# Demystifying Digitization

An Introduction to the California Revealed Program

April 30, 2020 | californiarevealed.org





# Hello!

# Agenda

Who is California Revealed?

Why digitize?

Six steps of digitization

Inventory and assess

Prepare materials

Digitization standards

**Quality control** 

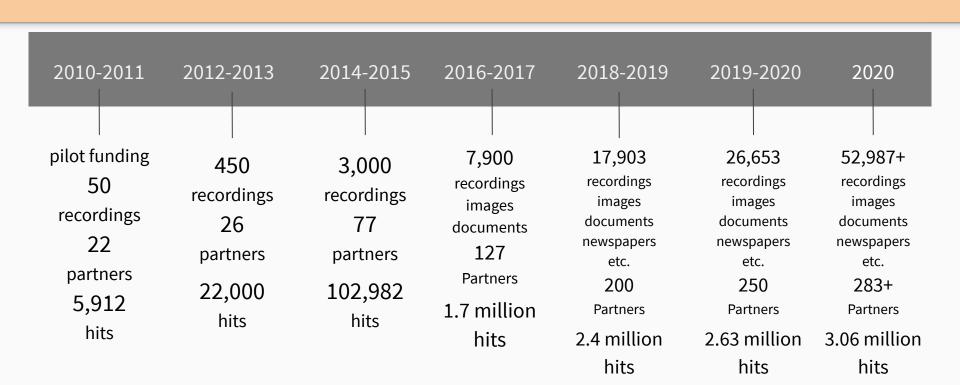
Long-term storage and preservation

Access

Program timeline

Questions and comments





Director

Pamela Vadakan

Preservation Managers

Theresa Berger (Print collections)

Shahed Dowlatshahi (Audiovisual collections)

Scott Lawan (Digital collections)

Digital Repository Manager

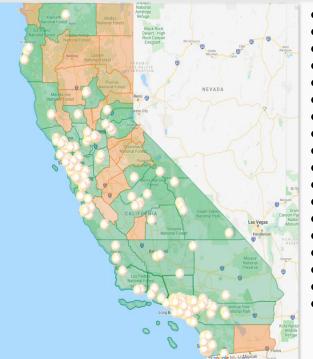
Megan Lohnash

**Preservation Assistants** 

Willow Germs

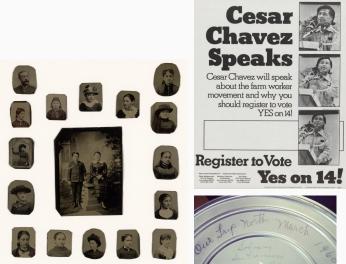
Evan Mackall

Allison Ryan



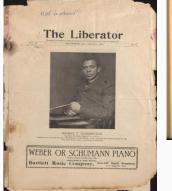
- African American Museum and Library
- The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley
- Bishop Chamber of Commerce
- Butte County Library
- California Academy of Sciences
- Caltrans
- California Historical Society
- California State Archives
- California State Parks
- California State Railroad Museum Library
- California State University, Sacramento
- Center for Asian American Media
- Center for Sacramento History
- Daly City Public Library
- Dixon Public Library
- East Bakersfield High School
- Eastern California Museum
- Fresno County Public Library

- Glendale Library
- Graduate Theological Union
- Headlands Center for the Arts
- Inyo County Free Library
- Kern County Library
- Labor Archives, SF State University
- Manzanar National Historic Site
- Napa County Historical Society
- Oakland History Room
- ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
- Pacifica Radio Archives
- San Diego Air and Space Museum
- Shoshone Museum
- UCLA, Ethnomusicology Archive
- Upland Public Library
- Whittier Museum
- Yolo County Archives
- YOU!













Why digitize?

We don't have the resources to save everything.

Triage and selection is necessary.

## Benefits of Preservation/Access/Visibility

"...We are able to share recordings that would otherwise not be known by staff or the Public. It's also the preservation of California History for the future..."

"...Once digitized we integrate them into the educational experience that the library provides our community of scholars..."

"...Greater dissemination of our materials is an excellent benefit, and we gained connections in our community that has helped all of us work together better..."

