the senator to give her papers to the University of California. For Senator Boxer a deciding factor was, she said, her sense that at Berkeley the papers, in the context of the lecture series, would be a "living archive." The papers will become available to the public for research; and the lecture series will draw attention to the Boxer archive and other political archives in the Bancroft collection, as practical sources for learning about the political process in California and the nation.

The Bancroft Library also holds the papers of U.S. senators John Works, William Knowland, Thomas Kuchel, and Alan Cranston as well as the papers of U.S. congressmen Thomas Lantos, Robert Matsui, and George Miller. The papers of California governor Edmund (Pat) Brown are also at Bancroft and will soon be joined by those of recent assembly speaker John Perez.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Major Woman's Political Archive Coming to Bancroft

The arrival of the first of Barbara Boxer's papers at Bancroft and the inauguration of the campus lecture series named for her, both in 2017, will spotlight Berkeley's long tradition of research and teaching about government and its much more recent emphasis on women and gender as fields in their own right.

The Bancroft Library's tradition of documenting the lives and work of women is a strong one that dates at least to Hubert Howe Bancroft's project of preserving the accounts of living witnesses for his history of California. The reminiscences that Eulalia Pérez dictated in Spanish in 1877 to Bancroft's secretary, Thomas Savage, is an example of such a testimony. So are the accounts that Bancroft's wife Matilda took down as dictations from Mormon women in Salt Lake during the summer of 1884. Perhaps the earliest document by a woman in the current Bancroft holdings is the letter from the town of Tebtunis written in Greek by a servant named Aphrodite to her mistress Arsinoe. It dates from the second or third century C.E. and is part of the papyrus collection from the expedition that Phoebe Apperson Hearst underwrote in 1899-1900 for the benefit of the University of California.

The major Bancroft collections all contain fascinating material on the lives and activities of women. More is being added all the time, including the archives of women writers and visual artists, as well as the papers and oral histories of women leaders of the Berkeley campus. Only a fraction of these unique primary materials, however, are immediately apparent in the Berkeley library catalogs and finding aids as collections related to women as such. Many more of these women's records were cataloged before the emergence of certain investigative perspectives—e.g. women, gender, intellectual property, the environment—from which many researchers now wish to approach the Bancroft holdings. In this

changing intellectual terrain, the Bancroft reference staff, who know the collections in detail, are absolutely essential to helping instructors, their students, and other investigators develop the research strategies they need to uncover these treasures that are hiding in plain sight.

Senator Boxer's papers are the first archive of a major woman political figure to be added to the Bancroft collection. The anticipation of its arrival at Bancroft and of the inauguration of the Boxer lecture series next year is generating a lot of positive buzz. This wonderful new addition to the library's holdings is likely to draw greater attention more generally to Bancroft's rich and various holdings of women's materials and its efforts to document the lives and contributions of women.

*The James D. Hart Director
The Bancroft Library*



Senator Boxer makes it official: her papers are coming to The Bancroft Library.

Irish Eyes Smile at Bancroft Treasures

President Michael D. Higgins Visits The Bancroft Library

It's not every day that a presidential motorcade packed with secret service agents pulls up in front of The Bancroft Library. But that's exactly what happened in October 2015 when Michael D. Higgins, the president of Ireland, paid a visit. Higgins and his wife Sabina Coyne were visiting Berkeley primarily to participate in memorial events related to the tragic deaths of six Irish students in June 2015, when a balcony in downtown Berkeley collapsed.

He also managed, however, to spend a day on campus, where he delivered a major address at International House on ending world hunger and also visited Bancroft. Curators David Faulds and Theresa Salazar showed the president and his wife a selection of materials related to Ireland from Bancroft's holdings, and Center for the Tebtunis Papyri Director Todd Hickey showed them fragments from the papyrus collection. The Irish in America were represented by the diary of Patrick Breen, a member of the Donner Party, and photographs of Hetch Hetchy from the papers of engineer Michael Maurice O'Shaughnessy. Items from Bancroft's literary collections included a manuscript by Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney, which he wrote while spending a year in Berkeley; as well as a first edition of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, signed by the author; a rare copy of the first edition of W.B. Yeats's poem *Easter, 1916*; and original private letters by Yeats. The unique fragment of a satyr play by Sophocles underscored the long connection between Berkeley's papyrus collection and papyrologists from Trinity College, Dublin, who were among the first scholars to publish Tebtunis fragments.

— David Faulds
*Curator, Rare Books
and Literary Manuscripts*



Countdown. Irish Vice Consul Kevin Byrne and Elaine Tennant sneak a look at an autographed first edition of James Joyce's Ulysses before the motorcade arrives.



Sabina Coyne and Irish President Michael D. Higgins examine a love letter by William Butler Yeats under the watchful eye of David Faulds, Curator of Rare Books and Literary Manuscripts.



Theresa Salazar, Bancroft Curator of Western Americana, shows our honored guests papers and photographs of Hetch Hetchy from the O'Shaughnessy papers.



Night illumination of the Exposition. *Portion of colored real photo postcard photographed by Charles Weidner, 1915. From the Doris Barr Stanislawski Papers. BANC MSS 80/100 c, volume VI, page 2.*

CURATING *continued from page 1*

to finance the fair. This accomplishment played no small part in Congress's final decision to award the fair to San Francisco. The promoters of San Francisco described New Orleans, the other principal contender in the competition to host the fair, as a backwater full of undesirables (i.e. African Americans), while they lauded San Francisco for its temperate climate and modern facilities. It was, of course, modern because the city had been essentially rebuilt after its destruction in 1906. And the ultimate selection of San Francisco over New Orleans as the site of the world's fair lent credence to the argument that the city was the gateway to the Pacific and particularly to trade with Asia.

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition Records (BANC MSS C-A 190) document in great detail the construction of the ephemeral city. They chronicle both the logistical aspects of the project—from cost breakdowns to photographs of sculptors in their studios—and the extraordinary amount of manpower it took to build the exposition. Promotional literature and official reports record everything from the tonnage of steel used to the man-hours required to complete a single building. The construction records of the PPIE in turn revealed another constant theme, namely man's desire to harness and “improve” upon nature. This is evident in the proposals for filling the Harbor View site and in photographs of trees being relocated onto that recently reclaimed “land.” Although the PPIE was not as epic in scale as the construction of the Panama Canal, the similarities in

the attitudes of PPIE planners and the canal builders are clear and evocative of an early twentieth-century notion that nature is something to be tamed.

