

## Foreword

This microfilm publication of the records of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) during the tenure of Roger Baldwin as Executive Director is the culmination of a collaborative effort between the ACLU, the New York Public Library (NYPL), Princeton University Libraries, and Scholarly Resources Inc. that began in 1993. The ACLU has always taken pride in providing free and open access to its historical records, first at NYPL (1920–1953), which filmed these records, and then at Princeton (1953–present), which created the index for them. Scholarly Resources filmed the index and some additional materials found in the index but not originally filmed by NYPL. As a result, researchers who are unable to travel to Princeton now have access to this invaluable archive.

I am especially grateful to Samuel Walker's *In Defense of American Liberties: A History of the ACLU* (1990), which provided much of the background material for the history of the organization found on pp. 1–5. The work of Agnes Sherman in producing the index, accomplished under the direction of my predecessor, Nancy Bressler, should also be noted, as well as the support of the U.S. Department of Education for that worthy project. Nanci Young and Daniel Linke, Assistant Archivists at the Mudd Library reviewed the text, greatly helping to improve it. William L. Joyce, Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton, has been supportive of all the work of the Mudd Library at Princeton.

The support of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission of the National Archives for a recent project managed by Janet Linde in New York and Paula Jabloner in Princeton was the impetus for my desire to make sense of these early records. This guide provides access to these records in exciting new ways. Finally, I want to acknowledge the love and support of my wife, Terry, and my two sons, Christopher and David. They were left alone many evenings and weekends while work on this project progressed, but their contributions to my life are without measure.

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