



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1830

September 28, 2006

Ruth Jackson
University Librarian
Rivera Library
University of California
Riverside, CA 92517

Dear Ms. Jackson:

I am writing concerning the disposition of the California State Library's master negative microfilm collection. As you probably know, Bay Microfilms, Inc. is no longer in a position to store negative microfilm collections including the collection of the State Library. For decades, the company generously stored the library's collection free of charge. Since notified by Bay Microfilm, we have been working with Dr. Henry Snyder of the California Newspaper Project in developing a solution that will be mutually beneficial to the research community. This includes not only the State Library's collection but also the microfilm owned by Bay Microfilm. Because of the invaluable efforts of Dr. Snyder and his staff, it would seem best to store the State Library's collection with the University of California's regional storage facilities. In this way, this important resource will become easily accessible to the Newspaper Project and to the university library system.

The State Library, however, will retain ownership of the collection. As you can appreciate, the library has invested considerable fiscal resources since the 1930s in creating this master negative collection and making it available to the research community. The State Library already has many titles in the Richmond facility and this would seem a natural extension of this storage program.

I would be happy to discuss this further with you to ensure that this important resource continues to be accessible. Please do not hesitate to call me at (916) 654-0174.

Yours truly,

Susan Hildreth
State Librarian of California

Cc: Dr. Henry L. Snyder
Karen Butter, Chair Shared Library Facilities Board