Technological innovations like those that enabled the United States to complete the Panama Canal were lauded at the PPIE as harbingers of a new era of progress, as was the fierce ideal that man could improve upon the natural world. Powerful turbines, electrical transformers, and elaborate electrical lighting were on display. The exposition celebrated American invention and inventors. The first transcontinental phone call was made from the fair and was extolled as a distinctly American achievement. Promotional literature produced by AT&T went so far as to state that, “under no other conditions, except such as exist in the United States, could [the telephone] have come to its highest development.” The exposition organizers proclaimed October 21 as “Thomas Edison Day,” on which the inventor's numerous achievements were celebrated. Throughout his visit, Edison was accompanied by his friend Henry Ford, whose own creation, the assembly line, was a major attraction at the fair. This celebration of technology and American ingenuity encouraged fairgoers to take ownership of nature itself by experiencing the natural world, or at least constructed interpretations of it, in man-made facsimiles of the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone Park.

The process of closely reviewing Bancroft's collections allowed the curators to distill the story of the fair and demonstrate the breadth of Bancroft's

holdings. An examination of Bancroft's vast PPIE collections shows how pervasive the exposition was in the everyday life of local citizens. Documentation of the event goes far beyond the official records of the fair itself and includes a wide array of contemporary publications and ephemera collected at the time. And the representation of the fair in Bancroft's holdings continues to expand as

the Library continues to collect. A recent (2015) addition to the papers of the William I. Gardner and Mercedes P. Gardner Family, for example, included a 1915 Oakland elementary school class portrait in which the students proudly sit behind a PPIE banner. The personal papers of any local citizen from the period are likely to contain a memento of their attendance, whether snapshots, ticket books, or simply their reminiscences of the event. One of the most satisfying aspects of the research for the exhibit was the realization of how deeply the fair permeates the collections, just as it permeated the culture of the day.

This venture into the PPIE and early twentieth-century California was a revealing exercise that afforded the curators greater appreciation of the richness of The Bancroft Library's collections. To some extent this is an anticipated result of curating any exhibit at Bancroft, but this case was especially fortuitous. Despite the plethora of exhibitions marking the centennial, the fact that Bancroft holds the official records of the Exposition allowed visitors to understand and interpret the event in an extraordinarily intimate manner.

—Teresa Mora
Former Supervisory Archivist

The Grandeur of a Great Labor: The Building of the Panama Canal and the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was curated by Theresa Salazar, Curator of Western Americana, and Teresa Mora, University Archivist, University of California, Santa Cruz; formerly Supervisory Archivist, The Bancroft Library. It ran from October 21, 2015 to February 26, 2016.

Facets of the Fair

Glimpses of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition from the Collections of The Bancroft Library

After much anticipation, The Bancroft Library “joined the party” with many other institutions in the Bay Area that celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) throughout 2015. Drawing on our especially rich collections pertaining to the PPIE, Bancroft staged multiple exhibitions showcasing the documentary heritage of this most glorious of world’s fairs. One of these was *Facets of the Fair: Glimpses of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition from the Collections of The Bancroft Library*. Filling the exhibit cases in the corridor connecting Bancroft to Doe Library, *Facets of the Fair*—which served as a companion exhibit to the major show in the Bancroft Gallery, *The Grandeur of a Great Labor*—provided an introduction to the PPIE and, more generally, drew attention to the unique collections and mission of The Bancroft Library.

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition was held in San Francisco from February 20 to December 4, 1915. The PPIE was officially organized as a celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal and of the tremendous commercial promise made possible by the canal’s completion. The fair also demonstrated San Francisco’s phoenix-like rebirth from the devastation of the 1906 earthquake and fire that had destroyed much of the city. *Facets of the Fair* situated the 1915 exposition within this dramatic and pivotal historical context. The exhibit also highlighted PPIE’s place in the succession of world’s fairs staged in California, explored a variety of the experiences enjoyed by the millions of everyday visitors to the fair, and illustrated the still-unfolding history of one of the fair’s architectural gems, the Palace of Fine Arts. Also displayed was a survey of the varieties of photographic expression to be found among Bancroft’s PPIE collections. The exhibit featured reproductions of photographs, prints, maps, manuscripts, architectural drawings, periodicals, and other ephemera and artifacts.

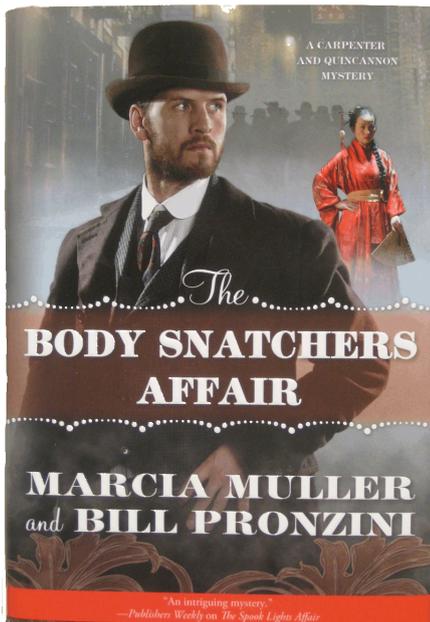
In addition to exploring this handful of the Exposition’s countless “facets,” the exhibit also provided an introduction—for those who might not have been familiar with the institution within whose walls they were passing—to the mission of The Bancroft Library and the wide variety of materials accessible to researchers here. Thousands of students, faculty, staff, and other campus visitors traverse the corridor on a daily basis. By articulating an emphasis on the institutional source of the material on display in each exhibit case, we hoped the exhibition might help to broaden the community’s awareness of the breadth and depth of Bancroft’s resources.

As a processing archivist who primarily works behind the scenes to make the library’s collections ready for public access, I’m always flattered to be asked to help contribute to Bancroft’s exhibition efforts. The opportunity to organize this exhibit was a treat. I was especially fortunate to collaborate on this project with graphic designer Alison Wannamaker. Not only did Alison design the exhibit, but she also assisted in the review and selection of material and provided essential overall guidance. Her expertise, judgment and good cheer were greatly appreciated. The show reflected her effort as much as it did mine. We hope the exhibit served as a nice complement to *The Grandeur of a Great Labor* and helped to illuminate our appreciation of this unforgettable event that remains brightly affixed to the history of this region.

—Chris McDonald
Pictorial Archivist



The 13th Labor of Hercules, *Perham Wilhelm Nahl*, 1914.
Official poster for the Panama Pacific International Exposition San Francisco 1915.
BANC PIC 1959.087--ALB, v. 1, Page 1.



