

The Analog Library in the Digital World: Practices for a Noisy Room

Megan Prelinger

Reinvention:
Thriving in the 21st Century
Mechanics Institute Library
November 4, 2016



- open since 2004 • open to the public
- a hybrid analog–digital collection • introduction to the collection

What does a print collection offer in a digital world?

- social library • artists' Library • research Library



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Firefox File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Window Help


Internet Archive Search: pr... x +

https://archive.org/search.php?query=prelinger+library&and[]=mediatype%3A"texts"&sort=-downl



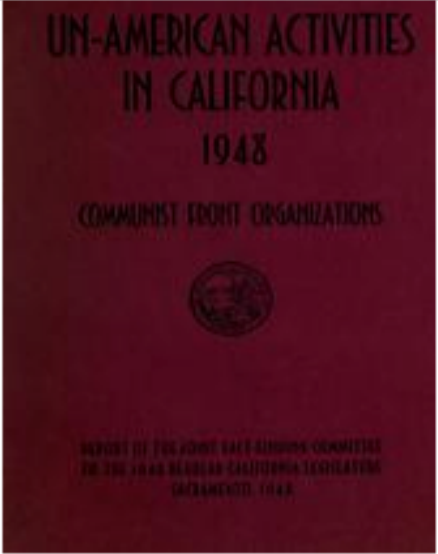
Motion pictures, 1940-1949
by Library of Congress. Copyright Office

7,926 1 0



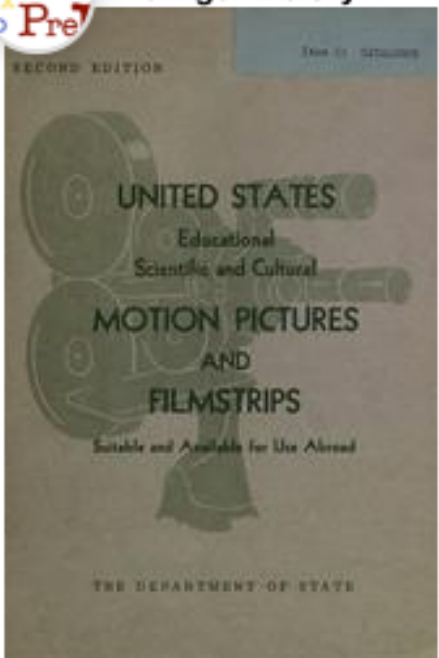
Vol 21: Spring 3100
by New York (N.Y.). Police Dept

7,840 1 0




Report of the Senate Fact-Finding Committee
by California. Legislature. Senate. Fact-Finding Committee on

7,791 0 0



United States educational, scientific and cultural motion pictures and filmstrips
by U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. Panel on Educational

7,840 1 0



Operation Shopping Centers
by U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. Panel on Educational

7,840 1 0



3,892 books digitized
through Internet
Archive



Prelinger Library

[About](#)

[Collection](#)

[Forum](#)

[SORT BY](#) [VIEWS](#) • [TITLE](#) • [DATE PUBLISHED](#) • [CREATOR](#)



missiles and rockets



Vol 15; Sept – Dec 1964:
Missiles and Rockets

missiles and rockets



Vol 13; Sept – Dec 1963:
Missiles and Rockets



Vol 3-4 May – Aug 1958:
Missiles and Rockets



Vol 3; Mar – Apr 1958:
Missiles and Rockets

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Aerial Age

Aerial Age was a professional periodical that began in 1915 and covered the emerging field of aircraft and flight. Capitalizing on the rapid development of aircraft and aviation technology during
[MORE](#)



