

Uncovering California's Environmental Collections

GRI “Innovations in Archival Processing” colloquium

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CDL Digital Special Collections



- Contributed to by 150 CA institutions
- 20,000 guides; 210,000 digital objects
- Audience: humanities researchers



- All of the objects, none of the guides
- College and K12 educators, students



- Contributed to by VRCs, libraries
- Cross-campus program for image share
- Audience: faculty, students

Factoids

Uncovering California's Environmental Collections (UCEC)

- \$446,817 funded by CLIR
- 2 year grant (Feb. 2010 – Jan. 2012)
- Coordinated by CDL; subgrants to 9 partner institutions
- 33 collections
- Environment in California: “burning topic” for scholars

Background

Partners and collections selected through an iterative process

- Survey of OAC contributors to identify backlogs
- Consultation of a report on scholarly needs in emerging research fields (2007, California Historical Records Steering Committee)
- Follow-ups with OAC contributors
- Goal: thematic-based collection that met needs identified by both scholars and archivists

Partners

- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Irvine
- UCLA
- UC Riverside
- CSU Chico
- CSU Fresno
- Humboldt State
- USC



Collections

Highlights

- Corporate records of Unocal
- F. Sherwood Rowland Papers
- Sierra Club records
- Materials on LA tidelands
- Much, much more



Tactics

- **“More Product, Less Process”**
 - Training through the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in April 2010
- **Collaborative workspace**
- **Baseline processing metrics**
 - **Inputs:** condition rating (PACSCL), processing plan, staffing, start date
 - **Outputs:** processing level, activities, linear feet per hour



Formula: Repository

	A	B	C	D	E	F
	Repository	Collection	Scope/Content	Lin. ft. (prior to processing)	Condition	
1						
2					Physical condition rating (1-5)	Physical a rating (1-5)
3	Sample repository	Jane Doe Papers	Photos and documentation of Shasta Dam construction	20 lin. ft.	3	4
4	CSU Chico. Meriam Library, Special Collections	Feather River Pine Mills collection	Documents the history of a company owning extensive lands in Butte and Plumas counties with sawmills,	10 lin. ft. + 1,200 maps		

Tools

- **Archivists' Toolkit**
 - CDL hosted service
 - Training in May 2010 (SCA)
- **EAD Web Templates (upgraded)**
 - Simplified versions – support links to non-EAD container lists (e.g. PDF)?
- **OAC EAD encoding specifications**



Stay
tuned!

Dissemination

The screenshot displays the Online Archive of California (OAC) website. At the top left is the OAC logo with the text "Online Archive of California". A navigation bar includes links for Home, Browse Institutions, Browse Collections, Browse Map, About OAC, Help, and What is OAC?. A large central banner reads "Welcome to the Online Archive of California" with a search input field labeled "Search OAC" and a "go" button. Below the banner, there are two columns: "Browse the Collections" with alphabetical and institutional filters, and "Browse Map" showing a map of California with markers for Eureka, Chico, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Stockton, San Francisco, San Jose, and Santa Cruz. On the right side, there are two overlapping screenshots of other digital library interfaces. The top one is "HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY - SPECIAL COLLECTIONS" with a "Finding Aids" section. The bottom one is "UCRIVERSIDE LIBRARIES" with a "SPECIAL COLLECTIONS :: SEARCH" section and a "Collections List" showing various archival collections.

Thanks!

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