The Body Snatchers Affair (Tom Doherty Associates, 2015), is the third novel in the Carpenter and Quincannon series.

In Fall 2013, The Bancroft Library established the California Detective Fiction Collection to strengthen the library's already-robust holdings of the literature of California by including a broader spectrum of mystery, crime, and detective fiction. Representative works by contemporary authors such as James Ellroy, Michael Connelly, Walter Mosley, Sue Grafton, and Robert Crais have been added to the collection, along with works by recognized masters of the genre such as Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler, Ross Macdonald, and Margaret Millar. A particular emphasis has been put on acquiring titles written by authors who are past and present members of the Northern California Chapter of Mystery Writers of America (MWA), which was that organization's first regional chapter and was established right here in Berkeley under the guidance of local author, critic, and all-around promoter of genre fiction Anthony Boucher (pen name of William Anthony Parker White, M.A., UC Berkeley, 1934).

This burgeoning collection got a major boost in November 2015 when Bay Area authors Bill Pronzini and Marcia Muller presented the library with the gift of over 700 volumes. The collection includes books written, compiled, or edited by Muller and Pronzini, both separately and in collaboration, in a variety of editions, translations, and

Bill Pronzini & Marcia Muller

A Pair of Grand Masters

formats. The “Mulzini,” as they are affectionately known by their friends, are not only extraordinarily prolific writers, but are also the second married couple in history to be given the MWA's highest honor, the title of Grand Master, the other being Southern Californians Ross Macdonald and Margaret Millar.

Bill Pronzini started publishing short stories in 1969, and his first novel, *The Stalker*, was released in 1971. His second novel, *The Snatch*, introduced readers to an unnamed private investigator from San Francisco, known simply as the “Nameless Detective,” and launched one of the longest-running private detective series in history. Over 40 books have been published, with more on the way. But that does not even scratch the surface of Pronzini's career. He has also penned numerous stand-alone mystery and suspense novels, written and edited several works of nonfiction, published countless short stories, and dabbled in science fiction and westerns.

Marcia Muller has often been called one of the “founding mothers” of the modern hard-boiled female private eye. Her first book, *Edwin of the Iron Shoes*, published in 1977, introduced Sharon McCone, a no-nonsense investigator in San Francisco.

While McCone was not the first female detective on the literary scene, her influence is easy to spot in the landscape of mystery fiction today. The series has 33 installments to date, and Muller shows little sign of slowing down. Marcia Muller was named Grand Master in 2005, a full three years before Bill was similarly honored in 2008.

Muller and Pronzini, in addition to their solo work, have collaborated many times as writers and editors. Their *1001 Midnights: An Aficionado's Guide to Mystery Fiction* received an Edgar nomination from MWA for Best Critical/Biographical Work in 1987. Their most recent collaboration is a series of historical mysteries set in 1890s San Francisco featuring former Pinkerton operative Sabina Carpenter and her partner, ex-Secret Service agent John Quincannon.

With this generous donation, the California Detective Fiction Collection can safely stake the claim to be one of the most comprehensive collections of the works of Bill Pronzini and Marcia Muller, two of the mystery scene's true grand masters.

—Randal Brandt

Head of Cataloging and Curator of the California Detective Fiction Collection



Randal Brandt poses with Marcia Muller and Bill Pronzini.

“Such rush for the mines you never see in your life”

How Social Problems During California’s Gold Rush Presaged Those We Face Today

As the Eastern United States met the West in the months and years following the 1848 gold discovery at Sutter’s Mill, California’s shores and gold-filled hills became riddled with problems the eager prospectors might have thought they had left behind: racial tension, concern over rainfall, economic disparities between neighbors, overcrowding and high rent. These sound familiar, don’t they?

At The Bancroft Library, recent acquisitions of letters sent from California during this widely-studied era illuminate through the voices of young men, both optimistic and pessimistic, how they saw this “land of opportunity” and tried to explain it to their relatives and friends back home. Although many of the men in this collection of letters are not famous, and some even unidentified, the aggregate of their experiences and descriptions paints an honest likeness of this not-so-foreign past.

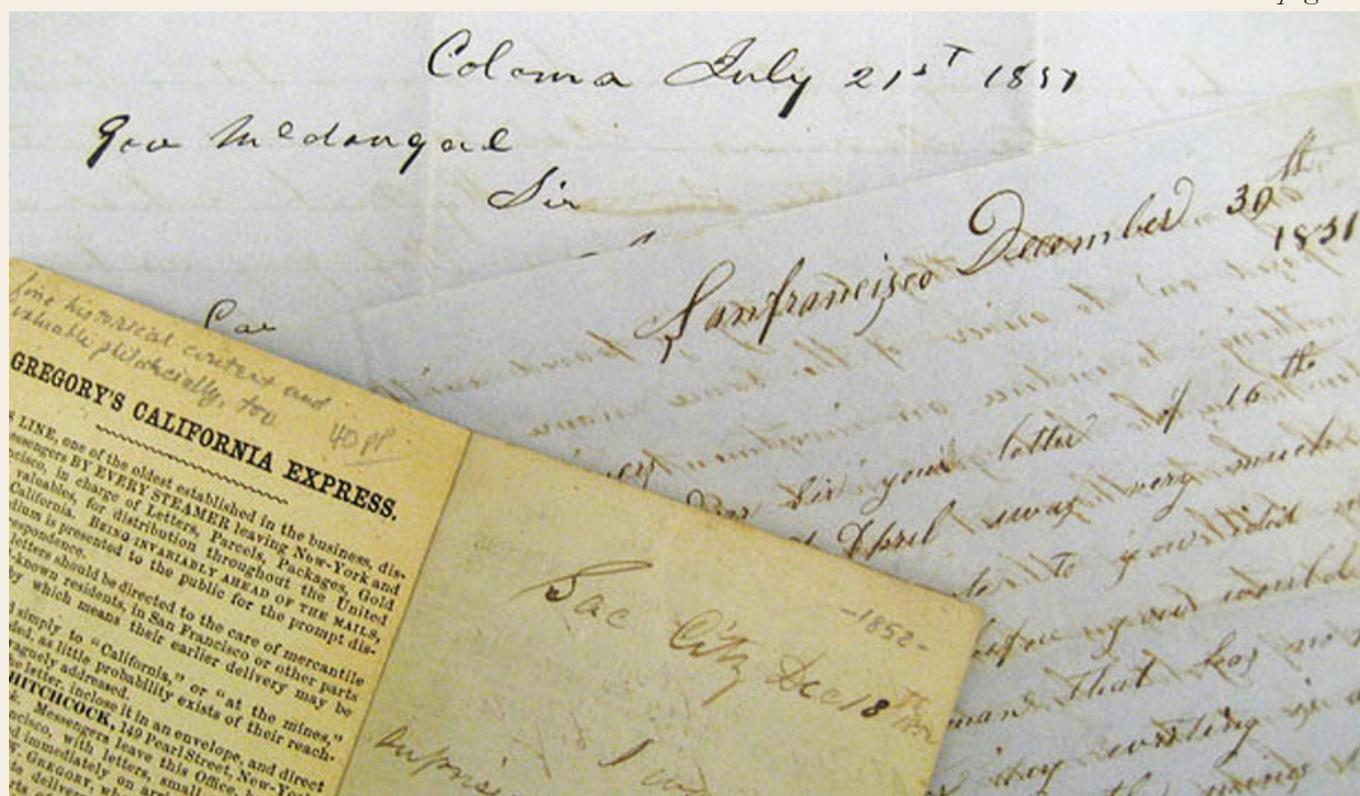
The influx of prospective miners into California after January 1849