About



Collection

SORT BY RELEVANCE • [VIEWS](#) • TITLE • DATE PUBLISHED • CREATOR



Vol 8; Nov 4 – Mar 10
1918-19: Aerial Age



148

0

0



Vol 13-14; Aug 1 – Oct 24
1921: Aerial Age



135

0

0



Vol 7; July 15 – Sept 2
1918: Aerial Age



124

0

0



Vol 14; Oct 31 – Jan 30
1921-22: Aerial Age



122

0

0

Search this Collection

texts 10

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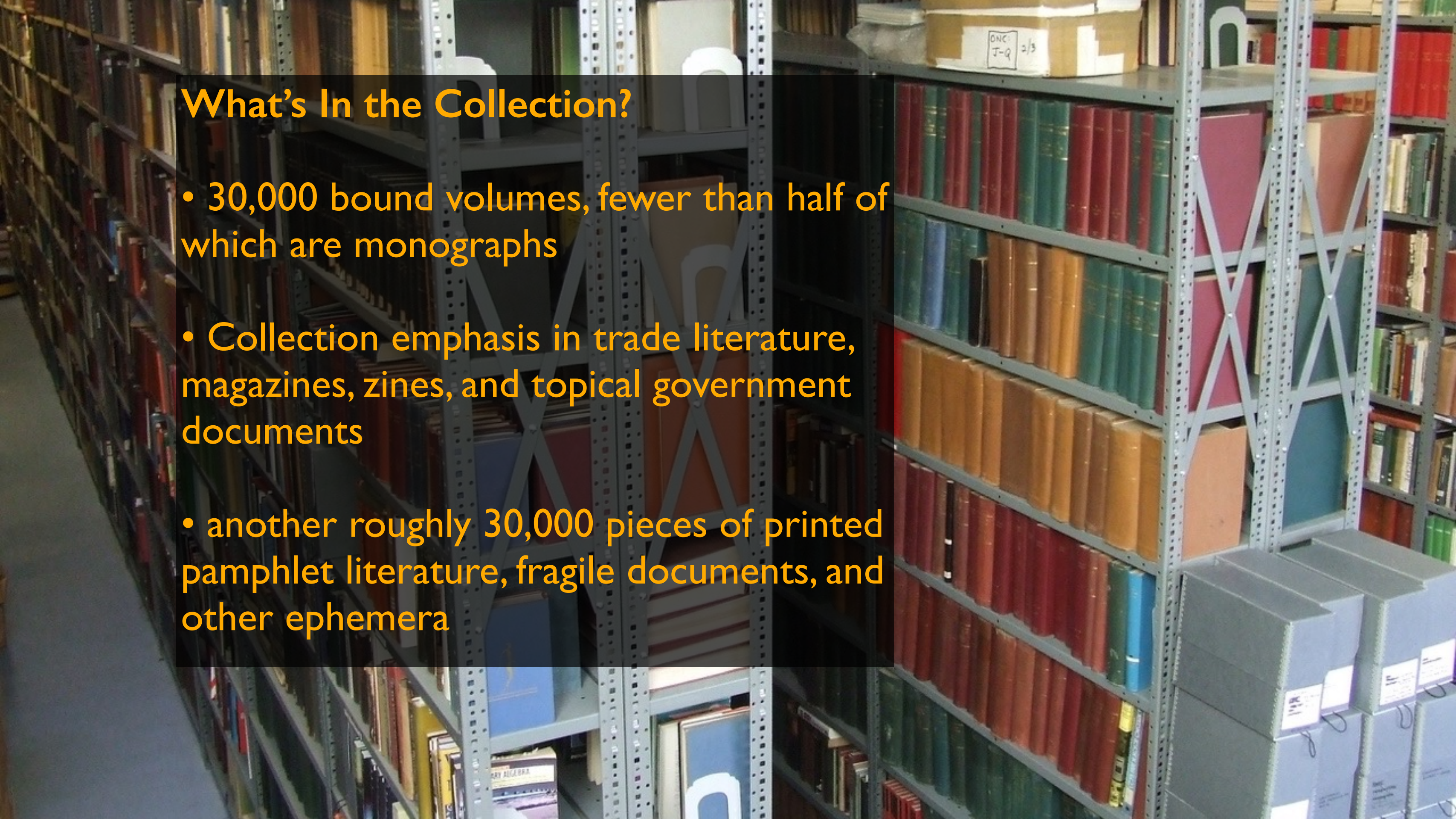
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What's In the Collection?

- 30,000 bound volumes, fewer than half of which are monographs
- Collection emphasis in trade literature, magazines, zines, and topical government documents
- another roughly 30,000 pieces of printed pamphlet literature, fragile documents, and other ephemera



Rows One and Two:

histories of American cities, places, geographies,
and ground-based infrastructure



