



About Volunteering to Transcribe Collections at LA County Library

Project Goals

LA County Library seeks volunteers to help us transcribe digitized historical collections like the Letters of the Office of Indian Affairs, 1849-1880, California Superintendency. Our goals are to:

- Completely transcribe the entire collection of handwritten documents into machine readable full text that is accessible to full-text search, screen readers, and text analysis software.
- Promote deeper interactions between the public and our historical digitized collections
- Provide enjoyable and educational online activities for customers

Full-text transcription of these historical handwritten collections is not possible for the Library without contributions by the public. By volunteering your time and effort, you are helping us to make these collections more accessible to everyone.

A Note on the Contents of the Letters of the Office of Indian Affairs, 1849-1880, California Superintendency

Please note that many of these letters embody a world view that was prevalent in a particular time and place and provide neither an entire nor unbiased picture of the actions and events they describe. Occasionally, letter writers describe acts of violence and harsh war-time refugee conditions.

What the Library Expects from Volunteers

- Transcription volunteers contribute time and effort to the Library freely, without obligation or coercion, and without expectations of compensation or future employment.
- Volunteers agree that any transcriptions or notes they make in the collection on the FromThePage platform move into the public domain.
- FromThePage requires volunteers to submit a username and email address when registering for a FromThePage account. The Library has access to usernames and email addresses and may communicate with volunteers via email about transcription projects and other LA County Library happenings.
- Volunteers can find more information about volunteering at LA County Library on the Library's [volunteering page](#).
- Volunteers are welcome to contact transcription project staff directly by emailing digitalprojects@library.lacounty.gov.

What Volunteers Can Expect from the Library

- LA County Library will use transcriptions contributed by volunteers via FromThePage to improve and enhance its publicly accessible digital collections.
- LA County Library is committed to supporting active transcription projects. Upon completion and review, transcribed documents and their transcriptions will be removed promptly from FromThePage, added to the appropriate records in the Library's digital collections, and replaced with new documents.
- The Library will credit volunteers collectively on the collection's landing page.



- LA County Library respects the work volunteers contribute and is committed to keeping collections of documents and volunteer-contributed transcriptions openly accessible to the public online. The Library will preserve these digital images, metadata, and transcriptions as part of its long-term digital preservation efforts.
- The Library may remove content contributed by volunteers at any time and for any reason.
- Transcription volunteers submit a username and email address to the FromThePage platform when registering for an account. LA County Library has access to this information and may use it to communicate with you about transcription projects and other LA County Library happenings; we will not share it with any third parties. For more information about what FromThePage does with your account information, see their [Terms of Service](#).
- Project staff will respond promptly when contacted at digitalprojects@library.lacounty.gov.