brought the racist stereotypes regarding the native population already common in the East to the forefront of western social interaction. Common claims of the day deriding the character of the Indians are seen in the December 25, 1852 letter by Abram Lanphear to his brother in New York as he calls the native population a “poor indolent lazy set of mortals” (BANC MSS 2015/12). Similar ideas drove the state military’s pursuit of revenge for the death of one sergeant during an altercation that had already left eight native people dead, as explained in Brigadier General Albert Maver Winn’s July 21, 1851 letter (BANC MSS 2015/16). Some men were not so blindly willing to believe the prejudice against Indians and asserted that this hatred was sometimes used to cover for violence between whites. A Virginia miner in Butte County tells a friend of the “band of robbers who committed such wholesale & fiendish murders in our neighborhood” leaving victims with their “throats cut &

arrows stuck all over them.” Despite the attempt to make the murders fit the Anglo perception of native warfare tactics, the author does believe that the Indians are blamed “probably falsly [sic]” (BANC MSS 2014/19). This method of exploiting the new immigrants’ fear and ingrained ideas of native people attacking was also used in San Francisco, as carpenter Christopher Toole notes that “the great trouble is with the indians but . . . the fault is not with indians it is with the whites” (BANC MSS 2015/19). That some people saw through efforts to make them believe in the evil of the native people mirrors today’s concerns over racial profiling.

Due to the need for water to wash gold from the gravel pulled from mines, and the fact that too much water made it impossible to reach the ore-rich hills, the amount of rain and river water was an important subject for men in the fields and in the cities. Miners writing from their claims often

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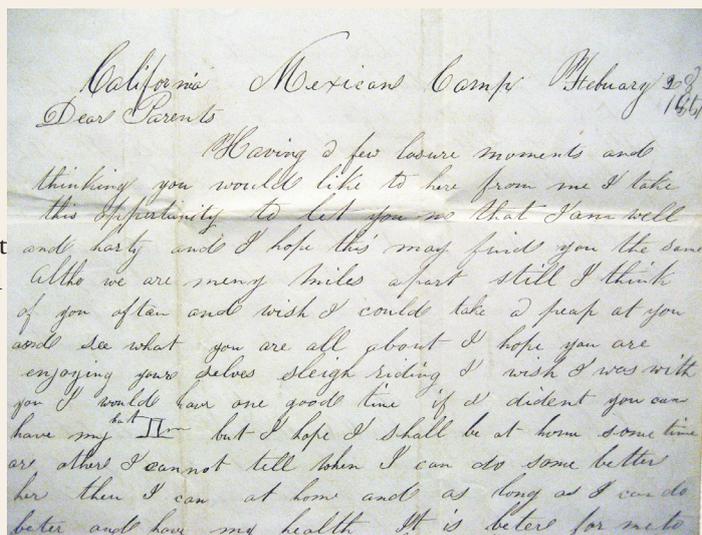
These are selections of Gold Rush letters from The Bancroft Library.

wished for a “wet winter” in order to have the rivers filled throughout the spring and summer months (BANC MSS 2014/12). When the rains came at an inopportune time, however, as was the case during the late winter of 1850, it created chaos as a dry February caused “such rush for the mines you never see in your life”; and the succeeding wet March sent the prospectors flooding back into cities (BANC MSS 2015/19). This dependence upon the rain is familiar to today’s Californians, who daily hear about the prolonged drought and the possible flooding that could occur if the projected El Niño winter proves to be as strong as predicted. Even though many people do not rely solely on water for employment, the concern over water is unabated, and remains as common a topic of conversation today as it was during the Gold Rush.

Like most new careers, digging for gold held its fair share of monetary risk and depended on luck. A man identified only as “Charles” observed in 1850 that “99 out of 100” men get not a cent from mining (BANC MSS 2014/53). While some men struck it rich upon arrival, many were not so fortunate and spent months in squalid conditions. The different financial outcomes between men who dug for gold in the same areas prove just how random success was, and can be reflected in today’s business environment in which one new technology soars while a similar one fails. Frank William Bye, a miner who spent at least a decade in California’s gold fields, noted in 1852 that he “cleared over one hundred dollars per month.” This success did not allow him to forget that he was one of the few, as he follows by conceding that “hundreds of men equally as competent as myself [who] have been here all summer spend the last dollar” (BANC MSS 2014/58). An unidentified miner digging at the Yuba River in the Sacramento Valley perfectly describes how big the difference a short distance can be in his assessment of a claim located less than a mile from his where “there was a company

of 20 men making \$20 to \$30 a day while all around there was many not making their board” (BANC MSS 2015/3). What are now entrenched issues of economic disparity were already at play in the 1850s.

Rent and the cost of food in California are prime examples of too much demand for not enough land and supplies. Even though there were vastly fewer people in Gold Rush San Francisco than there are today, numerous letters marvel over the enormous sums asked for rent, which were far larger than anywhere else in the country. Architect Gordon Parker Cummings, whose contributions to California include San Francisco’s “Montgomery Block” and Sacramento’s capitol building, complains to a friend in Pennsylvania that his two “3rd story rooms” in San Francisco rent for \$900 a month, a cost that “would sound extravagant in Phill [but] it is a cheap one here” (BANC MSS 2014/35). The cost of basic foodstuffs also was drastically more expensive in California thanks especially to the difficulty of moving provisions from the port of San Francisco to the mines. In an 1853 letter to



This detail is from a letter written by Sanford D. Johnson to his parents in Gardiner, Maine, February 28, 1851 (BANC MSS 2014/3).

a friend, Charles Stone, a miner in Columbia, California (now a state park), notes at the beginning of the letter that flour costs \$0.38 per pound, and by the end of the letter, written after a rainstorm, it was raised to \$0.75 per pound (BANC MSS 2014/36).