TABLET OF MEMORY

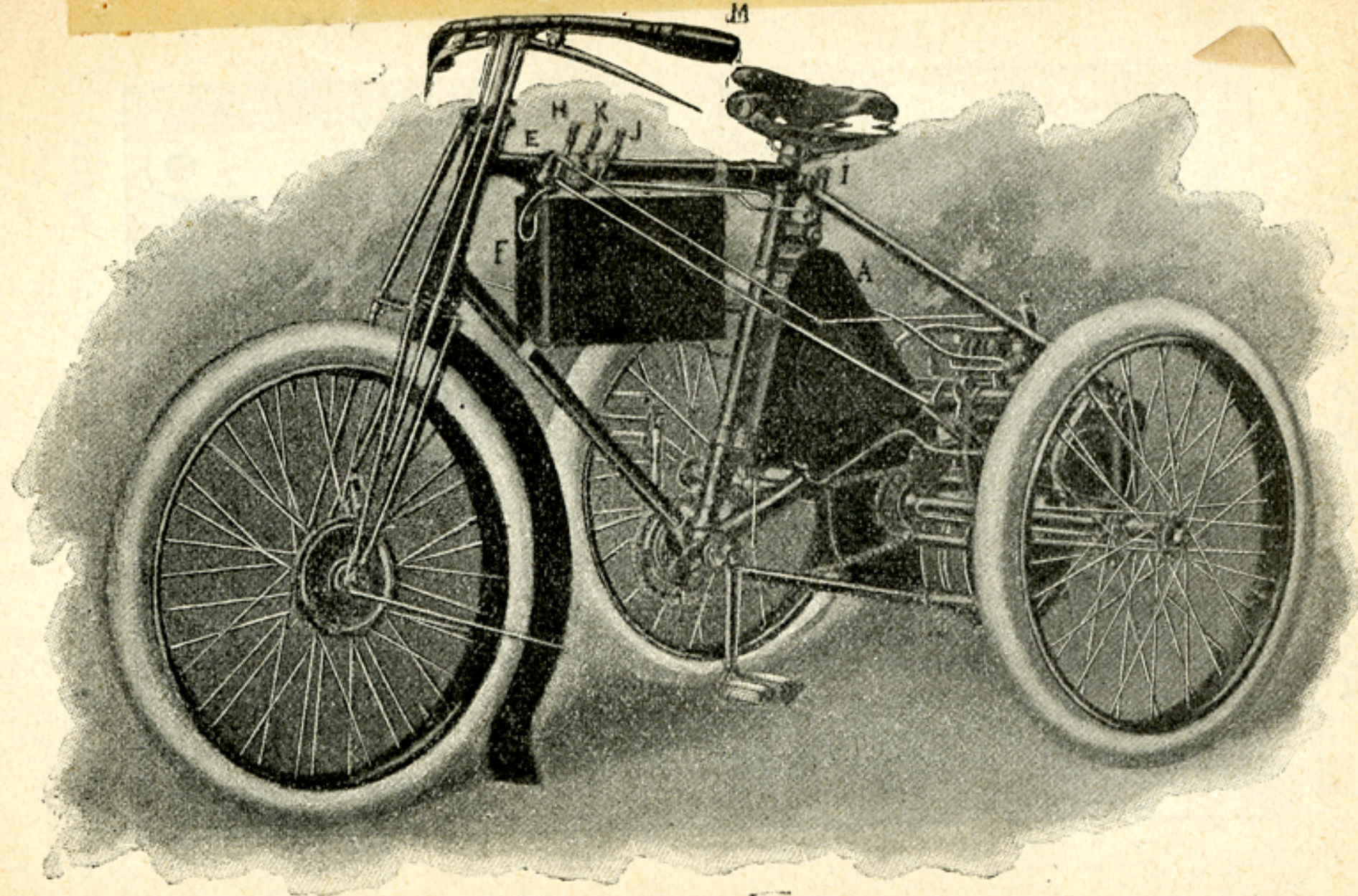
1773

SAN FRANCISCO TODAY TEXTBOOKS c1950 (4 BOOKS)

REPORT ON THE UNDERGROUND WATER SUPPLY

THE REMOVAL OF BLOSSOM ROCK

Fig. 1



ASPECT D'ENSEMBLE D'UN TRICYCLE QUELCONQUE, MUNI DU MOTEUR DE DION-BOUTON

From the Detroit Public Library's international collection of mechanical and motorized transportation history

Rows Three and Four:

