



Remembrance Through A Digital Archive

The Japanese-American Confinement Sites Project
at The Bancroft Library at the University of California Berkeley

Presented by Julie Goldsmith
Digital Collections Archivist
jgoldsmith@berkeley.edu

The Project

The Bancroft Library holds a wealth of archival collections documenting the experience of Japanese-Americans during World War II. The Bancroft is the largest repository of War Relocation Authority (WRA) records outside of the National Archives. These holdings about Japanese-Americans during World War II are among its most heavily used materials.

The digital archive is the result of three digitization grants funded by the National Park Service as part of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The project aims to ease discovery and access by

Three Grants

In the first grant, *The Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement: A Digital Archive*, the Library selected holdings from the Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement Study (JERS). The study began in 1942 at the University of California, Berkeley, and recruited Nisei social science students, placing them into selected War Relocation Authority administered sites to document and examine the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans.

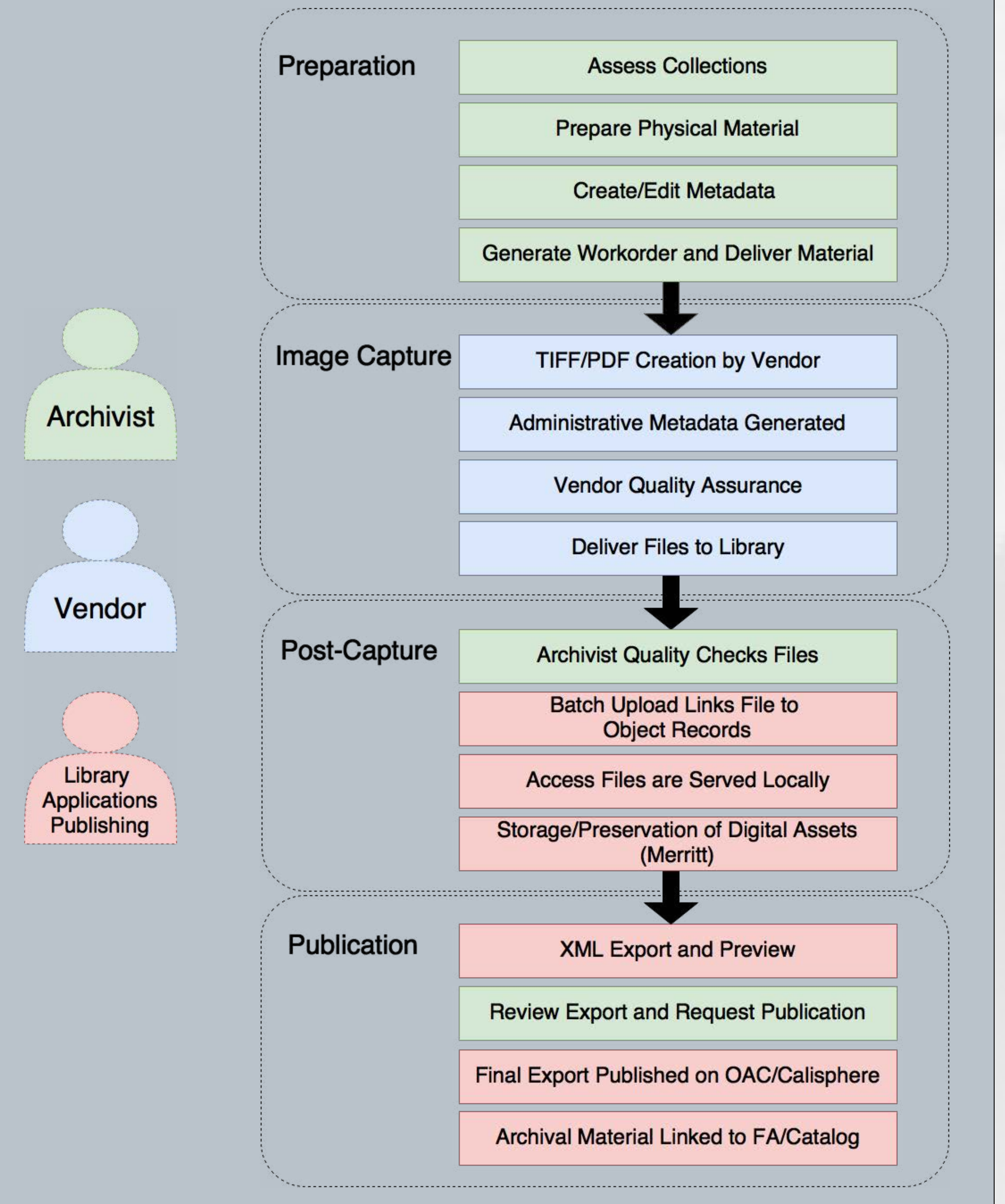
In the second grant, *Voices in Confinement: A Digital Archive of Japanese American Internees*, the library will digitize 150,000 personal items donated to the library by various camp detainees. The collections contain a mix of manuscript and pictorial collections like those from Yoshiko Uchida, Hisako Hibi, Rosalie Wax, the Ikeda family papers, and the War Relocation Authority Photograph collection.

In the third grant, *Japanese American Internment Sites: A Digital Archive*, the focus is on a selection of materials from the ten individual interment camps within the library's collection of War Relocation Authority (WRA) records. The records represent the official documentation of the United States agency created to assume jurisdiction over the Japanese and Japanese-Americans. During its existence from March 1942 to 1946, the WRA controlled the administration of the relocation centers, administered an extensive resettlement program, and oversaw the details of the registration and segregation programs.

Processing/Materials (the collections contain)

Correspondence	Committee records	Maps
Writings	Newspaper clippings	Field notes
Speeches	Periodicals	Diaries
Interviews	Songs	Watercolors
Research files	Poems	Relief prints
Litigation documents	Programs	Paintings
Case files	Scrapbooks	Drawings
School records	Photographs	Ephemera

Processing/Workflow



Access/Curated Search

In addition to placing the materials on the **Online Archive of California** and **Calisphere**, the library will build a website to contextualize the materials from the three grants.

The website will use curated searches to highlight the materials



A Bancroft Library Project generously supported by the
National Park Service and the UC Berkeley Libraries