Despite all of the unexpected hardships, California still held its charm for some newcomers who boasted of its “handsome buildings” and health benefits that were “worth all the Gold in California” (BANC MSS 2014/13; BANC MSS 2014/3). Even today, California is a beautiful place to live and generally has salubrious weather. So maybe there is more than one reason that millions continue to call it home.

These Gold Rush-era letters, and others like them, are open for research at The Bancroft Library. Visit the library to conduct your own inquiries into the experiences of Californians living through past booms and busts.

—Louisa R. Brandt is a junior at the University of California, Davis majoring in History and Art History. She is the 2016 recipient of the Richard Huberty Memorial Scholarship (for American history students with a demonstrated emphasis on research and study of California). In 2014, she processed and transcribed the “Civil War in the West Collection” (BANC MSS 2014/175), a group of letters and documents related to Union and Confederate soldiers in New Mexico. One group of letters in the collection, the “Mary Frances Green Lewis Correspondence, 1860-1861,” is the subject of her current research for a course on the history of the American West.



NBA Champion Bill Walton is a BIG Bancroft Fan!



Bill Walton views stereograph images.

The Bancroft Library is accustomed to recognition from historians and scholars of all stripes, but it's not every day that we get a shout-out from the world of big time collegiate and NBA basketball.

Last winter we received just that, however, after hosting two-time NCAA and NBA Champion Bill Walton for a library visit during his trip to Berkeley to announce several Cal basketball games for the Pac-12 Network. Walton was already on our minds after long-time staffer Diana Vergil heard him talking about Bancroft during a previous Cal game broadcast, and so I recognized him immediately when I found myself walking behind him through Sather Gate. Not being one to introduce myself to random strangers, even those of Walton's celebrity, I did not intend to say anything. But when I passed—and heard him talking with his companions about where to find The Bancroft Library—I could not resist.

Bonding over our mutual love of bright shirts and libraries—Walton's mother was a career public librarian—I showed him the way to Bancroft and offered him a tour, which he had to postpone until his next visit.

When he did make it back, in February, we spent a whole morning going through the Library and sharing our spaces and collections, including the reading room, the press room, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri, and the Mark Twain Papers.



Charlie Macquarie and Bill Walton model their signature shirts.



Bill Walton shows some of the tiniest Bancroft artifacts.

We had so much fun on his visit that he almost had to be pried away. His actual lament was, “Now I have to go talk to basketball players?” And subsequently when it came to the game that night, it seemed as though Walton spent almost half of his announcing time talking about everything Bancroft—from the papyri retrieved from the stomachs of the crocodile mummies to Bancroft's visitor and patron-use policies.

— Charlie Macquarie
Digital Project Archivist

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Friends of The Bancroft Library
 Saturday, June 4, 2016



Peter Hanff looks on as Joan Torykian comments on the Chair's report.



Friends Chair Brad Barber surveys the past year with a smile.



Historians Julia Flynn Siler and Theresa Salazar compare notes.



Elaine Tennant introduces Hubert Howe Bancroft Award recipient William B. Taylor.



It's a family affair. Bill Taylor poses with admirers and the memorial resolution read in his honor. L-R: Margaret Chowning, Peter Hanff, Ivonne del Valle, Brad Barber, Elaine Tennant, José Adrián Barragán. FRONT: Bill Taylor and former student Brian Madigan.



Judy Wessing and Brian Van Camp catch up before the luncheon.



Debra Kasper and her husband Michael Neville look at the Tebturnis exhibit in the spring show, The Papyrus in the Crocodile, co-curated by students from the History of Art Department and Bancroft curators.



Bancroft Study Award winners Richard Soash, John Elrick, Alex Werth, Elise Levin-Guracar pose with Bill Taylor.



Bancroft's collection of fine bindings from the Norman Strouse Collection were featured in the spring show.



Sophie Hahn and Leslie Borasi discuss communications strategy at the Annual Meeting.



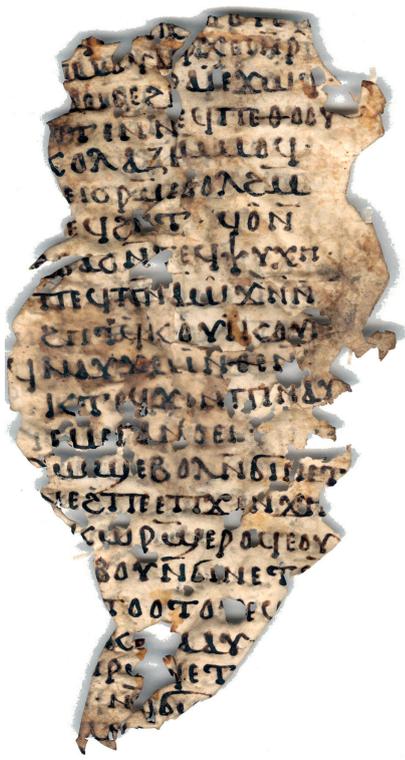
David de Lorenzo makes a farewell appearance at the Annual Meeting before leaving Bancroft to become the University of Oregon's first Director of Special Collections.



Tom Woodhouse is cheered by the account of Bancroft's recent acquisitions.



Tom McKeever enjoys the Study Awards presentations.



Recent conservation work on a parchment in the collection of the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri has allowed it to be identified as a fragment of a sermon written by Shenoute of Atripe, an Egyptian monk active in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D. and a seminal figure in Coptic literature.

Shenoute, “Coptic Egypt’s first outstanding author” in the words of the Coptologist Stephen Emmel, was from his youth a member of a monastic community in Upper Egypt that he soon came to lead (*Shenoute’s Literary Corpus* [Leuven 2004]). Over the course of a long career—Shenoute probably lived past the age of 100—he left behind an extensive corpus of theological writings. A staunch opponent of paganism and heresy, as he identified them, Shenoute did not shrink from violence in his efforts to root them out, which included the burning of a local temple. He also grew to such prominence throughout Egypt within his lifetime that he was invited by the archbishop of Alexandria to participate in the ecumenical Council of Ephesus (431 A.D.). In addition to Shenoute’s literary fame, his reputation for sanctity has endured and he continues to be venerated as a saint in the Coptic Orthodox Church.