art, design, advertising, media, telecommunications

Smith
Television
An International History
Oxford

THE BEST SEAT
IN THE HOUSE

PAT WEAVER
with Thomas M. Coffey

As Seen on TV MARLING

HARVARD

BOGART

THE
AGE
OF
TELE
VISION

UNGA

ABRAMSON

The History of Television, 1880 to 1941

McF

BODDY

Fifties Television

1

TUBE

DAVID E. FISHER AND MARSHALL JON FISHER

COUNTY POINT

AEISCHLER AND
GROSSMOLL

CHANGING CHANNELS

UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO PRESS

DE 92

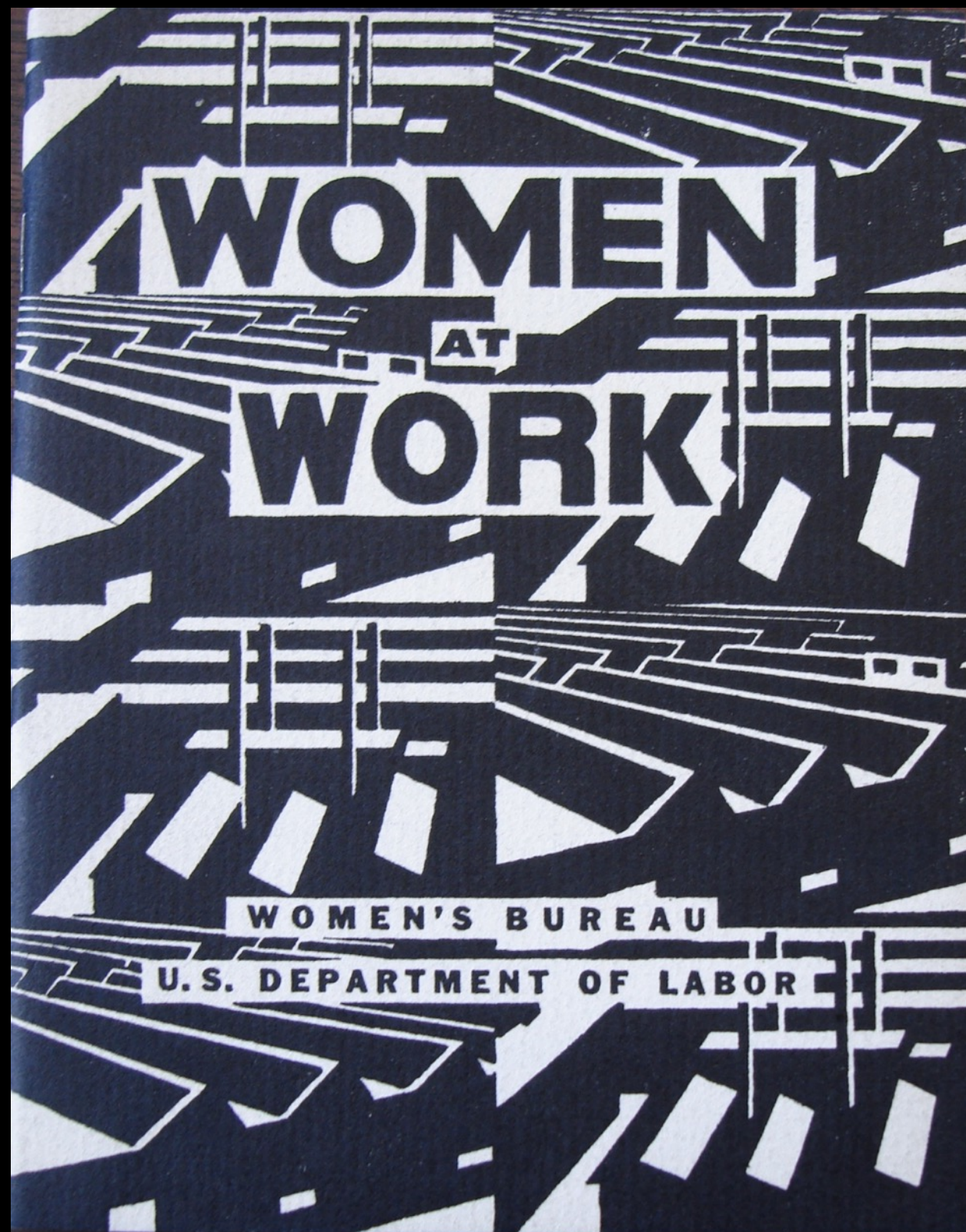
TV GUIDE 90-91

TV GUIDE 88-89

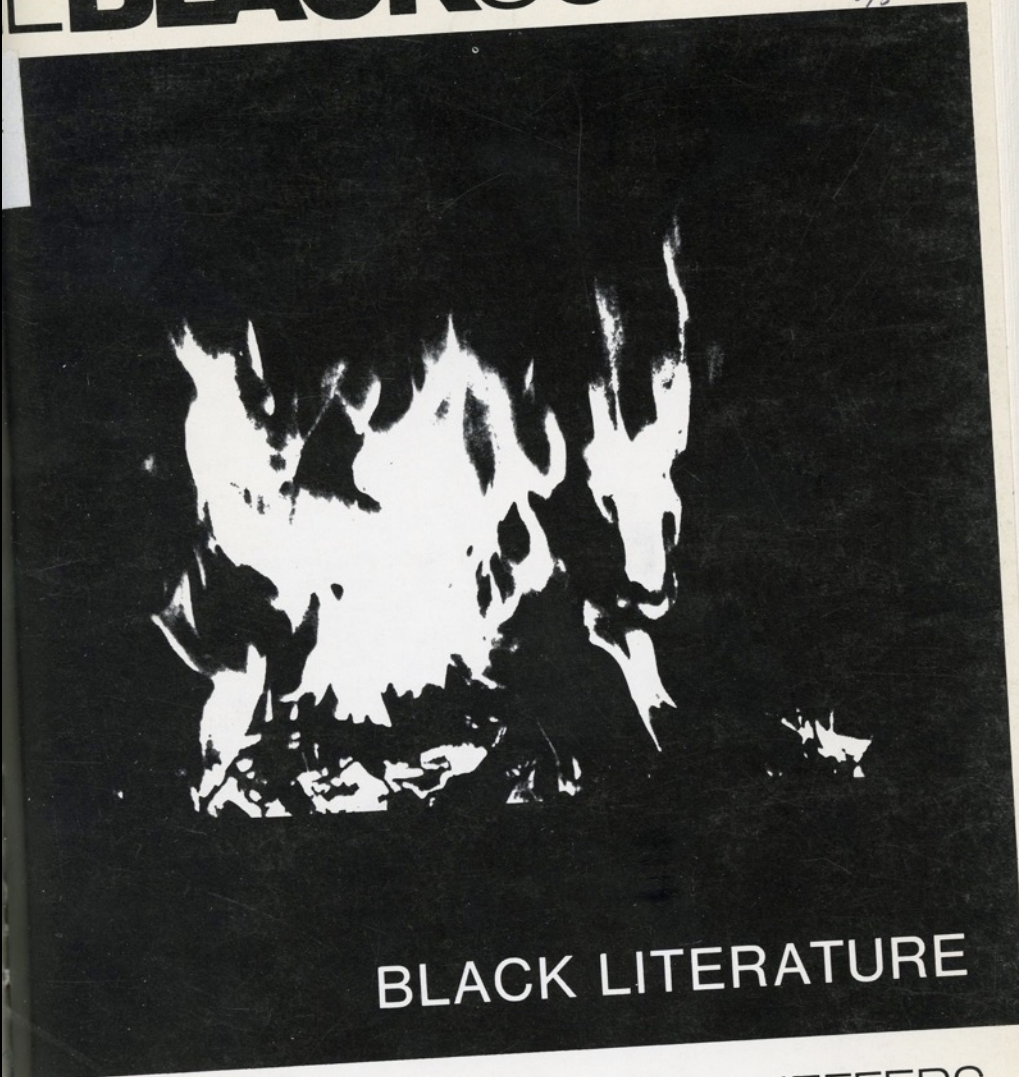
Row Five:

social and political history





THE BLACK SCHOLAR



FEATURING A NEW
UNPUBLISHED WORK BY
JEAN TOOMER

JEFFERS
MILLER
REDMOND
WARD
WARD
WIGGINS





ART AND THE ATOM

PLATE 1



TEST SITES: Managere

Atomic History: LANDSCAPES

how to pr
URA



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Three Ways of Being an Artists' Library

- The Library Itself Is an Installation Artist
- The Library Is an Artists' Workshop
- The Library invites artistic contributions



Three Ways of Being an Artists' Library

- *The Library Itself Is an Installation Artist*
- The Library Is an Artists' Workshop
- The Library invites artistic contributions



Simnuke exhibit, Rx Gallery (2005)



Earth Day Library, McLaren Park, San Francisco (2006)



Earth Day Library, McLaren Park, San Francisco (2006)



Maker Faire, 2008 and 2009



Maker Faire, 2008 and 2009



Maker Faire, 2008 and 2009



Bay Observatory Library, The Exploratorium (2013)



Bay Observatory Library, The Exploratorium (2013)



Bay Observatory Library, The Exploratorium (2013)



Temple Contemporary, at Temple University (2015)



Market Street Prototyping Festival (2015)
in collaboration with Studio for Urban Projects