"...We've learned much more about managing (or trying to manage) digital objects..."

"...It has helped our staff build a case for more investment in digitization projects..."



# Inventory and assess

## **Locate and Identify**

What do you have? Where is it?

- Assess value and condition as you inventory
  - Use information gathered to set priorities
- Basic fields: a partial inventory is a good start
  - An inventory is the basis of a catalog

The inventory can feed into California Revealed's nomination process!

### **Assess value**

Is the object "significant"?

Historically significant?

Requested by users?

Part of a comprehensive collection?

If lost would the library/archive spend its resources to replace it?

Non-commercial or out of copyright?

Your responsibility?

## Inventory and assess

### **Assess condition**

Is the object at-risk?

Archival: unique, master, or "best available"?

Obsolete format?

Damaged or deteriorating?

At-risk if use continues?

## Inventory and assess

### **Essential fields**

- Main Title
- Call Number or Temporary Identifier
- Created Date
- Creator(s)
- Significance to local and state history
- Description
- Copyright status (if currently unknown, use "U" as a placeholder)
- Condition: deteriorated or damaged or requires special handling?
- Format
- Extent total number of pages/tapes/reels
- Extent dimensions/running time

### Prepare materials

## **Encouraged fields**

Consider how your users will discover your collections.

Consider how you will share and link your metadata across platforms.

We strongly encourage you to include the following:

- Item annotations
- Subject Topics and Entities
- Spatial and Temporal Coverage
- Genre (AV only)

## Apply for a California Revealed processing/cataloging mini-grant!

https://californiarevealed.org/describe



# Prepare materials

### Prepare materials

- Identify and rubber band related items
- Remove duplicates identify best source/highest resolution
- Make sure call number or temp ID is clearly visible on housing/container
- Use acid-free tape for labelling items (artist's tape, painter's tape)
- Do not use post-it notes, make sure all labels are secure with acid-free tape
- Label your boxes with organization's name and box # (SDHC box 1 of 3)
- Styrofoam peanuts or padding not recommended use bubble wrap
- Contact us for help for shipping fragile items (glass discs, etc.)

https://californiarevealed.org/partners/shipping-guidelines



#### **Statement of Work considerations**

## In-house or outsourced digitization?

Cons of in-house: initial costs requires staff
Pros: total control of the process develop new skills

Cons of outsourcing: loss of control
Pros: less investment of resources (equipment and staff)
potentially a lab can handle majority of formats

File specifications: preservation master + access copy

High quality/lossless + stream quality
Open source or widely adopted

#### **Statement of Work considerations**

### Metadata and metadata standard(s)

Information about the files: descriptive, technical, administrative, preservation Map to a standard schema such as DublinCore or PBCore

### File naming conventions

Be consistent
Use a unique identifier
Example: YYYYMMDD\_seriestitle\_######

### Data storage

Estimate how much storage you'll need Specify what kind of storage media you want the files delivered on

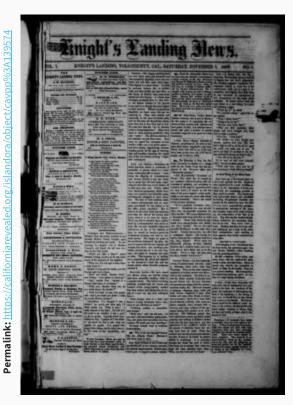
> Cost Timeline

## Sample object: A photograph





## Sample object: A newspaper issue



Jan 24, 2020 at 4:30 AM		Folder
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM		Folder
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM	14.4 MB	Adobecument
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM	61 bytes	Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM	9 KB	XML Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	30.4 MB	TIFF image
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	64 bytes	Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	30.4 MB	TIFF image
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	64 bytes	Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	29.7 MB	TIFF image
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	64 bytes	Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	30.9 MB	TIFF image
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	64 bytes	Document
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM		Folder
Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM		Folder
	Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM	Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM 14.4 MB Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM 14.4 MB Feb 19, 2020 at 11:14 AM 61 bytes Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM 30.4 MB Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM 64 bytes Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM 30.4 MB Feb 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM 64 bytes