In its modern scholarly edition, the sermon to which the Berkeley fragment belongs has been given the provisional title *On the Judgment*. The original beginning

and title of the work are not preserved in any known copy. The sermon offers a lengthy account of human responses to death and the divine judgment of the dead, with detailed descriptions of sinners, their sins, and the punishments awaiting them. Especially prominent in this catalogue is the criticism of rich, immoral landowners and corrupt ecclesiastics, which may well reflect Shenoute’s assessment of the gravest threats to his contemporary flock. The Berkeley fragment is from a section near the beginning of the sermon that paints a vivid picture of the agonies of a sick and dying man: though comforted by friends and kin, he is tormented by thoughts of the coming punishment for his sins and the apparition of angels who will bring him before God for judgment. The sermon is known in its fullest form in a papyrus codex now in Turin and probably from the Thinite nome, or district, of Egypt, which may have been found in a church in the town of This (modern Girga) itself. (See Museo Egizio Cat. 63000, cod. IV, edited by H. Behlmer, *Schenute von Atripe De iudicio* . . . [Turin 1996]. The town of This is quite close to Naga ed-Dêr, the site on which the expedition led by George A. Reisner and sponsored by Phoebe A. Hearst was focusing its efforts in the period in which the present fragment was found, though its precise find-spot is not recorded.

Two other fragments of the sermon were previously known. One of them in fact presented the material in two



parallel texts, in Greek and Coptic, which has suggested to some that Shenoute may have written in Greek as well as his native Coptic. There is no trace of an accompanying Greek text on the Berkeley fragment, but the sermon has in any case a high degree of rhetorical sophistication, which counters an earlier view among some scholars that Shenoute was intellectually uncultivated.

The new fragment was first sent to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, after its discovery by Reisner and mistakenly kept there for some years. It only reached Berkeley after the foundation of CTP, through the efforts of then-Director Donald Mastronarde and current Director Todd Hickey and the cooperation of MFA curators. When it arrived here, the fragment was mounted in a plastic picture-frame with a paper backing, which obscured the writing on one of its sides. As part of its much-needed conservation, the parchment is now being transferred to a more durable and stable glass mount that will afford views of both sides of the fragment.

A preliminary examination of the newly-revealed portion of the fragment made possible by this conservation work has in turn allowed me to identify the text. A full collation and evaluation of textual variation between the previously known copies and the new fragment must await the completion of the re-mounting. We expect then that the Berkeley parchment will begin to make a long overdue contribution to the understanding of the writings of Shenoute as well as of their circulation and readership.

—Michael Zellmann-Rohrer received his Ph.D. in Classics at Berkeley in 2016 and is currently a postdoctoral researcher with the team working on the Lexicon of Greek Personal Names at Oxford University. He was a GSR at CTP and working on his dissertation when he made the discovery reported here.

BILL TAYLOR RECEIVES HUBERT HOWE BANCROFT AWARD

The Friends welcomed back to campus, as the 2016 Hubert Howe Bancroft Award recipient, William B. Taylor, prize-winning historian of Mexico and professor emeritus of the UC Berkeley History Department. Here to greet him on the occasion were some of his former students, including José Adrián Barragán Álvarez, who was making his debut that very week as Bancroft's new Curator of Latin Americana. Taylor began his research on colonial Oaxaca and over the years developed an abiding fascination with the written traces and material remains of early modern Mexico, an eye for reading between the lines of manuscripts, and an ear for hearing the voices of witnesses to history that are preserved in archival documents. This combination of zeal, skill, and sensitivity has enabled him to write thirteen books to date and train generations of Latin American historians. Indeed he taught many of them how to work with original colonial Mexican documents in the reading room of The Bancroft Library. During his years at Berkeley and in his retirement, Taylor has been a wonderful friend to Bancroft, helping us to build the collections and teaching students to use them. These are some of his remarks from the meeting.

UC BERKELEY WAS MOUNT OLYMPUS and Athens rolled into one for my parents when I was growing up in Southern California in the 1940s and 1950s. They valued education for their children, and the one member of our extended family who had gone to college, an older cousin, graduated from the Berkeley campus in the 1930s. I would have enrolled here, too, if I had been a better basketball player. (I went to Occidental College where the chances of making the team were more realistic.)

My direct connection to The Bancroft Library goes back to the 1970s when I was a young professor of Latin American history at the University of Colorado. I came here on short trips during several summers to nibble at the edges of the fabulous collection of manuscripts and rare books about colonial Mexico. Those occasional short trips for research continued until I became a faculty member in 1998. By then it was no mystery to me why The Bancroft Library was so rich in unique and rare Mexican materials. HHB's conception of the American West and California did not leave off at the national frontiers of his time. His own collecting trips, auction purchases, and interest in North America included Mexico and Central America as a matter of course. And since Bancroft's time, the library's collections in this area have continued to live and grow, in the work of scholars from around the world and through judicious acquisitions, all the while surrounding the manuscripts, rare books, and images with a deep base of published primary sources, microfilms, and the latest scholarship in several languages. I've spent many happy hours in this library and been rewarded over and over with Eureka! moments that are fundamental to what I understand about Mexican history and California. It has always been a thrill to take a seat in the reading room, knowing that more surprises and connections await.



Bill Taylor recalls his many research trips to Bancroft.

But The Bancroft Library took on even greater importance for me as a faculty member. Each of the three universities where I worked before coming to Berkeley had its own attractions, but none had an outstanding research library for my fields of interest. Thanks to the support of the Bancroft's directors and specialists, I had, for the first time, a great teaching laboratory at hand in which to share with students at all levels the challenges and joys of original historical research, of reckoning with sources from the time and making sense of them for themselves. There were wonderful graduate students here, of course, but the undergraduate research seminars I directed were unlike any I had taught before. Many of my undergraduates were fluent in Spanish and could quickly learn to read and begin to interpret manuscripts and printed material from the 16th to the 21st centuries. Some of those students caught fire and produced what they had reason to regard as their most satisfying undergraduate work. And even in the lecture courses I was able to introduce students to the library and its collections, and give some of them a taste of original research that we could take back to the classroom. (I mentioned one of these opportunities in my little contribution to the book Charles Faulhaber imagined and brought to completion for the library's centennial celebrations in 2006, which he aptly called, in the fulsome manner of book titles in Hubert Howe Bancroft's time, *Exploring the Bancroft Library: The Centennial Guide to Its Extraordinary History, Spectacular Special Collections, Research Pleasures, Its Amazing Future, and How It All Works.*)

I share Charles's enthusiasm for this library, as I know all of us do. It has long been my bright north star on the Berkeley campus, my best home here. I think you will understand why this award has special meaning to me. Thank you for sharing the occasion with me. 