Three Ways of Being an Artists' Library

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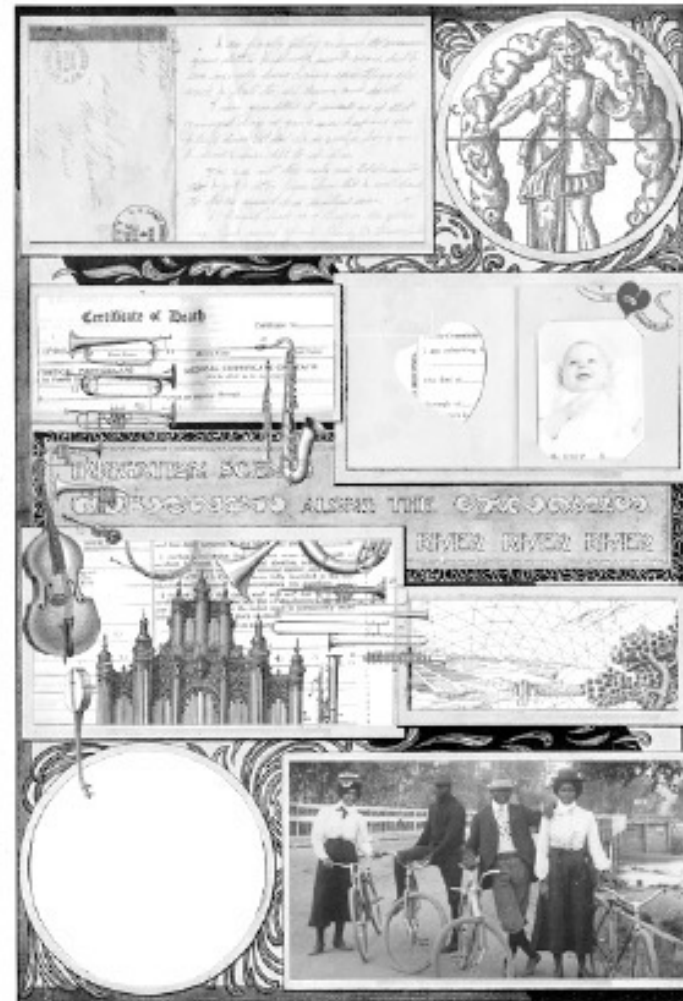
Matthew Mullins (2010)



CAROL BOLAN.



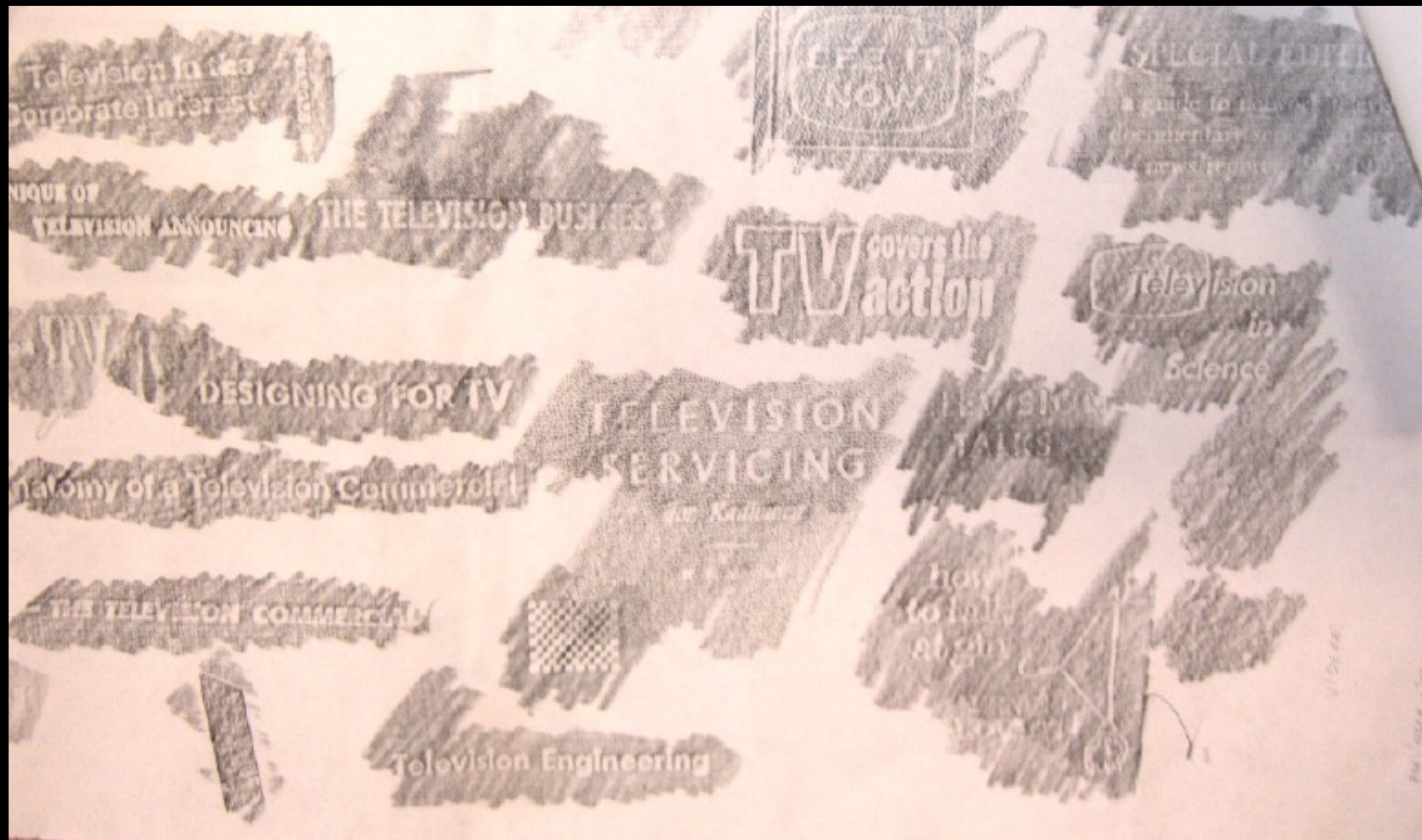
Felicity Tayler (2011)



