Finding Aid to the Henry D. Cogswell Papers, 1846-1960 (bulk 1850-1899)

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Finding Aid to the Henry D. Cogswell Papers, 1846-1960 (bulk 1850-1899)

Collection number: BANC MSS 84/61 c

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Finding Aid Author(s):
Processed by Elizabeth Stephens
Date Completed:
May 1992
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Collection Summary
Collection Title: Henry D. Cogswell papers
Date (inclusive): 1846-1960
Date (bulk): 1850-1899
Collection Number: BANC MSS 84/61 c
Creator: Cogswell, Henry D. (Henry Daniel), 1820-1900
Extent: Number of containers: 6 boxes, 2 cartons Linear feet: 3.3
Repository: The Bancroft Library.
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-6000
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Abstract: The collection contains diaries of Henry Cogswell and his wife Caroline and are an unusually long and consistent record of busy personal and financial life in the western United States. The collection also contains Cogswell's financial and business records, and materials on the various schools with which he was involved. A significant portion of the collection consists of research materials of Loren B. Taber pertaining to Henry and Caroline Cogswell, the history of dentistry in California, and a biography of William Brown Gilden.

Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English
Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.
Access
Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Henry D. Cogswell Papers, BANC MSS 84/61 c, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

Some printed materials have been transferred to the book collection of The Bancroft Library.
Photographs have been transferred to Pictorial Collections of The Bancroft Library.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog
Gilden, William Brown
Taber, Loren B. Compiler
Business enterprises--California--San Francisco
Dentistry--California
Fountains--Design and construction
Real estate investment--California--San Francisco Bay Area
Technical education--California--San Francisco
Business records
Legal instruments

Acquisition Information
The Henry D. Cogswell Papers were donated to The Bancroft Library in two installments, in December 1983 and in May 1987, by his grandson, Professor Richard D. Taber.

Biographical Information
California pioneer, Henry D. Cogswell was a dentist by profession, an inventor, a real estate manipulator and investor, entrepreneur, philanthropist, temperance advocate, and founder of Cogswell Polytechnic College (1887), the first engineering institute west of St. Louis. Dr. Cogswell donated several statues of himself, as well as numerous fountains, to the city of San Francisco.

Scope and Content
The diaries of Henry and his wife Caroline cover 37 years (1860-1897) and are an unusually long and consistent record of busy personal and financial life in the West, including travels and the transactions of day to day life. In addition to the diaries, the collection contains Cogswell's financial and business records, including tax receipts, deeds, mortgages, legal documents, and mining certificates. Material on the various schools with which Cogswell was involved, and information and correspondence about the various fountains and statues Cogswell donated is also included.

Another significant portion of this collection is research done by Loren B. Taber pertaining to Henry and Caroline Cogswell, the history of dentistry in California, and a biography on William Brown Gilden, as well as a reference file of index cards for the Cogswell material and for Taber's correspondents re Cogswell.

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Series 1: Cogswell Family Diaries. 1846-1898.

Henry D. Cogswell Diaries. 1853-1898
box 1, folder 1-18 v.1-18 1853-1877
box 2, folder 1-14 v. 19-32 1878-1891
box 3, folder 1-7 v. 33-39 1892-1898

Caroline Cogswell Diaries. 1846-1896
box 3, folder 8-15 v. 1-8 1846-1871
box 4, folder 1-13 v. 9-21 1873-1896

Series 2: Indexes to Cogswell Subject Files. undated
### Series 2: Indexes to Cogswell Subject Files

- **box 5**: Loren B. Taber index to Cogswell Subject Files undated
- **box 6**: Loren B. Taber index to Cogswell Correspondents undated

