

Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 8:49:25 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Inquiry

Date: Friday, November 15, 2019 at 11:05:21 AM Eastern Standard Time

From: [REDACTED]

To: Ezzo, Julia

Dear Julia Ezzo,

Last July, my friend Peter Berg suggested I contact Julia Frankosky in Government Documents for assistance in a research project. I'm thinking that you may be she.

I am looking for a very specific document which must surely be in the National Archives, but so far I have not been able to find it. The document has to do with the Roman Catholic church's efforts to have its mission lands restored to church ownership after the U.S. - Mexico war of 1846-1848.

I think that somewhere in Records Group 49 of NARA is the item I'm looking for, but I need help in how to continue to search for it.

If you have time sometime next week to meet briefly with me, I could outline my quest in more detail.

with best regards,

[REDACTED]

Visiting Professor of History

Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 8:49:57 PM Eastern Daylight Time


Subject: Re: California Land Commission and Alemany
Date: Friday, December 13, 2019 at 3:44:27 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: Ezzo, Julia

Julia, this is terrific! Thanks very much--I'll look forward to diving right into it. I may be back with a tactical question or two, but what you have put together here is fabulous.

all best for the holidays -



From: Ezzo, Julia <julia@msu.edu>
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2019 1:54 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: California Land Commission and Alemany

Greeting 

I hope all is well and I apologize for the delay in getting back to you; the end of the semester was a bit hectic. I've searched everywhere that I could think of and as creatively as I could, but unfortunately found that these documents are only available as microfilm/print at UC Berkeley and NARA. I've included links to the appropriate records. It is possible that Berkeley might be willing to loan some of the microfilm that is only one or two reels, but I can't guarantee it.

I found an article in *The Jurist* discussing this case and the author included a nice footnote describing where the author found 425 N.D. and 388 S.D.

<https://heinonline.org/HOL/P?h=hein.journals/juristcu47&i=400>

UC Berkeley has digitized the maps in this case:

<http://oac-upstream.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/hb229003bc/?&brand=oac4>

the record for the physical piece is <http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b16310235~S1>

Microfilm for Documents Pertaining to the Adjudication of Private Land Claims in California, circa 1852-1892

volume 425 ND

volume 388 SD

<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/hb109nb422/admin/#descgrp-1.3.2>

Journals, 1851 Dec. 8-1856 Mar. 3.

<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11232748~S1>

United States, Commission for Ascertaining and Settling Private Land Claims in California letterbook, 1852 Feb.-1855 Oct.

<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11232288~S1>

Record of petitions, 1852 Apr.-1854 July.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11232747~S1>

Record of decisions, 1853 Mar. 14-1856 Feb. 5.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11232746~S1>

Record of evidence, volumes 1-21.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11232292~S1>

California private land claim dockets
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11233543~S1>

Decree of confirmation in case 609 : Joseph S. Alemany vs. The United States : ms., 1855 Dec. 24.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b11011830~S1>

Lands of the Catholic Church. Opinion of the Board confirming the claim, delivered by Commissioner Alpheus Felch, on December 18th, 1855.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b10318067~S1>

[Collection of legal briefs relating to legal action of Joseph Sadoc Alemony, abp., respondent, vs. F.S. Wensinger et als., appellants]
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b10595756~S1>

Resolutions of the Legislature of California relative to the Board of Land Commissioners.
<http://oskicat.berkeley.edu/record=b10071480~S1>

From NARA

Records of the California Land Commission Relating to Private Land Claims, 1812 - 1886
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/5752702>

Transcripts of Proceedings before the Board of Commissioners, 1851 - 1856
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/4979194>

California land claim case files, ca. 1852-1856
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/596334>

California Land Claim Complete Files, ca. 1852 - ca. 1856
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/596652>

California Land Claim Incomplete Files, ca. 1852 - ca. 1856
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/596663>

I hope this is helpful for your project. Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions or need further assistance.

Best,
Julia

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Julia (Frankosky) Ezzo
Government Information & Political Science Librarian

Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 8:50:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Thanks again

Date: Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 3:13:27 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: 

To: Ezzo, Julia

Dear Julia,

I thought I'd let you know that your help with my California missions project some weeks ago paid off nicely -- I was happy to find the bishop's petition among the documents you located. Thanks again.



Dept. History