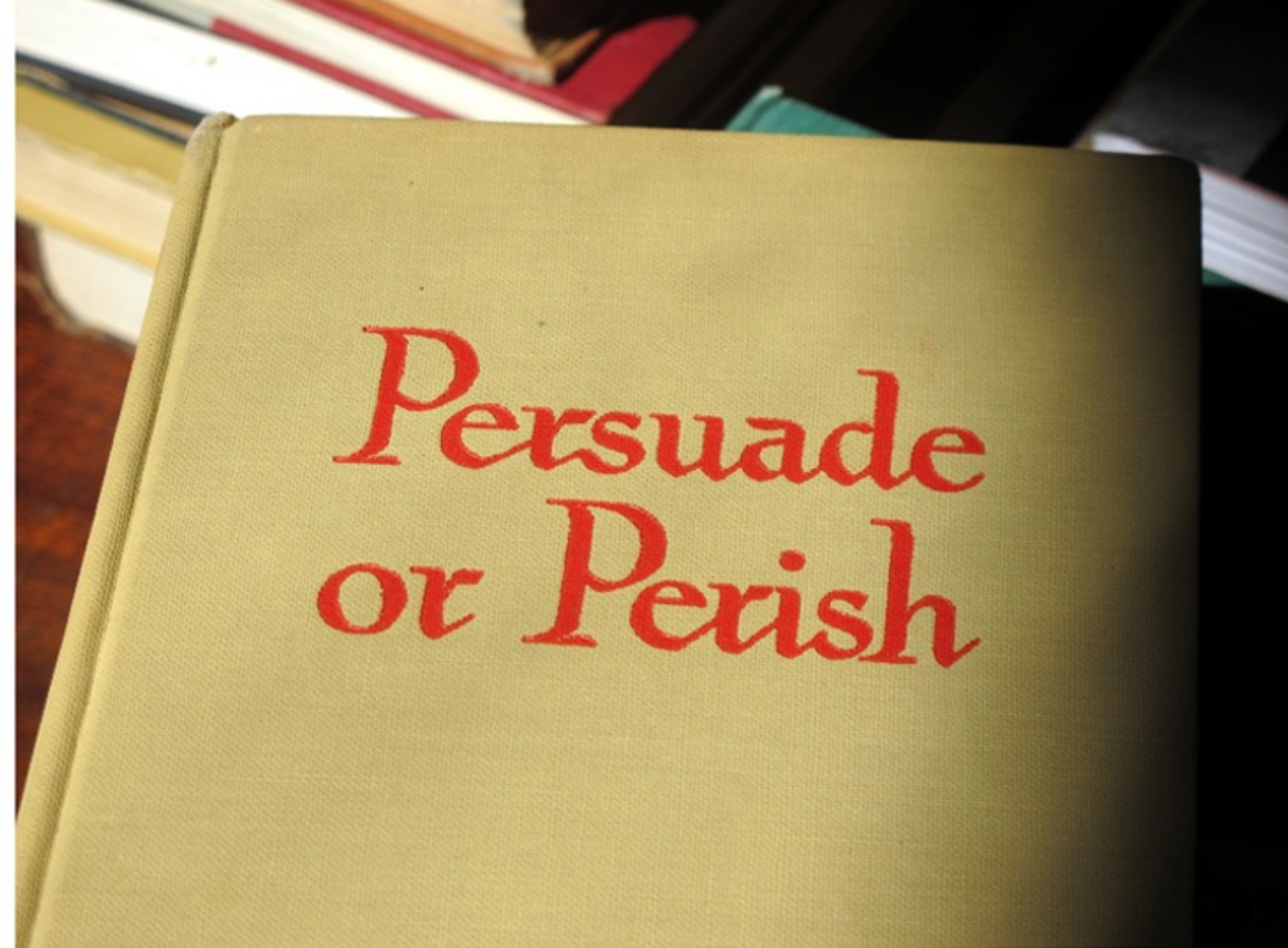
Felicity Tayler (2011)



Pierre Leguillon (2011)



Pierre Leguillon (2011)



Megan and Rick Prelinger
invite you to the one-day exhibition of
Pierre Leguillon

DRAWINGS ON SITE

Sunday 4 September 2011
2-7 PM

Prelinger Library
301 8th Street (corner of Folsom)
Room 215,
San Francisco, CA.

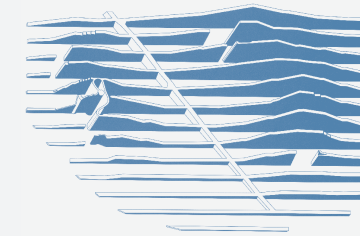
info@prelingerlibrary.org
www.prelingerlibrary.org

Pierre Leguillon is artist in residence at Kadist San Francisco.

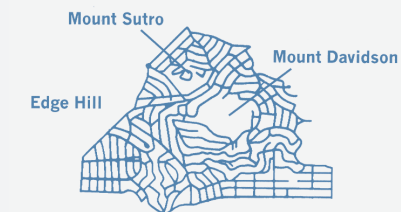
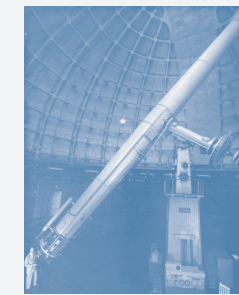
Pierre Leguillon (2011)



Nicole Lavelle: *Place Talks* (2015, 2016)



FORESTA INSTITUTE
FOR
OCEAN
MOUNTAIN
STUDIES
621 Franktown Rd., RR # 1, Box 621
Carson City, Nevada 89701



OTHER CAPTION SUGGESTIONS:

MEET THE AUTHORS
BOOKS FOR LAZY DAYS
INDIAN TALES AND TRAILS
"BLESSED EVENT" BOOKS
BUILD YOUR BUSINESS WITH BOOKS
BROTHERHOOD... PATTERN FOR PEACE
THE GREAT AND NEAR-GREAT
HERE'S HOUSING
OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE
A TREASURE CHEST OF CHILDREN'S STORIES
ROSES ARE READ
KEEP ON LEARNING
BOOKS THAT BOYS LIKE
FIGHT INFLATION
PET PROBLEMS!
HAPPY MOTORING!
ADVENTURES IN SCIENCE
COLLECTOR'S LUCK
DRUG DISCOVERIES
VACATION READING
THE EMPLOYMENT PICTURE
POINTERS ON PLASTICS

