

## **SDHC Statement about Public Access to the Research Archives**

June 2021

Dear Friends of the San Diego History Center –

We are finally starting to see the long awaited end to the pandemic. However, reverberations of the personal, social, cultural and economic effects will continue for years, and decades to come. Business has evolved due to this worldwide health crisis and this is especially true for museums and the nonprofit community.

For nearly 100 years, the San Diego History Center has worked to preserve, reveal and promote the history of our region. Our collections are unparalleled and serve as the community's memory bank. In order to ensure we are able to adequately make these invaluable resources available for future generations, our Research Archive is moving to a new model of public access.

We are devoting much of our reduced staffing resources to better serve you by making more of our collections available online. This requires ongoing processing, cataloging, and digitization of large portions of our collections – including many items that have not previously been available to the public. We have, at the same time, increased the efficiency by which researchers can physically access the research archives.

Public access is now managed through several new programs:

- Individuals, businesses and commercial clients can purchase remote research services or an onsite appointment with Collections staff.

*San Diego History Center members receive preferred pricing on these research services.*

- Four times per year, we will provide public access to our through Community Research Access Days.
- School Groups may arrange for special tours of the archive as space and time allows.

*Details on program specifics as well as links to online resources can be found at [sandiegohistory.org/research\\_services/](https://sandiegohistory.org/research_services/)*