#### Resources

#### California Revealed Statement of Work

https://californiarevealed.org/partners/sow

## California Revealed Digitization Guide for Print Materials

https://californiarevealed.org/sites/default/files/CA-R-Digitization-Guide.pdf

## Library of Congress Recommended Formats

https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/TOC.html

## Stanford University File Naming Recommendations

https://library.stanford.edu/research/data-management-services/data-best-practices/best-practices-file-naming



Quality control

## Quality control

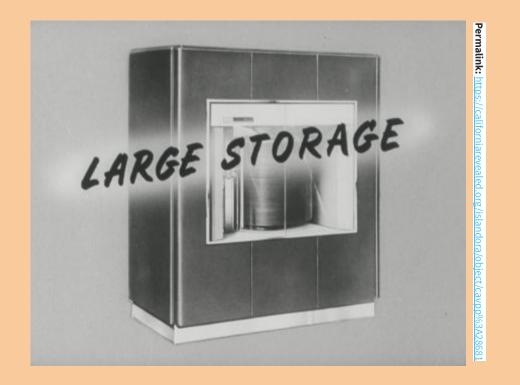
#### **California Revealed checks**

- technical specifications
- directory structure and file naming
- accurate and complete metadata
- run checksums
- image and/or sound quality
   100% at first, then sampling when justified
- missing content

#### **Partner checks**

- image quality adequate for patron use (ideally 100% of all files)
- confirm content matches descriptive metadata
- update metadata in Islandora as needed

Only after files and metadata have been approved by the CA-R and owning archive will the vendor return original materials to the archive



# Long term storage & preservation

## Long-term storage and preservation

## California Revealed's digital preservation plan

- Extract and compile technical metadata for each digital object needed to manage its life cycle
- Store content and metadata together (in a "folder" or "bag") so they are not irretrievably separated by future technology changes
- Maintain geographically dispersed copies of digital objects and database
- Check fixity of all the files (checksum validation)
- Restore files from the duplicate copy when (not if) fixity checks fail
- Continuously migrate to currently supported media and formats as needed to avoid technological obsolescence and media deterioration

### Long-term storage and preservation

## Institutional digital preservation plan

- Order files on hard drives (avoid DVDs and CDs if possible)
- Clearly label and organize hard drives
- If possible, duplicate the files on a second drive or upload to cloud
- Consult with IT department (if available) about server storage
- Consider using tools such as Fixity to check checksums
- Access the files at least once a year to make sure hard drive is OK
- Place a readMe text file on the hard drive an inventory of the files (and update!)

https://www.dpconline.org/handbook https://soga.wildapricot.org/involvement/advocacy/professional



Access

#### Access



#### FEATURED COLLECTIONS



Browse all Partner Collections

#### **FEATURED THEMES**





#### THE COLLEY PAPERS

Q

Browse Items

Browse Collections

Browse Exhibits

About CSH

#### THE TIME IS NOW The Civic Life of Sacramento's Nathaniel Colley

AN ONLINE EXHIBITION PRESENTED BY THE CENTER FOR SACRAMENTO HISTORY



In October 2010, the Center for Sacramento History received The Colley Papers from the Nathaniel S. and Jerlean J. Colley family. The collection documents the legal and civic activities of Nathaniel Colley, (audio) and is primarily comprised of speeches, statements, editorials, and publications. The finding aid, or guide, provides a complete description of the collection.

Nathaniel Colley, affectionately known by friends and colleagues as "Nat," devoted himself to the improvement of his community. As one of Sacramento's earliest African American lawyers, Colley spent 50 years helping to shape the course of social reform across Sacramento. California. and the nation.

A brilliant trial attorney, Nathaniel managed a successful Sacramento law firm, paving the way for groundbreaking anti-discrimination lawsuits and arguing in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. Together with his wife, Jerlean, Nathaniel raised five children and led numerous civic organizations. His legacy lives on in this collection, comprised of awards and accolades, photographs, and the insightful speeches, letters, and articles for which Nathaniel Colley was renowned.

Nathaniel Colley led an intentional life. Rooted in family and a sense of right and wrong, Colley melded the personal and private for the sake of civil service. Colley was a civic-minded man who recognized moments ripe for change. For him, the time was always now.