### Series 3: Subject Files of Henry D. Cogswell

- **carton 1, folder 1**: File outline [prepared by Loren Taber]
- **carton 1, folder 2-6**: A: Fountains, monuments
- **carton 1, folder 7**: A: Drawings and photographs of monuments
- **carton 1, folder 8-12**: B: Tax Records
- **carton 1, folder 13-16**: C: Street Railroads
- **carton 1, folder 17-20**: D: Insurance policies, deeds, real estate
- **carton 1, folder 21-23**: E: Foltz; regents; Phelps
- **carton 1, folder 24**: F: Mining
- **carton 1, folder 25**: G: Inventors Institute, Patents
- **carton 1, folder 26**: H: Mausoleum
- **carton 1, folder 27**: I: Miscellaneous
- **carton 1, folder 28**: J: Cogswell Polytechnic College: Culver
- **carton 1, folder 29**: K: Jameson
- **carton 1, folder 30**: L: Begging letters
- **carton 1, folder 31-33**: M: Cogswell Medal, philanthropic societies
- **carton 1, folder 34-35**: N: Investments, Meiggs
- **carton 1, folder 36**: O: 319 Broadway
- **carton 1, folder 37**: P: Kindergarten
- **carton 1, folder 38-39**: R: Receipts for photos, engravings, household expenses, etc.
- **carton 1, folder 40**: S: Lambat; Ladies' Seamen’s Friends Society
- **carton 1, folder 41**: T: Trips, home and abroad
- **carton 1, folder 42**: V: Other Cogswell's and very close friends
- **carton 1, folder 43**: V: Libraries
- **carton 1, folder 44**: W: Politics, temperance; Frances Willard
- **carton 1, folder 45**: X: 610 Front Street
- **carton 1, folder 46**: Y: James L. Cogswell; S. L. James; miscellaneous power of attorney
- **carton 1, folder 47**: Z: Early days in California
- **carton 1, folder 48**: Clippings
- **carton 1, folder 49**: Punch Magazine 1877 & 1879
- **carton 1, folder 50**: Miscellaneous souvenirs undated

### Series 4: Research Files of Loren B. Taber

- **carton 2, folder 1**: Biographical material undated
- **carton 2, folder 2**: Notes on diaries of Henry D. and Caroline Cogswell undated
- **carton 2, folder 3-6**: Transcripts of diaries of Henry D. Cogswell, v. 1-3, 10 (ca. 1853-1871) undated
- **carton 2, folder 7**: Transcript of expense book of Caroline Cogswell, v. 1 (1853-1857) undated
- **carton 2, folder 8-11**: Transcripts of diaries of Caroline Cogswell, v. 2, 4, 6, 11 (1853-1862) undated
- **carton 2, folder 12**: Burgess, Gelett, 1866-1951 - letter Sept. 11, 1939
- **carton 2, folder 13-18**: Correspondence ca. 1918-1960

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2, folder 19</td>
<td>Cogswell bibliography undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 20-22</td>
<td>Copies of articles and clippings undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 23</td>
<td>Cogswell Polytechnical College correspondence ca. 1933-1958</td>
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<td>2, folder 24</td>
<td>Cogswell Petit Courier, v.2, no.2 Sept. 1900</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 25-26</td>
<td>Cogswell Polytechnical Life v.i, no.1; v.ii, no.2 undated; Nov. 1903</td>
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<td>2, folder 27</td>
<td>Cogswell Spirit Builder student journal, v.ix, no. 12 Mar. 7, 1941</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 28</td>
<td>Are You Ready for Tomorrow Cogswell Polytechnic College bulletin 1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 29</td>
<td>Cogswell Polytechnic College newsletter 1958</td>
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<td>2, folder 30</td>
<td>Cogswell College Semi-Centennial Celebration March 1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 31</td>
<td>Cogswell Mission High School Records scrapbook 1891-1908</td>
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<td>2, folder 32</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 33-34</td>
<td>Bibliography and notes</td>
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<td>2, folder 35</td>
<td>Notes on teeth in native cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 36</td>
<td>Miscellaneous historical reports</td>
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<td>2, folder 37-38</td>
<td>Research committees— California State Dental Association</td>
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<td>2, folder 39-40</td>
<td>Notes for biography</td>
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<tr>
<td>2, folder 41</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding History of Dentistry in California. undated

Regarding William Brown Gildea. undated