California State Library

- In operation since 1850
- One of the premiere collections of Far West material
- Mandate to collect anything to do with California
- Serves everyone
2 cities, 4 buildings, 6 sections

- 6 sections
  - Witkin Law Library
  - Government Publications
  - Information Services
  - Braille and Talking Book Library
  - California History Section
  - Sutro Library
Section for Local History

- California History Section
- Scattered information in other sections
Types of Materials

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A quick overview

Books
Ephemera
Images
Indexes
Manuscripts
Maps
Newspapers
Periodicals
Books

- County Histories
- Biographies
- Cookbooks
- Trade Catalogs
- Directories
- Telephone Books
Ephemera

- Pamphlets
- Programs
- Campaign Memorabilia
- Menus
- Receipts
- Posters
Images

- Daguerreotypes
- Stereographs
- Postcards
- Photographs
- Lithographs
- Paintings
Manuscripts

- Corporate Records
- Diaries
- Legal Documents
- Letters
Maps

- General
- Sanborn
- Thomas Brothers
Newspapers

- City and County
- College
- Internment camp
- Military
Periodicals

- Trade Journals
- Historical and Genealogical Society Publications
- Museum Circulars
- Academic Journals
- Business Journals
- College Magazines
Indexes

- California Information File
- San Francisco Newspaper Index
- Biographical Files
- Pioneer Card File
- Newspaper Indexes
- Periodical Indexes
- Vital Records Indexes
Conducting Research
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A few pointers
Starting Out

General Resources:
Books, Indexes, Online

Angles:
Who, What, Where
Access Points

- **Online**
  - Catalog
    http://catalog.library.ca.gov/F/
  - CIF II
    http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm
  - City and County Directories
    http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCityDir.htm
  - Telephone Books
    http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryPhonebk.htm

- **In-Person**
  - CIF
  - Portrait File
  - Map File
Sacramento Fire Dept.

- **Books**
  - Catalog search:
    - SU=Fire* Sacramento

- **Indexes**
  - California Info File
    - Sacramento Fire Department
    - Sacramento Fires

- **Online**
  - [http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Fire/About/History](http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Fire/About/History)
Results

- Memories of the Fire Service
  - Frank Ruhstaller = early firefighter
  - Young America No. 6
  - Fires of 1852
  - Funny: Stories about fire-horses
Second Pass

Prioritize research
List sources to check
For a Place

- Resources
  - Maps
  - Histories and EIRs
  - Periodicals
  - Images
  - Directories
  - Legal
- Questions
  - Uses?
  - Re-development?
  - Ownership?
Young America

- Catalog
  - Sacramento Maps Fire
  - Sacramento Buildings Fire
  - Sacramento Deeds
  - Sacramento Wills
  - Sacramento Land
  - Building Name
- CIF II (See above)
- Map File
  - Sacramento
- Image File
  - Sacramento:
- CIF
  - Sacramento Buildings
  - Sacramento Fire Department
Results

- Insurance maps, Sacramento, California
- Several Images
- [Minutes of meetings] [manuscript].
For a Person

- Resources
  - Indexes
  - Directories
  - Censuses
  - Papers
  - Taxes
  - Legal
- Questions
  - Who
  - What
  - Where
Frank Ruhstaller

- Catalog
  - Sacramento Indexes
  - Sacramento Registers
  - Sacramento Births
  - Sacramento Directories
  - Personal name
- CIF II (see above)
- City Directories
  - Sacramento
- Telephone Books
  - Sacramento
- CIF
  - Personal Name
- Image File
  - Personal Name
Results

- Bio Info File
- Pioneer Card
- Illustrated History of Sacramento County p.324
- Images in the portrait file
- Resided at 1220 H St. in 1893
Events

- Resources
  - Histories
  - Manuscript collections
  - Periodicals
  - Images
  - Vertical Files
- Questions
  - What
  - Who
  - When
1852 Fires

- Catalog
  - Fire* Sacramento
- CIF II (See above)
- Image File
  - Sacramento: Fires
- Vertical Files
  - Fire
- CIF
  - Sacramento: Fires
Results

- Awful conflagration: Sacramento City burned to the ground
- Golden Notes (March 1972)
- Beeckman MSS coll.
- *Incidents of a Life.*
  Upton, William
Fleshing out the Picture

Citation Chaining
Newspaper research
Citation Chaining

- Citation notes
- Catalog
- WorldCat
Results of a Search

- Statement in Heiser’s book led me to the Ruhstaller Brewing Company
- Sacramento’s Breweries Carroll
  - Buffalo Brewing Company Ledger vol. 1
Newspaper Research

- California Digital Newspaper Collection
  https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc
- Local papers
- Newspaper indexes
The Rest of the Story

- Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 14, Number 44, 11 October 1881
- Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 14, Number 43, 10 October 1881
Visiting

Preparation
Contact Information
Transit Information
Before you come in

- **Recommended resources to consult**
  - CIF II
  - OAC
  - Library catalog

- **Recommended research tools to pack**
  - ID
  - Flash Drive
  - Camera
  - Quarters for parking etc.
  - Your notes/notebook
  - Preliminary list of what you want to see
Contact Us

- 9:30-4 Monday-Friday--Excluding state holidays
- 900 N Street Sacramento (2nd floor)
- (916) 654-0176 to reach California History
- cslcal@library.ca.gov
Getting to the Library

- Light Rail stop: “8th and O” or “Archives Plaza” (Blue and Gold lines)
- Parking: Street parking or area garages (arrive before 9 for early-bird deals)
Review

California State Library
Our Materials
Research
Visiting
Questions?