

The Hihn-Younger Archive
Special Collections, University Library — University of California at Santa Cruz
Progress Report — April 2004
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Dear Friends of the Hihn-Younger Archive:

In an earlier report, I indicated our future plans to transcribe parts of the Archive, among other projects. Here is a progress report.

Upgrade and improve the content of the Hihn-Younger Archive Website.

We hope that you find the new and improved Website more attractive, easier to use, and an expanded content. This is a “work in progress.” <http://library.ucsc.edu/Zope/hihn/>

Transcribe and publish: Letters of Coleman Younger and C. B. Younger Sr.

209 Letters, dated 1844 through 1879: Letters from and to Charles Bruce Younger Sr. and 68 sent by him to his father, Coleman Purcell Younger. Gift of Helen Goode.

Kristen Sanders, a Graduate Student at Library School, Simmons College, Boston, as been working for two years on this project. While her studies and commitments at Library School have taken priority for her time, she is nearing completion of the 209 letters. There will be verification and indexing required before we are in a position to “publish” these — hopefully in book form and on our Website. Kristen has been assisted in reading the letters by Librarian Sheila O’Hare, Social Sciences Bibliographer, at McHenry Library.

Transcribe and publish: 25 volumes of Agreements and Deeds of F. A. Hihn and the Hihn Co. (gift from Gloria Welsh)

Jennifer Fosgate, Assistant Librarian, UCSC, and Primary Assistant to the Coordinator has been transcribing these records, and she just reported the completion of volume 5. There will be verification and indexing required before we are in a position to “publish” these — hopefully in book form and on our Website.

Select photographs for digitization.

In late 2003, I committed to pay for the library’s computer programmer, Lalo Castro, to design a database that would be compatible with our system, capable of adding to our Website, and contributing to the OAC (Online Archive of California). This database is to record Images in the library’s many collections, primarily those in Special Collections, and the Hihn-Younger Archive. That database is now ready to use, and my data input will begin in May, 2004. It will record all we know about the images, who the subjects are, who took the picture, when it was taken, etc. We will also digitize the images for linking data to image — and these will be accessible to anyone via the WWW. (gifts from members of the Hihn and Younger families.)

Catalog and Index 900+ maps of the F. A. Hihn Co. (Gift of Gloria Welsh)

Before Alan Allwardt left us for greener pastures (he now works for U.S. Geological Survey) he was able to catalog and index 959 maps in the Hihn Map Collection. This includes 18,791 names of Land Owners that are depicted on those maps. This will be a valuable resource for researchers.

A new project was begun last year: Biographies are an extremely important resource for local history research. County Histories (sometimes called “Mug Books” by historians who denigrate their value) are fabulous sources of biographies (sometimes the only source). Gary Yao, a UCSC 3rd year student in Information Technology, has been Indexing the Biographies that appear in 218 volumes of California County and Regional Histories (depicted on 33 rolls of microfilm). This is a collection that I acquired for the library (courtesy of Lou Hihn’s Endowment). The problem is that the 33 rolls of film are not indexed. So, while F. A. Hihn and C. B. Younger Sr.’s biographies appear in one of these 218 volumes, which roll of film are they on? This required us to undertake an indexing project, and Gary is about half way through the task. When completed, we will mount the database on our Website, and it can be shared with the entire world.