PLACE TALKS presented by Nicole Lavelle

Visual lectures about location and related topics

by real live Bay Area people (artists, writers, archivists, librarians...)
at the Prelinger Library • 301 8th Street #215, San Francisco
Thursdays • Open Library Hours at 5pm • Lecture at 7:30pm

September 17 **Charlie Macquarie** *Mountain, Ocean, Desert –or–
Institutes of Place and other Approximate Locations*
Renée Rhodes *Visitor Center*

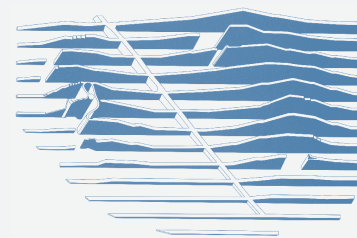
October 22 **Hallie Chen** *Grid Logic in the Bay City*
Joshua Peder Stulen *Stadium Projects: The Stadium as Place Maker*

November 19 **Kate Dundon** *A System for Everything in the Lick Observatory Archive*
Bennett Williamson *South Bay Cable Cutters*

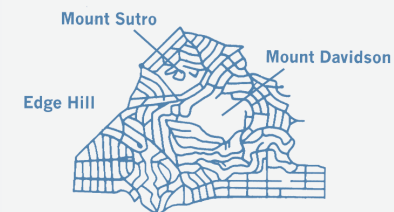
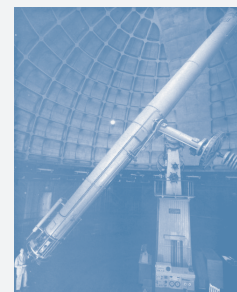
For more info...
prelingerlibrary.org/home/artists/place-talks
Free and open to the public— all are welcome!



Nicole Lavelle: *Place Talks* (2015, 2016)



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February, 2016
California College of the Arts

A photograph of a workshop where several people are engaged in motion animation. In the background, three people stand around a table with a camera on a stand, looking at a large sheet of paper. In the foreground, two people are seated at a table covered with various materials like paper, scissors, and glue, working on their projects. The room has a bookshelf and a fan in the background.

March, 2016 Timeless Motion
animation workshop
Timelessmotion Collective

photo:Adrienne Finelli



photo: Adrienne Finelli



photo:Adrienne Finelli



photo:Adrienne Finelli



March, 2016
San Francisco State University
photography class



Sylvia Herbold,
Artist in Residence (2016)



Three Ways of Being an Artists' Library

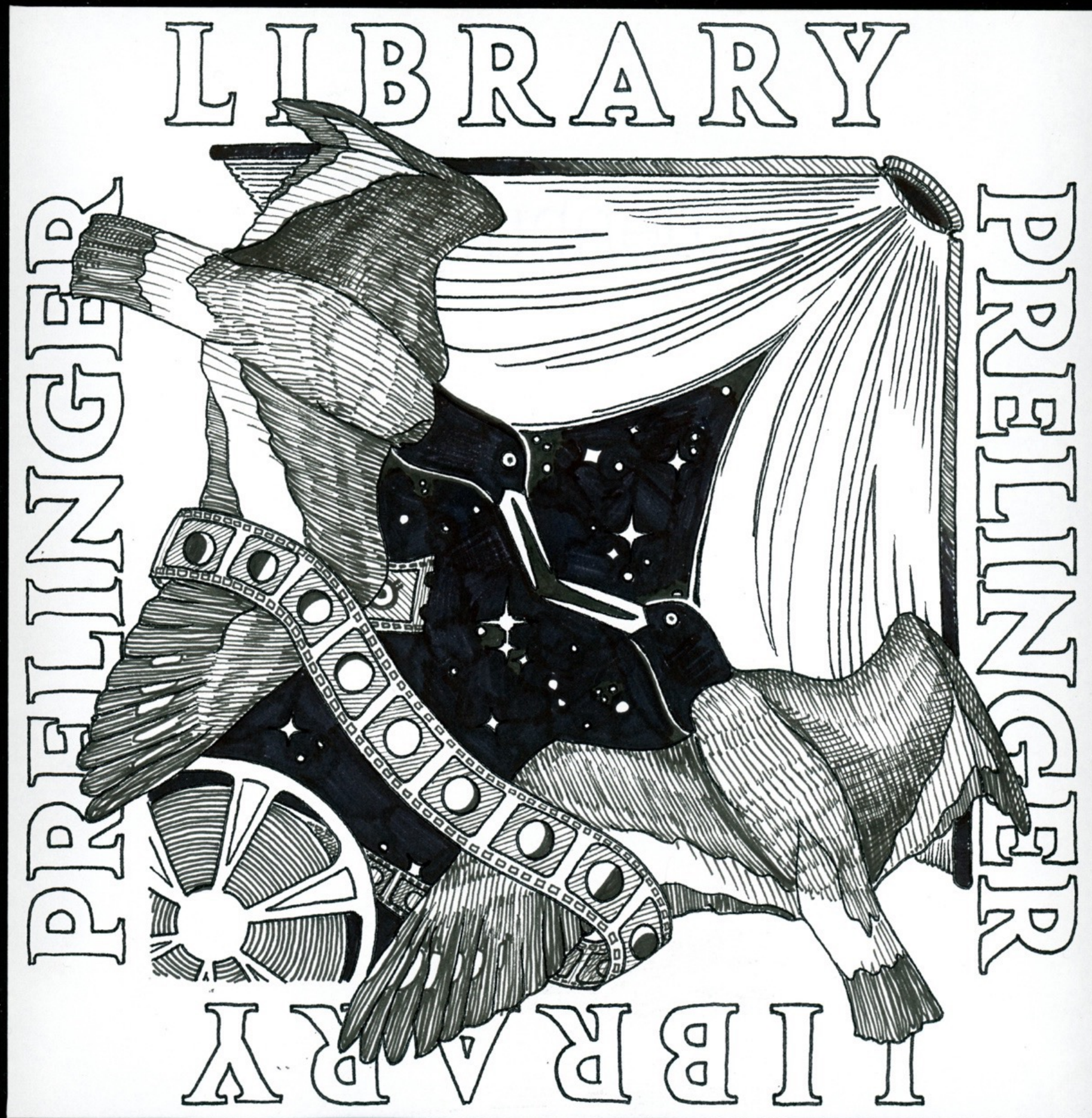
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Vanessa Renwick,
Patriot Act (2006)