HIDDEN GEMS

Legacy Manuscript Collections Seen Anew in Quick Kills Project

Between Bancroft Library researchers and manuscript collections sits the processing archivist, whose job it is to take the collections of personal papers, family papers, and organizational records acquired by the library and do all the things necessary to make these collections available for use.

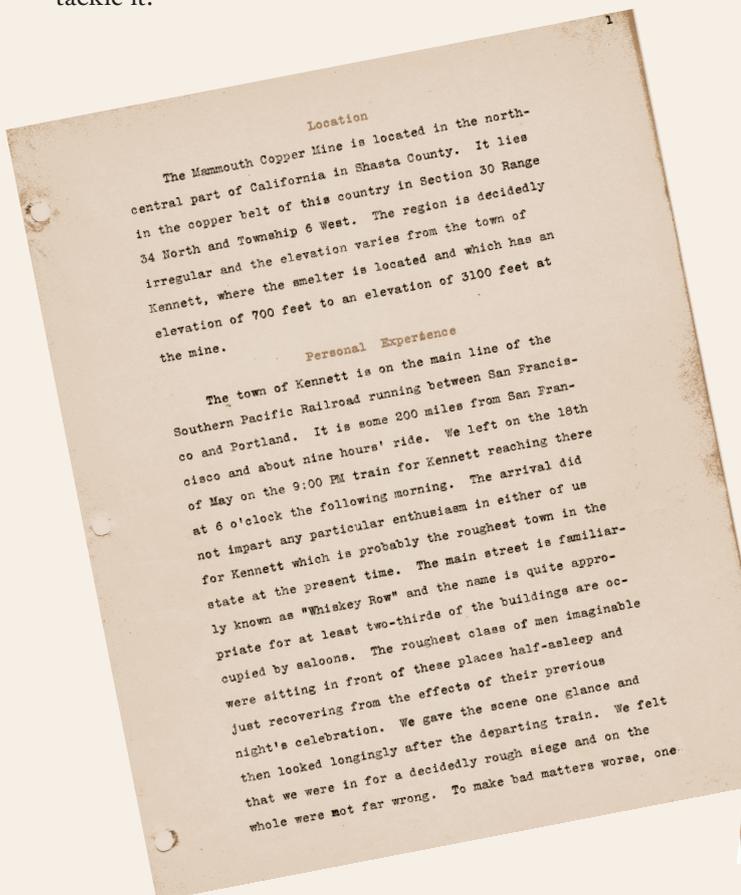
Processing archivists working in manuscripts repositories, such as The Bancroft Library, have for a variety of reasons long struggled to keep up with the speed and volume with which these collections come through the door. As a result, there are still plenty of unprocessed and under-processed collections of 19th- and 20th-century manuscripts sitting on shelves, hidden and undiscovered by researchers. We archivists refer to this as our backlog.

The Bancroft Library has, for the past eight years, been actively working on creative strategies and practices to reduce this backlog and bring hidden manuscript materials to light. In 2008, the Library started by embarking on a three-year grant-funded survey of its entire manuscript holdings. Four archivists were hired to open and evaluate, quite literally, every container of approximately 40,000 linear feet of manuscript material. The survey produced the crucial data necessary not only to understand the extent of The Bancroft Library's manuscript backlog, but also to formulate a plan to tackle it.

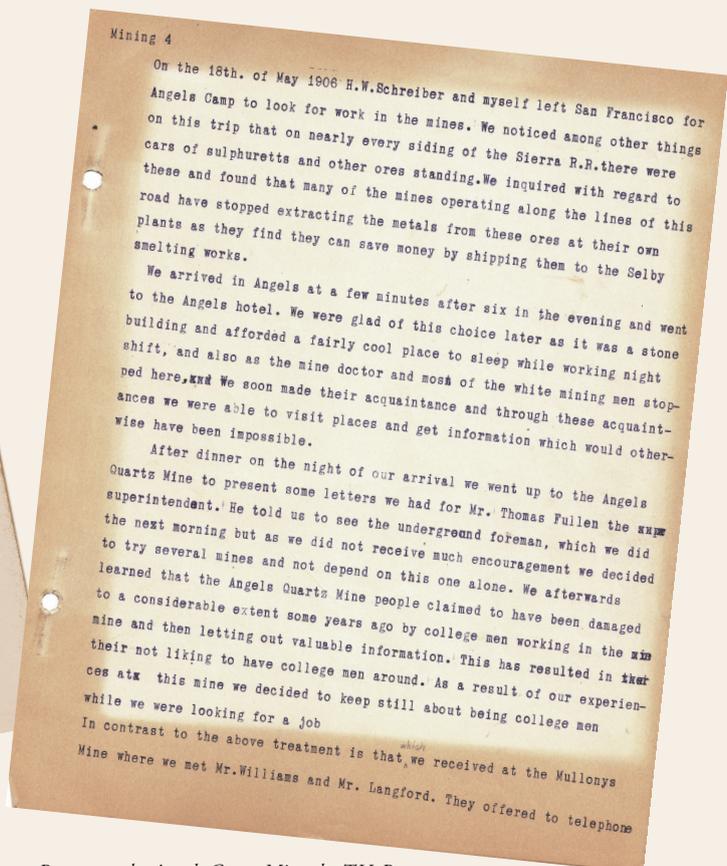
Among other things, the data gathered in the survey allowed the library to categorize its backlog collections based on the time and resources estimated to make each collection sufficiently accessible to library researchers. Some collections, it was determined, could be brought out of the backlog and be made available relatively quickly. These form the basis of the Quick Kills manuscripts processing project, which began in the winter of 2012 and is funded by the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation.

Between 2013 and 2015, as the archivist on the Quick Kills project, I pursued a radically flexible approach to manuscripts processing that focused on doing just what is sufficient for each collection to be considered processed by today's standards. My approach is in line with a decade-long movement in the archival profession called More Product, Less Process (MPLP), which discourages reliance upon arbitrary professional conventions and encourages flexibility and good judgment. More than anything, I try to look at each collection anew, always seeking that sweet spot where the time and resources spent on processing produces a sufficient level of access: nothing more and nothing less.

