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
- Coordinated by CDL; subgrants to 9 partner institutions
- 33 collections
- Environment in California: “burning topic” for scholars
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>Scope/Content</td>
<td>Lin. ft. (prior to processing)</td>
<td>Physical condition rating (1-5)</td>
<td>Physical accessibility rating (1-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sample repository</td>
<td>Jane Doe Papers</td>
<td>Photos and documentation of Shasta Dam construction</td>
<td>20 lin. ft.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CSU Chico. Meriam Library, Special Collections</td>
<td>Feather River Pine Mills collection</td>
<td>Documents the history of a company owning extensive lands in Butte and Plumas counties with sawmills,</td>
<td>10 lin. ft. + 1,200 maps</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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!
Thanks!

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https://wiki.ucop.edu/display/CLIR/