

## Employee Spotlight – Nicole Kindle

Contributed by Angela Yoder, Imaging and Preservation

Nicole started working for the state last August, 2014. With her, she brought experience assisting in digitizing the Walker Collection; documents and letters pertaining to Mary and Elkanah Walker. Elkanah was a missionary in Eastern Washington—they knew the Whitmans. Nicole assisted in some digitizing, but primarily she transcribed the letters.



**AY:** What do you like best about working at the State Archives?

**NK:** Being surrounded by all the HISTORY! I got my B.A. in History, so I'm a little biased—old stuff is cool.

**AY:** What made you want to work at the State Archives?

**NK:** I worked in a similar job at Washington State University when I was completing my undergrad, so it made sense and provided an amazing opportunity to help me decide what I wanted to do with my degree and future career!

**AY:** Where did you grow up?

**NK:** I grew up just south of Olympia in the tiny, no stoplight town of Rainier, WA.

**AY:** What is the most amazing natural phenomena you have ever experienced?

**NK:** The beautiful pink and blue sunsets highlighting the wheat fields on the Palouse in Pullman, WA.

**AY:** Do you still use pen and paper—yay or nay? Explain.

**NK:** Yay and nay. I love taking handwritten notes because I can add doodles and insert side-notes. I also LOVE getting handwritten letters and cards. It's not very exciting to only get "No APR and 0-18.99% Interest GUARANTEED" credit card offers when you open up your mailbox! Nay, because sometimes it is too time consuming to handwrite things—computers and typing make it easier and faster.

**AY:** Would you own a pet dinosaur? If yes, which one?

**NK:** Yes, but I don't like to live life on the edge, so any type of veggiesaurus. Preferably baby-sized so it can't trample me, either!

**AY:** Where is one place you would love to visit and why?

**NK:** Barcelona, Spain. I learned about it in Spanish class and was always drawn to the pictures of vibrant colors and beautiful beaches!

**AY:** Who was the first person in your family to immigrate to Washington State? Do you know when?

**NK:** My mother's side of the family came to Washington in the early 1960s from a farm in North Dakota. My father's side is a little uncertain, though it seems to also be around the 60s.

**AY:** Have you seen an orca whale? What did you do?

**NK:** I have not, but if I ever did, I would probably cry with joy! And by probably, I do mean I would weep uncontrollably.

**AY:** What is your most favorite thing about work?

**NK:** The staff! Everyone has been so welcoming and nice since I started. Not to mention full of characters! I haven't gone a day since starting without laughing at least once!