One of the pleasures of processing these legacy collections, some of which have been in the library for more than half a century, has been exposing hidden gems. One such collection came into my work space with the uninspiring title,



*Report of Summer's Work in Mines: Mammouth Mine
by Lowell Gaynor Kingbaum (BANC MSS C-A 207; carton 1:90)*



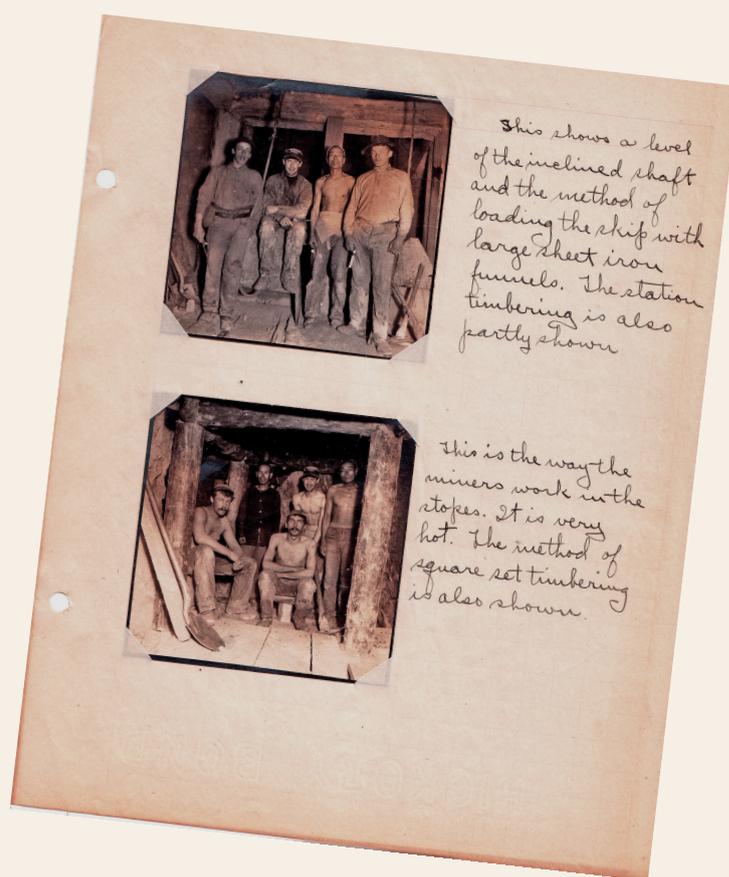
*Report on the Angels Camp Mines by T.V. Reeves
(BANC MSS C-A 207; carton 1:34)*

Student Reports, and little else in the way of description. I admit to pushing this small collection down the queue a few times in favor of collections that promised more interesting processing fare. But as an archivist, I can tell you for certain that it is dangerous to judge a manuscript collection by its title.

In the course of processing, I was delighted to discover that these seemingly humdrum student reports, which The Bancroft Library acquired in 1954 but had not yet made available to researchers, were truly hidden manuscript gems that simply needed better identification and description to be found. Sufficient access to manuscript collections requires that the processing archivist describe both the content of a collection and the context of a collection's creation. These student reports, I could see, were rich in both content and context. My main goal with this collection, accordingly, was to interpret and communicate clearly this richness to potential researchers.

I discerned fairly quickly that the reports were written by University of California students in Mining 4 (later 104a), a course in the School of Mining, between approximately 1902 and 1914. A quick trip into the University Archives revealed that Mining 4 was entitled *Summer Class in Practical Mining* and, per its course description, required that mining engineering students spend a summer gaining practical experience working underground in a mine and preparing a report to present to their fellow students and faculty. Students were compelled to make their own arrangements for travel and employment, often choosing a mining district or region in California or elsewhere in the western United States, Canada, or Mexico and simply applying to a range of mines until a foreman would take them on to do underground work, such as mucking or timbering. It was often no simple task, the reports in this collection show, to convince a foreman to hire a college student whose experience underground in the mines might have been limited or even nonexistent. Mine managers often preferred to put these students to work in the mine's office to take advantage of their literacy rather than have them doing manual labor underground. The purpose of the course, however, was for students to gain experience underground, where they were forced to navigate the unfamiliar world of mostly immigrant mine labor.

These reports are informative but also often delightfully written and even laugh-out-loud funny. Their research value, as I set out to communicate in my updated description, lies both in the specifics of mining operations and procedures that the students provide but also in the often striking observations that these relatively privileged students make about social and economic conditions in the mines and surrounding towns. Students often discuss, for example, the ethnic composition of the mine workforce and local population, sometimes writing rather lengthily on the breakdown of immigrants in a given area. Students rely on a range of ethnic slurs and slang in these descriptions. Other social and economic issues that come up frequently in these reports



*Napa Consolidated Quicksilver Mine at Oak Hill, Napa Co., California
by R.P.O. Newcomb (BANC MSS C-A 207; carton 2:21)*

include housing and its challenges (such as endemic bedbugs in the mining camps), strikes and labor unions, alcohol consumption, and labor conditions. Most students also narrate their journey to a specific mine and provide precise details about the various modes of transportation required to reach some of these remote locations. The students were required to illustrate their reports and they did so in a range of ways. They were all trained in engineering drawing and many include drawings of mining landscapes, processes, and equipment in their reports. A number of students traveled with cameras and took snapshots of mines and miners to use as illustrations.

I have been privileged, as the archivist on the Quick Kills project, to have the opportunity to engage with many of The Bancroft Library's legacy manuscript collections. I have found myself in the middle of a long and rich legacy of manuscript collecting, description, and processing practice. One of the great values of the Quick Kills project, I think, is that it can serve to remind us that providing access to manuscript materials must be a dynamic and ongoing process. There are always possibilities for us to look anew at our legacy collections and find ways to connect contemporary researchers to the rich manuscript holdings of The Bancroft Library.

—Lara Michels
Former Processing Archivist

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Debra Kasper, Michael Neville, Jack von Ems and José Adrián Barragán look at the colonial Mexican documents on display for the sixty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Friends of The Bancroft Library.

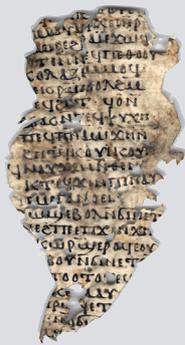
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