#### FEATURED ITEM

At Priscilla Bell Farms

#### RECENTLY ADDED ITEMS

#### Nathaniel Colley Speaking in Seattle, Washington



Nathaniel Colley speaking in Seattle, Washington, 1962.

#### California State Board of Education



California State Board of Education, April 1962.

#### McGeorge School of Law Courtroom of the Future



Nathaniel Colley presiding at western regional Mock Trial competition in the McGeorge School of Law Courtroom of the Future, January, 1979.

View All Items

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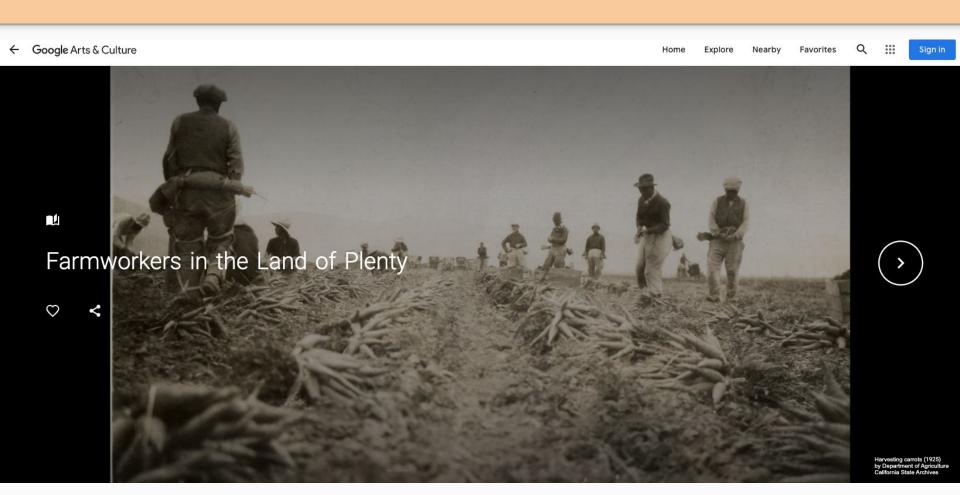


Collecting and sharing resources related to the historic Central Avenue corridor and its neighborhoods in Los Angeles, California

Central Avenue, Los Angeles, is one of the greatest cultural corridors of any global metropolis. This public resource site seeks to consolidate the best historical and archival resources available to support the public's interest and the efforts of policymakers, community organizations, and others to develop the public visibility, educational value, and community-economic development of the Central Avenue



### Access





#### Search over one million items

About Contact Help Terms of Use

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**Contributing Institutions** 

Collections

**Exhibitions** 

#### **Exhibitions on Calisphere**

Take a deep dive into a topic or era. Exhibitions are groups of items curated and interpreted by librarians, historians, and other experts. Join a civil rights protest. Marvel at the engineering of an early car. Get a glimpse of what life was like for people throughout history.

Random Explore

Browse All

Title Search



African Americans: Civil Rights and Social Reform,



The Rise of Technology



African Americans: Gold Rush Era to 1900



Native Americans: Pre-Columbian California to 18th



Life on the Home Front during World War II











#### Access



### **Outreach models**

LA as Subject Archives Bazaar https://laassubject.org/archives-bazaar

Community History Map https://eastbayyesterday.com/long-lost-oakland

Home Movie Day http://homemovieday.com

Memory Lab https://www.lapl.org/memorylab

Apply for a California Revealed "Our Collections, Our Communities" mini-grant! https://californiarevealed.org/community-outreach



# Program timeline

August 30, 2020
Application and up to 200 nominations due

September/November 2020 Award letters go out

December 2020/March 2021
Partners prep/ship originals and metadata to CA-R

January/May 2021 CA-R sends materials to vendor(s)

January/June 2021 Vendor(s) digitize materials

March/August 2021 CA-R uploads access files online and stores digital objects on LTO. CA-R & partner QCs.

August 2021 Vendor(s) return original materials

Fall 2021
Promotion and community outreach events



# Questions? Comments?



# Thanks!

Keep in touch!

Pamela Vadakan team@californiarevealed.org

916.653.5074

californiarevealed.org