Michael Swaine,
Utopia Chair (2015)



Donovan Beeson,
Library Stamp (2016)



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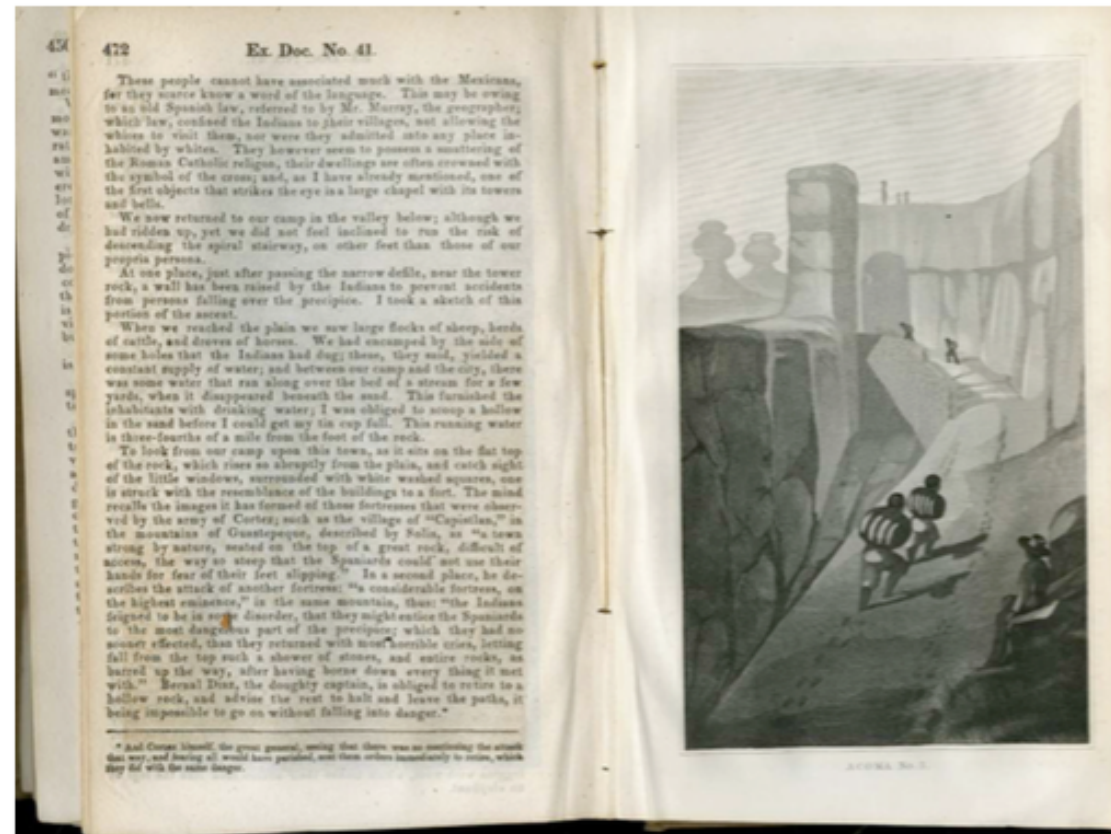
UC Santa Cruz
Film & Digital Media student research visit



Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá
Graphic Design history department student research visit

Sonja Sonnenburg de Chávez, independent scholar

“The Doña Ana Sphere Project is a comprehensive research project on the mostly indigenous and “mestizo” communities of southern New Mexico, from the 1820s to the 1850s. It is a study of civilians during natural disaster, wars and military



occupation. The Prelinger Library is a significant source of documentary material for my research. The library holds rare copies of U.S. Senate publications from the U.S.-Mexican War, which contain reports, journals, and drawings by U.S. military personnel. These accounts have been helpful in my research for the Doña Ana Sphere Project.”

Institutions Represented by Student, Graduate Student, and Faculty Research in 2015 and 2016

New York University

University of Chicago

UC Berkeley

UC Santa Cruz

UC Merced

San Francisco State University

Golden Gate Audubon Society

California Academy of Sciences

Stanford University

CCA

SFAI



Library visitorship statistics:

2004 – open

2005 – 350 research visits

2007 – 900 research visits

2015 – over 1250 research visits

[open 1 – 3 days a week]



The Library's People

Collections Volunteer
Sarah Benlolo

Volunteer Guest Host
Librarians

Carolee Gilligan Wheeler
Charlie Macquarie
Bryan Boyce
Adrienne Finelli

2016 Artists in Residence
Nicole Lavelle
Sylvia Herbold
Sherri Wasserman

Thank you!

www.prelingerlibrary.org

Megan & Rick Prelinger
Library co-founders
and primary hosts

info@prelingerlibrary.org



